

NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM VALIDATION OF 2016-2018 PLANTED SITES

RATIONALE

The issuance of Executive Order No. 26 in 2011 has mandated the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to spearhead the implementation of the National Greening Program (NGP) in partnership with other national government agencies, academe, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. The NGP aimed to contribute in addressing national concerns of poverty reduction, food security, environmental stability, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The program targeted rehabilitation of 1.5 million hectares of degraded forestlands from 2011 to 2016. By the end of 2016, a total of 1.6 million hectares have been planted. This prompted the government to issue Executive Order No. 193 expanding the coverage of the National Greening Program to cover all remaining unproductive, denuded and degraded forests with its period of implementation from CY 2016 to 2028.

Moreover, the need to determine the veracity of the reported NGP accomplishments and status of these plantations will be done by the National Greening Program Coordinating Office (NGPCO), as part of their regular monitoring and evaluation. Hence, validation of NGP established NGP plantations from 2016-2018 should be done.

In this regard, the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) shall deploy teams to field offices to spearhead the validation of established NGP plantations from 2016-2018.

OBJECTIVES

The validation of CY 2016-2018 established NGP plantations aims to assess the status of said established plantations nationwide vis-à-vis technical requirements/standards and existing guidelines. The validation should be able to generate updated geo-tagged photos and maps of CY 2016-2018 planting sites (in shapefile format). Specifically, the validation shall be able to provide information on the following:

1. Survival rates of NGP established plantations from CY 2016-2018.
2. Determine status of CY 2016-2018 NGP established plantations, including the status of Maintenance and Protection for CY 2016-2018 NGP sites;
3. Determine factors that facilitated or hindered the attainment of the targets;
4. Determine production to date for commodities planted;
5. Determine improvement in lives of beneficiaries, especially of POs who implemented NGP projects

6. Determine the ratio of male and female beneficiaries involved in the implementation of the project;
7. Generate feedbacks, lessons, experiences and strategies on the project implementation procedures as well as gender –related issues or constraints to women’s and men’s participation in the project implementation; and
8. Provide recommendations as input to program designing and in aid of policy formulation.

METHODOLOGY

Validation teams composed of representatives from the FMB shall be deployed to various regions.

The teams shall employ triangulation method in the collection of data to ensure higher probability of accuracy and veracity of information gathered. These are review of secondary documents such as accomplishment reports, maps, disbursement vouchers, MOAs/LOAs and geotagged photos, interview with the partner POs, actual site validation, and aerial documentation.

The following procedures shall be observed during the conduct of the validation:

1. The team shall conduct courtesy call with DENR Regional Officials and concerned field office NGP coordinators or representatives for briefing on how the M & E will be undertaken. During the briefing, the team will present the proposed schedule of activities and sites to be visited.
2. The team shall visit the randomly selected plot (using Cochran sample size computation) per Region per Year from CY 2016-2018 NGP Sites prior to the dispatch of the team from the Central office. Selection of sites shall be done by automated random feature of excel software using the assigned code.
3. The team shall randomly determine 1-hectare sampling plots for each selected site through submitted GIS-based shapefiles. Through the use of GIS Software, random plots will be determined using the Grid Index feature and Random Point Selection feature.
4. The team shall conduct 100% inventory of planted seedlings in each of the selected plots. The team shall also observe and record the total area planted, spacing used, species planted and the health of the planted seedlings in each plot.
5. The teams will also determine the facilitating and hindering factors that affected the attainment of the targets in line with the existing NGP guidelines.
6. At the community level, the team shall meet with the President or representative of the partner People’s Organization (PO) concerned. The

team should get information on how the PO got involved in the NGP project, the number and names of male and female PO members actually involved in the implementation of various NGP on-site activities (e.g. seedling production, plantation establishment and maintenance and protection). Conduct of interview with the PO shall be done to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the program implementation using the attached questionnaire (Annex A).

7. The team shall review all necessary documents particularly accomplishment reports, MOAs/LOAs, and individual maps of the selected sites. The Team shall also review the financial utilization by reviewing the disbursement vouchers of each selected site.
8. The team shall conduct geo-tagging and aerial documentation of sites validated. Also, the team shall secure e-copies of the updated geo-tagged photos and maps (in shape-file format) of all CY 2016-2018 NGP sites.
9. The team shall conduct a de-briefing at the regional office after the validation to inform the region on NGP sites assessed, survival rates and recommendations.
10. The team shall submit a report to the FMB Director and National NGP Coordinator within 15 days after the completion of their fieldwork. They shall further prepare a Memorandum indicating among others, their observations/findings and recommendations to the Regional Directors concerned.

DATA TO BE GATHERED

The following are the data/information that will be gathered during the fieldwork:

Indicator	Means of Verification	Definition
CY 2016-2018		
Status of CY 2016-2018 NGP Implementation	Actual site monitoring	Actual 100% inventory on selected plots
		Survival Rate
	KII/FGD	KII/FGD with Presidents/ representative of male and female partner POs
		Names of Actual Members engaged in the Project implementation

LOGISTICAL REQUIREMENTS

The team shall ensure that the following materials are available during fieldwork activities:

- Maps of the sites to be visited
- Updated Accomplishment Reports
- Data collection form
- Interview questionnaire

Supplies

- Notebook
- Pencil or ballpen
- Rain boots
- Raincoat
- Flashlight
- Battery
- First-aid Kit/ medicine
- Plastic envelop
- Zip lock

Equipment

- Drone
- GPS
- Camera with GPS
- Any other surveying instrument
- Power bank
- Laptop
- Flash Drive

Communication

- Prepaid card

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Data gathered shall be analyzed using quantitative and qualitative method. These may involve determining the percent work accomplishment based on targets for the physical aspects of the NGP implementation. The focus of analysis shall be the following technical requirements under the NGP including policy issues and concerns:

- Survival rate
- Type of species and appropriateness of species used
- Accuracy of GIS maps vis-à-vis location of planted seedlings
- Commodity/Quality of seedlings planted
- Sources of seeds/planting materials
- Correctness of geo-tagged photos (Before and After)
- Timeliness of payments
- Performance of NGP partners especially those which where contracted for several years
- Production of commodities planted
- Average ratio of male and female beneficiaries involved in the implementation of the project