

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING FORESTRY LIVELIHOODS IN FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

Presented by:

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

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FACTS

- Some 240 million people live in forested regions. In developing countries, forest-based activities provide about 30 million jobs in the informal sector, as well as up to one-third of all rural non-farm employment (CIFOR: <https://www.cifor.org/forest-livelihoods/>)
 - 25 million people in uplands of Philippines
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OPPORTUNITIES

- Increasing demand for various crops (forest and agricultural products) – wood products, corn, coconut, banana, guyabano (glaviola tree/soursop), cashew, etc.
- Availability of upland areas for development – open areas, grassland, brush lands
- Increasing government support to various crop production – Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), etc.
- Increasing participation of civil society organizations – Non-government Organizations (NGOs), People's Organization (Pos)
- Presence of donor / research agencies – ACIAR, AUSAid, USAID, EU, UNDP, etc.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Increasing awareness of various stakeholders on environment and natural resources management
- Changes in forest governance – thru Forest Land Use Plan (allocation of forest lands for issuance of tenure)
- Several initiatives on forestry livelihoods were already undertaken - various lessons learned
 - Collection of resin from Almaciga trees (*Agathis Philippinensis*) – 5-year old livelihood run by Local Government Unit of San Isidro, Governor Generoso in collaboration with the Protected Area Management Board of Mt. Hamiguitan Range and Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Furniture production from planted trees (*Gmelina Arborea*) – run by Peoples Organization in Davao City assisted by DENR Region 11
 - Tree farming using *Albizia Falcataria* in CARAGA Region – harvesting starts at year 3, with intercropping of cash crops
 - Agroforestry involving the planting of coffee, guyabano (glaviola tree/soursop) by Sarangani Energy Corporation, Alsons Power Group

CHALLENGES

- Climate change – with greatest impact to crop production, type of crops
- Forest-related trade and investments - often bring few benefits to local communities ; most often, traders earn more than producers
- Policies, rules and regulations - often hinder small-scale trade

<https://www.cifor.org/forest-livelihoods>

CHALLENGES

- Still need to build more physical infrastructures – post harvest facilities, road (not leading to natural forest), etc
 - There is still a need to strengthen extension work – sustained presence of technical assistance (from crop production to marketing) – upland areas are less visited
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- Culture, traditions, existing practices – shifting cultivation, burning, charcoal making (girdling of naturally growing trees), wait and see attitude, impact of dole-out programs, pure laziness (?)
 - Unregulated agricultural crop production – production of annual crops in protection forest

AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS



AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS

COCONUT-DOMINATED FOREST LANDSCAPE



AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS

COCONUT-DOMINATED FOREST LANDSCAPE



AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

Coconut planted on steep slopes



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

Banana planted along water ways



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

Banana planted on steep slopes



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

CORN planted on steep slopes



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

CORN planted on steep slopes



AGRICULTURAL CROPS IN FOREST LANDS

Oil Palm planted on steep slopes



NEW CLEARINGS FOR AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION



NEW CLEARINGS FOR AGRICULTURAL CROP PRODUCTION



LIVELIHOOD IN FOREST LANDS:

CUTTING OF TREES COUPLED WITH SLASH AND BURN CULTIVATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UNREGULATED AGRICULTURE-BASED LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS CONTRIBUTED IN THE SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF NATURAL FOREST COVER IN MINDANAO

LIVELIHOOD IN FOREST LANDS:

LOOKING AT MINDANAO:

