



1st SIBOL Project Steering Committee Meeting

October 26, 2022

9:00AM – 1:00PM

The B Hotel, Quezon City

Attendees:			
Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Thomas Kaluzny	USAID	Jonas Leones	DENR
Grace Tena		Abegail Rivera	DENR
Ernie Guiang	SIBOL	Natividad Bernardino	DENR-BMB
Maria Agnes Payson		Amelita Ortiz	
Marlito Guidote		Meriden Maranan	
Aldrin Mallari		Rachelle Malijan	
Glenn Forbes		Babylyn Cacao	
Christine Ruba		Frances Antonette Brillo	
Rudy Aragon		Princess Mariel Razon	
Felix Mendoza		Jobert John Bandol	
Mercy Nufable		Maria Fatima Critica	DENR-MIMAROPA
Blue Motus		Michaela Rongavilla	DENR-MIMAROPA
Jovan Cerda		Mary Jane Dela Rosa	NEDA
Aiza Buncag		Merlinda Capistrano	DENR-PPS
Elenio Yap		Ma. Leann Manubag	
Mark Ryan De Vera		Susan Villar	DENR-KISS
Alexa Jeanne Lasch		Tom Kabigting	DENR-FMB
Joy Caseres		Chrisangelo Pagulayan	DENR-ELEPS
Lorelie Astrera		Vicente Juada, Jr.	DENR-FASPS
Wilman Pollisco		Genie Balintec	
Kimberly Salamatín		Ma. Sabrina Cruz	DA-BFAR
		Isidro Velayo, Jr.	
		Jun Relox, Jr.	
		Levita Lagrada	PCSD

Activity Agenda	Highlights/Discussion
1. Preliminaries	The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. The meeting started with the opening remarks by the BFAR Assistant Director, Mr. Isidro Velayo, Jr. This was followed by introduction of PSC members and participants and updates from the previous SIBOL ITWG Meeting.
2. Updates from the SIBOL Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (ITWG)	Ms. Amelita D.J. Ortiz, Assistant Director, BMB Chair, SIBOL ITWG, gave a presentation about the updates of the previous ITWG meetings. Slides presentation presented during the PSC meeting can be found in Annex A.
3. Presentation of the SIBOL Project's Objectives and its Components &	Dr. Ernesto S. Guiang, Chief of Party of the SIBOL Project, presented the project's objectives and its components and implementation

Activity Agenda	Highlights/Discussion
Implementation Arrangement	arrangement and SIBOL project's accomplishments and proposed workplan for Year 3. Slides presentation can be found in Annex B.
4. Presentation of SIBOL Project's Accomplishments and Proposed Workplan for Year 3	<p>Questions and comments raised during the meeting:</p> <p>Critical roles of the LGUs have been recognized and Atty. Leones asked if SIBOL has a coordination with the DILG. And he also added if the project has an activity that can determine how much carbon is available or captured by the protected areas.</p> <p>He also asked on what are the activities or how we can protect and enhance the indigenous communities' skills and practices.</p> <p>He also added that we need to establish a national database for natural resources and requested to give some clarifications regarding these concerns.</p> <p>Dr. Guiang mentioned that the project is working with the local government as active partners in the field like in Siargao – the project is working with 9 local government units, BFAR and with the law enforcement. The project is also working with the PAMBs and PAMOs for the issuances of resolutions and ordinances.</p> <p>FMB is now working with the USDA and US Forest Service who are helping FMB setting up the national level forest reference emission baselines.</p> <p>Involvement of the DILG is included in the regional SOs as mentioned by Mr. Guidote. The project has met with DILG and based on the initial discussion the Bureau of Local Government Development and the Bureau of Local Government Supervision and they were asking to be involved in the project implementation.</p> <p>Dr. Guiang also mentioned a big challenge on how to scale down the project approaches in order to become effective and efficient so that the government partners can continue the process.</p> <p>Dr. Mallari also added on the elements of carbon mensuration (investible and not investible). He also mentioned on the key challenges at the PA level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAs don't look at the value of carbon storage • Data collection with 4 monitoring protocols on the FMB side and 7 on the part of BMB <p>Suggested to streamline the monitoring activities at the site level data points in order to shorten and make the field staff work more efficient</p> <p>Ms. Rosales mentioned that for the database, SIBOL is aligning with the NCA roadmap. She also mentioned that SIBOL is doing a master</p>

