

HIGHLIGHTS OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

August 21 to 24, 2013
Puerto Princesa, Palawan

Objective: To conduct stakeholder consultation in connection to the construction of ecosystem accounts for Southern Palawan as well as national mineral and mangrove accounts under the Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) Program.

I. Participants

A Stakeholder Consultation was done on the 22nd of August 2013 at the Philippine Wildlife and Rescue Center (PWRC), Puerto Princesa City. The following stakeholders participated in the consultation:

- a. Palawan representatives from Government Agencies (Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), NIA, Provincial Tourism)
- b. Representatives from the Office of the Governor
- c. Private Sector Representatives (Mining Firms in Southern Palawan, Local Tourism)
- d. Civil Society Organizations/ Non-Government Organizations (ELAC, CTI, Katala Foundation, PNNI)
- e. Academe (Palawan State University, Western Palawan University)
- f. DENR PENRO
- g. Representatives from the CENRO for the identified Municipalities

Copy of the complete list of participants attached.

II. Summary of Discussions

During the consultation workshop, particularly in the break-out group sessions, following are the points raised and discussed:

- a. For the National Government Agencies:
 - i. Data that we want to include/ think should be included in the WAVES Study
 - Trade-off of oil palm plantation/monoculture farming vs other land-use options
 - Industrial plantation study
 - Value of NTFP should be accounted
 - Valuation of resources in PAs in Southern Palawan DENR)
 - Valuation of corals and other associated coastal habitats aside from mangroves
 - ii. Issue we want/ we think should be directly or indirectly addressed by WAVES
 - Harmonization of data base system – need to come up with a centralized system

- The use of integrated information management system (IIMS) as a tool
 - Data needs assessment for the model to be used
 - Mainstream environment in the development agenda by investing more
 - Data/information for determining resource use fees and environmental task
 - Can be a measure to impose appropriate taxation on the use of natural resources
 - That data to be generated by the project may be useful in monitoring the compliance (environmental and social) of operating mines in the province
 - With updated valuation of WL resources, we will be able to determine penalties/ fees to be imposed
 - Provide information as sound basis for allowing projects to come in
 - Provide baseline data on projects implemented in Southern Palawan
 - There will be a universal set of parameters by giving monetary values of the natural wealth thus eliminating conflicting mind-set on the resources
 - Improvement/enhancement of the SEP/CLUP/NCE/PHIL EIS/ Cost and benefit of proposed project and other development options, appropriate penalties
 - To use as the basis in correlating present data in the future
 - Generation of data, information for and policy and development decisions
 - Evaluation of development options as prescribed in the ECAN – Policy review of the ECAN
 - Policy review of mangrove policy and/or development of guidelines
 - WAVES output will be the basis in planning for a project/ program
 - Come up with a strategy to address illegal trade in wildlife
- iii. Issues/ difficulties that WAVES may face in Southern Palawan
- Need to do institutional analysis to define the scope of the study
 - Primary data gathering and use of secondary data?
 - Willingness of data sharing among stakeholders
 - PCSD's role as data generator/provider and decision-maker (question on what is the effective way of implementing on the ground → complementary organizational structure?)
 - Issue on cultural sensitivities
- iv. Need to formalize organizational/ institutional set up from Southern Palawan pilot study at the field of provincial level
- b. For the Civil Society Organizations (NGOs and academe):
- i. WAVES as a Tool
- A tool to reconsider or revisit existing environmental laws

- Decision-making by traditional politicians are not scientific to minimize climate change
- A better way to communicate the data to the policy makers
- Serves as baseline data for research
- WAVES as tool for data gathering, social, economic, environmental
- Strengthen Environmental Advocacy as it helps factor in non-economic parameters in decision-making
- Serves as basis on how to use our own resource properly and wisely
- Institutionally agreed upon methodology
- Source of consolidated data
- Makapagbigay pamamaraan sa pagkalap ng mga datos ukol sa Valuation and Accounting of existing resources
- Enable to realize the importance of conservation vis-à-vis development
- WAVES will address the problem of cumulative input of small projects (with permits) all together;
- Information ownership of FPIC;
- Which data sets are collected) Who decides?;
- Strengthening and Empowering Multi-Stakeholders participation in Land Use Planning;
- Ecan Zoning Plan/Management is not effective to LGU CLUP;
- Difficulty monetarizing same aspects of biodiversity; and
- MPAs established are not incorporated Water-use Plan in CLUP

c. For the mining firms, the benefits of the WAVES Program are:

- It will provide fair and economic valuation.
- It will develop an objective and transparent procedure/process on evaluating the socio-eco environmental impacts of mineral development
- To understand in economic terms the “wealth generation” aspect of mineral development operations.
- Weighing the value of an area. As a mining company, it would make it clearer whether a mineralized area should be mined or left for other use.
- More flexibility in decision making of government offices in terms of projects.
- Educate decision makers (all levels until the barangay level) → communications plan target decision makers
- Aid in prioritizing needs.
- Contribute in minimizing conflicts arising from difference in biases.
- Provides baseline on valuation on which to compare future development projects.
- Better implementation of the Social Development Management Program. The assessment accounting shall give us basis in guiding the community.

- III. A visit and meeting with the following LGUs and group were also made by the Team to present and discuss the WAVES program and Ecosystem Accounting in Southern Palawan:
 - a. Municipality of Aborlan, Palawan (meeting with Municipal Mayor and SP Chairman, Committee on Environment).
 - b. Municipal Mayor of Sofronio Española, Palawan
 - c. Meeting with Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) of Mt. Matalingahan.

- IV. Initial preparatory works, such as the preparation of invitation letters to the participants of the planning workshop/training, were also made by the Team during the trip.