

Discussion Material 1- Issue

Country Name: **Philippines** Name of Organization: **Laguna Lake Development Authority**

Issue No. 1:	Coverage of water rights in Laguna de Bay Region is limited to fishery/aquaculture. There is a need to immediately implement a policy on the use of surface water because the Laguna de Bay Region is slowly reaching a state where the quantity and quality of freshwater resources are imposing limits on the present use of the resource and on the region's socio-economic development
Negative Impacts	The absence of a policy on the utilization of water resources creates wasteful usage of water, inter-sectoral mis-allocation of raw water in favor of less valuable uses and increase levels of water pollution.
Causes of the issues	The previous demand for water did not trigger imposition of a surface water price structure. The LLDA's previous focus was on the establishment of water rights (ZOMAP) for aquaculture due to the adverse impacts of the fishpen/fishcage operations to the lake's ecological integrity. During the period 1970 to 1983, fishpens grew from 38 hectares to more than 30,000 hectares, seriously reducing areas available for open fishing and navigation. The mushrooming of fishpen/cage structures in the lake resulted to a decline in lake's productivity.
Proposal 1	Formulate and implement Raw Water Pricing Policy with its corresponding Implementing Rules and Regulations for all surface water users
Remarks	