

LOGOs of JAO Signatory Agencies

JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 2023 - _____

SUBJECT: **Guidelines on Integrated Ecosystems Management (IEM) Approach for The Sound, Resilient, And Sustainable Governance, Planning, And Management of Lands, Water, Coastal and Marine Areas, And Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) In Priority Landscape-Seascapes**

Pursuant with the mandates of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under Executive Order No. 192 series of 1987, the Department of Agriculture (DA) under the RA No. 8435 in 1997, Department of Agrarian Reform under the RA No. 6657 in 1988, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the Executive Order No. 2612 in 1987 in 1990, local governments under RA No 7160 in 1991, the National Commission for Indigenous People (NCIP) under RA 8371 in 1997, and Climate Change Commission (CCC) under RA No 9729 in 2009, and the need to anchor and sustain the Philippine socio-economic development based on sound governance, resilient and complementary strategies, and coordinated inter-sectoral management of agricultural lands, forestlands, national parks, fisheries, mineral areas, coastal and marine areas, and the ancestral domains in the said areas, , the following guidelines are hereby jointly issued for the adoption of the Integrated Ecosystems Management (IEM) framework to align and integrate policies, programs, and implementation activities in priority landscape-seascapes in the country

Section 1. Basic Policy. It is the policy of the State to ensure effective governance in conserving, restoring, utilizing, developing, and managing the country’s agricultural lands, forests, mineral, , water, coastal and marine resources, off-shore areas and other natural resources; the protection and enhancement of the quality of the environment to anchor resilient socio-economic programs; and the sustainable and equitable access of the natural resources including access to and benefits from the ecosystems services for the present but for future generations as well. Further, the IEM policy is adopted to improve the resilience of landscape-seascapes, ecosystems and communities therein, the ecosystems’ inherent natural capacities to supply ecosystems goods and services that sustain the Philippine economy, and delivery systems of institutions and markets against the negative impacts of climate-related and human-induced disasters.

Sec. 2. Rationale. The IEM strategic framework provides a road map and an inclusive lens for inter-sectoral, inter-agency, and landscape-seascape-specific planning and implementation of integrated activities in managing biodiversity, various ecosystems, ecosystems services, natural resources, communities and their economic activities, social and infrastructure support systems across the landscape-seascapes such as river basins, watersheds, islands, biodiversity corridors, large areas covered by tenure and ancestral domain holders, NIPAS and non-NIPAS conservation areas, jurisdictional area of DENR field units, and local government units.

The framework lays down the processes for establishing national and local institutional arrangements and processes for landscape-seascape identification and prioritization, coordination, collaboration and complementation on integrated planning, policy development, co-financing, co-implementation, and carrying out joint M&E activities in a landscape-seascapes.

Adopting the IEM framework in landscape-seascapes will contribute towards the country’s goals of achieving on sound governance, balanced conservation and development, resilient ecosystems

including their capacities to provide ecosystems services equitable and inclusive socio-economic growth, reduced rural-urban poverty, increased private sector participation, preservation of indigenous socio-cultural values.

The framework promotes processes by which stakeholders in landscape-seascapes can jointly protect, conserve and manage priority landscape-seascapes to sustain and/or enhance the supply of ecosystems services that provide collective and individual benefits. When the IEM framework is applied in specific landscape-seascape, it serve as a guide for improving resilience, harmonizing policies and programs to attain sustainable management of the uses of land, water, coastal and marine areas, and other natural resources; strengthening regulations on environmental, social, and governance safeguards; prioritizing development investments and initiatives based on the landscape-seascape's comparative advantages; and positioning incentives for increased inclusive production and marketing of competitive goods and services along higher value chains of enterprises and livelihoods

Sec. 3. Objectives. This Order shall have the following objectives:

1. Guide policy development, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs, activities and projects to ensure sound conservation and regulatory actions on land, water, and natural resource uses; enhance resiliency of ecosystems including their provision of ecosystems goods and services; direct support to communities, and development of their livelihoods and enterprises;
2. Facilitate the development of integrated programs of various agencies, sectors and jurisdictional units in the management of land, water, coastal and marine resources, ancestral domains, and other natural resources;
3. Outline the general procedures in formulating and implementing IEM frameworks and implementation plans in landscape-seascapes;
4. Help identify, determine, and direct opportunities for public-private-community partnerships and areas for increased private sector participation.
5. Promote partnership with LGUs, communities, private sector and other stakeholders in landscape-seascapes

Sec. 4. Scope and Coverage. This Order shall cover all priority landscape-seascapes for planning and implementing the IEM framework. Landscape-seascapes or sub-landscape-seascape may be bio-physically or legally defined with delineated boundaries. They may include any of the following. DENR and DA will lead the participatory process of organizing, coordinating, and carrying out the identification, assessment, prioritizing and programming activities in landscape-seascapes.

