"Developing an operational example of a jurisdictional-level platform for Palawan"

Project Briefer

As the effects of climate change becomes more evident, this resulted to the increasing momentum and urgency surrounding climate finance. Although, most countries have only recently started to realize and understand the dynamics of the existing mechanisms and pathways to access and manage climate finance investment effectively. In



addition, investors lack confidence in the capacity of countries to

measure, monitor, and report credible information on climate change

initiatives at different scales. These reports are imperative in ensuring that the investments will transparently deliver the anticipated impacts. This implies that significant potential sources of finance to support the objectives of the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement, remains untapped.

There has been effective mitigation from forests and land use which is prominent in the mitigation and adaptation goals of 80% of NDCs in the Asia-Pacific region. Of major concern, however, is the current disconnect due to the following issues: (1) lack of MRV mechanisms that have been implemented which can be attractive for investors; (2) NDCs are in the process of reformulation; and (3) lack of confidence of the investors in the country's capacity to monitor, measure and report GHG emissions.

Aligned with this, the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) has been commissioned by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to conduct the project, Developing an operational example of a jurisdictional-level platform for Palawan, Philippines.

The project aims to develop an operational example of a jurisdictional-level platform for Palawan, Philippines for the management and monitoring of forest and landscape projects relevant for climate finance investments in a coordinated way consistent with national climate change priorities and targets. The work will support quantitative evaluation for forest monitoring, and for leveraging forest and landscape climate finance at the jurisdictional scale, while also supporting improved coordination and integration with national-level efforts to better coordinate and account for climate finance projects in the land-use sector.

One of the project's targets is the preparation of a jurisdictional sustainability profile of Palawan, Philippines,



which can be used for robust projects planning and policy formulation process necessary for sustainable forest management in the Philippines. This entails a baseline assessment of forest resources of the area.

The project's output will aim to yield multiple benefits in terms of sustainable environmental efforts for the country by identifying strengths and areas of improvement in natural resource management and the identification of applicable conservation financing options that could be considered by the Philippine Government.