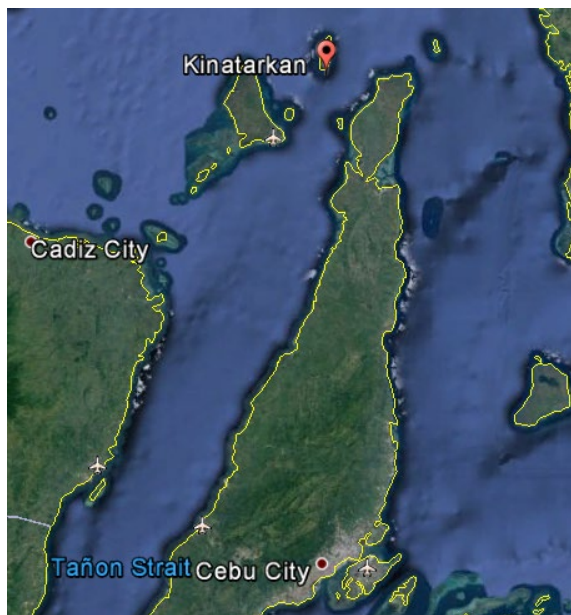


## AFAS Elders Kinatarcan Fund Raise for Steriliser

A tropical island, lots of sunshine and smiling happy friendly locals. No helicopters, planes ambulance, police or fire brigade sirens. Sounds idyllic and in many ways Kinatarcan Island off the island of Cebu is paradise found.



But nothing is every easy. Kinatarcan is regularly hit by Typhoons. It is also a very poor island with a population of approx. 10 000 and an average wage of 7 000 peso (\$220) a year with a heavy reliance on what you can grow or catch for food.

For several years AFAS Elders have been fund raising to support projects in Kinatarcan which is approx. 15 km<sup>2</sup>. To put it into perspective that is three times the size of Coochiemudlo Island. In 2016 the AFAS Elders built a Moringa (a super food that is grown and semi dried on the island) drying shed on the island. In 2018 the AFAS Elders built a mat weaving hut on the island. We also purchased several items, from our own money, for the mid wife service on the island which is the only medical service on the island. This included a refrigerator to store vaccines in (previously stored in the fridge at home with the mid wife's food) and several other items for the clinics All of these projects are improving the life of the whole island not individuals. It is also important to note that we pay for our own travel, accommodation and food. All money donated goes directly into projects on the island.

In 2020 we were scheduled to visit the island however with the current travel restrictions in place due to COVID 19 this will not occur. We would still however like to put something back into the community to maintain the connection and continue to try and improve the daily life for the residents. The AFAS Elders would like to fundraise to buy a Steriliser for the mid wife clinics. We expect the cost to be \$2500. The budget for running the mid wife clinics per clinic is 30 000 pesos (\$930) per quarter. It will never be achievable for the clinics to buy a steriliser without outside help.

The island consists of three barangays (councils) Hagdan, Kinatarcan and Langub. Each barangay has a midwife clinic like the one pictured below.



Currently the mid-wife must make regular trips to the mainland or another island to sterilise her equipment for use in delivering babies and other medical procedures on the island. There is no hospital, doctor or ambulance service on the island. There also is no RACQ care flight helicopter. Only the mid wives who travel to their patients on small motorbikes. If the patient wants to come to them (think women in labour) they walk, get doubled on a motorbike or ride in one of the utes pictured below. There are no Taxis, Uber or even cars on the island



If you know of anyone or any business (locally or in Philippines) that might be able to assist the Elders in obtaining a steriliser for mid wife clinics, please contact Tony Hindmarsh on [thindmarsh@vnc.qld.edu.au](mailto:thindmarsh@vnc.qld.edu.au)

Or alternatively you would like to contribute to the purchase of the steriliser, donations may be deposited into the following account:

AFAS

BSB            084-004  
Account      276167450

When making the deposit please put 'AFAS Elders' in the description 'Steriliser' and your 'Name'

e.g.            AFAS Elders    Steriliser        John Smith

Thank you for your assistance it is greatly appreciated.