

## ABSTRACT

HACLA, IMEE SIOCO. University of the Philippines in the Visayas, March 2012. The Decorative Stone Industry in Coastal Tigbauan, Iloilo: A Law Enforcement Analysis.

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Modern development and architectural decoration have generated an ever growing demand for decorative stones. Whereas the State is mandated to promote a rising standard of living for its people, the decorative stone industry, born out of the people's search for supplementary work, has since been a stable source of livelihood with permanent businesses and permanent customer base for a few households in Barangay Parara Sur in Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines.

Alternatively, failures in implementing the state policy that should safeguard a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature actively encouraged uncontrolled access to beach resources leading to over extraction and eventually, degradation. As such, the diminished beauty of coastal Tigbauan's environmental landscape and the poor practices promoted by socially accepted norms have taken shape.

As a pioneering work on the management of non-renewable coastal resources, the main focus of this study is a localized analysis of the law enforcement strategies on the decorative stone industry in the municipality of Tigbauan. Pertinent legislatures and executive issuances are reviewed. Likewise, issues on legislation and enforcement mechanisms; social norms; and permitting and taxation are discussed. Underlying conflicts among stakeholders, generally between the governing system and the system-to-be governed, such as the transboundary nature of the industry, are also examined.

The livelihood that has benefited only a few brings a looming threat towards more lives and properties in the present and future generations. Clearly, the threats brought about by over three decades of decorative stone quarrying along the beaches of Barangay Parara Sur outweighed the opportunities. There is hence an urgent call to address these threats through active and effective law enforcement.