# Natural Resources Management in the Philippines

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Presented at
Swedish Biodiversity Centre's annual conference
Sept. 28-29, 2006

### Outline

- Background and Brief History in NRM
- Current situation
- Cases
- Challenges in CBNRM

# Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas: a Collaborative Management Learning Network in Southeast Asia

- Objective 1: Supporting CM practice in relevant field-based initiatives in the selected sites;
- Objective 2: Enhancing capabilities to develop and maintain collaborative management practices (policies, processes, agreements and institutions) among field-based practitioners in the selected sites;
- Objective 3: Enhancing understanding, awareness and recognition of CM practices in the selected sites and beyond.

#### **Project proponents**

- Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) Foundation
- Collaborative Management Working Group (CMWG) of the IUCN's Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)
- Forest Peoples Programme (FPP)
- International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)

Southeast Asia Region (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam)

Philippines: A Megadiversity

"Hotspot"

#### Terrestrial biodiversity

- 576 bird species, 34% endemic
- 204 mammal species, 54% endemic
- 101 amphibians, 78%
- 258 reptiles, 66% endemic

#### Sulu-Sulawesi marine ecoregion

- Apex of coral triangle
- 27,000 km2 of coral reefs hosting 60% of 800 known coral species worldwide
- 2,000 species of fish
- 40 sp of mangroves
- 23 species of cetaceans,

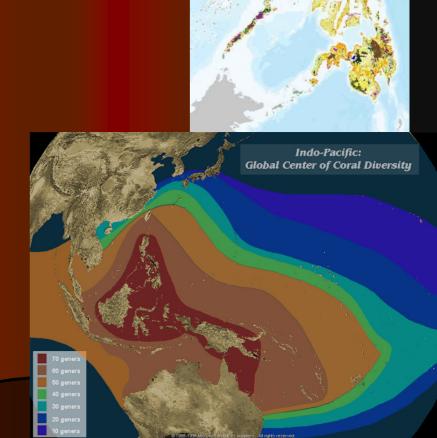
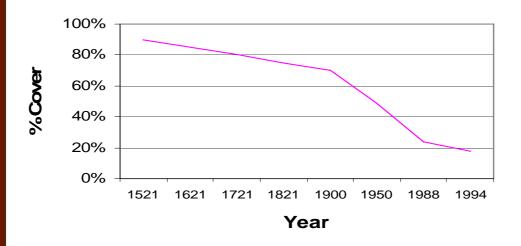
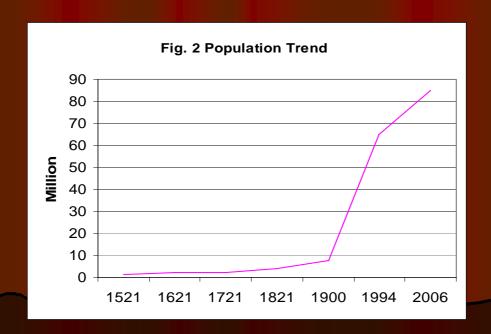


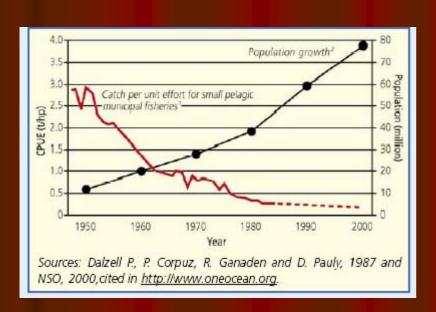
Fig. 1. Trends in Forest Cover





### **Current Situation**

Decline in live coral cover



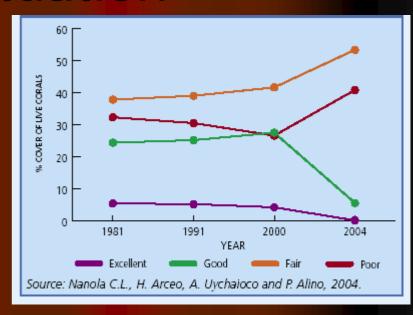


Fig. 3 Current Status of Coral Reefs

Decline in fisheries

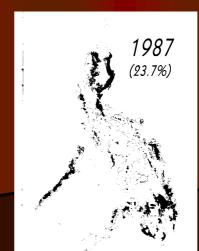
# Philippines at a glance

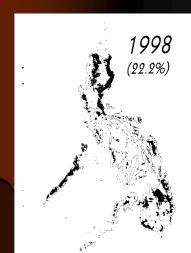
- Pre-colonial Philippines 3000 BC 1500 AD
- Spanish Colony (1521 1900)
- American period (1901 1942)
- Japanese Occupation (1942-1945)
- Post-war rehabilitation (1945 1964)
- Marcos Years (1965 1986)
- EDSA Revolution (1986- 1998)
- Current Situation





