

**DENR Administrative Order  
No. 2000 – 102  
December 27, 2000**

**SUBJECT : Establishing The National Support Program On Local Environmental And Natural Resources Planning And Management.**

In the interest of the service and pursuant to Executive Order 192 dated July 10, 1987 mandating the DENR to be the primary agency responsible for the conservation, management and development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources and in line with Republic Act 7160 (The Local Government Code of 1991) which strengthens participation of local government units in managing the environment and natural resources within their territorial jurisdiction in partnership with the national government, and in order to replicate the positive results of the Local Environmental Planning and Management Project (Local EPM) in three demonstration cities, the "National Support Program on Local Environmental and Natural Resources Planning and Management" (NSP) is hereby established.

**Section 1. Basic Policy.**

It is the policy of the State to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of the Filipino people. It is also the policy of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

It is the policy of the Department to implement its mandate along and within the objectives, provisions, policies and principles of sustainable development as enshrined in the Philippine Agenda 21 and the Philippine National Development Plan (2000-2025). It is also the policy of the Department to fully support the localization process in development planning and management of the environment and the

natural resources (ENR) within the framework of national laws, policies, rules and regulations. Finally, it is the policy of the Department to assist local government units to increase their capability to manage local ENR projects, including providing for the transfer of expertise and setting up of institutional arrangements for co-management of the environment and natural resources.

## **Section 2. Scope and Objectives.**

The NSP shall further enhance the local ENR planning and management initiatives at the three demonstration cities and expand its application nationwide to selected LGUs which are distinguished by different natural resource endowment, institutional and financing capability and investment opportunities. A set of criteria for the selection process shall be drawn for this purpose

The National Support Program shall have the following objectives:

1. To enhance lessons learned on local ENR planning and management from the three demonstration cities through wider application to selected LGUS;
2. To catalyze the nationwide institutionalization of the local ENR planning and management process;
3. To establish operational guidelines for a nationwide coverage and application of the local ENR planning and management process;
4. To identify policy gaps and develop/advocate policy actions in support of local ENR planning and management initiatives;
5. To establish a multi-level and multi-media linkage which will serve as a venue for sharing resources, information and technology;

6. To provide technical assistance to the demonstration cities and expansion LGUs in project preparation and resource generation; and
7. To upgrade the capability of personnel of both DENR and LGUs towards the application of gender responsive and culturally sensitive local ENR planning and management processes.

### **Section 3. Program Components.**

The National Support Program shall be organized with the following components and activities:

1. **Capability Building** - The overall capability building framework for the demonstration cities shall be the core of the national capability building effort. Major activities shall include (a) wider application of the ENRPM process experience; (b) enhancement of the Philippine ENRPM toolkit; (c) training based on LGU technical/skills needs and to include important aspects of project preparation, resource generation, and gender issues; and (e) cross-visit.
2. **Information, Education and Communication** - Knowledge and skills management through an electronic information base shall be created for quick access. A Philippine ENRPM Website shall systematize the upkeep and utilization of ENRPM knowledge between the LGUs, agencies and programs. This shall include the establishment of the Philippine ENRPM Website for E-forum.
3. **Policy Development and Advocacy** - Policy gaps shall be identified and the corresponding policy actions shall be developed/advocated in furthering the institutionalization of the local ENRPM process. Advocacy for national policy on ENRPM shall be pursued through a comprehensive IEC framework.

4. Linkaging and Networking - Networking for ENRPM support shall be engaged at three levels - League of LGIJS, national agencies and programs, and the international arena - to forge and establish a partnership undertaking which shall promote sharing of resources, information and technology.

The NSP shall work out the details of the Program management arrangements as provided for in Section 4. It shall undertake the selection of the LGU expansion areas based on criteria which they shall draw up.

#### **Section 4. Program Management.**

The over-all direction and management of the NSP shall be lodged with the Undersecretary for International Commitments and Local Government Affairs who shall chair and get advice from a multi-partite body to be known as the "Multi-Partite Advisory Committee for the NSP on Local ENRPM" (MAC-NSP). The MAC-NSP shall also assist in formulating policies to enhance a policy environment for strengthening the ENRPM process and its future institutionalization into the mainstream of local government affairs.

The members of the MAC-NSP shall include the DENR Assistant Secretary for Local Government Affairs; DENR Assistant Secretary for Planning and Policy; DILG Assistant Secretary for Local Government; Director of the Environmental Management Bureau; Director of the Forest Management Bureau; Director of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau; Director of the Lands Management Bureau; President of the League of Provinces; President of the League of Cities; and President of the League of Municipalities. The MAC-NSP shall be instituted as soon as possible and, for this purpose, an inter-agency Memorandum of Agreement shall be executed by and between DENR and the participating agencies defining therein the extent of each party's participation and responsibilities.

A National Support Program Management Office (NSPMO) shall be created under the Office of the Undersecretary for International Commitment and Local Government Affairs and to be directly supervised by the Assistant Secretary for Local Government Affairs. The main functions of the NSPMO shall be to manage the implementation of the Program and to serve as the Secretariat of the MAC-NSP. The expertise of the present staff of the Local EPM Project shall be tapped to initially operationalize the NSPMO. Additional staff from the different units of the DENR Central office shall be identified and detailed on a full-time basis to the NSPMO.

At the regional level, the Chief Planning Officer of DENR Regional Offices shall be designated as the focal person for purposes of coordinating the Program.

A pool of technical experts shall be created to respond to the required technical assistance and training needs of LGU expansion areas. The experts shall be drawn from the DENR's Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Office, Planning and Policy Studies Office, Regional Offices and sectoral bureaus, both at the Central Office and Regional levels. If deemed necessary, the technical expertise of other government agencies, academe, NGOs and private entities shall also be sought and, for this purpose, an agreement shall be entered into by and between the Department and the participating entities.

### **Section 5. Funding Support.**

The NSPMO shall work out the funding details and arrangements for the NSP. Funding for the expansion areas shall be arranged through the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between DENR and the participating LGUS. Potential sources from DENR programs and projects, including but not limited to the Special Projects and Gender and Development Program, shall also be tapped

to finance component activities of the NSP. The NSPMO, with the assistance of FASPO, shall also continuously explore the generation of funds from foreign sources to support NSP activities. Proposals for this purpose shall be prepared and submitted to prospective institutions as soon as possible.

#### **Section 6. Program Evaluation.**

Annual Program evaluation shall be conducted to enhance effectivity of implementation and set proactive adjustments. The evaluation shall be conducted by a multi-partite team, the composition of which shall be determined by the MAC-NSP.

#### **Section 7. Repealing Clause.**

All orders, circulars, official instructions or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed.

#### **Section 8. Effectivity.**

This Order shall take effect immediately.

**(Sgd.) ANTONIO H. CERILLES**  
Secretary