



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, 1100 Quezon City

Tel. No.: (632) 8925-2141 / (632) 8927-4788

E-mail Address: fmb@denr.gov.ph

Website: <https://www.forestry.denr.gov.ph>

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR - MIMAROPA Region
1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

FROM : The Director

SUBJECT : **TRAVEL REPORT ON THE CONDUCTED MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF CBFM-POs AND CBFM-CARP PROJECTS IN PALAWAN, REGION IV-B ON 22-26 AUGUST 2022**

DATE : 13 September 2022

This pertains to our Memorandum dated 16 August 2022 for the conduct of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of CBFM-CARP Projects (CYs 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021 and 2022) and other related activities in Palawan, Region IV-B on 22-26 August 2022. Please be informed that our FMB Personnel (For. Edward Dumrique and Ms. Irish Niña Glorioso) together with concerned staff from DENR-CARP National Coordinating Office (Mr. John Albert Baloto) and Presidential Agrarian Reform Council (PARC) Secretariat (Ms. Josephine Sarvida and Mr. Teofilo Marco Legaspi, Jr.) with the assistance of field staff from the Regional Office, PENRO Palawan and CENROs Puerto Princesa City, Quezon, Taytay, Roxas and San Vicente conducted the said M & E.

The M & E were conducted through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), document review and direct observations. Likewise, during KIIs and FGDs questions regarding the implementation and review of CBFM Agreement and needed trainings of the CBFM-POs were asked. Further, a courtesy and exit conference meeting to the PENR Officer of Palawan was conducted to report the observations and findings of the M & E and CBFM-CARP projects. The team have visited five (5) CBFM-POs covering six (6) CBFM-CARP Projects, as follows:

1. **Bacungan Mangrove Eco-Tourism Service Cooperative** located in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan;
 - a. Enrichment of Bacauan (Mangrove and Culture Mud Crabs (Portunidas) in Pen and Livelihood Project (CY 2017)
2. **Isugod Uplanders Association, Inc.** located in Quezon, Palawan;
 - a. Rubber Plantation Intercropped with Fruit Trees and Vegetable Gardening (CY 2020)
3. **Tagbisay Multi-Purpose Association** located in Narra, Palawan;
 - a. Agroforestry, Fuelwood and Timber Production Project (CY 2021)

4. **Liminangcong Forest Management Association, Inc.** located in Taytay, Palawan;
and
 - a. Fuel Wood with Orchard Plantation (CY 2018)
5. **Macatumbalen Community-Based Forest and Coastal Management Association**
located in San Vicente, Palawan.
 - a. Honey Processing Enterprise Development Project (CY 2020)
 - b. Agroforestry Plantation with Erosion Control Project (CY 2022)

As a result of the activity the Team put forward the following recommendations to improve project implementation:

1. The POs should be trained with proper bookkeeping skills to facilitate proper recording of the different activities and transactions of the organization.
2. Any changes on the components of the project which are not consistent with the approved Work and Financial Plan should be properly documented, justified and reported for database and monitoring purpose.
3. The PO should properly safekeep pertinent documents relative to their CBFMA such as the Agreement, map of the area, CRMF and FYWP, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and other project documents, among others. These documents are very relevant to the PO as it will serve as their guide in the management, development and protection of their CBFM area. In the case wherein the PO does not have a hold of these documents, the concerned DENR field office should provide them with copies for their information, reference and safekeeping.
4. Arrangements with the provided farm tools/implements, working animals, and equipment should be agreed upon by the beneficiaries of the project and translated into PO Resolution to serve as reference in the management of these components. In addition, benefit-sharing mechanism for future benefits on the planted trees should also be installed to avoid any concerns or conflicts in the future.
5. The PO should implement and develop an equitable benefit-sharing mechanism or arrangements among its members as part of their obligations as CBFM-PO for the proper management of the area and sustainability of the organization. The arrangements should be agreed upon by the majority and should be translated into PO Resolution.
6. Assist the PO to link with other agencies for financial assistance, infrastructure, equipment, trainings, and other capability building activity to strengthen the POs capability.
7. Even if the project has been completed, the region should conduct continuous monitoring of its progress and provide technical assistance to the PO. Activities such as these should always include reminders to the POs of their obligations/responsibilities, as stipulated in the Memorandum of Agreement, especially the provision that maintenance and protection of developed Agroforestry farms is PO counterpart and it should continue even beyond project completion.

