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Item No.: 27

Date: 21 2023 NOV

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

2nd INDORSEMENT
November 13, 2023

11/14/23
Dilma
1.5 PM
Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Released: [Signature]
Time: [Signature]
Date: 11-14-23

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2023-09 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Tabango, Leyte, recommending for the declaration of its validity, pursuant to its power under Section 56 (C) of R.A. 7160, to the opinion of the Provincial Legal Office (PLO), an exercise of the power authorized under Section 447 (2)(vii)(viii)(xi)ⁱ of the Code without prejudice and in conformity with DILG opinion No. 22 S.2020ⁱⁱ pertaining to reclassification and conversion of lands. Furthermore, it is recommended that the citation of Section 458 in Article 2 Section 2 of the ordinance as one of the basis of its authority, be removed, as the said provision pertains to cities instead of municipalities.

ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL
Asst. Provincial Legal Officer

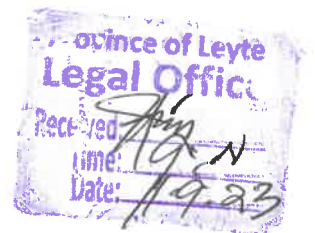
ⁱ (vii) Adopt a comprehensive land use plan for the municipality: Provided, That the formulation, adoption, or modification of said plan shall be in coordination with the approved provincial comprehensive land use plan;
^(viii) Reclassify land within the jurisdiction of the municipality, subject to the pertinent provisions of this Code;
^(ix) Enact integrated zoning ordinances in consonance with the approved comprehensive land use plan, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations; established fire limits or zones, particularly in populous centers; and regulate

the construction, repair or modification of buildings within said fire limits or zones in accordance with the provisions of this Code;

" CREBA vs Secretary of Agriculture

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
PALO, LEYTE

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN



1ST INDORSEMENT
09 November 2023

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2023-09** of the Municipality of **TABANGO, LEYTE**, entitled: *An Ordinance Adopting The Zoning Regulations On Forest Land Use For The Municipality Of Tabango, Leyte, And Providing For Its Administration, And Enforcement Thereof.*


ANDRE S. SANICO
Provl. Govt. Asst. Dept. Head



MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE

NO. 2023 - 09

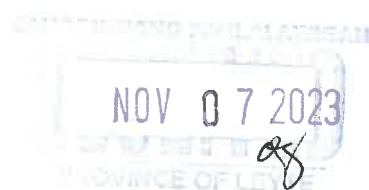
**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE
ZONING REGULATIONS ON FOREST
LAND USE FOR THE MUNICIPALITY
OF TABANGO, LEYTE, AND
PROVIDING FOR ITS
ADMINISTRATION, AND
ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.**



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO
-000-
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SECRETARY

+6309088960539
vcodera@gmail.com

November 6, 2023



HON. LEONARDO M. JAVIER, JR.
Provincial Vice Governor/Presiding Officer, and
The Honorable Members
Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte,
Tacloban City
Thru: Florinda Jill S. Uyvico
SP Secretary

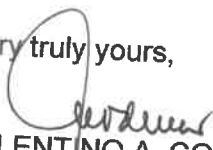
Honorable Ladies/Gentlemen:

Respectfully submitted herewith for review the following Municipal Ordinances:

- 1) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-07, entitled: "AN ORDINANCE CREATING PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE AND PLANTILLA POSITIONS IN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF TABANGO, LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR ITS QUALIFICATIONS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS THEREOF;"
- 2) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-08, entitled: "AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT IN HEALTH (DRRM-H) SYSTEM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, LEYTE;"
- 3) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-09, entitled: "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ZONING REGULATIONS ON FOREST LAND USE FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, LEYTE, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF."

Please acknowledge receipt hereof.

Very truly yours,


VALENTINO A. CODERA
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
 Province of Leyte
 Municipality of Tabango
 -o-o-
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE
 NOV 07 2023

BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor

HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 65th REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF TABANGO (2022-2025) HELD AT THE SB SESSION HALL, MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, PROVINCE OF LEYTE ON OCTOBER 23, 2023.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 09
 Series of 2023
 Sponsored by Hon. Rubilita A. Dela Cruz

(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ZONING REGULATIONS ON FOREST LAND USE FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, LEYTE, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Tabango that:

RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 Member/Deputy Floor Leader

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Forest Land Use Plan would require the enactment of regulatory measures to translate its planning goals and objectives into reality, and a Zoning Ordinance is one such regulatory measure which is an important tool for the implementation of the Forest Land Use Plan;

(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 authorizes local government units to enact zoning ordinances subject to and in accordance with existing laws;

HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources through its field offices Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office Leyte and Community Environment and Natural Resources Office Ormoc has spearheaded and now assists in and coordinates the activities of local governments in forest land use planning;

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member

NOW THEREFORE, the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte, in a session assembled, hereby adopts the following Zoning Ordinance.

HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

ARTICLE I
TITLE OF THE ORDINANCE

Section 1. Title of the Ordinance. This Ordinance shall be known as the Forest Land Use Zoning Ordinance of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte, and shall be referred to as the Forest Land Use Zoning Ordinance.

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLA
 SB Member

ARTICLE II
AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

Section 2. Authority. This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to the provisions of the New Local Government Code, RA 7160, Section 458 a.2 (7-9) and 447 a.2 (7-9), dated 10 October 1991, Authorizing the Municipality, through the Sangguniang Bayan to adopt Zoning Ordinances, subject to the provisions of existing laws and in conformity with E.O. No.09.

HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay

Section 3. Purposes. This Ordinance is enacted for the following purposes:

HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng mga SK

1. Guide, control, and regulate the future growth and development of Tabango, Leyte Forest land Use Plan.

VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

2. Protect the character and stability of the forest uses such as production forest zone and protection forest zone within the locality and promote the orderly and beneficial development of the same.
3. Promote and protect the health, safety, peace, comfort, convenience, and general welfare of the inhabitants in the locality.
4. Ensure and protect the sustainable growth and development of the community.


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor


HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member

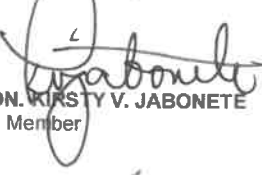
(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader


RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 SB Member
 Deputy Floor Leader

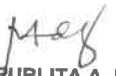
(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member



HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

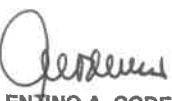

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member


HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLO
 SB Member


HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon
 ng mga SK


VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Section 4. General Zoning Principle. This Zoning Regulation is based on the approved Forest Land Use Plan per Resolution No. 2023-45 dated April 17, 2023.

ARTICLE III DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

The definition of the technical terms used in the Zoning Ordinance shall carry the same meaning given to them in already approved codes and regulations, such as but not limited to the National Building Code, the Water Code, the Philippine Environmental Code, the Urban and Housing Development Act, Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, and their implementing Rules and Regulations. The words, terms, and phrases enumerated hereunder shall be understood to have the meaning indicated as follows:

- 1) **FOREST AREA** - areas classified as timberland or forest lands.
- 2) **FOREST LAND USE PLAN** - The plan drafted, approved, and implemented by the Municipality of Capocan, Leyte for the protection, conservation, and proper use of the Forest and Forest Land Use Assets of the said municipality.
- 3) **PRODUCTION FOREST ZONE** - areas intended for the project implementation of different Fruit Trees and High Value Crops, Fuelwood, and Indigenous commodities. It can be proposed to various funding agencies for project implementation.
- 4) **PROTECTION FOREST ZONE** - areas intended for the protection commodities implementation. The areas are Timber, Indigenous, Beach Forest, Mangrove and can be proposed for Assisted Natural Regeneration. It can be said that these areas are for conservation purposes.
- 5) **ZONE/AREA** - an area within the municipality delineated for specific land use as defined by this Ordinance.
- 6) **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/ZONING OFFICER** - a municipal government employee responsible for the implementation/enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance in a community.

ARTICLE IV ZONE CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 5. Division into Zones or Areas. To effectively carry out the provisions of this Ordinance, the municipality is hereby divided into the following zones or areas as shown in the Official Land Use and Zoning Map.

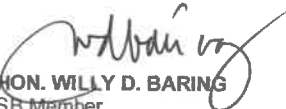
1. Production Forest Zone
2. Protection Forest Zone

Section 6. Zoning Map. The official zoning map for the forest areas, wherein the designation, location, and boundaries of the districts/zones herein established are shown, are hereby adopted as an integral part of this Ordinance. Such official zoning

maps shall be signed by the local chief executive and duly authenticated by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Section 7. Zone/Area Boundaries. The locations and boundaries of the zones or areas into which the municipality has been divided are hereby identified and specified as follows:


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor


HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

ZONE	LOCATION OF THE SAID ZONES
PROTECTION FOREST ZONE Enrichment Planting Miyape and Bakhaw Plantation	Parts of Barangay Campokpok and Inangatan.
PRODUCTION FOREST ZONE Enrichment Planting Nipa Plantation (Enrichment)	Parts of Barangay Campokpok, Tabing, Sta.Rosa, Poblacion and Inangatan

**ARTICLE V
 ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader


RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 SB Member/Deputy Floor Leader

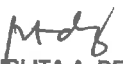
(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member


HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

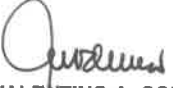

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member


HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLO
 SB Member


HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng mga SK


VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Section 8. Locational Clearance. All owners/developers shall secure a locational clearance of Zoning Compliance from the Zoning Administrator/Zoning Office or, in cases of variance and exemptions, from the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals (LZBAA) before conducting any activity or undertaking construction on their property/land.

1. Non-conforming use which has ceased operation for more than one (1) year be revived as non-conforming use;
2. That an idle/vacant structure may not be used for non-conforming activity;
3. That any non-conforming structures under one ownership which has been damaged may be reconstructed and used as before, provided that such reconstruction is not more than fifty percent (50%) of the replacement cost.

Section 9. Existing Non-Conforming Uses and Buildings. The lawful use of any building, structure, or land at the time of the adoption or amendment of this Ordinance may be continued, although such use does conform with the provision of this Ordinance, Subject to the following conditions:

1. That no such non-conforming use shall be enlarged or extended to occupy a greater area of land than that already occupied by such use at the time of the adoption of this ordinance, or move in whole or in part, of any other portion of the lot or parcel or land where such non-conforming use exists at the time of the adoption of this Ordinance.
2. That no such non-conforming use which has ceased operation for more than one (1) year be revived as a non-conforming use.
3. An idle/vacant structure may not be used for non-conforming activity.
4. That any non-conforming structure, or structure under one ownership which has been damaged may be reconstructed and used as before, provided that such reconstruction is not more than fifty percent (50%) of the replacement cost. Should such a non-conforming portion of a structure be destroyed by any means to an extent of more than fifty percent (50%) of its replacement cost at the time of destruction, it shall not be reconstructed except in conformity with the provision of this Ordinance.
5. No such non-conforming structure may be enlarged or altered in a way, that increases its non-conformity, but any structure or portion thereof may be altered to decrease its non-conformity.

6. That no such non-conforming use may be moved to another site to displace any conforming use.
7. Should such structure be for any reason moved to whatever distance, it shall thereafter conform to the regulation of the district to which it is moved or relocated.
8. In cases where the non-conforming structure becomes extremely hazardous to public health, and public safety and contrary to the greater interest of the Municipality, the Municipal government reserves the right to institute legal proceedings to ensure conformity and exercise other powers as mandated by RA 7160. The owner of a non-conforming use shall program the phase-out and relocation of the non-conforming use within ten (10) years from the effectivity of this Ordinance.


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor


HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader


RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 SB Member/Deputy Floor Leader


(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member



HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

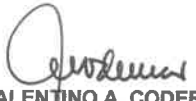

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member


HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLO
 SB Member


HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng mga SK


VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Section 10. Responsibility for Administration and Enforcement. This Ordinance shall be enforced and administered by the local chief executive through the Zoning Administrator/Zoning Officer who shall be appointed by the former in accordance with existing rules and regulations on the subject.

Section 11. Powers and Functions of a Zoning Administrator. Pursuant to the provisions of EO 72 implementing RA 7160 in relation to Sec.5, Paragraphs a and d, and Section 7 of EO 648 dated 07 February 1981, the Zoning Administrator shall perform the following functions, duties, and responsibilities.

Enforcement:

A. Act on all applications for locational clearances for all projects by:

1. Issuing locational clearances for projects conforming with the zoning regulations.
2. Recommending to the Local Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals (LZBAA) the grant or denial of applications for variances and exemptions and the issuance of Certificates of Non-Conformance for non-conforming projects lawfully existing at the time of the adoption or amendment of the zoning ordinance, including clearances for repairs/renovations on non-conforming uses consistent with the guideline therefore.

B. Monitor ongoing/existing projects within their respective jurisdiction and issue notices and show cause to owners, developers, or managers of projects that are violative of the zoning ordinance and where necessary, pursuant to Sec. 3 of EO 72 and Sec. 2 of EO 71, refer subsequent actions thereon to the HLRB.

C. Call and coordinate with the Philippine National Police for enforcement of all orders and processes issued in the implementation of this ordinance.

D. Coordinate with the Fiscal/Attorney for other legal actions/remedies relative to the foregoing.

Planning: Coordinate with the Regional Office of the HLRB regarding proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance prior to its adoption by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Section 11. Action of Complaints and Oppositions. Any complaint for violation of any provision of the zoning ordinance or of any clearance or permits issued pursuant thereto shall be filed with the LZBAA. However, opposition to an application for clearance, variance, or exception shall be treated as a complaint and dealt with in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Section 12. Functions and Responsibilities of the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals. There is hereby created LZBAA which shall perform the following functions and responsibilities:

- A. Act on applications of the following nature and complaints and opposition to such applications:
1. Variances
 2. Exceptions
 3. Non-Conforming Uses


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor

- B. Act on appeals on the grant or denial of locational clearance by the zoning administrator/zoning officer.


HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member


The decision of the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals shall be appealable to the HLRB.

(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

Section 13. Composition of the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals (LZBAA). The Municipal Development Council shall create a sub-committee, which shall act as the LZBAA composed of the following members:

(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader

1. Municipal Mayor as Chairman
2. Municipal Legal Officer
3. Municipal Assessor
4. Municipal Engineer
5. Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (if other than the Zoning Administrator.
6. Two (2) representatives of the private sector nominated by their respective organizations and confirmed by the municipal mayor. In case of the non-availability of any of the officials enumerated above, the Sangguniang Bayan shall elect as representative such number of its members as may be necessary to meet the total number set forth.


RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 SB Member
 Deputy Floor Leader

For purposes of policy coordination, said committee shall be attached to the Municipal Development Council.

(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member

Section 14. Interim Provision. Until such time that the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals shall have been constituted, the HLRB shall act as the LZBAA. As an appellate Board, the HLRB shall adopt its own rules of procedure to govern the conduct of appeals arising from the administration and enforcement of this Ordinance.


HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

Section 15. Review of the Zoning Ordinance. The Municipal Development Council shall create a sub-committee to be known as the Local Zoning Review Committee (LZRC) that shall review the Zoning Ordinance considering the Forest Land Use Plan, as the need arises, based on the following reasons/situations:

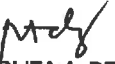

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member

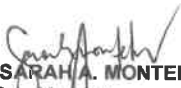
- a. Change in local development plans
- b. Introduction of projects of national significance.
- c. Petition for rezoning
- d. Other strong and valid reasons which justify the consideration

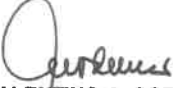

HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

Section 16. Composition of the local Zoning Review Committee. The local Zoning Review Committee shall be composed of sectoral experts: These are the Local Officials/Civic Leaders responsible for the operation, development, and progress of all sectoral undertakings in the locality, e.g.:

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLO
 SB Member


HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng mga SK


VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

- a. Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator
- b. Municipal Health Officer
- c. Municipal Agriculturist
- d. President, Association of Barangay Captains
- e. Municipal Engineer
- f. Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO)
- g. District School Supervisor
- h. Two (2) Private Sectoral Representatives [Local Chamber of Commerce and Housing Industry]

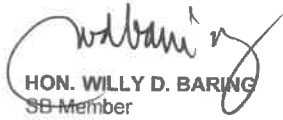
- i. Two (2) NGO representatives
- j. Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office, if applicable.

For purposes and policy and program coordination, the LZRC shall be attached to the Municipal Development Council.


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
 Municipal Mayor

Section 17. Functions of the Local Review Committee. The Local Zoning Review Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- A. Review the Zoning Ordinance for the following purposes:
 1. Determine amendments or revisions necessary in the Zoning Ordinance because of changes that might have been introduced in the Forest Land Use Plan.
 2. Determine changes to the introduced in the Forest Land Use Plan in the light of permits given, and exceptions and variances granted.
 3. Identify provisions of the Ordinance, which are difficult to enforce or are unworkable.
- B. Recommend to the Sangguniang Bayan necessary legislative amendments and the local planning and development staff the needed changes in the plan because of the view conducted.
- C. Provide information to the HLURB that would be useful in the exercise of its functions.



HON. WILLY D. BARING
 SB Member

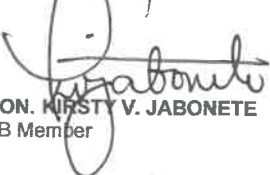
(ABSENT)
HON. ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
 Municipal Vice Mayor

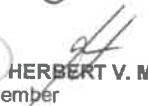
(ABSENT)
HON. JOSE WELSON G. VOSOTROS
 SB Member
 Floor Leader


HON. RICHARD V. MERONTOS
 SB Member/Deputy Floor Leader

(ABSENT)
HON. LUIS GABRIEL U. VELOSO
 SB Member


HON. JOEL ERME E. ROBLES
 SB Member

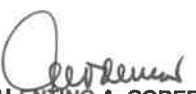

HON. KIRSTY V. JABONETE
 SB Member


HON. HERBERT V. MANRIQUEZ
 SB Member

(ABSENT)
HON. RICHE O. OCUBILLO
 SB Member


HON. RUBLITA A. DELA CRUZ
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. SARAH A. MONTEBON
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng mga SK


VALENTINO A. CODERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Section 18. Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. Changes in the Zoning Ordinance as a result of the review by the Local Zoning Review Committee shall be treated as an amendment, provided that any amendment to the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance shall be carried out through a resolution of three-fourths vote of the Sangguniang Bayan.

Section 19. Violation and Penalty. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance, shall upon conviction, be punishable by a fine not exceeding P2,500 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) months or both, at the discretion of the Court. In case of violation by a corporation, partnership, or association, the penalty shall be imposed upon the erring officers thereof.

Section 20. Suppletory Effect of Other Laws and Decrees. The provision of this Ordinance shall be without prejudice to the application of other laws, presidential decrees, letters of instructions and other executive or administrative orders vesting national agencies concerned shall be consistent with the Forest Land Use Plan of the LGU.

Section 21. Separability Clause. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so declared to/be unconstitutional or invalid.


Section 22. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, rules, or regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed; provided, that the rights that are vested upon the effectivity of this Ordinance shall not be impaired.

Section 23. Effectivity Clause. This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval by the Local Chief Executive.


ENACTED by the Sangguniang Bayan of Tabango, Leyte this 23rd day of October 2023 with the following votes:

YES – 6 NO – 0

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THE ORDINANCE
DULY ENACTED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF TABANGO ON OCTOBER 23, 2023.


VALENTINO A. CODERA
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED AS DULY ENACTED:


WILLY D. BARING
Temporary Presiding Officer
SB Member

APPROVED:


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANABAN
Municipal Mayor

03 NOV 2023
Date



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO
-000-
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SECRETARY

+6309088960539
vcodera@gmail.com

Certificate of Posting

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

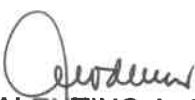
THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the following Municipal Ordinances were posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal Hall on November 7, 2023, and to remain posted for three (3) consecutive weeks, to wit:

- 1) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-07, entitled: "An Ordinance Creating Public Employment Service Office and Plantilla Positions in the Municipal Government of Tabango, Leyte, Providing for its Qualifications, Duties, and Functions and Appropriating the Necessary Funds Thereof;"
- 2) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-08, entitled: "An Ordinance Institutionalizing the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Health (DRRM-H) System in the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte;"
- 3) Municipal Ordinance No. 2023-09, entitled: "An Ordinance Adopting the Zoning Regulations on Forest Land Use for the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte, and Providing for its Administration and Enforcement Thereof."

THIS CERTIFIES FURTHER that the foregoing Municipal Ordinances are yet to be posted on the bulletin boards of the different barangays of this municipality and published in the newspaper of general circulation.

THIS CERTIFICATION is issued in compliance with Article 114 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 7160.

ISSUED this 7th day of November 2023 at the Municipality of Tabango, Province of Leyte.


VALENTINO A. CODERA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

NOTED:


ROSLIE E. OMEGA, M.D.
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

FOREST LAND USE PLAN

Municipality of Tabango, Leyte in partnership with
Community Environment and Natural Resources-Ormoc





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Excerpt from the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Development Council of Tabango, Leyte held on March 16, 2023 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the Conference Hall 2nd Floor Municipal Building Tabango, Leyte.

Present:

Bernard Jonathan M. Remandaban
Richard V. Merontos
Dinah Grace U. Arante
Lowella Manriquez
Rubilita A. Dela Cruz
Eduardo C. Daño
Jose Jay N. Luche
Isabel I. Longcanaya
Teodulfo A. Mativo, Jr.
Loridel Maypa
Romeo C. Arcenal
Ma. Rio Luz A. Majadas
Erlinda P. Quinto
Pelagio Z. Arante Jr.
Emma R. Zafra

Municipal Mayor/Chairman
SB Member, Chairman on Appro.
PB Butason-I
PB Catmon
PB Gimarco
PB Omaganhan
PB Tabing
PB Campokpok
PB Poblacion
PB Sta. Rosa
PB Tugas
CSO Representative, IIWFA
CSO Representative, OFCAA
CSO Representative, BUFA
CSO Representative, RFA

Absent:

Eliseo Montane
Sammy Q. Uy
Arnel C. Pelayo
Albert C. Morilla
Marites T. Montimor
Isagani A. Hanopol
Francisco A. Regala Jr.

PB Butason-II
PB Gibacungan
PB Inangatan
PB Manlawaan
CSO Representative, OWBCPA
CSO Representative, TIGER
CSO Representative, TLTDA
Congressman Rep. (3rd District)

RECEIVED
SB SEC 9/20
16 MAR 2023
1:00 P.M. J

Resolution No. 01-2023

“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FOREST LAND USE PLAN OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, LEYTE COVERING THE PERIOD OF C.Y. 2023-2028.”

WHEREAS, Republic Act 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates that each Local Government Unit (LGU) shall promote the general welfare of its people through effective and efficient planning and implementation of government policies, plans programs, projects, and activities in the community;

WHEREAS, presented to the Municipal Development Council is the 5-Year Forest Land Use Plan of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte for CY 2023-2028;

WHEREAS, after thorough and meticulous deliberation, the Members of this honorable body is of the consensus to favorably act on the mentioned purpose;

NOW THEREFORE, upon motion of Hon. Dinah Grace U. Arante, duly seconded by Hon. Teodulfo A. Mativo, Jr., be it;


RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to adopt the Forest Land Use Plan of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte covering the period of 2023-2028;

RESOLVED FINALLY, to furnish a copy of this resolution to the office of the Municipal Mayor, Hon. Bernard Jonathan M. Remandaban, to the office of the DENR-Regional Office, Arturo E. Fadriquela, Tacloban City, for their information consideration and appropriate action and to all other concerned offices for their guidance.

APPROVED, this 16th day of March, 2023 at Tabango, Leyte, Philippines.

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY, to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution.


Engr. VER PHILIP C. PELAYO
Secretary of the MDC

ATTESTED BY:


BERNARD JONATHAN M. REMANDABAN
Municipal Mayor

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Executive Summary

Chapter 2: Background & Rationale

Chapter 3: Introduction

Chapter 4: FLUP Tabango's Vision, Mission, Goals, and Objectives

Chapter 5: Scope, Limitation, and Methodology

5.1 Duration

5.2 Relation with CLUP

5.3 Data Limitation

5.4 Methodology

5.5 The Sangguniang Bayan Orientation

5.6 Creation of Technical Working Group (TWG)

5.7 Data Gathering

5.8 Drafting of the FLUP

5.9 Situational Analysis

5.10 Consultation and Revision of the drafted FLUP

Chapter 6: Municipal Profile

6.1 Brief Background of the municipality

6.2 Geographical Location

6.3 Total Land Area

6.4 Topography and Slope

6.5 Geology and Soil Type

6.6 Climate

6.7 Natural Hazards & Constraints

6.8 Socio-economic profile

6.9 Recent Vegetative cover

6.10 Watershed Area

6.11 Open-Access Area

Chapter 7: Condition of Tabango's Forest and Forestland Area

7.1 Upland Forest

7.2 Mangrove Forest

7.3 Plantations

7.4 Tenured Areas

7.5 Beach Forest Trees

7.6 Grassland and Brushland

7.7 Ecotourism Sites

7.8 Wildlife Resources

7.9 Firewood & Charcoal Consumption

Chapter 8: Key Stakeholders

Chapter 9: Summary of Key Issues, Problems, Threats, Needs, and Socio-economic Opportunities

9.1 Problems, Issues and Needs

9.2 Tourism Opportunities

Chapter 10: Key Stakeholders' Recommendation

Chapter 11: Allocation of the Open Access area in relation to its existing Work and Financial Plan (WFP)

Chapter 12: Organizational Structure for FLUP Implementation

List of Tables

Table 1: Distribution of Forestland /Timberland Area based on Forest Type.

