

Office of the President
Republic of the Philippines

AGNO RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



Role of the

Agno River Basin Development
Commission (ARBDC)

In RIVER BASIN MASTER PLANNING

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Agno River Basin Development Commission



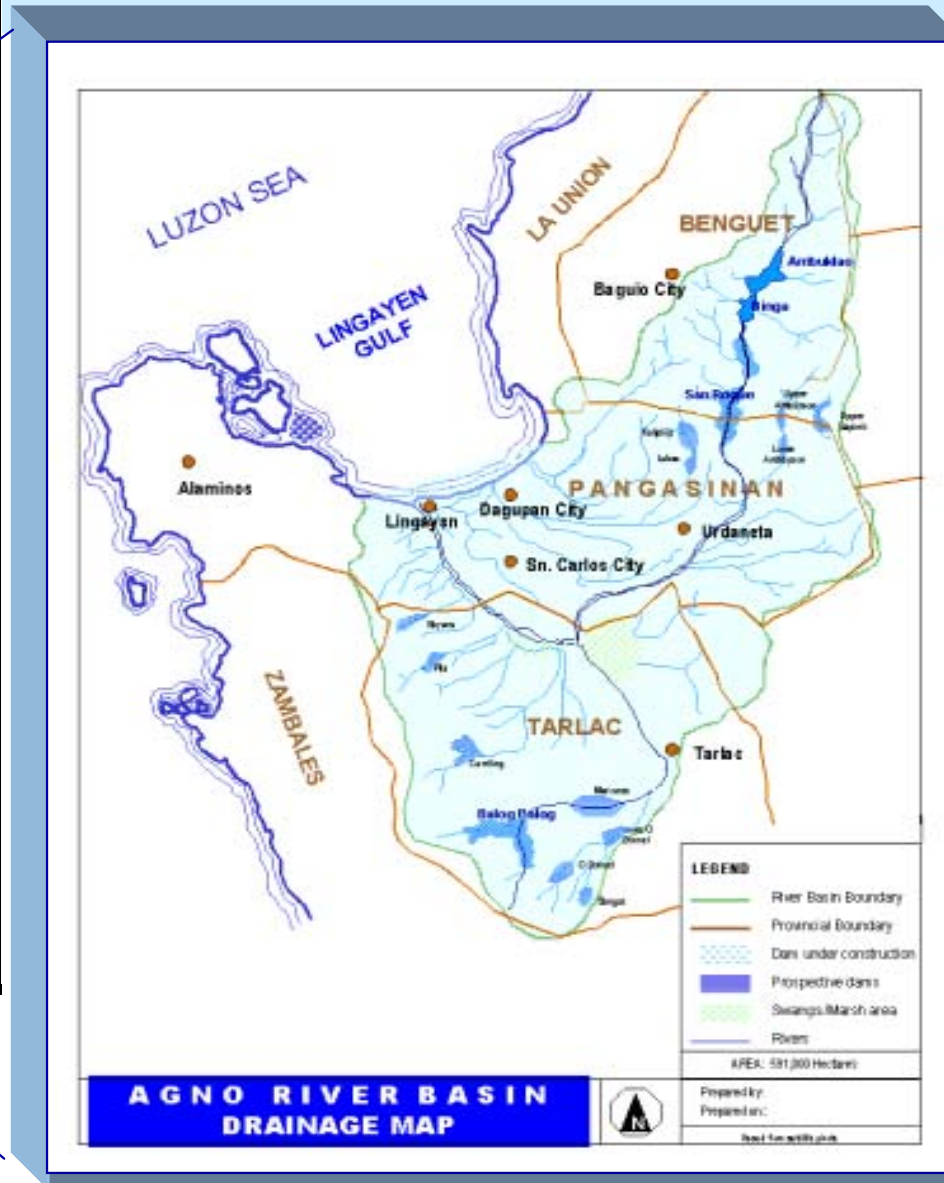
Mandate of the ARBDC

- The Agno River Basin Development Commission (ARBDC) was created by virtue of Executive Order 442 dated September 1997 as amended.
- It is mandated to oversee and coordinate all developmental undertakings in the Basin ensuring resources planning and management for sustainable development.
- It is entrusted with the primary responsibility of developing a comprehensive plan for an integrated development of the Basin.

The Agno River Basin



Located in Central Luzon



Catchment area of 8,013.41 square km.

The fifth largest river basin in the Philippines

Population of more than 4 million

Where three big hydro-electric dams are located

A snap shot of the northern upstream of
the Agno River Basin



PRESSURES ON AGNO RIVER



A GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK UTILIZING ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

Basic Assumption: Problems arise because too many interest groups are competing for too few resources



Preparation of the Agno River Basin Master Plan

The Agno River Basin Master Plan embodies the developmental direction of the Basin as envisioned by the stakeholders.

