

BIAD 2 Project Proposal # 2

I. Project Description

Project Title : **Tree Resources for Economic and Environmental Security (T R E E S)**

Project Type : Agro-reforestation Project focusing on high value Fruit trees as a remedy to over cutting of trees and Global Warming

Project Component:

1. Site Identification
2. Establishment of Nurseries and Seed bank
3. Tree Plantation Management and Maintenance
4. Capability Building
5. Rehabilitation and Protection of Existing Plantation Sites
6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Project Location:

The proposed project is located in the selected 3-barangays in every municipality within the nine (9) BIAD 2 LGUs of Buenavista, Calape, Catigbian, clarin, Getafe, Inabanga, Loon, San Isidro and Tubigon. It is specifically planted at open hilly lands, barren and denuded areas.

II. Project Status : Proposed Project

III. Project Justification:

Project Background

The reduction of poverty, in accordance with the *Millennium Development Goals* is regarded as a high-priority goal of the Provincial Government of Bohol. This cannot be achieved in isolation from achieving environmental stability and meeting social development goals. Achieving this goal is within the reach given sufficient political will, adequate resources and an integrated response from government and civil society.

BIAD 2 cluster is composed of nine (9) municipalities of which, seven (7) of them are geographically located at the north-western coastal part and the two (2) are centrally located in the Province of Bohol. It has a total land area of 83,968 hectares or roughly 20% of the province total land area. Seventy-two (72) or 60,446 hectares are classified into agricultural land and twenty-eight (28) percent is timberland or forestland. The climate of BIAD 2 municipalities is classified as Type IV under the Corona classification, which is characterized by evenly, distributed rainfall throughout the year.

The Local Poverty Database Monitoring System (LPDMS) revealed that there are 49,185 households which is equivalent to 97% of the total number of households in BIAD 2 cluster municipalities are the most deprived families. This implies that 63% or 31,219 households falls below income threshold, 46% or 22,649 families are living below food threshold, 33% or 16,064 households had no sanitary toilets, 26% or 12,911 households do not own lot, 20% or 10,040 households had no access with potable/safe drinking water, 6.96% or 17,806 of the total population are not employed and 1.63% or 4,178 children are malnourished. Majority of these families are living in the rural/upland and coastal areas who derive their income from farming and fishing.

The primary problem of the environment sector in BIAD 2 municipalities are the declining forest cover of the area due to timber poaching for housing construction and fuel wood needs and the inability to institute sustainable programs to restore vegetative cover, soil erosion, low productivity and inadequate supply of water. Also the handicraft industry, which utilizes minor forest products like have resulted in the decline of the areas biodiversity. This needs a raw material replenishment program and to establish and adopt a long term effective planning and management that can provide desired goods and services without adversely affecting soil and water resources.

These problems need to be addressed by improving the environment and people's sustainable use of natural resources with the fact the BIAD 2 municipalities are within the Mualong and Inabanga Watersheds in the Province of Bohol. It is therefore imperative to balance economic growth with an increase in sustainable management of Bohol's environment and natural resources especially biodiversity (flora and fauna).

Based on the initial site investigation the areas are suitable to any kind of species for plantation. Likewise the agro-climatic characteristics of the nine municipalities make it an ideal site for agro-forestry activities that can support the requirements of cottage industries such as handicraft making and high value crops like mangoes, banana and vegetables production. Consistent with its biophysical conditions, socio-economic, cultural and political realities, the integration of agriculture and natural resources-based activities into a single system should be considered to ensure balance between environment, society and economy. For land capability and suitability the area belongs to both "Class A" and "Class Y". For Class A, the soil characteristics is very good land, it can be cultivated safely requiring only simple but good farming management. For Class B, the soil characteristics is suitable for recreation and wildlife and for reforestation development (data from BSWM Soil Classification Map).

The concept of the proposed project is a community-based or family-approached which intends to increase productivity without dislocating the regular farm activities of the farmer beneficiaries. This scheme promotes planting of fast growing trees and high value fruit trees in initial year to correspond to the immediate needs of the farmers while, at the same time, developing a micro-climate for the introduction and development of premium long-term crops.

In essence, tree farming under this concept supplements all other activities using the family labor of the households into tending open or less developed of their existing integrated social forestry program. The families are given an area to plant timber trees and fruit trees and after which the farmer beneficiaries are entitled to gain benefits out

of their work. Having been given the right as well as the responsibility not only to utilize but most important to manage our natural resources, the communities have a crucial role and place in the management of the land. On the other hand the BIAD 2 LGUs will provide the site and the farm inputs not readily available from farmers together with technical and administrative assistance.

Considering the plight of farmers and the broader concern of the government, a participatory community-based approach to fruit tree farming is the answer. This partnership will promote economic upliftment, sustainable productivity and environmental protection. It increases forest cover and minimizes soil erosion in the municipality. Water sources both for drinking and for all other uses shall be protected by measures that will maintain safe water yield from its aquifer and sustainability of its water tables.

