

An underwater photograph showing a vibrant coral reef with various colorful fish swimming in the clear blue water. The image is partially obscured by a large white curved shape that frames the text.

MPA MEAT

Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool

The MPA MEAT is a harmonized version of the MPA Report Guide of the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc. (CCEF, White et al. 2004) as modified by the Philippine Environmental Governance Project 2 (EcoGov2), (Arceo et al. in prep), facilitated by the MPA Support Network (MSN) through the CTI (Coral Triangle Initiative) Support Partnership or CTSP. Some elements are incorporated in the MPA MEAT to gauge and highlight important threshold indicators and processes that help promote and achieve MPA management effectiveness outputs and outcomes.

The MPA MEAT was initiated by the:



National CTI Coordinating Committee

MPA MEAT

What is the MPA MEAT?

The MPA MEAT aims to assess governance in terms of enforcement, implementation and maintenance. However, MPA management in the context of governance approaches in the Philippines is not limited to the physical management of the MPA only but also includes direct and indirect uses, threats, people, and the systemic interaction between people and resources.

What is an effectively managed MPA?

IUCN defines management effectiveness as the degree to which management actions are achieving the goals and objectives of a protected area (Hockings et al., 2000). Management effectiveness is defined, in the context of the MPA MEAT, according to four different levels: (1) established, (2) strengthened, (3) sustained, and (4) institutionalized. MPA effectiveness, on the other hand is based on several criteria and/or governance indicators in combination with the biophysical and socioeconomic impact indicators and socioeconomic impact indicators.

Where to use the MPA MEAT?

MPA MEAT is a management tool to help measure MPA effectiveness using simplified tools allowing an objective evaluation of MPAs. It can be applied to locally-managed MPAs and marine areas declared under the National Integrated Protected Area System Act (RA 7586). It can be implemented through an assisted self-evaluation or key informant interviews. Documents provide proof of completion of targets. For NIPAS marine areas, consider only the areas within the seascape that are directly managed or linked to the PAMB.

How to use the MPA MEAT?

The 48-item modification of the CCEF rating to incorporate other indicators and weighted importance values takes into account the suggestion of the WorldBank score card (Staub and Hatziolas 2004) and of certain threshold governance processes (EcoGov2 in prep., Arceo et al.) to help gauge some outputs/outcomes and define effectiveness (Hockings et al. 2000).

Each level in the MPA MEAT have criteria and activities that need to be satisfied as described in the guide questions. The thresholds indicated with an asterisk (*) are given higher points. The minimum score including all the scores of the thresholds should be satisfied to pass the level. For levels 3 and 4, the age of the MPA is considered also as a prerequisite for proving “sustainability” and “institutionalization”.

The levels in this tool are sequential. The cumulative score is used to measure the MPA management rating and thresholds must be satisfied to achieve management effectiveness levels. The minimum number of years of MPA operation in Levels 3 and 4 should be satisfied in order to pass these levels.

BACKGROUND

MPA MEAT AS BENCHMARKING TOOL FOR CTI NPOA GOAL ON MPAS

The benchmarking of Marine Protected Area (MPA) management effectiveness is a crucial part in improving functionality of governance and management of MPAs in the Philippines. It serves as a baseline for the monitoring of the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) Philippines' National Plan of Action (NPOA) areas and dovetails with tracking of commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MPA MEAT) was developed as a benchmarking tool as a result of considerable cooperative work between several institutions and individuals working to help establish and sustain MPA as an important strategy to adaptively manage the coastal and marine areas of the Philippine archipelago.

