# Forest Conservation in the Philippines

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### Outline

Why conserve forests?
Status of Philippine forests
Drivers of deforestation
Forest conservation initiatives
Problem areas in forest conservation
New approaches
Role of students and individuals

# Why Conserve Forests?

- Direct benefits
- Indirect benefits
- Recreational, aesthetic,
- Spiritual and ethical values

# Direct benefits

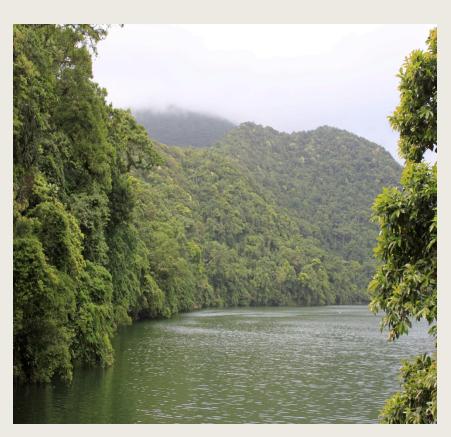


## Indirect benefits





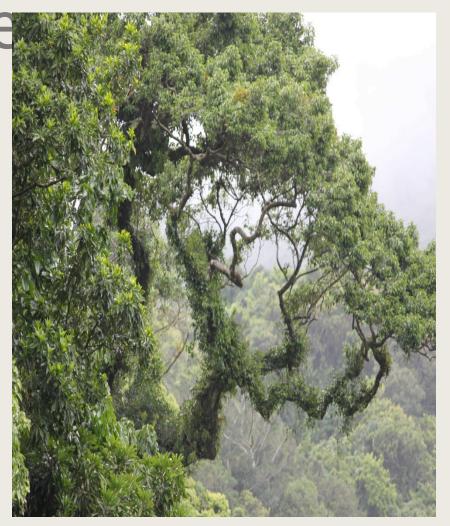
### Recreational and aesthetic





Intrinsic value



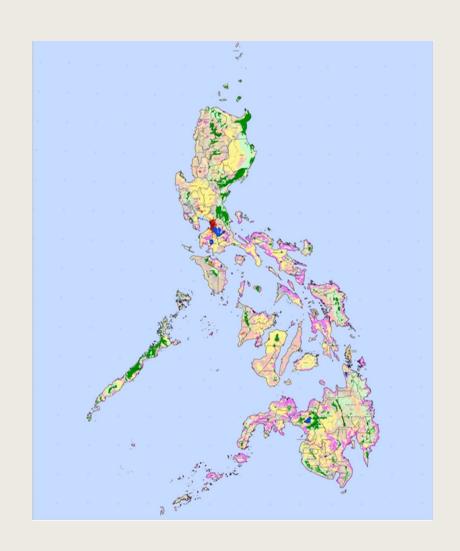


# State of Philippine Forests

- Total forest cover declined from 70-80% in 1900 to 17.9% (5.39M has) in 2002 (DENR-2005)
- 600,000 to 2M old growth forest
- Almost all beach forest formations gone
- Mosaic
- Under severe threat and pressure

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**Forest Conversion** 



Illegal Logging









**Upland Agriculture** 

**Charcoal Making** 



Climate change impacts



Climate change impacts

# Conservation initiatives

- Silviculture
- ForestReserves
- ContractReforestation
- PlantationEstablishment



# Conservation Initiatives

- Social Forestry
- Community Based
   Forest Management
- Protected Area
   Establishment
- Watershed Restoration



#### Problem Areas

- Policy and Implementation
- Proxy management
- Indigenous peoples domains
- Privately held forest
- Tenure and conservation
- Maps, Measurement and Monitoring
- Applying conservation biology and social sciences
- Climate Change

## New Approaches

#### Landscape restoration



**Forest Restoration** 



### New Approaches

**Corridors** 





**Community Monitoring and Patrols** 

### **Community Conserved Areas**



# Integrated Conservation and Development (II)

Crab and grouper culture as incentive for mangrove



COSEED (Vincenso Sagun, Zamboanga del Sur)

### Payment for Ecosystem Services



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• 4,700 liters of water is required to produce a kilo of rice



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- 4,700 liters of water is required to produce a kilo of rice
- Mindanao relies on hydropower for 60% of its power supply





### Climate Change Adaptation



#### Students and Individuals

"This world demands the qualities of youth; not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a predominance of courage over the love of ease ... It is the young people who must take the lead."

Robert F. Kennedy

- Develop a love of nature
  - Visit, better yet explore natural places
  - Get to know your watershed
- Be involved
  - Study and do research
  - Get dirty
  - Spread seeds

#### **Thank**



Not for an old man's memories, but for a child's smile.