

2026 SAFET Conference

From innovation to implementation:
Technology powering responsible fisheries, markets, and livelihoods



September 8–10, 2026
Shangri-La Hotel | Cebu, Philippines

*Co-hosted by Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Philippines
Supported by Schmidt Marine Technology Partners, Oceankind, Builders Vision, British Embassy Manila*

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Exploring Transformative Technologies for Sustainable Seafood and Fisheries

The 2026 SAFET Conference, co-hosted with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), gathers over 300 global leaders across the seafood value chain, including tech providers, fisheries managers and authorities, industry professionals, NGOs, policymakers, and funders. Over the course of three days, the event will highlight how proven and emerging technologies can help secure the future of our fisheries.

Through interactive panels, roundtables, fireside chats, and real-world technology demonstrations spanning emerging and existing technologies, participants will explore the challenges facing practitioners and discover proven and cutting-edge technology solutions for sustainable fisheries.

With deep, interactive networking and post-event engagement, the conference sparks collaboration that shapes projects, partnerships, and practice into the future to accelerate adoption of the technologies changing the world.



What to Expect



Interactive Sessions - Themed panel discussions and roundtables that bring together diverse perspectives to examine how technology solutions can be effectively applied across markets, livelihoods, and sustainable fisheries.



Networking Opportunities - Fireside chats, dedicated networking sessions, and pre-conference events to encourage ongoing dialogue and collaborative relationships.



Use Case Demonstrations - Real-world examples showcasing the practical application of new technologies in improving sustainability, traceability, and overall fisheries management.



Post-Conference Engagement - Follow-up activities and support initiatives to ensure continued collaboration and momentum well beyond the event.

Conference Objectives

- Strengthen collaboration, deepen shared understanding, and support more aligned pathways towards sustainable fisheries and seafood systems enabled by technology.
- Socialize government and market initiatives related to fisheries management and seafood systems, and explore how emerging technologies can support fishery stakeholders to comply with these measures and support their objectives.
- Identify priorities among global stakeholders, explore opportunities for solution implementation and scaling, and build partnerships that extend beyond the event.

Key Stakeholder Outcomes

- Technology developers will showcase their solutions and engage with technology implementers and key stakeholders, such as government, NGOs, and industry leaders, enabling growth on a global scale.
- Participants will gain insight into emerging and applied technologies that can tackle the most pressing challenges facing international seafood and fisheries supply chains.
- Attendees will contribute to the ongoing dialogue on advancing practical, inclusive, and effective technology approaches across the sector.

Who Should Attend

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Technology developers | • NGOs, researchers, and academics |
| • Fisheries managers and authorities | • Policymakers and regulators |
| • Industry professionals | • Funders and investors |

2026 Focus Areas

Day 1 - Tuesday, September 8

Responsible Fisheries and Governance

Day one will explore how existing and emerging technologies can strengthen fisheries oversight, improve transparency, and support more effective management.

Day 2 - Wednesday, September 9

Market Dynamics and Fair Value

Day two will explore how technology, data, and improved supply chain transparency can strengthen market confidence, support responsible sourcing, and help ensure value flows more equitably across the seafood sector.

Day 3 - Thursday, September 10

Livelihoods and Coastal Communities

Day three will explore how technology, innovation, and inclusive fisheries management approaches can support fishers, strengthen community resilience, and create sustainable economic opportunities across coastal regions.

Cross-cutting themes

- **Technology Innovation:** Artificial intelligence, machine learning, electronic monitoring, and in-situ sensing technologies
- **Observation Systems:** Satellite data, drones, and remote monitoring tools
- **Finance and Investment:** Market-based financing models supporting technology adoption
- **Scaling Innovation:** Moving from pilot projects to operational systems
- **Data Systems:** Data sharing and interoperability across fisheries platforms
- **Data Governance:** Responsible data access, transparency, and privacy
- **Collaboration:** Partnerships between governments, industry, technology providers, and coastal communities

Program Highlights

New this year:



Lightning demos showcasing different technologies across various stages of development (5 minutes)



Roundtables highlighting diverse industry voices (2 hours)



Fireside chats featuring expert deep dives into technologies that are already making a difference (1.5 hours)

Each day will also highlight relevant initiatives from BFAR that support responsible fisheries markets and governance, economic opportunities, coastal community development, and sustainable ocean management in the Philippines.

