



Philippine Conference on
Capturing Economic Benefits from Ecosystem Services
25 August 2011, Asian Development Bank, Manila

The Philippine National *REDD-plus* Strategy and Current Status

Modesto U. Lagumbay Jr.
Forest Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Republic of the Philippines



- **UNFCCC(1992)** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:

An agreement of most nation states to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions which have been the cause of global warming



Decision 4/CP15

Recognized the need to provide methodological guidance for activities related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD-plus).





What do we offer?

State of Philippine Forests

- Land Area ha – 30,000,000 ha
- Forest Cover - 7,168,000 ha
- % Forest Area of Land Area – 23%
- 1969 to 1988
 - From 10.64 M ha to 6.46 M ha
 - Decrease of 39.3%
 - Forest loss of 220,000 ha annually
- 1988 to 2003
 - From 6.46 M ha to 7.168 M ha
 - Increase of about 700,000 has or 11%
 - Corresponds to a forest increase of 47,000 ha/yr



What do we offer?

- **The Philippines is estimated to hold *3,612 mega tons* of above ground forest carbon found in primary and secondary dipterocarp forests, peatland;**
- **It has a potential to develop a meaningful enhancement of sink;**
 - With community-based forest management spreading across the country;
 - With strong Civil Society Organization's participation.



What do we offer?

Rough Estimates of the Forest-Based Mitigation Potential from 2010 to 2030

(Report of the FIP Expert Group, March 2010)

- **Deforestation – 92,000 kilo tons**

(Based on the assumption that deforestation can be reduced by 50% by 2030)

- **Degradation – 175,000 kilo tons**

(Based on the estimate that “degraded” means an average loss of biomass of a given forest type by extractive activities)



What do we offer?

Rough Estimates of the Forest-Based Mitigation Potential from 2010 to 2030

(Report of the FIP Expert Group, March 2010)

- **SFM Natural Forests – 1,400 kilo tons**

(Incremental gain through forest conservation e.g., instead of logging, gathering fuelwood, and/or reduced impact logging estimated to be applied in 50% of the total forest production area)

- **Active Forest Restoration - 17,000 kilo tons**

(A certain part of the degraded forests are on disposal for ecological restoration through planned carbon sequestration i.e., natural regeneration, enrichment planting, local species reforestation and initiation of secondary forest growth)

- **Afforestation/ Reforestation - 100,000 kilo tons**

- **Total Mitigation Potential – 385.4 mega tons over 20 Years**



Evolution of the Philippine REDD+ Strategy

NGOs were at the forefront of the debates and discussions on REDD+ since Bali, as they were empowered at that time **with resources** focusing on REDD



Committees (TWGs) were organized to work on the components of the PNRPS, which required action planning for readiness & resource mobilization



Civil Society led by the NGO network CodeREDD and comprised also of POs, local and IP communities expressed to the **PHL gov't** the urgency of developing guideposts to get the country engaged in REDD+

The Philippine National REDD Plus Strategy (**PNRPS**) was **completed** and **endorsed** by the Dept. of Env. & Nat. Res. to the Climate Change Commission



Civil Society & PHL gov't got together and agreed that we needed a **framework** to guide us along the way of developing REDD+ actions in the country. The framework was then to be embodied in a REDD+ strategy.



Civil Society & PHL gov't organized **consultations** and several **workshops** to develop the Philippine National REDD Plus Strategy (**PNRPS**)



234 Persons Consulted

- 10 National DENR
- 15 local DENR
- 4 Other government agencies
- LGUs from 12 provinces,
- 15 Municipalities
- 7 Research and academic institutions
- 26 National NGOs,
- 45 Local NGOs,
- 3 Funding institutions and
- 32 Community members from 23 provinces

Who were involved





Our vision...

An empowered forest managers and support groups sustainably and equitably managing forestlands and ancestral domains with enhanced carbon stock and reduced greenhouse gases emission. Within the vision framework, the impact areas include:

- Reduced forest degradation and deforestation
- Poverty alleviation
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Improved governance



Our mission (for the next twenty years...)

