

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

IDIS @ 20 
1999-2019
Clean Water. Healthy Watersheds.

Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability (IDIS), Inc.



IDIS advocates for the protection and management of life-sustaining watersheds, from ridge to reef, in South Central Mindanao

WE ADVOCATE POLICIES

Our goal is an expanded and conducive policy environment for the protection and management of watersheds

WE PROMOTE REPLICABLE GREEN PRACTICES

Our goal is replication of practices on watershed protection and management and sustainable living, primarily through the Lunhaw Awards

WE STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

Our goal is to have broad environmental partnerships advocating for watershed protection and sustainable living

A MESSAGE FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



IDIS started with a goal to protect the future water source of Davao City from expanding agribusiness in the upland watersheds. One watershed, one city. Since then, we covered the largest highly urbanized city in the Philippines, recognizing that initiatives in the upland rural areas are interlinked to the urban lowland and coastal areas. In our 20th year this 2019, we are now working in multiple cities and municipalities in South Central Mindanao continuing our advocacy --- clean water, healthy watersheds.

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The reason for the expansion was only natural, given that ecological services and the effects of their destruction cut across political boundaries. The initiatives we started and sustained over the years are slowly being adopted and institutionalized in the Local Government. For instance, the Lunhaw Awards, initiated by IDIS with DACS, DCWD, CAO and CENRO in 2012 is now being handled by the City Environment and Natural Resources Office as the official secretariat head by virtue of an Executive Order issued by the City Mayor. Our community-based forest guards (Bantay Bukid volunteers) have not only been recognized but are now regularly supported by the LGU through the PSSCC. We aim that similar efforts will also be adopted by other cities and municipalities in South-Central Mindanao.

2019 was also the year the climate crisis finally reached the center of political agenda in developed nations, thanks to the inspiring school strikes led by children. In response, we continue our due diligence in reducing the risks in the way we develop our cities and think of our communities long-term, with climate change in mind. We have mapped the remaining green zones in the city and conducted research on the effects of quarry to our riparian ecosystem and communities. We will push for corresponding actions to protect our rivers, remaining wetlands and urban forests that serve as crucial carbon sinks. We will continue to advocate for the banning of single use plastic and the long-term changing of mindset towards reducing waste at source. The planned waste incinerator facility, posed as the band-aid solution to unmanageable waste of urbanization, will produce various environmental and health damages which will be further aggravated with urban heat.

On a personal note, this year I gave birth to Eko. One doesn't need to have a child to understand the need to think about the future generations, the natural resources left for them and the state of the planet they will have to live in. But all we have been advocating for becomes crystal clear whenever I see Eko.

Now, I am more inspired and determined to continue working for a better and livable future for him and the future generations.

We continue to extend our sincere appreciation to our funding partners for their continued trust and confidence in our work. We thank DKA Austria and Misereor Germany for their support in our project, “Scaling-up Watershed Management in South-Central Mindanao” from 2017-2019 as well as for their commitment to support our next project cycle. We also thank the

Alternative Law Group for their support in our watershed intervention case; the City Government of Davao for their financial support to the Lunhaw Awards and Bantay Bukid Program; and to IDEALS, Inc. for partnering with us in implementing their project in Compostela Valley.

IDIS now has 20 years worth of knowledge and experience in doing watershed policy advocacy. But there will be many challenges still --- some new and some old persisting ones; both external with our

government, CSOs and funding agency partners, as well as internal within our organization. As we have learned from two decades of watershed management work, we have to bounce back. Resilience is key if we are to ever achieve clean water, healthy watersheds for all. Padayon!


CHINKIE PELÑO-GOLLE





POLICY ADVOCACY

FOR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

IDIS continues to sit as a CSO representative in local government special bodies for the legal authority to participate and monitor implementation of government plans and enforcement of environmental laws on the ground, aid in policy development and put pressure on appropriate government agencies when urgent actions on certain environmental issues are needed.