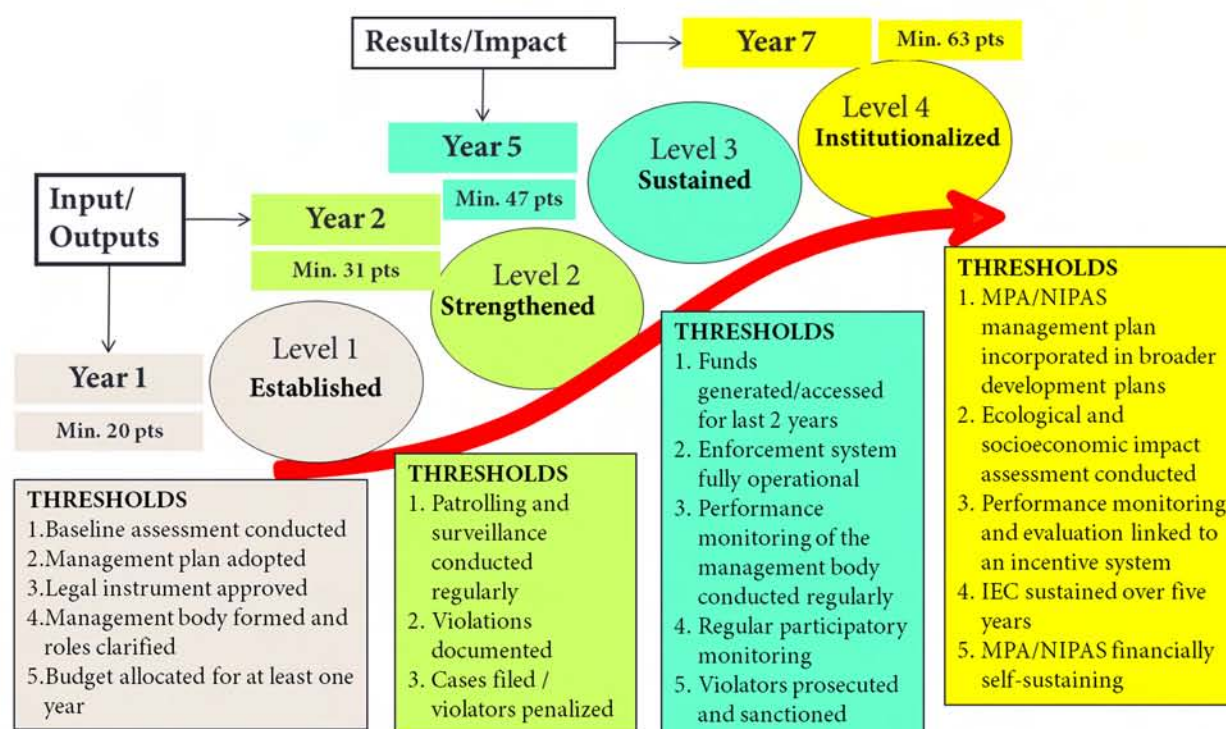
It is envisioned that the MPA MEAT will be implemented widely to help pursue the goal of improving effectiveness of MPAs in the Philippines as part of the CTI (see CTI Goal on MPAs). It can be used as a minimum set of standards for compliance to the CTI NPOA.

How to interpret the results of the MPA MEAT?

There are three ways to interpret the MPA MEAT results: through an overall score or rating, gauging by management effectiveness level, and by categorizing responses into management focus. With the MPA MEAT, an MPA can be “excellent” in terms of level of effort put into MPA management but only get a Level 2 rating (MPA Management is Effectively Strengthened) if not all of the thresholds for Level 3 are met. Grouping the answers into Management Focus will help the management body determine which areas they are doing well and which management focus require improvements.

Interpretations	Description
1. Overall score	- Measures the level of effort devoted to MPA management - Higher scores mean greater effort put into MPA management and can potentially increase MPA effectiveness
2. Management Effectiveness Level	- Incorporates significantly-important activities called “thresholds” that MPA management bodies must undertake to enable effective governance of an MPA - The following factors must be met in order to achieve a given Management Effectiveness Level: - o Minimum number of years since establishment - o Minimum overall score - o All “threshold” questions satisfied for that Level and those before it
3. Management focus	- MPA management activities can be divided into key categories which help in improving effectiveness of MPAs - These are: Management plan, Management body, Legal instrument, Community participation, Financing, IEC activities, Enforcement, Monitoring, and Development - By grouping the questions into these categories, the MPA management body can gauge where its strengths and weaknesses lie and objectively identify areas for improvement

The MPA MEAT can also be used as a guide for improving MPA management effectiveness using the threshold activities identified. Consolidating the experiences of various institutions and non-government organizations, the MPA MEAT presents a compilation of parameters that enable effective management of MPAs.



Summary of Management Focus per MPA Level (Bullets: □ = document-based; ☞ = ocular inspection/site visit; CAPITAL LETTERS = threshold items)