Networking opportunities will be available for diverse stakeholder groups to exchange experiences, share successes, explore emerging opportunities, and navigate real-world complexities in technology adoption and implementation — all in one space.

For more information on the conference agenda, [click here](#).



Join the Summit

Register to Attend

The discounted registration rate of \$250 ends May 25. Prices increase to \$350 on May 26.

[Register here.](#)

Please note: If you are a government representative, small-scale fisher, coastal community representative, RFMO representative, science or academic group, or a local Philippines NGO, you may be eligible for discounted registration. Please email conference@safet.fish before registering for more information.

Apply to Exhibit

If you would like to exhibit your technology solution at the 2026 SAFET Conference, [register interest here.](#)

Apply to Speak

If you would like to present, contribute to a panel or roundtable, or lead a lightning tech demo at the 2026 SAFET Conference, [register interest here](#)
For more information on speaker opportunities, [click here.](#)

Apply to Sponsor

If you are interested in sponsorship and branding opportunities for the 2026 SAFET Conference, [register interest here.](#)

What's Included with Registration

- Pre-conference engagement and networking through FISH-TECH-CONNECT, SAFET's global community platform, including lead-up discussions, podcasts, and activities
- A welcome pack
- Evening meet and greet canapé welcome – September 7
- Access to all conference panels, presentations, roundtable sessions, and exhibition area – September 8–10
- Evening fireside chats (limited numbers, tickets will be available soon) – September 8–9
- Daily breakfast, lunch, and networking coffee breaks – September 8–10
- Final evening gala dinner and award ceremony – September 10
- Post-conference engagement, including access to session recordings and continued connection with the SAFET community

Please note that registration does not include accommodation (discounted room rate available through the [SAFET Conference website](#) until June 1, 2026), travel, visas, and September 8 and 9 evening dinners.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsoring the SAFET Conference 2026 offers organizations an opportunity to demonstrate a genuine commitment to the long-term sustainability and resilience of the global seafood and fisheries sector.

The conference brings together fishers, regulators, scientists, NGOs, technology providers, and industry leaders in a rare, neutral space focused on practical collaboration and shared learning.

