

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the upper half of the slide.

**QUICK UPDATES FROM THE
COMMUNITY MAPPING IN SIBARING
AND MARIA HANGIN
BALABAC, PALAWAN**

SEPTEMBER 6-11, 2019

ORIENTATION ON PARTICIPATORY MAPPING
MARUYOG FARM & RESORT
BROOKE'S POINT, PALAWAN



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION
MARUYOG FARM & RESORT
BROOKE'S POINT, PALAWAN



A MAKESHIFT HOUSE OFF SITIO MANAS, PANDANAN ISLAND, PROVIDE A SHELTER TO SEAWEED FARMERS DURING HIGH/LOW TIDE. CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF THAT BADJAOS OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE PRODUCE THE SOUTH SEA PEARL, THEY ARE ACTUALLY BEING DISPLACED BY SUCH PEARL FARMS



JEWELMER'S PEARL FARM IS SURROUNDED BY PERIMETER FENCES THAT ARE ATTACHED TO HUNDREDS OF BOUYS. IT RESTRICTS THE FREEDOM OF SEA NAVIGATION, MAKING THE JOURNEY FROM MAINLAND TO SIBARING VERY DIFFICULT AND LONGER THAN USUAL. JEWELMER IS OWNED BY DANDING COJUANGCO, A POLITICAL KINGMAKER



MANY OF THE BEACHFRONT AND INLAND PROPERTIES IN SEBARING (AKA SIBARING) WERE ALREADY BOUGHT AND/OR BEING ACQUIRED BY GOV JOSE CHAVES ALVAREZ, KNOWN TO EVERYONE AS JCA. HE IS ALSO BUYING AND SELLING REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES ALL OVER PALAWAN. ACCORDING TO LOCALS, HE BOUGHT ONOK ISLAND (20 KM FROM SIBARING) AND SOLD IT TO COCO MARTIN, A POPULAR TV ACTOR, EARNING TENFOLD IN THE LAND DEAL



A COCONUT PLANTATION BETWEEN SIBARING AND BUGSUK THAT IS STILL BEING CONTROLLED/OPERATED BY THE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT INC (AII), ALSO KNOWN TO RESIDENTS AS KUMPANYA, WHICH IS OWNED BY DANDING COJUANGCO



**AN AIRPORT RUNWAY IN SIBARING IS BEING
CONSTRUCTED. THE ROOF OF GOV. JCA'S RESTHOUSE AT
THE CENTER IS BARELY SEEN IN THIS PHOTO**



PUNTA SIBARING IS NOW A WELL KNOWN TOURIST DESTINATION. SOME TENANTS WHO USED TO LIVE HERE WERE EVICTED WHEN JCA BOUGHT THIS PROPERTY



MANY RESIDENTS IN SIBARING HAVE EVICTION THREATS LIKE THIS HOUSEHOLD NEAR THE AIRPORT/SEAPORT. SIBARING HAS 1,113 PEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE 2015 CENSUS OF POPULATION



DESPITE THE DANGER SOME PEOPLE OPTED TO BUILD THEIR HOUSES ON STILTS TO AVOID FORCED EVICTION. BUT THESE TOO WILL BE DEMOLISHED TO GIVE THE TOURISTS A “BETTER” VIEW



MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 01-2005 DECLARED THE SURROUNDING SEA NEAR THE BUGSUK AND PANDANAN ISLANDS AS STRICT PROTECTION ZONE, RESTRICTING THE LOCAL RESIDENTS OF SIBARING FROM THEIR FISHING GROUND. IN 2004 SAMBILOG HAS STAGED A 1-WEEK LONG MARCH FROM BULILUYAN TO PUERTO PRINCESA TO PROTEST THIS INITIATIVE WHICH IS ACTUALLY FAVORABLE TO JEWELMER'S PEARL FARM. THIS ORDINANCE IS STILL BEING ENFORCED BY THE JEWELMER'S PERSONNEL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (I.E. COAST GUARD)



WITHOUT ACCESS TO THEIR COMMUNAL FARM AND TRADITIONAL FISHING GROUND, MANY RESIDENTS OF SIBARING RELY ON SEAWEED FARMING. THEY ARE NOW ENJOYING A PREMIUM PRICE OF 70 PESOS PER KILO OF DRIED SEAWEEDS. HOWEVER BOB MAYOR, ONE OF THE 4 BIG LANDOWNERS OF SIBARING, HAS ASKED THEM TO RELOCATE NEAR THE FOREST (BOUNDARY OF BUGSUK) WHERE IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO HAUL THEIR SEAWEEDS FROM THE FARM (SEA)