Table 2: Types of Vegetative cover of Forest/ Timber

Table 3: The Climate situation in Tabango, Leyte

Table 4: The Number of Sitios/Zones Per Landslide Susceptibility Rating.

Table 5: The Barangays with Population Count in Tabango, Leyte

Table 6: The Upland Tree Species in Tabango, Leyte

Table 7: The Mangrove Trees in Tabango, Leyte

Table 8: The Grasses observed in the Timberland Areas of Tabango, Leyte

Table 9: The Cultivated Vegetables in Tabango, Leyte

Table 10: The Wildlife Species in Tabango, Leyte

Table 11: The Fuelwood Consumption Per Household in Tabango, Leyte

Table 12: The Present Scenario of Forest and Forestlands of Tabango Leyte based on the participants of the conducted Strategic Planning and Workshop

Table 13: Summary of the Key Issues, Problems, Concerns, and Opportunities of Tabango's FFL area.

Table 14: The Allocation and Zoning of the Open Access Area of Tabango, Leyte

List of Figures

- Figure 1: The Administrative Map of Tabango, Leyte.
- Figure 2: The Land Classification Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 3: The Topographic Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 4: The Slope Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 5: The Soil Type Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 6: The Flood-susceptibility Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 7: The Earthquake Induced Landslide Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 8: The Landslide Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 9: The Groundshaking Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 10: The Watershed Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 11: The Open Access Area Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 12: The National Greening Program Location Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 13: The Fishpond Area Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 14: The Built-up Area Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 15: The Potential Ecotourism Site Map of Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 16: The Allocation Map-Production Area in Tabango, Leyte
- Figure 17: The Allocation Map-Protection Area in Tabango, Leyte



**Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Tabango**

MESSAGE

Our pillars *Matalino, Malinis, Mapayapa, Malusog, Masaya at Masaganang Tabango* as the brand of my governance continues to be the priority programs for the next three years of my public service. I would like to manifest that the energy, passion and dedication I have during my first two terms as the Local Chief Executive are my admiration to continue serving my fellow Tabangohanons.

As we have successfully formulated our 5-Year Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and give thanks to all the personnel of different agencies and barangays who contributed in crafting this Plan.

Challenges may come our way as we implement this plan but being united and working together we can help conserve and protect not just our forest but all the natural resources in the Municipality.

Let us all be together as we bring Tabango to the next level in the succeeding years with your unwavering support and understanding.
Gawa Hindi Salita. Tara Magtambayayong Kita!



B. J. Remandaban
Hon. Bernard Jonathan M. Remandaban
Municipal Mayor of Tabango, Leyte

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, we would like to thank the Almighty Father for guiding us and giving us the wisdom and perseverance in formulating the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte.

Moreover, our deepest appreciation and thanks to the heads and personnel of the following government agencies, departments, barangay officials and private organizations who shared their precious time, efforts and expertise during the preparation of this plan, to wit;

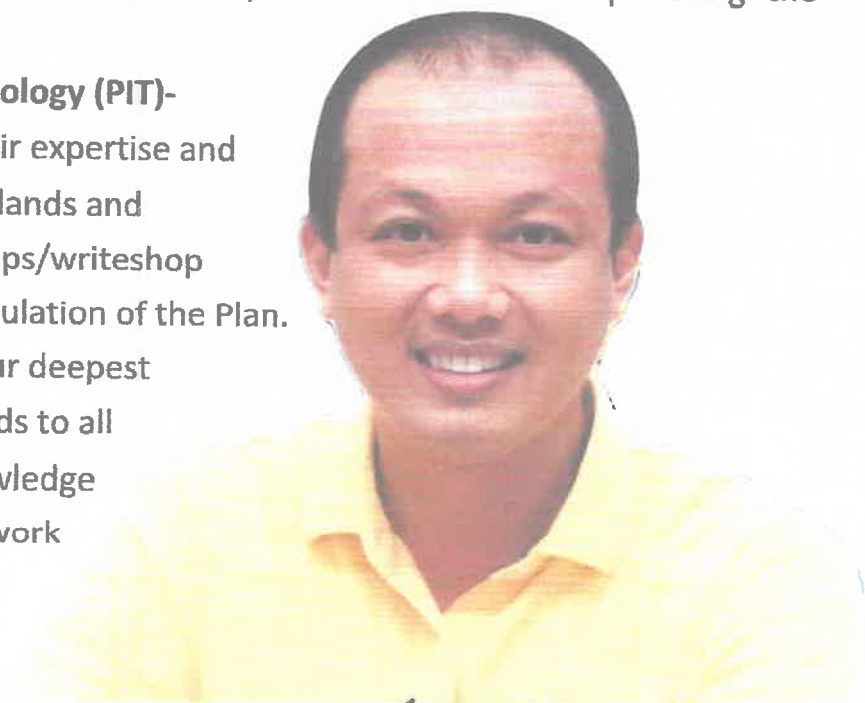
The **Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Regional Office No. VIII** who shared their technical expertise and assistance in formulating this Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP).

The **City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Ormoc, City** for sharing their technical expertise and full assistance in formulating this Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP). For their invaluable support in the Municipality in all the activities conducted to formulate this Plan.

The **Barangay Local Government Units (BLGU) of Campokpok, Inangatan, Poblacion, Tugas, Tabing and Sta. Rosa** for the none-ending support to the Municipality and cooperation in the conduct of the ocular inspections and writeshop during the formulation of the Plan.

The **Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT)- Tabango, Campus** for sharing their expertise and knowledge with regards to forestlands and participating in different workshops/writeshop conducted during the entire formulation of the Plan.

Lastly, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation towards to all the people who shared their knowledge and insights that carries out this work successfully.



B. J. Remandaban
Hon. Bernard Jonathan M. Remandaban
Municipal Mayor of Tabango, Leyte

The municipality of Tabango, Leyte has a total land area of **12,766** hectares in which the timberland area is **443** hectares or **3.5%** of the total land area, while the great majority of **12,323** hectares or **96.5%** of the total land area is identified as Alienable and Disposable land. The municipality has a population of **33,868** individuals (PSA, 2020).

Tabango is abundant with different mangrove species wherein aside from beach forest and timber plantation, 122 hectares of the mangrove areas in the municipality are covered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in its National Greening Program (NGP) which promotes reforestation, poverty reduction, food security, alternative livelihoods, and



enhances climate change mitigation and adaptation. This was also associated with the efforts of community people, local government, and other agencies to the mangrove reforestation and rehabilitation programs.

Furthermore, amidst various programs that had been implemented in the forest and forestland (FFL) area of Tabango, the FFL in the municipality is still threatened by human activities that are unsustainable to nature. Meanwhile, the LGU of Tabango continues to push agenda that are safe and sound in environment protection, conservation, and sustainable management of



the natural resources that involve human participation. Thus, the formulation of Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) is appropriate action as it contributes proper management and development of the entire FFL in the municipality.

The Forest Land Use Planning (FLUP) Team of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources- Community Environment and Natural Resources Office in Ormoc in coordination with the Local Government Unit of Tabango conducted series of FLUP

activities which include the acquisition of the primary and secondary data to come up with an analysis of the present condition of their forests and forest lands (FFL) and derive recommendations and management plans based on the current scenario.

Results of the data gathered revealed that alongside the rich natural resources in Tabango, there are several threats challenging the sustainability of these resources which are as follows:

- 1) Illegal poaching of mangrove trees;
- 2) Improper solid waste disposal;
- 3) Conversion of mangrove forests to fishponds;
- 4) Presence of informal settlers;
- 5) Land conflict and claims within the FFL areas; and
- 6) Insufficiency of water supply.

If the aforementioned problems would not be addressed, the degradation of Tabango's natural resources will happen in due time.

Meanwhile, other issues concerning the major source of income of the coastal residents are the diminishing quantity of fish caught brought by global warming, high demands for food consumption, and for farmers, lack of assurance to the land they are residing and cultivating as it has been owned by big land owners or *hacenderos* in the 1950s.



As the crafting of the Forest Land Use Plan is participatory in approach, coastal and upland communities raised several suggestions for the sustainable management and development of their forestlands. The stakeholders suggested to have more reforestation with enforcement training on mangrove management; establish linkages with other concerned agencies for eco-tourism development; provide relocation sites for the informal settlers; a strong political will to enforce environment-related laws; and materialization of the 10-year solid wastes management of Tabango, Leyte.

FLUP is a plan that is guided by the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) Technical Bulletin 2. The successful adoption and implementation of Tabango's FLUP will bring the municipality to its goal of sustainable forest management.



CHAPTER 2

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

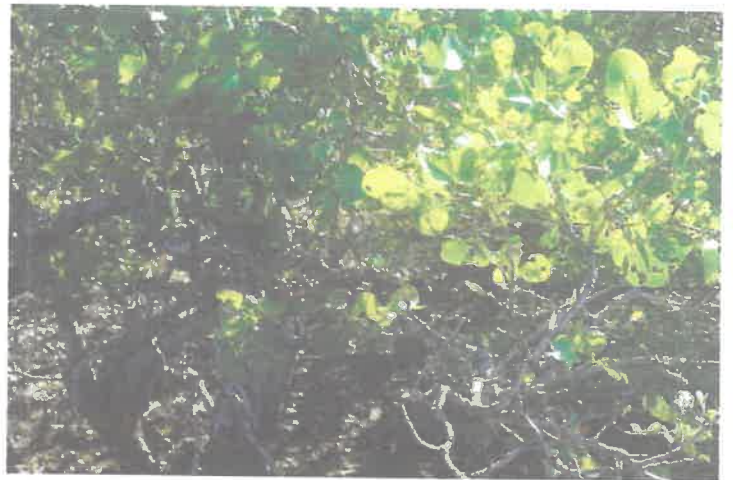
The municipality of Tabango, Leyte is within the province of Leyte, Philippines, located in the Northern part of Leyte Island with its neighboring towns of San Isidro and Villaba, Leyte.

Tabango, Leyte comprises thirteen (13) barangays wherein seven (7) are classified within the alienable and disposable land, while six (6) are in the forestland area which had been subjected to FLUP ground-verification and data gathering. It is a municipality known as rich in marine resources especially crustaceans (crabs, shrimps, and the like). Two major livelihoods in the municipality are farming and fishing, but construction, and driving vehicles have been also taking part of income sources for some residents in the municipality.



One of the groups fishing for meals at Barangay, Campokpok, Tabango, Leyte.

The forestland of Tabango covers **443 hectares** or 3.5 percent of the total land area. However, problems emerged through time that is threatening the sustainability of the available resources in the municipality. Biodiversity resources face threats to existing fishponds in the area, improper solid waste disposal, informal settlers, and illegal poaching of mangrove specie, adding up the demand of the population in the municipality regardless of its decreasing trend per result of the PSA 2020 survey.



Some of the grown Pagatpat at Brgy. Tugas, Tabango, Leyte

In addition, aside from typhoons, the respondents of the conducted survey interview disclosed the additional environmental problems they are facing- rain-induced landslides and flooding which had been refereed as brought by effect of human dependency to the FFL area.

To strategize solutions in solving the emerging problems in the forestland area of Tabango, the municipality requested technical assistance from DENR- Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Ormoc for the collaboration in the preparation of the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) which plays a significant part of the municipality's Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP). The intention will provide an avenue for both MLGU of Tabango and DENR to jointly work on the FLUP of the municipality that will focus on the productive utilization of the forest and forestland within their jurisdiction.

The formulation of FLUP in the municipality of Tabango, Leyte aimed to ensure the sustainable management and proper allocation of the municipality's forestland areas. With CENRO Ormoc-FLUP Team, the LGU together with the coastal communities was able to formulate an action plan tailored to the present scenario of the municipality. This plan has a corresponding five (5) years' work and financial plan to materialize the activities or proposed interventions out of the identified problems, issues, concerns, and threats within the FFL area.

The successful implementation of FLUP in the municipality of Tabango covers several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which include eliminating poverty and hunger (SDG 1&2); halting biodiversity loss in both land and water (SDG 14&15); addressing health and well-being concerns (SDG 3); provide clean water and sanitation (SDG 6); attain decent work and economic growth (SDG 8); responsible consumption and production (SDG 12); and provides strategies in mitigating climate change (SDG 13).



Ecosystems across the world are being rapidly degraded (Harfoot, et.al, 2014) and it causes alarming issues. This threatens their provision of natural goods and services, upon which all life depends. The forest ecosystem is no exemption, which is important in the carbon cycle, however, been threatened by degradation.

Although it has been discussed for years that the forest is resilient in facing uncertainties, the constant anthropogenic activities within the Forest and Forest Land (FFL) areas have slowed the recovery of the forest, adding up the various calamities to which the Philippines is most prone.

As of this writing, nine (9) years after Super Typhoon Yolanda (*international name: Haiyan*) washed the City of Tacloban, Philippines, and left an estimated six thousand (6,000) deaths (Walch, 2017), Super Typhoon Rai (*international name: Odette*) toured several areas in the Philippine archipelago last December 16, 2021, leaving thousands of people displaced, and hundreds of deaths. Hunger and dehydration had been two of the problems faced by the affected communities days after the said super typhoon swept their homes and sources of income. The following year, Typhoon Agaton (*international name: Megi*) arrived with hundreds of houses and people buried alive last April 10, 2022, after consecutive landslides took place at barangays within Baybay City and Abuyog, Leyte.

