



6th & 7th Floors, Tower 1, Double Dragon Plaza, Double Dragon Meridian Park, Macapagal Avenue corner EDSA Extension, Bay Area, Pasay City 1302, Philippines (+632) 8249.5900 - 79 | www.tieza.gov.ph



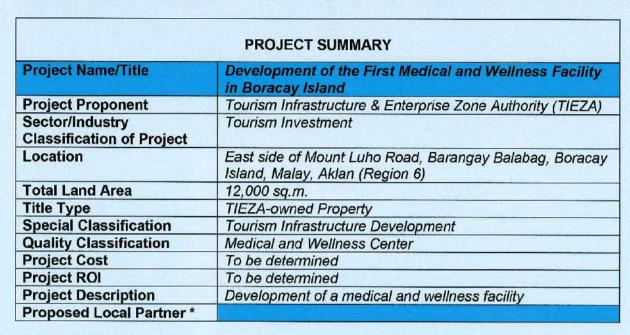


# BORACAY ISLAND

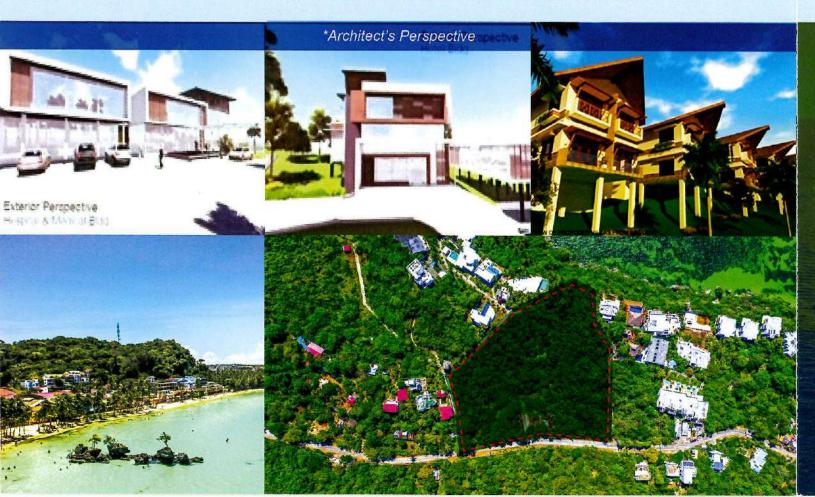








	INVESTMENT PROFILE
INVESTMENT PROFILE	NAME
Description	Partnership between TIEZA and the private sector for the development of a critical tourism infrastructure project in Boracay Island within Public-Private Partnership/ Joint Venture using the PPP Code. TIEZA's primary contribution is the land and the right to develop the property.
Approximate cost	To be determined



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF PROVINCE		
Province	Aklan (Region 6)	
Total Area	1,760.30 sq. kms.	
Total Population	615,475 (as of May 2020)	
Population Density	350 inhabitants per square kilometre or 906 inhabitants per square mile.	
Labor Force (skilled & unskilled)	89.7%	
No. of College graduate (with breakdown on specialization)	As of 2015 46,393 (Undergraduate) 67,440 (Academic Degree Holder) Literacy rate: 98.1%	
Municipalities	17	
Districts	2	
Income Classification		
Airport/s Nearby / Accessibility to Airport/s	Kalibo International Airport, Caticlan International Airport/ Godofredo P. Ramos Airport	
Seaport/s / Accessibility to Seaport/s	Kalibo Jetty Port, Cagban Port, Caticlan Jetty Port, Tabon Port, Tambisaan Port	
Tourism Arrivals	2.8 M ( as of August 2022)	
Target Tourism Market		
Arable Land Area		
Major Crop/Livestock	Rice and coconut	
Export Market		

Labor Rates	OST OF DOING BUSINESS IN THE PROVICE  P410 – P450/ day (As of 05 June 2022)	
Land Lease Rates		
Land Lease Rates	BIR Zonal Value:	
	Commercial Regular: P20,000 /sq.m	
Utility Rates (water, power,	Rate of Water Service:	
etc.)	P35.60 (11-20 cu.m.)	
	P42.70 (21-30 cu.m.)	
	P50.50 (31-40 cu.m.)	
	P60.00 (41 – up cu.m.)	
	Electric Rates: P7.0723 / kwh	
	Electric Rates. 17.07267 RWII	
Logistics / Freight cost (if		
applicable)		
	TIMELINES	
Expected Start Date	No available timelines yet	
Expected Completion Date		
	CONTACT DETAILS	
businessdev@tieza.gov.ph	Business Development Department	
Investmentcomm@tieza.gov.p		
jvsc@tieza.gov.ph	11002/0243-3303/0243-3300/00/738	
Ivsc@tleza.gov.pii		



