



## MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Directors  
DENR Regions 1-13 and CAR except NCR

FROM : The OIC – Assistant Secretary for Field Operations – Western Mindanao  
and Director, in concurrent capacity

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, ADDITIONAL INPUTS AND  
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE PROPOSED  
DRAFT DENR MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR RE: GUIDELINES  
ON BENCHMARKING AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF CBFM  
PROJECTS**

DATE : **MAY 25 2023**

Executive Order No. 263 provides for Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) as the national Strategy to ensure the Sustainable Development of the country's forestland resources. In response to this Order, there are 1,970 Community-Based Forest Management Agreements (CBFMAs) issued from CY 1996 to CY 2022.

The CBFMA holders are priority recipients or participants of various projects like the CBFM-CARP, NGP among others to help them improve their socio-economic condition and enhance environmental stability. To determine if the CBFM POs are making progress and to know if the support (project interventions) being provided are leading to achieving the goals of CBFM, Socio-economic and Environmental Benchmarking and Impact Assessment need to be conducted.

The Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) in collaboration with the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) has developed the Field Guide on the Conduct of Benchmarking and Impact Assessment initially for CBFM-CARP projects which was the FMB Technical Bulletin No. 9. The guide is being used to determine the Socio-Economic and Environmental Baseline and Impacts of CBFM-CARP Projects implemented from 2007 located across all regions. There are significant gaps identified from the results of using the Field Guide. Initial suggestions and additional inputs from the Assisting Professional who consolidated the Regional impact assessment reports in 2016 - 2019 were already considered in the draft guidelines.

To comply with the directive to convert FMB Technical Bulletin to relevant policies and guidelines and to further enhance the proposed draft guidelines on Benchmarking and Impact Assessment for all CBFM projects on Socio-Economic and Environmental aspect and even those Climate Change related datasets, may we solicit your additional comments, inputs and suggestions on or before 14 June 2023. You may provide the advance copy of your inputs to this email at [frmd.cfs@fmb.denr.gov.ph](mailto:frmd.cfs@fmb.denr.gov.ph) copy furnished [icustodio@fmb.denr.gov.ph](mailto:icustodio@fmb.denr.gov.ph).

You may access the e-file of the proposed Guidelines and its annexes at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/BenchmarkingGuidelines>

FOR CONSIDERATION, PLEASE.

  
ARLEIGH J. ADORABLE, CESO III

Cc: Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs