

















#### Fish Forever Global Goals

Fish Forever is Rare's community-led solution to revitalize coastal marine habitats, including coral reefs and mangrove forests, protect biodiversity, and boost fishing communities' livelihoods around the world. The program balances habitat conservation with human use and puts fishers at the center of the solution.

10 countries

100 partners

**1,000,000** fishers engaged

500 local governments committed 125,000 mi<sup>2</sup> of coastal seas managed

# **Coastal Fisheries in the Philippines**

Coastal seas are the beating heart of the ocean. The Philippines' coastal waters sustain millions of people and an economy heavily dependent on local fisheries for food and jobs. However, coastal overfishing and destructive fishing techniques are diminishing fish catches and destroying marine habitats. Climate change is worsening this issue, making future fishing conditions—and life for coastal communities on the front lines of climate impacts—uncertain.



80% — of Filipinos live in coastal municipalities

85%

of Filipino fishers are registered as small-scale (1.9 million)

of the Phis caught fishers

**50**%

of the Philippines' fish is caught by small-scale fishers



**\$981M** usd

total estimated value of the Philippines' smallscale coastal fisheries of global coral reefs are found in the Philippines



95% of the Philippines' coral reefs are in coastal waters

largest coastline in

the world (22,548 miles of coast)



### Because of Fish Forever, members of our association are now reporting increased fish catch."

Virgilio Avisado
 Tandayag Marine Sanctuary in the
 Municipality of Amlan

## **The Program**

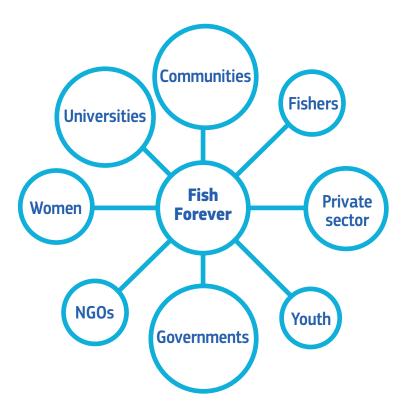
Fish Forever in the Philippines works with fishing villages and municipal governments to build and strengthen community-based coastal fisheries management of the Philippines' municipal waters. The program works to:

- Establish managed access areas that provide fishing communities clear rights to fish in certain areas
- Create networks of fully-protected and community-led no-take marine reserves to replenish and sustain fish populations and protect critical habitat
- Build community engagement and effective management bodies to support local decision-making
- Enable fishers to adopt more sustainable and better-regulated fishing behaviors (e.g., become a registered fisher; record fish catch; respect fishing regulations; and participate in fisheries management)
- Collect, disseminate and help fishing communities use data for decision-making
- Advance coastal fishing communities' inclusion in financial and market opportunities to increase household resilience
- Enact policy and unlock financing to promote and sustain this community-based management approach

#### The Network of Impact

Fish Forever in the Philippines has developed a strong partnership network to turn local change into national impact.

This partnership among Rare, local communities, governments and a broad range of partners leads to more abundant marine life, healthier coastal habitats, improved fish abundance, greater social equity, and more resilience to external impacts—especially those related to climate change.









Photos: Jason Houston

It's about giving the community a voice, because they know what they want, they know what they need and how they will survive. Fish Forever has empowered them to feel good about themselves."

Mayor Alfredo Coro II
 Municipality of Del Carmen