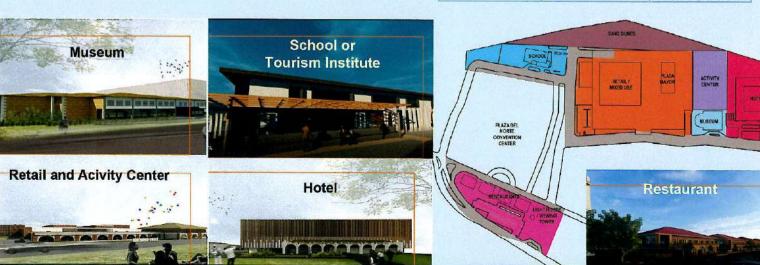
PROJECT SUMMARY	
Project Name/Title	Development of Balacad Integrated Tourism Complex
Project Proponent	Tourism Infrastructure & Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)
Sector/ Industry Classification of Project	Tourism Investment
Location	Bo. Balacad, Laoag City, Province of Ilocos Norte (Region 1)
Total Land Area	123,387 sq.m.
Title Type	TIEZA-owned Property
Special Classification	Tourism Infrastructure Development
Quality Classification	Integrated Tourism Complex
Project Description	Development of an Integrated Tourism Complex with retail, dining learning and leisure facilities in the northern part of the Philippines. This can be in conjunction with another TIEZA-administered property, the Paoay Golf Course which is an attraction to both domestic and North Asian tourists from China and Hongkong, Japan, Korea and Taiwan.
Proposed Local Partner	

### **Project Cost: Infrastructure Support (horizontal)**

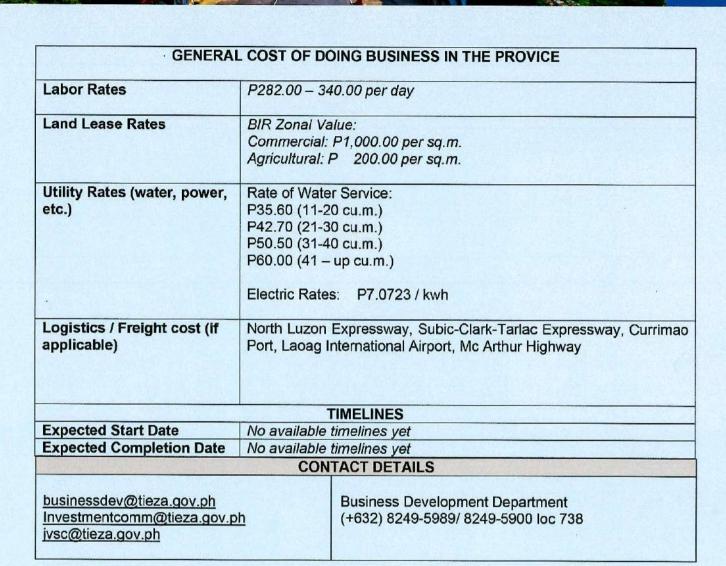
Component	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
Access Roads	89.36 M	1,763,001.31
Drainage Systems	3.35 M	66,092.82
Sewerage Systems	1.25 M	24,661.50
Landscape	13.36 M	263,582.11
Park/Open Space	1.21 M	23,872.33
Water Supply System	1.97 M	38,866.52
TOTAL	P 110.50 M	2,180,076.60

### Project Cost: Business Option 1: Development of Entire Tourism Complex

Component	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
Retail / Mixed Use	651.05 M	12,844,695.66
Activity Center		
School	51.90 M	1,023,945.48
Hotel	839.57 M	16,564,044.44
Museum	70.59 M	1,392,684.23
Restaurants	18.05 M	356,112.06
Infra Support	110.50 M	2,180,076.60
TOTAL	1.7 B	33,782,060.00



