



NOV 24 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
All DENR Regions

FROM : The Assistant Secretary for International Affairs
and concurrent OIC Director

SUBJECT : **DENR-LGU MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TEMPLATE
FOR URBAN BIODIVERSITY**

In furtherance of the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) and Philippine Development Plan (PDP), the Bureau encourages DENR Regional Offices to collaborate and enter into partnership agreement with Local Government Units (LGUs) of urban areas to facilitate collective efforts and to strengthen the implementation of Urban Biodiversity Program.

To standardize the provisions of the DENR-LGU Memorandum of Agreement for the implementation of Urban Biodiversity Program, the DENR Regional Offices are advised to adopt the attached MOA template.

For information and consideration.


MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO II



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



BMB202305894



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) is entered into this ___ day of ____ 20__ by and between:

The **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES – (REGIONAL OFFICE)**, a government office duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Philippines, with office located at _____ herein represented by **Regional Executive Director (Name)**, and herein referred to as “**DENR--**____” ,

- and -

The **LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OF** _____, a local government office duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Philippines, with office located at _____, herein represented by its City Mayor, **Hon. (Name)**, and herein referred to as “**LGU**____” ,

The DENR-(Region)____, and LGU____ are hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Parties”

WITNESSETH, THAT:

WHEREAS, the DENR-(Region) is responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of environment and natural resources within (state the region) as well as the sustainable management of biodiversity by mainstreaming biodiversity across all sectors of government and society thru effective area-based conservation measures;

WHEREAS, to accomplish its mandate, the DENR-(Region) endeavors to build partnerships with other government agencies, civil society organizations, academe, local communities and other stakeholders to promote collective efforts in biodiversity conservation and its management;

WHEREAS, the LGU-, by virtue of Section 7 of Republic Act No. 7160 or The Local Government Code of the Philippines, is mandated to share with the national government the responsibility in the sustainable management and development of the environment and natural resources within its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) recognizes that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity play a critical role in urban development;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (PBSAP) identified Urban Biodiversity as one of its thematic areas hence the need to support effective urban conservation strategies in order to address biodiversity concerns in and around urban areas;

WHEREAS, the DENR-(Region) and LGU- are committed to conserve, protect and sustainably manage biodiversity, create understanding and awareness of the importance of biodiversity and green spaces in pursuit of the PBSAP and PDP;

WHEREAS, the DENR-(Region) and LGU- are willing to collaborate to establish and implement the **(name of city)** City Urban Biodiversity Program towards biodiversity-inclusive urban planning and enhance and effectively manage the City's green spaces in order to regain ecosystem services, enhance climate resiliency, and bring people closer to nature to improve their well-being;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the above premises, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Establishment of Urban Biodiversity Program

The Parties to this Agreement agree to establish the Urban Biodiversity Program (UBP) for the City of _____ and collaborate for its implementation. The UBP aims to integrate urban biodiversity in the local policy and planning process and promote biodiversity-friendly urban development plans and designs to effectively managed green spaces for enhanced biodiversity and human well-being, with the following components:

- 1.1. Establishment of Urban Green Spaces. Steps include:
 - 1.1.1. Inventory, mapping and geo-tagging of existing green spaces and potential public open spaces for urban greening
 - 1.1.2. Profiling and assessment
 - 1.1.3. Determination of City Biodiversity Index
- 1.2. Formulation, adoption, and implementation of Urban Biodiversity Management Plan (UBMP)
- 1.3. Capacity Building
- 1.4. Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)
- 1.5. Monitoring

Section 2: Areas of Collaboration

The Parties to this Agreement agree to collaborate and combine resources and efforts for the implementation of the following:

- 2.1. Allocate budget, subject to the availability of funds for the implementation of programs, projects, and activities related to the conservation and management of green spaces for the enhancement of urban biodiversity;
- 2.2. Develop and maintain knowledge and information management system for the City's urban biodiversity to serve as repository and information exchange portal;
- 2.3. Periodically monitor and evaluate the progress of the implementation of Urban Biodiversity Program;
- 2.4. Meet regularly to discuss issues or matters concerning the Program to continuously develop ideas consistent with the objectives of this MOA;

Section 3: Creation of Urban Biodiversity Composite Team. In order to provide for a coordinated, efficient, and effective implementation of the UBP, an Urban Biodiversity Composite Team shall be created with the following composition:

For LGU, it is recommended to involve City Planning, Environment, Parks, and other concerned departments

For DENR, composition should be from CDD, PENRO, CENRO

Designate chairperson, co-chairperson, and members. It is recommended that the City Env't Department be the Secretariat

Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities of the Parties. The Urban Biodiversity Composite Team, shall have the following duties, functions and responsibilities:

3.1. The DENR-(Region) shall:

- 3.1.1. Provide technical/advisory support for the implementation of the urban biodiversity program;
- 3.1.2. Capacitate the LGU in the conduct of biodiversity assessment;
- 3.1.3. Provide the policy direction in the implementation of Urban Biodiversity Program;
- 3.1.4. Monitor and evaluate implementation of the UBMP;
- 3.1.5. Assist the LGU in determining their City Biodiversity Index and drafting and finalization of Biodiversity Management Plan through reorientation or series of workshops/ meetings; and
- 3.1.6. Recommend policies for the integration of the Urban Biodiversity Plan to existing plans and programs of the city;

3.2. The LGU- shall:

- 3.2.1. Ensure that the Urban Biodiversity Program is mainstreamed in the Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs), Zoning Ordinances (ZOs), and consistent with other plans related to housing and urban development, and climate and disaster risk;
- 3.2.2. Encourage the participation of the business sector in the implementation of the UBMP;
- 3.2.3. Conduct training-of-trainers and roll-out to capacitate the LGU and other stakeholders including private sectors on Urban Biodiversity;
- 3.2.4. Conduct regular monitoring of the identified Urban Biodiversity areas, and maintain records of activities therein; and
- 3.2.5. Document and facilitate the review of good practices for the promotion of urban biodiversity.

Section 4: Amendments and Severability

No modification of, or change in this MOA, waiver of any of its provisions, or additional contractual provisions shall be valid or enforceable, unless previously approved in writing or duly signed in the form of a written amendment by the parties hereto, or their duly authorized representatives.

Section 5. Effectivity and Duration

This MOA shall take effect upon signing of the Parties concerned and shall remain in force unless terminated by mutual agreement of the Parties involved.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, acting through their representatives duly authorized for this purpose, affix their signatures, this ____ day of ____ 20__ in ____ City, Philippines.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (REGIONAL OFFICE) LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT ()

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
____ CITY) S.S.

BEFORE ME, this ____ day of ____ in ____ City, Philippines, personally appeared:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Passport/Government Issued I.D. No., Date/ Place Issued. It contains 3 empty rows for data entry.

known to me as to be the same persons who executed the foregoing Memorandum of Agreement and exhibited to me their respective government issued photo ID as indicated below their names and acknowledged to me that the same is their voluntary act and deed and free act of the entities which they respectively represent.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL on the date and at the place first above written.

NOTARY PUBLIC

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