Progress Report on the ASEAN Peatland Forests Project

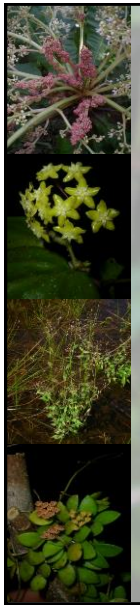
Philippines Component

(November 2012 to June 2013)

8th PMM
9 July 2013
Hotel H2O, Manila Ocean Park,
Manila, Philippines

Specific Outcomes:

- Capacity in relevant agencies/institutions and other concerned stakeholders on peatland management strengthened in the Philippines;
- Creating an enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of peatlands in the Philippines;
- Land-use planning, zoning and rehabilitation measures carried out in suitable peatland sites; and
- Community-led demonstration projects formulated and implemented in project sites.



OUTCOME 1. AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING 100 % ++

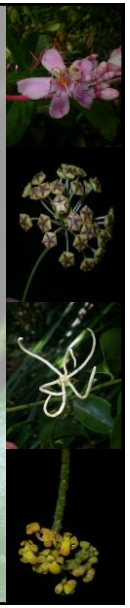
- Continued operationalization of the inter-agency national and local working groups.
- Training of Firefighters (Batch 3) for the Leyte Sab-a peatlands in December 2012.
- Nominated Ms. Lerizza De Leon as one of the country's women leaders on biodiversity conservation
- Production of progress/pre-completion video for the APFP
- Attendance to the Peer Learning Training Workshop in Indonesia

BFP Training in Leyte Sab-a

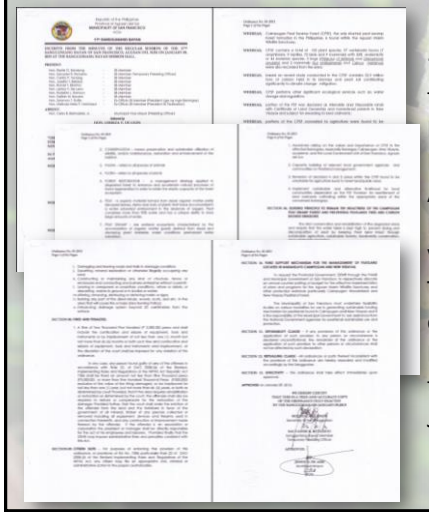
OUTCOME 2. CONSERVATION OF PEATLAND BIODIVERSITY – 100%

Designation of important peatlands into conservation areas has been prioritized.

- Continued lobbying for the approval in Congress of the inclusion expansion area of the Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary under Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS Act) which already includes the caimpugan peat swamp forest.
- Leyte Sab-a Peatlands is proposed as Critical Habitat under the Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Act. Still on process.



POLICIES AND LEGISLATIONS

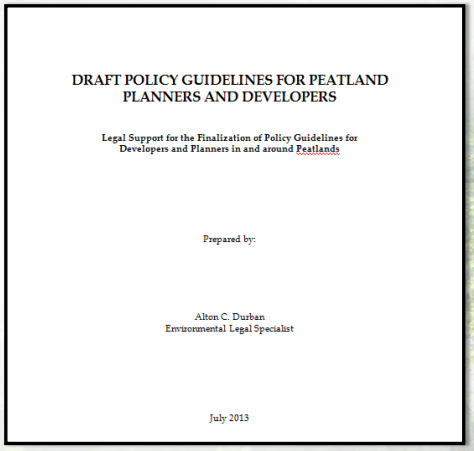


"Ordinance for the Protection of the Unique Stunted Peat Swamp Forest (PSF) in Caimpugan and New Visayas, San Francisco, Agusan del Sur and Providing Fines and Penalties for the Violators and Allocating Funds Thereof" of Hon. Lerriza de Leon of San Francisco passed in December 2012 and affirmed by the Provincial Government in January 2013.

OUTCOMES 3 and 4. INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN OF PEATLANDS

- Land-use planning and zoning for peatlands area on-going. The ultimate objective is to include peatlands concerns in the updating of the Comprehensive Land Use Plans and Comprehensive Development Plan for Local Government Units concerned. 90%
- Community led rehabilitation and demonstration projects on peatlands. 80%

Guidelines for Developers and Planners



DRAFT POLICY GUIDELINES FOR PEATLAND PLANNERS AND DEVELOPERS

Legal Support for the Finalization of Policy Guidelines for Developers and Planners in and around Peatlands

Prepared by:

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Environmental Legal Specialist

July 2013

Initial Meetings with the new mayors got positive responses for the Guidelines

NC with Mayor Jay Otero of Sta Josefa

PASu Miranda with Mayor Jesryl Masendo of Talacogon

Continuation of Sorjan Farming and Rehabilitation activities in Leyte Sab-a

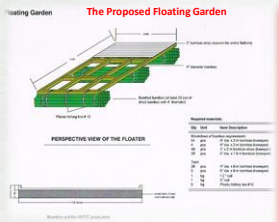
Status of Peatland Demonstration Project Implementation in Agusan Pilot Site

