



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Assistant Secretary**
Policy, Planning, and Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
and Chairman, E2RB PMC

The Executive Director
National Water Resources Board

The Directors
Forest Management Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Climate Change Service
Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service

The Regional Executive Directors
DENR Regions VI, VII, XI, and XIII

FROM : **The Executive Director**
River Basin Control Office

SUBJECT : **MINUTES OF THE 2nd SEMESTER PROJECT MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE (PMC) MEETING FOR ECOSYSTEM-BASED
MANAGEMENT AND APPLICATION OF ECOSYSTEM
VALUES IN TWO RIVER BASINS IN THE PHILIPPINES
(E2RB) PROJECT**

DATE : **SEP 12 2022**

The River Basin Control Office (RBCO) is pleased to furnish you with a copy of the minutes of the 2nd Semester Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting for Ecosystem-based Management and Application of Ecosystem Values in Two River Basins in the Philippines (E2RB) Project conducted last August 16-18, 2022 in Iloilo City.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND RECORD.


NELSON V. GOROSPE



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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **THE UNDERSECRETARY**
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

FROM : **THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY**
Policy, Planning and Foreign Assisted and Special Projects and
Chairperson, Project Management Committee, E2RB Project

SUBJECT : **MINUTES OF THE 2ND SEMESTER PROJECT
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PMC) MEETING FOR E2RB
PROJECT**

DATE : **SEP 12 2022**

We are pleased to submit the minutes of the 2nd semester PMC Meeting for Ecosystem-Based Management and Application of Ecosystem Values in Two River Basins in the Philippines (E2RB) Project held in Iloilo City on 16-18 August 2022. Said meeting was organized as part of the annual target of the project which aims to assess the progress of project implementation.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND/OR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.


MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO II

Minutes of the Meeting of the 2nd Semester Project Management Committee (PMC)
Meeting for the E2RB Project
August 16-18, 2022
Smallville 21 Hotel, Mandurriao, Iloilo City

I. Attendance:

PMC Members

On-Site:

1. Asec. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr. - Chairperson, E2RB PMC
2. Exec. Dir. Nelson V. Gorospe - RBCO
3. RED Livino B. Duran - DENR Region VI
4. RED Paquito D. Melicor, Jr. - DENR Region VII

Online (via Zoom platform):

5. Dr. Klaus Schmitt (GIZ) - Vice Chairperson, E2RB PMC
6. Dir. Al O. Orolfo - FASPS
Represented by For. Eddie Abugan, Jr.
7. Dir. Natividad Y. Bernardino - BMB
Represented by Ms. Joy Navarro

Other Participants

On-Site:

8. RED Bagani Fidel A. Evasco - DENR Region XI
Represented by ARDTS Victor Billiones
9. RED Nonito M. Tamayo - DENR Region XIII
Represented by Ms. Genalyn Arbolonio
10. Exec. Dir. Sevilla D. David, Jr. - NWRB
Represented by Engr. Snoofey Cabag-Iran
11. Dir. Tirso P. Parian, Jr. - FMB
Represented by For. Jeric Angeles
12. Dir. Elenida Dr. Basug - CCS
Represented by For. Marie Vel Gaerlan
13. Dir. William Cuñada - EMB
Represented by RD Atty. Ramar Neil Pascua
14. ARDTS Raul L. Lorilla - DENR Region VI
15. Mr. Julie Rex Molavin - DENR Region VI, Ilog-Hilabangan RBMC
Representative
16. Mr. Marcelino Barquin, Jr. - DENR Region XI, Tagum-Libuganon RBMC
Representative
17. Ms. Sherrilyn Vasquez - CENRO Loreto, Region XIII

Online (via Zoom platform):

18. For. Randy Nuñez - FASPS

GIZ

On-Site:

19. Atty. Roberto Oliva - GIZ, Policy Consultant
20. Ms. Mari Trix Estomata - GIZ

Online (via Zoom platform):

21. Ms. Marion Daclan - GIZ
22. Ms. Dolores Nuevas - GIZ
23. Mr. Rogelio Abalus - GIZ

Secretariat

On-Site:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 24. Mr. Carlo Garcia | - RBCO |
| 25. Ms. Jea Louise Robelo | - RBCO |
| 26. Ms. Lorraine Quiñones | - RBCO |
| 27. Ms. Edna B. Locsin | - DENR Region VI |
| 28. Ms. Amellee D. Sardia | - DENR Region VI |
| 29. Mr. Danilo Lorilla | - DENR Region VI |
| 30. Mr. Carlo Legada | - DENR Region VI |
| 31. Ms. Leina Canto | - DENR Region VI |

II. Agenda

1. Matters arising from the 1st Semester Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting;
2. Status of the proposed E2RB Project cost-neutral extension;
3. Status of project implementation including issues and concerns;
4. Status of Local Subsidy (LS) proposals;
5. River Basin Integrated Information Management System;
6. Organizational structure of the Tagum-Libuganon River Basin (TLRB) - Regional Project Management Office (RPMO);
7. Proposed policy to strengthen RBCO, RBMO/RBMC;
8. Master Plan review and revitalization of the Ilog-Hilabangan River Basin (IHRB) and TLRB Management Councils; and
9. Upcoming Activities: Payment for Ecosystem Service (PES) Consultation and PES Training.