Specifically it will model a family-focused for a tree farmer enterprise (fast growing trees and fruit trees) and will demonstrate a viable government-farmer joint venture arrangement with the farmer supplying land, materials, technical and administrative assistance and the later providing labor and after care as equity. High value crops like vegetables, corn, pineapple, and banana will be planted (as an option) in-between during the early years of establishment or until the canopy of trees close. This will provide farmers some livelihood income while waiting for his/her trees to grow.

The project is in response to the province and national government's effort on eradicating extreme poverty in the country in complement to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the United Nations under goal 7 to ensure environmental sustainability and (targeting the reduction of all forms of poverty by year 2015).

Due to a very limited fund in to cover all the needs in the BIAD 2 LGUs especially on project implementation, we therefore seek assistance to funding donors.

Project Linkage:

The project will be link with the existing environmental program and projects of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Bohol Environment Management Office, Department of Agriculture, Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, and to projects being implemented by different Non-Government Organizations operating in BIAD 2 municipalities.

Project Objectives:

- To improve the natural resource (forest) management practices of municipalities/ barangay
- To promote the economic and social well-being thereby uplifting the living condition of the people living inside and outside the catchment.
- To reduce soil erosion and restore biodiversity in the area
- To strengthen strong participation, cooperation and collaboration of stakeholders, government, non-government organizations and private sector in the protection and management of the natural resources.

- To capacitate the farmers and the community on tree resources management and small-scale enterprise development.
- To produce variety of fruits as a source of additional family income.

Sectoral Objective:

- To provide information and education programs to key stakeholders to mobilize support of LGUs, business groups and religious organizations for improved environmental conservation and protection efforts;
- To organize a multi-sectoral group that will undertake the planning, and implementing mechanisms of conservation and protection activities in the BIAD 2 municipalities.
- To establish a marketing network mechanism in the promotion of the products.

IV. Project Funding:

Funds Needed : Php 5,000,000.00

Source of Funds : Foreign/National/Local Donors

Estimated Budgetary Requirements:

Project Component	LGU Counterpart		Donors	Total Project Cost (Pesos)
	Barangay	Municipal		
Site Identification and Nursery Establishment	33,750	67,500	675,000	776,250
Pre-Plantation (public consultation, nursery operation, trainings and seminars, and enterprise development)	54,000	108,000	1,080,000	1,242,000
Plantation Establishment (includes, site preparation, design, planting)	67,500	135,000	1,350,000	1,552,500
Plantation Maintenance, Protection and Operation	27,000	54,000	764,750	845,750
Monitoring and Evaluation	81,000	202,500	300,000	583,500
T o t a l	263,250	567,000	4,169,750	5,000,000

Counterpart Funding

The municipal governments and selected barangays in BIAD 2 will provide the funds in cash or in-kind to support on the project implementation of the project and the land where the construction of nursery is located.

The Bohol Environment Management Office, Department of Environment and Natural Resources thru PENRO and CENROs and NGOs shall provide technical assistance and other services related to the project implementation.

V. Project Benefits and Costs

Beneficiaries

There will be 49,185 families that will be the direct beneficiaries of the Project. Indirect beneficiaries will be other families in other four (4) BIAD clusters in the entire Province of Bohol. However, the indirect beneficiaries are 255,628 inhabitants or 51,126 families living in BIAD 2 municipalities.

Social Benefits

The proposed project will bring desirable outcome to the inhabitants of the area and would result to a better way of living. It further provides the general welfare as well as the integrity of the environment, generate employment and income of the farmers and thereby reducing the poverty incidence in the municipality.

Economic Benefits

The project will improve and stir a positive impact in the rural economy of the barangays in BIAD 2 municipalities and increase in per capita income of the households as well as the income of the municipal LGUs. The success of the project shall also provide learning by doing experience for the future and for the replication of the reforestation using high value crops and participation of the stakeholders and private sector.

Environmental Costs

Planting fast-growing but premium trees intensifies the management and maximizes the use of the land. Beneficiaries do not only plant trees for tuition fees but trees stabilize wood supply that greatly increase biodiversity, assure multi-rotations, provide continuous forest cover, help ameliorate water and air pollution, modify micro-climate, enhance aesthetics and slow down soil erosion.

VI. Project Implementation:

Responsible Agencies

Implementing Agency	-	Selected 27-barangays (3 barangays in every Municipalities within BIAD 2 Clusters)
Cooperating Agency	-	DENR, and CENRO Talibon and Tagbilaran Bohol Environment and Management Office Provincial Planning and Development Office Office of the Provincial Agriculture

1. Implementation Schedule

The proposed project will be implemented in two year following the timeline mentioned below.

