



IUCN
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SYDNEY 2014

*Parks, people, planet:
inspiring solutions*

Celebrating Governance: The Philippines Experience

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Indigenous Communities in the Philippines have had troubling past in our recent history.

- They have witnessed the wide-scale destruction of their traditional territories;
- Have lost their lands to vested interests and extractive industries;
- Little has been done to acknowledge their role as the historical stewards of the environment.



The Philippines recognizes the capacities of IPs and strength of their traditional governance in conservation

Recognising capacities of IPs and benefits for conservation





The Philippines believes that by continuing to listen to, and work with indigenous communities, we will be able to better conserve nature for the generations to come, and fulfill our global commitments to protect the environment.





The Ancestral
Domains of
Indigenous
Communities in
the Philippines
cover nearly
 $1/4^{\text{th}}$ of the total
land area of the
country

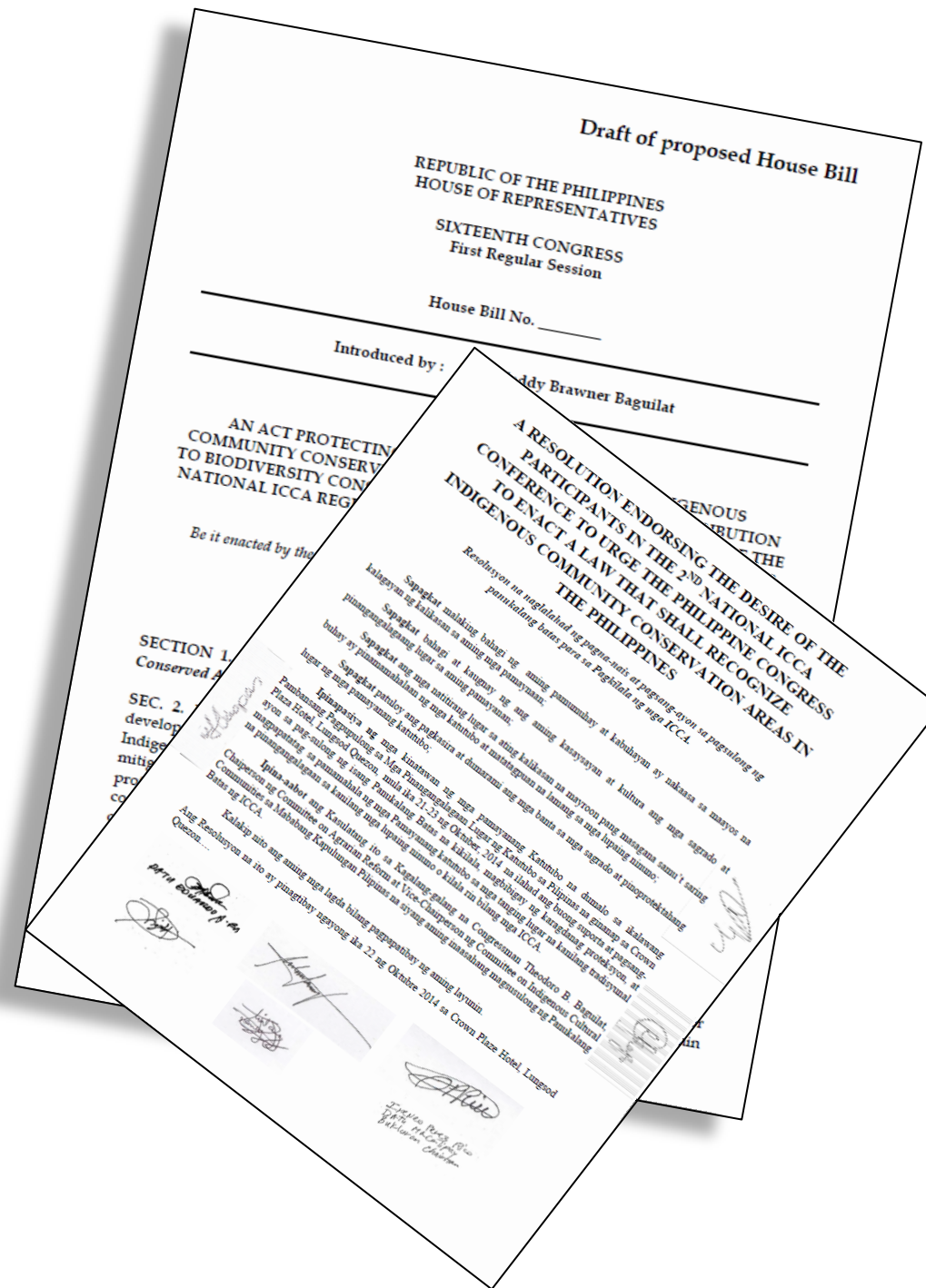


- Ancestral Domains of Indigenous Communities cover nearly all of the remaining forest cover and Key Biodiversity Areas in the Philippines;
- Indigenous Communities provide de facto governance to the remaining resources and critical habitats of the country;
- There is a very high potential for opportunities for partnership with Indigenous Communities to conserve our remaining natural resources



