

Tenure and Conservation

An Overview of the Philippine Experience

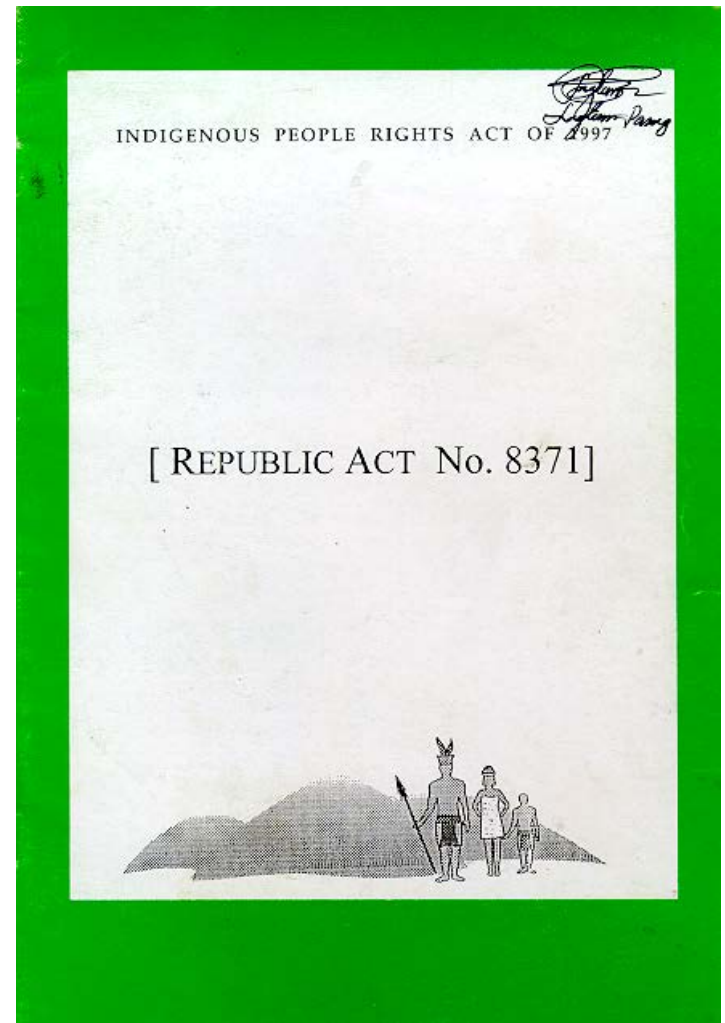
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Indigenous Peoples Rights Act

- Recognizes the Indigenous Communities right to own their ancestral domain and get a Communal Title
- Respects the Indigenous Communities right to traditionally manage, control, use, protect and develop their ancestral domain.
- Ancestral Domains covers both terrestrial, riparian as well as coastal and aquatic ecosystems in the Philippines.





The Ancestral Domains of Indigenous Communities in the Philippines cover nearly 1/4th of the total land area of the country

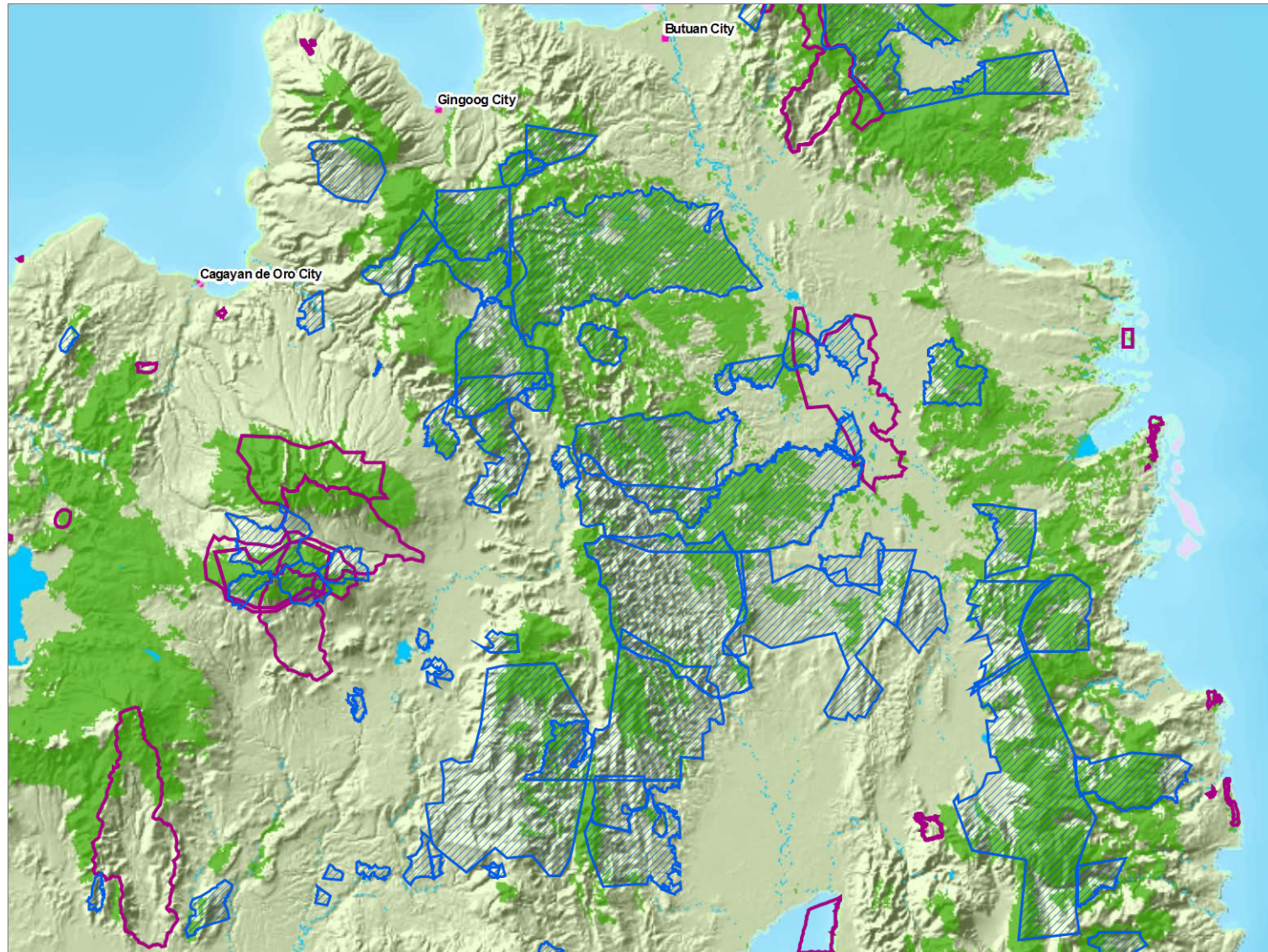
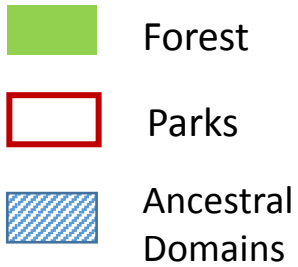