Activity Agenda	Highlights/Discussion
	<p>list for all information needed for NCA and will map out which of these are existing, collected and monitored. DENR relevant existing monitoring systems will be enhanced and identified for those which are not existing as mentioned by Ms. Rosales.</p> <p>Ms. Villar mentioned that DENR-KISS has been started training for NCA and requested SIBOL to help them in conceptualization the training to empower their people. DENR KISS, Planning and HRDS will conceptualize and plan a training course to capacitate people from the central office and create a pool of trainers who could go down to the field and teach them on how to do the training.</p> <p>She also asked on how SIBOL can do the NCA for forestry, fishery and coral reef as DENR KISS wanted to learn the methodologies or framework that are going to use for this activity</p> <p>She also mentioned that DENR KISS wanted to learn on other systems that SIBOL will assist on and introduce including LAWIN so that they can use it as model that can adopt by the DENR</p> <p>Policy change using the output of the NCA – DENR KISS requested SIBOL to work with them closely at the policy and on the technology level to adopt the experiences in planning for a policy change and for the systems development.</p> <p>Ms. Rosales mentioned that SIBOL will not be able to do all the accounts for all the ecosystem services available. SIBOL will help DENR in the roadmap and to help map out the information needed for the whole ES valuation work. The importance of NCA is to show the trade of what is helpful to the DENR, BFAR and LGUs for decision making.</p> <p>Mr. Yap mentioned that SIBOL will do the blue carbon modification protocol during the 1st quarter of FY2023</p> <p>Atty. Kabigting mentioned that DENR has a carbon accounting verification and certification system that can measure carbon sequestration after a period of time. He also suggested to upscale the DENR current system in order to produce a tradeable/non-tradeable credit so that the LGU can include this to their investment options, baselining for the carbon stock, allocation on the forestry program and standardization of the data points. He also mentioned that they were already come up with the data points that will need to serve the biodiversity and forestry requirements.</p> <p>Ms. Tena mentioned that it is SIBOL commitment to get the value of carbon sequestered in SIBOL sites and this can be replicated in other areas. She also mentioned that DILG, DBM and DOF have an important role and suggested to include them in the ITWG. She also</p>

Activity Agenda	Highlights/Discussion
	<p>added to have an amendment to the SO to include important and relevant issues in the ITWG.</p> <p>Dir. Bernardino raised a governance and policy issue and asked on how SIBOL would be able to help both BMB and BFAR harmonize policies in terms of AUUF. They have a draft DAO pending in the department regarding the process of reverting back AUUF back to the DENR.</p> <p>Mr. Yap shared the summary of discussion during the conduct of AUUF workshop in Iloilo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFAR Regional Offices did not know how to revert back the 978 hectares to DENR • Reviewed the legal basis and extent of the damage and they found out that the weakest link is within the DENR • There are abandoned fishponds that are not yet transferred back to DENR – non-compliance issue to the agreement • ASec. Amaro will send a memo to technical working group per region and province to work with the data gaps <p>Proposed action by SIBOL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIBOL will assist the department on the creation of DAO • Gathered inputs from the participants and requested inputs for the process of what will need to be done to revert these areas back to the DENR rather than to have it re-opened for fishpond lease agreements. This has to be done jointly by the DENR and BFAR • A need for a high-level meeting and agreement between the DENR and DA BFAR to come with an agreement to revert back the abandoned to the DENR jurisdiction • SIBOL will help to come up with the policy on the process of reverting back the AUUF to the DENR <p>AD Isidro Yap mentioned that the order and guidelines are really challenging to implement on the ground and also mentioned that they will need to sit down and discuss this concern.</p> <p>Ms. Astrera shared that SIBOL provided support to recognize ICCs and IPs by providing capacity building efforts, they were part of the citizen science training, CapDev Training activities, enjoined them in the development of BDFEs and ensuring that they will be part of the decision-making processes.</p> <p>Ms. Tena mentioned that there is a new requirement from USAID for SIBOL on doing social impact assessment in protected areas with IPs and a grievance mechanism in order to have a venue for the local communities and indigenous people.</p>