The plan was specifically prepared in the light of the following conditions:

- Need for immediate coordination of programs and projects
- Lack of necessary human and financial resources
- Need to provide a strategic framework
- Need to identify, develop & enhance proposed prog/projects
- Need to maintain a flexible decision-making process



Preparation of the Agno River Basin Master Plan

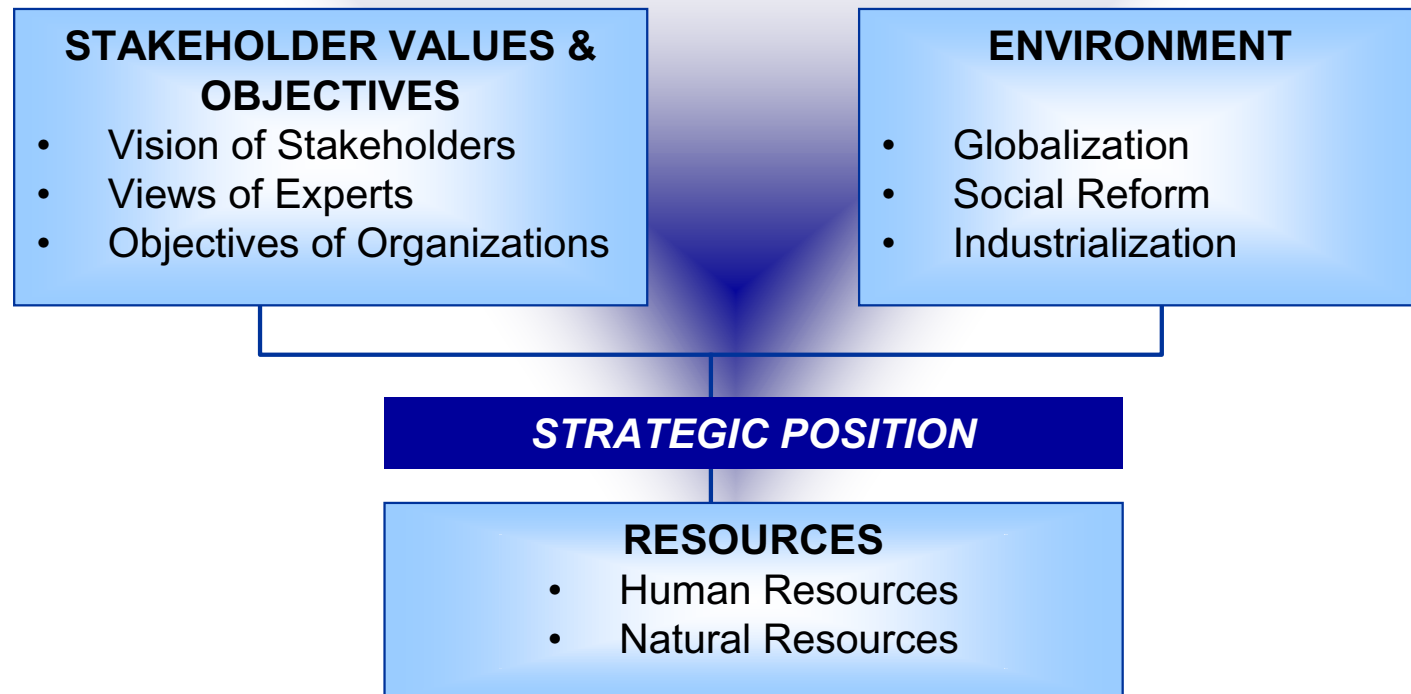
The Master Plan serves the following purposes:

- To guide subsequent planning activities for the Basin.
- To identify vital action areas for future development activities.
- To define areas of coordination among development actors.