III. Highlights of the Program

<p>1. Matters arising from the 1st Semester Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting</p>	<p>RBCO Executive Director Nelson V. Gorospe presented the matters arising from the 1st Semester PMC Meeting held in Davao City last March 9-10, 2022.</p> <p>On the RPMC - IHRB to have one review committee - It was agreed that the Local Subsidy (LS) proposals will be jointly reviewed by the Regional Project Management Committee (RPMC) and the Regional Project Management Office (RPMO) before endorsing to the Central Project Management Office (CPMO) which is the RBCO and GIZ</p> <p>On FPIC status - meeting was conducted between NCIP and RPMO Region VI with regard to the preparation of the NCIP's Work and Financial Plan (WFP) to support field based investigation for LS projects in Cauayan, Candoni, Ilog, and Sibalay last August 2, 2022</p>
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	<p>in Kabankalan City. RPMO Region XI plans to coordinate with the new NCIP Regional Director for E2RB orientation and to level-off regarding the issuance of Certificate of Non-Overlap</p> <p>On the Project Operations Agreement (POA) - All committee members have already affixed their signatures on PMC Resolution No. 1 approving the Project Operations Agreement</p> <p>On funding of infrastructure projects - SWIS and other interventions can be funded by the Integrated Watershed Management Program. This can be proposed to FMB if feasible</p> <p>On the interface of the E2RB and Safe Water Project - It was suggested that a meeting between the E2RB and Safe Water project be attended by respective PMC members be convened. NWRB was requested to provide update on this issue.</p> <p>On the additional budget/funds to support activities - There is a low percentage of fund utilization for budget previously downloaded to the regions. RPMC/RPMO to utilize the remaining budget before additional funds can be downloaded by DENR Central Office.</p> <p>On the involvement of PENRO Davao del Norte with the project management activities - A Special Order designating PENRO Davao del Norte as head of the RPMO was drafted for discussion.</p>
<p>2. Status of the proposed E2RB Project cost-neutral extension</p>	<p>Dr. Klaus Schmitt provided an update on the status of the proposed cost-neutral extension of the E2RB Project. He shared that the proposal for the extension has been approved in principle although the official communication on the approval is expected by September 2022.</p>
<p>3. Status of project implementation including issues and concerns</p>	<p>The PMC agreed that the donation of vehicles from GIZ for the E2RB Project should be approved. The RBCO Secretariat was requested to draft a Resolution on the matter.</p>
<p>4. Status of Local Subsidy (LS) proposals</p>	<p>GIZ needs to inform the Regional field offices on any additional requirements from LGUs for the LS proposals. The Regional field offices are to follow up these requirements with the LGUs.</p>

<p>5. River Basin Integrated Information Management System (RBIIMS)</p>	<p>An overview of the web-based RBIIMS was shown and the PMC learned about its features and the outputs that can be produced from using the system.</p>
<p>6. Organizational structure of the Tagum-Libuganon River Basin (TLRB) - Regional Project Management Office (RPMO)</p>	<p>The proposal to have PENRO Davao del Norte as the RPMO head is reflected in a draft Special Order. However, ARD Billones requested that discussion on the matter shall be held in abeyance. The PMC agreed that the draft will be referred to Region XI for study and comments.</p>
<p>7. Proposed policy to strengthen RBCO, RBMO/RBMC</p>	<p>Atty. Oliva, E2RB Policy Consultant presented three (3) proposed instruments for strengthening of the RBCO—by way of the Joint Memorandum Circular and Executive Order creating the National River Basin Coordinating Council, and the DAO institutionalizing RBCO in FMB.</p> <p>Preliminary comments arose during discussion of the proposed instruments which includes: to clearly define the mandates and roles of RBC, address the lack of implementing guidelines, specify functions vis-à-vis with other government agencies (e.g. DPWH), address lack of permanent positions for point persons in field offices who will focus on river basins/watershed matters, and address lack of concrete administrative measures in terms of policies.</p> <p>PMC members are to submit their additional comments on the draft policy proposals that already incorporate the preliminary comments during discussion in the meeting.</p>
<p>8. Master Plan review and revitalization of the Ilog-Hilabangan River Basin (IHRB) and TLRB Management Councils</p>	<p>The status of the master plans for the two (2) river basins (IHRB and TLRB) were reported by the respective regions particularly showing the timeline, legitimization process and the operations or activities of the River Basin Management Council.</p> <p>It was also shown that MP for both RBs that were formulated back in 2014 have not yet been fully legitimized due to a series of challenges and obstacles namely, political tensions, impact of pandemic and lack of laborers/workers. For IHRB, it only received endorsement from Region 7.</p>

