Clinic Carousel

How to achieve a good nutrient balance in our environment – the key to a healthy planet, healthy living!

(1) What are some of the main messages coming from your clinic discussion with the clinic participants?

- Participants generally understood that nutrient pollution is an issue; they now need help figuring out what to do about it.
- Participants expressed a lot of interest in regional applications of the Toolbox

(2) What were some of the gaps participants identified during the clinic that your tools/methodologies were able to address?

- Quantifying and allocating pollutants to sources – the Toolbox Calculator, and the downscaling effort in Manila Bay, allow for users to quantify nutrient loads and allocate the loads to sectors (e.g., agriculture, wastewater)
- Determining effective solutions to mitigate excess nutrients – the Toolbox provides a number of resources such as databases of best practices and policies from the field scale to the national scale, case studies, and a nutrient management policy framework that can all help inform on appropriate solutions.

(3) Where there any gaps identified that your tools/methodologies could not address?

- Too little nutrients – our tools/methodologies are largely designed to address issues of excess nutrients
- Circular economy solutions – the Toolbox is weak on circular economy solutions; we should consider enhancing it with greater attention to this area. We need to consider a new name for “waste” water and the effects of a price signal for nitrogen to promote circular economy principles (which otherwise may not be cost effective).