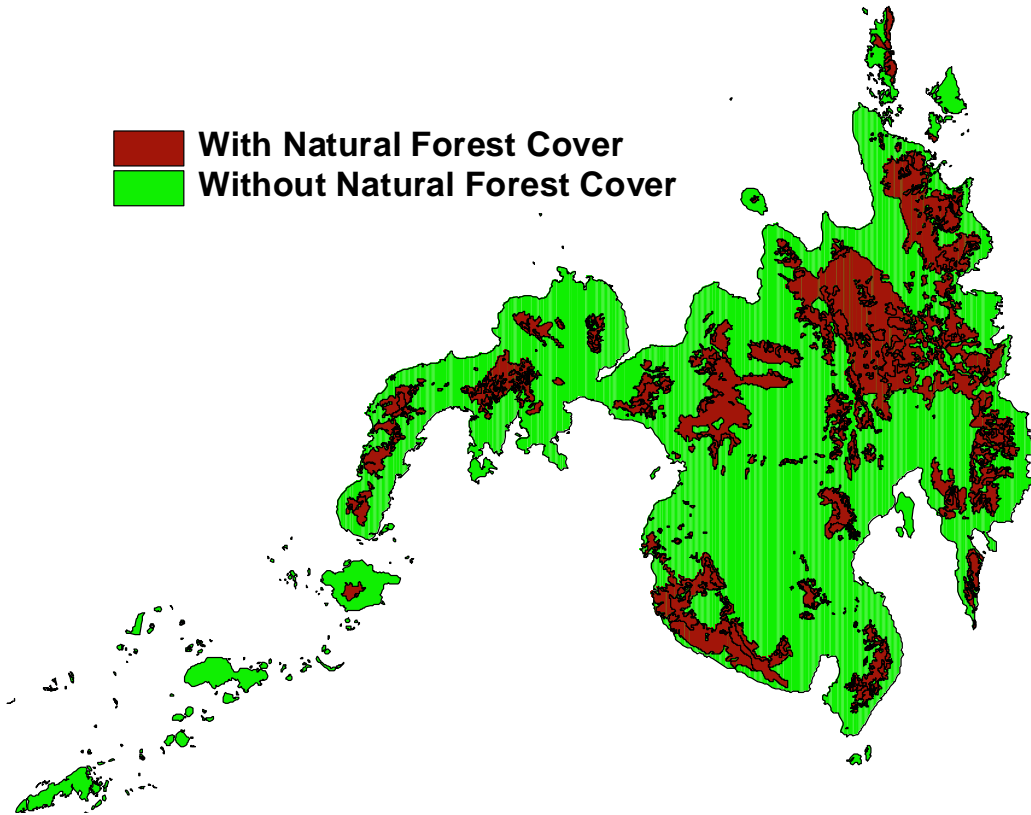
FROM 2.77 MILLION HECTARES OF NATURAL FOREST COVER IN 1988 (NAMRIA)
TO ONLY 1.95 MILLION HECTARES IN 2003 (USAID-DENR ECOGOV PROJECT)

IN 15 YEARS, MORE THAN 819,000 HECTARES OR 30% OF MINDANAO'S TOTAL
LAND AREA WERE DEFORESTED REGISTERING AN ANNUAL FOREST COVER
LOSS OF 54,630 HECTARES PER YEAR

