# The Role of Protected Areas (PAs) in Philippine Sustainable Development

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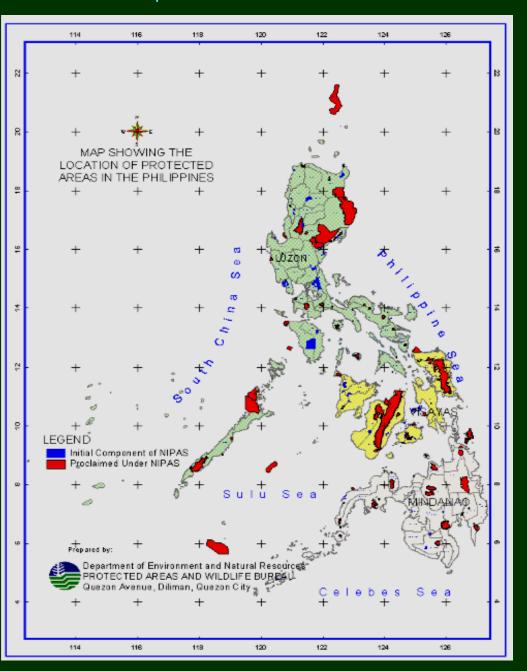


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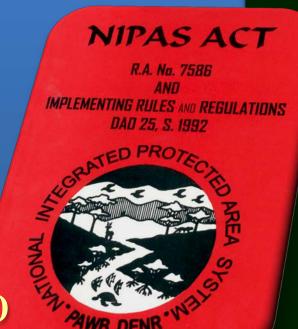
The Role of Protected Area (PA) in Philippine Sustainable Development

240 terrestrial PAs in the Philippines cover
5.45 million hectares or more than 18% of the country's total land area



#### National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act

- provides the legal framework for the establishment and management of PAs in the Philippines
- PAs are the identified portions of land and/or water
  - set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological significance
  - managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploration
  - managed by the PAMB



NIPAS Act of 1992 (Republic Act 7586)

#### **Protected Area Management Board (PAMB)**

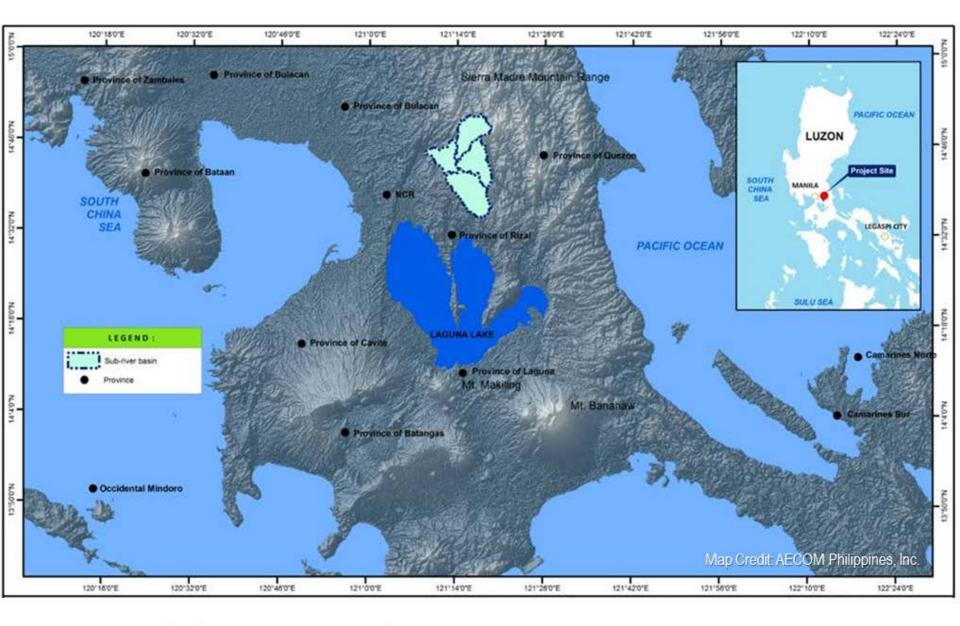
The NIPAS Act requires the creation of a PAMB per PA.