IDIS provided inputs and recommendations to the following city/province-wide long-term plans: (1) Davao City CLUP Review and Updating for 2011-2022, (2) Integrated Watershed Management Plan for Panigan-Tamugan Watershed and (3) Sustainable Development Agenda to the Executive and Legislative Agenda in Davao City and Province of South Cotabato.

A CSO Representative to Government Special Bodies

Local Special Body	IDIS Contribution
DAVAO CITY	
1. City Development Council - Executive Committee	Participation in CDC-Execom meetings as representative of the NGOs Submitted Sustainable Davao Agenda for inclusion in the Executive-Legislative Agenda for 2019-2022
2. Local Zoning Review Committee and Local Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals	Participation in LZRC inspections and CDC-LZBAA joint meetings Opposition to all applications for quarry operation in Davao City pending to the Comprehensive Threshold Capacity Study by the LGU
3. Watershed Management Council	Three Watershed Multipartite Monitoring Team inspections attended regarding waste water issues, validation of ground demarcation where mohon markers were confirmed to be substandard as reported by communities and exclusion zone study for the Integrated Watershed Management Plan
4. Davao City Convergence Initiative	Participated in four meetings: core group with capacity enhancement committee, CADP launching at BLGU Suawan, Planning for Orientation of District extension workers of Marilog, Calinan and Baguio Districts
5. Participatory Guarantee System Network	Participated in PGS meetings and related activities
6. Technical Committee on Organic Agriculture	Participated in ensuring continuous implementation of Organic Agriculture Ordinance through setting up of additional organic trading outlets in Marfori and DFTC Toril Assisted in promoting value of organic agriculture through conduct of Organic Month Celebration and World Food Day
SOUTH COTABATO	
1. Provincial Development Council	Recommended inclusion of environmental policies in the ELA during sectoral consultation workshop in August 2019 and PDC quarterly meeting in September
2. Provincial Multipartite Monitoring Team on Land Use and Environmental Policies Implementation and Compliance	Participated in the inspection of four establishments on compliance to environmental laws in South Cotabato.
DAVAO DEL NORTE	
1. Tagum City – Accredited CSO Representative	Participated in the election of CSO Agriculture Committee representative to the CSO Development Council
2. Davao City – Davao Parks Board	IDIS has submitted a formal letter of intent to be a member of the Davao Park Board. IDIS is the only NGO that signified its intention for membership.

B Status of Environmental Policies

IDIS continues to push for and monitor environmental policies that need to be set in place for more sustainable development in South Central Mindanao. This means, being present in Sangguniang Panlungsod sessions every Tuesday (in Davao City), participating in committee hearings for environmental-related policies, and finding common ground with new policymakers on certain environmental issues, especially in lieu of the recent elections.

Policies	Updates	Green Champions
A. For Formulation / Adoption		
Ordinance on Ban of Balloons and Sky Lanterns	Enacted on April 2019	🏆 Coun. Mabel Acosta
Davao Environment Code	Volunteer lawyers tapped to draft Environment Code. Draft Environment Code endorsed to the Office of Councilor Diosdado Mahipus, Jr.	🏆 Coun. Diosdado Mahipus Jr. 🏆 CENRO
Bike Day/Hour Ordinance	In Progress/ Committee Hearing	🏆 Coun. Mabel Acosta
Ban of Single Use Plastics	In Progress/ For First Reading Ban Single-Use Plastic Symposium conducted in November co-organized by IDIS, Ecowaste Coalition and Office of Councilor Mahipus with representatives from 4 schools, 8 NGOs, 3 government offices and 2 private sector. Consultative meetings done and final draft will be presented in public this 2020.	🏆 Coun. Diosdado Mahipus Jr. 🏆 Vice Mayor Baste Duterte
Water Code	Water Forum conducted in November as a CSO Interfacing with DENR Region XI, NWRB, DCWD and other concerned agencies and CSOs.	🏆 Councilor Pilar Braga
B. For Implementation		
Urban Ecological Enhancement Subzone Amendments in Zoning Ordinance	Policy forum conducted in October 2019 to inform stakeholders and discuss next steps and possible interventions based on amendments of the Ordinance	🏆 City Planning & Development Office 🏆 Coun. Melchor Quitain
Watershed Code	P19M ground delineation of conservation areas started Four trainings facilitated for the Bantay Bukid volunteers protecting Panigan-Tamugan watershed.	🏆 Mayor Sara Duterte 🏆 Watershed Management Council 🏆 CENRO 🏆 PSSCC
Brgy. Sibulan as Organic Agriculture Zone	Planning for Organic Agriculture Zone attended where issues and concerns were raised per sitio. On-going lobbying for the immediate development of the IRR.	🏆 Coun. Ralph Abella 🏆 Coun. Petite Prinsipe
C. OTHERS		
Cutting and Planting of Trees	Arbor Day Committee hearing conducted on the cutting of trees along Davao River near Ma-a Diversion Road bridge	🏆 Coun. Mahipus 🏆 Councilor Diosdado Mahipus Jr. 🏆 Councilor Pilar Braga 🏆 Councilor Sweet Advincula