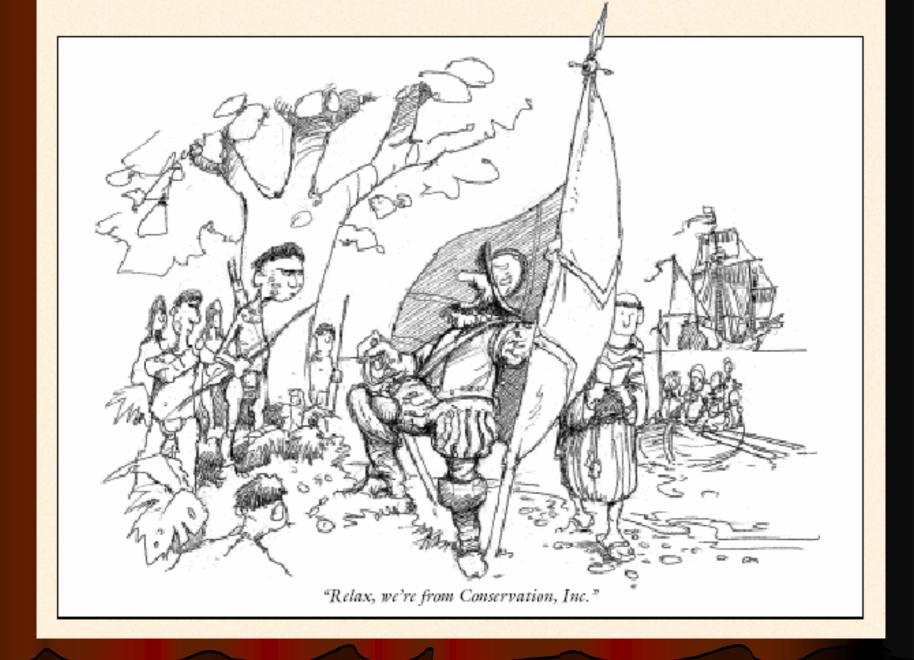






# EDSA Revolution (1986-1998)

- New constitution
- Ban on log exports
- Social Forestry
- Earth summit (1992) and PA21
- National Integrated Protected Areas
- Devolution
  - Local Government Code
  - System Law
  - DAO2, Social Forestry
  - Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (1997)
  - Fishery Code
- 22% cover



## Co-management in Forest Lands

- Forest Lands
  - Community-Based Forestry Management Agreements
  - Protected Areas/ Multi-stakeholder Protected Areas Management Board
  - Ancestral Lands (CADT)

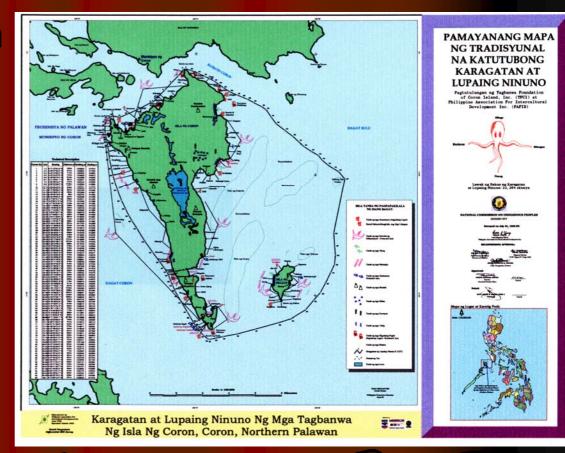
"Native title refers to pre-conquest rights to lands and domains which as far back as memory reaches, have been held under claim of private ownership by the indigenous peoples, have never been public lands and are thus indisputably presumed to have been held that way since before the Spanish conquest." (Sec 3 (I), IPRA).

