



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU
Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center, Quezon Avenue, Diliman, 1100 Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: (632) 8924-6031 to 35 | Fax: (632) 8924-0109, (632) 8920-4417
Website: <https://bmb.gov.ph> | E-mail Address: bmb@bmb.gov.ph

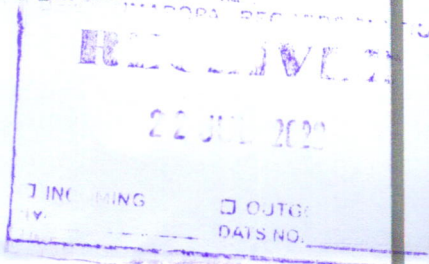
MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Directors
All DENR Regions

FROM : The OIC Director

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR INVENTORY OF CAVES, INLAND WETLANDS AND URBAN AREAS WHICH CAN BE RECOGNIZED AS OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES (OECMs)**

JUL 20 2022



The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) defined the Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) as “geographically defined area other than a protected area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic, and other locally relevant values.” OECMs such as local conservation areas, critical habitats, indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) and fish/marine sanctuaries, have an important role in the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services and complementary to protected areas, they contribute to the coherence and connectivity of protected area networks and contributes in mainstreaming biodiversity into other uses in land and sea, and across sectors.

With the current threats to biodiversity and potential threats from new and emerging pressures, Target 11 of CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 calls for conservation of areas of land and sea through ‘networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures’. Below are the four (4) criteria in identifying OECMs with details of each criterion provided in Annex A:

1. Criterion A: Area is not currently recognized as a protected area
2. Criterion B: Area is governed and managed
3. Criterion C: Achieves sustained and effective contribution to in situ conservation of biodiversity; and
4. Criterion D: Associated ecosystem functions and services and cultural, spiritual, socio-economic and other locally relevant values

In this regard, may we request for an inventory of OECMs, specifically, LGU-managed conservation areas including caves, inland wetlands (portions of rivers, lakes, swamps, peatlands, waterfalls, springs etc.), including fish sanctuaries, as well as urban parks/forests, or other community-conserved areas within your jurisdiction. Class I caves, even those not locally

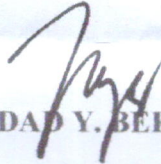


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declared as a conservation area should also be included. Inputs will be consolidated in our ongoing database for OECMs, for further reporting to the World Database on OECMs and in relation to reaching Aichi Target 11.

Kindly send your inputs using the MS Excel sheet format that can be downloaded from: https://bit.ly/OECM_MSExcelSheet to cawed@bmb.gov.ph. We also request that digital copies of geotagged photos of the area in JPEG or PNG formats, PDF copy of the LGU Resolution or Ordinance declaring the conservation status of the area, and the shapefiles (.shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj) of their maps, if available, be also submitted to this Office through the email addresses above.

For information and appropriate action.


NATIVIDAD Y. BERNARDINO



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Annex A. Criteria in OECM Identification

Criteria	Description
Criterion A: Area is not currently recognized as a protected area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area is not currently recognized or reported as a protected area or part of a protected area; it may have been established for another function.
Criterion B: Area is governed and managed	<p><i>Geographically defined space</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Size and area are described, including in three dimensions where necessary. Boundaries are geographically delineated <p><i>Governed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance has legitimate authority and is appropriate for achieving in situ conservation of biodiversity within the area. Governance may be by a single authority and/or organization or through collaboration among relevant authorities and provides the ability to address threats collectively Equitability management- governance reflects the equity considerations adopted in the Convention <p><i>Managed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Biodiversity outcomes - managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained outcomes for the conservation of biological diversity. Relevant authorities and stakeholders are identified and involved in management. A management system is in place that contributes to sustaining the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. Management is consistent with the ecosystem approach with the ability to adapt to achieve expected biodiversity conservation outcomes, including long-term outcomes, and including the ability to manage a new threat.
Criterion C: Achieves sustained and effective contribution to in situ conservation of biodiversity	<p><i>Biodiversity values</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the values Kind of biodiversity values in the area <p><i>Effective conservation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area achieves, or is expected to achieve, positive and sustained outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. Threats, existing or reasonably anticipated ones are addressed effectively by

Criteria	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preventing, significantly reducing or eliminating them, and by restoring degraded ecosystems. • Mechanisms, such as policy frameworks and regulations, are in place to recognize and respond to new threats. • To the extent relevant and possible, management inside and outside the OECM is integrated.
<p>Criterion D: Associated ecosystem functions and services and cultural, spiritual, socio-economic and other locally relevant values</p>	<p><i>Ecosystem functions and services</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem functions and services are supported, including those of importance to indigenous peoples and local communities, for other effective area-based conservation measures concerning their territories, taking into account interactions and trade-offs among ecosystem functions and services, with a view to ensuring positive biodiversity outcomes and equity. • Management to enhance one particular ecosystem function and service does not impact negatively on the sites overall biological diversity <p><i>Cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic and other locally relevant values</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and management measures identify, respect and uphold the cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic, and other locally relevant values of the area, where such values exist. • Governance and management measures respect and uphold the knowledge, practices and institutions that are fundamental for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity

Source: IUCN WCPA, Reporting Other Effective Switzerland. Version 1. [en.pdf](https://www.cbd.int/pa/doc/guidelines-reporting-oecms-en.pdf)

2017. Guidelines for Recognizing and Area-based Conservation Measures. IUCN, <https://www.cbd.int/pa/doc/guidelines-reporting-oecms-en.pdf>