POLICY ADVOCACY IN PHOTOS





RESEARCH-BASED POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Visioning Davao City Green Zones

The proposed green zones identified, mapped and assessed in the study if declared priority for protection and developed can contribute additional 264.83 hectares of green space for Davao City to meet the international standards of 9.5 square meter/person of green space. However, this will no longer suffice in the near future as the city's population continues to grow. In terms of accessibility, less than half of the existing green space in the city is publicly accessible. With the proposed green zones, Davao will increase its accessible green space for the public to 60%. The study was conducted on (insert months when study was conducted) covering eight major urban districts with high built-up rates based on the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.



The study recommends:

- ✓ Pass an ordinance to protect the 10 remaining wetlands and 20 urban forests that serve as habitat for endemic wildlife, perform ecological services and serve as city's tourism spots for biodiversity.
- ✓ Pass a policy to protect streetscapes such as street islands, rotundas, and linear parks that serve as important green spaces from demolition or damage due to infrastructure projects.
- ✓ Integrate green zones in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance.
- ✓ Explore negotiations with private owners who are willing to sell their lands to secure more urban nature reserves and provide incentives to those who are willing to lease their lands as privately-owned publicly open spaces (POPOS)
- ✓ Mainstream Adopt-a-Park program for reforestation or greening of those green spaces with poor to moderate vegetative cover to be led by CENRO in partnership with the BLGUs and the private sector.



PROMOTION OF GREEN PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Davao City celebrated its first Lunhaw Month, declared by virtue of Executive Order No. 28 series of 2018 to boost promotion of the Lunhaw Awards, Davao City's annual search to recognize and promote environment-friendly initiatives. It is also the first time that the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) chaired the Lunhaw Committee secretariat and led the conduct of the event.

The Lunhaw Network composed of past awardees and finalists continue to grow now with over 90 members. Through Lunhaw Conversations, these green advocates and practitioners continue to meet even after the awarding ceremony where they exchange learnings and experiences in organic farming, education and advocacy, green living. In this process, awardees and finalists expand their network for opportunities and promotion of their products and advocacies.



Green Practices	Developments
Rainwater Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assessment of Rainwater Harvesting Ordinance implementation research results presented during the Water Solutions Forum and Pollution Control Officers' trainings in 2019 and in partnership with the Environmental Counselors, Inc.
Urban Greening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 13 urban green zones clusters recommended for priority declaration and protection, with 20 park and green architecture models developed ✓ Included in the three-year SDG agenda to require every barangay to develop public green parks, especially in urban areas, as climate change mitigation and adaptation measure
Urban Container Gardening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IDIS Urban Container Gardening research results shared in two events: (1) City Agriculturist Office Organic Agriculture Practitioners Meeting and DCIPC and (2) Regional Organic Agriculture Congress in August 2019
Permeable Pavements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Four new establishments with permeable pavements recognized in the Lunhaw Awards
Pollution Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Partnership with Bambuhay, Office of Coun. Diosdado Mahipus Jr. and VM Baste Duterte for SUP Forum, academe
Sustainable Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Committee Hearing for Proposed Bike Day and Hours Ordinance in progress

The Fight against Single-Use Plastics



In Davao City, as of 2018, an approximate number of 1012.486 tons of waste produced per day. Davao City's waste generation continues to rise with the increase in population, improvement of living standards and economic growth especially within the urban areas. According to the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) the waste generated per day from 2017 (990.703 tons) has increased by 2.2% in 2018 or having 1012.486 tons on a daily basis.

