

**DENR Memorandum Order  
No. 2001 – 14  
October 22, 2001**

**SUBJECT : Creation of the Itogon Integrated Watershed Management Project (IIWMP), Itogon, Benguet, Cordillera Administrative Region and Establishing a Project Management Office (PMO) at the Project Site.**

**I. BASIC POLICY:**

In the interest of the service and in order to attain the socio-economic cultural and ecological goals within the watershed of the San Roque Multi-Purpose Project (SRMP), an Integrated Watershed Management Project within the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet, Cordillera Administrative Region, is hereby created to implement a Watershed Management Plan drawn up for the purpose at the project site. The Plan is in response to Resolutions numbers 16, 109 and 126 of the Municipality of Itogon using a bottoms up approach as part of the conditionalities for the social acceptability of SRMP as contained in Item No. 12 of the additional conditionalities of the Environment Compliance Certificate (ECC) of the SRMP.

**II. OBJECTIVES:**

To operationalize the plan, the project shall have the following objectives:

**General Objective:**

To enhance and promote the ecological sustainability of the watershed and address the socio-economic and cultural concerns of the community;

### **Specific Objectives:**

1. To rehabilitate the degraded and denuded forest lands through the application of development and conservation interventions;
2. To preserve biological diversity sites of unusual scientific, educational, cultural and aesthetic values;
3. To monitor air and water quality along the Lower Agno River and its tributaries;
4. To promote proper ecological waste management;
5. To empower people by tapping them in the protection and conservation of the environment while promoting enforcement of environmental laws by the proper authorities;
6. To intensify environment public awareness;
7. To ensure proper management and administration of ancestral lands including the various natural resources within the project site such as mineral deposits, forest resources, wildlife, etc. through the various available government programs/projects;
8. To strengthen the tenurial security of the people over their lands through the issuance of appropriate land Tenure instrument, in coordination with the Department of Agrarian Reform and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples;
9. To uplift the overall socio-economic conditions within the area through alternative livelihood and other developmental activities;
10. To generate benchmark information on the appropriate management of the municipality's environment and natural resources; and
11. To review existing laws prejudicial to the community and make appropriate recommendations.

### **III. AREA OF COVERAGE**

The Itogon Integrated Watershed Management Project (IIWMP) shall cover the whole Municipality of Itogon with a total land area of 49,656.7 hectares covering the nine (9) barangays of Itogon namely: Ampucao, Dalupirip, Gumatdang, Loakan, Poblacion, Tinongdan, Tuding, Ucab, and Virac.

## **IV. PROJECT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURAL**

The project shall adopt the organizational structure as contained in Annex “A” hereof with the following management units:

### **A. Watershed Management Committee.**

A management committee shall be created as the policy making body of the project otherwise known for the purpose as the COMMITTEE. As such, the Committee shall meet on a regular basis and review the project implementation and approve policies relative to implementation schemes based on plans and experiences derived from the community planning and project implementation.

Policies approved by the Committee should be consistent with existing DENR project implementing rules. All policies issued/approved by the Committee shall be furnished to the DENR Secretary.

#### **A.1 Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau – CAR**

The Office shall provide assistance to the project in the implementation of land tenure improvement activities within mineral lands. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) shall be forged with the RED DENR-CAR for the purpose.

#### **A.2 Environment Management Bureau – CAR**

EMB-CAR shall provide assistance in the implementation of environmental perfection and conservation activities under the Forest Protection and Environment Conservation Unit. It shall come up with a MOA agreement with the RED of DENR-CAR for guidance.

### **A.3 Operations, DENR-CAR**

The Office shall actively participate in the implementation of Project activities particularly in the Biodiversity and Protected Area System and monitor the progress of project implementation.

### **A.4 Technical Services, DENR-CAR**

The Office shall assign technical personnel for each specific livelihood project at the barangay level to provide assistance in its implementation.

### **A.5 PENRO - Benguet**

PENRO Benguet shall provide linkage with the Provincial Government of Benguet in the attainment of project goals. Issue Free Patents within its authority and utilize its survey team for project activities.

### **A.6 CENRO Baguio City**

CENRO Baguio City shall assist the Project in the processing and recording of Free Patent Applications and provide assistance in the conduct of training and enforcement of DENR laws and regulations. It shall also provide linkage with other agencies within its jurisdiction. The Office shall designate the Forest Rangers assigned in the Municipality of Itogon to report at the Project Management Office and be under the operational supervision of the Project while directly coordinating their law enforcement actions with CENRO Baguio City.

**The Committee shall have the following composition:**

1. DENR-CAR Regional Executive Director as Chair;

2. Municipal Mayor of Itogon as Co-chair;

**Members:**

3. Representative from the DENR Central Office;
4. Representative from the National Power Corporation (NPC);
5. Representative from the San Roque Power Corporation (SRPC);
6. Representative from the Office of the Congressman;
7. Representative from the Office of the Governor;
8. Representative from the Federation of People's Organization;
9. Assistant Regional Executive Director DENR-CAR Operations;
10. Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) – Benguet; and
11. Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) – Baguio City.