- a multi-sectoral and decision-making body for each PA established, composed of:
  - National Government
  - Provincial/Local Government
  - Private Sector
  - Local communities/Indigenous People
- The PAMB is basically responsible for the management of the protected area.

### The devastation caused by typhoon Ondoy (Ketsana) in September 2009 caused:

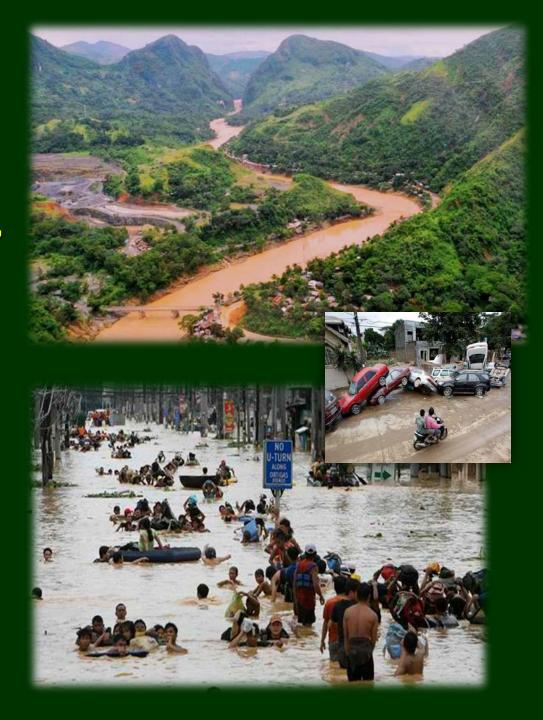
- massive flooding from the degraded
   Marikina River Basin.
- loss of lives (464 dead)
- damage to properties
- Cost of Damage to about US\$ 4.8 billion

before Ondoy



**Location of the Upper Marikina River Basin** 

The massive flooding came from the Upper Marikina mountains.



Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape (UMRBPL)

The Upper Marikina is faced with challenges such as:

- Deforestation trees were cut for fuel wood and charcoal-making for domestic use and source of livelihood
- In-migration clearing for construction of houses
- Soil erosion due to decrease of forest cover
- Biodiversity loss

These issues prompted the issuance of Presidential Proclamation 296, declaring the Upper Marikina River Basin as a protected area under the NIPAS.

The rehabilitation of UMRBPL will enhance the forest cover and absorptive capacity of the watershed.



Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape (UMRBPL)

