Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

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Case Study Name:	The Intensification of Fishing and the Rise of Tourism: Competing Coastal Livelihoods in the Calamianes Islands, Philippines
Authors:	Fabinyi, M
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Region:	Southeast Asia
Country:	Philippines
Ecosystem Type:	coastal marine
Social Characteristics:	remote community
Scale of Study:	regional
Resource Type:	fisheries, tourism/ecotourism
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Community Based Work:	resource management

Keywords:	Livelihoods, Tourism, Fishing, Palawan, Philippines, Live reef fish trade
Summary:	Research on agrarian changes in Southeast Asia has paid comparatively less attention to the processes of livelihood change in coastal regions. In the context of declining profitability in the fishing industry duet environmental degradation and overfishing, governments at multiple levels are heavily promoting tourism in the Philippines. This paper considers the ways in which coastal residents in the Calamianes Islands, Palawan province, negotiate these changes in the fishing and tourism industries. Despite the push for tourism as a more sustainable alternative to fishing, the experiences and priorities of coastal residents complicate this shift. The paper demonstrates that fishing is marked by increasing levels of intensification, and that tourism has the potential to exclude fishers from many of its purported benefits. These are two important trends that need to be taken into account when analyzing livelihood change in coastal regions of Southeast Asia.