

Barangay captain

Who you are: You chair the meeting. You want a plan the whole village can live with, and that the municipality will approve.

What worries you: Families falling out over who loses their fishing spots.

Your question: Who will pay for the patrols?

Municipal fisheries officer

Who you are: You know the law sets a target of 15% of municipal waters as no-take sanctuaries. You want a sanctuary that can really be enforced.

What worries you: Another sanctuary that exists only on paper.

Your question: How will we know if it works?

Hook-and-line fisher

Who you are: You fish the reef edge near the dive sites. You would support a sanctuary if catches improve.

What worries you: Losing your best fishing spots while the fish recover.

Your question: Where do I fish in the meantime?

Net fisher

Who you are: You set nets over the seagrass beds. Your family has fished there for generations.

What worries you: Nets being banned without any other way to earn a living.

Your question: Will there be other jobs?

Fish vendor

Who you are: You buy fish from the boats and sell them in town.

What worries you: Fewer fish to sell for the first few years.

Your question: How long until catches get better?

Dive resort owner

Who you are: Your guests want to see big fish, turtles and sharks. You could collect a visitor fee.

What worries you: Divers going elsewhere if the reef keeps declining.

Your question: Can visitor fees pay the wardens?

Marine scientist

Who you are: You know what makes sanctuaries work: no take, enforcement, time, size and connected habitats.

What worries you: A sanctuary in the wrong place, too small or with no baseline survey.

Your question: Can we survey before and after?

Bantay Dagat warden

Who you are: You are a volunteer sea warden who patrols the coast.

What worries you: Confronting your own neighbours with no boat, fuel or backup.

Your question: Who backs us up when we catch someone?

Youth representative

Who you are: You speak for the students of the barangay.

What worries you: No fish and no jobs left when you grow up.

Your question: How can young people help?