1. A river basin, sub-river basin or large watershed, the topographic divides of which, can be determined on the ground and may include the total area from ridge to reef, ridge to lake, or ridge to wetlands;
2. A sub-watershed, cluster of sub-watersheds, or portion of sub-watershed based on topographic divides such as the upper portion of a watershed or sub-watershed that support major multi-purpose dams for energy generation, irrigation, tourism, domestic/commercial/industrial water, fisheries conservation and production, and other uses;
3. A total area of a delineated biodiversity corridor or clusters within the corridor or an identified area within a KBA where concentrations and distribution of vulnerable, irreplaceable trigger species are found or reside e.g., wetland habitats;
4. A protected area under the NIPAS or a watershed reservation (based on the technical descriptions of the issuance or legislation);
5. An ancestral domain with unique socio-ethno-ecosystem characteristics that have evolved over time with the communities. If ancestral domains are found or located in other landscape-seascape, these areas are part of those sies
6. An island or group of islands ecosystem with similar and unique biogeographic conditions and processes;

7. A cluster of political units that may be enjoy the benefit of major ecosystem services such as the LGUs within a sub-basin or watershed, located in the clusters in biodiversity corridors, or islands including municipal waters.
8. Government reservations for academic purposes, research, energy generation, military purposes, among others
9. Mineral reservation; and
10. Other areas of large ecosystems as maybe identified for management.

Sec. 5. Definition of Terms. As used in this Order, the following terms shall be defined as:

1. **Comparative advantage** – the landscape-seascape ecosystem’s edge due to its natural assets, distinct socio-economic characteristics, geographic location, highly diverse ecological features, unique historical landmarks, track record in governance, proven capacities of institutions and what communities do best with ecosystem’s goods and services.
2. **Competitive advantage** – the landscape-seascape advantages in producing or providing marketable goods and services that are supported or emanate from ecosystem’s goods and services. These advantages maybe the result of the landscape-seascape’s comparative advantages such as those goods and services that rely on specific geographic location, abundant, stable and high-quality supply; low cost per unit in production, processing, distribution and marketing; and unique labeling based on geographic origin and differentiation.
3. **Ecosystem** - a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities (living organisms) and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit in a certain physical environment.
4. **IEM Governance Body** – an oversight body, the composition and representation of which is determined by the key stakeholders in the landscape-seascape, jurisdictional coverage of national government agencies with respect to balancing conservation and development land, water, coastal and marine areas, and other natural resources.
5. **IEM Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan** –

The **framework** provides a landscape-seascape level brief description of the area, science and spatial-based spatial analysis of existing situation that cover the following:

- a. Land classification categories within the landscape-seascapes
- b. Policy-designated land uses especially those that pertain to protection and conservation, production, settlement and built up, tourism sites, and hazard areas
- c. the ENR and biodiversity assets, ecosystems, and the ecosystems services they provide;
- d. Relevant national and local policies for effective governance and management;
- e. Demography including the major stakeholders (LGUs, communities and their livelihoods, enterprises, businesses, and urban area) especially institutions with legal and jurisdictional responsibilities,
- f. Local climate change based on PAGASA records, local documents and studies, trends and patterns over time.
- g. Threats, issues, and problems that are related to environment, supply of key ecosystems goods and services, socio-economic conditions, climate change impacts, and local capacities,
- h. Comparative advantages and existing and potential competitive goods and services
- i. the expressed stakeholder’s vision, mission and objectives;
- j. Core zones (protection and conservation, production, tourism, settlements and built up, and hazard zones) with recommended strategic approaches for managing and

- balancing utilization, development, protection and conservation, and restoration to ensure sustainability, enhanced productivity, and resiliency of the landscape-seascapes.
- k. Key indicators and parameters to be measured and assessed to determine ENR improvements in the landscape-seascapes.