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	<p>SIBOL is looking on the big-ticket items for community BDFEs which is the supply chain</p> <p>DENR asked SIBOL on the assessment of the PBSAP to identify the implementation gaps.</p> <p>Dr. Guiang mentioned that DENR is a lead agency for PBSAP and the consultation process will be started in 2023 as mentioned by Dr. Mallari. SIBOL has already done the analysis and presented to some members of the BMB – Planning. DENR will address the gaps in mid-term</p> <p>Atty. Leones mentioned that the PSC can already endorsed the proposed Yeas 3 work plan of SIBOL</p>
5. Ways Forward	<p>Mr. Marlito Guidote, DCOP of the SIBOL project presented the issues and concerns and ways forward that were discussed and agreed during the meeting. This can be found in Annex C.</p>

ANNEX A: Updates from the SIBOL Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (ITWG)

1st ITWG Meeting

Participants

- USAID, SIBOL, FASPS, BMB, FMB, KISS, PAMOs, PSA, DOT, PCSD, BFAR, NCIP, PPRINCESA ENRO

Agenda

- Orientation of the SIBOL Project
- Presentation of Year 2 Work Plan
- Orientation on the DENR S.O No. 2021-664
- Schedule of next ITWG Meeting and Planning for the convening of the 1st PSC Meeting



1st ITWG Meeting

Agreements and Ways Forward

Agenda	Agreements and Ways Forward
Orientation of the SIBOL Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copy of the SIBOL Project Document including the Work Plan, and calendar of activities will be provided to NCIP.• Results from the five project sites will be replicated to other sites.• Strategies are being implemented to address the conflicting laws and harmonize various national and local policies.
Orientation on the DENR Special Order No. 2021-664 on the "Creation of the PSC, ITWG, NPCU, and RPMC for the SIBOL Project"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment of the Special Order for the proposed inclusion of NEDA, DILG, DOT Regional Offices, LGU, IP representatives, and academe in ITWG, PSC and RPMC.

1st ITWG Meeting

Agreements and Ways Forward

Agenda	Agreements and Ways Forward
Schedule of the next ITWG Meeting and Planning for the convening of the 1 st PSC meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st PSC meeting was agreed to be conducted on August 2022 2nd ITWG Meeting will be on July 12, 2022 RPMC meetings should be prior to the ITWG meeting to consider recommendations of RPMC Suggested to include the Office of USec for Field Operations and Environment in the PSC Matters related to the project can be discussed with the PAMB if there are challenges in convening the RPMC
Other Major Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the outputs and outcomes must be reflected in a strategic plan throughout the project to see and monitor year by year 5-year investment and indicative plan will be revisited and be made available as a public document. "Pause and Reflect" will be conducted every June to monitor status of implementation.

2nd ITWG Meeting

Participants

- USAID/SIBOL, BMB, FMB, FASPS, PPS, KISS, ELEPS, BFAR, PSA, NEDA, DOT, NCIP, PCSD, Puerto Princesa City ENRO, PASus (MOBPLS, PPSRNP, SIPLAS, MMPL)

Agenda

- Progress, accomplishments, challenges, and milestones of SIBOL for FY 2022
- Proposed work plan and immediate activities of SIBOL for FY 2023
- Finalize the agenda for the first PSC Meeting
- Next Steps



2nd ITWG Meeting

Agreements and Ways Forward

Agenda/Issues and Concerns	Agreements and Ways Forward
Review and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIBOL will provide indicative workplan/summary of modification after approval from USAID
Status of Matters raised in 1 st ITWG Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsement of project to LGU in Mt. Mantalingahan sent to LGU Inclusion of various agencies as members of the Committees and Working Groups is already endorsed Inclusion of NEDA has been recommended to organize SIBOL Project implementation at the regional level
SIBOL Project Progress and Annual Report for FY 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIBOL will adopt Training of Trainer's (ToT) approach in green assessment which includes coastal and marine assessment. SIBOL will provide seed money and clear guidelines in crafting NCA Valuation for adoption of DENR and to support the livelihood of IPs in Puerto Princesa Subterranean River NP. Assistance from SIBOL on revisiting SAPA guidelines and to improve policy on settlement of occupants in PAs and on institutionalization of PA Academy and development of modules

