

DENR-EMB Assists LGUs Enhance their Climate Change Project Proposals for PSF Support



On March 21-22, 2017, local government units gathered to present their adaptation project proposals to the staff of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) – Peoples' Survival Fund (PSF) Secretariat, Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) and members of

the CCC National Panel of Technical Experts (NPTE). Dubbed as the ***“First Interface of Project Proponents and CCC-PSF Secretariat and NPTE”***, the activity served as an opportunity to improve on their respective project proposals for possible PSF support.

This activity is a sequel to the 2016 Ecosystem- based Adaptation (EbA) regional cluster orientation and proposal writeshop series facilitated by the EMB-Climate Change Division (CCD) among LGUs which resulted to the drafting of 44 PSF proposals on EbA measures as entry points to the implementation of Sustainable Integrated Area Development (SIAD) in the priority areas of the DENR with technical inputs from the DENR regional/PENRO/PASU levels.

The DENR had embarked on the integration of EbA mainstreaming into its programs, projects and activities to ensure that ecosystems remain resilient and that ecological integrity amidst development and investment efforts are given primordial importance. Further, the EbA concept is part of the DENR's

contribution to the country's commitment to the Paris Agreement on its inclusion to the NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) as among our climate change adaptation priority measures that will address ecosystems resilience and ecological integrity.



The conduct of the orientation series primarily aimed at creating the necessary awareness on the EbA options as well as identify demands that a Community of Practice will address for its sustainability while addressing issues and concerns that confront implementers of EbA measures. The

involvement of DENR/EMB regional environment staff, selected academe and civil society sectoral representatives and the environment specialists of relevant government departments such as Department of Public Works and Highways and National Irrigation Authority will help the EbA inventory/ stocktaking efforts of DENR to build the arguments for having ecosystem-based adaptation options in the long-term investments for the sustainable development of the country. Most important, it is envisioned that the EbA Orientation series will contribute to engaging the vulnerable communities in the formulation of EbA action agenda and proposals which they will present and defend for implementation with either the CCC-PSF budget or DENR funding support.



Leyte together with their planning officers and some members of their Sangguniang Bayan.

This 1st interface intended to gather provincial governments and LGU proponents that have succeeded in coming up with their first draft of PSF proposals to engage with CCC technical staff to check on documentary compliance and with experts for technical enhancement of the draft proposals so that the same can be finalized according to the PSF guidelines prior to final submissions to PSF Board through the CCC. The activity was participated in by Mayor Leonard “Sandy” Javier, Jr. of the Municipality of Javier, Leyte, Mayor Lemuel Gin K. Traya of the Municipality of Abuyog, Leyte and Vice-Mayor Alice L. Villasin of the Municipality of MacArthur,



The following adaptation proposals were presented, namely:

1. Climate Change – DRIVE (Disaster Resilient Interventions for Vulnerable Environment) South Cotabato: An Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy for Sustainability – Provincial Government of South Cotabato
2. Ridge to Reef Approach - Integrated Water/Natural Resources Management for Mananga / Argao / Luyang Watersheds to build climate-resilient and sustainable ecosystems and communities – Provincial Government of Cebu

3. Living Waters for Volunteer Resilient Communities in Davao City - 2018-2021 (Rehabilitating and Restoring the Davao River Basin) – City of Davao
4. Climate Change Resilience thru integrated Coastal Resource Management (CCRiCRM) – 2017-2022 - Socorro, Bucas Grande Island, Surigao Del Norte Provincial Government of Surigao del Norte
5. Participatory Watershed Management in the Municipalities of Boac and Mogpog – 2018-2020 – Provincial Government of Marinduque
6. Strengthening Resilience on the Effects of Climate Change in the Province Of Laguna – Provincial Government of Laguna
7. AGRIBEST Program on Adaptation and Food Security in a Changing Climate in Northern Mindanao – MASS-SPECC Cagayan de Oro
8. Lake Bito: Intervention for Critically Sensitive Habitat – Municipalities of MacArthur and Javier, Leyte – Provincial Government of Leyte
9. Bito-Higasaan Watershed-wide Management Project – Municipality of Abuyog, Leyte



The proponents had a one-on-one interaction with the technical staff of the PSF Secretariat and Dr. Rosa Perez, renowned climate expert, who have provided their recommendations to improve their proposals. Presentations of all the proposals were done on the second day wherein members of the PSF Secretariat made additional comments and suggestions after each presentation.

Most of the comments dwelt on the need to create a **convergence** and **coordination** among LGUs and other relevant stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the project, the need to identify specific adaptation measures/activities which require PSF support, the importance of updated climate data, susceptibility maps and thorough vulnerability assessment and, to ensure that adaptation proposals are aligned with the enhanced Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Comprehensive Development Plan,

Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) and Local Climate Change Action Plan. As the call for proposals shall close around April-May, the LGUs shall endeavor to complete the requirements and update the EMB-CCD within two weeks from the 1st Interface activity.



Meanwhile, the second round of the Interface is planned for the first week of May 2017 to address other potential proposals generated from the previous EbA orientation-writeshop series in time for the next cycle of the PSF's call for proposals by October of this year.

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