8. Further, the Region/Field Offices is being reminded that the main responsibility of the hired Monitoring and Evaluation Officers (MEOs) under CARP funding is to ensure the monitoring of the current and previous CBFM-CARP projects and other CBFM-related activities. They will also provide technical assistance to the project and to the CBFM-PO beneficiaries. Hence, MEOs should be fully utilized and expected to perform their major functions i.e., monitoring of CBFM-CARP related targets and activities.

The specific findings/observations and recommendations per CBFM-PO can be found in Annex A.

FOR INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION, PLEASE.



TIRSO P. PARIAN, JR., CESO IV

Annex A

I. RESULT OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Hereunder are our findings relative to the monitoring activity conducted for the CBFM-CARP funded projects in MIMAROPA Region. Please be informed that the monitoring team was able to visit six (6) funded Projects in the province of Palawan, to wit:

1. BACUNGAN MANGROVE ECO-TOURISM SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Project Component	Enrichment of Bacauan (Mangrove and Culture Mud Crabs (Portunidas) in Pen and Livelihood Project (CY 2017)
Location	Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
Target Area	10 hectares
No. of Beneficiaries	34 (26 Male, 8 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 518,725.00

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. The said project was not yet fully accomplished due to some internal and external factors:
 - Low cooperation of some beneficiaries to complete the project;
 - Lack of planting/seedling materials to replant damaged/dead mangroves;
 - Delayed inspection from the DENR after the receipt of request from the PO; and
 - The project was damaged by typhoons that hit the area.
- b. There are more or less five (5) hectares to be replanted with mangroves for the PO to receive the retention fee. The PO committed to finish the project and the remaining hectares to be planted this year.
- c. The livelihood/enterprise (crab fattening, floating restaurant, mangrove tourism, and boat) was damaged by typhoon Odette which greatly affects the area and source of income of the members and the PO.
- d. No benefit-sharing scheme implemented.
- e. The PO committed to accomplish all remaining targets this CY 2022 with the assistance from the DENR (PENRO Palawan and CENRO Puerto Princesa City)
- f. The PO expressed the need for organizational development and financial management training.

2. ISUGOD UPLANDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Project Component	Rubber Plantation Intercropped with Fruit Trees and Vegetable Gardening (CY 2020)
Location	Quezon, Palawan
Target Area	45 hectares
No. of Beneficiaries	30 (28 Male, 2 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 1,375,000.00

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. The said project is not yet fully accomplished because according to the PO, they were affected by the dry season and some beneficiaries quit during the implementation of the project. Hence, the delay in the implementation.
- b. There are still 13 hectares remaining to be planted with Rubber and the PO committed to complete the plantation establishment by the end of October 2022.
- c. The PO was re-organized but no proper turn-over of documents and other properties owned by the PO from the previous officers was executed. Hence, there are documents such as the CBFMA and other records that were not on-hand by the new set of officers. Allegedly, there are also properties that were owned by the PO but was now being owned and claimed by an individual/member.
- d. No benefit-sharing scheme implemented.
- e. The PO expressed the training for grafting, bookkeeping and financial management.

3. TAGBISAY MULTIPURPOSE ASSOCIATION

Project Component	Agroforestry, Fuelwood and Timber Production Project (CY 2021)
Location	So. Boong, Dumangaena, Narra, Palawan
Target Area	50 hectares
No. of Beneficiaries	69 (34 Male, 35 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 1,294,000.00

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. All targets have been accomplished, however, the 4th payment and retention fee have yet to be paid. The 4th payment is under processing at the PENRO.
- b. The project is PO-managed in one contiguous area. The cooperation and commitment of the PO members on the project is very noticeable. However, there is no resolution yet on the use and care and maintenance on the tools provided by the project.
- c. The delay in the project completion is due to the typhoon Odette wherein the project area has been damaged including the planted seedlings. Nevertheless, the PO managed to raise seedlings for replanting and was able to complete the plantation establishment.
- d. Based on site inspection, there is high survival of planted trees such as Mahogany, Mangium, Kakawate, Cacao, Coffee and Calamansi including the agricultural crops.