2 nd ITWG Meeting Agreements and Ways Forward	
Agenda	Agreements and Ways Forward
SIBOL Project Progress and Annual Report for FY 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot testing of HCV within PAs; BD Corridor can do this outside PAs BMB is targeting national policies that will concern HCV and other SIBOL initiatives SIBOL to focus on big-ticket BDFEs
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RPME Meeting to be scheduled on 4th week of September for Palawan and MOBPLS and September 27 for SIPLAS PSC Meeting to be held ideally after BMB Summit (October 12, 19,26) 3rd ITWG Meeting scheduled on December 5-9, 2022

ANNEX B: SIBOL Project's Objectives and its Components & Implementation Arrangement, Accomplishments and Proposed Workplan for Year 3



Sustainability Mechanism

1. **Enhanced policies with programs, processes, and practices** on PA governance, conservation, management, economic incentives, outcome-based implementation, M&E, enforcement, and reducing GHG emissions
2. **Strengthened institutions and organizations** (DENR, BFAR, LGUs, enforcement units, communities, CSOs) with sufficient **trained staff** at the local and national levels to analyze and formulate or enhance policies, craft responsive strategies, and implement conservation-linked development plans
3. **Science-based and upgraded tools and knowledge products** for capacity building, replication, and scaling up
4. **SIBOL emerging best practices, tools and knowledge products** incorporated in the Protected Area (PA) Academy and resource institutions such as partner academic and training institutions
5. **Improved and interoperable monitoring tools** with global monitoring systems
6. **SIBOL sites as learning areas** by other conservation areas



RESULT 1 GREEN ASSESSMENT

Pre-Odette



**Proposed Year 3 Work Plan
October 2022-September 2023**

RESULT 2- Years 1 and 2 SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR MANAGED

1. Completed **socio-economic assessment and monitoring systems (SEAMS)** and **fish catch monitoring and gear inventory (FCMGI)** in SIBOL sites
2. Ongoing **valuation of ecosystem services** using data from SEAMS and FCMGI surveys
3. Ongoing **development of natural capital accounts (NCAs)** for forestry, coral reefs, and fisheries with DENR and BFAR
4. Established **39 community-managed savings and credit associations** in MORPLS, CNOU, and PPSHNP
5. Started activities for **engaging the private sector and academic institutions**



Highlights of SIBOL's Year 3 Work Plan

1. **Broadening of national and local level activities** to include:
 - a) Access to and use of land, water, coastal and marine areas and other natural resources for communities and the private sector
 - b) Engaging the private sector in protected areas - PES, supply chains, ESG-sound investments, CSR
 - c) Behavior change campaigns for target communities and decision makers
 - d) GHG emission reduction combined with resilient planning and implementation
2. **Enhancing administrative policies** -conservation, GHG emission, climate change resiliency, natural resources management, enforcement, governance - based on double, replicable, science-based and partly-tested innovations in the sites
3. **Shifting mode of implementation to training of trainers (ToT)** to capacitate members of DENR, LGU, BFAR, PCSDS, INGOs
4. **Developing SIBOL-enhanced legacy (knowledge) products** as reference materials and manuals for government and private sector partners
5. **Continuing collaborative, preventive, and behavior change-focused enforcement capacity building with improved technologies** in SIBOL sites
6. Assistance in **setting up social and environmental safeguards** with appropriate policies in conservation areas

RESULT 3 – Years 1 and 2 ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES AND UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES REDUCED

1. **At least 235 individuals** trained in environmental laws and enforcement (forestry and fisheries)
2. **36 DENR staff** including wildlife enforcement officers trained on paralegal know-how and deputization requirements
3. Ongoing **upgrading of enforcement apps** (BRAIN-RESPONSE and Sumbong with DENR and development of FishSHIELD with BFAR)
4. Ongoing capacity building for **strengthening PA- and community-based enforcement systems** in SIBOL sites