We have filed a Bill in the Philippine Congress which shall among others:

- *provide legal recognition of ICCAs;*
- *Strengthen the capacity of Indigenous Communities to defend and protect their ICCAs; and;*
- *acknowledge the role that Indigenous Communities have played since time immemorial in protecting and conserving our biodiversity and ensuring our future*

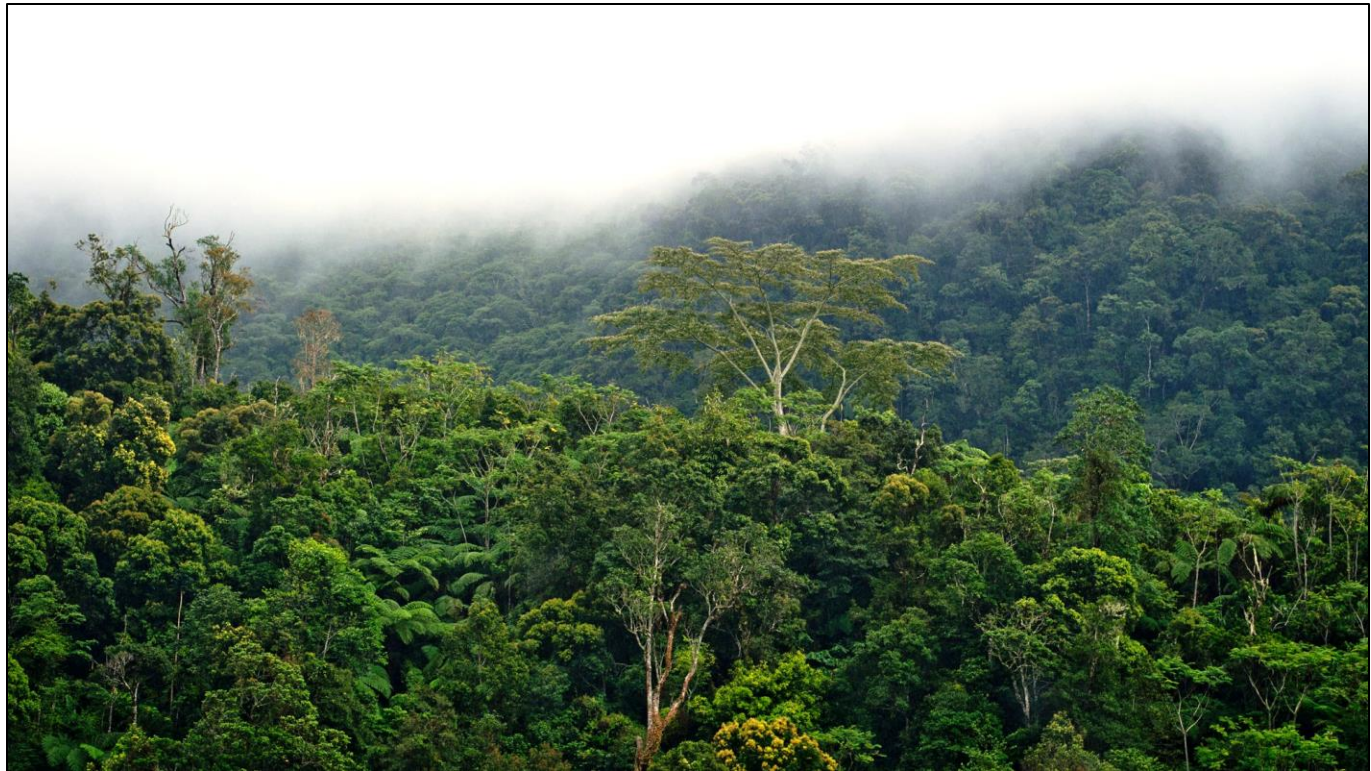


The Philippines is determined to pay attention to “governance for the conservation of nature”

We are determined in our resolve to promote **governance diversity** by accepting ICCAs as **LEGITIMATE, EFFECTIVE** and an **IMPORTANT** means of conserving our environment.



We paid attention to **governance vitality** by recognising the wisdom of traditional governance and management systems, by enhancing mutual learning, solidarity, and by using a variety of new tools, INCLUDING mapping and spatial analysis to merge Traditional Knowledge and Conservation Science ...



We shall now pay more attention to **governance quality** by ensuring that Conservation initiatives all over the country respect cultures exercise equity and practice transparency; are properly reviewed, monitored, capacitated and properly supported by the Government and the stakeholders...