\*Architect's Perspective





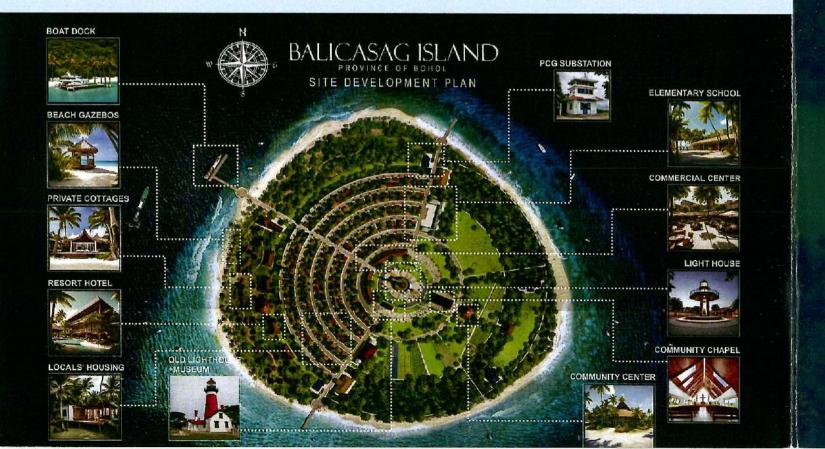






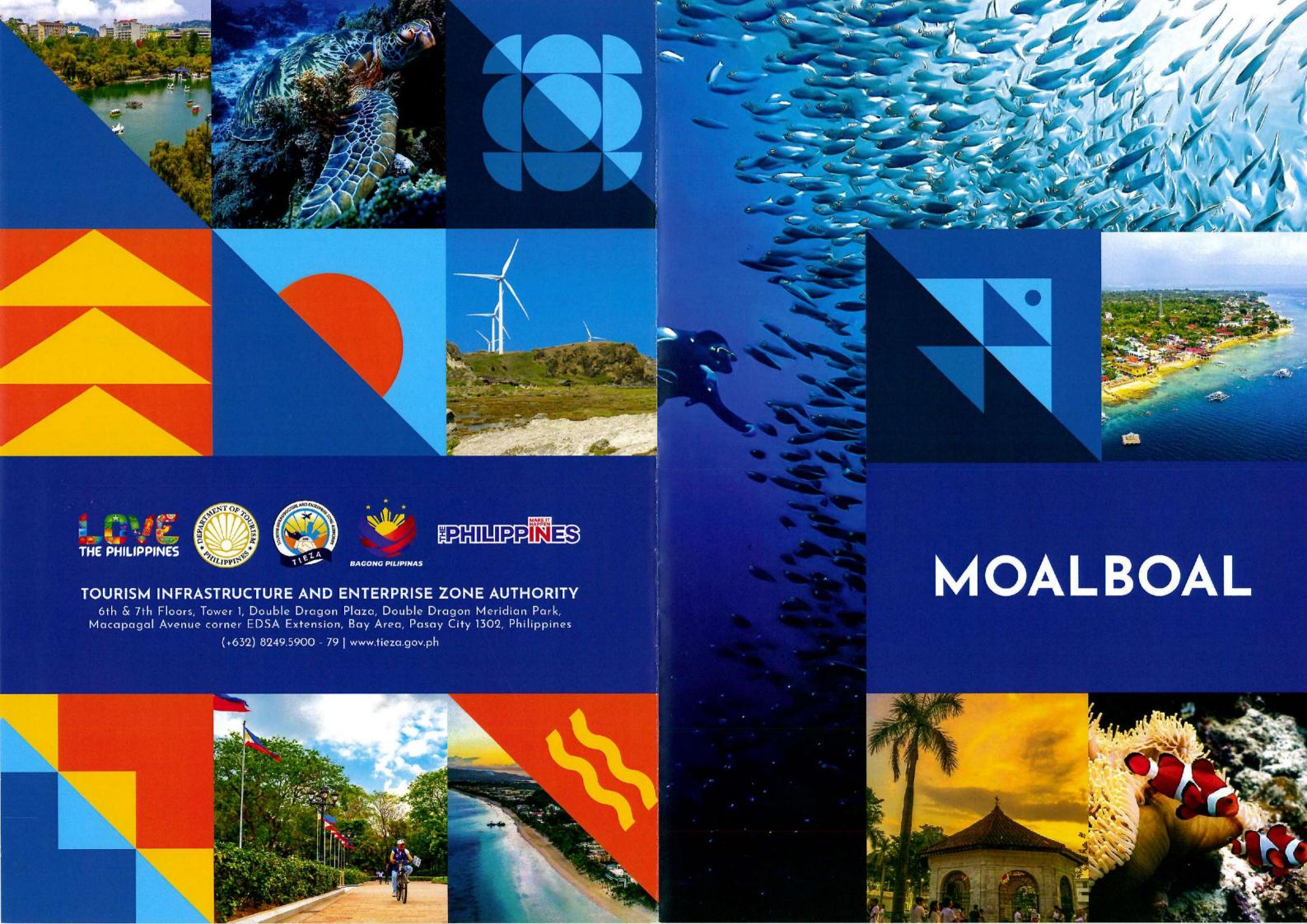
PROJECT SUMMARY		
Project Name/Title	Redevelopment of the Balicasag Island Dive Resort	
Project Proponent	Tourism Infrastructure & Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)	
Sector/Industry Classification of Project	Tourism Investment	
Location	Balicasag Island, Panglao, Bohol (Region 7)	
Total Land Area	Island: 250,000 sq.m. Resort: 15,000 sq.m.	
Title Type	TIEZA Administered Property	
Special Classification	Tourism Infrastructure Development	
Quality Classification	Dive Resort	
Project Cost	To be determined after the ongoing Masterplanning	
Project ROI	To be determined after the ongoing Masterplanning	
Project Description	Redevelopment, rehabilitation and possible expansion of the Balicasag Island Dive Resort in Panglao, Bohol	
Proposed Local Partner *		