	<p>Another concern that was raised was the inability to provide for a conducive environment for the council to smoothly function especially now that there are many changes in the administration even at present time. It was noted that the E2RB Project will definitely be benefiting if there is a well functioning management council.</p> <p>It was agreed that GIZ will provide funding support through E2RB for the updating of the master plans.</p>
<p>9. Upcoming Activities: Payment for Ecosystem Service (PES) Consultation and PES Training</p>	<p>Presented by RBCO was an overview and backgrounder on PES and the upcoming activities for the conduct of PES Stakeholders Consultation Forum as well as PES Training. Suggestions for expanded participation of the concerned regions was raised.</p>

IV. Synthesis

It was highlighted that there is still much needed work to be done relative to concerns with NCIP, Safe Water Project, and E2RB harmonization or convergence as the case may be and based on priority concerns. The PMC noted that the cost-neutral extension is crucial in addressing the issues/concerns shown for LS Proposals, Master Plans, and revitalization of the IHRB and TLRB Management Councils. GIZ assured that they will continually offer the support needed for the success of the project.

Prepared by:


CARLO T. GARCIA
Project Coordinator

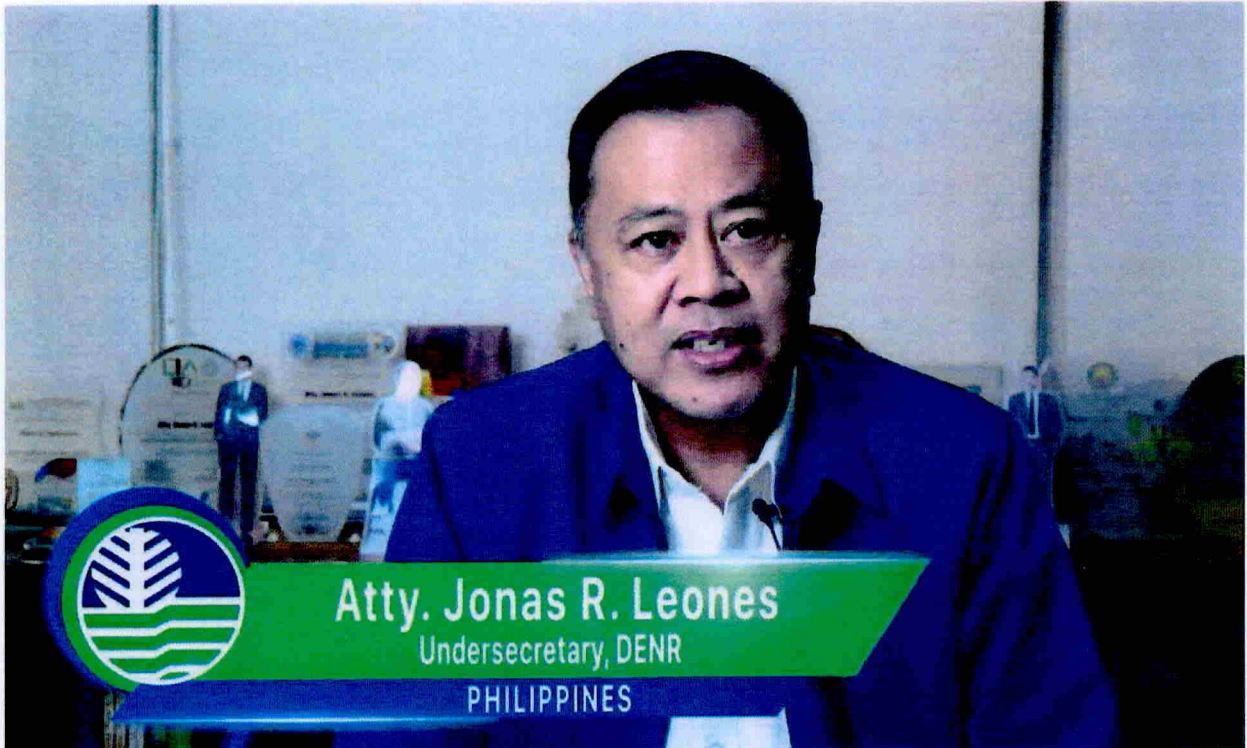

JEA LOUISE S. ROBELO
Project Coordinator


LORRAINE ANNE E. QUIÑONES
Project Operations Control Officer

Noted by:


NELSON V. GOROSPE
Executive Director, RBCO

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs delivering his keynote speech through a video message for the 2nd Semester PMC Meeting



The Project Management Committee (PMC) members during the 2nd Semester PMC Meeting at Smallville 21 Hotel in Iloilo City



Project Management Committee (PMC) members and participants pose for a group picture



Online participants during the 2nd Semester PMC Meeting via Zoom platform