Focus	Level 1: Established	Level 2: Effectively Strengthened	Level 3: Effectively Sustained	Level 4: Effectively Institutionalized
<i>Years since establishment</i>	At least 1 year	At least 2 years	Usually after 5 years	At least 7 years
Management Plan	1.2.1 Management Plan Drafted 1.2.2 MPA plan prepared in a consultative and participatory manner 1.2.4 MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTED		3.1.1 Management plan and ordinance reviewed and updated	4.1.2 MPA/NIPAS MANAGEMENT PLAN INCORPORATED IN BROADER DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Management Body	1.2.3 Functions of MPA/NIPAS body explained through IEC 1.4.1 Management body determined and identified 1.4.2 MANAGEMENT BODY FORMED AND ROLES CLARIFIED		3.1.3 Management body able to supervise management activities of the MPA and access technical assistance, if necessary 3.1.6 PERFORMANCE MONITORING OF THE MANAGEMENT BODY CONDUCTED REGULARLY	4.1.1 Political Support from the Provincial Council or LGUs 4.1.4 Coordination with LGUs and other groups clearly defined and formalized
Legal instrument for declaration	1.3.1 Legal instrument declaring the PA drafted 1.3.2 Consultations on legal instrument with stakeholders conducted 1.3.3 LEGAL INSTRUMENT APPROVED			
Community participation	1.1.1 MPA/NIPAS concept explained to stakeholders 1.1.2 MPA/NIPAS accepted and approved by community/local government			
Financing	1.4.3 BUDGET ALLOCATED FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR	2.1.6 Funds accessed and used	3.1.2 FUNDS ACCESSED FOR LAST 2 YEARS 3.1.9 Sustainable financing strategy established	4.1.3 Management body capable of outsourcing funds 4.1.11 MPA/NIPAS FINANCIALLY SELF-SUSTAINING IN THE LAST 7 YEARS
IEC activities and materials	1.4.4 IEC activities coordinated by the management body	☞ 2.1.7 Infrastructures maintained 2.1.8 IEC program conducted to sustain public awareness and compliance	3.1.5 IEC program enhanced	4.1.7 IEC SUSTAINED OVER 7 YEARS
Enforcement	1.4.5 MPA/NIPAS boundaries delineated 1.4.6 PA enforcers identified	2.1.1 Enforcement plan, or its equivalent, in place 2.1.2 Marine enforcement group trained 2.1.3 PATROLLING AND SURVEILLANCE CONDUCTED REGULARLY 2.1.4 VIOLATIONS DOCUMENTED 2.1.5 CASES FILED or VIOLATORS PENALIZED	3.1.4 ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM FULLY OPERATIONAL IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS 3.1.10 VIOLATORS PROSECUTED AND SANCTIONED	4.1.8 Management body can adjudicate certain cases
Monitoring	1.1.3 BASELINE ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED 1.4.7 Biophysical monitoring activities coordinated by the management body	2.1.9 Participatory biophysical monitoring	3.1.7 REGULAR PARTICIPATORY MONITORING 3.1.8 Socioeconomic monitoring conducted regularly 3.1.11 Feedback system in place (for monitoring)	4.1.5 ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED 4.1.6 PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION LINKED TO AN INCENTIVE SYSTEM
Site development				4.1.9 Expansion strategies or resource enhancement programs initiated 4.1.10 Support facilities constructed

COMMUNITY PERCEPTION SURVEY FORM

This perception survey can be used to gauge the level of awareness of stakeholders, their perceived benefits from the MPA, their perception on the functionality of the management body and their willingness to support the MPA. Results of this perception survey may be used by the management body to adjust their community awareness programs and activities.

Introduction statement: *Good morning/afternoon. Can you spare a few minutes of your time? I would like to interview you regarding the (Name of the MPA) in (Barangay), (Municipality/City). (Municipality/City) is currently conducting its regular Community Perception Survey. I only have 6 questions to ask your opinion. The information generated from this survey will be used to improve the management of the (Name of the MPA).*

{Once the person agrees, politely introduce yourself -- name and LGU designation [e.g. "I am Juan Dela Cruz. I am a Fisheries Technician of the (name of LGU)]." Then proceed to conduct the interview}

Fisher stakeholder no. _____ Non-fisher stakeholder no. _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

No. of years residing in the Barangay: _____ Occupation: _____

1. Do you know about the (interviewer states the name of the MPA and place)?

☐ Yes

How did you know? _____

What are the functions & benefits of the MPA? (Cite at least 2) _____

☐ No

Why? _____

2. FOR DIRECT (fishers) STAKEHOLDERS:

Did your fish catch increase because of the MPA?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

Why? _____

FOR Non-fisher STAKEHOLDERS:

Have you benefitted from the MPA?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

In what way? _____

3. Is there an increase or decrease in the incidence of illegal fishing activities in the area since the MPA was established?