	INVESTMENT PROFILE
INVESTMENT PROFILE	NAME
Description	Partnership between TIEZA and the private sector for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of the Balicasag Island Dive Resort within within Public-Private Partnership/ Joint Venture using the PPP Code. TIEZA's primary contribution is the land and the right to develop the property.
Approximate cost	To be determined after the ongoing Masterplanning



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF PROVINCE		
Province	Bohol, (Region 7)	
Total Area	4,772.52 sq. kms.	
Total Population	1,394,329 (as of 2020)	
Population Density	292 inhabitants per square kilometer or 757 inhabitants per square mile.	
Labor Force (skilled & unskilled)	62.3%	
No. of College graduate (with breakdown on specialization)	98.3 % literacy rate	
Municipalities	47	
Districts	3	
Income Classification		
Airport/s Nearby / Accessibility to Airport/s	Bohol-Panglao International Airport	
Seaport/s / Accessibility to Seaport/s	Tagbilaran City Sea Port, Port of Ubay, Loay Commercial Port, Tubigon Seaport Ticketing Area, Jagna Ports Authority	
Tourism Arrivals	179,781 (as of 2021)	
Target Tourism Market		
Arable Land Area		
Major Crop/Livestock	coconut, rice, gabi, banana and vegetable	
Export Market		

Labor Rates	P382.00 - P435.00 per day	
Land Lease Rates	BIR Zonal Value: Residential Regular: P5,000.00 per sq.m.	
Utility Rates (water, power, etc.)		
Logistics / Freight cost (if applicable)		
15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 1	TIMELINES	
Expected Start Date	No available timelines yet	
Expected Completion Date	No available timelines yet	
	CONTACT DETAILS	
businessdev@tieza.gov.ph Investmentcomm@tieza.gov.p jvsc@tieza.gov.ph	Business Development Department (+632) 8249-5989/ 8249-5900 loc 738	





PROJECT SUMMARY		
Project Name/Title	Development of an Integrated Dive Tourism Complex in Moalboal	
Project Proponent	Tourism Infrastructure & Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)	
Sector/Industry Classification of Project	Tourism Investment	
Location	Barangay Basdiot, Moalboal, Cebu Province (Region 7)	
Total Land Area	110,000 square meters (11 hectares)	
Title Type	TIEZA-owned Property	
Special Classification	Tourism Infrastructure Development	
Quality Classification	Integrated Dive Complex	
Project Cost	To be determined	
Project ROI	To be determined	
Project Description	Development of an integrated dive complex geared primarily towards the requirements of professional and leisure diving, and other coastal tourist activities, possibly with hotel/ accommodation facilities, retail outlets, leasable commercial and office spaces, dive school	
Proposed Local Partner *		

	INVESTMENT PROFILE
INVESTMENT PROFILE NAME	
Description	Partnership between TIEZA and the private sector for the development of a critical tourism infrastructure project in the southern part of the Province of Cebu- a major political and economic hub in the country's Visayas region, within Public-Private Partnership/ Joint Venture using the PPP Code. TIEZA's primary contribution is the land and the right to develop the property.
Approximate cost	To be determined



DEMO	GRAPHIC PROFILE OF PROVINCE				
Province	Cebu Province (Region 7)				
Total Area	4,943.72 sq. kms.				
Total Population	3,325,385 (as of 2020)				
Population Density	673 inhabitants per square kilometer or 1,742 inhabitar per square mile.				
Labor Force (skilled & unskilled)	58.7%				
No. of College graduate (with breakdown on specialization)	98.5 % literacy rate				
Municipalities	44				
Districts	7				
Income Classification					
Airport/s Nearby / Accessibility to Airport/s	Mactan-Cebu International Airport				
Seaport/s / Accessibility to Seaport/s	Mandaue Subport, Danao Subport, Sta. Fe Subport, Toledo Subport, Argao Subport, Cebu baseport				
Tourism Arrivals	2.7 million (as of 2022)				
Target Tourism Market					
Arable Land Area					
Major Crop/Livestock	sugarcane, cassava, coconut, corn and rice				
Export Market					

	ST OF DOING BUSINESS IN THE PROVICE		
Labor Rates	P382.00 - P435.00 per day		
Land Lease Rates	BIR Zonal Value:		
	Agricultural: 150 per sq.m.		
Utility Rates (water,	Rate of Water Service:		
power, etc.)	P152 (10 cubic meters)		
	P15.20 (per cubic meter)		
	Electric Rates:		
	P15.19 per kwh		
Logistics / Freight cost (if			
applicable)			
XXXIII BY	TIMELINES		
Expected Start Date	No available timelines yet		
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	No available timelines yet		
	CONTACT DETAILS		
businessdev@tieza.gov.ph	Business Development Department		
Investmentcomm@tieza.gov.p			
jvsc@tieza.gov.ph			



### **RIZAL PARK COMPLEX**

(WESTERN SECTION)

🗣 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila, Metro Manila, Philippines



### **TOTAL LAND AREA:**

7.2 hectares



### **HOW TO GET THERE:**



45 minutes from Ninoy Aguino International Airport



### DESCRIPTION

The Rizal Park Complex is home to the monument of Dr. Jose Rizal, the country's national hero, to which the park is named after. Rizal Park Complex is among the most highly acclaimed, most popular, and frequently visited tourism destination in the country as it covers different gardens, museums, and parks for everyone to enjoy.

