

DENR Administrative Order
No. 2001 – 16
May 07, 2001

SUBJECT : Institutionalizing the Counter-Partnership of the Civil Society Action Network in DENR Programs and Projects.

Consistent with the State policy to involve the civil society's participation in shaping the nation's development and aware of the important role they play in the protection, conservation, management and development of the environment and natural resources within the context of sustainable development and in the enforcement of ENR laws, rules and regulations, the following guidelines are hereby promulgated as part of the institutionalization process of civil society's participation in DENR programs and projects

Article I
Title, Policy and Objectives

Section 1. *Title.* This administrative order shall be known as "*Institutionalizing the Counter-Partnership of the Civil Society Action Network in the DENR Programs and Projects.*"

Section 2. *Basic Policy.* The DENR shall encourage and promote the participation of the civil society in natural resources development, conservation, management and protection including the implementation of laws, rules and regulations for the sustainable development of the country's resources, within the Philippine Agenda 21 Framework.

Section 3. *Objectives.* The Network shall:

- 3.1 Serve as promoter of DENR's information, education and communication campaigns nationwide;
- 3.2 Act as facilitator of civil society processes that provide solutions and resolutions of different social, environmental, and economic issues, problems and conflicts;
- 3.3 Implement the accreditation, monitoring and evaluation of the civil society groups, which enter into contracts with DENR programs and projects;
- 3.4 Act as initiator and prime mover for national unity and for the alliance of civil society directly involved in the management and development of the environment and natural resources within the context of sustainable development.

Article II

Scope of Participation

Section 4. *Civil Society's participation in DENR programs and projects.* The Civil Society may participate in any of the existing DENR programs and projects, including those in the pipeline.

Section 5. *Key Areas of Participation.* The Civil Society collaboration and partnership in DENR programs and projects shall be in any of the following activities:

- 5.1 Project Implementation
- 5.2 Planning/Policy formulation
- 5.3 Research
- 5.4 Community Organizing
- 5.5 Information, Communication and Education
- 5.6 Law Enforcement
- 5.7 Monitoring and Evaluation
- 5.8 Training

Section 6. *Type of Assistance.* Type of assistance shall be in the form of, but not limited to, manpower, technical and financial including provisions of materials and equipment depending upon the resources committed by the civil society.

Article III Definition of Civil Society

Section 7. *Definition of Civil Society.* The Civil Society being referred to in this Order shall be defined as the private, nonprofit voluntary organizations that are committed to the task of socio-economic development, environmental protection and natural resources conservation within the context of sustainable development and established primarily for service and whose members are from the communities of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Peoples Organizations, (POs), indigenous peoples (IPs) academe, labor, business, religious, foundations, concerned government employees and other cause-oriented groups.

Article IV Creation And Operationalization Of The Civil Society Action Network

Section 8. *Creation of Civil Society Action Network.* A Civil Society Action Network (CSAN) is hereby created at the DENR and shall be under the control and supervision of the Director, Special Concerns Office at the national level and of the Regional Executive Director at the regional level. The said offices shall be the coordinating body at their respective levels between the civil society and the DENR in the evaluation and processing of citizens complaints, and the civil society participation in the DENR programs and projects. The CSAN shall consult with the civil society within and outside the DENR and other related government agencies to ensure genuine participation and provide a mechanism for consensus building.

Section 9. *Operationalization of the Civil Society Action Network.* The implementing rules and regulations of this Order shall be formulated, in consultation with the members of and representatives from the civil society, within 60 days after the effectivity of this Order.

Article V
Effectivity

Section 9. *Effectivity.* This Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes other issuances, orders, and memoranda inconsistent herewith.

(Sgd.) HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ
Secretary