



PRESS RELEASE

BEST MANAGED REEF AWARD 2001

A unique Anglo-Filipino partnership has received a national award for the Best Managed Coral Reef for its pioneering conservation work in the Philippines.

At an awards ceremony in Manila on Friday 25 January, UK-based Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) and the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation, Inc. were praised for their “exemplary collaborative conservation efforts” in protecting the exceptionally-rich coral reef that surrounds Danjungan Island off the coast of Negros Occidental in the Philippines.

The award was made by the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, and PhilReefs.

Since 1995, over 2,500 CCC volunteers have joined conservation projects in the Philippines. Following intensive training programmes in scuba diving and marine survey techniques, volunteers have gathered crucial information on the status of coral reefs in the region. Their efforts played a key part in the declaration of Danjungan as a National Marine Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary in February 2000.

The new award also recognises the invaluable collaborative partnership and support of the local fishing community of Bulata without whose involvement Danjungan Island and its spectacular coral reef might never have been saved.

Note to Editors

1. For further information on Coral Cay Conservation please visit www.coralcay.org
2. Additional details about Coral Cay Conservation are attached.

CORAL CAY CONSERVATION

Providing resources to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty through the protection, restoration and management of coral reefs and tropical forests.

Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) is a non-profit organisation at the cutting edge of ecotourism. We send teams of volunteers to survey some of the world's most endangered coral reefs and tropical forests. Our mission is to protect these crucial environments by working closely with host countries and the local communities who depend on them for food and livelihood. Anyone can be a CCC volunteer. Anyone can help make the difference.

Aims & Principles

Coral Cay Conservation provides resources to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty through the protection, restoration and management of coral reefs and tropical forests. We achieve these aims by:

- providing technical and financial support that countries need in order to produce conservation management plans for threatened reefs and forests;
- training international volunteers and host-country partners to gather, interpret and monitor the data that's so crucial for effective conservation;
- working with host-country governments and other organisations to encourage education and sustainable livelihood opportunities in local communities.

Brief History

- 1986-1998: CCC supports the Belize Government's drive to create numerous marine reserves and a World Heritage Site along the Great Atlantic Barrier Reef.
- 1995-present: CCC works with the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation Inc (PRRCFI) to safeguard Danjungan Island and other key areas.
- 1996: CCC expeditions survey Sulawesi's Banggai Islands.
- 1998: CCC's East Kalimantan Reef Conservation Project.
- 1998-present: The Bay Islands of Honduras – CCC's second Caribbean programme.
- 2001-present: CCC's Fiji Coral Reef Conservation Project

CCC Charitable Trust (UK Charity no. 1025534)

President: Sir Bruce MacPhail, Managing Director, P&O Group.

Coral Cay Conservation donates all profits to the CCC Charitable Trust, the UK's only charity dedicated to protecting coral reefs and tropical forests – and the livelihoods of the people who depend on them. The CCC Trust:

- funds conservation diving scholarships for local people;
- produces education resources for schools;
- raises awareness of conservation issues through events and displays;
- supporting alternative livelihood schemes and other local community projects.

CORAL CAY CONSERVATION

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