The committee may invite members of other agencies in its regular meetings as the need arises.

A Secretariat of the committee shall be established at the Office of the RED DENR-CAR, Baguio City to provide for documentation and support for official business of the committee.

**B. PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

A Project Management Office (PMO) shall be established at the project site to operationalize the plan.

**B.1 Project Manager**

A DENR regular personnel shall be designated as full time project manager to supervise the overall

project implementation in coordination with participating agencies and offices. The Project Manager shall be equivalent to Foreign Assisted Projects (FAPs) Project Manager and shall exercise authority as provided under the DENR Manual of Approvals.

## **B.2 Technical Support Coordination Unit**

The Unit shall provide coordination in the field implementation of the project.

A Technical Support Coordinator shall be designated on a full time basis from regular DENR-CAR personnel to act as head of the unit and as Assistant Project Manager in the absence of the Project Manager. The Coordinator shall report directly to the Project Manager and ensure the smooth implementation and complementation among the different units of the project.

## **B.3 Administrative and Finance Unit**

The Administrative Unit of the project shall be in charged with personnel management. Procurement and property management shall be done in coordination with the Administrative Division of the Regional Office, DENR-CAR. A separate Public Bidding and Awards Committee (PBAC) to be based at the Regional Office of DENR-CAR shall be created specifically for the Project and shall function specifically in accordance with existing rules and regulations. Inspectors of the Regional Office, DENR-CAR, shall conduct inspection of procured supplies, materials and equipment.

A Sub-PBAC to be based at the PMO, Bua, Itogon, Benguet shall also be created alongside the Regional PBAC to act on allowable purchases and transactions

subject to specified limitations provided in the Manual of Approvals and in accordance to existing COA and financial rules and regulations.

In the absence of a financial management system of the project, the Regional Office of DENR-CAR shall provide the financial management of the transactions of the project until such time that a regular financial management set-up is established at the Project Management Office. A Special Disbursing Officer (SDO) shall be designated from among the DENR detailed personnel of the Unit.

A regular personnel from DENR-CAR shall be designated as full time Administrative Officer to act as Head of the Administrative and Finance Unit.

Detailed personnel from DENR-CAR shall be designated to augment the Administrative Unit of the project.

#### **B.4 Soil and Water Conservation (SWS) Unit**

The SWC Unit shall undertake the identification of structural and vegetative measures, reforestation and agro-forest sites through community workshops. Technical personnel from the SWC Unit shall prepare the design for each identified barangay project consistent with existing DENR guidelines. It shall supervise and monitor the implementation of barangay projects under its Unit.

#### **B.5 Livelihood and Research Unit**

The Livelihood and Research Unit shall provide technical assistance to the different barangays in the identification, design preparation and implementation

of livelihood projects as per approved work and financial plan.

#### **B.6 Forest Protection and Environment Conservation Unit (FPECU)**

The FPECU shall draw-up and operationalize a forest protection and environment conservation incentive plan within the 9 barangays of the Municipality of Itogon and implement activities as per approved work and financial plan of the Unit.

#### **B.7 Land Tenure Improvement (LTI) Unit**

The LTI Unit shall endeavor to rationalize management of land resources within the watershed avoiding undue conflict with the rights of people and process the issuance of appropriate land tenure instruments.

#### **B.8 Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area System (BCPAS)**

The Unit shall undertake the thirteen (13) legal steps as provided for in the NIPAS Act towards the proclamation of the watershed reservation under the National Integrated Protected Area System and implement biodiversity conservation emphasizing the interconnection between cultural and biological dimensions.

#### **B.9 Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) Unit**

The Unit shall be headed by a coordinator designated from the DENR-CAR. The personnel concerned shall coordinate M & E activities of the committee which is composed of personnel from



participating agencies and DENR-CAR Technical Working Group.

## **V. ROLES OF COORDINATING / PARTICIPATING OFFICES/AGENCIES**

### **A. DENR-CAR**

The Office shall act as the lead agency in project implementation. As such, it shall mobilize offices/services under its operational jurisdiction to extend assistance to the project.

### **B. NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION (NPC) AND SAN ROQUE POWER CORPORATION (SRPC)**

Said Offices shall assign their respective representatives as regular members in Watershed Management Committee and detail some technical personnel as project staff in the different units of the project. A MOA with the RED DENR-CAR shall be forged for the purpose.

### **C. Other Participating Agencies**

The National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) through their respective Regional Offices – CAR and the Local Government Unit (LGU) shall come up with their own Memorandum of Agreement with the RED DENR-CAR in the implementation of activities within their own mandates.

## **VI. The RED of the DENR-CAR**

For the smooth implementation of the project the RED, DENR-CAR is hereby authorized to issue additional guidelines on matters that are not covered by this Order.

## **VI. BUDGET REQUIREMENTS**

For CY 2001, the Project shall utilize the available budget based on DBM approved Work and Financial Plan for the purpose. Subsequent budget shall be requested from the Department of Budget and Management.

This Order takes effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked.

**(Sgd.) HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ**  
Secretary