

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: PROCESS LUZON ASSOCIATION, INC.

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Enabling Communities and Ancestral Domain Stakeholders to Improve Natural Resource Management

Implementation Partners for This Project:

PROCESS LUZON ASSOCIATION INC. has completed the project with the assistance and cooperation of the following organizations/agencies:

- ❑ CBFMA stakeholders: NELARDECO, Intal, Awallan, Asinga Via MPC, Cagayan Valley Resources Developers & Protectors Federation (CVRDPF), Three Diamonds MPC, and Mansarong Upland Farmers' MPC
- ❑ Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Baggao, Cagayan for helping out in project planning and monitoring; and Local Government Units of Barangays Asinga Via, Asassi, Awallan, Bitag Grande, Hacienda Intal, Mabini, Mocag, Pallagao, Sta. Margarita and Verzosa for facilitating the identification of project sites;
- ❑ Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR- Region 02) for overseeing the implementation of the Community-Based Forest Management Program in Baggao and sharing recent Department Orders/Circulars with PROCESS;
- ❑ National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for helping out in the census and genealogical study of Agtas;
- ❑ Institute of Agroforestry, Los Banos, Laguna (IAF-UPLB) for sharing the UPLB training manuals and giving valuable advice on how the PROCESS manuals could be enriched;
- ❑ Conservation International Philippines (CIP) with the PE project, developed the modules on land use planning thereby giving PROCESS the opportunity to refine existing modules on reproductive health and gender
- ❑ Development Alternatives, Inc (DAI) for funds in the PO exposure trip to UPLB and Silang, Cavite
- ❑ Tanggol Kalikasan (TK) for sharing its training module on Environmental laws; and
- ❑ The Commission on Population, Region 02 (POPCOM 02) whose library is a gem of information source for the project
- ❑ EC UNDP Small Grants Programme on Tropical Forestry – provided counterpart funds for the nursery and a five-hectare agroforest farm at the CVRDPF Dadda site

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): March 1, 2004 – August 31,2004

Date of Report (month/year): January 2005

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

PROCESS LUZON developed seven training modules and enabled the communities to establish six agroforestry model farms (with an aggregate total of 7 hectares) and six subsidiary nurseries within the four CBFM sites. Moreover, the main nursery at Bitag Grande provides for the needs of the subsidiary nurseries, the municipality of Baggao and schools for their tree planting projects.

Aside from the above accomplishments, PROCESS also conducted an agroforestry training program for selected members of the AF core groups. Judicious use of funds for special events enabled the NGO to network with the LGU, the Philippine Agroforestry Education and

Research Network (PAFERN), Cooperative development Authority and stakeholders other than the direct project beneficiaries.

PROCESS is grateful to CEPF for the opportunity to strengthen existing community structures in Baggao. Aside from achieving objectives, the project had unplanned positive results like increased tree planting activities by parishes and schools with inputs from the CEPF nurseries and the influx of funds for biodiversity.

Initially meant to complement CI's Population and Environment Project, this project gave impetus for the UNDP small grants program to pour in funds for biodiversity conservation in Baggao, Cagayan.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The general objective of the project was to ensure conservation and protection of biodiversity resources within the Cagayan biodiversity corridor.

 - A. Capability building
 - a. Develop three training modules on management
 - b. Develop three training modules on land use mapping and resource rehabilitation
 - c. Develop one training module on environmental laws
 - B. Agroforestry livelihood projects
 - a. Organize 6 agroforestry core groups
 - b. Establish 1 main nursery
 - c. Establish 6 model agroforestry model farms

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

In general, the project objectives were attained. However, there were changes in schedules. Moreover, the scope of coverage exceeded the original project objectives.

 - Project Schedule
 - ❑ Field activities were delayed due to the onset of the dry season (April – June); and
 - ❑ The project staff produced seedlings in the main nursery (March – May). When the seedlings were ready for outplanting, the nursery and initial field plantation were devastated by typhoon Igme. PROCESS had to request for a no-cost project extension in order to complete activities for objective 2.

 - Scope of Coverage
 - ❑ Originally, only 1 main nursery was planned for but due to the distance between Bitag Grande (main nursery site) and agroforestry farms, six sub-nurseries were established within the budget allotted . PROCESS had the luxury of funds counterpart from the UNDP Small Grants for Tropical Forests which funded the Dadda site nursery and agroforest area.
 - ❑ The project was supposed to cover 4 CBFMA and 1 CADC areas but since NCIP and the CADC beneficiaries were not ready to implement the project due to hectic activities in conversion of CADC to CADT in which PROCESS is also a partner, the agroforestry farm was awarded to the Mansarong Upland Farmers MPC (within the NELARDECO CBFM area). Farm areas are described below:
 - CVRDPF's Callupang watershed –one-hectare area planted with acacia, narra, cacao, coffee, black pepper, lanzones, rambutan, calliandra and desmodium
 - CVRDPF's Dadda site – five hectares planted with coffee and cacao