The Western Section is envisioned to cater to various retail, commercial, and dining spaces to enhance the tourist experience of the park goers.



### **EXISTING MASTERPLAN/INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Has a Tourism Masterplan
- Ongoing construction of restrooms and children's playground



#### MODE OF INVESTMENT:

Joint Venture Partnership with TIEZA









### INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Waterfront Esplanade Development for Commercial and Retail Spaces
- Multi-level car port facility
- Al-fresco dining facilities









Manila

### **PHILIPPINES**

## HOW TO INVEST IN THE PHILIPPINES

### WHO MAY INVEST?

Anyone, regardless of nationality, is welcome to invest in the Philippines. With the liberalization of the foreign investment law, 100% foreign equity may be allowed on all areas of investment except those reserved for Filipinos by mandate of the Philippine Constitution and existing laws.

### WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BEFORE A FOREIGN CORPORATION CAN DO BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES?

A foreign corporation must first secure the licenses or registrations from the appropriate government bodies.

In the case of corporations or partnerships, the necessary incorporation papers from the Securities and Exchange Commission must first be obtained.

In the case of single proprietorship, registration from the Bureau of Trade Regulation & Consumer Protection of the Department of Trade and Industry must be secured.





#### ARE FOREIGNERS ALLOWED TO LEASE LAND?

Foreign investors investing in the Philippines can now lease private lands up to 75 years. Based on R.A. No. 7652, entitled "Investor's Lease Act", lease agreements may be entered into with Filipino landowners. Lease period is 50 years, renewable once for another 25 years.

For tourism projects, the lease shall be limited to projects with an investment of not less than US\$5M, 70% of witch shall be infused in said project within 3 years form signing of the lease contract.

### INCENTIVES FOR PRIORITY TOURISM INVESTMENTS

#### 1. INCOME TAX HOLIDAY

ITH of 4 to 7 years, depending on the location and industry Relocation from NCR: additional ITH of 3 years located in areas recovering from disaster/conflict: additional ITH of 2 years.

### 2. SPECIAL CORPORATE INCOME TAX (SCIT)

5% SCIT for 10 years (only for export enterprises)

#### 3. ENHANCED DEDUCTIONS (ED)

- Depreciation allowance (10% for buildings, 20% for machinery)
- · Labor expense (150%)
- · Research and development (200%)
- Training expense (200%)
- Domestic input expense (150%)
- Power expense (150%)
- Reinvestment allowance to the manufacturing industry (Up to 50%)
- 4. Duty exemption of up to 12 or 17 years.
- Value-added tax (VAT) exemption and zero-rating of registered export enterprises for up to 17 years











Municipality of Pilar Bataan, Philippines



### **TOTAL LAND AREA:**

194 hectares



### **HOW TO GET THERE:**



1 hour and 30 minutes away from Clark International



3 hours away from Ninoy International Airport



### DESCRIPTION

Mt. Samat is a historical, cultural and heritage tourism enterprise zone that commemorates Philippine heroism and relics of World War II.

The masterplan envisions mixed-use development involving agri-tourism, health and wellness, nature and eco-tourism, and sports and adventure tourism.



### **EXISTING MASTERPLAN/INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Has a Tourism Masterplan
- Installation of aesthetic lights for the Mt. Samat Cross. rehabilitation of the Colonnade and Underground Museum



### MODE OF INVESTMENT:

Joint Venture Partnership with TIEZA





### **INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Cable Car System
- MICE Facilities
- Museum
- Cafe and Restaurants

- Amphitheater
- Health and Wellness Center
- Retirement Village
- Pedestrianized Walkway Mall









Manila

Bataa



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- Value-added tax (VAT) exemption and zero-rating of registered export enterprises for up to 17 years











Sarangay Bolod, Panglao Island, Bohol, Region III, Philippines



### **TOTAL LAND AREA:**

111 hectares



### HOW TO GET THERE:



1 hour and 15 minutes flight from the Ninoy Aguino International Airport



5 minutes away from New Bohol Internaional Airport



### DESCRIPTION

Located in Panglao Island, on the southwest tip of the Province of Bohol, Panglao Bay Premiere is a Flagship Tourism Enterprise Zone. It has been master planned to be an integrated resort destination offering world-class establishments, facilties, and services.

