

CORRUPTION AND REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES: RISKS AND WAYS FORWARD

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INTRODUCTION

Reducing **E**missions from **D**eforestation and Forest
Degradation

(+) Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and
Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks

INTRODUCTION

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **Where does the Philippines stand with regard to REDD+?**
- **What are the corruption risks for REDD+ in the Philippines? What is the political and economic environment that enables these?**
- **What is being done?**
- **What else is needed?**

REFERENCES

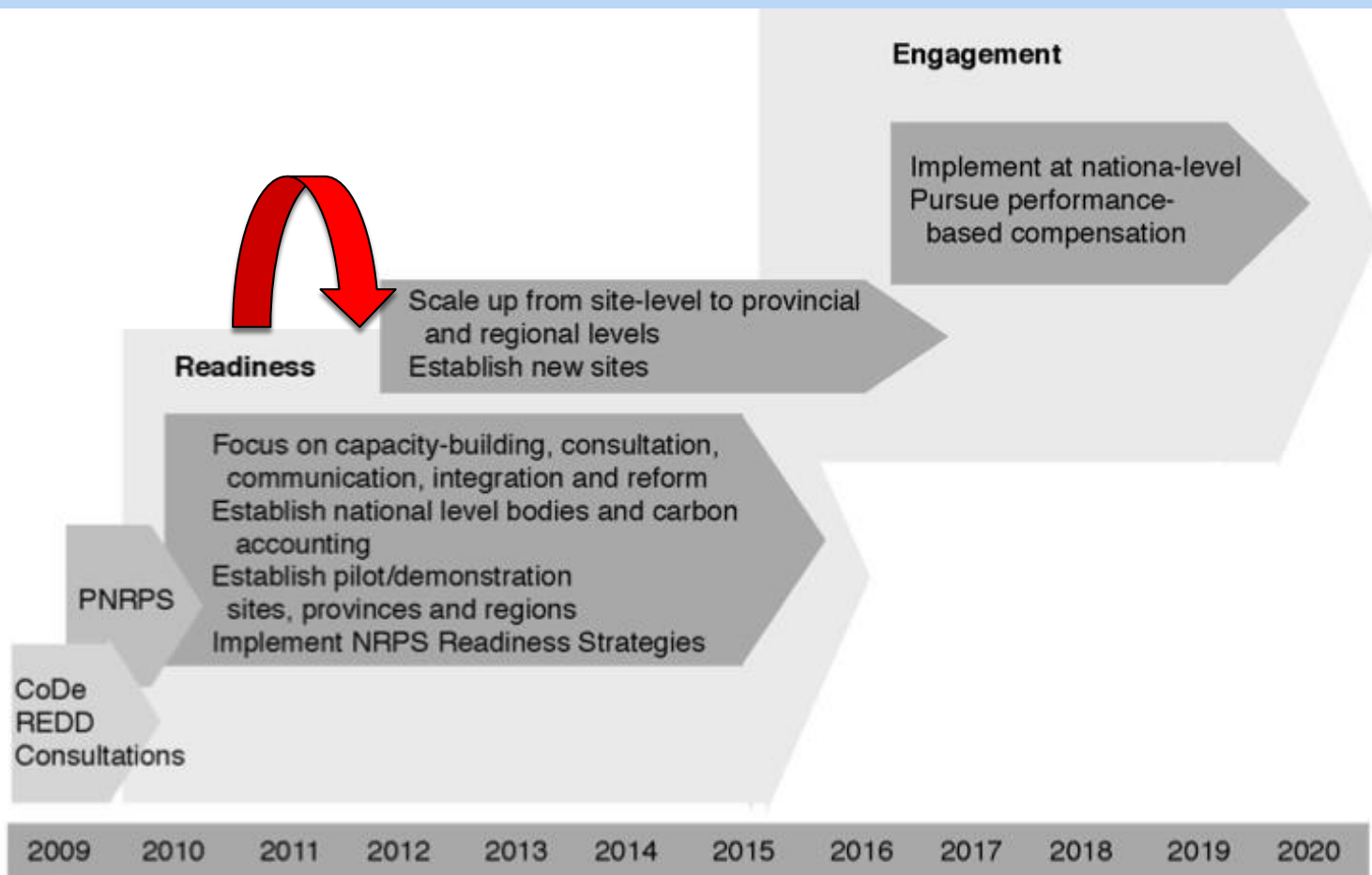
- **U4 Papers – Tackling Corruption for Governing REDD+ in the Philippines (2011); The Political Economy of Corruption and REDD+ (2014)**
- **Corruption Risk Assessment for REDD+ in the Philippines and Development of REDD+ Anti-Corruption Measures (2013)**
- **Component 3 – Preparation of a National REDD+ System for the Philippines (2012-2017)**

REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES

Philippine National REDD+ Strategy (2009)

- Multi-stakeholder REDD+ Strategy developed by key government agencies (CCC, DENR-FMB, DENR-ERDB, DENR-BMB, NAMRIA, NCIP) in partnership with CSOs
 - Presents strategies and activities over a 10-year time period (2010-2020)
 - REDD+ integrated into the National Framework Strategy on Climate Change and Executive Order 881 (2010)

REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES



Philippine National REDD+ Strategy (2009)

REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES



Narra and Quezon,
Southern Palawan (EU
Ecosystems Alliance)
25,000 ha

General Nakar, Quezon (EU
and Team Energy Foundation)
144,000 ha

Tiwi, Malinao, Tabaco City,
Oas and Ligao City, Albay
(GIZ)
42,000 ha

Borongan City and
Maydolong, Eastern
Samar (GIZ)
67,153 ha

Silago, Sogod, Bontoc,
Tomas Oppus, Maasin
City, Southern Leyte
(GIZ)
31,848 ha

Manay, Tarragona and
Caraga, Davao Oriental
(GIZ)
92,301 ha

CORRUPTION IN REDD+



RISKS

- Inherits the corruption in the forestry sector and further entrench these systems
- Inflow of financial resources creates incentives and opportunities for corruption



OPPORTUNITIES

- To improve forest governance, including systematically addressing corruption in the forest sector



CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- REDD+ in the Philippines is still in its Readiness Stage
- Documented instances of corruption in relation to REDD+ initiatives are limited

CORRUPTION RISK ASSESSMENT FOR REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES (2012)