JOVELLA SANTICAN AND HER 3-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER DANICA. SHE JOINED THE 2014 LONG MARCH OF COCONUT FARMERS FROM DAVAO TO MANILA TO HIGHLIGHT THE PLIGHT OF THOSE WHO WERE FORCIBLY EVICTED IN BUGSUK AND PANDANAN ISLANDS IN THE 1970S. HER FAMILY ALSO PRODUCE SEAWEEDS



THIS ELDERLY COUPLE PRODUCE DRIED FISH NEAR THE BOUNDARY OF BONBON AND SIBARING. THEY'VE BEEN HERE FOR 24 YEARS. SOME PERSONNEL OF THE KUMPANYA (WHO ARE ALSO BARANGAY OFFICIALS OF BUGSUK) HAS ASKED THEM TO MOVE AWAY FROM THE BEACHFRONT PROPERTY WHICH IS NOW BEING DEVELOPED AS TOURIST SITE



**BOBBY ISLAND WAS FEATURED BY A LOCAL TV
SHOW A YEAR AGO, ATTRACTING AN INFLUX OF
TOURISTS FOR ITS FINE WHITE SAND**



**SIBARING COMMUNITY AND THE NEW AIRPORT
RUNWAY (TOP LEFT). RESIDENTS USE SOLAR PANEL
AND GENERATOR FOR ELECTRICITY**



**THE LONG BEACH OF PUNTA SIBARING HAS
ATTRACTED AN INCREASING NUMBER OF TOURISTS**



**A DESERTED PART OF BUGSUK ISLAND. NATIVE
PEOPLE USED TO LIVE HERE**



BONBON BEACH, A RESTRICTED AREA IN BUGSUK ISLAND, IS NOW BEING DEVELOPED BY SAN MIGUEL CORP. AS A TOURIST DESTINATION. TO DISPROVE CLAIMS OF FORCED EVICTION IN THE 1970S, SOME INDIGENOUS PEOPLE MAY BE ALLOWED TO SETTLE NEARBY



IN AN EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE ISLAND AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, A CIRCUMFERENCE ROAD IS BEING CONSTRUCTED AROUND THE COASTLINE OF THE BUGSUK ISLAND AS SEEN IN THIS PHOTO TAKEN AT THE NEW CAGAYANCILLO. HEAVY EQUIPMENTS AND LOGISTICS ARE PROVIDED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOV'T



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**SITIO MARIA HANGIN (BOWEN ISLAND) IS ANOTHER TOURIST
DESTINATION DUE TO ITS VERY LONG SANDBAR**



RESIDENTS OF MARIA HANGIN PRODUCE SEAWEEDS AND DRIED FISH.
SOME OF THEM WERE EVICTED FROM BUGSUK ISLAND IN THE 1970S



THIS BURIAL GROUND FOR ANCESTORS IS A SACRED PLACE FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MARIA HANGIN WHO ARE ALSO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



MARIA HANGIN HAS 155 HOUSEHOLDS PRACTICALLY CONSTITUTING THE 1,010 PEOPLE OF BARANGAY BUGSUK (NEW CAGAYANCILLO), AS OF THE 2015 CENSUS OF POPULATION. THE LAND WHERE THE HOUSES ARE SITUATED IS OWNED BY A CERTAIN ALFARO BUT THEY BELIEVED THAT THIS AND DANDING COJUANGCO ARE THE SAME PERSON. THEY DON'T HAVE SECURITY OF TENURE AND HENCE THEY ALSO HAVE CONSTANT EVICTION THREAT



SITIO MARIA HANGIN IS PART OF BARANGAY BUGSUK BUT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO GO TO BUGSUK ISLAND WHICH IS A RESTRICTED AREA, AND SO THEY LACK BASIC SERVICES. EVEN ELECTED BARANGAY OFFICIALS FROM MARIA HANGIN HAVE NEVER BEEN TO THAT ISLAND TO ATTEND THE BARANGAY SESSIONS. RESIDENTS USE SOLAR PANEL AND GENERATOR TO PRODUCE ELECTRICITY. THEY TRANSPORT POTABLE WATER FROM RIO TUBA OR MAINLAND PALAWAN