Accordingly, disposed waste is dominated by biodegradable waste with 50 percent, followed by residuals which accounts for 29 percent, recyclable at 19

percent and special waste at 2 percent. Residual waste are those rubbish that are not able to be reused, recycled or composted. Recycling and waste segregation continue to be a challenge despite the environmental campaigns of the CENRO and the rules and regulations as mandated in the Davao City Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance of 2009.

The issue on improper solid waste management and plastic pollution evolved from bad to worst. Over the past ten years, almost 57 marine animals found dead due to plastic ingestion along the coastline of Davao Region. Various efforts from private individuals, NGOs, academic institutions, and businesses were mainstreamed, promoted, and seen to help the City Government of Davao to solve this long overdue issue. This also further strengthens the organization's campaign to lobby for the passage of policy banning single-use plastic in Davao City and urge the LGU to fully implement the ESWM Ordinance.

IDIS is proactively engaging with the Office of Councilor Diosdado Mahipus Jr. in the drafting and in the preparation of the ordinance regulating Single-use Plastics in Davao City. Alongside with this, IDIS also organized forums in partnership with government offices, academe, and CSOs to heighten the awareness of Davaoenos regarding Zero Waste Lifestyle and the current waste status of Davao City.

PARTNERSHIPS IN SOUTH CENTRAL MINDANAO



PARTNERSHIPS IN SOUTH CENTRAL MINDANAO

In its 20th year, IDIS expanded its policy advocacy work on sustainable watershed management from Davao City to South Central Mindanao.

DAVAO CITY

Sustainable Davao Movement:
30 members

(Earth Hour, SDM Anniversary and Earth Day, Blue Vote Forum, Ban Single Use Plastics Forum, Quarrying Research, Climate Youth Strike)

Go Organic Davao City:
5 NGOs and farmers
(World Food Day)

Watershed Community-based Volunteers:
70+ Bantay Bukid & Bantayo Aweg
(Leadership Training, Geohazard Training by MGB)

Academe:

George Mason University (Summer Philippines Program) University of Mindanao College of Architecture (urban green zones development models)

University of Mindanao College of Legal Education (tree growing activity in Panigan riverbank)

Ateneo de Davao University (tree growing activity in Panigan riverbank)

Students Environmental Alliance of Davao City: Ateneo de Davao University, Brokenshire College Toril, Davao Doctors College, Davao Medical School Foundation, Holy Cross of Davao College, Malayan Colleges of Mindanao, Philippine Women's College, San Pedro College, St. Paul College of Davao, University of Immaculate Conception, University of Mindanao, University of Southeastern Philippines (Global Youth Strike for Climate, Ban Single-Use Plastics Forum)

BNSAT, Mintal Comprehensive High School, Catalunan Pequeno NHS, MAA NHS, DRANHS, ADDU-JHS, ACD, F.Bangoy NHS, BCNHS, Cabantian NHS, Davao City NHS, Sta. Ana NHS (Environmental Quiz Bee & Environmental Journalism Training)

Private Sector:

Happiness Project Mindanao (Tree Growing Activities in Panigan-Tamugan watershed with SEAD, Ecoteneo, Knights of Columbus, Alorica)

Bambuhay, UNIFRUTTI (Tree Growing in PT watershed)

NGOs:

WWF (No Plastics in Nature Campaign)
Greenpeace, VSO Philippines (tree growing activity in Cogan creek)



