



# Annual Report 2017



## Message from some of our Partners:



### Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR CENRO)

DENR CENRO and Centre for Sustainability has been working hand in hand harmoniously since 2016 to present in invoking biodiversity conservation and sustainability. The CS's works evidently inculcate awareness and dedication especially in the IP communities where their programs and projects piloted. CS is a big help in our Organization particularly on our IEC activities.

- EMER GARRAEZ, **DENR-CENR OFFICER**



### Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS)

I really love working with the IP communities. They need our help and we need to inspire them so we worked with CS to push through that objective of declaring a Critical Habitat using our expertise of our knowledge of the Wildlife Act. We have contributed a lot to CS, and is still continuing to support their efforts. CNCH gives us more inspiration because it is something that needs more protection – which is something beyond our mandate but also our commitment.

- MERLY HILARIO, **DISTRICT MANAGER**

## Message from our youngest team member:



As the youngest team member in this organization, I am offered many opportunities to learn & to grow. My experiences at CS have really shaped me to be a responsible human being, and more aware of the role/s we play in helping conserve the environment for our future. Sometimes I see youth my age who do not realize how urgently the environment needs our help, and this saddens me.

We need to protect Mother Nature not because She needs us, but because we need Her to live, and live better!

As the youth, it is our responsibility to secure our future, and we do this by choosing to live life in a way that doesn't destroy Mother Nature—remember, She gives us everything to improve our way of living. It doesn't matter who you are or where you come from, EVERYONE is capable of taking action to save Her—it's time to give back. Really, it's up to us if we want to have a sustainable life, or if we want to pursue a luxurious life but destroy Mother Nature in the process, and suffer the consequences later!

My message to everyone is simple:

*We know what will happen to us if we do not take action for our environment—so let's make a positive difference for the survival of our future! Think about the child born today—what future awaits them? This is the best time to unite in the one goal to save Mother Nature and ensure our survival!*

- OTHONIEL CALAGO, **FIELD OFFICER**



# CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY PH, INC.



## MISSION

Our mission is to contribute to the establishment of terrestrial and marine protected areas with an integrated approach incorporating three key areas:

*LIVELIHOOD • EDUCATION • CONSERVATION*

Concretely, we aim to:

1. Complete the establishment of protected areas in all remaining unprotected terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas of Palawan.
2. To be a leading national organisation for facilitating the establishment of terrestrial protected areas in the Philippines.

## VALUES

Our work comes from communities for communities to communities, incorporating local knowledge and practices in project development to ensure continuing relevance and long term sustainability for many years

*TRANSPARENCY • OPENNESS • INTEGRITY*

## Executing Team



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**Field Officer**





# Cleopatra's Needle Critical Habitat Project

Puerto Princesa contains one national park (Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park—22,000 hectares) but approximately 80,000 hectares of pristine forest neighbouring the park until very recently remained unprotected. The centre of this large forest is shaped by Cleopatra's Needle, locally known as Puyos Ni Ibay or simply Puyos for short, the highest peak of Puerto Princesa City and surroundings (1,593 MASL). This area is a real biological gem—not only is it the last haven for countless endemic flora and fauna species, it further serves as the largest watershed in the City, providing water for approximately 30% of the residents in the City. Most importantly, it is the ancestral domain of the last remaining 200 members of the diminishing indigenous Batak tribe, who have inhabited the area since time immemorial.



