

NARBO TRAINING COURSE ON IWRM

Organizational Report On The

AGNO RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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THE AGNO RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

CREATION OF THE AGNO RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (ARBDC)

- The Agno River Basin Development Commission (ARBDC) was created by virtue of Executive Order 442 dated September 1997 as amended.
- It became operational in October 1998 following the appointment of a full-time Executive Director.
- Activities came in full swing in January 1999 with the organization of the Secretariat.

THE MANDATE

Oversee and coordinate developmental activities in the Basin to ensuring resources planning and management for sustainable development.

THE FUNCTION

Develop a comprehensive plan for the Basin ensuring:

- Maximized benefits between upland and lowland people;
- Preservation and enhancement of indigenous cultural communities.

THE MISSION

Coordinate for the:

- Promotion of socio-economic well-being of people in the Basin;
- Protection of Basin's environmental integrity;
- Specifically, ARBDC undertakes the following:
 - Consolidates and harmonizes development initiatives in the Basin under a unified river basin management and development approach
 - Oversees and manages resource uses and resolve its competing demands
 - Develops a management information system and monitoring approach for planning and decision-making process;
 - Negotiates for funding
 - Adds value to river basin resources
 - Translates solicited plan and policies into programs and projects

THE ORGANIZATIONAL SET UP

Commission Proper (27 Members)

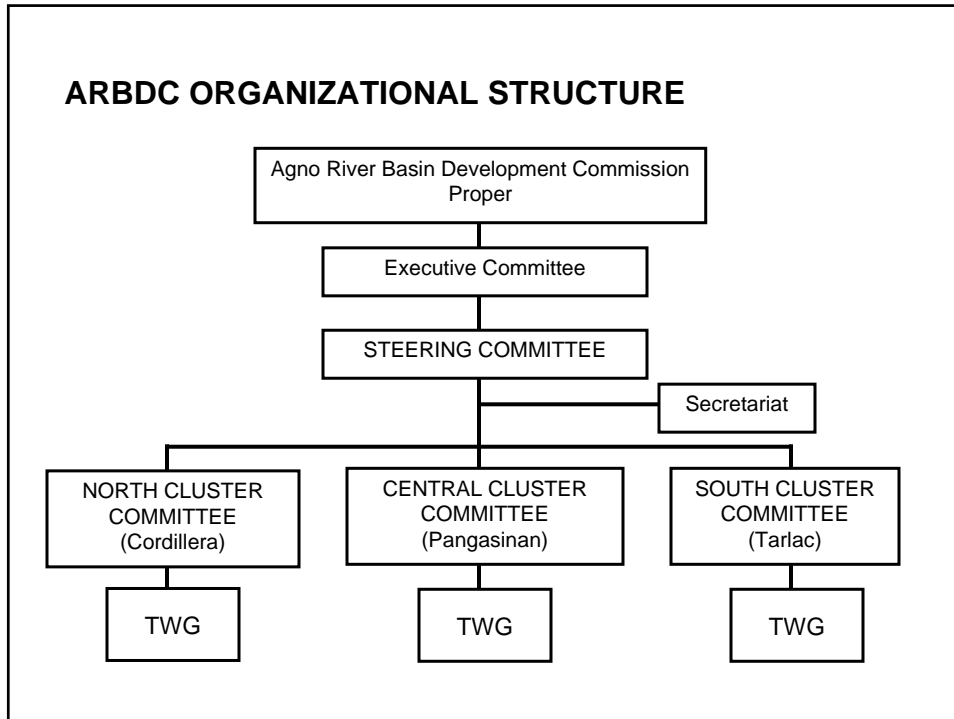
Chairperson: Cabinet Secretary, DENR
Co-Chair: Cabinet Secretary, DOE
Co-Chair: Presidential Assistant for North Luzon, OP
Vice Chairs: Provincial Governors of Benguet, Pangasinan, Tarlac
Members: Cabinet Secretaries of DA, DOT, DBM, DILG, NEDA, DAR, DTI, DPWH;
Administrators of NIA, PAGASA, OCD-DND;
Corporate President of NPC;
Executive Directors of NWRB, NCIP;
Directors of PNP-1, PNP-CAR;
Municipal Mayors of Itogon (Benguet), San Manuel (Pangasinan), Moncada (Tarlac)
Representatives of NGOs from Region 1 & CAR

THE ORGANIZATIONAL SET UP

Secretariat Office

Head	Executive Director
Regular Staff	Executive Assistant Planning Officer Private Secretary Computer Operator
Detailed Staff	Budget Officer/Accountant Administrative Assistant Cashier Supply Officer

ARBDC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



THE AGNO RIVER BASIN



⇒ The fifth largest river basin in the Philippines with a catchment area of 8,013.41 square kilometers.

⇒ It has a total length of 270 kilometers with an estimated annual run off of 8,044 million cubic meters and a level area of 2,646 square kilometers.

⇒ It covers 68 municipalities and 5 cities in 3 provinces.