With a 750-meter long beach front, the Panglao Bay Premiere is a top choice for both foreign and local tourists.



### **EXISTING MASTERPLAN/INFRASTRUCTURE**

Has a Tourism Masterplan



### MODE OF INVESTMENT:

Joint Venture Partnership with TIEZA









- Commercial Retail Mall
- International Resort and Condominium
- Beach Club
- Residential Village









### **PHILIPPINES**

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### **TOTAL LAND AREA:**

166,000 hectares



### **HOW TO GET THERE:**



50 minutes flight from NAIA in Manila to San Vicente Airport in Poblacion.



3 hours away from Puerto Princesa and El Nido.



#### DESCRIPTION

The San Vicente Flagship TEZ is envisioned to be an environmentally and socially sustainable, integrated investors' haven that will be a catalyst for inclusive economic growth through public and private partnership.

This ultimate general leisure destination features a 14.7 km long unbroken stretch of pristine white sand beach.



### **EXISTING MASTERPLAN/INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Has a Tourism Masterplan
- Access Roads, Beach Markers, and Solar Street Lights



### MODE OF INVESTMENT:

Joint Venture Partnership with TIEZA





### **INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Power Generation and Distribution System
- Water Management Facility
- Accommodation Facilities
- Beach Resorts
- Retirement Village









Manila

Palawa

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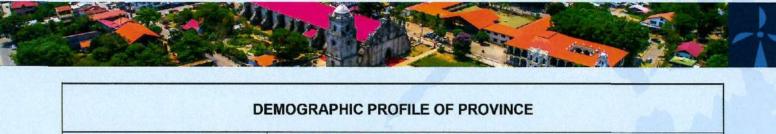








tourism infrastructure project in Ilocos Nort Venture using the PPP Code. TIEZA's prin to develop the property.	e within Public-Private Partnership/ Joint nary contribution is the land and the right		
Option 1:			
Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar		
1.7 B	33,782,060.00		
	Investor can fund, develop, operate and maretail, dining, learning and leisure facilities.  Option 1:		



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF PROVINCE				
Province	Ilocos Norte, Region 1			
Total Area	3,622.91 sq. kms.			
Total Population	609,588 (as of May 2020)			
Population Density	180 inhabitants per square kilometre or 470 inhabitants per square mile.			
Labor Force (skilled & unskilled)	77.7 %			
No. of College graduate (with breakdown on specialization)	94.71 % literacy rate			
Municipalities	21			
Districts	2			
Income Classification				
Airport/s Nearby / Accessibility to Airport/s	5.4 km from Laoag International Airport to the proposed Balacac Integrated Tourism Complex; approximately 15 minutes travel via Airport Road			
Seaport/s / Accessibility to Seaport/s	22 km from Currimao Seaport to the proposed Balacad Integrated Tourism Complex; approximately 30 minutes travel via Currimao Paoay-Suba-Balacao Road			
Tourism Arrivals	520,880 ( as of August 2020)			
Target Tourism Market	North / South East Asia economies			
Arable Land Area	1,054.18 sq.kms (Ilocos Norte CLUP)			
Major Crop/Livestock	Corn and garlic			
Export Market				

### Project ROI Business Option 1: Development of Entire Tourism Complex

	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Returns		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Returns	
	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
15 years	195.65 M	3.86 M	₽ 259.86 M	5.13 M
20 years	168.16 M	3.32 M	235.45 M	4.65 M
25 years	152.56 M	3.00 M	222.75	4.39 M

- TIEZA share not yet considered
- Share subject to agreement

### Project Cost: Business Option 2: Development of Component Facilities

Retail Area					
Tourism Facilities Cost	Estimated Cost (PHP)		Estimated Cost in US Dollar		
	651.05 M		12,900,034.91		
Infra cost allocated	37.7%				
ROI	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Return		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Return		
		Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	
15 years	77.59 M	1,537,383.78	102.85 M	2,037,890.47	
20 years	66.64 M	1,320,418.29	93.13 M	1,845,296.45	
25 years	60.43 M	1,197,372.11	88.07 M	1,745,036.59	

Tourism	Estimated Cost (PHP)		Estimated Cost in US Dollar	
Facilities Cost	51.90 M		1,028,356.98	
Infra cost allocated	3.3%			
ROI	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Return		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Return	
	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
15 years	6.25 M	123,838.75	8.31 M	164,656.00
20 years	5.37 M	106,402.25	7.53 M	149,200.93
25 years	4.88 M	96,693.30	7.12 M	141,077.10

