

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION
IN SOUTHERN PALAWAN**

28 November 2013; Maruyog Ridge, Brookes Point, Palawan

I. Attendance (check the attendance sheet)

IPMR

1. Artolin Edlap – Bataraza
2. Rolbing Sungit – Quezon
3. Silico Valdestamon – Rizal
4. Victoriano Colili, Brookes's Point

IP Leaders and Representatives

5. Jother Duanan – Quezon
6. Carlos Maludin – Brooke's Point
7. Nelson Sombra – Brooke's Point
8. Rolly Maludin – Brooke's Point
9. Pedro Sagad – Brooke's Point
10. Calib Tingdan – Quezon
11. Bernardo Barahim – Rizal
12. Sarilan Puntas – Rizal
13. Donetor Cayag
14. Pidrino Asuan
15. Jonathan Ong – Sofronio Española

NCIP

16. Pablito Magbanua – NCIP, Palawan

World Bank

17. Maya Villauz – World Bank
18. Flo Lazaro – World Bank

DENR

19. Edwin Domingo
20. Conrad Bravante
21. Faith Pilar
22. Nenita Zabala
23. Bella Nuñez
24. Ma. Theresa Legaspi
25. Imelda Matubis

LGUs

NEDA

Mary Jane Alvarez

Arlene Sison

PCSD

1. Mae Lacao

2. Merly Hilario

3.

I. Consultation with the Indigenous Peoples (IPs)

The stakeholder consultation was two parts. The Indigenous Peoples were scheduled in the morning while the fisher folks, farmers and private sector in the afternoon.

The program was convened with the opening prayer and the singing of the National Anthem. The Information Officer from PENRO delivered the welcome address followed by the acknowledgement of participants. She requested each and every one present to actively participate in the discussion to come up with a unified decision.

Dir. Domingo explained briefly the WAVES concepts and principles including its level of importance. He cited the manufactured goods, human and natural capital wherein the decision will be based on social capital. In addition, he also mentioned the impact of WAVES globally. Decision will be based on concrete available data. No advocacy for certain sector, the ultimate goal is to generate data that could be used as basis for decision making by stakeholders.

There is a need to look at the interrelationship of each sector (land, water and biodiversity). We have to value the activity and its effect to the other sector. Each group has its own assessment of valuation but with different analysis. However, IN 2012, SEEA is the acceptable international standard that will be used to conduct valuation.

In the implementation of Phil WAVES which involved the IPs, the conduct of dialogue is necessary for purposes of consultation. It was also mentioned by Dir. Domingo that after the said consultation, the next activity is data gathering.

After the presentation of Dir. Domingo, an open forum followed with Ms. Merly Hilario from PENRO Puerto Prinsesa as Moderator. There were a number of queries and comments on the project. The IPs agreed and understood the project and its importance to the people of Southern Palawan. The IPs agreed and supports the project with the understanding that there will be no structures to be constructed. The IPs are willing to cooperate in Phil. WAVES activity, however, the objective/purpose of the project should be explained clearly for them to appreciate and be able to support efficiently.

Dir. Domingo and the DENR group informed them further that only data gathering will be done. A matrix of discussion in Filipino is attached showing the agreements reached during the consultation. The IPs further agreed thru a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by the IP Leaders (copy attached).

II. Consultation with Farmers, Fisherman and other Stakeholders

Mr. Conrad Bravante of FASPO-DENR presented an Overview of WAVES Project. There was also an open forum after the presentation. The following were the discussions made:

1. A query was made on why Southern Palawan was preferred as the study site for ENR valuation since Southern Palawan is less progressive compared to Northern Palawan.

Ms. Maya Villaluz of the World Bank informed the group that the criteria for the selection of study area/site are the following:

- a. The area was considered because of the natural ecosystem with potential for development. It has the element of ecosystem with natural wealth and varied existing uses (i.e. mining, agriculture and coastal areas for fisheries).
 - b. There are also presence of land uses that are sustainably maintained.
 - c. There is no economic activity in Southern Palawan but is foreseen as potential for development.
2. It was suggested to incorporate in school curriculum the concern on environmental protection and valuation for IEC/awareness purposes

Ms. Maya commented that the TWG created on Phil WAVES included the academe as one of its members (WPU, PSU and the Holy Spirit).

According to the TWG member from the Department of Education, incorporating the concept of environmental protection in the elementary and high school curriculum is a work in progress for possible consideration. Ozone is one of the reference books included for the elementary schools while other universities are trying to include the environmental accounting in their curriculum.

On the other hand, the University of the Philippines is already offering a course on environment.

3. Another query is the participation of stakeholders whether they have to generate data.

A TWG was created in Southern Palawan composed of different sectors with focal agencies that will directly coordinate and collect data that are necessary for

the study. The Phil WAVES in Southern Palawan will be implemented for a 3-year period.

Other Related Information:

According to the Women's Group stakeholder, products produced in their area includes peanuts, seaweeds, orchids and agriculture related products and coconut as the highest source of livelihood. While data on rubber can be collected from DA.

Rizal is proposed site for development as ecotourism. In the identification of possible ecotourism site, the CLUP map of every municipal should be submitted to support the land cover accounts being done by DENR and PCSD. It is timely to know the value of damages to be able to protect them. The LGUs are willing to support and provide the data.

Closing Remarks by Dir. Domingo

It should be noted that the Output of Phil WAVES is the major basis for decision-making. The concept of Phil WAVES is dynamic and subject to changes which can be derived from the result of the study.