- To ensure sustainable management of forests for both reduced carbon emissions and biodiversity conservation;
- To enhance national carbon stocks through forestry programs that deliver clear and multiple social and ecological benefits;
- To provide a research-based enabling environment in the implementation of the REDD+ programs, projects and activities;
- To leverage REDD+ resources and projects to deliver social benefits and contribute to poverty alleviation;
- To establish sustainable financing mechanisms to support REDD+ 'readiness' and long-term implementation;
- To enhance the capability of forest managers and support groups to successfully and equitably implement REDD+ strategies; and
- To develop and implement a forest carbon emissions reduction measuring, reporting and verification system that engages local managers and is national in scope.



Components...





Enabling Policies

Highlights

- Clarify carbon ownership under different tenure regimes.
- Anticipate and address sources of conflicts among implementing agencies.
- Establish enabling policies for REDD+, integrating lessons-learned from previous legislation and aligning conflicting laws and policies among different sectors.
- Ensure legal social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ implementation.
- Establish a national advocacy community around REDD+ issues.
- Establish social and environmental safeguards related to REDD+.



Governance

Highlights

- Identify and meaningfully engage stakeholders.
- Strengthen existing national-level REDD+ coordinating agency based on existing structures.
- Build on existing sub-national structures to establish sub-national institutions through which to implement REDD+.
- Establish equitable benefit-sharing schemes with local government units and communities.



Resource Use, Allocation and Management

Highlights

- Delineate and map permanent forestland boundaries and classify areas for protection and production purposes, including ancestral domains.
- Improve enforcement of forest management and protection regulations.
- Promote watershed/landscape-based REDD+ planning.
- Place open access areas under appropriate management regimes.
- Ensure sustainable management of existing forests.
- Pursue agroforestry, reforestation and rainforestation, carbon stock enhancement and assisted natural regeneration on deforested and degraded areas
- Protect the rights of IPs and local communities.



Research and Development

Highlights

- Identify the primary drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and propose science-based rehabilitation and conservation interventions.
- Identify, establish and thoroughly study a diversity of REDD+ pilot/demonstration sites.
- Collaboratively establish a broad REDD+ research agenda, including on policy, social science and carbon cycle aspects of REDD+.
- Establish initiatives to measure site baselines for biodiversity, ecosystem services and carbon stocks, against which to measure future change.



Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)

Highlights

- Assess existing capacities, available data and future requirements for MRV.
- Establish emissions reference levels using existing skills and data as resources become available (at least to the Tier 2 level).
- Establish community-based accounting with adequate training, resources, incentives and supervision.
- Implement sub-national MRV system, scaling up to a national-level system.
- Establish guidelines for non-carbon MRV systems.
- Establish MRV system to review REDD+ related policies and processes.



Capacity Building and Communication

Highlights

- Formulate and implement a REDD+ communication plan to raise awareness among stakeholders and facilitate their engagement in consultations and planning.
- Conduct training programs for a range of stakeholders.
- Develop a national REDD+ Community of Practitioners to help serve as national resource persons.
- Conduct wide-spread consultations and dialogues on REDD+ development in the Philippines



