

RUPES Philippines Updates

Emma Abasolo
January – June 2010

Kalahan

- Delineated and surveyed the proposed areas for CDM within the Ikalahan Ancestral Domain (212 hectares)
- Conducted the capacity building activity for implementing RABA and RACSA (KEF as future trainers for others who need these tools)
- Currently participating in the REDD Plus activities/discussions (Kalahan as a demonstration site for REDD plus in the Philippines)

Bakun

- Hired a RUPES Bakun facilitator through an agreement between ICRAF/RUPES II and CHARM II
 - RUPES gives the budget for the salary
 - CHARM provides the office space and transportation allowance during site visits
- MOU among and between CHARM II, ICRAF, BITO and Bakun LGU is being finalized
 - ICRAF and CHARM already agreed on the terms, currently being reviewed by the LGU

- Conducted the RUPES/PES Orientation for partners and stakeholders
 - January 7-8, 2010 in Baguio City, Philippines
 - total of 93 participants from Local Government Units, Government Agencies, NGOs, POs (BITO and KEF) and Academe attended
- RUPES Bakun-TWG is being revived

National level networking

- Signed an MOU among the PES-TWG partners from Government Agencies (GAs), NGOs and Academe to institutionalize PES in the Philippines
 - FMB, PAWB, NEDA, PCARRD (GAs)
 - WWF, REECS, CI (NGOs)
 - UPLB-FDC (Academe)
- Participated in the drafting of the Philippine National REDD Plus Strategy

- Currently organizing the 3rd National PES Workshop on Aug 12-13 with the theme, “PES for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation”

Risk and sustainability prospect of RUPES Philippines

- Kalahan – entering the CDM market for Kalahan seems to be very difficult, but there is a promise in the REDD plus implementation
 - In case entering the market for carbon is still difficult for them, it may be wise to look into other services instead (like water provision for the Magat dam, ecotourism for the bird watching, etc)
 - Currently, Pastor Rice still has the final decision in what they are doing in Kalahan. He is already too old now, so there is a need to train/capacitate the one who's next in line to him
- Bakun – there is a need to settle the dispute between LGU and BITO. If this cannot be achieved, RUPES II must concentrate the efforts on capacitating the LGU instead

Risk and sustainability prospect of RUPES Philippines

- National Level networking – RUPES acts as the secretariat of the national PES-TWG
 - There is a need to have a government agency (e.g. DENR) who will champion PES initiatives in the country
 - Currently, DENR is not so active in recent PES meetings