

CATICLAN–BORACAY AERIAL ROPEWAY

MALAY, AKLAN

- TRANSPORT DEMAND FORECAST
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- DESIGN CRITERIA
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- LEGAL ANALYSIS AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT
- COST ESTIMATES
- FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT
- ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT



Boracay Island, Philippines

Boracay is an island located in the municipality of Malay, province of Aklan. It is about 315 kilometers south of Manila and 2 kilometers off the northwest tip of Panay Island in the Western Visayas region. Known for its fine white sand beaches and crystal clear waters, Boracay is one of the world’s top tourist destinations and a significant contributor to the tourism industry in the Philippines.

The Challenge

More than 2 million tourists visited Boracay in 2017, representing a 16% increase from the previous year. This is foreseen to grow steadily in the coming years due to the following factors: (i) ongoing expansion of the Godofredo Ramos Airport (Caticlan) to accommodate international direct flights; (ii) increasing number of direct international flights to Kalibo (capital of Aklan, approx. 70 km from Caticlan); and (iii) the growing number of visiting cruise ships.

At present, Boracay Island can only be accessed via motorized banca (pump boat) or speed boat. There are four main ports that operate between Caticlan and Boracay: Caticlan and Tabon on the mainland, and Cagban and Tambisaan on Boracay.

The planned infrastructure and real estate developments in Caticlan and Boracay are foreseen to further boost tourist arrivals in the coming years, resulting in more movements between the two areas. Given this scenario, the existing water transportation system may not be sufficient and sustainable.

SYSTRA's Role

SYSTRA prepared a feasibility study to assess the viability of an alternative environment-friendly transport system that will operate alongside the existing water-based modes of transport between Caticlan and Boracay.

The Project

The Caticlan – Boracay Aerial Ropeway Project is a top-supported cable propelled transit system (TCPT), commonly known as “cable car” or “aerial gondola”, that will connect Caticlan and Boracay. A Monocable Detachable Grip (MDG) type is proposed due to its relatively low cost and shorter implementation period compared to other TCPT types. Top-supported cable-propelled transit is a transportation technology that moves people in motorless, engineless

vehicles or cabins that are pulled by steel cable which are supported from above.

The Project is expected to move people in and out of Boracay at approximately 554 passengers per hour per direction (pphd) during its opening year (2025) and an ultimate ridership of approx. 1,250 pphpd (2055).

To facilitate mobility of tourists, the Caticlan cable car station will be positioned some 2 km from the new airport terminal (shuttle service to be provided), and adjacent to a proposed cruise ship terminal. In Boracay, the cable car station will be located near the Cagban Jetty Port, where a proposed Boracay Transit System (monorail) is foreseen. Between these two, a turning station in the Tabon area may be used as a future intermediate station.

The figure below shows the proposed alignment and stations:



FACTS AND FIGURES

Length:	2.05 km
No. of stations:	3
Technology:	Top-supported cable propelled transit system (TCPT); Monocable Detachable Grip
Cabin capacity:	15 passengers
Ridership:	1,250 pphpd (ultimate)