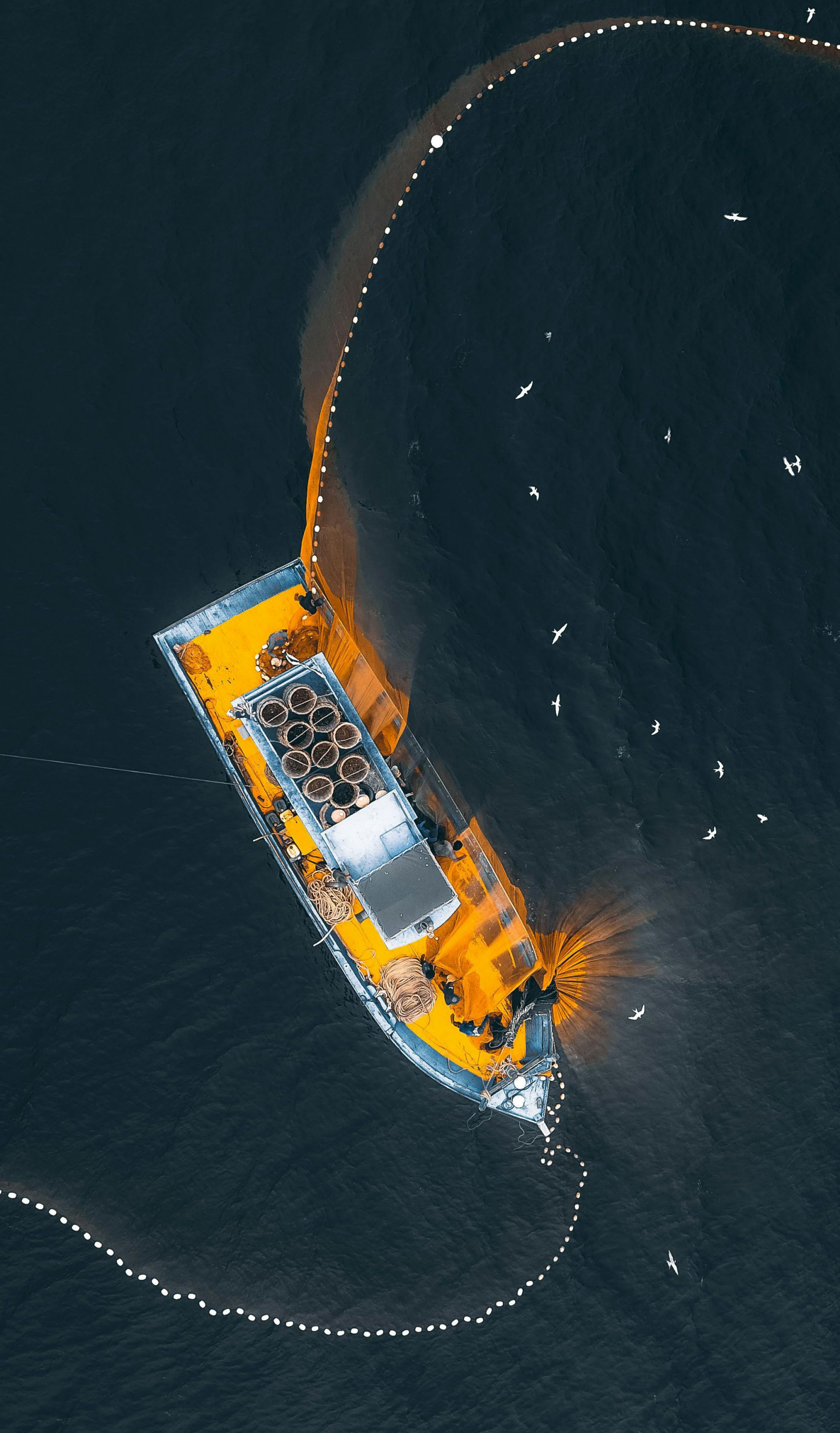
Sponsors join a collaborative, knowledge-sharing community that extends beyond the event itself, helping to shape future partnerships, projects, and ultimately, more transparent, efficient, and responsible fisheries systems.

Rooted in a vision where technology empowers sustainable seafood and fisheries management, sponsoring places your organization at the center of that ideal in action — demonstrating leadership, supporting innovation, and visibly aligning with a global community committed to being part of the solution.

For more information on sponsorship packages, [click here](#).

Interested in sponsoring? [Register interest here](#) or [contact us](#) to learn more.



An aerial, top-down view of a fishing boat at night. The boat is illuminated with bright orange lights, and its wake is marked by a dotted line of white lights. The surrounding water is dark, and several small white birds are visible in the air around the boat.

Exhibitor Opportunities

Exhibiting at the SAFET Conference is your opportunity to be part of the solution and showcase your work to a global audience of decision-makers across the sustainable seafood and fisheries sector. Whether your technology is proven in the field or still at an early stage, we want to see it.

This is where technology comes to life. From electronic monitoring, in-situ sensors, and drones to electronic logbooks, surveillance systems, satellite technologies, and AI-driven tools, we want to see solutions in action. Bring real examples, demonstrate how your technology works in practice, and share how it is — or could be — implemented to meet real-world challenges.

Exhibiting is not just for technology providers. If your organization uses, supports, or can speak to the impact and importance of these solutions, we encourage you to exhibit and share your perspective. Join a unique gathering where the sector comes together in one place to explore what works, understand what is needed, and help shape the future of transparent, accountable, and sustainable fisheries. Be part of the solution.

To register interest and learn more about exhibitor packages and floorplans, [click here](#).

[Contact us](#) to learn more.

SAFET Conference 2023 Highlights: Bali, Indonesia

Over **50** speakers

200 attendees from across the globe, including:



Government



Industry



Fishing



NGOs



Technology
Providers



Foundations



Scientific
Community

Feedback from attendees

“For me, the network and connection of professionals in the fisheries ecosystem is the most important value of SAFET.”

- Cherry, Philippines

“The conference is the best opportunity for government agencies and fishing industry stakeholders to study together in terms of using the best technology for the sustainable harvest and monitoring of our fisheries resources.”

