



National
Water
Resources
Board

PHILIPPINE DISCUSSION MATERIALS FOR SESSION 3 (PROPOSALS, PROCESSES AND EVALUATION)

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ORGANIZATION

ISSUE #1 : Lack of coordination among water related agencies

Proposals:

1. Harmonization of the roles of the different water related agencies.
 - review of functions and responsibilities of the agencies
 - agreement on delineation of functions and identify areas of cooperation through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).
2. Establish strong linkages among water related agencies.
 - conduct regular meetings
 - NWRB to closely coordinate with the different water related agencies

Continuation of Proposals:

3. Organizational Strengthening of NWRB.
 - additional manpower and financial resources.
 - establishment of regional presence (RBOs).

Evaluation :

1. Well-defined roles and responsibilities of each agency and ensure a collaborative and coordinated implementation of plans, programs and activities among water related agencies.
2. Effective regulation and allocation of water resources.
3. Effective monitoring and enforcement of the water right system
4. Well-managed water resources.

ISSUE #2 : Conflict in the management of the water resources among different government and non-government organization within the region.

Proposals:

1. Collaborate with concerned agencies to harmonize their respective roles and responsibilities in water resources management.
2. Execute memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with other water related agencies.
3. Harmonize all laws, rules and regulations and policies relating to water.

Evaluation :

1. This will create a favorable and enabling environment among stakeholders and water related agencies in the regulation and allocation of water resources within the area.

POLICY AND PLANS

ISSUE #3 : Difficulty in implementing integrated water resources management and development plans (national level).

Proposals:

1. Establish financial mechanism.
2. Building a stronger broad-based multi-sectoral partnership and collaborative working arrangements across all levels.
 - conduct regular consultations/meetings with concerned agencies and stakeholders
 - decentralize some functions of the NWRB to appropriate agencies
 - conduct multi-sectoral IEC campaign

Continuation of Proposals:

3. Expanding alliances and partnership with LGUs, NGOs and other relevant institutions.
4. Strengthen inter-agency collaboration and coordination in the formulation of plans and policies.

Evaluation :

1. Will facilitate the implementation of the integrated plans for water resources management and development.
2. Will ensure sustainability of water supply and promote water use efficiency.
3. Will improve enforcement of water rights system and allocation.

ISSUE #4 : Lack of comprehensive strategic plan for priority river basins to organize and create RBOs.

Proposals:

1. Prepare water resources plans for priority river basins
 - conduct consultation with stakeholders in the basin
 - identify major stakeholders who will prepare the water resources plan
 - identification of the issues and concerns within the basin to come-up with an integrated policies and plans
 - seek funding support from the government and other financial institutions.

Continuation of Proposals:

2. Establish mechanisms to synchronize plans, programs and activities of agencies and organization involved in the management of water resources within the basin.
 - enter into Memorandum of Agreement with LGUs and NGAs
3. Identify institutional arrangement for RBOs.

Evaluation :

1. Will ensure the meaningful participation of stakeholders in the formulation of the plan and promote cooperation and coordination in the implementation and efficient management of water resources in the basin level .

ISSUE #5 : Lack of comprehensive drought management plan.

Proposals:

1. Prepare comprehensive drought management plan to address drought related damages and risk.
2. Adopt measures to address rainfall shortage such as cloud seeding to induce more rains.
3. Enhance stakeholders' awareness on the effects of drought to mitigate the impact and damages to crops.
4. Establish a legal framework for compensation scheme.

Evaluation:

1. The plan will enable the stakeholders severely affected by drought to cope-up with the impact of the disaster and to be able to take alternative measures to lessen the loss of income brought about by the drought.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

ISSUE #6 : Difficulty in the implementation of water rights system.

Proposals:

1. Education and information campaign need to be institutionalized to keep compliance of laws, rules and regulations and policies
 - posting of information in the NWRB website
 - conduct consultations in water resources regions in the country.
 - distribute primers (local dialects)
 - brochures
 - CDs and other materials containing information about processing on water permit applications

Continuation of Proposals:

2. Strict implementation of the laws, rules and regulations and policies issued by the Board.
 - issuance of cease and desist orders on illegal appropriators and violators
 - imposition of fines and penalties
 - cancellation and/or revocation of permits on extreme cases
3. Strengthen organizational structure of NWRB.
 - establish regional presence
 - increase manpower
 - increase funding allocation to NWRB
4. Collaboration and establish partnership with appropriate agencies
 - enter into Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Evaluations :

1. IEC will enhance awareness of the stakeholders of the laws and policies relating to water rights and will ensure effective management and efficient use of water resources.
2. Strict implementation will encourage water users to follow the law related to water.
3. Additional manpower will enhance capacity of NWRB to implement and monitor water extraction.

ISSUE #7 : Prioritization of domestic use in times of emergency over other uses.

Proposals:

1. The scheme for promoting negotiation or cooperation among different concerned sectors needs to be established.
2. Strict implementation of the existing legal framework on compensation.
3. Establish a mechanism to determine just compensation and which agency will have jurisdiction to decide the same.
4. Development of alternative source of water supply.

Evaluations :

1. Balanced and effective allocation of water to different users.
2. Affected parties will be duly compensated.
3. Minimal damage to crops and loss of income to farmers.
4. Adequate supply of water to all water users.

PARTICIPATION

ISSUE #8 : Protest/Opposition filed by existing water user against the new water permit application on the ground of adverse effect on the use of water.

Proposals:

1. Coordination between new water permit applicants and existing water users needs to be promoted.
2. Adoption of alternative dispute resolution.
3. Formulate new rules and procedures that will provide a simplified proceedings in resolving conflicts (summary procedure).
4. Conduct regular consultation between new water user and existing water user to discuss issues and concerns on the use of water.

Evaluations :

1. Promote harmonious relationship among water users within the river basin.
2. This will expedite resolution of conflicts among water users.
3. Promote water use efficiency.
4. Lessen water use conflicts.

ISSUE #9 : Lack of multi-sectoral participatory framework.

Proposals:

1. Enhance capability of NWRB staff to prepare the framework.
2. Seek financial support from national and foreign financial institution.
3. Adoption of an effective multi-sectoral participatory mechanism in all activities relating to allocation and water rights system.

Evaluations :

1. Promote meaningful multi-sectoral participation in the formulation of policies, plans and programs.
2. Efficient water allocation within the basin.
3. Effective implementation of water rights system.
4. Effective regulation and management of water resources.