With no casualties, Typhoon Agaton had also brought landslides in other areas of Leyte, particularly at San Isidro, and Tabango. The said event had also brought flash floods to almost all parts of Leyte Province. Some areas that have not been visited by floodwater had been submerged at that time, wherein Tabango was not exempted. In addition, infrastructure and agriculture always take a toll from the reported damage in all places hit by the typhoon. Trauma and loss of loved ones also serve as additional baggage for the recovery of those who have survived the calamity.



Typhoon Agaton made a portion of the road visible, after the continuous downpour of rain resulted to landslide in Tabango, Leyte last April 10, 2022.

It has been known how anthropogenic activities have altered the climate and caused environmental issues such as typhoons, and drought, especially in the Philippines (Israel & Briones, 2012). As to reiterate, this affects the ability of the natural ecosystem to deliver essential services to society (Mooney, et al, 2009). The effects of the unprecedented weather and climate events could be mitigated if sustainable agenda have been properly implemented, and forestland areas are properly allocated for a certain purpose.

In the case of Tabango, Leyte, the mangrove forest has been healthily growing and newly planted ones continue to thrive. However, observed illegal poaching of mangrove trees, improper solid waste disposal, and informal settlers within the mangrove areas are issues threatening the degradation of the municipality's forestland area. High tide has been also one of the natural causes of mortality for the newly planted mangrove species. Degraded FFL can intensify unprecedented weather events and could not only affect the existing vegetation of the municipality but also the life therein.



The view under the mangrove forest of Barangay Campokpok, Tabango, Leyte.

Hence, through Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), guided by the Forest Management Bureau's Technical Bulletin 2, Tabango will have the roadmap for addressing the proper protection, conservation, sustainable management, and proper allocation of FFL areas, thereby minimizing the effects of climate change, improving the financial needs of the community people and placing solutions to existing problems in the FFL of the municipality.

CHAPTER 4

VISION, MISSION, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES

➤ VISION

A tourism hub in Eastern Visayas dwelled by Tambayayong-cultured citizenry in an ecologically sustainable environment with self-sufficient economy, climate adoptive and resilient infrastructure under a proactive, accountable and transparent leadership.

➤ MISSION

To stimulate sustainable ecological programs, projects and activities for the management, protection and conservation of the environment in full cooperation with the local communities and stakeholders.

➤ OBJECTIVES

- To conduct biodiversity study within the identified Forest and Forest Lands of the municipality.
- To initiate the planting and nurturing of native trees and locally grown bamboos within the forest land and riverbanks in 5-year period to the different priority barangays.
- To promote bio-diversity conservation through introduction of environment friendly practices in Forest and Forest Land.
- To generate income and create employment opportunities through sustainable farming and eco-tourism activities within the forest land, and
- To develop holistic approach and strategies in the protection and conservation of the environment in participation of the community.

The primary goal of the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) of Tabango, Leyte is to guide the forest managers to manage, protect and conserve the Forest and Forestlands (FFL) of the municipality bounded by the principles of sustainable forest management. With the technical assistance of DENR –CENRO Ormoc through its FLUP Team, an action plan was designed indicating the various activities, responsible persons, specific time frame, and required logistics.

5.1 DURATION

The FLUP will serve as the main guide for the overall development and interventions of the FFL of Tabango, Leyte for 5 years covering C.Y. 2023-2027. The frequency of review and rectification will depend on the actual need to ensure that said plan will address the present issues and concerns confronting the FFL, thus a clear road map of the implementation of the plan will be reflected. Thereafter, the plan must be revisited, reviewed, and updated to measure progress and make it a road map towards the next stages of implementation.

5.2 RELATION WITH CLUP

It is stated under Executive Order No. 318 Sec. 2.6.6 that the FLUP shall be integrated by the Local Government Unit (LGU) in its Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), particularly as an elaboration and amplification of the Forestry/Protected Area component of the CLUP. This will be incorporated to provide a technical framework for forest land use planning and zoning that is anchored on Integrated Ecosystem Management (IEM) Approach and to further proactively mainstream Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) with the Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU).

Moreover, the protection and preservation of natural resources are encapsulated in the municipality's CLUP. It is therefore important to put these resources to effective management and sustainable use that could best serve the communities at large. This is when FLUP becomes paramount as it provides an analytical framework and lays down a foundation for a long-term process of forest management and conservation that will balance the social, economic, and environmental goals leaning toward sustainable forest management.

5.3 DATA LIMITATION

The qualitative and quantitative data used in the formulation of the FLUP were gathered from the available socio-economic data derived during Focus Group Discussion (FGD), Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Solid Waste Management Plan, and Local Climate Change Adaptation Plan. Moreover, the significant observations on FFL situations were captured through site assessment and ground validation conducted by the Community Environment and Natural Resources (CENRO) Ormoc- FLUP Team, duly assisted by the respective Barangay Local Government Units (BLGUs) and the Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU) personnel of Tabango, Leyte.

5.4 METHODOLOGY

The Local Chief Executive sent a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Community Environment and Natural Resources (CENRO) Office in Ormoc asking for technical assistance in the preparation of FLUP in order to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate and develop the municipality's FFL. In response to the request of the MLGU Tabango, CENRO Ormoc represented by the Forest Land Use Planning (FLUP) Team immediately coordinated with the municipality through a

courtesy call last January 27, 2022, then simultaneously planned and conducted the schedule of activities.

5.5 The Sangguniang Bayan Orientation

The CENRO-FLUP Team has sent a letter-request for the orientation of the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) about FLUP and the series of activities and pertinent documents needed to successfully formulate and adopt the said plan. The Sangguniang Bayan members were informed about the significance of FLUP in managing the forest and forestlands. Knowing the importance of FLUP and its significant part in completing Tabango's FLUP, the SB has actively released a **Resolution No. 2022-31 series of 2022** to directly proceed with other FLUP series of activities. It was a resolution authorizing the municipal mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the DENR-CENRO Ormoc in the formulation of Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP). Following the release of the SB resolution, the DENR and MLGU of Tabango have sealed the partnership in the conservation, protection, and sustainable management of the forest and forestland areas in the municipality.

5.6 Creation of Technical Working Group (TWG)

The formation of the Technical Working Group (TWG) is a vital step in the preparation of FLUP. The TWG of Tabango, Leyte was created under **Executive Order No. 02 series of 2022** signed by Municipal Mayor, Hon. Bernard Jonathan M. Remandaban. The TWG of the municipality is composed of Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator as the Chairperson; Municipal Environmental and Natural Resources Officer; SB member, Municipal Agriculturist; Municipal Disaster Risk Management Officer; Municipal Accountant; Municipal Local Government Operations Officers; Municipal Assessor; ABC President, Committee on Environment; and members of the Academe, PIT Tabango.



The conduct of TWG meeting at the municipality of Tabango.

A Technical Working Group meeting was conducted on April 1, 2022 where it was attended by the TWG members. To properly relay the information about FLUP, the concerned officials of the six (6) barangays which falls within the forestland area of Tabango were also invited. This was done in order to orient the TWG members about the processes in the crafting of FLUP as well as in setting schedules for the primary and secondary data gathering in their barangay.

5.7 Data Gathering

The FLUP Team with the participation of the Local Government Unit of Tabango and Barangay Local Government Units of the six (6) covered coastal barangays namely: *Inangatan, Campokpok, Tugas, Sta. Rosa, and Tabing* proceeded to the data gathering and site verification

on April 5 to 8, 2022; and April 19 to 22, 2022. The secondary data were collected from the existing data of the municipality and the barangays. The gathering of primary data on the other hand, was done through site assessment and survey. The FLUP Team used the Global Position System (GPS) to locate the exact area on the ground. All the activities were properly documented through geo-tagged photos and video footage.

In addition, 5 to 10% of the total households of each barangays were the participants of the study. With the help of BLGU, FLUP Team purposively identified the participants mainly based on the diversity of sources of livelihood, which includes barangay officials. Also, inclusion criteria included: 1) official residents of the selected barangays; and 2) willingness to have their opinions documented. For privacy, the identity of the interviewed respondents remained confidential. The following are some of the images captured during the conduct of FLUP data gathering and site-verification.



5.8 Drafting of the FLUP

With the gathered necessary inputs provided by the respondents, BLGUs, MLGU Tabango and by the technical persons of the DENR, the drafting of the FLUP has started.

5.9 Situational Analysis

The participants of the workshop were tasked to illustrate the following conditions; 1) the present scenario of their barangay, especially the forest and forestland areas, including the prevailing problems they have been facing therein; 2) Tabango's forest and forestlands without

the implementation of Forestland Use Plan (FLUP) ten (10) years from now; 3) Tabango's forest and forestlands with Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) ten (10) years from now (*Table 12*). Afterwards, they were tasked to report their outputs and then open discussion was made to further gather the needed data.

Other significant secondary data were collected from the available barangay profiles, Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Solid Waste Management Plan, Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) of Tabango, DENR, PSA, and other relevant information concerning the demography and physical environment of Tabango, Leyte.

The following are the participants' identified Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) through the conducted strategic planning and workshop.

STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES and THREATS (SWOT) Analysis on the Forest and Forestland of Tabango, Leyte.

STRENGTHS

- Tabango has 443 hectares of forestland that is currently home to different tree species both in Mt. Cantur-aw, and mangrove areas. These tree species and mangrove forests have been housing wild animals and serve as the breeding grounds of crustaceans and other marine species in the municipality.
- It is home to some pristine eco-tourism sites (beach resorts, island, and panoramic view mountain view of Mt. Cantur-aw) and high-valued crop plantations.
- It has People's Organizations and other government and non-government agencies that manage the portions of the timberland and mangrove area.
- Tabango is near the North of Cebu, Municipalities of Villaba, and San Isidro, Leyte where their products could be marketed in these nearby places including Ormoc and Tacloban City.



The academe as one of the members of FLUP formulation of Tabango actively participating the said workshop.

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of forest guards and limited coast guards that maintain the tight implementation of existing environmental rules and regulations.
- The majority of the upland and coastal residents are having low to no permanent sources of income.
- Illegal cutting and poaching of trees (upland or mangrove tree species).
- Presence of illegal settlers/informal settlers.
- Improper solid wastes disposal.
- Lack of livelihood opportunities for people living inside and near the FFL area.
- Lack of seminars and workshops for possible livelihoods available for the residents living near and inside the forest and forestland areas.

OPPORTUNITIES

- The identified ecotourism sites in the FFL of Tabango, Leyte could be developed to generate additional source of income for the BLGUs and LGU. In addition, the residents could have livelihood as eco-tour guide and souvenir making and the like to generate income.
- The municipality has an open access area of 194 hectares which has already been deducted from the existing tenured areas in the municipality. The proper allocation of the area will help conserve, protect, and sustainably manage the forests and forestland of the municipality, thereby addressing the problem related to livelihood, illegal cutting and poaching of trees, improper solid waste management, and other environmental concerns of Tabango.
- The barangays of Tabing and Sta. Rosa had been handling mussels or *tahong* (*Mytilus edulis*) and seaweed farming. However, the livelihood program in the barangays, especially at Sta. Rosa has been severely affected by super typhoon Yolanda (international name: Haiyan) on 2013, which has resulted the BLGU's peoples organization to stop the mussels farming. These aforementioned livelihoods could be formed into another organization to have a direct market in order for the residents to a have consistent source of income. Meanwhile, Sta. Rosa is accordingly finding a partner agency that could help and support them to revive the said livelihood activity in their barangay could help uplift the financial status of most residents in the municipality.
- Tight coordination with different sectors and stakeholders for activities like reforestation and more that support sustainable forest management.
- Improvement of soil condition.
- Through sustainable projects the degradation of the municipality's FFL could be prevented.
- Prevention of natural disasters (ex. Landscapes, flash floods, and the like).
- Building/ Improving of access roads, bridges and dikes in the interior barangays.



MLGU Tabango MENRO Ron Costelo (wearing a blue polo) facilitating the participants of the workshop



MLGU Tabango MPDC, Engr. Ver Philip C. Pelayo assisting the participant of the said workshop

THREATS

- The existence of illegal cutting and poaching of trees and the use of fuelwood for cooking threatens the sustainability of forest resources as the population is expected to increase along with the demands of the people from the forest resources to survive.

- Improper solid waste management threatens the mangrove and marine ecosystems of Tabango, Leyte where the existing of crabs has been diminishing through time according to the respondents of the conducted survey interview and which was validated during the conduct of strategic planning and workshop.
- Possible failure in project/program to be made as intervening technique of the identified problems.
- Changes of administration (BLGUs, LGU and other government and private officials)
- If activities will be implemented, possible lack of sustainability of community attitudes, motivation or participation.
- Siltation at the barangay of Tabing and Campokpok which can cause flooding.
- Natural calamities (ex. Landslides, flash floods and the like). Rain-induced flooding has been pronounced due to river route which follows a zigzag pattern to which can accordingly cause gully erosion. Gully erosion is basically an erosion that causes the removal of the soil along the surface water ran-off.