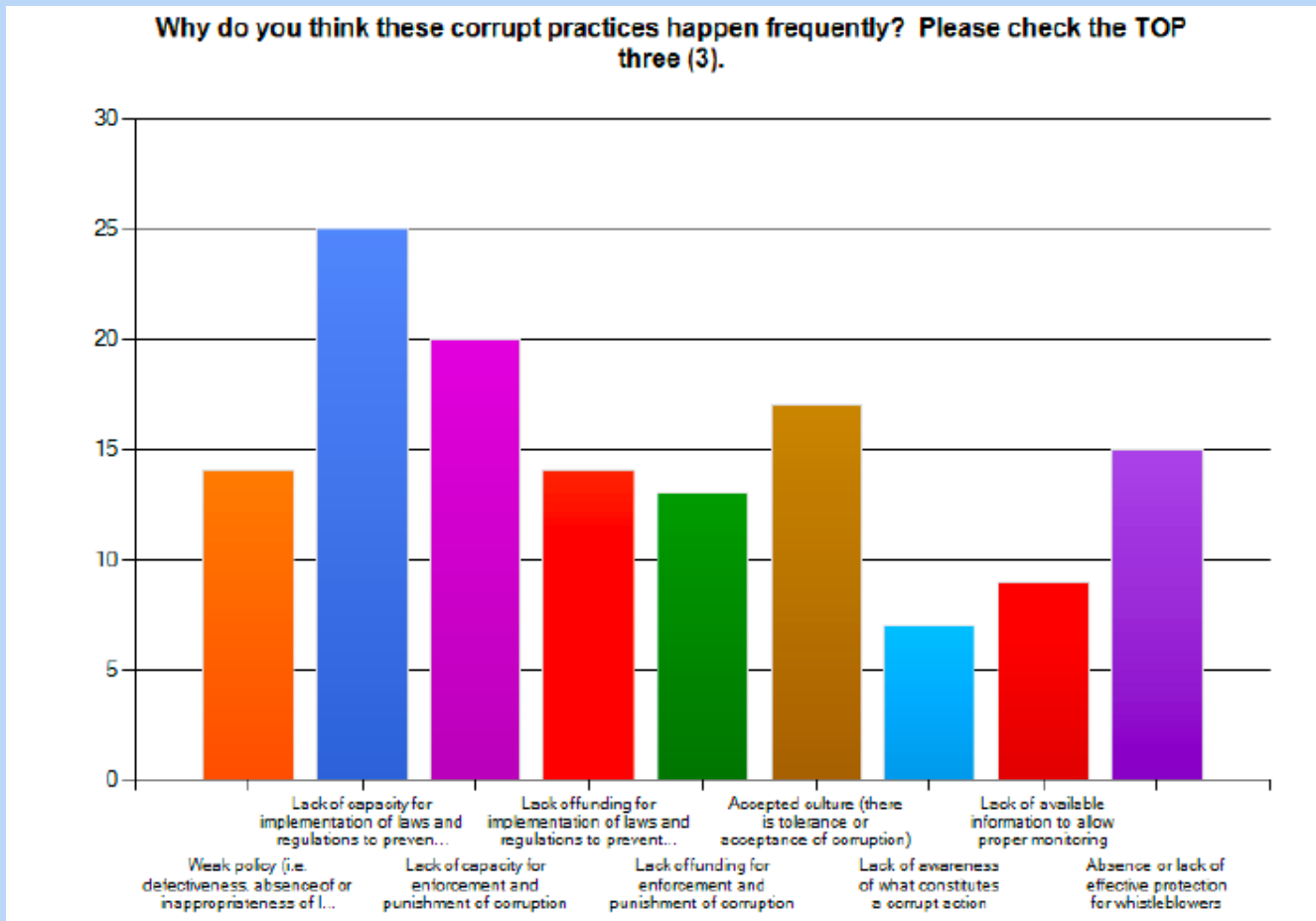
Code of Conduct

Performance Management or Service Delivery

Procurement Management

Financial Management

CORRUPTION RISK ASSESSMENT FOR REDD+ IN THE PHILIPPINES (2012)



Corruption Risk Assessment of REDD+ in the Philippines and Development of REDD+ Anti-Corruption Measures (2013)



**VICTORIA-
ANEPAHAN
RANGE**
Narra and
Quezon
Southern
Palawan

Photo from: CI-Philippines, DENR, Haribon Foundation. *Priority Sites for Conservation in the Philippines: Key Biodiversity Areas* (2006)

SOUTHERN PALAWAN

- Resource Use Conflicts
- Community issues – imposition of “consent fees” and misuse of royalty funds
- Bureaucratic and costly permitting processes
- “Petty” environmental crimes with official support



Photo from: <http://www.manilatimes.net/protecting-the-philippine-eagle-in-general-nakars-backyard/28063/>

GENERAL NAKAR

Quezon
Province

GENERAL NAKAR

- Land Use and Tenure vs. Infrastructure projects
- Government focus on large-scale illegal logging
- Local level elite capture

OBSERVATIONS: ENABLERS OF CORRUPTION IN REDD+

- Insecure land tenure
- Unclear Benefit sharing mechanisms
- Absence of a policy on carbon ownership
- “Looking the other way”
- Limited capacities and resources

CURRENT WORK

REDD+ SAFEGUARDS

- Actions are consistent with national forest programs and international conventions and agreements
- Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty
- Respect for knowledge and rights of IPs and members of local communities
- Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, particularly IPs and local communities
- Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity
- Actions to address the risk of reversals
- Actions to reduce displacement of emissions

REDD+ SAFEGUARDS

PRINCIPLE

- REDD+ implemented through transparent, effective and accountable governance

CRITERIA

- Supports efforts to reduce and eradicate government corruption in the implementation of REDD+ through transparent and accountable fund management

