



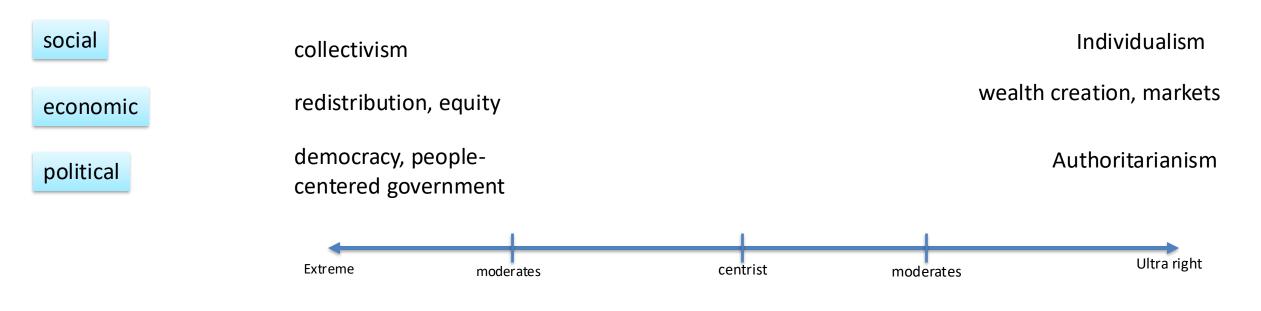
NGOs and CSOs in Environmental Action

Wilson John Barbon Country Executive Director





Traditional "Left and Right" poles



cultural

de-colonization, indigenous identity

nature-technology

natural

Colonialism, westerncentrism

un-natural, technology centric



Shifting Framing and Strategies of Environmental NGOs

| | Social | Economic | Political | Cultural | Nature–Technology |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1970s–1980s Environmental Awakening | Rights-based and antipollution (clean air, ozone) movements; focus activism. | Opposition to extractive industries; redistribution of land | Protest-based activism vs. logging, mining, pollution. | western-scientific conservation; exclusion of local voices | "fencing" nature away from people |
| 1990s Community Development Era | Community-based resource management; participatory approaches. | Sustainable livelihoods (Chambers) and eco-tourism integrated with conservation. | Co-management and collaboration with government. | Recognition of Indigenous participation (e.g., IPRA 1997). | Use of remote sensing, GIS for planning |
| 2000s Mainstreaming and Market Integration | Networking and coalitions among NGOs and LGUs. | Market-based tools (carbon markets, PES, certification). | Policy mainstreaming; influence in CBD and MDGs. | Cultural diversity recognized but still tokenized. | Digital monitoring and management tools expand. |
| 2010s Systemic and Climate-Focused NGOs | Focus on social-ecological resilience; gender inclusion. | Green growth and circular economy frameworks. | Partnerships in climate governance and NDCs. | Integration of TEK and cultural pluralism. | Tech-enabled conservation (drones, satellite data). |
| 2020s—Present Regenerative, Transformative | Relational solidarity – connecting human and planetary wellbeing. | Regenerative and wellbeing economies; just transition. | Green pragmatism – blending activism and collaboration. | Decolonial regeneration; co-production of knowledge. | Techno-ecological symbiosis – innovation for restoration. |



A proposition for a new paradigm

Desire to re-imagine the future outside of the conventional "sustainable development" thinking

Anchored on the idea of the "pluriverse", there are many realities, many knowledge, many vision, many human-nature relationships (Arturo Escobar)

Social – "Relational solidarity": building inclusivity of people, diversity and nature (Robin Wall Kimmerer)

Economic – "Regenerative wellbeing": prosperity within planetary limits (Johann Rockstrom"

Political – "Green pragmatism": activism coupled with collaboration to advance policies (Elinor Ostrom)

Cultural – "Decolonial regeneration": embracing diverse worldviews, local capacities (Arturo Escobar)

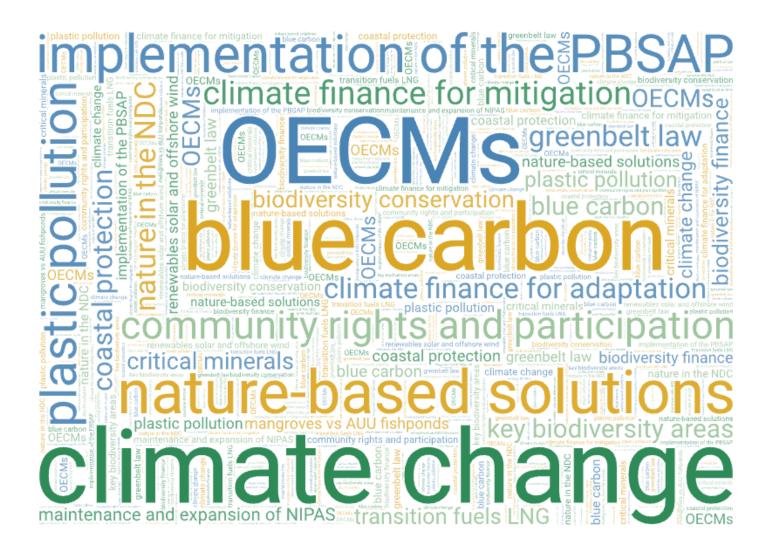
Nature—Technology — "Techno-ecological symbiosis": technology that restores or working with nature, not against nature nor exploits nature (Fikret Berkes)

Proposition:

Perhaps NGOs of the future act more as "connectors"—integration of equity, culture, technology, and ecology to regenerate nature for people.



