



# Feasibility study for the Samal Island to Davao City Connector Project

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## Abstract

The desire to connect Davao City with the Island Garden City of Samal (IGaCOS), in the Southern Philippines, has been around for more than 40 years. A new sea crossing is planned to link the two areas with a road bridge. A feasibility study has been carried out to establish the alignment and preliminary design of the road link, assess the project impacts and analyse the costs and benefits.

**Keywords:** Project planning, Extradosed Bridge, Navigation Bridge

## 1 Introduction

The proposed project is located in the Davao Region, crossing the Pakiputan Strait, between Davao City and the Island Garden City of Samal (IGaCOS) in the Southern Philippines, as shown in Figure 1.

The objective of the project is to provide a permanent road linkage between Davao City and IGaCOS to reduce the journey time and reliability constraints currently experienced through the use of ferry services.

Currently, the only way to travel between the two areas is by boat. Long queues are often experienced leading to journey times in excess of one hour to make the short 2 km crossing and the schedule can be disrupted due to bad weather.

Although there has been a desire to connect Davao City and IGaCOS for more than 40 years, and plans for a bridge across the Pakiputan Strait have been considered, the current project began in 2018 when the Department for Public Works and Highways (DPWH) commissioned a full Feasibility Study to look again at the possibility of a fixed link between Davao City and IGaCOS.

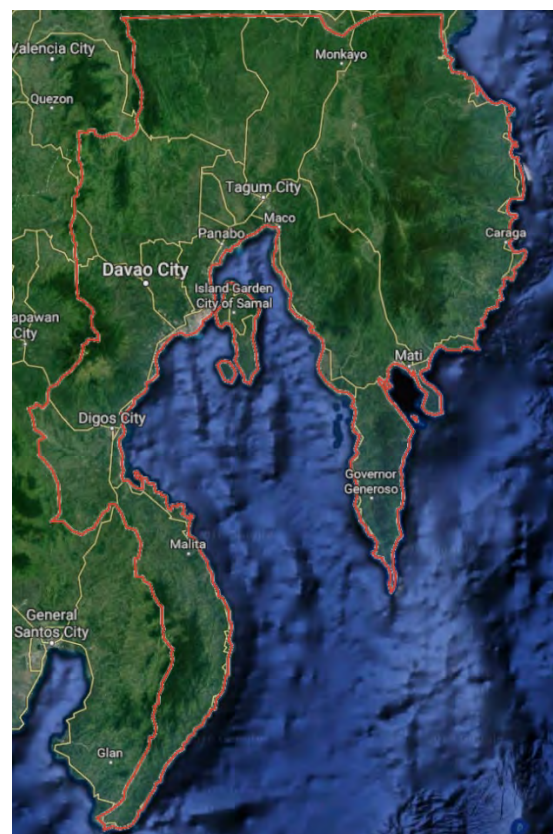


Figure 1. Project Location

This paper outlines the Feasibility Study and the preliminary design of the crossing, and highlights how the bridge options were