Tourism	Estimated Cost (PHP)  839.57 M		Estimated Cost in US Dollar 16,635,407.89	
Facilities Cost				
Infra cost allocated	54.7%			
ROI	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Return		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Return	
	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cos in US Dollar
15 years	101.60 M	2,013,122.72	135.22 M	2,679,276.12
20 years	87.40 M	1,731,761.08	122.61 M	2,429,419.06
25 years	79.34 M	1,572,058.63	116.05 M	2,299,437.91

Museum				
Tourism Facilities Cost	Estimated Cost (PHP)		Estimated Cost in US Dollar	
	70.59 M		1,398,684.38	
Infra cost allocated	4.4%			
ROI	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Return		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Return	
	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
15 years	8.47 M	167,826.27	11.26 M	223,107.89
20 years	7.28 M	144,247.38	10.20 M	202,104.84
25 years	6.61 M	130,971.86	9.65 M	191,207.03

Restaurant	s			
Tourism Facilities	Estimated Cost (PHP)  18.05 M		Estimated Cost in US Dollar 357,646.31	
Cost				
Infra cost allocated	0.9%			
ROI	Annual Lease 6% Rate of Return		Annual Lease 10% Rate of Return	
	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar	Estimated Cost (PHP)	Estimated Cost in US Dollar
15 years	77.59 M	1,537,383.7 8	102.85 M	2,037,890.47
20 years	66.64 M	1,320,418.2 9	93.13 M	1,845,296.45
25 years	60.43 M	1,197,372.1 1	88.07 M	1,745,036.59



### GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Getting There**

Travel to the Philippines is easy using a number of airline services from Europe, such as Emirates, Cathay Pacific Airways, Gulf Air, Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Kuwait Airways, Lufthansa, Thai Airways, Korean Air and Etihad. Manila and Cebu are the primary international gateways. Special charter flights can also operate using other international airports situated in Lacag, Subic, Clark and Davac.

Philippine Airlines has the biggest domestic air network, but other carriers also fly to numerous local destinations at regular intervals. Some of these are Cebu Pacific Air, Asian Spirit, Seair, Laoag International Airlines and Air Philippines

Major cruise liners call on the port of Manila.

#### **Entry Regulation**

Valid passport. Except for stateless persons and those from countries with which the Philippines has no diplomatic relations, all visitors may enter the country without visas and may stay for 21 days provided they have tickets for onward journey. Holders of Hongkong and Taiwan passports must have special permits. Visas and special permits may be obtained from Philippine embassies and consulates.

### Health Regulations

A certificate of vaccination against yellow fever is required for travellers coming from infected areas.

### Airport Information

Airports and Facilities: Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) is 7 kms from city centre while the Manila Domestic Airport is 1 km from the NAIA. The international airports have adequate traveller facilities: duty-free and souvenir shops, meet and assist personnel at the tourist information and assistance counters, hotel and travel agency representatives, car rental services, banks and automated teller machines, postal service, national and international direct dial telephone booths, medical clinics and baggage deposit

### Customs

Visitors are advised to fill in the Baggage Declaration Form before disembarking to facilitate Customs examination. The following are allowed duty-free: reasonable quantities of clothes, jewelry and toiletries; 400 sticks of cigarettes or two tins of tobacco; two bottles of wine or spirits of not more than one litre each.

### Porterage

Baggage carts are available free of charge. Porter services are also free. Tipping is optional though traditional

### **Airport Transfers**

Visitors are advised to avail of accredited fixed rate or metered taxis at the NAIA's Arrival Area. At the Manila Domestic Airport, accredited transfer services are available on pre-paid coupon basis. Other airports are served by metered taxis. All airports have counters for hotel transport and car rental service.

### Airport Fees

P750 for international departure and P200 for local departure (paid in Philippine peso only). Departing passengers for international destinations are advised to check with airport or tourist information counters (tel. 524-1703; 832-2964) for prevailing departure fees that may change without notice.

### **Duty Free Shopping**

Duty-Free Philippines near the NAIA is the country's largest duty-free outlet carrying quality imported items and select Philippine export products.

### What to Wear

Light, casual clothes are recommended. Warmer garments are needed for mountain regions. When visiting churches and temples, propriety dictates that shorts and scanty clothes are avoided. Formal occasions require dinner jackets and ties (or the Philippine barong tagalog) for men and cocktail dresses or long gowns for women.

#### Currency

Unit of currency: Philippine Peso (PhP) 1 = 100 centavos, Bank notes: P20, P50, P100, P500, P1000. Coins 5c, 10c, 20c, P1, P5, P10

Tipping is expected for many services. The standard is 10% of the total bill. Tipping is optional on bills that already include a 10% service charge.

### Local Transport

By air, Philippine Airlines (tel. 855-8888), Air Philippines (tel. 855-9000), Cebu Pacific (tel. 702-0888) provide daily services to major cities and towns. Zest Air (tel. 855-3333) and Seair (tel. 849-0100) service the missionary routes. There are also scheduled chartered flights to major domestic destinations serviced by smaller commuter planes.