4. LIMINANGCONG FOREST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Project Component	Fuelwood with Orchard Plantation (CY 2018)
Location	Brgy. Liminangcong, Taytay, Palawan
Target Area	100 hectares
No. of Beneficiaries	16 (5 Male, 11 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 1,621,837.50

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. The project is not yet fully accomplished due to some internal and external factors:
 - Non-cooperation of some beneficiaries and the project is not priority because of other jobs of the members;
 - The area was hit by typhoon Odette;
 - Conflict with the Indigenous Peoples in the area; and
 - Strict COVID-19 protocols/ restrictions in the area that limits their movements.
- b. There are remaining 8.75 hectares to be established by the PO to complete the target for plantation establishment.
- c. Based on site inspection, there is no regular or proper maintenance of the established plantations due to the presence of tall grasses that already covered the planted seedlings. Hence, the low survival of planted seedlings.
- d. There are no resolutions yet on the benefit-sharing scheme and arrangements on working animals and tools provided by the project.
- e. The PO committed to complete the plantation establishment by the end of October 2022.

5. MACATUMBALEN COMMUNITY-BASED AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Project Component	Honey Processing Enterprise Development Project (CY 2020)
Location	So. Macatumbalen, Poblacion, San Vicente, Palawan
No. of Beneficiaries	28 (16 Male, 12 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 507,000.00

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. The Honey Processing project have been completed and is operational. The PO have already processed and market their honey products. Based on the PO, the quality of their honey improved after they acquire the honey processing equipment.
- b. The PO has also increased their market for honey which already reaches up to Baguio City.
- c. The PO has also attended training on Good Manufacturing Practices in order to increase their capability in running their livelihood/enterprise.
- d. However, the CBFM area was heavily hit by typhoon Odette which affected and decreased the source of raw material for their honey processing. The remaining stocks of the honey is only good for 3-4 months. Moving forward, the PO is positive that the wild bees are slowly returning because the forest are already recovering from the damage brought by typhoon Odette.
- e. The typhoon also damaged the planted trees within the CBFM area. The PO estimated the damage to be at 65% for CARP project areas and 75% for NGP areas.

Project Component	Agroforestry Plantation with Erosion Control Project (CY 2022)
Location	So. Macatumbalen, Poblacion, San Vicente, Palawan
Target Area	30 hectares
No. of Beneficiaries	34 (22 Male, 12 Female)
Project Cost	PhP 1,014,000.00

OBSERVATIONS/FINDINGS:

- a. The PO has already started the plantation establishment of their CY 2022 Agroforestry Development project.
- b. The PO has established 2 hectares of Mahogany and Ipil-ipil and the planting will continue to take advantage of the rain.
- c. The PO was able to start the production and procurement of seedlings using their savings while waiting for the funds from CARP to be released.
- d. The cooperation and commitment of the PO with the project and other activities of the organization is very noticeable. Thus, the PO is one of the best CBFM-POs in the country.
- e. The PO is also very good in managing their different livelihood and other activities.
- f. Very good record-keeping and financial management.
- g. With good benefit-sharing mechanism.

Photo documentation

1. BACUNGAN MANGROVE ECO-TOURISM SERVICE COOPERATIVE

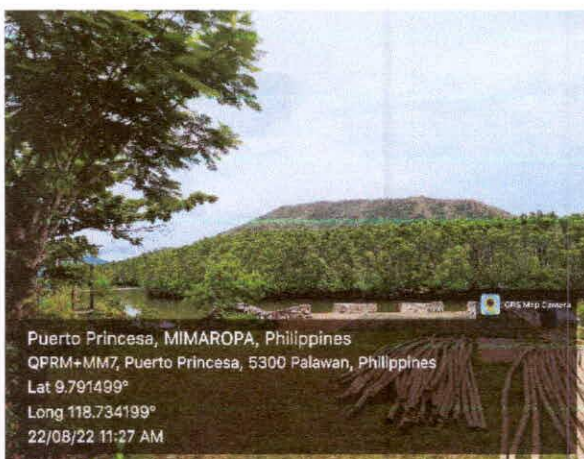
Courtesy Call of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) Team to CENR Office Puerto Princesa, Palawan on August 22, 2022



FGD of the M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Bacungan Mangrove Eco-Tourism Service Cooperative on August 22, 2022



CBFM area of the Bacungan Mangrove Eco-Tourism Service Cooperative (*left*) and the boat used by the CBFM-PO that was damaged by typhoon Odette (*right*)



M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Bacungan Mangrove Eco-Tourism Service Cooperative on August 22, 2022