⇒ It provides the lifeblood in the great portion of NW Philippines:

- Considered a major food basket
- Energy generator
- One of the country's richest ecosystem.

⇒ Lower catchment areas are cite of vast tracts of arable lands where large volumes of irrigation water are appropriated.

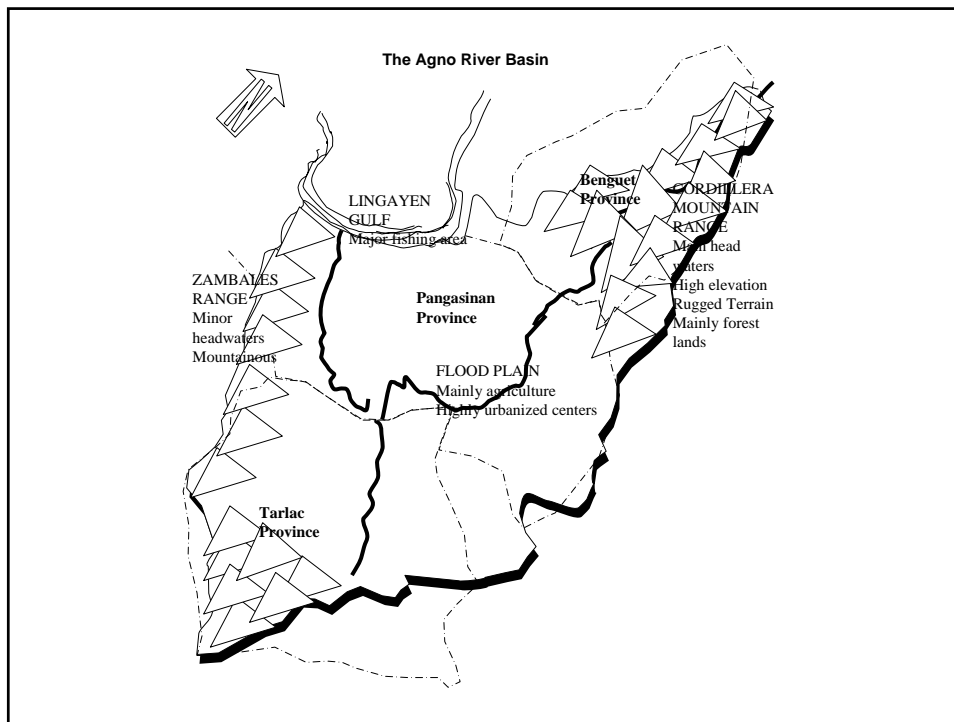
⇒ Its outlet at Lingayen Gulf is a major fishing ground.

ARBDC INITIATIVES IN THE AGNO RIVER BASIN

- Establishment of a broad-based participatory institutional and decision making processes.
- Creation of a multi-level structure for inter-agency/inter-sectoral/inter-regional coordination and cooperation.
- Preparation of a **Strategic Framework Plan for the Agno River Basin** which embodies the developmental direction of the Basin.
- Establishment of coordination mechanism in accordance with participatory principles

THE AGNO RIVER BASIN MASTER PLAN

- It embodies the developmental direction to which the Basin is being driven as envisioned by stakeholders.
- It is prepared specifically under the following conditions:
 - Need for immediate coordination of programs and projects with strategic implications to the development issues in the basin
 - Lack of necessary human and financial resources
 - Need to provide a strategic framework as basis for a comprehensive master plan
 - Need to identify, develop and enhance programs and projects in a short period of time
 - Need to maintain flexibility in decision-making



PRINCIPLES OBSERVED IN FORMULATING THE STRATEGIC PLAN

- Integrated economic, social and physical development of the Basin
- Maximum participation and sustainable collaboration
- Devolution and sharing of functions and technical expertise in the planning process
- Preservation and enhancement of indigenous cultural communities
- Equitable sharing of costs and benefits; and
- Sustainability of plan implementation

THE MASTER PLAN IS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- Judicious development and management 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
- Development of commerce and navigation potentials

EXPERIENCES IN RIVER BASIN WATER PLANNING

Learnings

- Importance of inter-agency and grass-root participation in planning and implementation process
- Sustaining capacity building at all levels of decision-making (from bottom to top)
- Addressing social and economic problems as an important aspect of integrated river basin management
- Strengthening/capacitating the coordination mechanism (structures, processes and manpower skills)
- The need to mobilize all potential financial sources

EXPERIENCES IN RIVER BASIN MASTER PLANNING

Gains

- Groundwork for institutional cooperation/coordination
- Consensus on the 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
- Project monitoring and evaluation in terms of environment impacts
- Integration of programs and projects within an integrated river basin development framework

EXPERIENCES IN RIVER BASIN MASTER PLANNING

Challenges

Institutional

- Need to assess current policies and decision-making processes
- Need to mobilize private investment resources and grass-root 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 stakeholders at the local and grass-root levels to effectively mobilize them

EXPERIENCES IN RIVER BASIN WATER PLANNING

Political

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

Financial

- Need to tap the private sector

End of Presentation

Thank You