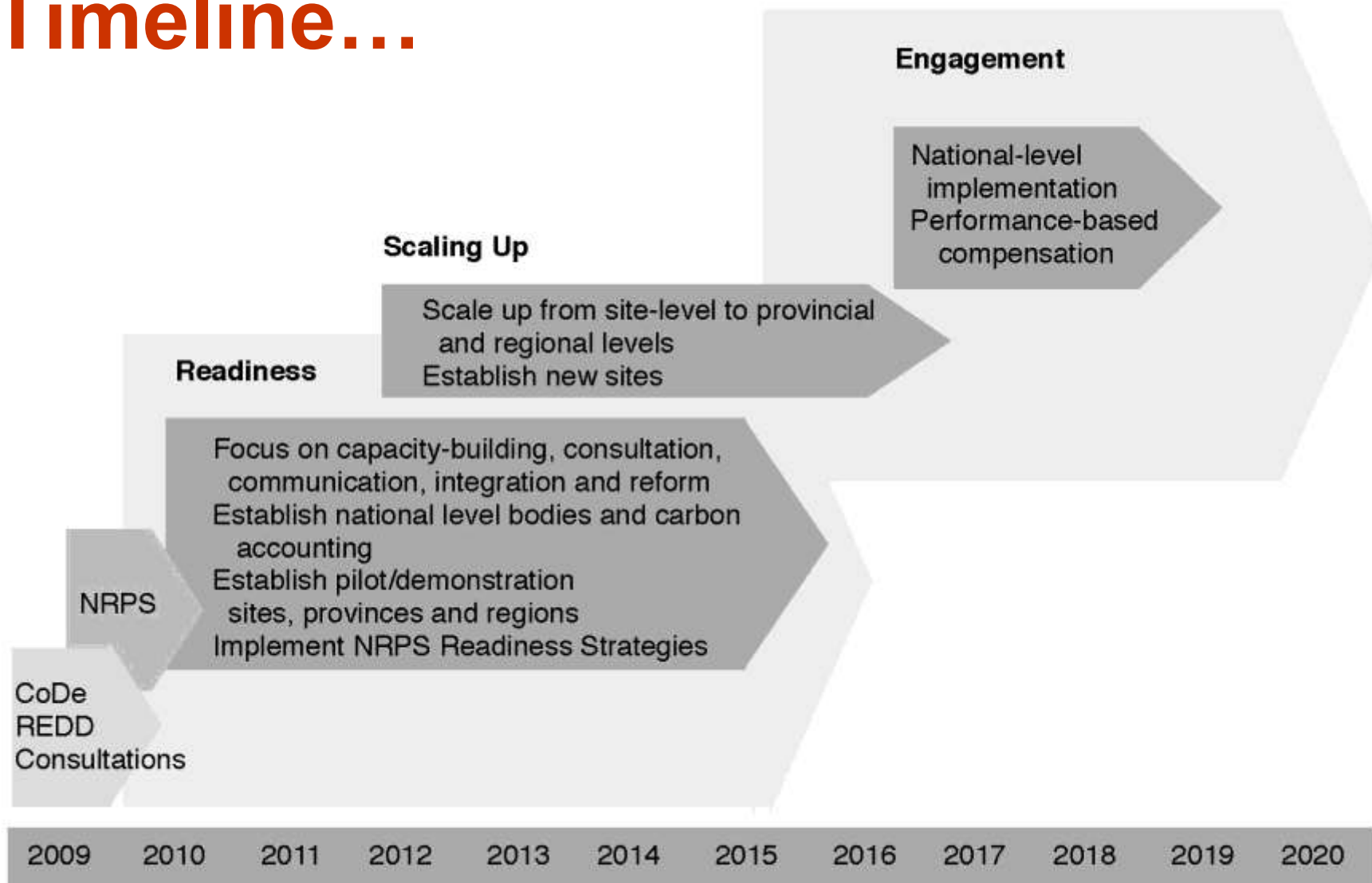
Sustainable Financing

Highlights

- Capitalize on existing national capacities and resources to initiate REDD+ readiness.
- Develop proposals for immediate voluntary donor funding for REDD+ readiness.
- Explore opportunities for a diversified long-term financing approach.
- Plan for long-term financial sustainability and resilience by seeking multiple funding sources, establishing contingencies and investing in self-sustaining local-level programs



Timeline...





Developments...

Institutional arrangements and legal basis:



Enactment of the Climate Change Act and creation of the Climate Change Commission (CCC)

Adoption of the National REDD Plus Strategy in the National Framework Strategy on Climate Change (April 2010)

Executive Order 881 on REDD, appoints the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as operational head (April 2010)



Developments...

On-going Piloting Activities:

Piloting in terms of:

- determining baselines
- carbon accounting and measurement
- formulation of communication plan
- conduct of policy studies i.e, carbon rights and ownership, drivers of deforestation, FPIC process, etc.
- Linking communities to voluntary carbon market
- Awareness raising and capacity building
 - Basic Forest Mensuration with Intro to Carbon Measurement and Monitoring (Oct 25 - 29, 2010)
 - Forest Resources Assessment as basis for REDD+ piloting (Dec. 6-15, 2010)
 - Standards, Verification and Certification (March 21 - 25, 2011)
 - Carbon Market Workshop (March 29 - 30, 2011)
 - Forest Resources Assessment Technical Discussion (March 31, 2011), among others.



FAO



EU

gtz



Developments...

Other on-going initiatives:

- Intensifying reforestation, agroforestry, assisted natural regeneration and mangrove rehabilitation using government funds and private sector (National Greening Program)
- Intensifying forest protection efforts (training on forest fire, provision of fire fighting equipments, hiring of forest protection officers, modernize law enforcement approaches, social fencing);
- Strengthening multi-sector forest protection committees
- Climate proofing of the Forestry Sector Master Plan



**Thank You
&
MABUHAY!!!**