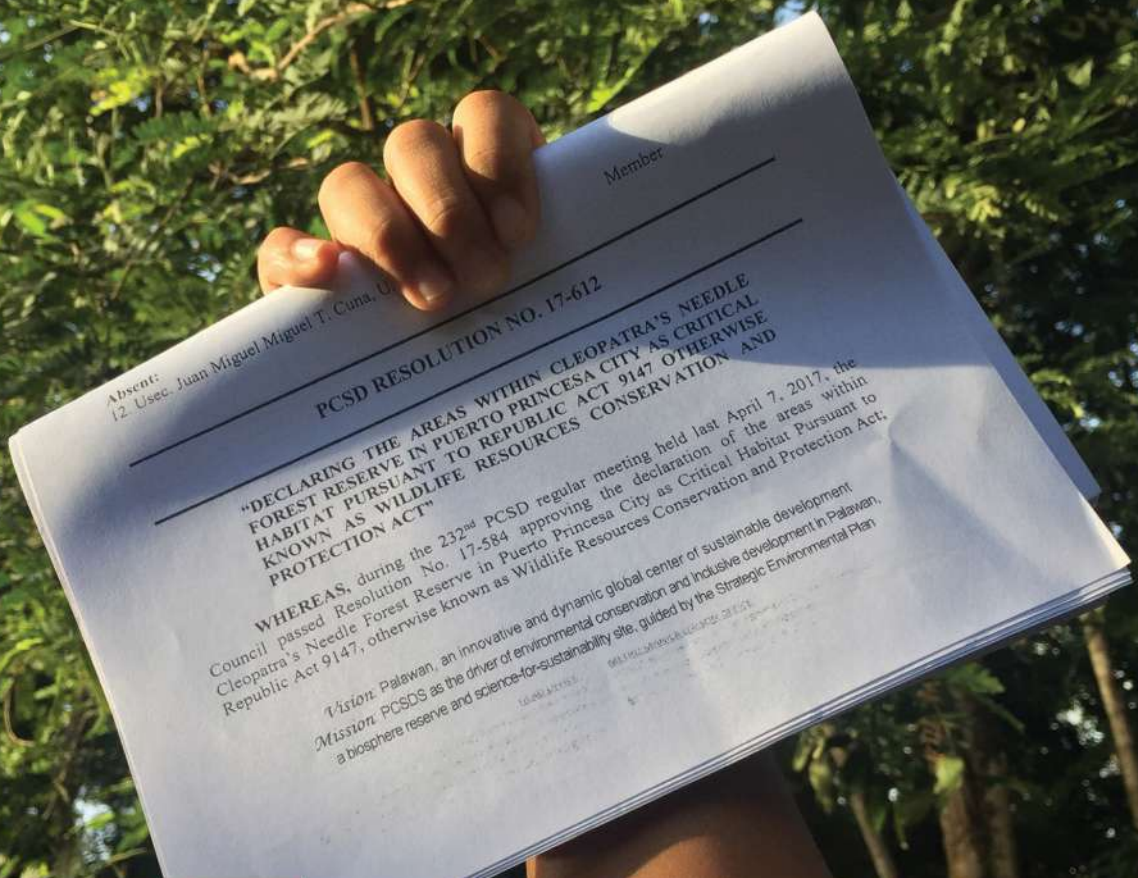
Photo by Duncan Murrell



## “Saving the Almaciga Tree Project”

The Almaciga tree (*Agathis philippinensis*) is the primary non-timber forest product of the forests of Cleopatra's Needle—its high-value resin represents approximately 80% of the income of the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) who have lived in this area since time immemorial. This ancient coniferous tree used to dominate the forests of northern Palawan—over-harvesting, together with illegal activities, now threaten its existence. The indigenous communities in the area together with CS aim to ensure the future of the Almaciga tree, and thus livelihood and existence of the IPs, through research, reforestation, education & training, and enforcement.





# CNCH Declaration PCSD RESOLUTION NO. 17-612

“Declaring the areas within Cleopatra’s Needle Forest Reserve in Puerto Princesa City as Critical Habitat pursuant to Republic Act 9147 otherwise known as Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act”.

- Recorded Wildlife of Cleopatra’s Needle**
- 65 species of Birds
- 26 species of Amphibians and Reptiles
- 12 species of Mammals
- 23 species of Odonata
- 87 taxa of Crustaceans and Aquatic Insects

At 41,350 hectares, Cleopatra’s Needle Critical Habitat (CNCH) is the biggest Critical Habitat across the Philippines. The second, Carmen Critical Habitat for Marine Turtles, stands at 5,756 hectares. Most Critical Habitats are at a smaller range as they focus only on one or a few species—what makes this Declaration so momentous is the size of CNCH is an indication of the sheer number of endemic and/or threatened species which have been identified and recorded across the 41,350 hectares, therefore warranting a Critical Habitat this big



## CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE DECLARED!





# Cleopatra's Needle Critical Habitat Project

**DECEMBER 15, 2017**  
Cleopatra's Needle Critical Habitat  
declaration with its  
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

**41,350**  
hectares

of some of the Philippines' last remaining  
intact forest protected, and in doing so:

**12 Trained  
Bataks**



Wildlife Enforcement Volunteers



**2 rounds of  
MANAGEMENT  
PLANNING Meetings**  
for all 7 communities  
of CNCH



**3**  
Indigenous People's  
ancestral domains  
protected



**61**  
Palawan-endemic  
species protected



**31**  
IUCN Threatened  
species protected

**15 ALMACIGA  
TREES**

**Marked for  
NO TAPPING**



Sustainable Almaciga  
Resin Harvesting Training



Summaries  
submitted  
to stakeholders  
and partner  
government  
agencies



**9,898  
seedlings**

**3 INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENT INTERNS**



**HYGIENE IEC**  
@ 3 Indigenous  
Communities



2 Communities at  
Cleopatra's Needle  
Critical Habitat



34 Families at Sitio Manggapin,  
Barangay Langogan



31 Families at Sitio Tagnaya,  
Barangay Concepcion

Sulyap  
ng 2017



7/26/2015  
**1st Seed-based Almaciga  
Project in the Philippines**  
**"Saving the Almaciga Tree Project"**





# Partners



# Media





# 2016 Sabin Prize for Amphibian Conservation



Jessa Garibay received the 2016 Sabin Prize for Amphibian Conservation in New York City, USA on May 26, 2017 and was awarded \$20,000 to help support her work saving endangered amphibians and turtles..

The Sabin Award for Amphibian Conservation, established in 2007, recognizes significant contributions of individuals to amphibian conservation. The Award provides a unique opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate some of the truly pioneering work that is going on to understand and tackle the decline and extinction of amphibians worldwide, and to get a sense of the true passion and commitment of the individuals responsible for saving species.



## New Partner: TOCHIGI CONSERVATION CORPS

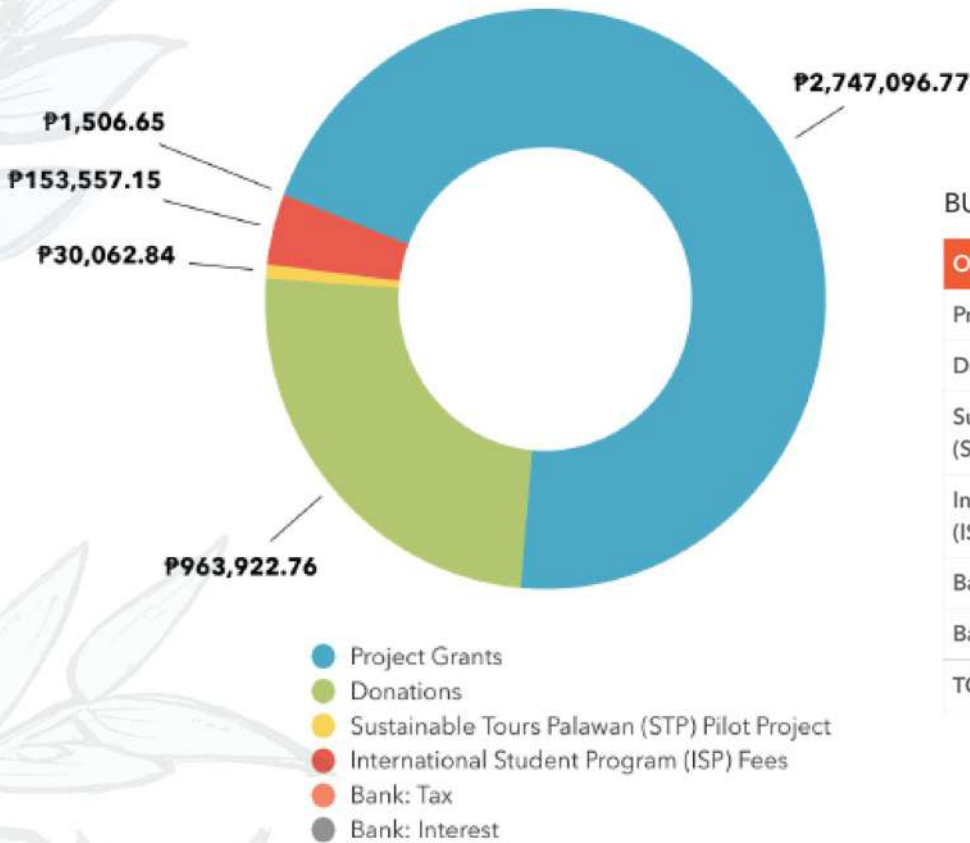
CS is SUPER excited to be starting a new international partnership--with Tochigi Conservation Corps, Japan! This wonderful non-profit works in forest conservation & restoration, youth empowerment & leadership, & community volunteerism in Japan. They've already welcomed CS Staff Jessa & Aubrey in their international training program, & now we're THRILLED to be working with them in hosting Japanese volunteer groups from 2018, as well as other fundraising efforts to assist us in protecting Cleopatra's Needle mammal populations! We extend a big ARIGATOU GOZAIMASU to TCC for their generous donation ALREADY toward our annual environmental education program, Sulyap sa Puyos September, & are looking forward to working & collaborating more moving forward!



# CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY PH

## EXPENSE REPORT

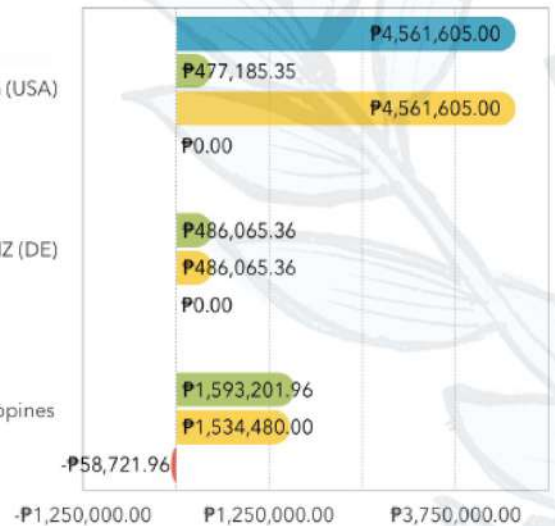
### 2017 OVERVIEW



### BUDGET

OVERVIEW	DISBURSEMENT
Project Grants	₱2,747,096.77
Donations	₱963,922.76
Sustainable Tours Palawan (STP) Pilot Project	₱30,062.84
International Student Program (ISP) Fees	₱153,557.15
Bank: Tax	₱0.00
Bank: Interest	₱1,506.65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₱3,896,146.17</b>

### GRANTS OVERVIEW



### PROJECT GRANTS (DETAILED)

OVERVIEW	Global Wildlife Conservation (USA)	German Development Cooperation - GIZ (DE)	Forest Foundation Philippines
Approved Grant	₱4,561,605.00	₱486,065.36	₱1,593,200.00
TOTAL Spent 2017	₱477,185.35	₱486,065.36	₱1,593,201.96
TOTAL Spent	₱4,561,605.00	₱486,065.36	₱1,534,480.00
Closing Balance: 2017	₱0.00	₱0.00	-₱58,721.96

- Approved Grant
- TOTAL Spent 2017
- TOTAL Spent
- Closing Balance: 2017





# Donors



RAINFOREST  
TRUST



**giz**

Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



**Washington Sycip  
Family Foundation**



# Individual Donors

Elizabeth Leroux  
Annamarie Reyes  
Katrina Siasion  
Eric John Yayen





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## **DONATE OR GET INVOLVED**

[www.centreforsustainabilityPH.org](http://www.centreforsustainabilityPH.org)

*Be Part of Saving Palawan's Forests!*



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SEC #CN201605874, March 18, 2016

Legal Name: Centre for Sustainability PH, Inc. | Mayor's Permit Number: BP-2017-02548-0

Certificate of Accreditation #CN-SP07-17 awarded by the City Government of Puerto Princesa, signed January 24, 2017