☐ Increase

☐ Decrease

☐ Undecided

To what would you attribute the change? _____

4. Do you think that the MPA management group is functional?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

If yes, in what ways is it functional? _____

If no or undecided, why? _____

5. Do you think the MPA efforts can be sustained?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

Why? _____

6. Will you support the continued management of the MPA?

☐ Yes

How will you support it? _____

☐ No

What would make you support it? _____

MPA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT TOOL

version: 01 Feb 2011

MPA Type:

- ☐ Locally-managed MPA
- ☐ NIPAS Seascape (for **NIPAS sites**, please **skip this page** and proceed to the next)

MPA information for single MPAs or locally-managed MPAs (provide maps if available)

MPA Name:	Complete Name		
	Short Name		
	Sitio, Barangay(s)		
Location:	Municipality(ies)		
	Province		
Boundary Coordinates (Latitude & Longitude)	Corner / Point	Longitude	Latitude
	Point 1		
	Point 2		
	Point 3		
	Point 4		
	Point 5		
	Point 6		
	Point 7		
	Point 8		
Size	Hectares		
MPA Type:	Sanctuary/Reserve/Combination		
Ecosystems Protected:	Coral reef, mangrove, seagrass, etc.		
Coral Cover	Percent live coral cover (include year)		
Fish biomass / density	indicate units (kg/ha. or individual/ha.)		
Year Established:	Based on legal document		
Legislation:	Name and code of ordinance / R.A.		
Evaluation date:	mm/dd/yyyy		

Evaluator(s) details:

Name	Affiliation	Email address(es)	Contact number(s)

* The third biennial MPA Awards and Recognition (Para El MAR 2011) will be using this form as a nomination form.
If you wish to nominate your MPA, kindly mail or email your form to the secretariat (contact details at the end of this document)

MPA Information for MPAs under NIPAS Act
(provide maps if available)

NIPAS Name:	Complete Name	
	Short Name	
Encompassing:	Municipality(ies)	
	Province	

Boundary Coordinates (Latitude & Longitude)	Corner / Point	Longitude	Latitude
	Point 1		
	Point 2		
	Point 3		
	Point 4		
	Point 5		
	Point 6		
	Point 7		
	Point 8		

Size	<i>marine area (hectares)</i>	
Size	<i>land area (hectares)</i>	
Coral Cover	<i>Percent live coral cover (include year)</i>	
Fish biomass / density	<i>Indicate units (kg/ha. or individual/ha.)</i>	
Year Established:	<i>Based on legal document</i>	
Legislation:	<i>Name and code of ordinance / R.A.</i>	
Evaluation date:	<i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	

Evaluator(s) details:

Name	Affiliation	Email address(es)	Contact number(s)

For each management zone or MPA in the NIPAS Seascape

(provide additional pages if necessary; provide maps if available)

Management zone or MPA name	Complete name		
Size	Hectares		
Zone/MPA type:	<i>Sanctuary, reserve, etc.</i>		
Boundary Coordinates (Latitude & Longitude)	Corner / Point	Longitude	Latitude
	Point 1		
	Point 2		
	Point 3		
	Point 4		
	Point 5		
	Point 6		
	Point 7		
	Point 8		
Year Established:	<i>Based on legal document</i>		
Legislation:	<i>Legal document name</i>		

For each management zone or MPA in the NIPAS Seascape

(provide additional pages if necessary; provide maps if available)

Management zone or MPA name	Complete name		
Size	Hectares		
Zone/MPA type:	<i>Sanctuary, reserve, etc.</i>		
Boundary Coordinates (Latitude & Longitude)	Corner / Point	Longitude	Latitude
	Point 1		
	Point 2		
	Point 3		
	Point 4		
	Point 5		
	Point 6		
	Point 7		
	Point 8		
Year Established:	<i>Based on legal document</i>		
Legislation:	<i>Legal document name</i>		

