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Community Development and Climate Change Action

Eileen Ortega-Gamo Director, Community Bamboo Development and Carbon Removal

Rizome PH and the circular economy

- Rizome PH, is a fully owned Filipino subsidiary of the US company and is developing a wholistic bamboo based value chain across the country.
- The value chain begins with bamboo propagation and continues through community managed bamboo growing and onwards to sustainable harvesting of mature bamboo raw materials to be manufactured into advanced engineered bamboo construction materials.



 Stewardship of the Indigenous People's Ancestral Domain by developing the land themselves and seeing their dreams of sustainably protecting their land by growing bamboo.





- Growing bamboos VS plant and forget
- Nurturing and caring for the bamboo plants from the 1st to 4th year so that by the 7th year they can start harvesting the bamboo poles.
- These are to be bought by Rizome for the production of engineered bamboo building products.
- This addresses the problem of the future market of the bamboo poles.

 Sustainable livelihood through jobs generation in the entire bamboo growing process (nursery, stick making, clearing, staking, holing, hauling, planting, geotagging, plant care such as watering and maintenance, finance and admin., monitoring and reporting).



 Human capital development and organizational development in all aspects of the bamboo growing program to <u>ensure ownership</u> of both process and outcome.



 Regularly asking the questions: What are we doing well and where can we do better? Evolving a culture of openness in difficult situations when the standards are not being followed so that it can be corrected.



The bamboo growing project is an ARR project being implemented following the Verra Standards (VM 047).

- The project aims to achieve GHG emission reductions as a result of the carbon sequestration attributes of giant bamboo or Dendrocalamus asper.
- GHG emission reductions will be calculated based on both aboveground and belowground biomass.
- The Verra standards include meeting the requirements of <u>where</u> the bamboos should be planted and how these sites are selected, <u>how</u> they are planted, <u>who</u> plants them as well as safeguards in risk management and grievance mechanisms to ensure they are in place.

The bamboo growing project is an ARR project being implemented following the Verra Standards (VM 047).

- Because we work with indigenous peoples in their ancestral domain, Verra strictly requires fully meeting the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) by IP planting partners with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples overseeing the process.
- Key to implementing an ARR project under Verra standards is DATA! Because carbon is intangible, the buyer of carbon cannot take possession of the plants. The main "product" is data.

Using evidenced-based data to drive planning, decision making and problem solving leading to positive outcomes.

- Value of data not only for mission success in the carbon program but for *accountability* and *transparency* of operations.
- Data collection <u>not from a compliance perspective</u> but from <u>ownership of its value to affect the outcome of the program.</u>

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5. Jennifer Canaan		Operations report
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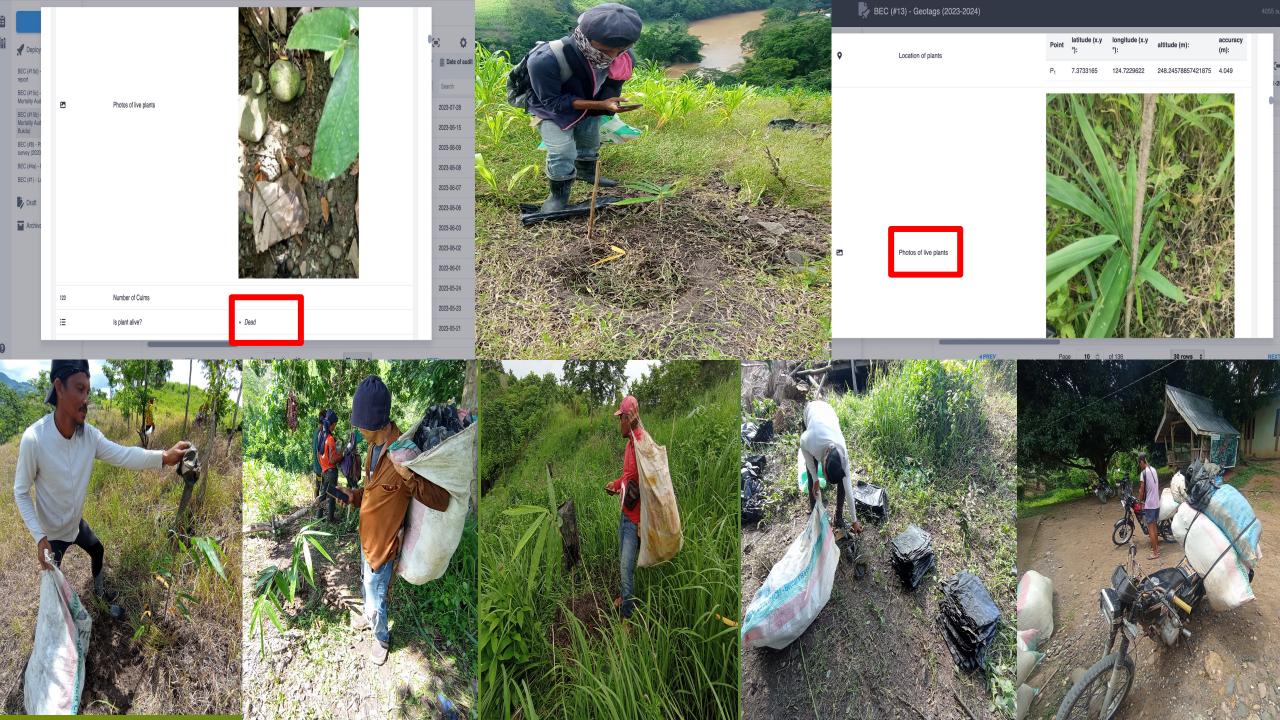
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Bamboo Growing and the SDG Contributions









Children are able to go to school because of the roads.

QUALITY EDUCATION ECENT WORK AND

ECONOMIC GROWTH

• Workers were able to invest in motorcycles.







8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



- Steady and reliable income for the family on a weekly basis.
- They are able to pay off their debt as they have regular income.
- Local traders now go up to their community because of their capacity to buy food, clothing, and household products every Friday and Sat.





Planting - 3.d Planting Kobo Geotagging Daily Update (100%) -Arumanen North Cotabato Sent on Tue, Nov 28, 2023 at 16:09

Construction Planting - 3.d Planting Kobo Geotagging Daily Update (100%) -Arumanen North Cotabato Sent on Tug, Nov 28, 2023 at 16:11

Planting - 3.d Planting Kobo Geotagging Daily Update (100%) - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



• Provides employment for the community members (both graduate and undergraduate).



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Photos of live plants



The primary impact related to SDG 13 is the positive carbon impact of the project through sequestration of a significant amount of CO_2 through the planting and maintenance of giant bamboo plants.









Intergenerational legacy Intergenerational wealth.





Thank you very much! Daghang salamat!