The Role of the ARBDC

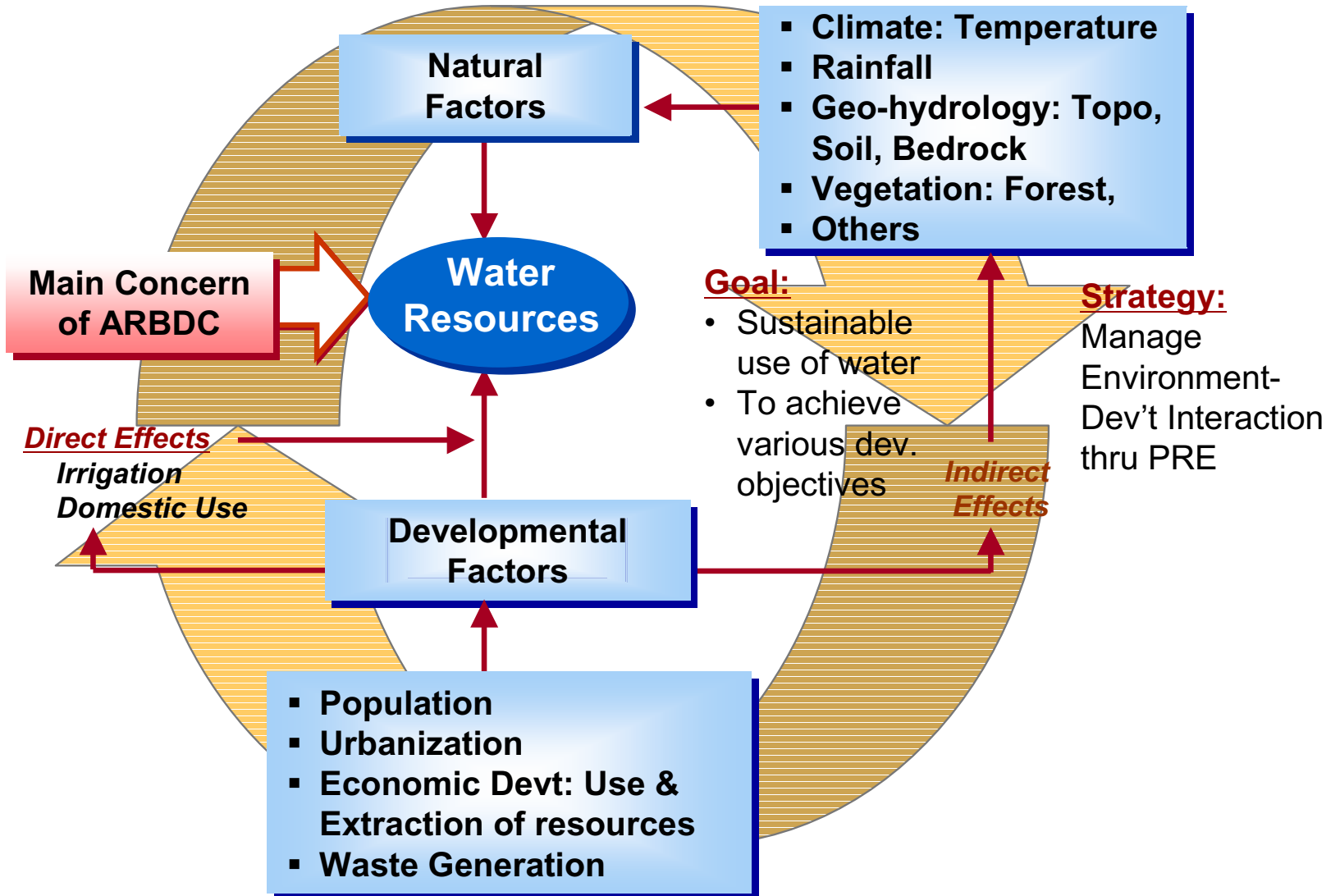
- established the coordination mechanism for plan preparation.
- set up a planning approach for sustainable water resource management of the Basin.