Major Activity	Implementation Schedule			
	1 st Sem	2 nd Sem	3 rd Sem	4 th Sem
1. Site Identification and Nursery establishment				
2. Pre-planting Operation (public consultation, seeds preparation, sowing, maintenance of seedlings, fertilizers, trainings (includes enterprise capability trainings)				
3. Establishment of Tree Plantation (site preparation, design, planting)				
4. Plantation Maintenance, Protection and Management				
5. Monitoring and Evaluation				

Administrative feasibility

The nine municipalities in BIAD 2 is accountable and will set a project management mechanism in the implementation of the project in coordination with the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators, Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Office of the Municipal Assessors, line agencies(national/provincial) concerned and the private sector. The farmer beneficiaries will do all the activities from seedling preparation, site delineation, planting, thinning, maintenance and protection of the project. This will serve as labor counterpart. It is very significant because this is provided by the family and can be higher than the actual input provided by the BIAD LGUs. To include the opportunity cost of caring the land and tree plantation it will reach to approximately 70% of the total cost of investment. The existing Tree Farmers Association in the barangays shall likewise be part in the operation and maintenance of the project. The beneficiary barangays ensure that monitoring plan and regular budget shall be properly installed and allocated to carry out the activities. Project Management Structure shall be defined properly before commencing the project implementation.

Legal and Political Feasibility

The project is consistent with the national and local laws and enjoys the political support of the local government unit in the area where it is proposed to be implemented as evidenced by their counterpart funding for the project. RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of

1991 empowers LGUs to enforce reforestation using community-based and integrated social forestry programs.

Environmental Clearance

Actual site designation, delineation and evaluation must be secured by the proponent before its actual execution of the project. Processing of the needed documents is assured to be facilitated and should not be an obstacle for the implementation of the proposed project considering that the proposed site is a public land owned by the BIAD 2 LGUs.

Social Acceptability

The nine Municipal Local Government Units of BIAD 2 is concerned about this proposal and will give full support and assurance to cooperate in their respective areas of responsibility. It is clear that the process of participatory planning will be adopted to ensure the wide participation of the cooperating agencies, NGOs, private sector and the stakeholders as a whole.

VII. Project Sustainability

The project will facilitate in the development of a clear and realistic sustainability plan in maintaining the viability of the multi-sectoral body participation with a legal basis as provided under RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991. A series of consultation workshops will be done to define the financial and physical requirements in the operation of the monitoring mechanism and identifying strategies on how to sustain the community interest and support, legal mandates, availability of appropriate technologies and credibility. Support services such as technical, administrative, materials and monitoring and evaluation mechanism are very necessary for the success and sustainability of the project.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is essential in order to ensure a periodic review and assessment of the progress, outcomes and impact of the project in the community. A monitoring mechanism and plan shall be established and formulated and it should be supported by legal instrument and resources in order to perform and execute fully on the activities formulated in the plan. The BIAD 2-LGUs thru the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators has the biggest role in implementing the monitoring and evaluation procedures as mandated under RA 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 through Executive Orders No. 376 and 93 to establish and operationalize the Project Monitoring Committees in each province and municipalities.

Contact Person:

NOEL C. MENDANA

MPDC Tubigon-Co-chairperson

038-5088059; email add: ncmendaña@yahoo.com

EFREN LOGRONO

MPDC Buenavista-BIAD 2-Chairperson

038-5139085; infocenter_buenavista@yahoo.com

WHY Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD)?

The clustering of municipalities in BIAD started way back in the 1980's when a team of experts from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) undertook a Master Plan Study of the Bohol Integrated Area Development Project. The bases for the clustering were practical considerations such as geographic proximity to each other, shared natural and agricultural resource base, and local economy and industry, among others.

It was recognized that through an inter-LGU mechanism, such as the BIAD, every municipality can stand to benefit from such clustering. Specifically, the BIAD grouping will generate the following advantages:

- economies of scale from pooling of resources;
- more effective environmental management;
- stronger lobbying power especially for Official Development Assistance (ODA) and National Government Agency (NGA) support;
- inter-LGU exchange and cooperation (i.e., personnel and institutional development, etc);
- enhanced planning systems (i.e., urban development, transportation, etc.);
- enhanced revenue and investment generation;
- sound policy reform as a result of LGU collaboration; and,
- collaborative tourism development efforts.

Objectives of the BIAD System

The BIAD System serves as the structural and operational umbrella from which priority, high impact projects for the Bohol Province are identified.

Municipalities in the BIAD System

The BIAD cluster that was initially identified in the 1980's remains to this day. The following table shown below lists the BIAD composite municipalities.

BIAD 1 Alburquerque, Antequera, Baclayon, Balilihan, Corella, Cortes, Davis, Lila, Loay, Loboc, Maribojoc, Panglao, Sevilla, Sikatuna and Tagbilaran City

BIAD 2 Loon, Calape, Tubigon, Clarin, Inabanga, Buenavista, Getafe, San Isidro and Catigbian

BIAD 3 Alicia, Bien Unido, Mabini, Pres. Garcia, San Miguel, Talibon, Trinidad and Ubay

BIAD 4 Anda, Candijay, Dimiao, Duero, Garcia-Hernandez, Guindulman, Jagna and Valencia

BIAD 5 Batuan, Bilar, Carmen, Dagohoy, Danao, Pilar, Sagbayan and Sierra Bullones

