



**CSO FORUM
ON SOCIAL
FORESTRY
IN ASEAN**



Civil Society Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN

NTFP POLICY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

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7th Annual CSO Forum Meeting, 24-25 June 2018 Da Nang, Vietnam

NTFPs in the Philippines



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NTFP POLICY WORK: The beginning



June 2006

*Fora on Developing Guidelines
for Sustainable Management
of NTFPs*



Objectives:

- To present best practices of sustainable, community-based NTFP management
- To present NTFP Policy issues and solicit the assistance of policy researchers, makers and other members of the government for their support in addressing these issues.
- To present an **alternative monitoring mechanism for NTFPs** and solicit the participation and interest of scientists, policy makers on research to develop these methodologies for possible future policy adoption.

NTFP POLICY WORK: The beginning



June 2006
*Fora on
Developing
Guidelines for
Sustainable
Management of
NTFPs*

**When "Non" Means
everything
Rationalizing
NTFP Policies**

20-21 SEPTEMBER 2007 - UP HOTEL, UP DUBMAN, QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES

A forum on Philippine Policies on Non-Timber Forest Products Legitimacy



With support from

NTFP POLICY WORK: 2007 Forum Agreements



- Cease all references to NTFPs as **minor, ordinary, or less economically important forest products** and use “Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)” without need for any other descriptive terms, in all official government documents;
- **Simplify** and streamline the administrative requirements and processes for the extraction/harvesting and marketing of NTFPs by reviewing the existing policies on NTFP application and utilization procedures;
- **Provide adequate safeguards** against abusive and unsustainable use of NTFPs;
- Develop and establish a mechanism for multi-stakeholder participatory resource management, monitoring and evaluation of NTFPs;
- Develop and implement a mechanism for providing incentives and rewards system, as well as financial and credit schemes for communities engaged in NTFP production and utilization;
- Support research and development and capacity building programs on NTFPs

NTFP POLICY WORK:



Memorandum of Agreement with DENR in 2008

“Comparative Application of DENR and simplified NTFP Resources Inventory and Monitoring Designs for a Cost-Effective Approach in the Management of Non-Timber Forest Products”

COMPARING METHODOLOGIES



| DENR's Resource Inventory | Simplified NTFP Inventory System | Participatory Resource Monitoring |
|--|--|---|
| <p>-5% of forested area (for rattan)- MC 29, 1989</p> <p>-No specified sampling intensity for other NTFPs</p> <p>-Inventory to arrive at average density per hectare</p> <p>-Computations for Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) or Sustainable Yield Cut (Section 26, Chapter 4, Dao 4 1989)</p> | <p>-Strip transect method is used where forest areas are subdivided into homogeneous blocks (with high concentration of NTFPs being studied)</p> <p>-longest section of this homogeneous block is divided into 100 x10 meter sections</p> <p>-total volume of NTFPs being studied in that block shall be obtained by a blow up factor corresponding to the total estimated areas where these NTFPs occur.</p> | <p>-a system of monitoring to determine whether management of the NTFPs is sustainable (trending)</p> <p>-Shift towards involving local communities in the management of areas of high biodiversity</p> <p>-adaptive management as being a more suitable approach</p> <p>- PRM calendar based on criteria and indicators</p> |

Participatory Resource Method (PRM)



- Cost** Participatory monitoring is less costly than scientific monitoring (0.08 vs. 3.6 USD/ha/yr), although start-up costs can still be high.
- Sustainability** if monitoring institutionalized, monitoring is linked with delivery of ecosystem goods or services, data stored and analyzed locally
- Ability to detect trends**
- Links to management decisions and actions** Decisions were taken promptly, in response to immediate threats, and often lead to community-based actions to protect habitats, species or the local flow of ecosystem benefits
- Empowerment of local communities** Locally based resource monitoring appears to reinforce local communities and locally based resource management.

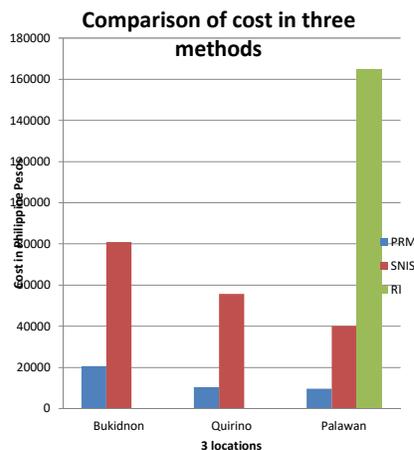


Danielsen et al. 2005)

Evaluation of the 3 methods



- Precision: big difference between DENR's RI and SNIS estimate on volume: (9,479 lm vs. 1,665 lm)
- Difficulty in comparing precision, simplicity and accuracy for the 3 methods
- Cannot conduct PRM properly without the permits to harvest
- Highest cost for DENR's RI and lowest cost for PRM
- Only PRM went through the process of formulating the Resource Management Plan (RMP)



6 years after...