Coordination Framework



Conceptual Framework

Agno River Master Plan and Implementation Management





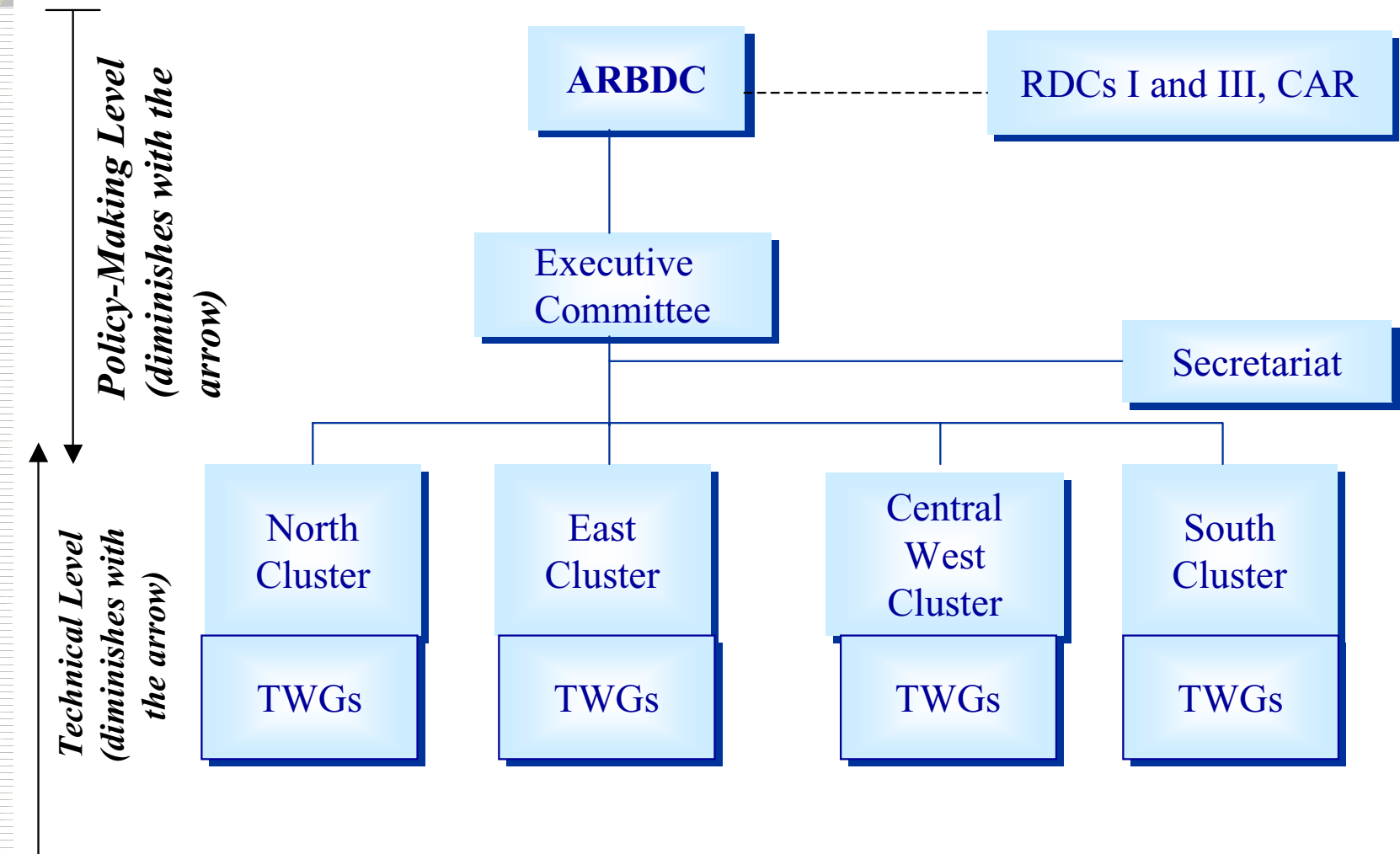
Planning Approach

- It considers the inter-relationship of the Basin's population, resources, and environment.
- It integrates the plans of different local and regional administrative units.
- It applies a participatory approach involving all stakeholders.
- It considers the overall national developmental goals and objectives of the Government.

