Global Gateway

PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Copernicus

implemented by esa

PhilSA

Copernicus CopPhil

What is the CopPhil Initiative?

The objective of CopPhil (EU Copernicus Programme in the Philippines) is to strengthen the Philippines' capacity to tackle climate vulnerability and biodiversity conservation while improving hazard management and resilience through the use of free and open Copernicus Earth Observation data. It includes the establishment of a Copernicus Mirror Site and IT infrastructure, the co-development of Earth Observation pilot services in three thematic areas, and knowledge and skills transfer activities related to the use of Copernicus data and information.

CopPhil is managed by the **European Union Delegation to the Philippines**. It is implemented by the **European Space Agency** (ESA) in partnership with the **Philippines Space Agency** (PhilSA) and the **Philippine Department of Science and Technology** (DOST).

What is Copernicus?

Copernicus is the Earth Observation component of the European Union's Space Programme. It provides free and openly accessible information and services which draw from satellite and in situ (non-space) data. The information provided by Copernicus supports public authorities, industrial and small and medium sized enterprise (SME) service providers, and international organisations.

How does CopPhil fit into the EU Global Gateway Strategy?

CopPhil is a unique flagship programme of the European Union's Global Gateway, an EU strategy which aims to strengthen health, education, and research systems around the world through sustainable investments and partnerships. The Global Gateway is aligned with the United Nations' Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement.

The CopPhil initiative is designed to harness digital resources and space technology for sustainable development while supporting research and business innovations, thereby aligning with the Global Gateway vision.

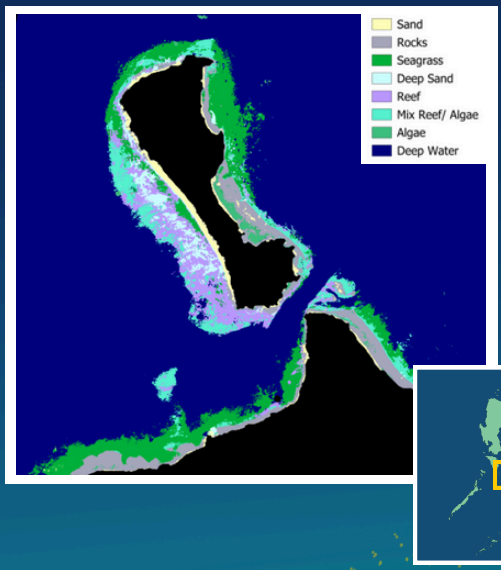
What are the CopPhil Pilot Services?

The CopPhil Earth Observation-based pilot services harness Copernicus data across three thematic areas. The services are co-developed with local stakeholders, who will continue to operate them after the end of the pilot demonstration phase. The service products result from stakeholder consultations focused on addressing the region's specific needs and priorities, and will be tested and validated through various practical use cases.

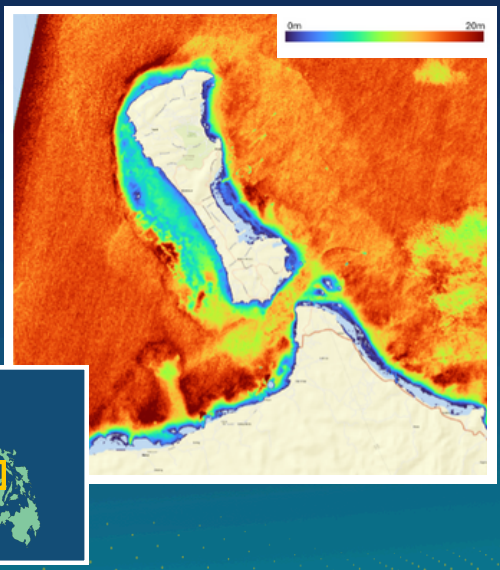
Coastal Marine (Benthic) Habitat Monitoring Service

The CopPhil Benthic Habitat Pilot Service will provide free and open satellite data on **coastal waters and ecosystems** in the Philippines. The service will provide key information on the status and quality of coastal waters through products such as maps of benthic habitat types. The products will combine Copernicus Sentinel satellite data and in situ data provided by Filipino stakeholders to confirm that benthic habitats are identified and classified accurately. The service will ultimately support local authorities and researchers in understanding and managing these complex ecosystems while contributing to sustainable coastal management, preserving biodiversity, and ensuring the long-term health and resilience of marine habitats.

Benthic habitat classification map for Boracay Island, 2023



Empirical bathymetry map for Boracay Island, 2023



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