INDICATOR

- There is a proper and accurate accounting of the budget

APPROPRIATE ACTION

- Install financial management systems in accordance with the Public Financial Management Assessment tool of the DBM

MOVING FORWARD

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR REPORTING ON REDD+ SAFEGUARDS

Safeguards **I**nformation **S**ystem

- Countries demonstrate that social, environmental and governance safeguards are addressed and respected
- Necessary to access results-based payments
- Additional guidance needed from the SBSTA to ensure that information is transparent, consistent, comprehensive and effective

MOVING FORWARD

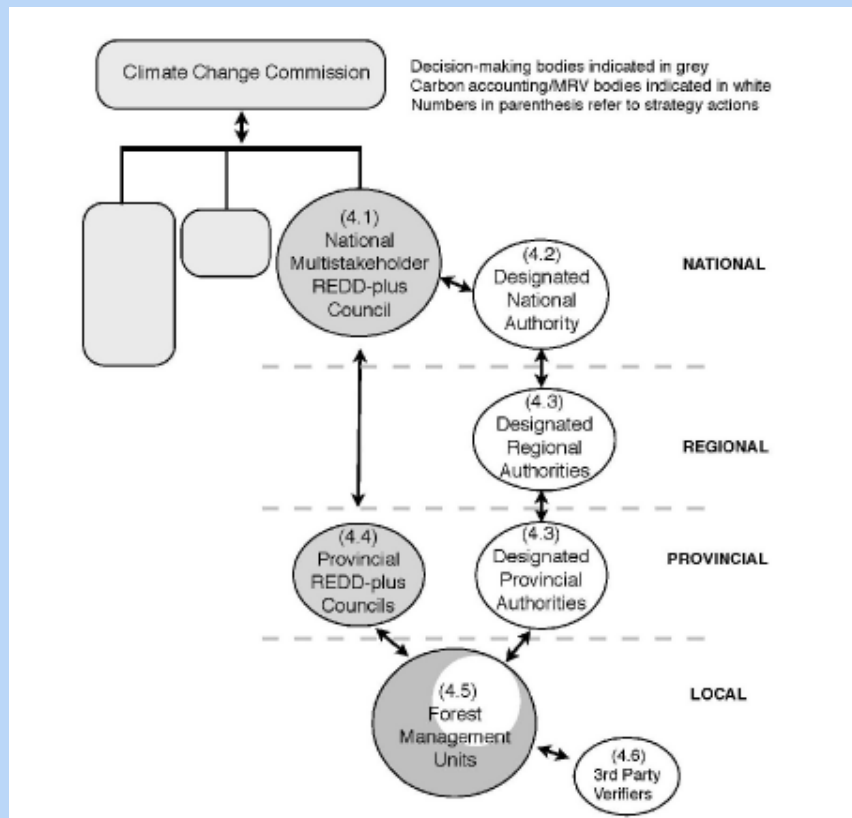
Timeframe	Preventive Measures	Prosecutorial Measures
Short term	Research, training, policy and institutional support, including establishing baseline and benchmark data, evaluation of existing systems, conduct of training reviews and training needs assessments and pilot testing of innovative anti-corruption tools and systems	Organization, training and technical support to a community of anti-corruption practitioners; Maximizing available judicial remedies
Medium term	Consolidating key institutions, including the NMRC, anti-corruption enforcement bodies and civil societies and watchdogs	
Long term	Institutionalizing anti-corruption initiatives in the implementation of the PNRPS and REDD+ activities in the Philippines	

Source: UN-REDD and ASOG (2013)

MOVING FORWARD

NATIONAL GOVERNANCE MECHANISM FOR REDD+

National Multi-Stakeholder REDD+ Council



Philippine National REDD+ Strategy (2009)

MOVING FORWARD

LEARNING LESSONS

National **G**reening **P**rogram

- Allegations re: selection of inappropriate tree species for reforestation efforts
- Allegations re: misrepresentation of survival rates
- FMB and DENR Resident Ombudsman currently monitor aspects of implementation

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!

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