Promoting Empowerment and Gender Equity in Philippine Social Forestry

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Land Classification

Philippines
30 M. ha

15.8 million ha
(52.7%)

14.2 million ha
(47.3%)

Public Domain
Alienable and Disposable Land
The forest cover is estimated at 7,014,155 ha (23.38%), out of which 28.9% (2.03 M ha) is Closed Forest, 66.8% (4.68 M ha) is Open Forest and 4.3% (0.3 M ha) is Mangrove Forest.
1.648 million ha. (65%) of tenured Land of the Public Domain are covered by 1,945 CBFM Agreements*

*167,893 members

Total Tenured Area : 2,533,306 ha
IN THE PAST

UPLAND PEOPLE

- Perceived as problem rather than partner
- No tenure over the area they occupied
- Practiced unsustainable farming
- Not organized into Peoples Organization
The government realized the need to organize and empower these upland people/communities and make them partners in sustainable forest management.

- Recognized as partner rather than problem
- Given tenure over the area they occupied
- Practiced sustainable farming system
- Women actively participate in decision making and project management
Organized and Empowered Communities are key drivers toward responsible resource utilization and sustainable management of forestlands and coastal areas.
TENURIAL INSTRUMENTS
issued to forest communities

- **Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA)** for **Peoples Organizations**.

- **Certificate of Stewardship (CS)** in recognition of **individual rights** of occupancy provided that the area is within the CBFMA area and the applicant is a member of the PO.
COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT

Executive Order 263, s.1995 – Adopting CBFM as the National Strategy To Ensure The Sustainable Development Of The Country’s Forestlands Resources

Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA)
- an agreement entered into by and between the government (DENR) and the local community, represented by the POs, as forest managers, which has a term of 25 years and renewable for another 25 years. It shall provide tenurial security and incentives to develop, utilize and manage specific portions of forest lands pursuant to the affirmed Community Resource Management Framework (CRMF).
CBFM PRINCIPLES

Social Equity

Sustainability

Community Participation
Objectives

- Generate additional income for forest communities towards poverty reduction and hunger mitigation
- Improve the living conditions of local communities
- Enhance environmental conditions through agroforestry and plantation development
Forest Management Bureau (FMB) as an institution promotes the Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) strategy to improve the well-being of forest dependent communities, and at the same time to ensure the sustainable management, rehabilitation and protection of the forestlands and the resources therein, through the active participation of different stakeholders.
The MCW recognizes that the rural women is among/one of the marginalized sectors of the society and therefore should be guaranteed with all civil, political, social and economic rights.
The CBFMP promotes the sustainable management and utilization of resources by providing equal opportunities for men and women to participate and share in the responsibilities and benefits of the program.
Provision of Technical Assistance, Capacity Building, Agroforestry Development and Livelihood/Enterprise Development Project through Community-Based-Forest Management - Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CBFM-CARP) Projects
The 2018 Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) Practitioners Congress showcased the accomplishments of CBFM, recognize the contribution of the People’s Organizations in the country and highlight the impact of the programs in the social, economic and environmental aspects and conducted every three (3) years that started in 2012.

The awarding and recognition of Model CBFM-PO per Region was one of the highlights of the Congress. The search was conducted using the developed Tool that assesses the CBFM POs’ progress and sustainability related to target results achieved in the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable practices in forest resources management (FRM), including gender perspective in all three dimensions.
The Congress proudly exhibited forest products made by CBFM POs from various parts of the country.
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Fifteen (15) CBFM POs were recognized as model People’s Organizations in the areas of forest management, enterprise development and social organization.
At present, 1,945 POs were awarded with CBFMA covering an estimated total area of 1.648 Million hectares. Out of 1,945, 318 POs representing 16.3% are either headed by a female President or acting as General Manager. These positions maybe considered as one indicator that can showcase the leadership potential and active participation of rural women in decision making and in project management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female President/General Manager</th>
<th>CBFMAAs Issued</th>
<th>Area Covered</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No.)</td>
<td>(Million ha.)</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>1,945</td>
<td>112,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.648</td>
<td></td>
<td>67.0%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>55,380</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>33.0%</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>167,893</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some of the successful women-led CBFM livelihood/activities are as follows:

- Duhat and Bignai Wine Production
- Dried Mango Production
- Vinegar Production
- Citronella Production
- Honeybee Keeping
- Mudcrab Fattening
- Bamboo Production
- Agroforestry Plantation Development
- Protection of Mangrove Forest
- Coastal Clean-up
- Boardwalk and Cottage Maintenance
- Mangrove Eco-park Management
The CBFMP of the Philippines continues to support our rural women grow their capacities in natural resource management.
Empowerment and Gender Equity in Social Forestry

- The government thru the DENR, LGUs, other government agencies, NGOs and private entities shall CONTINUE to provide:
  - Enabling environment to support and strengthen local communities (policies, guidelines, incentives, projects)
  - Security of tenure (issuance of tenure instrument e.g. CBFMA)
  - Technical assistance (e.g. training, project proposal packaging, etc.)
THANK YOU!

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