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June 2016

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## Balicasag Island Helix Mooring Buoy Installation & Shore it Up's Coral Restoration Project

The Philippine Commission on Sports SCUBA Diving - PCSSD / Pcssd Dot supports Municipality of Panglao and the PADO (Panglao Association of Dive Operators) in protecting the dive sites with particular attention to Balicasag Island Panglao Bohol.

PCSSD Executive Director Karen Chan formally turned over the Helix Mooring System Components from PCSSD to LGU Panglao Mayor Leonila Montero, CRM Head/Tourism Officer LGU Panglao Darwin Menorias, PADO President Holger W. Horn, and to the dive operators/stakeholders. This will help lessen the scourge of anchoring & the destruction of coral systems. This will also mean safer dives for divers!

DOT-7 Central Visayas Regional Director Rowena Lu Y. Montecillo also supported this endeavor by giving the inspirational message to the attending body. In the same manner, an introduction was given for the developing cooperative project on the Module for Snorkeling Guides. This effort will also be brought to you by DOT7-PCSSD-LGU Panglao/PADO.

Balicasag Island is a gem in the Visayas which should be protected and sustainably used. It is but the effort of all stakeholders that it can be preserved for future generations.

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Ceremonial Turn over of the Helix Mooring System from PCSSD to LGU Panglao/PADO and all the dive stakeholders who are accountable for the sustainable use of Balicasag Island.

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Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing - LGU Panglao Mayor Leonila Montero, PCSSD Executive Director Karen Chan, and PADO President Holger W. Horn.

Last April 2016, Shore It Up of Metro Pacific in partnership with the Philippine Commission on Sports SCUBA Diving - PCSSD, gathered with representatives from the Mabini LGU through Tourism Mabini, the Mabini Bantay Dagat, and initial volunteers that prior pledged interest and support with Shore It Up to discuss preliminary details on Coral Restoration in Mabini, Batangas or more commonly known as "Anilao".

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Last May 12, 2016, Shore it Up and PCSSD conducted monitoring activities in line with the Coral Restoration Project. This activity is but one of the series of programs of this partnership.

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