

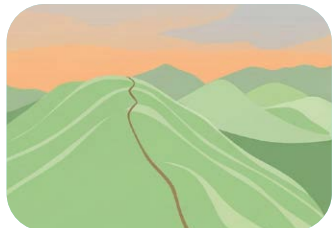
Carood Watershed Model Forest

A living tapestry of ridge-to-reef ecosystems

Member of the Regional Model Forest Network – Asia since 2010

Landscape highlights

6 of 15 UNESCO geosites in Bohol are located in the Carood Watershed:



Alicia Panoramic Park



Alicia Schist



Princess Manan-aw Cave



Can-umantad Falls

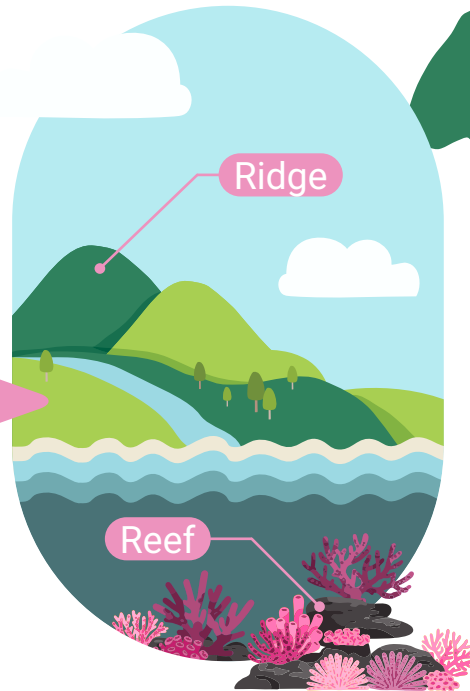


Canawa Cold Spring



Cadapdapan Rice Terraces

Bohol,
the Philippines



Ridge

Reef



**HUMAN
POPULATION**

~130,577 inhabitants



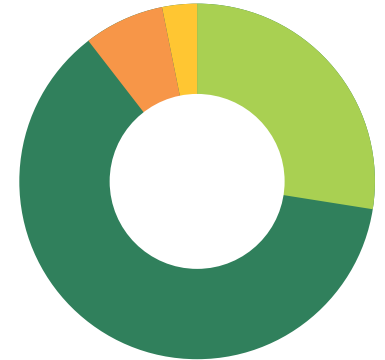
AREA

25,405 hectares
covering 10 municipalities
and 73 barangays (villages)

Carood is the 5th largest
watershed in Bohol province.

Landscape snapshot

Carood Watershed Model Forest
features coastal mangroves,
wide flatlands and steep slopes.



- Agriculture area:**
75.2% (11,676 hectares)
rice, coconut, cassava
- Forestlands:**
28% (7,192 hectares)
- Pastureland:**
7.4% (1,869 hectares)
- Mangroves:**
3.3% (837 hectares)



Forest profile



Secondary growth forests in upland areas



Mangrove forests in downstream and coastal zones

Forest landscapes are managed by a council representing **6 sectors:**



local governments



national agencies



Indigenous People (Eskaya Tribe)



academic institutions



people's organizations



the youth sector



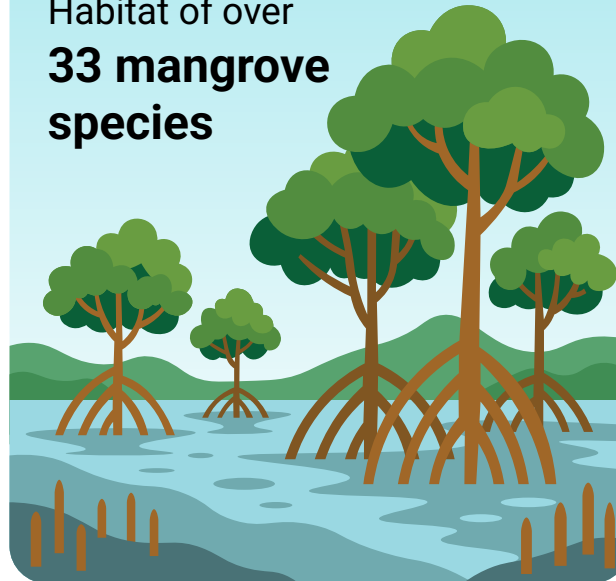
Biodiversity highlights



837 hectares of **mangroves**

Each hectare sequesters up to **18 kilograms of carbon daily**

Habitat of over **33 mangrove species**



Notable achievements

The 1987 Reforestation Project:

2,287 hectares of tree plantations established



1,500 hectares of barren land now turned into fully developed forests



The 2011 National Greening Program:

2,976 hectares across 7 municipalities reforested

Mangrove restoration:

500,000 propagules planted in 50 hectares of a mangrove plantation



Carood Watershed Model Forest

thrives through collective action and local stewardship



In the heart of Bohol, the Carood Watershed Model Forest stretches from upland forests to coastal mangroves, weaving together the lives and livelihoods of communities that call it home. A landscape once threatened by deforestation, floods and soil erosion, Carood is now a thriving forest brought back to life by local stewardship and collaboration.

Since 2003, the Carood Watershed Model Forest Management Council – a partnership of local governments, community groups, universities and national agencies – has worked to protect and restore the watershed. The council's participatory approach to forest landscape restoration enables local knowledge, shared responsibility and nature-based solutions to drive change on the ground.

Carood is the most biologically diverse mangrove area in Central Visayas with over 33 species, close to half of the world's 80 mangrove species. These mangroves form the green heartbeat of the watershed, nurturing fish and wildlife, shielding coastal villages from storms, and storing carbon that helps fight climate change.

The area's ecosystems have been revived by community-led efforts to replant and protect its coastal forests. These same efforts have strengthened local resilience against typhoons and sea-level rise.

This ridge to reef transformation has been made possible by forest regeneration linked with sustainable farming, fisheries and livelihoods. Today, Carood presents a model of balance between land health and human well-being for generations to come.

Current work

The Carood Watershed Model Forest Management Council's Integrated Watershed Management Plan has led to the development of a dam and freshwater reservoir that supports local farmers in agriculture, provides water to fight forest fires, introduces fish cages for livelihoods, helps retain moisture to reduce soil erosion, and regulates water levels in flood-prone areas.

Future priorities

The Model Forest is focusing on forest landscape restoration as a nature-based solution for post-typhoon rehabilitation. These efforts aim to build climate resilience while addressing key challenges such as unsustainable fishing practices, frequent flooding, forest fires in plantations and grasslands, and the degradation of forest resources.



IMFN Climate 2025-2026 and REVIVE-Asia 2026-2029



Through collaboration and funding support from the International Model Forest Network (IMFN), the Model Forest is enhancing sustainable mangrove conservation and strengthening youth and women's groups as environmental stewards.

The Model Forest is also a pilot landscape under the Post-fire forest and landscape restoration: Strengthening community-led nature-based solutions for food system transformation in Asia (REVIVE-Asia) project, which aims to advance inclusive and financially viable nature-based solution models and partnership approaches for integrated fire management and forest landscape restoration to support food system transformation and climate resilience in Model Forests in Asia.

Vision

A resilient, biodiverse and productive Carood Watershed where upland and coastal ecosystems are restored and sustainably managed, delivering ecological services and livelihoods for local communities.

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