Barangay	Peoples Organization	Demonstration Project	Implementation Status	Fund Released
1. Caimpugan, SFADS	Caimpugan Native Farmers and Fisherfolks Multipurpose Cooperative (CANFFMULCO)	▪ Floating Garden and ▪ 5 Hectares Rehabilitation Project	▪Floating structure constructed and planted with onion and petsay	Php50,000.00 Php70,000.00
2. New Visayas, SFADS	New Visayas Farmers Association	▪ One(1) Hectare Raised Bed Agriculture	▪ Planted ¼ ha. Lumbia and ¼ ha. Gabi. ▪Raised bed plots prepared ready for planting crop seeds sown for germination	Php50,000.00
3. Sabang Gibong, Talacogon, ADS	Kahugpungan Sa Mga Kababayen-an Sa Sabang Gibong, Inc.	▪ Floating Garden	Constructed and planted with peanut, petsay and onion	Php50,000.00

4. La Flora, Talacogon	**Kahugpungan sa Malahutayong Kababayen-an Sa La Flora Association ,Inc.**	**▪ Floating Garden**	**▪ Floating garden**	**Php50,000.00**
5. Maharlika, Talacogon, ADS	Hiniusang Panginabuhi sa Maharlikanhong Lumad, Inc	▪ Floating Garden and ▪ 5 Hectares Rehabilitation Project	Floating garden constructed and 5 hectares rehabilitation project started	Php50,000.00 Php70,000.00
6. Causwagan, Talacogon, ADS	Causwagan Agrarian Reform beneficiaries Multipurpose Cooperative	One(1) Hectare Raised Bed Agriculture	Raised bed prepared	Php50,000.00

Barangay	Peoples Organization	Demonstration Project	Implementation Status	Fund Released
7. San Teodoro, Bunawan, ADS	Panaghiusa Alang sa kaugaling-nan ug kalingkawasan, In	One(1) Hectare Raised Bed Agriculture	▪Prepared raised bed plots mixed with lime ▪Planted with a variety of plants, including pineapple, watermelon, eggplant, etc ▪Crop seeds sown for germination	Php50,000.00
8. Pag-asa, Sta. Josefa, ADS	Pag-asa Integrated Women's Association	One(1) Hectare Raised Bed Agriculture	• Bed plots prepared and planted with pineapple mixed with other vegetables	Php50,000.00

Actual/Modified Floating Garden



Prototype Demo farm

Mrs. Wilfreda Amarille, Treasurer of CANFFMULCO (Caimpugan Native Farmers and Fisherfolks Multi-purpose Cooperative) closely monitored and maintained the planted vegetable seeds in the floating vegetable garden.

The 16-day old vegetables (pechay, eggplant and onion) planted by the CANFFMULCO at the floating vegetable garden with a 90% survival rate and of good vigor.

Brgy. Caimpugan

Wilfreda Amarilla is now the President of CANFMULCO and attends to the garden

Brgy. La Flora's Floating Garden version

Brgy. Pag-asa

Brgy. New Visayas

Brgy. San Teodoro, Bunawan Raised Bed

200 hectares of degraded peatlands in Agusan Marsh was rehabilitated through the National Greening Program in partnership with Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation (PTFCF) and Kahugpungan sa Malahutayong Kababayen-an Sa La Flora Association ,Inc.

3 month old plantation of Bangkal already shows young shoots; Another 300 hectares of degraded peatlands in Agusan will be rehabilitated under the NGP

Preparation of the Operations Manual of the Buying Living Tree System

- BFP conducted several meetings with DENR and DSWD to finalize the OM.
- Multi-year WFP for 2013-2017 was prepared
- Site launching is expected to be held by 3rd Quarter of 2013
- BFP has secured the endorsement of majority of the Peatland Municipalities

Project Proposal for Making Caimpugan Peat Swamp as Demonstration Site for Peatlands for the Philippine REDD Plus

being facilitated by the Non Timber Forest Product (NTFP) Project

Issues and Concerns in Project Implementation

1. Fire related problems in Peatlands

2. The Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) was requested by the Department of Agriculture to allow the extraction of peat in the Marsh for Organic Farming Purposes.

This was declined by the PAMB during the en-banc meeting in June 2013.

3. Slow Liquidation by the Pilot Sites

Expenditure Category	Overall budget	Cumulative expenditure to end of previous reporting period	Current Period expenditure Jan'13-Jun'13	Cumulative expenditure to date	Balance available for future periods
I. Capacity Building	133,028	104,201.49	393.61	104,595.10	28,432.90
II. Reduction in peatland degradation	23,257	18,279.44	791.09	19,070.53	4,186.47
III. Management and rehabilitation	46,195	3,915.43	1,839.01	5,754.44	40,440.56
IV. Partnerships	42,520	17,308.84	97.92	17,406.76	25,113.24
V. Project Management	17,000	8,109.68	2,795.39	10,905.07	6,094.93
Total	262,000	151,814.88	5,917.02	157,731.90	104,268.10

The amount of ₱ 2,218,384.72 with an equivalent amount of US$51,722.65 was not yet liquidated by Region 8 , Region 12 and Region 13 respectively .

"Keeping our peatlands alive through multistakeholders approach."

Thank you!