5.10 Consultation and Review of the Drafted FLUP

The technical review is conducted to come up with a more realistic plan that is suitable for the proper conservation, protection, and management of Tabango's forest and forestland area.

The maps herein, including the strategies recommended by the DENR Regional Technical Review Committee on solving the presented FLUP concerns have been accordingly rectified in this plan.

The DENR Regional Office VIII Technical Review Committee is composed of all the division chiefs in the department. Present during the conduct of the technical review, are the DENR Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services, Atty. Dario A. Suarez; Chief, Enforcement Division, For. Glenn Garciano; Chief, Surveys and Mapping Division, Engr. Ramon S. Unay; OIC, Chief, Conservation and Development Section, Marissa N. Solite; Chief, Licenses, Patents, and Deeds Division, Estela M. Polinar; and a representative from the planning division in behalf of their Chief, Maria Teresa N. Patindol.



MENRO Ron A. Castelo presenting the formulated FLUP of Tabango to the panelist of the DENR RO8 Technical Review Committee.

6.1 Brief Background of the Municipality

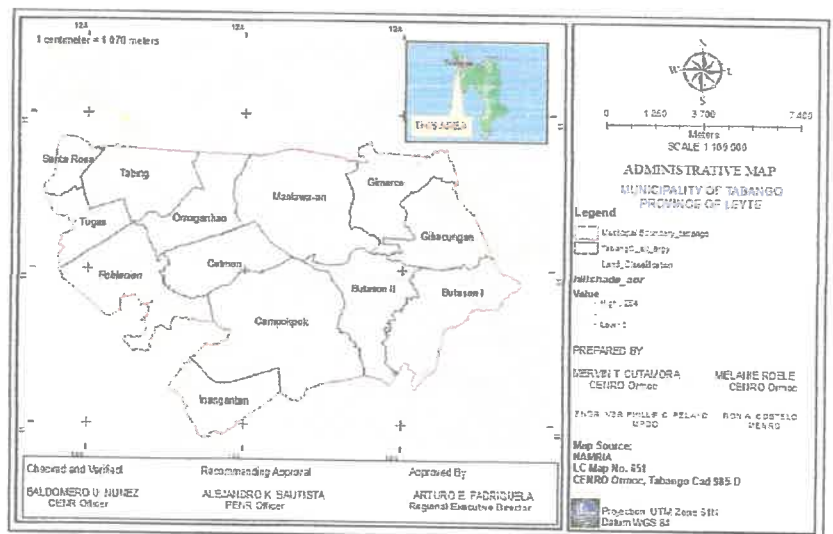
Tabango was a barrio of San Isidro, Leyte. Its early settlers came from the islands of Cebu and Bohol and the towns of Villaba and Palompon. Later as the transportation improved the same personage from the eastern side of Leyte Province was found in the place. The people were responsible for molding its culture.

During the Second World War, the Barrio of Tabango was made as to the seat of the Civil Government of the Municipality of San Isidro, Leyte, the civil authorities returned the seat of the Local Government to the Poblacion of San Isidro Leyte.

In 1948, prominent residents of Tabango took the opportunity offered by the late Jose L. Alvarez to work out in Manila through Senate President Mariano Jesus Cuenco, the establishment of a new political unit. Documentation was initiated with the assistance of the Late Rosendo Homerez of Tacloban City, whose wife was a native of Tugas, now a barangay of Tabango. Eventually, Executive order No. 284 was signed by His Excellency President Elpidio Quirino on October 15, 1949, creating the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte. The first set of officials were appointed and sworn to office on January 16, 1950, to wit; Francisco Pastor (Municipal Mayor); Felomino Ocubillo (Municipal Vice Mayor); Adolfo Alvarez, Honofre Damayo, Potenciano Pijo, Mauricio Sevillas, Mateo Pastor (councilmen).

The doctrine in the case of Pelaez vs. the Auditor General, G.R. No. L-23825 promulgated on December 24, 1965, placed the Municipality of Tabango in a great dilemma. It was in this case that the Supreme Court ruled and declared certain orders creating municipalities unconstitutional on the ground that the creation of municipalities is an exercise of legislative power. On this premise, the creation and exercise of the Municipality of Tabango, Leyte was illegal. However, the cloud that darkened the juridical personality of Tabango as a municipal corporation disappeared with the introduction of House Bill No. 2042 during the seventh congress by Congressman Marcelino R. Veloso, Representative of the 3rd District Leyte. The bill proposed to create the municipalities of Almeria, Cabucgayan, Tabango, and Culaba, with retroactive effect in order to validate the existence of the aforementioned municipal corporations. The bill was finally approved into law on June 17, 1972, as Republic Act 6488 retroactive on October 15, 1949.

Figure 1: The Administrative Map of Tabango, Leyte



Tabango was originally a barrio names Tandaya. Most of its inhabitants lived near the seashore. One day, a man living in the barrio went to catch some crabs as swamps surrounded the place and crabs were abundant. Although he was an expert in catching crabs, he was accidentally bitten by a big one. A Spanish soldier happened to be near the place where the man was, so he came near and asked for the name of the place. The man bitten by the crab looked up and saw the soldier. Feeling the pain caused by the biting of the crab, he cried, " Tabang mo", which means help me. The soldier, thinking it was the name of the place, said, " Ah Tabango." The soldier repeated the word Tabango to his superiors and from that time on, the settlement was called Tabango. When the barrio has created as a municipality, it retained its name.

6.2 Geographical Location

The municipality of Tabango is situated approximately 11° 18' North, 124° 22' East, on the island of Leyte. Elevation at these coordinates is estimated at 6.1 meters or 20.1 feet above mean sea level. Tabango is a coastal community with 13 barangays. The municipality has 33,868 population (PSA, 2020).

Tabango is on the western seaboard of the Camotes Sea with coordinate's 11°-18'-21" north latitude and 124°-22'-55" east longitude. It is one of the forty-one (41) municipalities of the Province of Leyte in Region VIII and among those towns facing the vast Camotes Sea, bounded on the north by the Municipalities of San Isidro and Calubian, on the east portion by the Municipality of Leyte, South by the Municipality of Villaba and on the west by the Camotes Sea (CLUP Vol.1, 2013).



Tabango is 122.2 kilometers away from Ormoc City, and 54.5 kilometer away from Tacloban City. San Isidro, Leyte, and Calubian are the three nearest municipalities of Tabango. In addition, Tabango are just approximately forty-five to an hour boat travel to northern Cebu.

6.3 Total Land Area

The land area of Tabango, Leyte is 12,766 hectares politically subdivided into thirteen (13) barangays. Out of 13 barangays, six (6) are in timberland areas that had been subjected to FLUP site-verification and data gathering.

Based on the Forest Cover Map of Tabango, agricultural areas are the dominant land use with 10,055 hectares, or 78.76 % of the total land area. It is still planted with various crops like fruit trees, corn, rice, and the like. The total timberland areas are about 443



hectares or 3.5% of the total land area. The mangrove forest within the timberland area is 104 hectares or 0.82% covering the barangays of **Inangatan, Poblacion, Sta. Rosa, Tugas,** and **Campokpok**. Nipa palms can be also observed in the area but do not occupy a greater portion of the timberland. It is only a few patches or countable fragments associated with the mangrove tree species.

Table 1: Distribution of Forestland/Timberland Area based on Forest Type

Forest Type	Area (has)	Percent of Total Area
Upland Forest	16	4%
Mangrove & Nipa area	427	96%
Total Area of Forestland/Timberland	443	100%

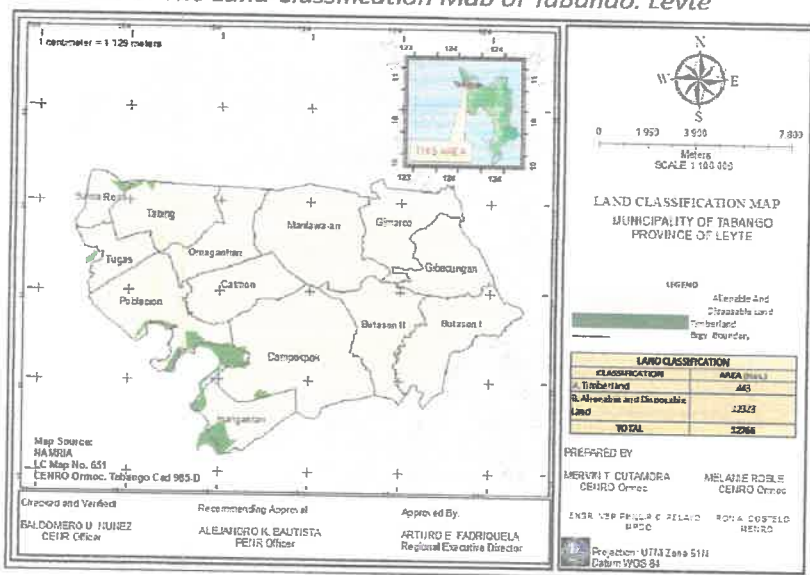
Table 2: Types of Vegetative Cover of Forest/Timberland

Types of Vegetative Cover	Area (has)	Percent of Total Area
Annual Crop	1514	11.86%
Built-up	130	1.02%
Fishpond	115	1%
Grassland	704	5.41%
Mangrove Forest	104	0.82%
Perennial crop	10,055	78.76%
Open Barren	2	0.02%
Brushy Shrubs	138	1.08%
TOTAL	12,766	100.00

Generally, the land of Tabango is classified into two; Alienable and Disposable (A&D), and Timberland/ Forestlands. As defined by Presidential Decree No. 705, alienable and disposable lands refer to those lands of the public domain, which have been subject to the present system classification and declared as not needed for forest purposes; while Forest lands include the public forest, the permanent forest or forest reserves, and forest reservations.

In the case of Tabango, their total land area is 12,766 hectares wherein Alienable and Disposable Land is 12,323 hectares or 96.5% of the total land area, while timberlands cover 443 hectares or 3.5% of the total land

Figure 2: The Land Classification Map of Tabango, Leyte



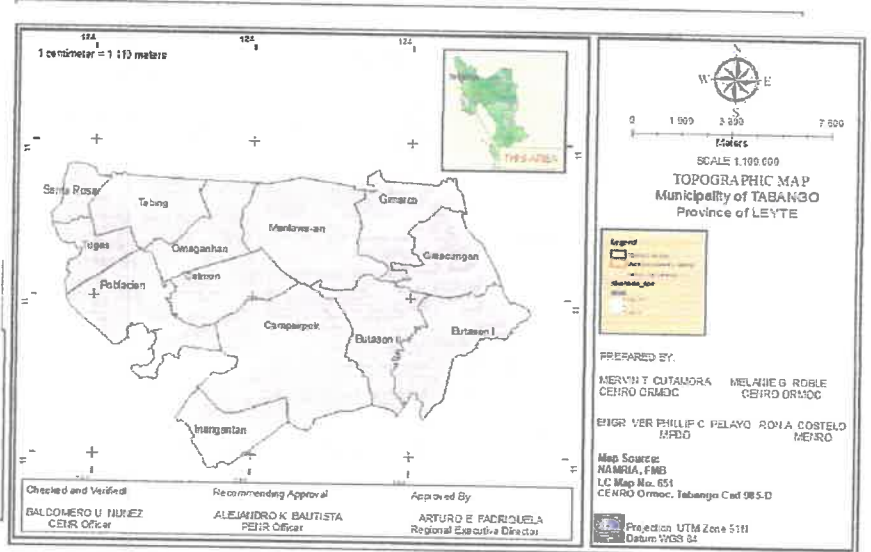
area. Tabango is a coastal municipality, where six (6) out of thirteen (13) barangays are located in the coastal areas, while the remaining seven (7) barangays are within the identified A&D area.

6.4 Topography and Slope

The municipality of Tabango has the characteristic presence of five (5) major terrains ranging from level to nearly level and from moderately steep to very steep as shown in the slope map.

Moreover, Tabango is a coastal municipality, hence the topography of the municipality is slightly hilly with majority of plain area where Mt. Canturaw is the sole upland portion within the timberland area with 200 m/asl elevation occupying 16 hectares equally shared by barangays of Campokok and Inangatan.