Strategic Framework



Planning Structure



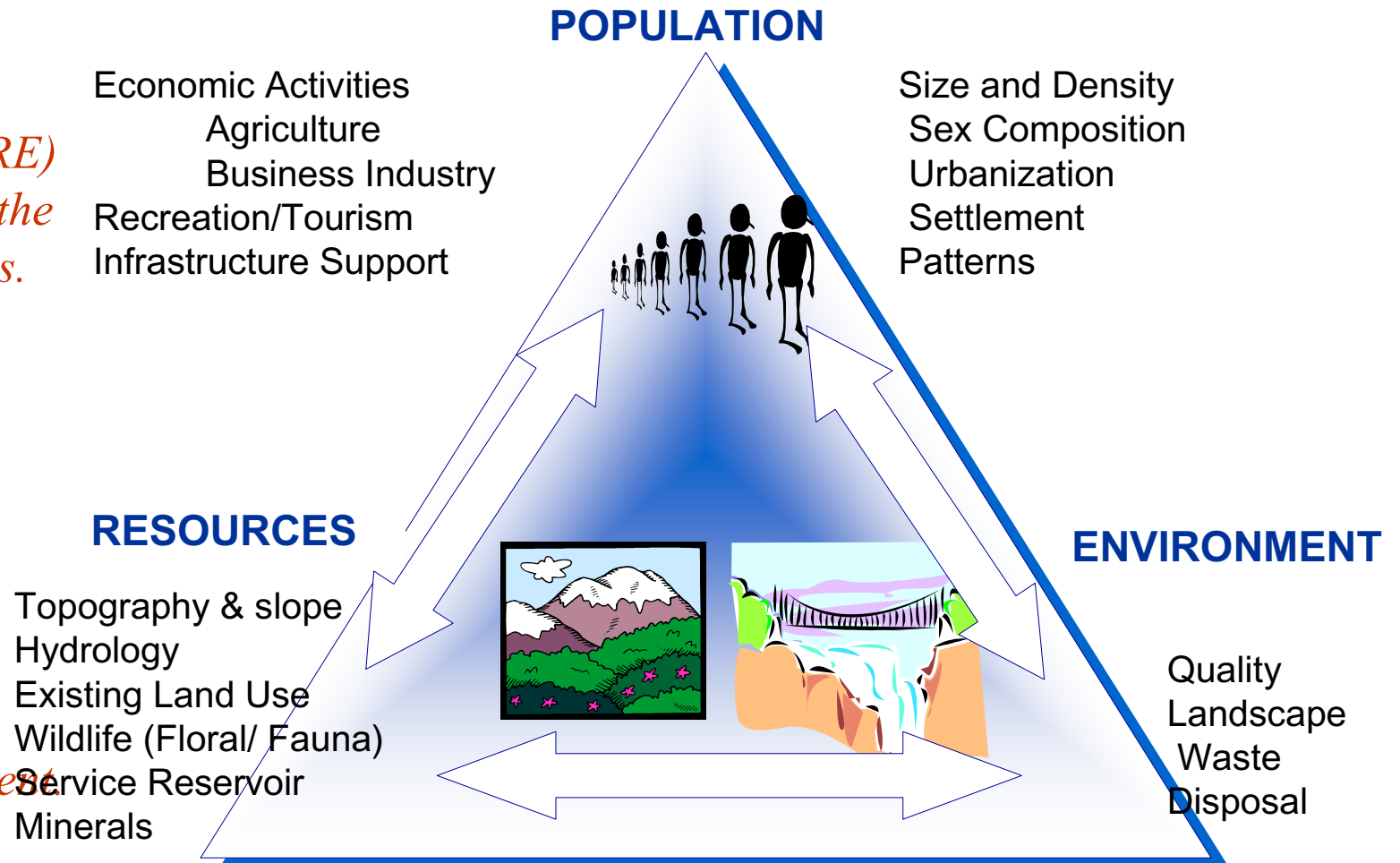
The Agno River Basin



The Master Plan

Conceptual Framework

- *Adopted the population-resource-environment (PRE) framework in the planning process.*
- *Considered proper resource utilization & management.*
- *Considered Basin's major resources for impact assessment.*





The Master Plan

has been guided by the following principles

- Integrated economic, social and physical development of the Basin;
- Maximum participation of all stakeholders in the area;
- Sharing of functions and technical expertise in the planning process;
- Preservation and enhancement of indigenous cultures and communities;
- Equitable sharing of costs and benefits; and
- Long-term sustainability of plan implementation. .



The Master Plan

has been directed towards the achievement of the following development goals:

