



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **THE UNDERSECRETARY**
Field Operations and Environment

THE BUREAU DIRECTORS
FMB, BMB, ERDB, AND EMB

THE ADMINISTRATOR
National Mapping and Resource Information Authority

THE DIRECTOR
Legal Affairs Service

FROM : **THE OIC, DIRECTOR**
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES – LOS BANOS (UPLB)
AND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES (DENR)**

DATE : **20 APR 2021**

This pertains to the Memorandum of Agreement between University of the Philippines – Los Banos (UPLB) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) forged on 14 July 2006. The said MOA has taken effect for 5 years and lapsed on 14 July 2011.

Based on expired MOA, The DENR and UPLB agreed to work together on the following areas:

1. Research and Development activities on environmental science, forestry, and natural resources management and conservation;
2. Policy formulation and review pertaining to ENR sector;
3. Human Resource Development; and
4. Technical assistance.

On 26 February 2021, the Dean of College of Forestry and Natural resources of UPLB, Dean Willie P. Abasolo, signified the interest of UPLB for renewal of the MOA with the DENR. In this regard, we would like to request for inputs and comments about the renewal of the subject Memorandum. May we seek your Office's concurrence on the renewal of the MOA if you agree on the provisions indicated and whether it is applicable to be undertaken by the parties. Attached is the said MOA for your ready reference.

We hope to receive your inputs **on or before 21 April 2021**. You may send it thru email address jcbautista@denr.gov.ph. For queries and clarifications, you may send those on the same email address provided.

FOR CONSIDERATION, PLEASE.


MELINDA C. CAPISTRANO

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Agreement entered into and executed by and between:

The **UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS**, a Government institution of higher learning duly organized and existing under and by virtue of Act No. 1870, as amended by Presidential Decree 58, with business address at College, Laguna, and herein represented by its Chancellor, **Luis Rey I. Velasco**, hereinafter referred to as **UPLB**.

- and -

The **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, a government agency created by virtue of Executive Order No. 192 with principal office at Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, represented herein by its Secretary, **Angelo T. Reyes**, hereinafter referred to as the **DENR**.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the critical state of the country's environment and natural resources demands more focused and concerted efforts towards the sustainable development of forest and natural resources and ecosystems.

WHEREAS, **UPLB** has been in the forefront in advancing the cause of sustainable development, and environmental science, forestry and natural resources management and conservation through its teaching, research and extension services.

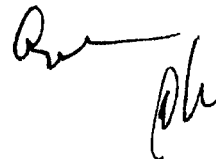
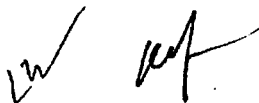
WHEREAS, the **DENR** is the primary government agency responsible for the conservation, management, sustainable development, and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources.

WHEREAS, both parties recognize the need of joining their efforts in order to have a stronger impact and more significant contribution towards the goal of eradicating poverty in the uplands and at the same time enhancing the quality of the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises and of the mutual covenant hereinafter set forth, the parties hereby agree to the following:

I. SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall establish the formal working relationship of both parties and serve as the mechanism to further strengthen their cooperation in the pursuit of undertakings designed to achieve their common goals.



II. IDENTIFIED AREAS OF COOPERATION – The parties have agreed to focus their cooperation on the following areas:

A. Collaborative R&D activities on environmental science, forestry and natural resources management and conservation

- i. Pasig River rehabilitation and restoration.
- ii. Laguna de Bay watershed management and environmental rehabilitation.
- iii. Biodiversity conservation and management.
- iv. Establishment of demonstration areas to serve as field laboratory to pilot the integrated ecosystems/watershed approach to sustainable development
- v. Strengthening of collaborative research on environmental science, forestry and natural resources management and conservation between **DENR** and **UPLB**
- vi. Conduct of other relevant researches and development projects on environment and natural resources based on identified priority areas

B. Policy formulation and review

- i. Community-based resources management
- ii. Eco-Governance and environmental science, forestry and natural resources management and conservation
- iii. Conduct of policy studies and researches to address various concerns affecting the environment and natural resources sectors.
- iv. Policy formulation and advocacy to promote the sustainable development of the environment and natural resources in the country.

C. Human Resource Development

- i. Short-term trainings, roundtable discussions, consultative meetings, seminars and symposia on environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources management and conservation.
- ii. Thesis and research support program in any of the graduate programs on environment, forestry, and natural resources management and conservation.

D. Technical Assistance

- i. Development of proposals for funding to address emerging issues and concerns of **DENR**.
- ii. Review of proposed and on-going priority projects.
- iii. Conduct studies and impact assessments of **DENR** projects, and policies.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. The UPLB shall:

- i. Organize a **Technical Assistance Group** composed of multidisciplinary scientists of **UPLB** to provide backstopping of the **DENR**. **UPLB** shall also form ad hoc **Science and Technology Resource Panels (STRPs)** as the need arises.
- ii. Assist the **DENR** in determination of appropriate research agenda on environment and natural resources in collaboration with the other relevant research institutions/sectors and provide technical expertise in the conduct of these researches.