NATURAL FOREST COVER LOSS 1998 vs. 2003

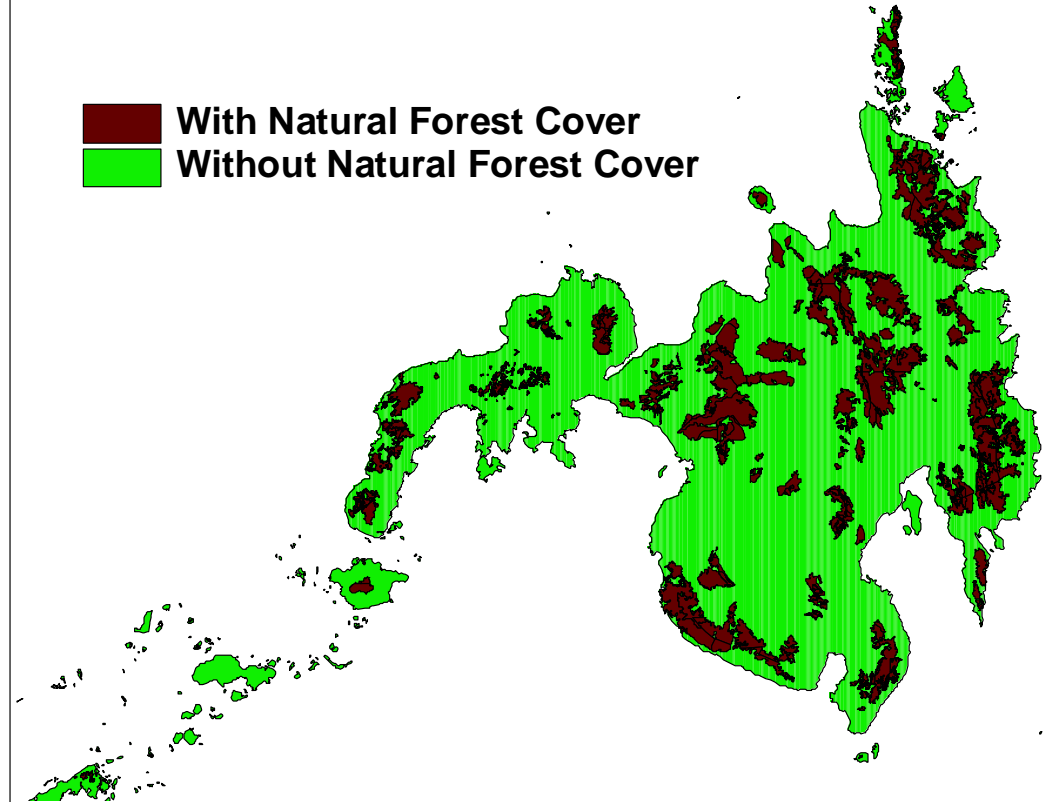
NAMRIA VEGETATIVE COVER MAP 1988

 With Natural Forest Cover
 Without Natural Forest Cover