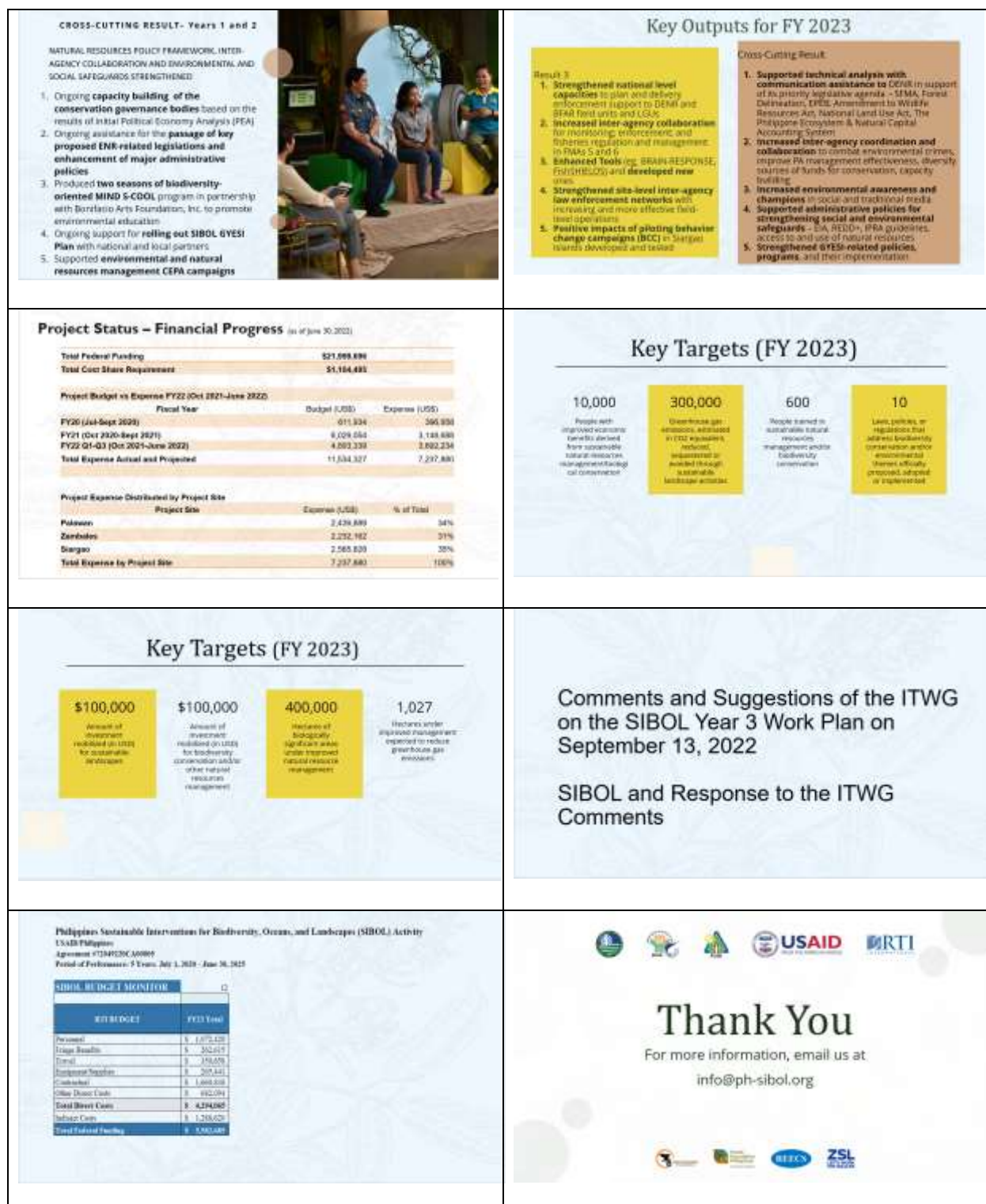
Key Outputs for FY 2023

Result 1

1. **NCMA-enhanced conservation policies** – PA zoning, planning, and monitoring systems; access to and use of natural resources; incentives for private sector engagements in conservation activities; community livelihoods and BOPCs; use of green assessment
2. **Updated Philippine Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan**
3. **Green assessment approach** replicated with trained DENR staff for resilient recovery and restoration actions
4. **Enhanced LARON modules** for M&E and enforcement
5. **Strengthened DENR National Forest Monitoring Systems**
6. **National Management Effectiveness Assessment (NMEA) report 2022**
7. **Blue carbon quantification protocols** started
8. **Supported DENR in preparing the National Forest Landscape Restoration and Updated CBPM Strategies**
9. **Tier 1 and Tier 2 approach** for reducing GHG emissions plotted in sub-national and SIBOL sites, respectively
10. **NCMA-enhanced PA plans** in SIBOL sites