LEVEL 1 - MPA IS ESTABLISHED (17 Items, 27 Points)				
Criteria / Guide Questions		Allowable Points	Actual Points	Remarks / Means of verification
1.1 Establishment based on Participatory Process (5/5)				
MPA established with the participation of the community based on informed decisions				
1.1.1	MPA concept explained to stakeholders	0 or 1		
Was the MPA concept explained to the stakeholders? <i>Affected stakeholders have been oriented on MPA concepts and benefits</i>				- Minutes of consultations & public hearings - Activity report / proceedings of the consultation
1.1.2	MPA accepted and approved by the community or local government	0 or 1		
Was the MPA accepted by the community (for local MPAs) or local governments (for NIPAS seascapes)? <i>Public consultation on site selection should be conducted in order to gain community approval and acceptance</i>				- Resolution(s) - Minutes of meeting
1.1.3	BASELINE ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED *	0 or 3		
Were the stakeholders engaged in baseline assessment using standard methods / any acceptable methods? <i>Baseline assessment survey includes biophysical assessment and community profile</i>				- Biophysical assessment report - PCRA/PRA report - Technical reports of consultants - BMS (for NIPAS seascapes) - Names of local participants
1.2 Adoption of a Legitimate Management Plan (6/6)				
Management plan is adopted and legitimized by the LGU or Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) or similar legal body				
1.2.1	Management Plan Drafted	0 or 1		
Has the management plan been drafted?				Any draft of management plan
1.2.2	MPA plan prepared in a consultative and participatory manner	0 or 1		
Was the MPA/NIPAS plan prepared in a consultative and participatory manner?				Documentation of public consultation about the MPA plan
1.2.3	Functions of MPA management body explained through IEC	0 or 1		
Were the functions of the MPA management body and benefits from the MPA explained through initial IEC activities?				IEC materials
1.2.4	MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTED *	0 or 3		
Has the management plan been finalised and adopted?				- Management Plan - Resolution or ordinance
1.3 Legislations (Municipal Ordinance / Presidential Proclamation / Republic Act) (5/5)				
Management plan is adopted and legitimized by the LGU or Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) or similar legal body				
1.3.1	Legal instrument declaring the MPA has been drafted	0 or 1		
Has the legal instrument declaring the MPA been drafted? <i>For locally-managed MPAs: The Barangay Ordinance is in place and the Municipal Ordinance has been drafted.</i> <i>For NIPAS seascapes: a Republic Act has been drafted</i>				- Draft or final ordinance / resolution - Draft Republic Act (for NIPAS)
1.3.2	Consultations on legal instrument with stakeholders conducted	0 or 1		
Were there public hearings / community consultations on the legal instrument declaring the protected areas?				- Minutes of public consultations - Resolutions of endorsement
1.3.3	LEGAL INSTRUMENT APPROVED *	0 or 3		
Has the legal instrument establishing the MPA or NIPAS been approved? <i>For locally-managed MPAs: a Municipal Ordinance declaring the MPA should have been enacted</i> <i>For NIPAS seascapes: a Republic Act should have been enacted by Congress</i>				- Municipal Ordinance declaring the MPA for the locally-managed MPAs - Republic Act (for NIPAS)

LEVEL 1 - MPA IS ESTABLISHED (17 Items, 27 Points)				
Criteria / Guide Questions		Allowable Points	Actual Points	Remarks / Means of verification
1.4 Management body formed and functional (11/11)				
MPA established with the participation of the community based on informed decisions				
1.4.1	Management body determined and identified	0 or 1		
Have the members of the management body been determined and identified? <i>The management core group should have been identified (e.g., BFARMC, MFARMC, or PAMB)</i>				List of members of PAMB or management body; management structure; appointment papers
1.4.2	MANAGEMENT BODY FORMED AND ROLES CLARIFIED *	0 or 3		
Has the management body been formed and have their roles been clarified?				- Minutes showing committees - Organizational chart with clear roles - Enabling documentation (e.g., appointment papers)
1.4.3	BUDGET ALLOCATED FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR *	0 or 3		
Has the budget for at least one (1) year of MPA implementation been allocated?				- Approved Work and Financial Plan - Document appropriating funds from the General Appropriations Act (for NIPAS seascapes) or from the LGU (for locally-managed MPAs)
1.4.4	IEC activities coordinated by the management body?	0 or 1		
Have Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities been coordinated by the management body? Are signboards / billboards posted along the coastline / shoreline and visible to key stakeholders?				- IEC plan or similar document - Minutes showing IEC activities - Reports on IEC activities - Photographs of billboards / signboards and IEC materials
1.4.5	MPA boundaries delineated	0 or 1		
Are the MPA's boundaries properly delineated in the most appropriate manner and boundary markers installed? <i>When possible, the MPA boundaries should be marked by anchor buoys made with appropriate and sturdy materials. For large areas like NIPAS seascapes, information materials (e.g., banners, billboards, posters) that clearly show the boundaries of the protected area and zones established should be accessible and visible to key stakeholders.</i>				- Photograph of marker buoys showing status - Maps on billboards, banners, posters
1.4.6	MPA enforcers identified	0 or 1		
Have the MPA enforcers already been identified?				Document showing names of enforcers (e.g., Bantay Dagat, PNP Maritime Group, Coast Guard, etc.); appointment papers
1.4.7	Biophysical monitoring activities coordinated by the management body	0 or 1		
Are the biophysical monitoring activities coordinated by the management body?				- Biophysical monitoring report - Resolutions approving monitoring activities
TOTAL SCORE FOR LEVEL 1		27		
<i>Thresholds are in BLOCK CAPITALS. Minimum score of 18 points and all Thresholds should have been met to pass this Level.</i>				

