

24 February 2022

Lormelyn E. Claudio, CESO IV OIC - Regional Executive Director Region 4B – MIMAROPA Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Dear Ms. Claudio:

Warm greetings from SIBOL!

SIBOL is a five-year DENR-BFAR-USAID project that aims to address the three objectives of improving natural resources governance, sustainably managing natural resources, and reducing environmental crimes by promoting positive environmental behavior.

One of the main interventions of SIBOL is the conduct of ecosystem services valuation and natural capital accounting of selected ecosystems at the site and national levels. This will lead to the formulation of long-term economic policies and economic incentives that enable sustainable management of natural resources and promote positive environmental behavior among its managers and users. To do this, the capacity to develop and maintain the accounts will be built at the agencies that are primarily responsible for generating and consolidating the data.

Specifically, SIBOL aims to estimate the values of the following ecosystem services in its second year of implementation: global climate regulation, water regulation and purification, soil erosion control, coastal protection, recreational, spiritual, and provisioning services (NTFP, fish, etc.). Likewise, SIBOL aims to update the national forestry accounts and develop the national fisheries and coral reef asset accounts.

We are pleased to invite your good office to attend the face-to-face Orientation-Workshop of Accounting/Valuation on Ecosystem Accounting and Ecosystem Services Valuation to be held on March 15 to 16, 2022 in Metro Manila. Members of the TWG shall ensure that COVID-19 minimum health and safety protocols issued by the IATF, DOH, concerned Local Government Units, and other relevant authorities are observed. Therefore, all participants must be fully-vaccinated at least 2 weeks before the orientation-workshop.

The valuation and accounting orientation-workshop aims to:

- 1. Orient the TWG members on ecosystem accounting and valuation of selected ecosystem services
- 2. Review the TWG members on natural capital accounting (NCA), particularly using the UN-SEEA Framework
- 3. Form TWGs for each of the national asset accounts and site-level ecosystem accounts
- 4. Come up with a detailed workplan on the data collection by ecosystem service by site

Attached in this letter is the program agenda that further details the information on the orientation-workshop. We would appreciate it if you could give us a list of attendees at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions or clarifications, please contact Mr. Joji Shiraishi, Research Associate at jshiraishi@ph-sibol.org or (0915) 2219717 or Ms. Leilani Yu, Research Associate at lyu.contractor@ph-sibol.org or (0917) 3460494.

Thank you very much and we look forward to hearing from you!

Very truly yours,

DR. ERNESTO S. GUIANG

Chief of Party