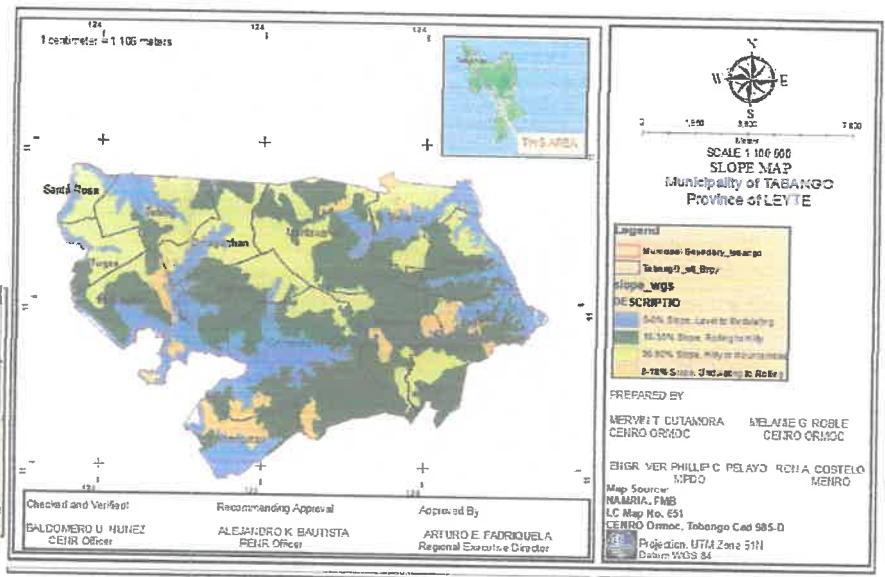
Figure 3: The Topographic Map of Tabango, Leyte



Slope 0-08%= It is characterized as having a level of undulating. It dominantly covers portions of barangay Inangatan, Campokok, Manlawaan, Butason II, Poblacion, Catmon, Omaganhan, Tabing, Gimarco, Sta. Rosa, Gibacungan, and Tugas. This type of slope is suited for agriculture such as rice production and low-density housing.

Slopes 8-18% = The land slope of the municipality is gently undulating to the rolling slope in more than one direction suited for mechanized production, which can

Figure 4: The Slope Map of Tabango, Leyte



be observed in portions of barangay Catmon, Tugas, Poblacion, Campokpok, Inangatan, Butason II, Gimarco, Butason I, and Manlawaan.

Slope 18-30% = Rolling to Hilly. Undulating and rolling lands sloping in any direction are best suited for diversified crops production. It is the dominant type of slopes in the municipality where it is covering major portions of barangay Butason I, Butason II, Manlawaan, Omaganhan, and Poblacion, while same kind of slope covers portion of Inangatan, Campokpok, Gibacungan, Tugas, Catmon, Tabing, and Gimarco.

Slope 30-50% Hilly to mountainous. The land area with 50% above in slope is limited only to pasture and forestry development. It is the slope in portions of Barangay Butason I, Poblacion, Manlawaan, Omaganhan, and Catmon, while it has been the dominant slope in barangays of Sta. Rosa, Tugas, Tabing, Gibacungan, and Gimarco.

6.5 Geology and Soil Type

- **Geologic Characteristic**

Coastal Plain. This covers the mangrove and nipa areas and marshes. Mangrove and nipa plantations can be found along rivers and shorelines in which soil salinity is high to moderate. Tabango is comprised of coastal plain where dominant portion of the forestland area is located.

- **Soil Characteristics**

There were nine (9) soil type identified in the municipality of Tabango namely; Lugo Clasy, mEDell

1. **LUGO CLAY**

-suited for any agricultural production and is covering portions in all thirteen (13) barangays of the municipality.

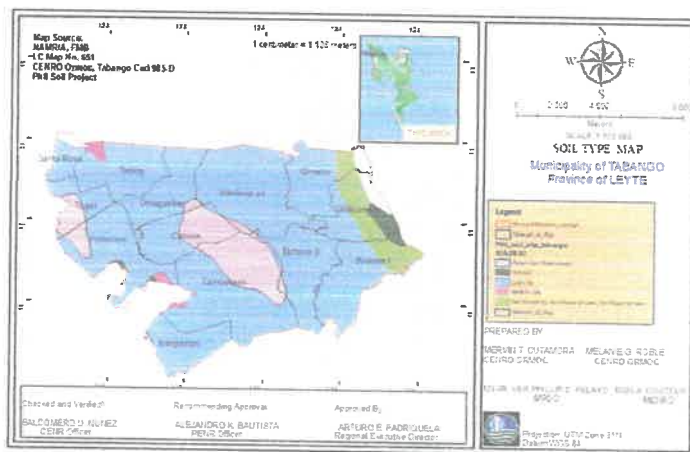
2. **HYDROSOL**

-These land areas are underwater most of the time and are commonly found in swamps and marshes, river banks and near the bays. The native vegetation of these areas consists of water-loving plants such as *bakawan*, *larangay*, *api-api*, *pagatpat*, *tabique* and nipa palms. Those areas are not suitable for several agricultural crops due to presence of an excessive salt concentration.

3. **MEDELLIN CLAY**

-can be found at Barangay Campokpok and Barangay Tabing. The area that has this soil type is suited for lowland agricultural production.

Figure 5: The Soil Type Map of Tabango, Leyte



4. FARAON CLAY

-this type of soil is found in three separate locations. In the middle portion of the municipality particularly located in Barangay Catmon, Manlawaan, and Barangay Campokpok, the second is located at Barangay Inangatan and the other is located at Barangay Tugas. The slope is too steep and not suitable for any cultivation of annual crops. The surface soil which ranges in depth from ten (10) to twenty (20) centimeters is fairly granular clay that becomes sticky when wet and gets hard when dry. At normal moisture content, this type of soil has a fairly friable consistency. The sub-soil is somewhat classy but rather thin. The substructure consists of partially weathered calcareous shale in color gray to brownish-gray which appears in laminated layers.

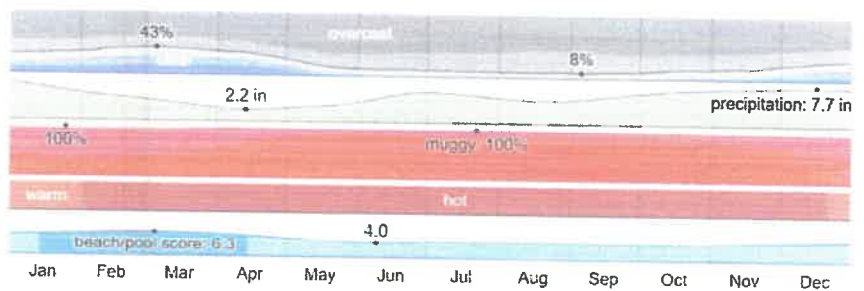
5. SAN MANUEL SILT LOAM

-It is located along the Naga River which separated the Municipality of Tabango and the Municipality of Leyte. It traverses Barangay Gimarco, Gibacungan and Butason I. This type of soil is suited for upland agricultural production.

6.6 Climate

The climate of Tabango, Leyte is warm during May (32.21°C / 89.98°F), the coldest month of February (24.16°C / 75.49°F), the wettest month during December (209.77mm / 8.26in), and driest month during April (50.01mm / 1.97in). The highest temperature reached 30.77 degrees Celcius with the coldest of 24 degrees Celcius. Tabango has a humidity of 84.94%. As can be seen below, it has been suggested that the best time of the year to visit Tabango for hot-weather activities is from mid-January to mid-April.

Table 3: The climate situation in Tabango, Leyte



The Municipality of Tabango is under **Type II** which experiences the heaviest rains that usually occurred in the month of February 2008 with a total rainfall of 894.10 millimeters (mm), followed by a rainfall of 781.70 mm in the month of December 2005 and 604.70 mm in December 2006. The maximum number of rainfalls occurred in CY 2008 with a total rainfall of 4,097.80 mm and the least number of rainfalls was recorded in CY 2004 with a total rainfall of 1,996.70 mm (CLUP, 2013).

6.7 Natural Hazards and Constraints

Tabango is a coastal municipality wherein prone to random weather events which includes flooding, storm surge, and the like. Anthropogenic activities significantly contribute to the ever-changing climate, hence, humans as part of the ecosystem should also take action in mitigating these problems.

- **Flooding**

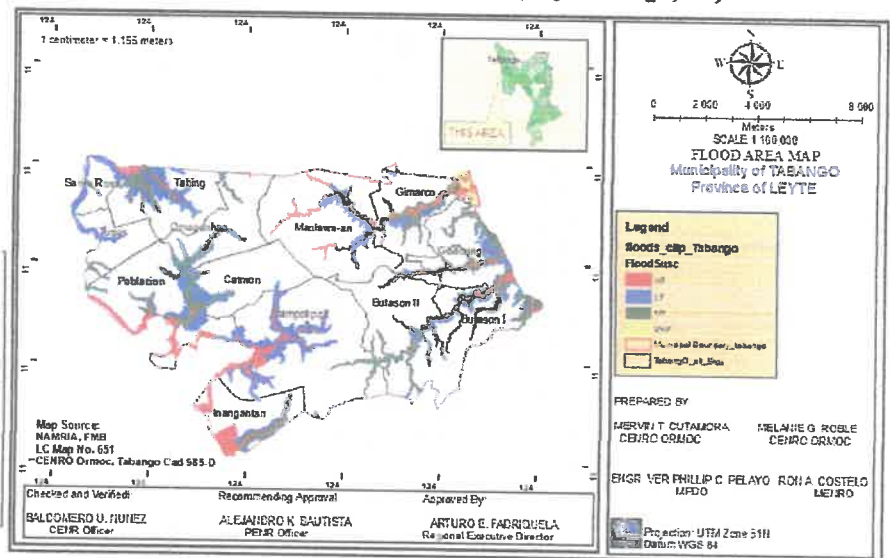
Problems with flooding have been one of the main concerns not just in Tabango but in most parts of the Philippines. It has been one of the issues that is needed to be addressed following the problems with dikes, canals/drainage, and other causes to mention in the country.

The FLUP visited barangays that are highly prone to flooding are the barangays of *Sta. Rosa, Tugan, Poblacion, Inangatan, Tabing,* and *Campokpok*. Other barangays near the coastal areas have been under in medium and low flooding category, however would experience intense flooding during typhoon season.

During the conduct of survey-interview, the participants of survey-interview in the barangay of Tabing raised their concern on flooding due to blocked waterways from the upland area. The main reason for the said problem was accordingly due to land conflict and interest in water resources for farm lots near the river area. Further information has gathered through the conduct of strategic planning and workshop that barangay Tabing has also a siltation problem along with barangay of Campokpok. Per suggestion of the participants, there is a need to reroute the river in a linear pattern so the gully erosion could be prevented and siltation problem could be addressed. In addition, the participants of barangay Campokpok disclosed the need to dredge their river to avoid rain-induced caused by shallow riverbed.

- **Landslide** Aside from forest cover status in Tabango, soil also contributes to triggering landslides in portions of the municipality affecting roads, houses, and bridges in the area. During the conduct of ground-verification, the FLUP Team has observed visible marks of landslides on the road already within the area of Tabango, leaving one lane of road temporarily unavailable and risky for passersby. Subsequently, the CLUP of the municipality discussed how landslide has been observed in the interior barangays but are only considered minor or moderate as the inhabitants are not directly affected.

Figure 6: The Flood-susceptibility Map of Tabango, Leyte



- **Earthquake-induced Landslide**

There are areas in the municipality where landslide is mostly likely to occur after an earthquake in the area. Although only fragments are found in the area, several patches are mostly observed scattered at the barangays of Manlawaan, Gibacungan, and Gimarco, other areas are in the barangays of Inangatan and Campokpok which is at Mt. Cantur-aw, while the rest of small patched areas are at Barangay Bulason II, Tugan, and Sta. Rosa.