The **Implementation Plan** simply provides an IEM framework-consistent and aligned and proposed annual programs and activities in a landscape-seascape of each concerned national agencies, local government units, and private sector with SMART objectives, outputs; implementation arrangement including coordination, collaboration and complementation arrangement and functioning of the governance body; sources and uses of funds; and M&E and learning activities for adaptive management.

6. **Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)** – sites of global significance for biodiversity conservation. They are identified using globally standard criteria and thresholds, based on the needs of biodiversity requiring safeguards and the site scale. These criteria are based on the framework of vulnerability and irreplaceability widely used in systematic conservation planning.
7. **Mineral Reservations** – areas established and proclaimed as such including all submerged lands within the contiguous zone and Exclusive Economic Zone.
8. **Policy-designated areas for protection and conservation or non-negotiable zones** - refer to policy-designated land, water, and resource allocations whose intended uses and purposes cannot be compromised or modified as enumerated in Section 6.2 hereof. The non-negotiables are determined and approved by the IEM Governance Body and could be based on existing national and local policies (statutory and customary), threats, resiliency issues, and the need for strong environmental and social safeguards. Land, water, and resource uses in the NN are highly regulated and areas are adequately protected to ensure the sustainability. Conservation is the dominant objective in managing and developing these areas.
9. **Political Unit** – a province, city, municipality or barangay that has administrative jurisdiction over ecosystems or part/s thereof which may include different types of ecosystems.
10. **Resource Management Unit (RMU)** – a delineated land, water bodies, ancestral lands, and/or identified natural resources that are under the management, protection, conservation and development of lawfully designated or culturally-recognized individual, community, private organization and government instrumentalities within an ecosystem. Examples are: tenure and domain holders, reservation holders, private land owners, holders of special land use permits, etc.
11. **Value chain** – a sequence of activities to improve and add product values from the production, processing and marketing of competitive goods and services in an ecosystem. In this policy, the concept of value chain may be also used for assessing the improvement of land cover over time such as from annual crops to agroforestry or tree farm, grasslands/brushlands to open or closed canopy natural or plantation forests as a result of protection, restoration, development, management, enforcement, and regulatory activities. Value chain needs policy and clear guidelines and standards and assistance for linking value chain-related ENR enterprises or production systems with various sources of business services including extension, training, financing, infrastructure, and others.
12. **Watershed** – a land area drained by a stream or fixed body of water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface run-off. It is an area of land within which all surface waters flow to a single point.

**Sec. 6. Components of Landscape-Seascape- IEM Strategic Framework
Development and IEM Implementation Plan**

6.1. Creation of Inter-Agency IEM Governance Bodies and Technical Working Groups (TWGs)

6.1.1 National Level

At the national level, each signatory to this joint administrative order shall designate the head of their Policy and Planning Services or equivalent office to lead in coordinating, planning, programming, and providing technical guidance for the IEM framework mobilization, planning and implementation with the strong participation of their respective field units and concerned local government units. After joint adoption of the IEM framework, the agency heads of the signatories shall designate senior officials as members of the National IEM Advisory Body, preferably the Office Director or Head of their respective policy and planning services unit. The DENR Undersecretary for Policy and Planning with the DA Undersecretary for Policy and Planning as co-chair shall lead the National Inter-Agency IEM Advisory Body. Initial and bi-annual meetings will cover updates and orientation on policy development, coordination, areas for complementation and cooperation, co-financing, and updates and progress of implementation activities. Each signatory agency will be responsible in providing instructions and guidance to their respective field units.

The members of the National IEM Governance Body are heads or senior designee of the following agencies:

- 1) DENR – Policy and Planning Service, BMB, FMB, LMB, MGB, ERDB, EMB, FASPS
- 2) DA – Policy and Planning, Climate Change Office, BFAR, BPI, National Convergence Initiative (NCI)
- 3) DAR – Policy and Planning, ARC Offices?
- 4) DILG – Policy and Planning, Bureau Head of Local Government support programs?
- 5) NCIP – Policy and Planning, Operations
- 6) CCC – Policy and Planning
- 7) In regions where IEM planning and implementation has started, the Chair and or Vice-Chair of the Regional IEM Governance Bodies
- 8) Other Offices – NDRRMO, LMP, LCP, LPP, ULAP