By sea, inter-island ships connect Manila and Cebu to major ports. Ferry services connect the smaller islands. For the more adventurous, travelling from island to island may be done through negotiations for non-commercial outrigger fisher boats.

By land, regular bus services connect Manila to all major regions of the country. Metered and fixed rate taxis are widely available in key cities nationwide. Jeepneys and buses are inexpensive ways to get around most places. In Metro Manila, the fastest way of commuting is via the Light Railway Transit (the LRT presently operates 2 lines) and the Metro Rail Transport (MRT – 1 line).

#### Language

Filipino is the national language. English is the business language and widely spoken.

#### Accommodations

In Metro Manila and in key cities and towns throughout the country, a wide selection of deluxe, first class, standard, economy and pension type accommodations are available. In island destinations, a variety of resorts ranging from deluxe to special interest category are also avail-





Banaue Rice Terraces



Makati Skyline



Philippine White Sandy Beaches



Philippine Diving Heaven

### **Dining Out**

Filipino food is an exotic, tasteful fusion of Oriental, European and American culinary influences with a wide variety of fresh seafood and delectable fruits. First-class restaurants offer gourmet specialties as well as Filipino cuisine.

### **Entertainment and Culture**

Metro Manila is the centre of entertainment and cultural activities. The premier venue for the performing arts, the Cultural Centre of the Philippines, features excellent performances by local and international guest artists. Museums located in Manila and in some parts of the country offer a glimpse of Philippine history and culture. Art galleries exhibit the works of the country's leading and promising visual artists.

Metro Manila's nightlife is one of the most vibrant in Asia, reflective of the Filipinos' inherent musical talent. The hubs of nightlife activities at the Remedios Circle in Malate, Ayala Centre and Fort Bonifacio Global City in Makati, Timog and Tomas Morato Avenues in Quezon City, Ortigas Center in Mandaluyong and Pasig Cities, and Eastwood in Libis, Quezon City, Clubs, music lounges, pubs and sing-along bars feature Filipino bands and singers known for their exceptional musi-cal talent. Deluxe hotels offer a variety of live musical entertainment. Concerts and stage plays form part of the country's entertainment

For visitors who want to try their luck at the gaming tables there are casinos in Metro Manila and in the cities of Angeles, Olongapo, Tagaytay, Cebu, Davao, Bacolod and Laoag.

### Shopping

Visitors can choose from an exciting selection of great buys in a country known for export-quality items at reasonable prices: South Sea pearls, hand-woven cloths, embroidered fineries, fashionable ready-to-wear and haute clothes, terracotta, and porcelain, coral and mother-of-pearl home accessories. Artcrafts, pineapple fiber shirts, pre-historic jars, native handicrafts, and footwear are interesting items, too. The Philippine also produces fine furniture, basketry, fresh and processed fruits, exquisitely crafted jewelry and gift items made of shell, wood and stone.

Big Malls are located in major cities of Metro Manila, while handicrafts, antique and curio shops abound at the Ermita District in Manila and in other nearby towns.

### **Business and Banking**

Private and government offices are open either from 8 am to 5 pm or from 9 am to 6 pm. Some private companies hold office on Saturdays from 9 am to 12 noon. Most shopping malls, department stores and supermarkets are open from 10 am to 8 pm. There are 24-hour convenience stores and drugstores.

Banks are open from 9 am to 3 pm, Mondays to Fridays with automated teller machines (ATM) operating 24 hours.

### Credit Cards

International credit cards such as Visa, Diners Club, Mastercard and American Express are accepted in major establishments.

### Electricity

220 volts, A.C. 60 cycles. Most hotels have 110 volts outlets

### Water

Bottled water is available in many hotels, restaurants, supermarkets and convenience stores.

### Communication Facilities

The country has international and national direct dial phone and facsimile service, mobile phone sites, internet and e-mail facilities and worldwide express delivery services. The postal system is efficient.

Most national dailies are in English. Foreign publications are sold at major hotels, malls and bookstores in Metro Manila and key cities. 7 national television stations broadcast mainly in Filipino. Cable and TV are available in many hotels in Manila and in many parts of the coun-

### Convention Facilities

Manila, the pioneer convention city in Asia, has played host to a number of prestigious international events. The Philippine International Convention Centre is equipped with modern convention facilities and services. It can accommodate 4,000 delegates in its Plenary Hall and 5,700 persons in its Reception Hall. The World Trade Centre near the PICC can hold huge exhibitions and events. Smaller meetings can be held in hotels and other establishments. Out-of-town hotels and resorts are alternative convention sites.

### Tour and Special Interest Activities

Tour packages, from day trips to 5-day program are special ways of discovering the Philippines and its wealth of culture. Special interest activities include golfing, game fishing diving, white-water rafting and other aquasports, trekking, spelunking and safari trips.

### For more information, please contact:

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