Current priorities of NGOs









BUILDING UPON A STRONG FOUNDATION OF SCIENCE, PARTNERSHIP AND FIELD DEMONSTRATION, CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL EMPOWERS SOCIETIES TO RESPONSIBLY AND SUSTAINABLY CARE FOR NATURE, OUR GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY, FOR THE WELL-BEING OF HUMANITY.



AT A GLANCE



Founded in 1987



2,000 employees – 97% of field program staff are native to the country in which they work



Offices in 29 countries but with programs in almost 100 countries



2,000 global partners



We strive to invest more than 80% of CI funding directly into programs



On average, 30% of our expenses go to programs that empower local organizations through grants



Since our inception, we've helped to protect more than 6 million square kilometers (2.3 million square miles) of land and sea across more than 70 countries



SOUTHERN CROSS TO 2030

CI's mission is to protect nature for the benefit of humanity.

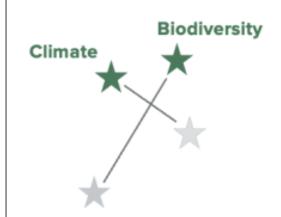
We seek to address the dual crises of **climate** change and **biodiversity** loss

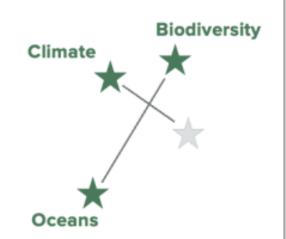
... by protecting, restoring, and managing key land and **ocean** areas

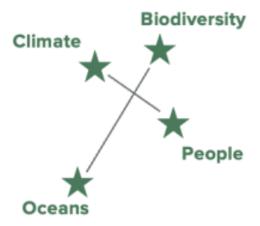
... with, and for, **people**.



Nature for People









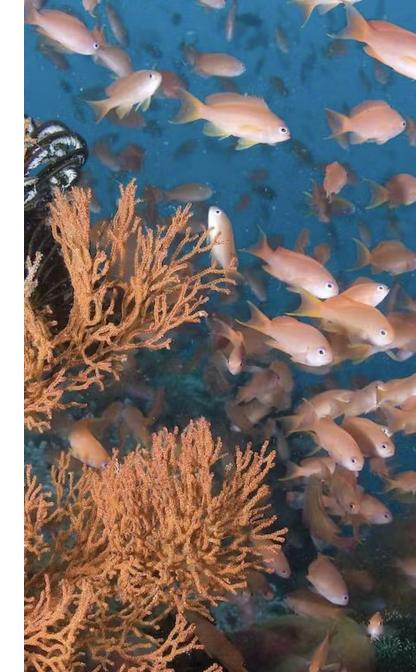
IN THE PHILIPPINES

2015: CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION, INC.

Registered as a non-stock non-profit in the country. We are working in various sites in the Philippines, CI operates from offices in Quezon City, Puerto Princesa City, and Brooke's Point.

COUNTRY OBJECTIVE

Through direct partnership with *Indigenous peoples, local* communities, and government, CI Philippines seeks to intensify the protection, management, and restoration of the country's rich biodiverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems and to reduce further ecosystems loss from unsustainable land conversion and marine degradation by utilizing climate financing, private sector investment, and public and private grant funding affording the country sustainable ecosystem services, livelihoods, climate resiliency and national development.





Impact Locations









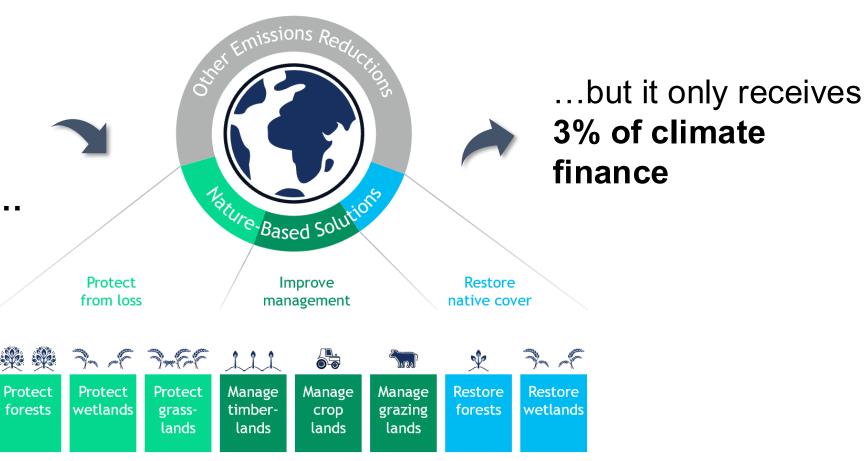


Conservation Finance Initiatives of CI Philippines

- Carbon finance, voluntary markets, exploring J-REDD+ and Article 6 markets (ie PHL-SG)
- Conservation Trust Funds (ie Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape in Palawan)
- Readiness project for nature/biodiversity credits in Tubbataha Reefs, Palawan
- Previous project: RISCO (social enterprise with the insurance sector anchored on the economic value of mangrove's protection services)

Natural Climate Solutions (NCS)

Nature has the potential to offer >30% of the climate solution...





Natural Climate Solutions help mitigate climate change through actions that protect against nature loss, improve nature management and restore degraded native cover. This infographic is adapted from We need both natural and energy solutions to stabilize our climate: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/101111/gcb.14612