The National IEM Governance Body shall have the following tasks and responsibilities:

- 1) Create a National IEM Technical Working Group (National IEM Body-TWG) to be the Secretariat of the National IEM Governance Body. Designated members including alternate designees) of the TWG will be officially assigned as permanent members through the respective issuances of SOs from the signatory agencies. The concerned heads of the DENR and DA Policy and Planning Service Offices will act as the Chair and Co-Chair of the National IEM Body-TWG.
- 2) The National IEM Governance Body-TWG shall have the following tasks and responsibilities:
 - a) Draft and endorse a Special Order for the Creation of the Inter-Agency Regional IEM Governance Body for the approval and joint issuance of the signatories of this JAO. This will roll out IEM implementation in each of the regions.
 - b) Based on criteria, review and prioritize, and endorse IEM sites for the approval of the National IEM Governance Body for annual programming, planning, and implementation activities.
 - c) Provide national guidance and direction on IEM development, planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation activities

- d) Facilitate resolution of sectoral and inter-agency differences in policies and strategies at the national and regional levels;
- e) If needed, draft clarificatory guidelines in the course of IEM policy implementation for the consideration of the National IEM Governance Body;
- f) Ensure that agencies, bureaus, attached agencies, offices/units provide technical support and other assistance to their field units as they work with the local stakeholders on IEM framework development, planning and implementation.
- g) As needed, draft and facilitate issuance of Agency Special Orders (SOs) designating key focal persons for the IEM planning and implementation.
- h) Review and endorse approval of the landscape-seascape IEM framework to the National IEM Governance Body based on the endorsements of the Regional IEM Governance Body for site level IEM work and financial planning and implementation (IEM site level Implementation Plan).
- i) Prepare updates, minutes, and agenda for the bi-annual meetings of the National IEM Governance Body.

6.1.2 Inter-Agency Regional Coordination for IEM Planning and Implementation

- 1) With guidance from the Chair and Vice-Chair of the National IEM Governance Body, the Regional IEM Governance Body which will be chaired by the DENR Regional Executive Director (RED) with the DA Regional Director as Co-Chair shall organize the first and succeeding periodic meetings to roll out the coordinated planning and implementation of the IEM framework in different regions. The major tasks and responsibilities of the Regional IEM Governance Bodies are the following:
 - a) Create the Regional IEM TWG to be the Technical Secretariat of Regional IEM Governance Body with members from the field units of the signatories of the JAO, LGUs within the selected landscape-seascapes. The head of the technical offices of DA and DENR field offices will chair and co-chair the Regional IEM TWG.
 - b) Review and endorse the Regional IEM TWG recommendations of priority landscape-seascapes to the National IEM Governance Body for approval.
 - c) Organize regular meetings to review status and progress of IEM implementation in their respective regions
 - d) Provide oversight, coordination and facilitate complementation, cooperation, and co-financing in the planning and implementation of IEM activities
 - e) As needed approve regional guidelines for IEM planning and implementation
 - f) Identify opportunities to promote public-private partnerships and increased support for communities
 - g) Provide guidance for resolving IEM-related conflicts and issues in the landscape-seascapes especially those that concern uses of land, water, environment, natural resources, regulatory compliance, and climate-related disasters.
 - h) Recommend enhancements for improving the national policies and guidelines for IEM framework development and implementation.
 - i) Provide guidance to the Regional IEM TWG in planning and carrying out yearly assessments, reflections, and packaging annual reports.
- 2) The Regional IEM TWG shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a) Identify, assess, prioritize potential landscape-seascapes in the region for IEM planning and implementation based on the following criteria:
 - Relative local, regional and national biophysical and economic importance of the landscape-seascapes in providing major direct and indirect ecosystems goods and services to upstream and downstream communities, industries, agriculture and fisheries, and urban centers;