**VEGETATIVE COVER MAP
USAID-DENR ECOGOV 2003**

 With Natural Forest Cover
 Without Natural Forest Cover

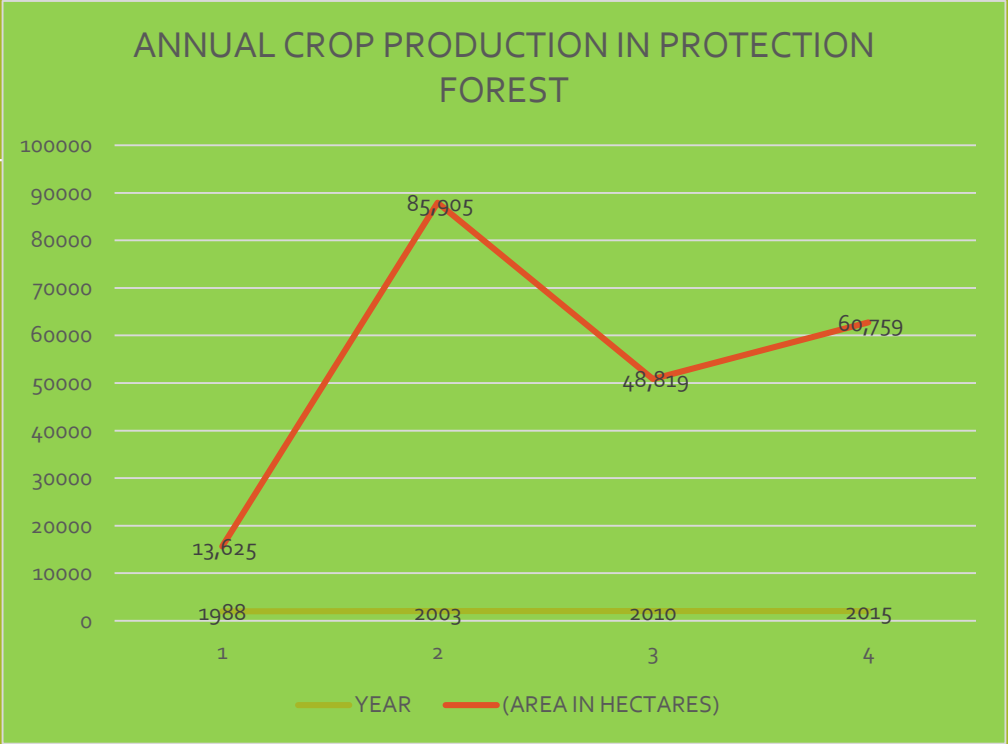
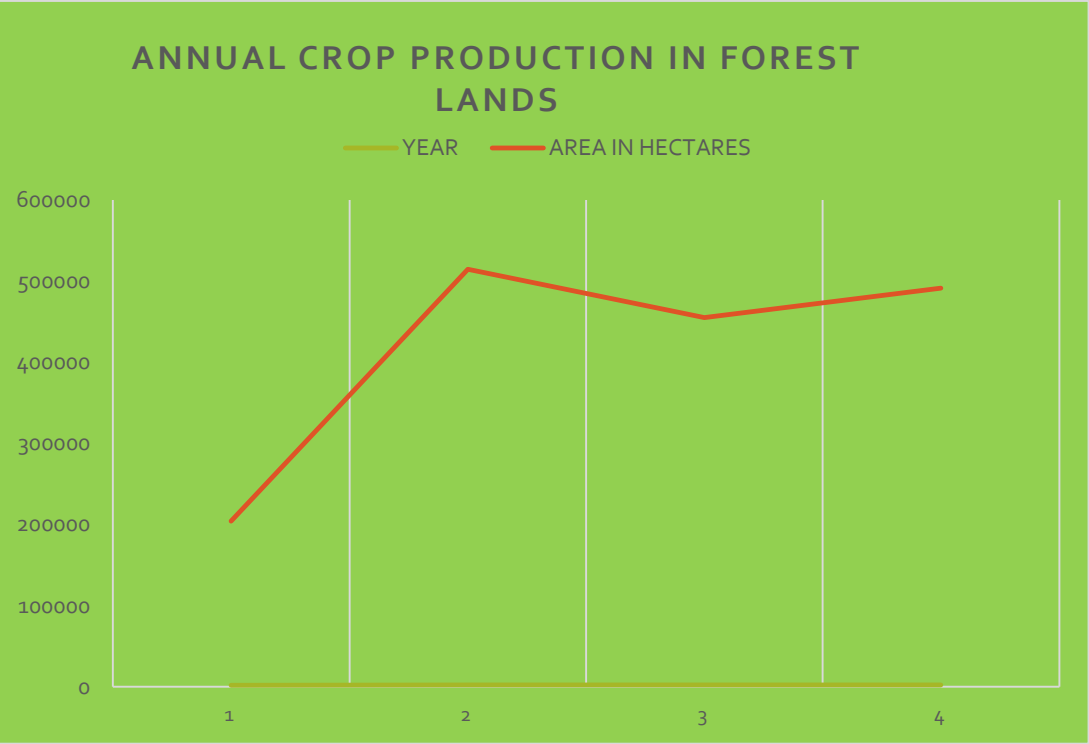