PARTNERSHIPS IN SOUTH CENTRAL MINDANAO



TAGUM CITY

Tagum City Local Government
City Planning & Development Office,
City Environment and Natural
Resources Office
(Tagum Urban Development
Summit)

MAWAB, DAVAO DE ORO

NUVIARCO and IDEALS, Inc.
(Training Needs Analysis and
Community and Aerial Mapping)

REGIONAL

Department of Trade and Industry
XI

(IDIS was elected as chair of the
Green Team tasked to monitor,
assist and select from shared
service facility (SSF) beneficiaries a
Green Champion for Environmental
Practices

Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc.
DKA Partners:

(participated in meetings,
learning sessions and assembly,
participation in the rights of nature
campaign)

SOUTH COTABATO

Kidlikasan and BMCH
(Bokashi Training and Blok Creek
Rehabilitation)

Koronadal City ENRO, CPDO,
City Architecture Office and City
Tourism Office
(Blok Creek Rehabilitation Plan
Workshop and Mapping)

Philippine Science High School –
Koronadal City

RD Foundation and General
Santos City Tourism Council



NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

IDIS has also expanded its partnerships with various national and international non-government organizations, networks, universities, and funding agencies to further promote and implement its environmental advocacy work.

Ecowaste Coalition

(No Burn Pilipinas campaign against politicians in favour of WTE and Ban Single Use Plastics forum; Participation in the mobilizations on the re-exportation of South Korea and Hongkong Trash)

International Pesticides Elimination Network

(SAICM 3rd meeting in Uruguay)

Alternative People's Linkage in Asia

(Continuation of Ethical Banana Campaign and Proposal development for water, soil and air sampling of pesticides in banana plantation areas in SCM)

Foundation for the Philippine Environment

(project development to sustain forest and riparian reforestation in Panigan-Tamugan Watershed)

Alternative Law Group

(participation in the strategic planning)

George Mason University

Annual Summer Program in the Philippines - IDIS shared to GMU students the campaign against aerial spraying of pesticides and impacts of mono crop plantations

DKA Austria's visit to IDIS

IDIS shared its advocacy work being supported by DKA Austria.

Workshop on Child Safeguarding Policy.

Philippine Misereor Partners

Outcome-Impact- Orientation (OIO) Participatory Learning Assessment.

Workshop on Urban Transformation: How Can We Contribute to (Climate) Justice in times of Climate Crisis?



The Youth's Role in Sustainability

The low interest and involvement of the youth in tackling environmental problems has been a recurring concern raised in the meetings of the Sustainable Davao Movement. University of Mindanao's Institute of Popular Opinion's Davao Youth Situationer in 2017 revealed that only 1.1 percent of students are affiliated with environmental groups. While the youth of today are often accused of being a "selfie" generation, uninvolved in social causes, the youth in Davao City has shown that this may be a faulty-generalization, with their efforts not always recognized and their potential underestimated.

IDIS' longest running initiative on community-based water monitoring relies on youth volunteers known as the Bantayo Aweg in Brgy. Tawantawan and recently the Sangguniang Kabataan in Baguio District and other schools from downtown have joined. In 2018, IDIS launched the SDG Research Symposium which gave young researchers opportunity to share proposed solutions to the city's environmental problems ranging from pollution in Davao river to crop loss in banana plantations.

In 2019, IDIS likewise conducted a series of environmental journalism trainings to over 75 students from 12 high schools in three districts. Outputs of the training consisting of environmental issues, story ideas and story plans revealed that students are aware and are directly affected by unresolved environmental issues, whether in their schools or in their communities. Issues

include health and environmental effects brought about by chemical spraying in plantations for those living in rural communities in the third district to cross-cutting concerns on improper waste management and climate change throughout the city.

More than 500 students joined the global climate strike last September 27, 2019 in the call for governments to take urgent action to address climate change by keeping our commitments to the Paris Agreement. Students' demands include: declaration of climate emergency in the Philippines, banning of single-use plastics, no to coal-fired power plants, no to waste-to-energy facility, and no to over-extraction of natural resources. The student climate strike was organized by the Students' Environmental Alliance of Davao composed of 11 schools with a goal of strengthening member schools' connection to the environment through dialogues, interventions and eco-friendly activities.



STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE

IDIS consistently maintained its efficient use of resources given by its donors Misereor and DKA Austria with no negative findings in its external audits this year. The organization likewise complemented its human resources and trained the youth involved volunteerism and internships. This includes 2 forestry students from University of Mindanao (UM), 2 geology students from University of Southeastern Mindanao (USEP) and 2 graduate students from Ateneo de Davao University involved in IDIS research and advocacy activities.

Formal partnerships on various environmental advocacies were sealed through memorandum of agreements with several institutions including UM College of Architecture and Fine Arts, F. Bangoy National High School, Bambuhay, Koronadal City, VSO Philippines, Philippine Science High School SOCKSARGEN.

Competencies of IDIS staff are continuously updated through the latest trainings and learning exposures to other cities and countries, and grounded with direct community experience and engagement with government and CSO networks. They have been recognized and tapped as resource persons on various environmental-related talks.





SDG 11 Youth Champion Lemuel Manalo, EnP

IDIS Environmental Research Specialist

Lemuel Manalo is a dedicated environmental planner who passionately aims for a climate-adaptive, disaster-resilient, transit-oriented, safe, and PWD-priority cities and human settlements in a healthy environment.

He's pursuing his Master of Science in Environment & Resource Management at the University of Southeastern Philippines where he gained expertise on land-use planning and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping.

As IDIS ERS, he spearheads research projects on sustainable drainages and flood management, urban greenery and landscapes to combat heat island effect, city public parks and open spaces assessment with the New York University Marron Institute for Urban Management.

In April 2018, he presented IDIS study on Permeable Pavement System for Flood Mitigation at the 2018 Malaysia Flood Conference held in Berjaya Times Square, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At the same year, the research was proposed and became the baseline of the recently passed City Ordinance on Mainstreaming Permeable Pavements for Building Developments in Davao City.

For his personal advocacy, Lem has the heart for persons with disability, especially on providing them safe streetwalks, accessible public facilities, and comfortable transportation. This lead him to creating his own social media hashtag #empowerPWD, regularly sharing PWD-friendly issues, initiatives and smart PWD-friendly designs and technologies.



SDG 6 Youth Champion **Atty. Mark Peñalver**

IDIS Advocacy Program Coordinator

Atty. Mark Penalver specializes in the practice of environmental law, dedicating his expertise in upholding environmental laws in Mindanao. He provides oversight and ensures that enabling watershed policies are crafted, lobbied, passed and strictly implemented. He represents the organization in local special bodies, validating compliance of businesses in conservation areas and monitoring strict policy implementation on the ground. He also provides policy recommendations to facilitate immediate resolution to reported environmental violations.

He was first exposed to advocacy work during his law school days when he had his internship with Sentrong Alternatibong Lingap Panligal (SALIGAN). He and other law students were assigned in depressed areas affected by mining activities. It was

during this internship that he was exposed to the realities of alarming environmental conditions. This awakened his passion to help protect the environment, particularly the right to clean and safe water.

In 2013, he was one of the law students from University of Mindanao to join the US Embassy-supported orientation seminar on legal aid program for Mindanao. The program was the US Embassy-Philippines flagship in Mindanao to encourage law schools to set up their own school-based legal aid clinic. It was through Mark's relentless efforts that the legal aid clinic of the University of Mindanao was set up – the University of Mindanao Legal Advocacy Network (ULAN). His leadership paved the way for ULAN to become a recipient of US Embassy Philippines' grant to roll out series of legal aid activities.





As IDIS celebrated its 20th founding anniversary, some of its founders and Board of Trustees gathered together with the existing staff.



**INTERFACING
DEVELOPMENT
INTERVENTIONS FOR
SUSTAINABILITY**
CLEAN WATER. HEALTHY WATERSHEDS.

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 Interface Development Interventions

FUNDING SUPPORT FROM

