POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED IN RELATION TO RA 8731 AS PERCEIVED BY THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN BORACAY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to determine the Level of Effectivity of NCIP Policies and Programs Implemented in relation to RA 8731 as perceived by the IP's of Boracay as well as its implications towards IP Rights provided under RA 8731. RA8731 is a law enacted to recognize, protect and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples in the Philippines. The law further created the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples whose mandate is to sit and act as the primary government agency responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies, plans and programs to recognize, protect and promote the rights of ICCs/IPs. Notwithstanding the passage of RA8731, reports have revealed of injustices among Indigenous People's in terms of their Political, Economic and Cultural rights due to inefficient use and noneexclusive control of their Ancestral Lands and other resources within such lands. The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples implemented policies and programs for the protection of the IP's political, economic and cultural rights as embodied in the "Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development & Protection Plan (ADSDPP)". This is in line with the mandate of the law to recognize and promote the rights of ICCs/IPs within the framework of national unity and development, respond to the strong expression of the ICCs/IPs for cultural integrity, recognize, respect and protect their lights to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions and institutions.