Result 2

1. **Completed NCAs** for forestry, coral reef and fisheries with DENR and BFAR
2. **Signed national DENR NCA policy**
3. **Established site level ecosystems services accounts** – water processing, non-timber forest products, recreation, fisheries, timber
4. **Site level policies** on the use of ES accounts issued
5. **Increased private sector engagements** in protected areas
6. **Started linking RDPs and livelihoods** with supply chains
7. **Initiated activities** towards establishing markets for ecosystems services



Issues/Concerns	Ways Forward	Status/Updates	Agencies Responsible
Involvement of DENR-Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations in the Project	Inclusion of DENR-Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations in the DENR Special Order	Already included in the endorsed Amendments to DENR S.O No. 2021-664 for approval of the Secretary.	NPCU
Involvement of Department of Interior and Local Government in the Project	Improved capacity of the governance body to get the stakeholders together and align their programs Suggest having a national policy to strengthen involvement of LGU	SIBOL is actively coordinating/working with the concerned LGUs, FAMBs and FAMDC Inclusion of the Bureau of Local Government Development and Bureau of Local Government Supervision of the DILG to the SIBOL Project.	NPCU, SIBOL

Issues/Concerns	Ways Forward	Status/Updates	Agencies Responsible
Termination of available carbon captured by PAs as basis for valuation	SIBOL will pick-up from Forest US Service-FMB Project which is currently setting up baseline on National Reduction Emissions Program FMB suggest creation of tradeable credits to regain LUP efforts in protection activities and conduct baselining in the pilot areas Deno Leones: Value PA resources whether tradeable or not for decision-making purposes	FMB: DENR already have Carbon Accounting and Certification which can be applied in the PAs Commitment of the Project is to value/establish accounts on carbon sequestration in SIBOL sites.	SIBOL, DENR-FMB, identified LGUs
Key challenge is on the gathering of core data points that will enable streamlining of methodologies related to valuation of carbon	Agreed on the intervention of SIBOL in terms of the recovery/rehabilitation of Palawan. SIBOL is aligning with the NCA Roadmap, where DENR plays a critical role. SIBOL is prioritize establishing a masterlist of all information needs for NCA, and will try to map out which of these are existing, collected and monitored by whom, etc. DENR-relevant monitoring system will be enhanced (for those that are existing), and identified for those that are not existing.		

Issues/Concerns	Ways Forward	Status/Updates	Agencies Responsible
Rehabilitation of Palawan due to typhoon Odette	PCSD: Request assistance from SIBOL since Provincial Government of Palawan already created the Palawan Network for the rehabilitation of the area due to typhoon Odette		
SIBOL initiatives regarding ICCs/IPs	Conduct of social impact assessment as requirement and setting up of grievance mechanism in venue for IPs Recheck inventory of BDFEs involving IF communities	SIBOL is currently involving IPs and ICCs in decision making process and capacitating them with SOPEs	SIBOL, DENR
Assessment of PDSAP and corresponding gaps to identify possible assistance from SIBOL	Updating of Post-2020 CBD targets for biodiversity will serve as inputs on the updating of PDSAP	DENR: If the lead agency in updating of PDSAP SIBOL is already done with the analysis and presented it to GMR.	DENR, FMB

SIBOL Calendar for Nov-Dec 2022

Nov. 8 - Tentative DOJ MOU Signing

Nov. 14-18 - Green Assessment Level 1

Nov. 18 - Society of Filipino Foresters, Inc. (NCA)

Nov. 22-25 - HCVA-NCA Toolkit Writeshop

Nov. 28-30 - HCVA NCA Data Needs Validation Writeshop

*Dec. 3 - Tentative ITWG Meeting