- Ancestral Domains of Indigenous Communities cover nearly all of the remaining forest cover and Key Biodiversity Areas in the Philippines;
- Indigenous Communities exercise de facto governance to the remaining resources and critical habitats of the country;
- There is **no other option** but to foster partnerships with Indigenous Communities in order to conserve our remaining natural resources
- Recognizing “Legal” Tenurial rights of IPs over their domains enables them to assert their authority and exercise their traditional governance over their domains.



Central Mindanao (Southern Philippines)

Legend



State of the Forest Cover

- Diminished forests
- Large forest areas are outside the protected areas system
- Most remaining forests are in ancestral domains

Batang Watershed in Mt. Kalatungan: A critical watershed within the Ancestral Domain of the *Talaandig* Indigenous Community



- A Participatory 3D-Model was constructed in 2003 to facilitate the identification of the boundaries of the traditional territory of the Talaandig for use in filing an ancestral domain claim.
- The Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) of the Talaandig community in the Batang Watershed was secured.
- In 2013, land cover data on the P3DM was updated by the community to reflect the current situation of the domain

Analysis of Land-Use Change: 2003 – 2013

Batang Watershed, Mt. Kalatungan

Using digitized data from P3DM

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	CHANGE	POSNEG	HECTARE	PERC
Secondary to agri	Forest to non-forest	Negative	161.76	1.27
Secondary to grass	Forest to non-forest	Negative	127.76	1.00
Secondary to brush	Forest to non-forest	Negative	87.44	0.69
Primary to grassland	Forest to non-forest	Negative	56.88	0.45
Primary to Agri	Forest to non-forest	Negative	43.84	0.34
Primary to brushland	Forest to non-forest	Negative	27.08	0.21
Secondary to residential	Forest to non-forest	Negative	9.56	0.07
Grassland to agri	Non-forest	Negative	374.80	2.94
Agri to residential	Non-forest	Negative	144.92	1.14
Grassland to residential	Non-forest	Negative	14.04	0.11
Primary to secondary	Forest	Negative-forest	101.28	0.79
Primary no change	Forest	No change	3194.08	25.04
Secondary no change	Forest	No change	523.12	4.10
Agri to agri	Non-forest	No change	2783.76	21.82
Grassland to grassland	Non-forest	No change	1636.16	12.83
Residential no change	Non-forest	No change	53.32	0.42
Secondary to primary	Forest	Positive	416.48	3.27
Agri to brushland	Non-forest	Positive	664.24	5.21
Grassland to brushland	Non-forest	Positive	386.08	3.03
Agri to grassland	Non-forest	Positive	204.40	1.60
Residential to agri	Non-forest	Positive	87.92	0.69
Residential to brushland	Non-forest	Positive	4.00	0.03
Residential to grassland	Non-forest	Positive	0.68	0.01
Grassland to secondary	Non-forest to forest	Positive	1154.64	9.05
Grassland to primary	Non-forest to forest	Positive	256.36	2.01
Agri to secondary	Non-forest to forest	Positive	225.84	1.77
Agri to primary	Non-forest to forest	Positive	13.68	0.11

- Remained as Forests = 33%
- Non-forest to Forest = 13%
- Forest to Non-forest = 4%
- Remained as Non-forest = 50%
- **11% Improved Cover**

Clearly there were more positive changes in the past 10 years that happened to the forest cover of the Batang Watershed in Mt. Kalatungan since the Indigenous Talaandig secured a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title in 2003.

Sources:

World Database on Protected Areas
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