



QUARTERLY RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT

QUARTER: 3rd

Research Title: Biodiversity of Marine Flora and Fauna in Artificial Reefs of Baybay City and Selected Municipalities of the 5th District of Leyte

I. Project Objectives

In general, the study aims to determine the impact of artificial reef on the community structure and succession of marine flora and fauna inside the marine sanctuaries of Baybay City and selected municipalities of the 5th district of Leyte. Specifically, it aims to:

1. identify the species of fishes, invertebrates, seaweeds-seagrasses, and corals in artificial and natural reefs;
2. measure the abundance of the flora and fauna through time;
3. monitor the succession pattern of community structure in artificial reef; and
4. assess the fish spill-over effect of marine sanctuaries with artificial reefs.

II. Relevance to VSU & College's Thrust and Priorities:

Assessment of the impact of artificial reef on the community structure and succession of marine flora and fauna inside the marine sanctuaries of Baybay City and selected municipalities of the 5th district of Leyte is in accordance to the VSU & CFES thrust and priorities. It explore engaging ways for VSU and the LGUs for sustainable environment to the stakeholders e.g rehabilitation and enhancement of the coral reef ecosystems. It also strengthens linkages between stakeholders and the Visayas State University.

III. Highlights of accomplishments within the quarter

A. Targets for the quarter

- **Compile the assessment findings and deliver a summary report to the Local Government Unit (LGU) in Hilongos, Leyte.**

B. Highlights of accomplishments

- **Artificial reef meeting at Marine laboratory.**

The meeting took place on August 8, 2023, at VSU Marine Laboratory. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the utilization of 2023 budget and address the absence of the study leaders who will be on study leave. Additionally, the meeting included a presentation of results to BLGU/MLGU and a discussion of matters arising from the previous minutes.