Figure 7: The Earthquake Induced Landslide Map of Tabango, Leyte

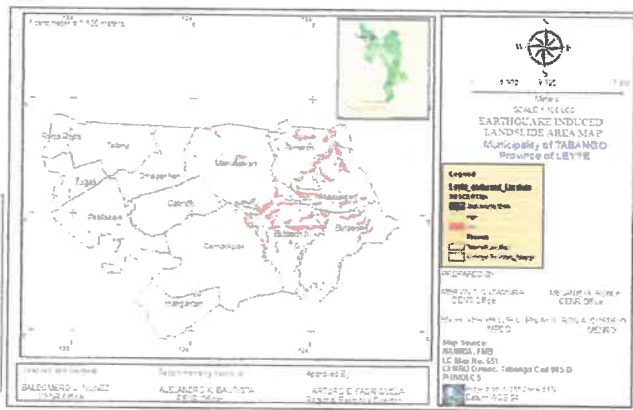
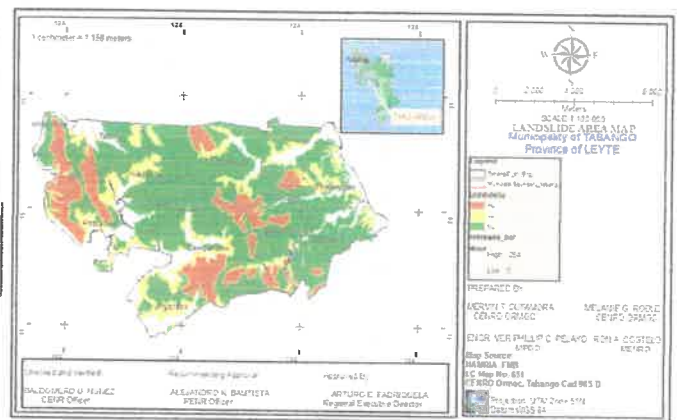


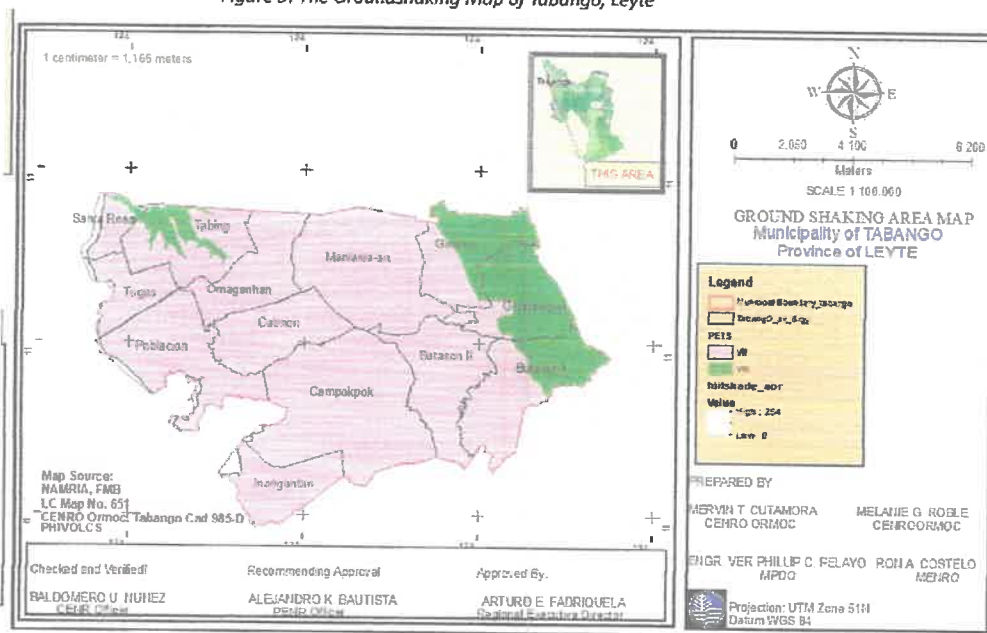
Figure 8: The Landslide Map of Tabango, Leyte



- **Ground shaking**

The center barangays prone to ground-shaking which can be found in the map is the barangay of Tabing and portion of barangay Sta. Rosa. Evacuation is highly encouraged for the communities therein if ground-shaking happens in the area.

Figure 9: The Groundshaking Map of Tabango, Leyte



6.8 Socio-Economic Profile

It is essential to know the socio-economic profile of Tabango, especially the concerns of target barangays for Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) in order to properly address the prevailing concerns of the community and follow the goals on managing the forest and forestland of the Tabango in a sustainable manner.

Most household in Tabango, Leyte is composed of 5-6 members, but there are a few which goes beyond and lesser as mentioned. As result of the conducted survey-interview, farming and fishing are the residents' sources of income but daily wage income such as labor, and motorcycle (*habal-habal*) driving have been the main activities for some who have no land to cultivate and has no boats for fishing or has no skills to do the same.

- **Political Subdivision**

The municipality of Tabango, Leyte is located in the northern part of Leyte island with its neighboring municipalities of San Isidro, Calubian, Villaba and Leyte. It is just 122.2 kilometers away from Ormoc City, 54.5 kilometers away from Tacloban City, and approximately forty-five to an hour of boat travel to northern Cebu.

Tabango is composed of thirteen (13) barangays where six are coastal barangays, and seven (7) are upland areas. It comprises a total land area of 12,776 hectares. The latest survey revealed that Tabango has a population of 33,868 as of 2020 (PSA).

- **Demographics**

With 34,095 people in 2015, and 33,868 in the 2020 census, the population of Tabango denotes a decrease of 327 people in a span of five (5) years. This population has been distributed in thirteen (13) barangays of the municipality. The migration of the residents from the municipalities implies a factor in the decreased numbers of the population.

Table 5: The Barangays with population count in Tabango, Leyte

Barangay	Population percentage (2020)	Population (2020)	Population (2015)	Change (2015-2020)	Annual Population Growth Rate (2015-2020)
Butason I	4.92%	1,665	1,627	38	0.23%
Butason II	2.44%	826	884	-58	-0.66%
Dampokpok	17.32%	5,832	5,978	-146	-0.24%
Carmon	7.19%	2,416	2,498	-82	-0.33%
Gitabangan	5.35%	1,782	1,896	-114	-0.60%
Dimarco	4.93%	1,661	1,683	-22	-0.13%
Intigalan	12.50%	4,214	4,321	-107	-0.25%
Makisawon	7.42%	2,524	2,604	-80	-0.31%
Omaganhan	9.24%	3,148	3,255	-107	-0.33%
Reoracion	18.99%	6,433	6,481	-48	-0.74%
Santa Rosa	3.82%	1,276	986	290	2.94%
Tabing	6.64%	2,250	2,301	-51	-0.22%
Tagas	2.96%	1,003	1,067	-64	-0.60%
Tabango Total		33,868	34,195	-327	-0.96%



As reflected in the above table, Brgy Poblacion registered the biggest population contributing 6,433 people or 18.99% of the municipality's total population. Completing the five highest population barangays include Campokpok, Inangatan, Manlawaan, and Catmon.

Meanwhile, Barangay Butason II recorded the smallest population in 2020 accounting 826 or 2.44% percent of the total population of Tabango, Leyte. Other barangays included in the five least populous are Tugas, Sta.Rosa, Gimaro, and Butason I.

- **Main sources of income.**

The majority of the residents heavily rely on marine resources for food and income. However, as the respondents of Barangay Inangatan have emphasized, the volume of catch in every fisherman has decreased through time based on his observation as a veteran fisherman of the municipality. Younger ones would often fish for daily viand from morning until



The fishermen at Barangay Poblacion, Tabango, Leyte pulling the net off the water for the day's catch.

afternoon. If there is no food on the table, the sea is the residents' easy access to fish for a meal. A fisherman expressed that almost all of their catch is allocated for viand, or exchange for a kilo of rice, than solely for income.

Meanwhile, the respondents with lands to cultivate have been also encountering the same situation. The harvest is mostly for consumption other than for income unless a certain crop is in season.

With the effect brought by the long run covid-19 pandemic since March 2020 and which has been minimally experienced up to this writing amidst the optional wear of face mask at outdoor spaces, the Philippine's economy has seem to have pushed the less fortunate out from the pedestal . Remittances from loved ones - domestic or abroad, have been one of the incomes received by the residents, and this has been a scenario not just by the residents of Tabango, but in most part of the



A fishing technique where the fishes will be trapped inside the bamboo fence with a net once it can get inside the trap

country. However, if there are remittances that will arrive, the inflation rate of the country keeps pushing market prices for basic goods and commodities (Delima & Lumintac, 2019). Hence, the residents on the poverty line or below are just having almost the same cycle amidst having remittances being received from their loved ones. If the sea does not provide, crops in the mountains are the substitute for the ones who have land to cultivate. Others are on daily wage jobs available around the neighborhood as their main source of subsistence. Motorcycle drivers, van drivers, pot-pot drivers, construction, and the like are also some of the livelihoods in the municipality.

With the aim to help the community in the barangays, each BLGU has formed a People's Organizations (POs), wherein the barangay of Sta. Rosa has been known because of their booming seafood production in the area. The said PO has been also growing seaweeds for export to nearby cities as raw material for making chairs. However, the price of the goods from its source differs. At times, customers haggling over the prices of commodities from the farmers usually comes with almost giving their products away downplaying the price of each good resulting in a much lesser income earned by the fishermen/farmers. With that, the respondents of the conducted survey-interview have suggested to have a direct market of their products.

6.9 Recent Vegetative Cover

The forest land area in Tabango comprises 443 hectares or 3.5% of the municipality's total land area and is mostly covered with mangrove forest.

Upon the conduct of ground verification, newly planted bakhaw (*Rhizophora apiculate*) and miyape (*Avicennia officinalis*) can be seen thriving in their favorable portions in the FFL.

There has been no other vegetative cover in the area than mangrove and beach forest trees, however the existence of a fishpond near the mangroves had been observed during the site-verification. On the other hand, upland areas are covered with indigenous and exotic tree species. Grasses also thrive in the spaces where the sun can penetrate the ground. However, with limited space, there are no crops being observed and cultivated within the upland area with timberland classification since it has been only covering the area of Mt. Cantur-aw.



One of the growing mangrove species at Brgy. Inangatan, Tabango, Leyte.

6.10 Watershed Area

A watershed is a land drained by a stream of fixed both body of water and its tributaries having in common an outlet for surface runoff (PD 705). Normally, its boundary or divide is delineated topographically, following the ridges in the landscape.

As can be shown in the map, unidentified watershed, technically place with “no data” is occupying a 2,807 hectares of the total land area of the municipality.

The condition of the watershed is crucial in the overall health of ecosystems. In fact, for this reason, its management should be given an emphasis since improper allocation and management can highly impact the daily lives of the people living in Tabango, Leyte.

6.11 Open Access Area

Land allocation responds to the need to close the “open access” forests and forest lands. “Open access” are areas not under any management arrangement and anybody- even those not authorized by the government- can just get in and out and use the resources without having any accountability (DENR -USAID, 2007). Open access also refers to areas already allocated or under a certain tenure instrument but has been expired and left abandoned by their assigned managers.

Moreover, in the case of Tabango, Leyte, the municipality has an open access area of 194 hectares. This number of hectares have to be allocated or reallocated, (this in case of those tenured but abandoned lands / fishponds) and place under the care of responsible resource managers who can preserve, rehabilitate, protect these areas from illegal activities, and use these resources in a sustainable manner. With this, Tabango, Leyte will improve the identified ecotourism sites and address the problem of the lack of livelihood, water supply, improper solid waste management, and other prevailing problems of the municipality.

Figure 10: The Watershed Map of Tabanao, Leyte

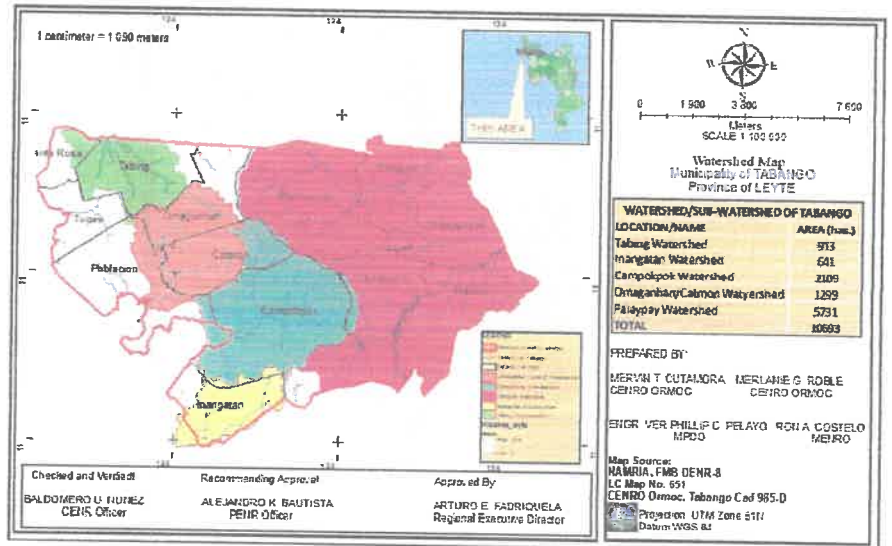
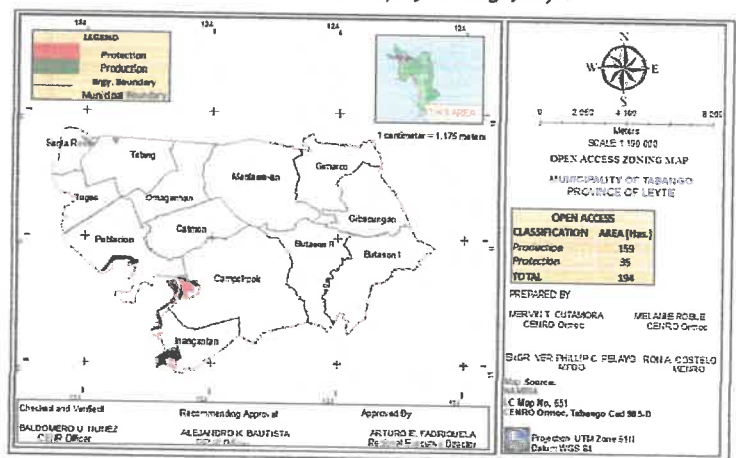


Figure 11: The Open Access Map of Tabango, Leyte



7.1 Upland Forest

During the ground-verification, various tree species were present in the area. However, to save the existing indigenous species from extinction, the LGU and the concerned barangay must know the proper protection and conservation of these species.