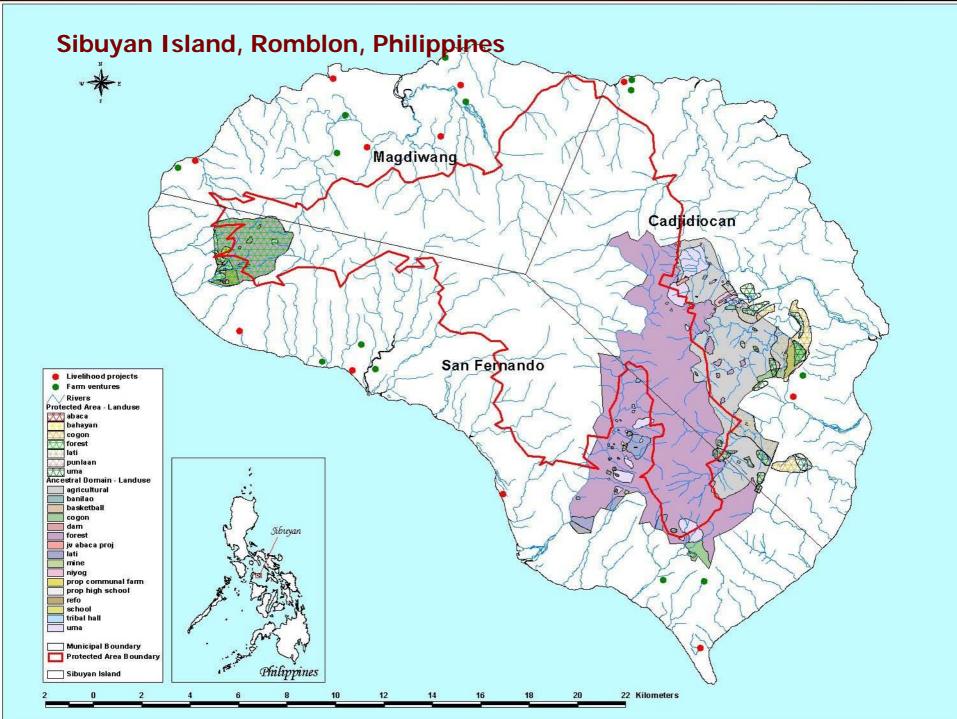
# Co-management in marine waters

- Marine
  - Municipal Waters (< 15 km) LGUs, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Councils
  - National waters (>15 km) Bureau of Fisheries,
     Protected Areas Management Board, Coast
     Guard
  - Marine Protected Areas, PAMB
  - Ancestral Waters (e.g. Coron, Subic Bay)

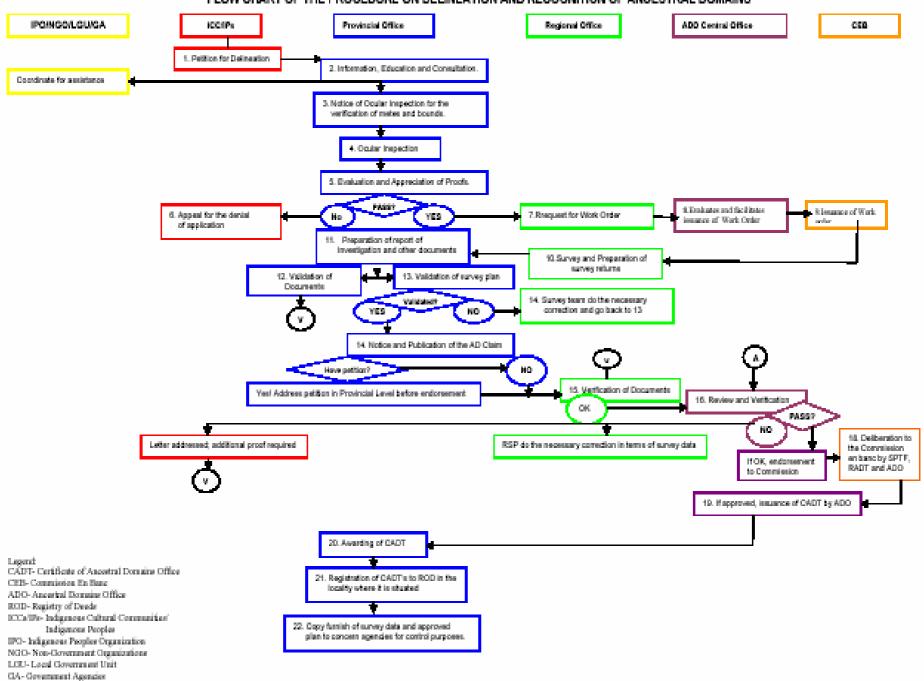
#### Northern Palawan CCA (Phils..)

- The Tagbanwa
   People were able to
   negotiate to have an
   "all- Tagbanwa"
   provisional Park
   Management Board.
- Their Ancestral
   Domain
   Management Plans
   has since been
   adopted as the
   Protected Area
   Management Plan
   by the Government.





#### FLOW CHART OF THE PROCEDURE ON DELINEATION AND RECOGNITION OF ANCESTRAL DOMAINS









T: SMT women perform during a break

M: Children in upland areas

L: Community meeting by the riverbank



L: Elders locate burial grounds

M: Constructing the 3-D Map

B: Finishing touches to 3-D map





## People and Parks Issues

- Theft of community intellectual property
- Conservation Laws often Criminalize Customary Use, local People Perceived as Poachers, Squatters or Destroyers of the Environment
- Overdependence on Tourism as Revenue Model for Parks in Traditional Regions
- Conservation is low priority (vs mining)

## People and Parks Issues

- Conflicting Governmental policies; (logging/mining in PAs)
- Erosion of Customary Institutions
- Dispossession of Community Property, Insecurity over Access to Customary Resources or Livelihood Base

#### Local Initiatives

- Adoption of local customary systems in conservation management
- Recognition of community property rights
- Community management of conservation areas
- Innovations on multi-sectoral enforcement, user fees, PES
- Equity in management and development of natural resources

# **Policy**

- Government-mandated regulations sometimes damage the local management systems, leading to resource destruction,
- Need to have a detailed understanding of resource tenure arrangements as a fundamental basis for considering appropriate natural resource management regimes;
- Need for policy coherence in granting resource utilization/management instruments.
- Progressive policies/legislation can be enacted, i.e., IPRA (Philippines) & National Land Law 2001 (Cambodia)

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