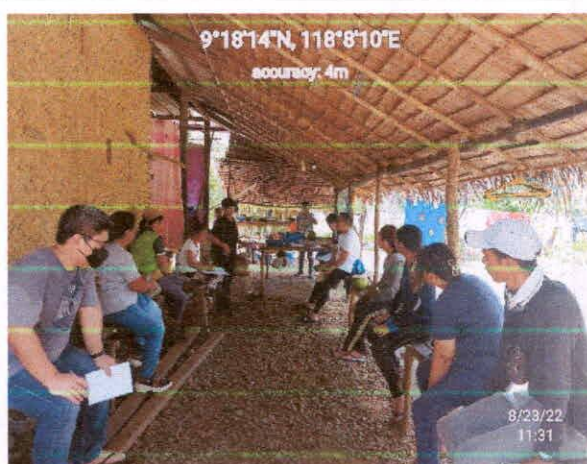


2. ISUGOD UPLANDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Courtesy Call of the M & E Team to CENR Office Quezon, Palawan on August 23, 2022



FGD of the M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Isugod Uplanders Association, Inc. on August 23, 2022



Monitoring and inspection of the Rubber Plantation (*left*) Intercropped with Fruit Trees (Rambutan) (*right*) with the M & E Team and members of the Isugod Uplanders Association, Inc. on August 23, 2022

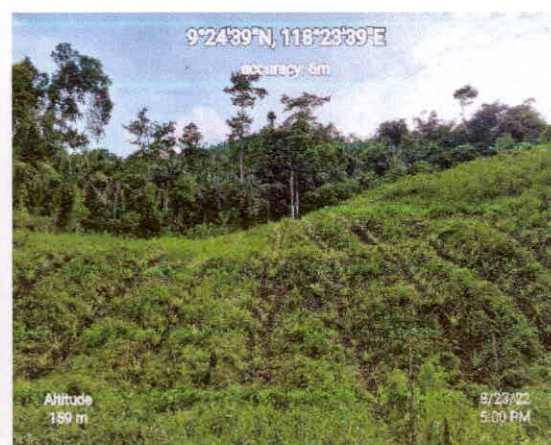


M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Isugod Uplanders Association, Inc. on August 23, 2022

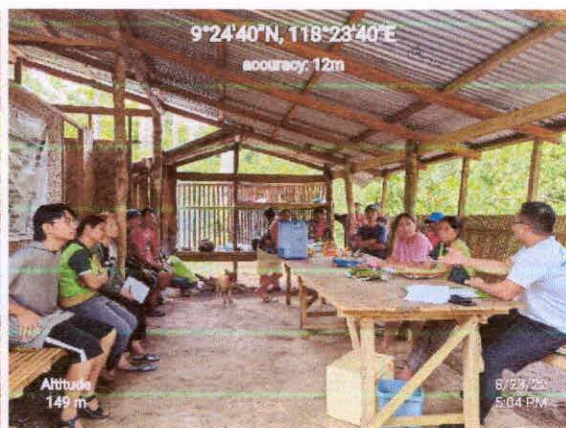


3. TAGBISAY MULTIPURPOSE ASSOCIATION

Monitoring and inspection of planted trees (Mahogany) (*left*) with fruit trees (Calamansi and Pineapple) (*right*) with the M & E Team and members of the Tagbisay Multi-Purpose Association on August 23, 2022



FGD of the M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Tagbisay Multi-Purpose Association
on August 23, 2022



M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Tagbisay Multi-Purpose Association
on August 23, 2022



4. LIMINANGCONG FOREST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Courtesy Call of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) Team to CENR Office Taytay, Palawan on
August 25, 2022



Monitoring and inspection of Fuel Wood with Orchard Plantation project (*Ipil-ipil* – left and *Banana plant* – right) with the M & E Team and members of the Liminangcong Forest Management Association, Inc. on August 24, 2022



FGD of the M & E Team with Officers and Members of the the Liminangcong Forest Management Association, Inc. on August 24, 2022



M & E Team with Officers and Members of the Liminangcong Forest Management Association, Inc. on August 24, 2022



5. MACATUMBALEN COMMUNITY-BASED AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Courtesy Call of the M & E Team to CENR Office San Vicente, Palawan on August 25, 2022



Monitoring and inspection of Honey Processing Enterprise Development Project (CY 2020) of Macatumbalen Community-Based Forest and Coastal Management Association on August 25, 2022



Monitoring and inspection of Agroforestry Plantation with Erosion Control Project (CY 2022) of Macatumbalen Community-Based Forest and Coastal Management Association on August 25, 2022



FGD with Officers and Members of Macatumbalen Community-Based Forest and Coastal Management Association on August 25, 2022



Courtesy Call on the activity of the M & E Team at PENRO Palawan on August 22, 2022



Exit conference meeting of the M & E Team at PENRO Palawan on August 26, 2022