- Nasoni, Fiji



Location

Venue

Shangri-La Mactan Hotel in Cebu, Philippines:
As an established tourism destination, the area is known for its diverse marine life and fishing.

[Shangri-La Mactan](#)

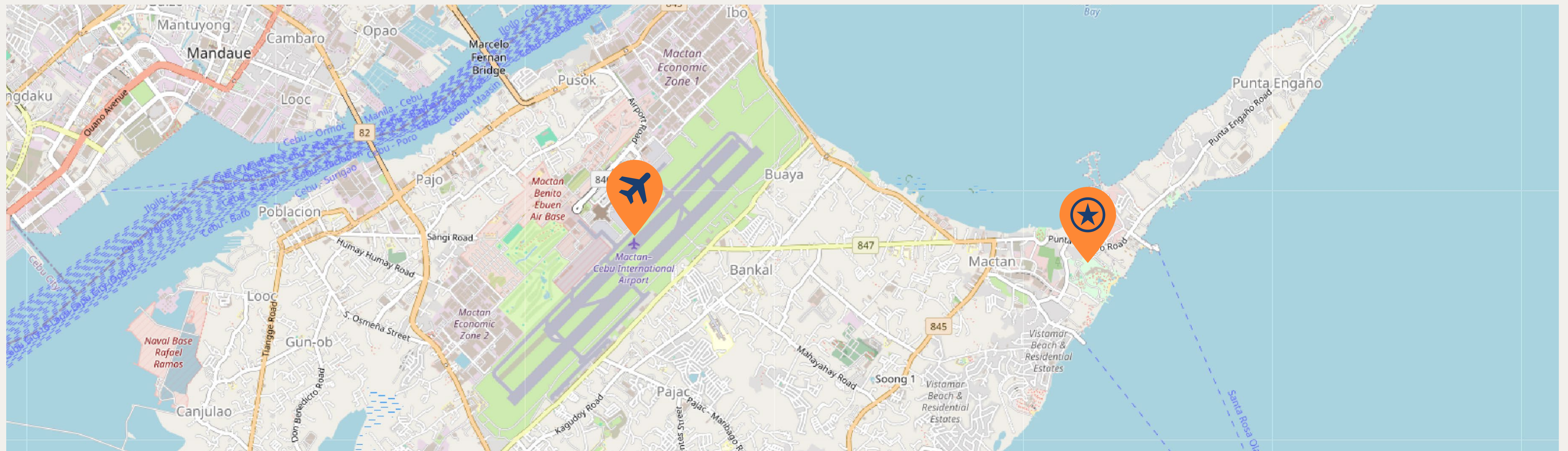
Cebu, Punta Engaño Rd
Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, 6015 Cebu, Philippines

Nearby airport

Mactan–Cebu International Airport (CEB) on Mactan Island has strong regional connectivity and is only 8 kilometers (10–20 minutes) away from the Shangri-La Mactan hotel and nearby resorts.

Travel guide

For travel tips and deeper insight on the area, [click here](#).



All Aboard

Important links

- Official conference website: <https://www.safet.fish/safet-conference/>
- Official venue website (Shangri-La Mactan Hotel): <https://www.shangri-la.com/cebu/mactanresort/>
- Register here: <https://givebutter.com/SAFET26>
- Apply for a visa: <https://evisa.gov.ph/page/policy>

Key deadlines

- **April 20, 2026:**

Call for speaking engagement applications closes at 11:59 pm UTC

- **April 30, 2026:**

Last day to register with discounted registration rate (\$250)

- **May 1, 2026:**

Registration rate increases to \$350

- **June 1, 2026:**

Last day to book discounted hotel accommodations through the [SAFET Conference website](#)



Steering Committee



Inga Wise

SAFET



**Hon. Drusila Esther
E. Bayate**

Undersecretary for Fisheries,
Department of Agriculture,
Republic of the Philippines



Ellen Anthony

British Embassy
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Xiao Recio-Blanco

Builders Vision



Mark Schrope

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Pew Charitable Trusts



For more information and help answering any questions,
contact conference@safet.fish.



[SAFET Conference Principles](#)