- Urgency to reduce threats to ENR assets, biodiversity, critical habitats, endangered species and the supply of ecosystems services
 - Degree of vulnerability to landslides, flashfloods and other natural disasters using available watershed characterization studies, geohazard maps, disaster risk reduction and management plans, threat analysis and vulnerability studies of ecosystems and communities;
 - Urgency for improved environmental governance as expressed or reported by local stakeholders, tenure and domain holders and communities; and
 - Willingness of local governments and private sectors to enter into joint IEM planning and implementation and long-term collaborative and co-financing arrangements for carrying out IEM implementation activities.
- b) After assessment, recommend priority landscapes-seascapes for the review and endorsement of the Regional IEM Governance Body to the National IEM Governance Body.
- c) After approval of the selected landscapes-seascapes by the National IEM Governance Body, organize and coordinate preparation of IEM framework by assigning RTWG members with SO-designated technical staff.
- d) -Organize and conduct communication and social marketing campaigns related to IEM planning and implementation activities.
- e) Implement guidelines for resolving conflicts, harmonize overlaps in functions and initiate agreements for collaborative IEM framework development, planning and implementation with governance bodies, LGUs, private sector, civil society groups, and other stakeholders; and
- f) Ensure coordination with all concerned entities in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations
- g) Review and endorse to the Regional IEM Governance Body the issuance relevant regional orders to guide the IEM planning and implementation.
- h) Provide technical assistance, support, and guidance in the implementation of the IEM Implementation Annual Plans by various agencies by helping them incorporate the IEM zones in the LGU CLUPs, tenure and domain holders, to align and prioritize ongoing programs, safeguards, and other IEM-related plans
- i) Coordinate landscape-seascape-wide conduct of periodic results-based monitoring and evaluation (RBME) with focus on the conditions and improvements of the priority ecosystems/sub-ecosystems;
- j) Advise the LGUs in preparing and adopting relevant ENR policy ordinances and investment plans in support of the IEM plans and their implementation within their political jurisdictions;
- k) Assist in leveraging funding, co-financing, and private sector investments in the landscape-seascapes consistent with the IEM framework and implementation plans.
- 3) Steps in Preparing the IEM Framework for Selected Seascape-Landscape. Organize landscape-seascape-specific TWGs to carry out the following tasks:

The suggested steps in the preparation of the site-level IEM framework will cover four major components with final derived maps based on spatial analysis:

- Analysis of existing situation that will include biophysical assets (biodiversity, ecosystems goods and services, natural resources such as land, water, minerals, coastal and marine resources, mangroves, etc.), climate trends and patterns including hazard susceptibility and/or vulnerability to erratic weather conditions and degradation of the environment, demography, national and local policies that are affecting or impacting land, water, and resource uses in the landscape-seascape, emerging threats/issues/challenges that continue to endanger the

- balance between conservation and land and ENR uses, comparative advantages, and opportunities for carrying out IEM-focused strategies.
- Facilitating stakeholders' vision, mission, and objectives (VMOs), and targets to include agreements on the configuration of major land, water, and resource uses that will balance conservation and use of land, water, natural resources and other ecosystem services including minerals, forest products, recreation, wildlife, and water.
 - Generating and developing consensus of effective and efficient strategies (technical, financial, cross cutting, institutional arrangements, M&E, etc.) that will achieve or contribute towards the achievements of the VMOs
 - Identifying key performance indicators that will be periodically determined or measured to assess improvements and impacts of public and private investments in the selected landscape-seascape.
- a) Gather and review available secondary data, plans, maps and other information for spatial analysis and assessment- digital maps on land cover, land classification, land and water uses in public lands, A&D, and coastal and marine/coastal areas; LGU political boundaries (provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays), tenure and ancestral domain holders (areas, maps, tenure/domain plans), population by municipality and-barangay, watersheds, infrastructure (energy, communication, access, sanitation facilities, irrigation systems, ports, etc.), social services, economic activities (agriculture, forestry, trade and commerce, tourism, industries), current land uses, current land cover, local climate data, national and local policies that are affecting land and resource uses, local governance, among others.
 - b) Analyze and determine the current situation in the landscape-seascape enhanced by science-based and spatial analysis of data gathered. Analysis will cover, biophysical features and assets, national and local policies (statutory and customary), land uses and land cover, hazard susceptibility and vulnerability including exposure, coping capacity, and risk, comparative advantages, and opportunities. Identify the major threats and challenges in the landscape-seascape especially those related to land use, land cover, productivity, susceptibility to climate hazards, ENR, ecosystems and the ecosystems services they provide; and on the governance, management, regulation, and violation of environmental laws.
 - c) Carrying out spatial overlays to determine the policy-designated land uses especially those areas covered or designated by policies for protection and production zones in the landscape-seascapes covering forestlands, agricultural areas, protected areas, marine and coastal waters, and alienable and disposable areas by political unit, tenure and domain holders and other resource management units. The major zones are:

