Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services in the Philippines – Phil-WAVES

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What are the specific policy challenges to be addressed?

• How will NCA results be used to inform or influence national development policy?
  – Analysis and indicators for national/regional development plans
  – Development of economic instruments (e.g. fiscal rules for mineral resources, water pricing)
  – Input into land use & zoning plans
  – Input into pollution control & regulation

• Policy challenges to be addressed with NCA
  – Water pollution and siltation
  – Land use conflicts
  – Revenue and benefit sharing from mineral resources
  – Coastal zone protection & disaster risk reduction (DRR)
What accounts will be developed?

- National asset account for minerals (ongoing)
  - Key policy issue: revenue and benefit sharing
- Ecosystem Account for the Laguna Lake basin (ongoing)
  - Key policy issues: water pollution & siltation
- Ecosystem Account for Southern Palawan (ongoing)
  - Key policy issue: land use conflicts
- National asset account for mangroves (planned for 3rd year of implementation)
  - Key policy issue: coastal zone protection & DRR
What have we learnt? Critical factors

• **Strong government ownership**
  – Early institutionalization efforts helped build on existing institutions, committees and multistakeholder groups
  – Significant government contributions of staff and resources shared costs and built capacity in-house and in the academe

• **Early involvement of all key stakeholders**
  – Extensive stakeholder consultations with key government agencies, private sector, academe, NGOs, CSOs and IPs
  – Early development of communication strategy to build ownership, promote transparency, and send clear messages

• **Strong collaboration with experts & partners**
  – National: University of the Philippines, REECS
  – International: ABS/AusAID, University of Wageningen, ESA
What have we learnt? Key challenges

• **Delay in setting up RETF:** only signed April 2014
  – Hired interim country coordinator: since July 2013
  – Advanced procurement: for country coordinator & assistant for NEDA and four technical staff for PSA
  – Started work on minerals accounts without RETF

• **Limited international experience in ecosystem accounting**
  – Developed training courses: introductory training (held Feb 2014) and hands-on training (planned Sept 2014)
  – Secured support from international experts with hands-on experience: ABS, University of Wageningen
  – Capacity building ongoing: through training, hiring of local expert and involving key national/local government agencies & multi-stakeholder groups in implementation
Maraming Salamat Po!
Thank you!

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