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- iii. Assist the **DI** in policy formulation and review of proposed and existing policies on environment and natural resources.
- iv. Propose the establishment and implementation of demonstration area/s to operationalize the integrated ecosystems/watershed approach to sustainable development in partnership with the **DENR** and other relevant sectors.
- v. Tap the concerned units of **UPLB** to provide additional technical expertise in areas relevant to environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources management and conservation.
- vi. Facilitate the conduct of multi-sectoral fora/meetings/workshops relevant to environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources management and conservation.
- vii. Undertake policy advocacy, information and educational activities in collaboration with the **DENR** and other government agencies, civil society groups and the private sector to promote the protection of the environment and the sustainable development of the natural resources.
- viii. Provide the **DENR** scientific information on environment and natural resources issues to serve as basis for policy decisions/actions through continuing research.
- ix. Assist in the implementation of the **DENR** graduate thesis support program in environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources by developing an appropriate mechanism that will ensure success of the program in partnership with the **DENR**.
- x. Design and implement short-term training courses in environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources based on identified training needs of **DENR**.

B. The **DENR**, by itself, or through the Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), Protected Area and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) and the National Mapping and Resource Information Administration (NAMRIA), shall:

- i. Assist **UPLB** in the establishment and implementation of demonstration area/s to operationalize the integrated ecosystems/watershed approach to sustainable development.
- ii. Complement **UPLB** technical capability and resources to strengthen collaborative research in areas relevant to environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources conservation.
- iii. Authorize the National Mapping and Resource Information Administration and the Forest Management Bureau to collaborate with **UPLB** to determine the official figures on the state of Philippine forest resources.
- iv. Within the limits of the Appropriations Act, provide financial and logistical support in the conduct of multi-sectoral fora/meetings/workshops relevant to the determination of the official figures on the state of Philippine forest resources.
- v. Involve **UPLB** in the determination of appropriate research agenda on environment and natural resources in collaboration with the other relevant research institutions/sectors.
- vi. Jointly conduct with the **UPLB** continuing policy formulation and review of the proposed and existing policies on environment and natural resources.
- vii. Provide thesis support for **DENR** staff pursuing any of the graduate programs in forestry and natural resources in accordance with the **DENR** scholarship program.
- viii. Provide corresponding budget for short-term training courses to be designed and implemented by **UPLB** for **DENR** personnel.
- ix. Host **UPLB** students who will undertake their field studies, practicum and on-the-job-training on environmental science and management, forestry and natural resources conservation.

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IV. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT – In order to implement the provisions of this Agreement, the parties have agreed on the following institutional arrangement:

- A. **Advisory Committee** – An Advisory Committee is hereby created to decide on the plans, programs and projects to be undertaken under this Agreement. This Advisory Committee shall also oversee the proper implementation of the major programs and projects.
- B. This Advisory Committee shall be composed of the **DENR Secretary as Chairman** and the **UPLB Chancellor as Co-Chairman**, the **UPLB Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension**, Deans of **UPLB College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR)**, **College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)**, **School of Environmental Science and Management (SESAM)**, and **College of Engineering and Agro-Industrial Technology (CEAT)** as members on the side of **UPLB** and the **DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations** and **DENR Director for Policy and Planning**, and **DENR Bureau Directors** on the side of **DENR**. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once a year to monitor the progress of the operationalization of this MOA; advise the **UPLB-DENR Technical Working Group** and the **UPLB Technical Assistance Group** and to facilitate the effective and efficient performance of their functions.
- C. **Technical Working Group** – A **UPLB-DENR Technical Working Group (TWG)** is hereby created to be responsible in the formulation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation, of specific programs, projects and activities being implemented under this agreement. **DENR** shall appoint, upon recommendation of the **UPLB Chancellor**, a head of the TWG. The TWG members shall be composed of five representatives each from **UPLB** and **DENR**. **UPLB** and **DENR** shall appoint their respective representatives to the TWG. The Technical Working Group shall prepare and submit a bi-annual report of their activities and accomplishments to the Advisory Committee. The Technical Working Group can tap the assistance of other **UPLB** staff or alumni and **DENR** personnel to successfully carry out its functions.
- D. The Chair of the Advisory Committee and the Head of the Technical Working Group shall convene their respective committee/group within thirty (30) days from signing hereof to finalize the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.

V. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- A. For every project/activity to be undertaken under this MOA, the proponent shall prepare a project proposal for funding consideration by the **DENR** and/or other agencies.
- B. It is hereby understood that there is no employer-employee relationship between the parties or among their respective officers and representatives that will be involved in any of the programs, projects and activities to be undertaken under this Agreement.
- C. All project outputs, discoveries or inventions produced shall be jointly owned by the parties. The details of the terms and conditions concerning intellectual property rights shall be agreed upon by the parties in subsequent specific agreements, subject to the parties' respective policy guidelines on the matter, which shall form the integral part of this main agreement.

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- D. All the major reports of the project shall be made in the name of **UPLB** and **DENR**. The names of the principal authors/researchers/project leaders shall be identified, recognized and included in the report.
- E. This Agreement shall be subject to annual review by both parties to ensure that the provisions agreed upon by the parties are implemented according to the approved plans.

VI. EFFECTIVITY AND DURATION

This agreement shall take effect upon signing of the parties and shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years to be renewed upon the mutual consent of the parties unless pre-terminated for cause in which case notice in writing by either party shall be required 30 days prior to the date of termination.

In witness hereof, the parties hereto set their hands on the JUL 14 2009 day of JULY, 2006 in QUEZON CITY, Laguna, Philippines.

**UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
LOS BAÑOS (UPLB)**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR)**

By:

By:

Luis Rey I. Velasco

LUIS REY I. VELASCO
Chancellor

Angelo T. Reyes

ANGELO T. REYES
Secretary

Witnesses:

Erico P. Supangco

ERICO P. SUPANGCO
Vice-Chancellor for Research
and Extension

Teresito Castillo

TERESITO CASTILLO
Undersecretary for Field
Operations and
OIC, Undersecretary for
Management and
Technical Services