The **protection and conservation zone** that will include the areas that could be categorized as non-negotiable areas for other land uses specified in the following:

 - NIPAS-Protected Areas are identified portions of land and water set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation. These areas include all the initial components that are covered by Republic Act No. 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992 (NIPAS).
 - Non-NIPAS protection forests and forestlands which include the following:
 - all forest lands that are greater than 50% slope, greater than 1000 meters above sea level, with or without forest cover, and mangroves;
 - areas designated as head waters of watersheds and critical habitats;
 - all areas with closed and open natural forests in non-NIPAS areas, Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) and tenured areas

- 445 considered to be protection forest in the approved resource management
 446 plans;
- 447 ■ conservation areas in non-NIPAS areas which may be located in key
 448 biodiversity areas, and those that are managed by local communities and
 449 Indigenous Peoples (IPs) or under other governance regimes;
 - 450 ■ critical habitats under the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection
 451 Act (RA 9147); and
 - 452 ■ ordinance supported local watersheds and natural attractions and devolved
 453 to LGUs under Local Government Code of 1991 and Joint DENR-DILG
 454 Memorandum Circular No. 2003-01 (Strengthening and Institutionalizing
 455 the DENR-DILG-LGU Partnership on Devolved and Other Forest
 456 Management Functions).
- 457
- 458 ○ High hazard areas zones from analyses of geo-hazard data, sub-watersheds,
 459 downstream impacts, landslides and floods, vulnerability to other natural
 460 disasters such as earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruptions, weather extremes,
 461 and others.
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- 463 **The production zone** includes all areas outside the protection and conservation
 464 zone that are devoted to forest production, agricultural activities (crop, plantations,
 465 livestock and fisheries), community livelihoods, multiple-use zones (with certain
 466 restrictions and limitations), settlements, institutional and commercial land uses,
 467 infrastructure areas, and other urban type of land and water uses. The production
 468 areas include the prime agricultural lands such as irrigated rice lands that are being
 469 serviced by publicly-financed national and communal irrigation facilities based on
 470 Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Act (AFMA) Law.
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- 472 d) Carrying out integrated analysis as basis for recommendations and/or information on the
 473 following:
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- 475 ○ Priority ENR assets, ecosystems and ecosystems services in the landscape-
 476 seascape based on any or all of following
- 477 ■ within identified key biodiversity area;
 - 478 ■ presence of critical habitats of keystone species;
 - 479 ■ highly threatened ecosystems and sub-ecosystems (of forests, inland water
 480 and wetlands, and coastal and marine areas);
 - 481 ■ watersheds that supply water for various purposes including agriculture,
 482 domestic, commercial, industrial, recreational, and energy use;
 - 483 ■ Ecosystems and areas of ENR that supply/provide major ecosystem services
 484 that support community resilience, livelihoods and enterprise such as those
 485 related to recreation and ecotourism, NTFP, and others
 - 486 ■ high susceptibility to impact of climate-related and human-induced disasters
 487 especially to urban communities, major infrastructure, major agriculture and
 488 fisheries production areas, industries, and others.
 - 489 ■ Capacities and willingness of local stakeholders to put in place effective
 490 governance and management systems including functional governance
 491 bodies.
- 492 e) Recommended landscape-seascape-wide protection and conservation and production zones
 493 and the list of allowed/disallowed land, water, and resource uses under each. This will be
 494 first generated spatially, then validated with local stakeholders in the landscape-seascape.
- 495 f) Determination of comparative advantages that are or could support the production of
 496 competitive goods and services for the markets.
- 497 g) Determining major issues, threats, and challenges that the IEM approach will address in the
 498 short, medium, and long term.
- 499 h) Formulating the site level IEM Framework and submit to the Regional IEM TWG for its
 500 review, adoption, and endorsement to the National IEM Governance Body.
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- 503 i) After approval of the IEM framework, the Regional IEM TWG will organize orientation,
- 504 communication, dissemination, and social marketing campaigns, followed by the
- 505 preparation of the IEM Strategic Framework-consistent Implementation Plan for Approval
- 506 and Funding Commitments from signatory agencies of the JAO, concerned LGUs, private
- 507 sector, and other partners.
- 508 j) Based on the approved IEM framework, the Regional IEM TWG s shall enjoin and assist
- 509 the LGUs to incorporate the approved IEM-consistent zones in their CLUPs as basis of
- 510 their Comprehensive Development Plans (CDPs) and Annual Investment Plans (AIPs).
- 511 This will enable the LGUs to institutionally fund IEM-consistent activities in their
- 512 respective political jurisdictions.
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514 **6.3 IEM Implementation Annual Work Plan**