LEVEL 2 - MPA MANAGEMENT IS EFFECTIVELY STRENGTHENED (9 Items, 15 Points)				
Criteria / Guide Questions		Allowable Points	Actual Points	Remarks / Means of verification
2.1 The MPA is effectively strengthened (15/15)				
2.1.1	Enforcement plan, or its equivalent, in place	0 or 1		
The MPA should have a clear and feasible enforcement plan				Enforcement plan (i.e., schedules, SOP, etc)
2.1.2	Marine enforcement group trained	0 or 1		
Have the marine enforcement team members been trained on enforcement procedures and protocols? (e.g., apprehension, para-legal, use of GPS, safety, etc.)				- Training report with names of participants - Certificate of attendance to training(s) - Deputization ID
2.1.3	PATROLLING AND SURVEILLANCE CONDUCTED REGULARLY *	0 or 3		
Are patrolling, surveillance, and other violation detection measures (e.g., watchtowers, radars, community reporting, etc.) being conducted regularly?				- Attendance of patrollers - Patrol logs - Back to office reports (after patrols) - Mission order
2.1.4	VIOLATIONS DOCUMENTED *	0 or 3		
Are violation reports / apprehensions being documented properly? <i>Even if there are no violations observed, these should be reported as "no observed violations".</i>				- Back-to-office report of patrol team - Logbook of apprehensions / report violations - Police blotter
2.1.5	CASES FILED OR VIOLATORS PENALIZED *	0 or 3		
Are cases filed for apprehended violators or are they penalized (e.g., administrative fines)? <i>Violators are at least required to pay administrative fines or other penalties provided for in the ordinance or any enabling law. Confiscation of gears can also serve as a form of sanction as well as undergoing a seminar for first time violators.</i>				- Case reports - Legal documents - List of violators penalized - Logbooks - Record of fines collected - List / pictures of gears confiscated
2.1.6	Funds accessed and used	0 or 1		
Allocated funds should have been accessed and used for MPA management. Funds can also come from other sources (e.g., donors, projects, etc.)				- Expenditure reports - Financial statements
2.1.7	Infrastructures maintained	0 or 1		
Are the MPA billboards, boundary markers, anchor buoys, guardhouse, boats, or other infrastructures for MPA management being maintained?				- Photograph of infrastructures showing their condition - Expenditure reports on maintenance of infrastructures
2.1.8	IEC program conducted to sustain public awareness and compliance	0 or 1		
Is the IEC program being implemented to sustain public awareness and compliance?				- Documentation of IEC activities - IEC materials
2.1.9	Participatory biophysical monitoring in the last 3 years	0 or 1		
<i>Biophysical surveys should have been conducted at least in the last three (3) years. Surveys should be properly documented, with the data kept safely for review and updating purposes. For NIPAS seascapes, Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS) or other monitoring methods should have been done and reported at least over the last three years.</i>				Data or report over the last three years
TOTAL SCORE FOR LEVEL 2		15		
<i>Thresholds are in BLOCK CAPITALS. To achieve Level 2, Level 1 requirements must have been passed and a minimum of 11 points obtained from Level 2 with all Thresholds met.</i>				