LIVELIHOOD IN FOREST LANDS:

OF THE 819,000 HECTARES DEFORESTED AREAS, 286,000 HECTARES WERE COVERED BY AGRICULTURAL CROPS. OF THESE AREAS, CLOSE TO 51,000 HECTARES OR 18% ARE LOCATED IN PROTECTION FORESTS (I.E. STEEP SLOPES) WHICH ARE MOSTLY PLANTED TO CORN AND COCONUT.

ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS

YEAR	ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION IN FOREST LANDS	ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION IN PROTECTION FOREST LANDS	PERCENT
	(AREA IN HECTARES)	(AREA IN HECTARES)	
1988	202,042.96	13,625	7%
2003	512,411.01	85,905	17%
2010	452,729.69	48,819	11%
2015	489,016.79	60,759	12%



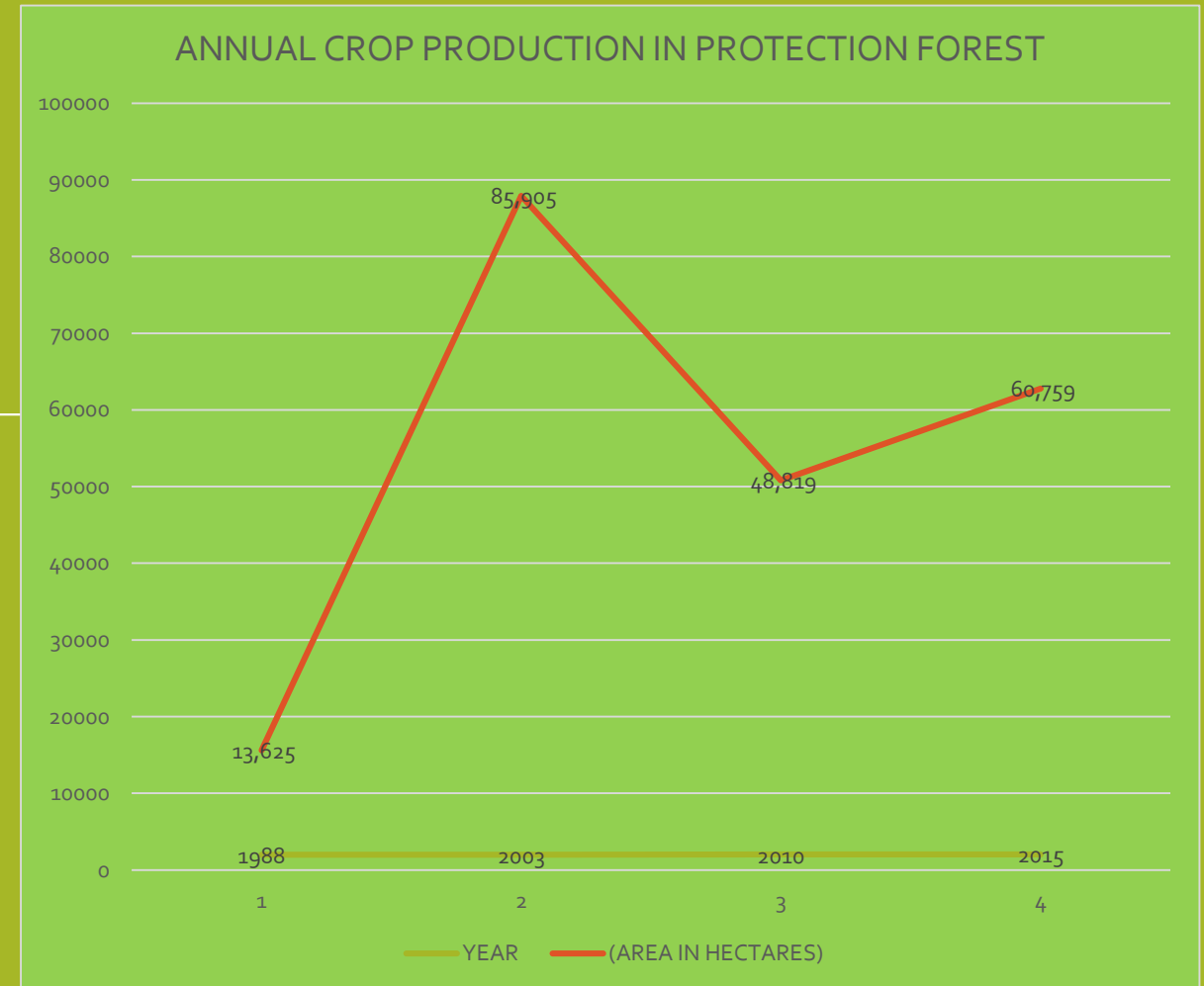
ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION IN PROTECTION FOREST (>50% SLOPE)

IN 1988, THE ANNUAL CROPS IN PROTECTION FOREST LANDS COVER AN AREA OF 13,624.597 HECTARES.

IN 2003, IT INCREASED TO 85,905.134 HECTARES. (51,000 HAS – NATURAL FOREST)

IN 2010, IT IS DOWN TO ONLY 48,818.806 HECTARES.

BUT IN 2015, IT AGAIN INCREASED TO 60,759.163 HECTARES



LIVELIHOOD IN FOREST LANDS:

THE INCREASING IMPLEMENTATION OF FORESTRY LIVELIHOODS IN THE UPLAND ENCOURAGES MIGRATION AND MORE PEOPLE ARE NOW IN THE FOREST LANDS TO TILL MORE FOREST LANDS.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Regulate the production of agricultural crops in forest lands – suitable species in protection forest
- Establish more economic magnets at lowland areas and suitable forest lands buffer zones
- Consistent and close coordination between and among government agencies – depart from sectoral and target-based approach
- Start with a family (champion) and let the formation of organization evolved naturally / from within - building organizations is time consuming and too costly
- Address ownership of the process and output
- Local Government Units need to prepare Forest Land use Plan following the principles of transparency, accountability and participatory process – identify, delineate and demarcate protection and production forest
- Let us strive to implement sustainable forestry livelihoods

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

A LIVELIHOOD IS SUSTAINABLE WHEN IT CAN COPE WITH AND RECOVER FROM THE STRESSES AND SHOCKS AND MAINTAIN OR ENHANCE ITS CAPABILITIES AND ASSETS BOTH NOW AND IN THE FUTURE WITHOUT UNDERMINING THE NATURAL RESOURCE BASE (CHAMBERS & CONWAY 1988).

As we implement livelihood in Forest Lands, let us protect the trees especially those located in protection forests