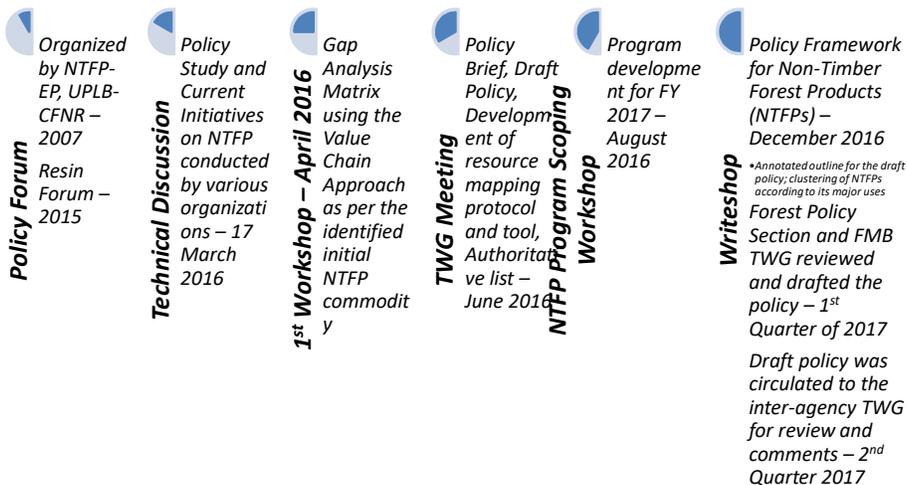


Resins on the RISE Regional forum on NTFPs 29-30 October 2015



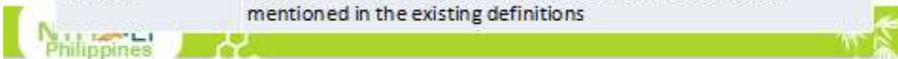
Discussed: Markets and standards, Low Price, Private sector involvement, Transportation, Sustainable Harvesting, Technology and Policies and Permitting

NTFP TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (government agencies, academe and NGO)



Working Definition of NTFPs

| Sources | Definition |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Presidential Decree No. 705 | barks, tree tops, resins, gums, wood oils, honey, bees wax, nipa, rattan, grass, shrub, flowering plants |
| DENR, Forestry statistics (1982) | includes all forest products except timber |
| De Beer and Mcdermott (1989 and 1996) | All biological materials other than timber which are extracted from forests for human use |
| Wicken (1991) | "all the biological material (other than industrial roundwood and derived sawn timber, wood chips, wood-based panels and pulp) that may be extracted from natural ecosystems, managed plantations, etc., and be utilized within the household, be marketed, or have social, cultural, or religious significance. |
| Exclusions | The use of the ecosystems for recreation, nature reserves, catchment management, etc., is regarded as forest services ." |
| Additions | Include medicinal plants and sources of fiber not currently mentioned in the existing definitions |



DEFINITION

Highlights of the Draft Policy

Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) - is any product of biological origin other than timber, produced in forests. The term includes fruits and nuts and vegetables, fish and game, medicinal plants, resins, essences, and rays of barks and fibers such as bamboo, rattan, and a host of other palms and grasses.

Requiring special action: species covered under wildlife act

Exclusion: animals and animal derivatives

Do we need to define Commercial vs Industrial Use?

NTFP-EP



PERMITTING

Highlights of the Draft Policy

- Deregulation of approval of harvesting, gathering and collection of NTFPs to the CENRO
- Coverage of the NTFP Permit may be applied in forestlands, except in in protection forests and protected areas under the NIPAS where specific policy applies
- Validity of issued permits covers a five-year period with an *annual submission of production report*

NTFP-EP



SUSTAINABILITY

Highlights of the Draft Policy

The permittee will be required to develop a replanting, rehabilitation and/or mitigating plan to conserve and protect the resource and ensure a continuous supply of raw materials.

- **Declaration of Open and Closed Season** for Cutting/Harvesting/Collecting NTFPs within public lands
- Inclusion of the collection of data for NTFPs in existing resource assessments

NTFP-EP



Looking at the Draft Policy...



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What we like :

- 1) Linked NTFP harvesting to tenurial instrument
- 2) Inclusion of the NTFPs in the regular forest resource assessment of DENR
- 3) The permitting process was simplified and deregulated at the CENRO
- 4) 5 years renewal of permit
- 5) No fees

Looking at the Draft Policy...



What we are still looking for:

Safeguards to ensure that at the CENRO level, it is simplified but not made easier for business

Operationalizing the stewardship principle of CBFM - preferential right to the forest for the forest dependent communities including indigenous people who are the one protecting the forest

That the policy can provide an incentive for forest dependent communities to access, sustainably harvest, utilize and market NTFPs

NEXT STEPS



- National NTFP Conference August - UPLB-FDC, DENR-FMB and members of the NTFP TWG
- Continue working with DENR-FMB and TWG members

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THANK YOU!

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*I'm
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