

Indigenous Approaches to Access, Control and Protection of Coastal Resources: A Review of Some Philippine Experiences

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This paper will review several indigenous practices among traditional fishing communities in the Philippines in using, controlling and protecting the coastal resources.

The review will examine how traditional fishing communities in Batanes, northern Philippines and in Palawan, Southern Philippines try to live in harmony with nature by a) harnessing the ecological knowledge of fishers; b) observance of taboos and the performance of rituals; c) observing economic arrangements to protect environment and the implementation of organizational rules formulated by the association of users.

The paper will also highlight the challenges faced by indigenous practices and institutions in a fast modernizing world.

