STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE USE AND COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT IN THE TALOMO-PANIGAN-TAMUGAN (TPT) WATERSHEDS

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(TPT) watershed area is located in Davao City below two mountain ranges of volcanic origin: Mt. Talomo and Mt. Apo.

- One of the City's eight (8) watershed areas
- Considered as last viable source for drinking water

Identified, Intended and Proposed Uses of the TPT

- Agriculture and rural livelihood,
- Eco-tourism,
- Biodiversity and natural resource management,
- Indigenous peoples' and communities' ancestral lands,

Identified, Intended and Proposed Uses of the TPT

- Settlements and housing subdivision developments,
- Hydropower generation
- Source of domestic water

Hydropower Generation Proposed by Hedcor, Inc.

- 27.5MW
- Covers lands of IP's
- To address projected shortfalls in energy supply in Mindanao especially Davao City, over the next five years.
- backstop demand of 230MW power generating capacity by 2014

HEDCOR hydropower project

Water District Project

- To respond the growing water needs of Davao City's 1.4 million people
- To ease pressure on the Talomo underground water reserve where the Water District pumps out water.

Water District Project

- To serve 60% of the city population which gets 99% of the water supply from 51 pumping wells.
- A surface water development project under its 20-year program.

Concerns:

- LACK OF BASELINE DATA
- CONFLICTING LAWS
- OVERLAPPING NATIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Concerns

- OVERLAPS AND CONFLICT IN PERMIT AND REGULATORY ISSUANCE
- CONSULTATION PROCESS
- WEAK ENFORCEMENT OF POLICIES
- ENCROACHMENT AND CONVERSION

Deadlock

HEDCOR Project:

•Affects gravity – powered surface water development project.

Watershed Code:

•prohibits both projects in declaring the area as conservation area.

Critical Situation

▪There is at present energy crisis due to el Niño phenomenon.

▪Davao city experience 2-4 hour brownout a day.

Policy Direction

- The City mayor now orders for the review of the watershed code for development of strategies for sustainable use and collaborative management of the TPT watershed area.

Policy Direction

- We could already have lost our other watershed areas to human exploitation.
- We are ready to defend TPT from a similar fate.

"Maximizing the social and economic benefits of watersheds can be done in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of the natural resources"

Dr. Shahbaz Khan

- It is more about harmonizing choices and decisions because the multiple uses of finite natural resources are interdependent.

Dr. Shahbaz Khan

- *There is interdependence between water and energy development.*
- *Energy and power production requires water while water production, processing and distribution and end-use required energy. Thus water is needed to produce energy and energy is needed to produce water. Both challenges must be addressed together.*

Dr. Shahbaz Khan

- *Conflicts in the watershed areas could be addressed through IWRM which includes social, economic and environmental factors in planning, development, monitoring and protection land and water resources.*

Dr. Rahman Elfitre

- Freshwater is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential to sustain life, development and environment.
- It has an economic value in all its competing uses and should be recognized as an economic good.

Dr. Rahman Elfitre

- *Thus water development and management should be based on participatory approach involving users, planners and policy makers in all levels.*

Dr. Rahman Elfitre

Action

- HELP Davao could not proceed with developing a suggested decision for adoption by decision makers due to lack of data and information to support such policy direction.

Immediate need to conduct baseline and sectoral/technical studies related to:

1. Hydrology of TPT and other river systems.
2. Watershed characterization and assessment.
3. Indigenous communities, practices, beliefs and status.

Immediate need to conduct baseline and sectoral/technical studies related to:

4. Biodiversity assessment and review.
5. Land use and suitability assessment.
6. Socio-economic / production/demographic and settlements survey.
7. Pollution, water intrusion, chemical penetration and water quality evaluation.

HELP Davao Needs HELP!

Thank you for your HELP….