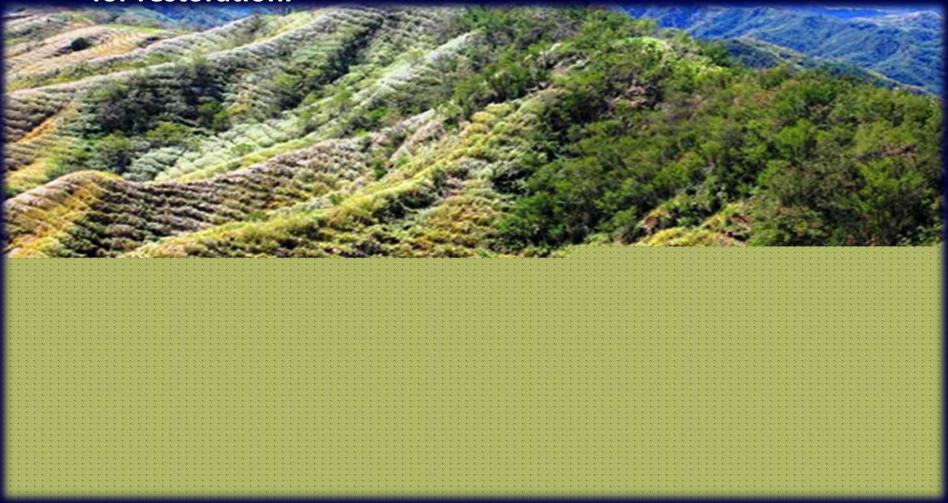


#### Components of the solution

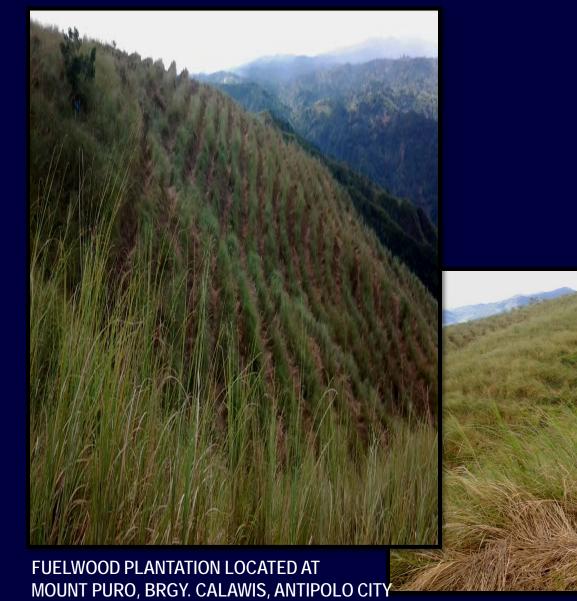
- Policy declaration
- Preparation and adoption of the management plan
- Consultation and partnership with various stakeholders
- Organized communities are contracted to rehabilitate the Upper Marikina River Basin

#### 1. Rehabilitation Process:

More than 10,000 hectares (24,710 acres) has been planted for restoration.



## 2. An area has been planted with fuelwood for domestic consumption and livelihood





#### 3. Checkdams were constructed to reduce water velocity -

reducing flash floods, trap the solid materials (soil, rocks, etc.)
 that fill waterways causing siltation

water collected serve as source of water for irrigation and for

other domestic purposes







#### 4. Livelihood assistance was provided -

to wean the attention of the people from doing illegal activities, e.g, wildlife gathering, mineral extraction, etc.



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#### Dehydration and Pulverizing of Fruits and Vegetables



Collected Php16,585.00 on dehydrated Vegetables, Fruits, and Herbs



#### 5. Ecotourism Project

Facilities were constructed near the UMRBPL Project Management office to cater to the needs of project visitors and bikers



Viewing Deck

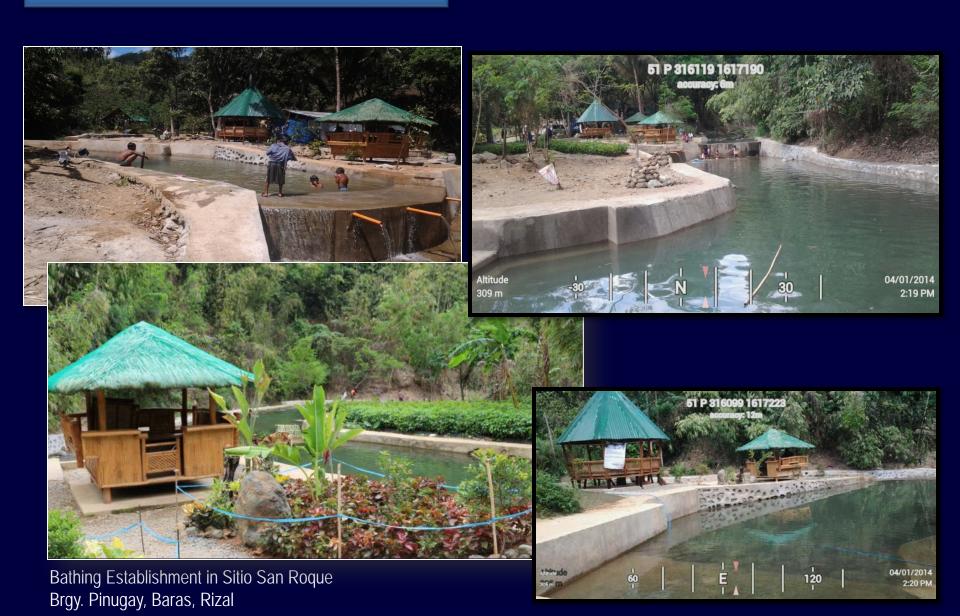


Visitors Center



Souvenir Shop

#### 5. Ecotourism Project



# Our responsibility is to sustain these efforts towards the implementation of the management plan