LEVEL 3 - MPA MANAGEMENT IS EFFECTIVELY SUSTAINED FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS (11 Items, 21 Points)				
Criteria / Guide Questions		Allowable Points	Actual Points	Remarks / Means of verification
3.1 The MPA management is effectively sustained for at least 5 years (21/21)				
3.1.1	Management plan and ordinance reviewed and updated	0 or 1		
Has the MPA management plan reviewed or updated in response to emerging needs and challenges?				- Updated management plan or amendments to the plan - Minutes of meeting that reviewed the plan
3.1.2	FUNDS GENERATED OR ACCESSED FOR LAST 2 YEARS *	0 or 3		
Are financial sources generated or accessed for the last 2 or more consecutive years? (e.g., budget from LGU / IPAF or from external sources)				Audited expenditure report for the last 2 years
3.1.3	Management body able to supervise management activities of the MPA and access technical assistance, if necessary	0 or 1		
Management body is fully functioning and has shown capacity to locate and access technical assistance to improve MPA management and status				- Letters with reply from partner for technical assistance - Reports with other partners - Minutes of meetings w/ action points
3.1.4	ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM FULLY OPERATIONAL IN THE LAST FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS *	0 or 3		
The enforcement plan is fully implemented. Patrolling activities, violations reporting and apprehension, and sanctioning of violators should have been on-going over the last five years.				- Logbook with records of patrolling apprehensions - Annual enforcement reports (for 5 years)
3.1.5	IEC program enhanced	0 or 1		
IEC materials are regularly reproduced or updated and disseminated				- IEC Program progress reports (including dissemination details) - Updated IEC materials
3.1.6	PERFORMANCE MONITORING OF THE MANAGEMENT BODY CONDUCTED REGULARLY *	0 or 3		
Performance monitoring of the management body should be done regularly as defined in the management plan or at least every 2 years. Management evaluation tools such as the MPA MEAT can be used to assess management performance.				Performance evaluation reports for the management body
3.1.7	REGULAR PARTICIPATORY MONITORING CONDUCTED *	0 or 3		
Biophysical surveys should have been conducted at least in the last five (5) years . Surveys should be properly documented, with the data kept safely for review and updating purposes. For NIPAS seascapes, the Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS) should have been reported at least every three years.				- Monitoring data showing trends - Attendance sheets showing names of locals who participated in monitoring activities
3.1.8	Socioeconomic monitoring conducted regularly	0 or 1		
"Regular" as defined in the management plan or at least annually. Minimum socioeconomic data which may be used by the management body to adjust management plans & strategies include: income, livelihood activities, population, resource use, fish catch, etc.				Socioeconomic data showing trends
3.1.9	Sustainable financing strategy established	0 or 1		
Is there an internally generated revenue scheme?				- Resolution or ordinance imposing fees - Financial guidelines - Private-public partnership agreements
3.1.10	VIOLATORS PROSECUTED AND SANCTIONED *	0 or 3		
Are the prosecution process requirements, if any, satisfied by the MPA management body?				- Appearance in court or court decision - Other sanctions implemented
3.1.11	Feedback system in place (for monitoring)	0 or 1		
Is there a feedback system in place?				Minutes of public hearings / presentations
TOTAL SCORE FOR LEVEL 3		21		
Thresholds are in BLOCK CAPITALS. To achieve Level 3, Level 1 & 2 requirements must have been passed and a minimum of 16 points obtained from Level 3 with all Thresholds met.				

LEVEL 4 - MPA MANAGEMENT IS EFFECTIVELY INSTITUTIONALIZED FOR AT LEAST 7 YEARS (11 Items, 21 Points)				
Criteria / Guide Questions		Allowable Points	Actual Points	Remarks / Means of verification
4.1 MPA management effectively institutionalized for at least 7 years (21/21)				
4.1.1	Political support from the provincial council or LGUs	0 or 1		
<i>The Provincial Council (for locally-managed MPAs) or local governments (for NIPAS seascapes) have committed to give the MPA institutional support to strengthen enforcement and collaboration. Political support = budget, manpower, or technical</i>				- Contracts / MOA / MOU - Annual Investment Plan (for NIPAS) - SP Resolution committing/providing support
4.1.2	MPA MANAGEMENT PLAN INCORPORATED IN BROADER DEVELOPMENT PLANS *	0 or 3		
<i>The MPA or NIPAS seascape is incorporated within the long-term LGU or provincial development plans (e.g., Comprehensive Land Use Plans, Provincial Development Plans, etc.)</i>				Higher level plans where the MPA is integrated
4.1.3	Management body capable of outsourcing funds	0 or 1		
Is the management body able to get funds for the MPA / NIPAS seascape from external sources?				- Proposals submitted (received copy) - Grant agreements entered into by the management body
4.1.4	Coordination with LGUs and other groups clearly defined and formalized	0 or 1		
Is the coordination with appropriate national & local agencies on CRM / MPA policies and with other LGUs achieved? Are the accountabilities and working relationships among collaborating institutions clearly defined and formalized?				- Memorandum of Agreement - Partnership contracts / documents
4.1.5	ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED *	0 or 3		
<i>Assessment of resource status and long-term trends should be conducted together with an assessment of benefits obtained from the MPA by stakeholders. Impacts should also be assessed vis-a-vis the overall objective of the MPA or NIPAS seascape.</i>				- Trends and temporal assessments of ecological & socio-economic impacts - Impact assessment report
4.1.6	PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM LINKED TO AN INCENTIVE SYSTEM *	0 or 3		
<i>Recognition / awards are regularly being given to outstanding members, law enforcers, etc. Incentives can also include granting of available loans or supplementary livelihood opportunities.</i>				- Awards / Recognition received - Announcement of competition / performance incentives
4.1.7	IEC SUSTAINED OVER SEVEN YEARS *	0 or 3		
Has the IEC program for the MPA been sustained over the past seven years?				- IEC program progress reports for 7 years - IEC long-term plan
4.1.8	Management body can adjudicate certain cases	0 or 1		
Does the management body adjudicate administrative cases?				- Proceedings of adjudications - Letters of complaints
4.1.9	Expansion strategies or resource enhancement programs initiated	0 or 1		
<i>MPA coverage or core zones (for local MPAs) expanded. Advance conservation and resource enhancement activities implemented (e.g., coral reef restoration, mangrove reforestation, giant clam restocking, etc.).</i>				Reports
4.1.10	Support facilities constructed	0 or 1		
<i>Facilities to support MPA enterprises or improve conservation efforts are constructed (e.g., guardhouse, visitors' center, education / training center, watchtowers, etc.)</i>				Photographs of infrastructure
4.1.11	MPA FINANCIALLY SELF-SUSTAINING IN THE LAST SEVEN (7) CONSECUTIVE YEARS *	0 or 3		
<i>Revenues (internally generated and/or obtained from external sources) should be enough to cover operating expenses of the MPA in the last seven (7) years</i>				Audited financial report for the last seven years
TOTAL SCORE FOR LEVEL 4		21		
<i>Thresholds are in BLOCK CAPITALS. To achieve Level 4, Levels 1 to 3 requirements must have been passed and a minimum of 16 points obtained from Level 4 with all Thresholds met.</i>				