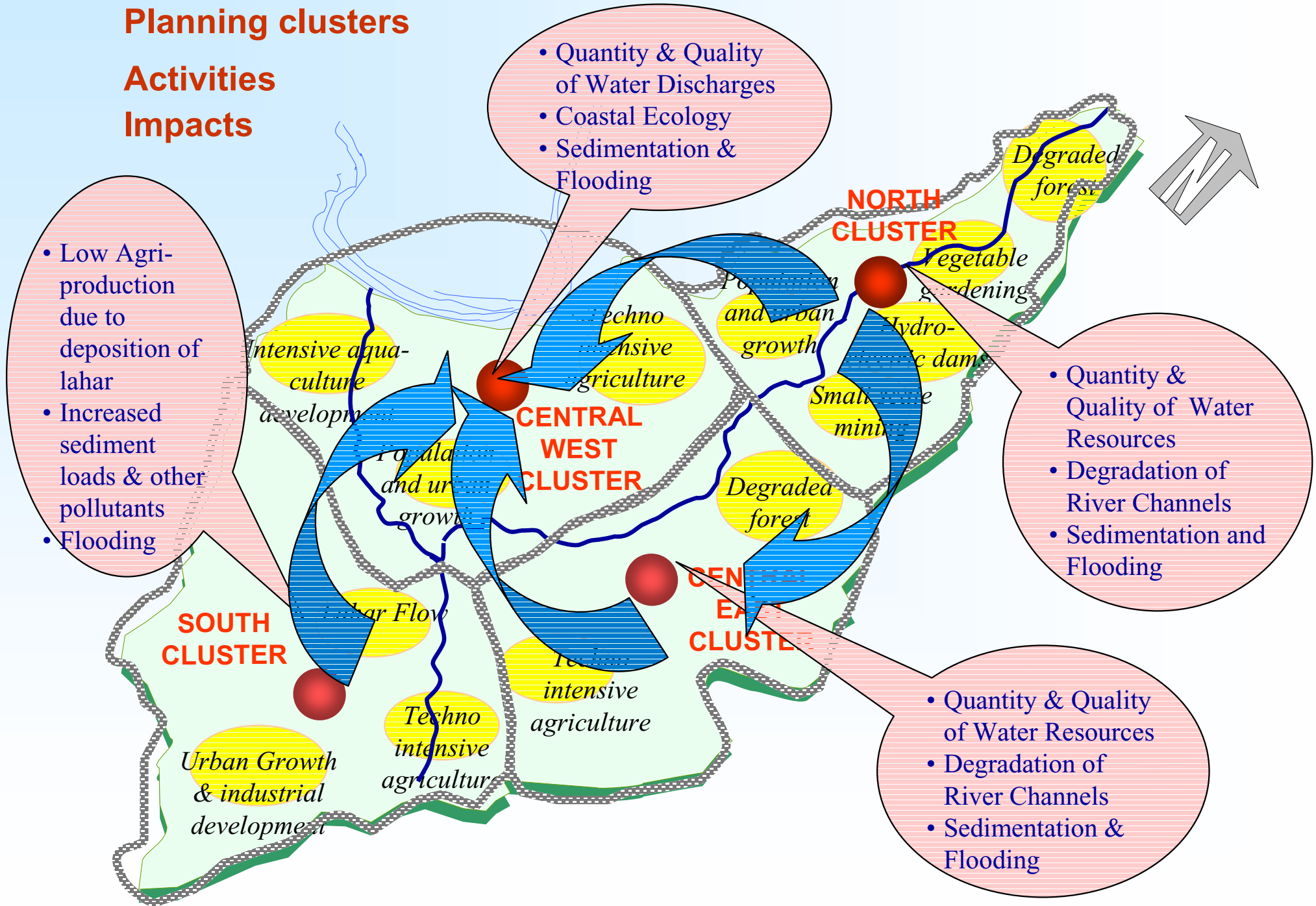
- Judicious development and management of the Basin;
- Maintenance of ecologically balanced environment;
- Development of eco-tourism potentials;
- Improvement of food security;
- Generation of livelihood opportunities;
- Improvement of social services;
- Institutionalization of community participation;
- Preservation of people's rights, interests and cultures;
- Enhancement of disaster management capabilities;
- Efficient and adequate infrastructure support; and
- Development of commerce and navigation..