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516 After the approval of the site-level IEM framework, the Regional IEM Governance Body with

517 the Regional TWG will organize the preparation, review and endorsement of the landscape-

518 seascape IEM Implementation Plan. The Regional IEM Governance Body will review and

519 approve the plan implementation. The approved Annual IEM implementation plan will be the

520 basis of the annual programming of the JAO signatories on annual basis.¹.

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522 **The IEM Implementation Annual Work Plan** will cover specific technical, institutional,

523 cross-cutting (capacity building, communication/social marketing, M&E, enforcement, etc.),

524 financing (public, private, internally-generated sources, community counterparts), research, and

525 coordination activities. These activities will be reviewed, evaluated and approve based on their

526 consistency and contribution towards the VMOs and targets of approved IEM Framework.

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528 **Sec. 7. Financing the IEM Planning and Implementation**

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- 530 1. Each signatory agency of the JAO and their respective Policy and Planning Offices and the
- 531 their Financial and Management Service shall ensure that funds shall be programmed and
- 532 allocated for the planning and implementation of the IEM activities.
- 533 2. The funding commitments of the LGUs in the landscape-specific are shown in their adoption
- 534 of the IEM framework as members of the Regional IEM Governance Bodies and will be
- 535 included in their Annual Investment Plans (AIPs).
- 536 3. The JAO signatory agencies will facilitate that current and future donor-funded projects will
- 537 be aligned and support the implementation of the approved IEM framework.
- 538 4. The JAO signatory agency field units shall work with LGUs in preparing the documents that
- 539 are required for their annual allocation of counterpart funds in support of the IEM framework
- 540 and implementation plans. They will also facilitate co-financing agreements with the private
- 541 sector, NGOs and other partners based on the IEM framework and implementation plan.
- 542 5. The Regional IEM Governance Bodies may explore local arrangements for co-financing
- 543 agreements for the implementation of approved IEM framework-activities with LGUs,
- 544 NGOs, donors, and the private sector.
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546 **Sec. 8. Transitory Provisions**

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- 548 1. Within six months from the effectivity of this Order, the JAO agencies respective Human
- 549 Resource Development Service (HRDS) in close collaboration with the bureaus and regional
- 550 HRDs, shall develop a long-term plan and strategy for IEM institutional capacity building.
- 551 Each JAO signatory agency shall facilitate the creation of trainers group and the development
- 552 of training designs and manuals.

¹ Guides for the IEM framework development and Implementation plans will be provided by DENR PPS to the JAO Regional or Field Offices. Programs for existing landscape-seascape planning guidelines in watersheds, PAs, biodiversity corridor, islands, etc. may be aligned and used provided that the priority ecosystems/sub-ecosystems are identified, mapped, and spatially-determined and included in the IEM framework.

2. Each region will select one landscape-seascape for planning and implementing IEM pilot activities where all the key components are planned and carried out using current budget.
3. Within one year upon approval of this Order, all the regions must complete all the necessary IEM-assessment activities with relevant thematic and derived maps for the recommended priority sites following approved standards.
4. All JAO signatory ongoing programs and projects such as the DENR USAID-funded SIBOL and the UNDP-BMB Biodiversity Corridor Project whenever feasible, shall support and transition towards the IEM approach either through piloting activities in their respective sites and/or other sites. Renewal or extensions of such programs and projects shall be reconfigured to adopt the IEM strategy.

Sec. 9. Separability Clause. If any clause, sentence or provision of this Circular shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts shall not be affected thereof.

Sec. 10. Repealing Clause. This Order repeals, supersedes and/or amends all other orders, circulars, memoranda inconsistent herewith.

Sec. 11. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon acknowledgment of receipt of a copy thereof by the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).

Signatories

DENR Secretary
DA Secretary
DAR Secretary
NCIP Commissioner
DILG Secretary
CCC Commissioner

Witnesses?