Summary of MPA MEAT Results

Name of MPA : _____

Location : _____

Date accomplished : _____

MPA level achieved : _____

Total cumulative score * : _____

Remarks : _____

MPA Level	Year requirement met?	Total Score Per Level	All threshold questions satisfied?	MPA level satisfied?
1 - Established - At least 1 year - at least 20 Total Cumulative Score - all Level 1 Thresholds met	☐ MPA is at least 1 year old		☐	☐
2 - Strengthened - At least 3 years - at least 31 Total Cumulative Score - all Level 1 & 2 Thresholds met	☐ MPA is at least 3 years old		☐	☐
3 - Sustained - At least 5 years - at least 47 Total Cumulative Score - all Level 1, 2, & 3 Thresholds met	☐ MPA is at least 5 years old		☐	☐
4 - Institutionalized - At least 7 years - at least 63 Total Cumulative Score - all Thresholds met	☐ MPA is at least 7 years old		☐	☐
TOTAL CUMULATIVE SCORE		_____ out of 84 points *		

* Total Cumulative Score: <24 points = "Fair"; 25 to 39 = "Good"; 40 to 61 = "Very Good"; 62 to 84 = "Excellent"

If your MPA does not meet the basic Level 1 category, your MPA is still under the process of establishment. Basic activities should be conducted soon to fully "establish" the MPA and make it operational.

MPA Management Focus (for each focus, add the points for all the questions in the 2nd column below):

Management Focus	Item Numbers in MPA MEAT Form	Total Available Points	Actual Score per Management Focus	Actual Score divide by Total Available Points
Management Plan	1.2.1 + 1.2.2 + 1.2.4 + 3.1.1 + 4.1.2			
Management Body	1.2.3 + 1.4.1 + 1.4.2 + 3.1.3 + 3.1.6 + 4.1.1 + 4.1.4			
Legal Instrument	1.3.1 + 1.3.2 + 1.3.3			
Community Participation	1.1.1 + 1.1.2			
Financing	1.4.3 + 2.1.6 + 3.1.2 + 3.1.9 + 4.1.3 + 4.1.11			
IEC	1.4.4 + 2.1.7 + 2.1.8 + 3.1.5 + 4.1.7			
Enforcement	1.4.5 + 1.4.6 + 2.1.1 + 2.1.2 + 2.1.3 + 2.1.4 + 2.1.5 + 3.1.4 + 3.1.10 + 4.1.8			
Monitoring & Evaluation	1.1.3 + 1.4.7 + 2.1.9 + 3.1.7 + 3.1.8 + 3.1.11 + 4.1.5 + 4.1.6			
Site Development	4.1.9 + 4.1.10			

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Developed in partnership with:



The institutionalization of the MPA MEAT is still being processed. In the meantime, you may send your filled-out MPA MEAT forms to the MPA Support Network c/o:

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