- IAAV at Awallan – ½ hectare planted with acacia, coffee, cacao and black pepper
 - TDMPC at Dapir, Sta. Margarita – ½ hectare planted with acacia, narra, cacao, coffee, black pepper and calliandra
 - NELARDECO at Mansarong, Sta. Margarita – ¼ hectare planted with indigenous tree species (kamagong, dipterocarps), coffee, cacao, black pepper, calliandra and acacia
 - MUFMPC at Mansarong – ¼ hectare planted with kamagong, acacia, coffee, bananas, citrus, black pepper and tiger grass
- Instead of developing training modules on land use planning/mapping that CIP has done within the year, the project staff opted to develop 2 modules on agroforestry and 2 modules on reproductive health/environment. For the management modules, the project staff developed 2 modules on leadership, aside from the module on environmental laws.
 - Not contented with mere training module development, PROCESS conducted an agroforestry training in order to provide the core groups with skills in establishing the agroforest farm.
 - Moreover, in order to strengthen one CBFM holder, PROCESS conducted an orientation on cooperatives in partnership with the Cooperative Development Authority. PROCESS also assisted the LGU and DENR in consultation activities with the Agaman Norte community which is due for a CBFM award

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

The success of the project depended not only on the competence of the staff assigned to the project but also on the following factors:

- Staff assigned to other projects lent their expertise and assistance to CEPF-funded staff
- Partnership with other funding institutions such as Conservation International Philippines, Development Alternatives Inc (DAI), UNDP-GEF/RNE and EC UNDP-PTF also helped in strengthening the CBFM beneficiaries
- Supportive LGU, NCIP and DENR made the work easier for the project implementors
- Support of the institute of Agroforestry (IAF), UPLB and Tanggol Kalikasan in the development of modules for Agroforestry and Environmental Laws Training Programmes
- The agroforestry component is a continuing effort; expansion to farms not covered by project costs was made possible through the continuous replenishment of seedlings in the main and subsidiary nurseries. Due to its strategic site, the main nursery has attracted visits of school children and parishes. It regularly supplies seedlings to schools and parishes now get their seedlings for tree planting activity

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

Untoward incidents happened during the implementation phase, especially those beyond our control. However, with perseverance coupled with past learnings in project implementation, the following challenges were overcome:

- Nursery and plantation sites affected by typhoon Igme – the devastation and damages wrought by typhoon Igme were not irreparable/irreplaceable. We just adjusted our timetable and added more planting stocks using funds from other projects
- Mindset of some PO beneficiaries on monocropping and excessive use of inorganic fertilizers and pesticides. The core group members were carefully chosen from formal and informal leaders of the community. They were instrumental in influencing others to practice agroforestry and/or reduce use of inorganic fertilizers. Where farmers found it impractical to do away with fertilizers, PROCESS provided organic substitutes and

inoculants which worked well for paddy rice and corn. This is the main reason why PROCESS had to conduct an agroforestry training to ensure proper application of the technology. PROCESS went further: using funds from EcoGov/DAI, the project staff brought core group members of CVRDPF to UPLB and Silang Cavite so that they could witness successful initiatives in integrated farming systems and interact with communities practicing these systems. The exposure trip has contributed to the PO members' determination to adopt agroforestry to minimize crop losses.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

- ❑ Timing is important in this kind of project. Given the short project duration (6 months) and the schedule (March – August), we had no choice but to extend the project period even if typhoon had not occurred because the farmers could start planting only in July or August.
- ❑ Agroforest farms take longer to be productive (economically) for farmers. To be credible, the project staff should be practitioners of the technology, better still, if they have nearby ecofarms for demonstration purposes. They should also be patient because change does not occur overnight. It is better for farmers to start in small areas and gradually expand their agroforest farms.
- ❑ Training programs and exposure trips/crossvisits should be included in the implementation plan. These could be scheduled even before the field implementation phase
- ❑ The agroforestry system is a two-pronged approach: soil and water conservation and income generation for small farmers

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

- ❑ Agroforestry farms – there is a need to upscale implementation of these types of farms. As it is, other community members have applied the technology in their farms.
- ❑ Continuing education and cross visits (farmer to farmer dialogues) shall be integrated in the program.
- ❑ Seed banking system shall be in place to provide present and future agroforestry implementors with the needed planting stocks
- ❑ Livelihood component (on-farm or off-farm) shall be integrated to complement the farmers' income while the agroforestry farms are still being developed.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

Community strengthening is a continuing effort; once the organization has reached a certain level of competence, it is time to prepare them for the next level or use their acquired competence in strengthening other groups.

Sustaining gains in community protection and management of natural resources is difficult in the light of changes in policies and political/economic motivations of some people in the government and private sectors; even with the presence of forest protection teams and agroforestry practitioners within the CBFM areas, depletion of forest resource continues. There is a need to provide alternative sources of income for the communities so that they can sustain environmental protection activities.

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
EcoGovernance/DAI	B	P 100,315.85	Provided funds to the PO Federation for a Cross Visit to UPLB and Silang, Cavite
EC UNDP PTF Small Grants Program	C	P 2,400,000	funds to upscale the agroforest farms, livelihood & conversion of CADC to CADT
UNDP – GEF/RNE SGP	C	P 2,700,000	Funds for training, indigenous tree specie plantations and eco-tourism
Conservation International Philippines	A		Funds for the Population and Environment Project

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This project is only a part of the great task of capability building for communities in the Northern Sierra Madre. PROCESS would like to continue with the enabling process in application of the agroforestry technology in other communities in Baggao and introducing microfinance projects in reproductive health activities in the original communities.

INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes /

If yes, please also complete the following:

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