Development Scenario

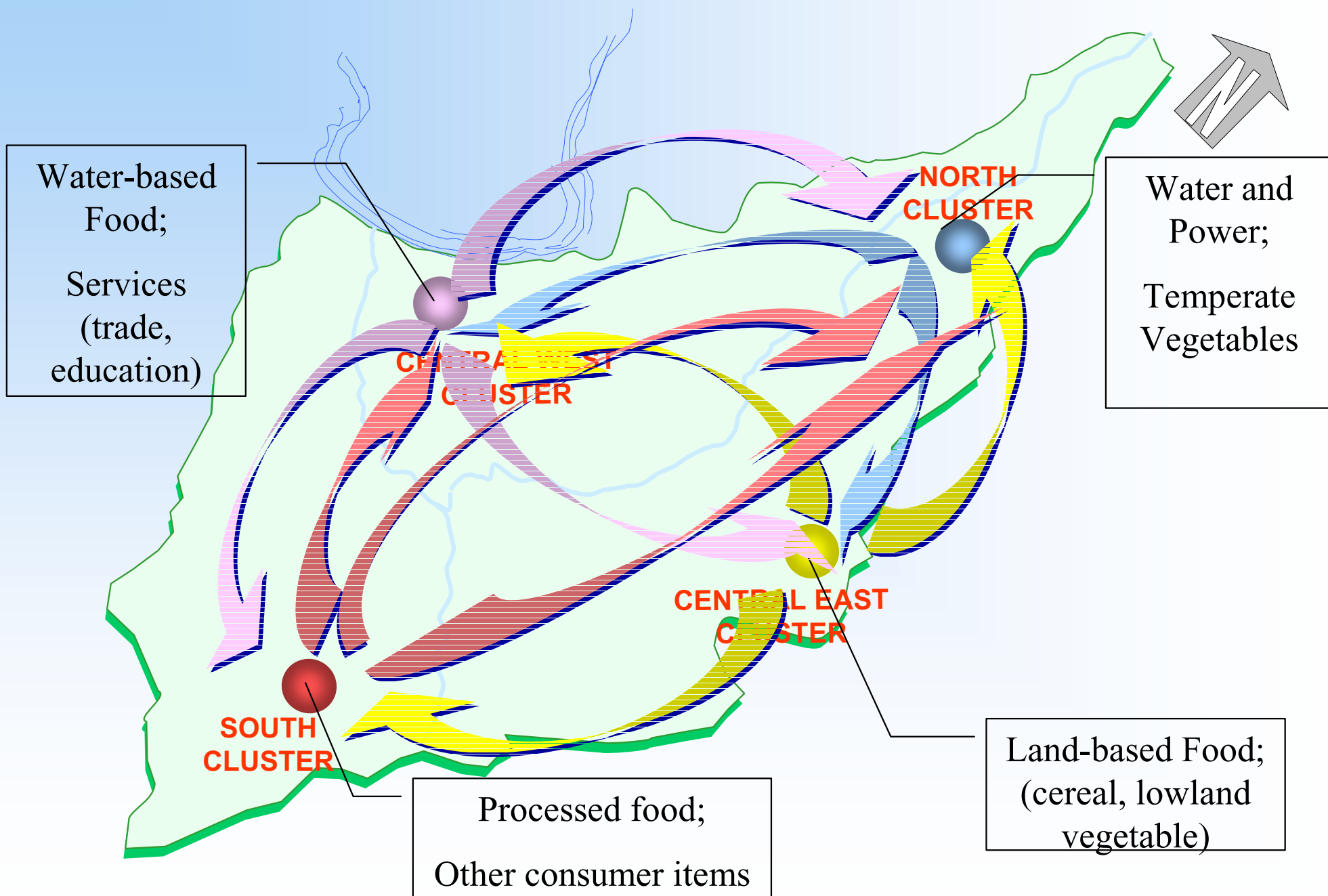
Planning clusters

Activities

Impacts



Inter-cluster Linkages





Plan Implementation Policies & Strategies

Legislative/Administrative Policies

- Implementation and review of environment and natural resources-related laws.
- Adoption of laws along positive water quality, quantity and space policies.
- Inclusion of the Basin's concerns in the land use and development plans of LGUs (local government units)

Institutional Linkages and Networking

Government & civil society networking in two-level participation:

- Political level – institutionalization of participative policy-making process.
- Technical level – development of participative implementation, monitoring and evaluation process.



Plan Implementation Policies & Strategies

Institutional structures

- The ARBDC, as the lead agency, coordinates all developmental and other related efforts in the Basin.
- Relationship based on complementary, consultation and partnership.
- Formation of cluster teams as forums for politico-administrative coordinations
- Organization of problem-focused sub-basin teams to address major and common problems among clustered areas



Plan Implementation Policies & Strategies

Criteria for an appropriate sub-basin structure

- Synchronize policy-making and project implementation
- Community access and participation in decision-making
- Development of grassroot institutions

Information and Education Campaigns

- Consultations/dialogues with people
- Educational institutions
- Tri-media



Plan Implementation Policies & Strategies

Technological processes

- Use of sustainable and environment-friendly agricultural technology
- Adoption of soil conservation measures
- Adoption of indigenous cultural practices
- Promotion of appropriate environmental management technologies
- Adoption of GIS technology and establishment of a functional information system
- Determination of the basin's carrying capacity



Plan Implementation Policies & Strategies

Financial Arrangements

- Implementation of Energy Regulations No. 1-94
- Inclusion of Basin-related programs and projects in the budget of local government units and agencies
- Adoption of the Build-Operate-Transfer scheme
- A combination of local and foreign fund sources



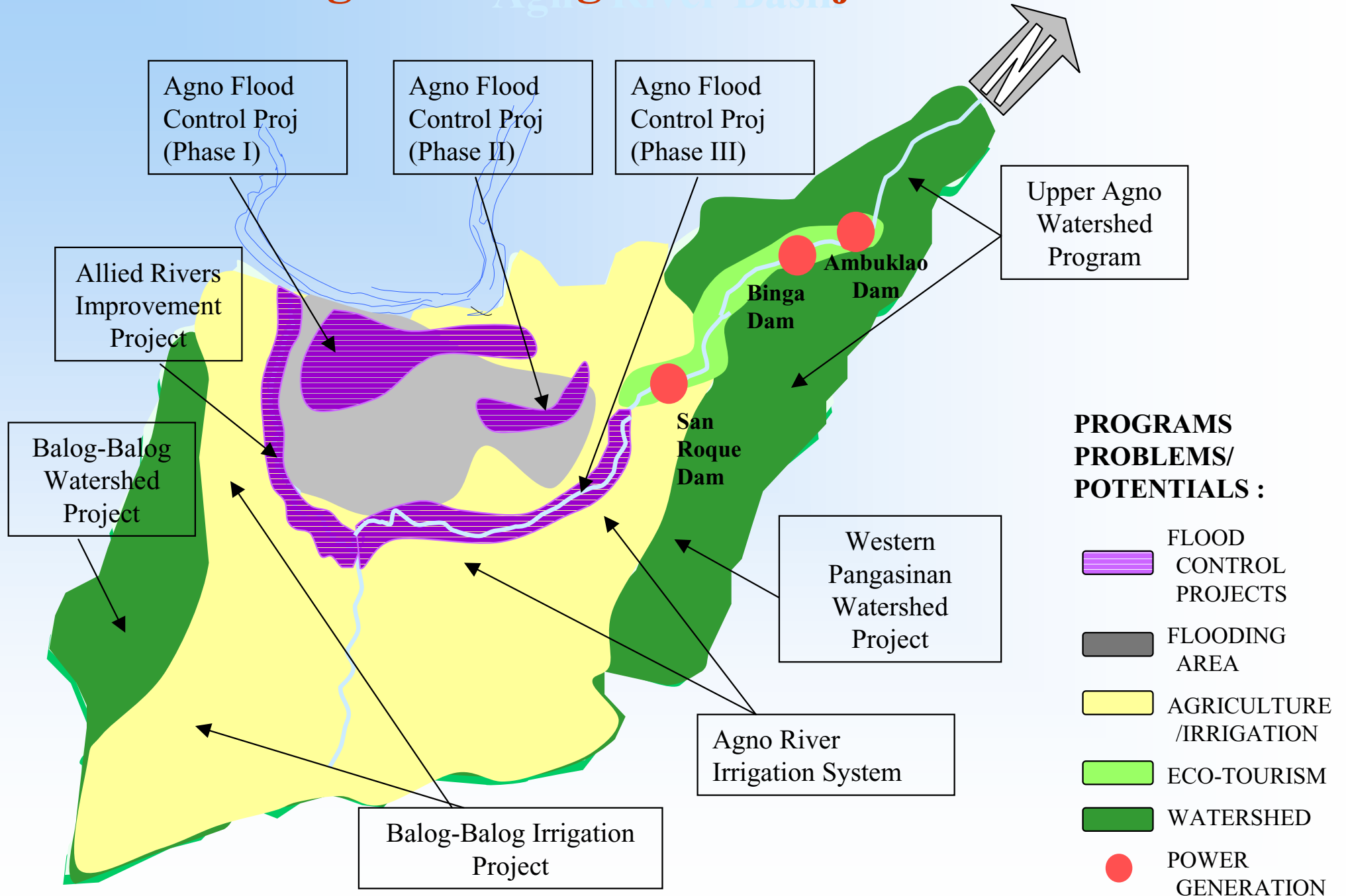
Experiences in River Basin Planning

What We Have Gained

- Institutional cooperation/coordination in river basin planning and management
- Consensus on desired development direction for the Basin
- Increased dynamism in decision-making
- Opportunities for social and political participation
- National strategy for integrated government action
- Basic framework for problem solving
- Monitoring and evaluation in terms of environment impacts
- Integration of programs and projects within an integrated river basin development framework

Integrated Programs /Projects

Agno River Basin





Experiences in River Basin Planning

Learnings

- Importance of inter-agency and grassroots participation in the planning and plan implementation process
- Sustaining capacity building at all levels of decision-making (from bottom to top) to institutionalize sustainable river basin and watershed management perspectives
- Addressing social and economic problems as an important aspect of integrated river basin management
- Strengthening/capacitating the coordination mechanism (structures, processes and manpower skills) to carry out an effective integrated river basin management
- The need to mobilize all potential financial sources from the local, national and foreign sources, both public and private investments to finance river basin development
- Enhanced linkages between river basin planning and the budgeting system



Experiences in River Basin Planning

The Present Challenges

Institutional Challenges

- Need to assess current policies and decision-making processes
- Need to mobilize private investment resources and grassroots managerial capabilities
- Need to generate water and resource utilization standards
- Need to update and improve the present water information and data
- Need to decentralize functions on water resources management
- Need to strengthen the capabilities of other stakeholders
- ARBDC operating on only five full-time regular staff



Experiences in River Basin Planning

Political Challenges

- To persevere on advocacy activities
- To transform the ARBDC into a capable and decisive river basin planning and management institution

Financing Challenges

- To tap the private sector



Thank You

End of Presentation