The presence of these tree species does not imply a healthy FFL. The previous catastrophes like super typhoon Yolanda in 2013, Typhoon Urduja in 2017, and Typhoon Agaton in 2022 affected diverse flora and fauna in the FFL of Tabango. Changes have been observed through time wherein the naturally grown indigenous tree species have been affected. Mt. Cantur-aw which is the only classified forestland in the upland area has been now covered with indigenous and exotic tree species. The exotic ones was accordingly planted after the typhoon yolanda and other typhoons which brought serious impact to the

mountain. The MLGU has been eyeing the development in the mountain since it has been formerly an ecotourism site but the construction is currently dilapidated brought by previously pronounced typhoons and lack of maintenance in the area.

Mt. Cantur-aw has the panoramic view at the peak where the whole municipality of Tabango and its neighboring municipalities and seascapes can be seen at the summit. However, improper solid waste disposal brought by the visitors/tourists at the area has been a serious problem found giving a sore eye upon successfully arriving at the peak. Proper protection, conservation, and sustainable management in the area must be taken seriously since the area has about 60-degree elevation slope. Soil creeping could highly affect the status in the area however, presence of the indigenous tree species in the mountain would help avoid unprecedented situation in the area such as landslide.

As per the status of Tabango's upland area, both native and exotic tree species have been observed during the conduct of site-verification. These trees are *Acacia*, *Tibig (Ficus nota)*, *Dita (Alstonia scholaris)*, *Hibili*, *Malayapaya*, *Binuga (Macaranga tinarius)*, *Ipil-ipil (River tamarind)*, *Narra (Pterocarpus indicus)*, *Tugas (Vitex parviflora)*, *Bario-bario*, fruit trees like *Nangka (Artocarpus heterophyllus)*, and *Guyabano (Annona muricata)*; and the exotic which is *Mahogany (Swietenia)*, and *Gmelina*.

Mahogany is dominantly growing in Mt. Cantur-aw. The DENR has an NGP in the area, while the MLGU, BLGU, and other concerned sectors have also took part on the reforestation/plantation at the area.



The first picture is the panoramic view at the top of Mt. Cantur-aw while the latter is located at the foot of the mountain where the MLGU Tabango's plantation of Mahogany is located.

Based on the Land Classification map the mangrove forest has decreased from 200 hectares in 2010 to 155 hectares in 2015. However, during the conduct of site-verification, Tabango is still covered by the variety of mangrove species. The presence of DENR -National Greening Program in the municipality, including the reforestation initiatives of the MLGU, BLGUs, and other public and private institutions significantly contributed to the rich mangrove ecosystem in the municipality.

Figure 12: The 2010 Forest Cover Map of Tabango, Leyte

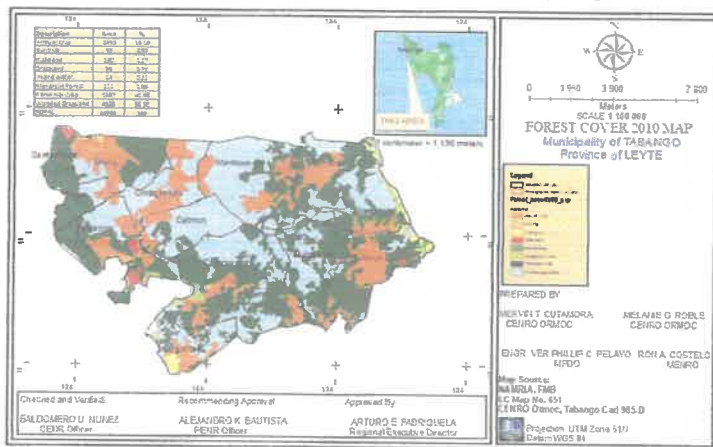
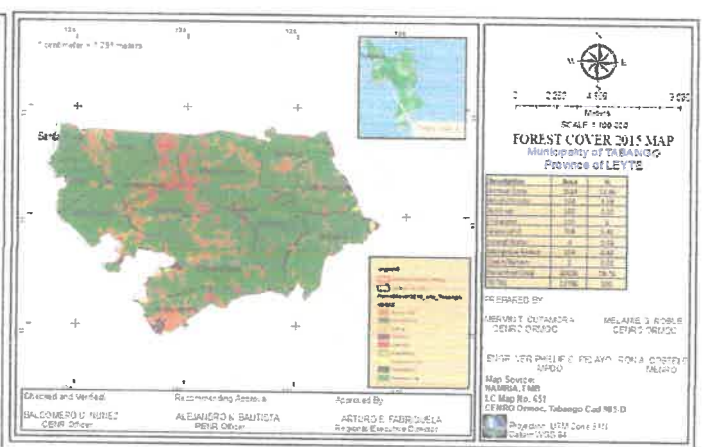


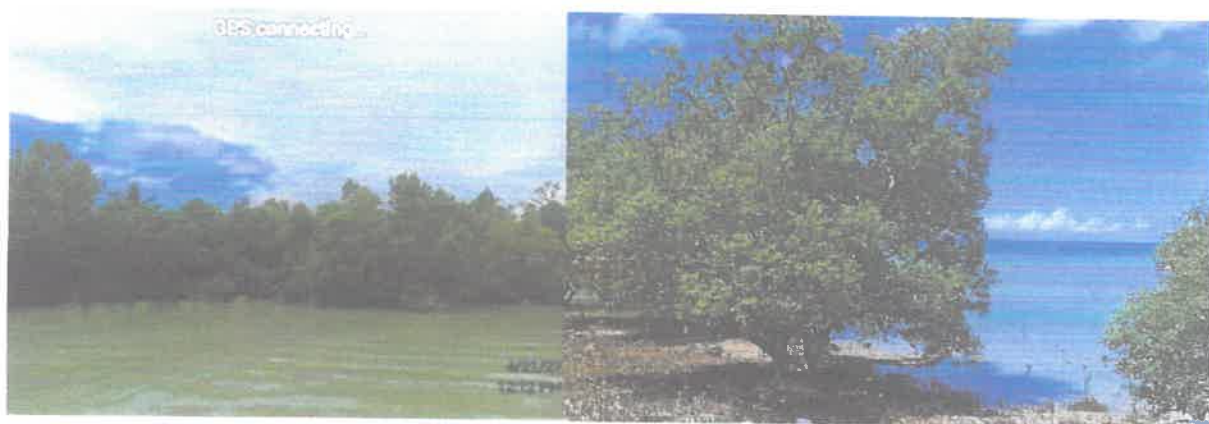
Figure 13: The 2015 Forest Cover Map of Tabango, Leyte



The mangrove species that thrive in the coastal area of Tabango, Leyte is *Bakauan Lalaki* (*Rhizophora Apiculata*Blume), *Miyape* (*Avicennia officinalis*), *Pagatpat* (*Sonneratia caeseolaris*).

Subsequently, during the conduct of site-verification, there are fishpond areas being observed [it is yet to verify if the existing fishponds have Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs)], illegal pruning of mangroves, and presence of solid waste floating under the mangrove trees during high tide while some are underwaters and few have left stuck and hanging at the mangrove branches.

During the conduct of survey-interview, the respondents claimed the importance of the mangrove forest to their livelihood, and living situation at the coastal area, especially during typhoons. The respondents have also aware on the significance of mangrove as the breeding ground of marine species.



The healthily growing mangrove forest at Barangay Sta. Cruz, and Tugas, Tabango, Leyte.

Table 6: The mangrove trees in Tabango, Leyte

Coastal tree species	Scientific Names	Status	Reasons	Responsible person/organization (Protection and reforestation)	Threats	Barangay (s) affected by threats
BakaunLalaki	<i>Rhizophora apiculata</i>	Increasing	-Reforestation -Natural regeneration -Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Bakaun Babae	<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>	Increasing	-Reforestation -Natural regeneration -Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Saging-saging	<i>Aegiceras corniculatum</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration -Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Bungalon puti	<i>Avicennia alba</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Dapdap	<i>Erythrina indica</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Miapi	<i>Avicennia rumpiana</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
Pagatpat	<i>Sonneratia alba</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	Tidal waves and storms	All coastal barangays
(Associate specie) Nipa	<i>Nypa fructicans</i>	Increasing	-Natural regeneration Protected	-BLGU -MLGU	none	All coastal barangays

Table 7: The Forest Trees in Tabango, Leyte

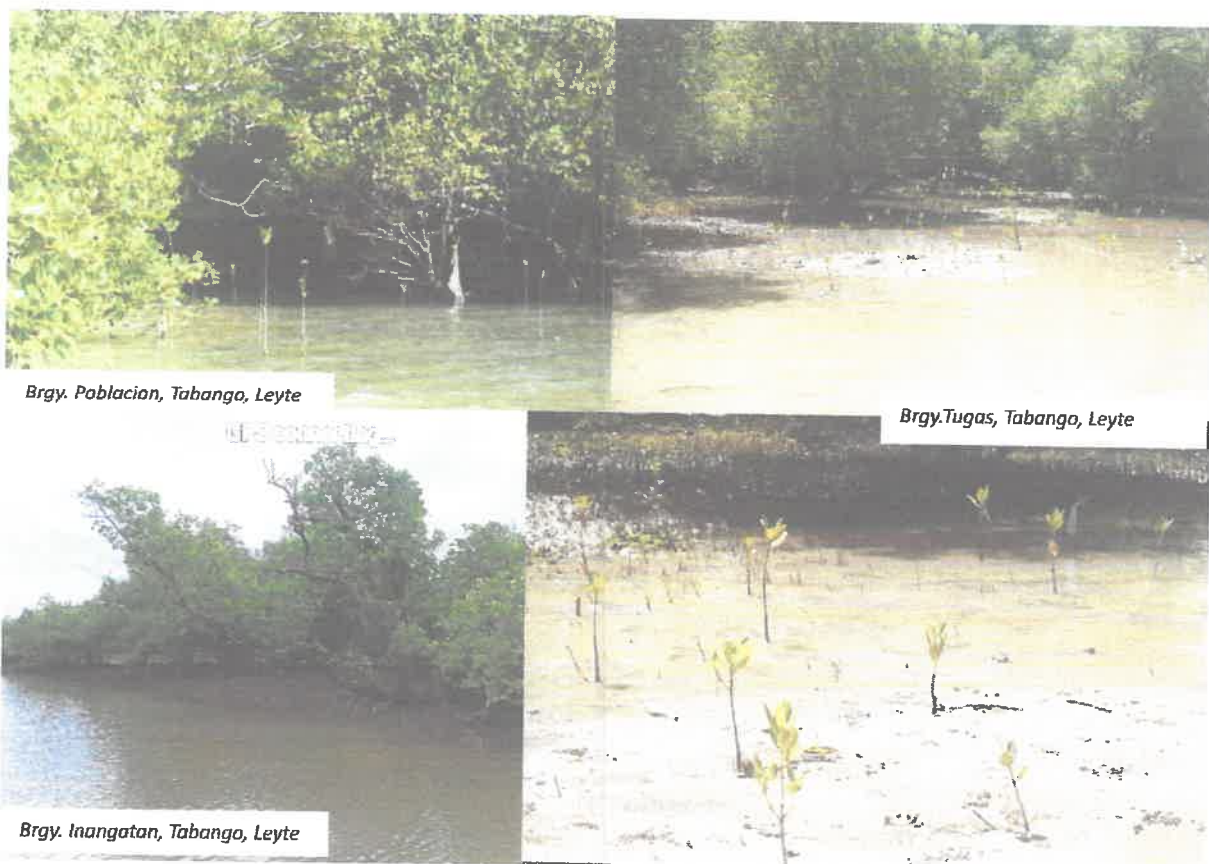
Upland Tree species	Scientific names	Status	Reasons	Responsible person/organization/initiated the Protection and reforestation	Threats	Barangay (s) affected by threats
EXOTIC TREES Mahogany	<i>Swietenia</i>	Unthreatened	-slow natural regeneration -Protected -Reforestation	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Gmelina	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	Unthreatened				
NATIVE TREES Narra	<i>Pterocarpus indicus</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Tugas	<i>Vitex natvigilantiss</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	BLGU MLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Ipil-Ipil	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Acacia	<i>Acacia</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	BLGU MLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Tibig	<i>Ficus nota</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Dita	<i>Akrobia scholaris</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Hibiti		Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Malayopaya		Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Binuga	<i>Macaranga tharvis</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
Baria-bario		Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
FRUIT TREES -Nangka	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan
-Guyabano	<i>Annona muricata</i>	Unthreatened	-affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda -slow natural regeneration -Protected	MLGU BLGU	Typhoon Landslide	Campokpok and Inangatan



The mangrove trees in Tabango, Leyte are healthily growing. There are newly planted Bakhaw species being observed in the barangays of Inangatan, Campokpok, and Tugas. No cutting has been found, however, poaching of mangroves was found near the fishpond area at Brgy. Inangatan and Campokpok. It has been assumed that the poaching of mangroves was caused by the people or paid doing maintenance at the fishpond hidden from the mangrove forest.

7.3 Plantations

The municipality of Tabango, Leyte has plantations that are covered by government and non-government organizations. Aside from the planted mahogany of MLGU Tabango at Mt. Cantur-aw, other agencies like DENR has also plantations of *bakhaw* and *miyape* in the area where species mostly thrive.

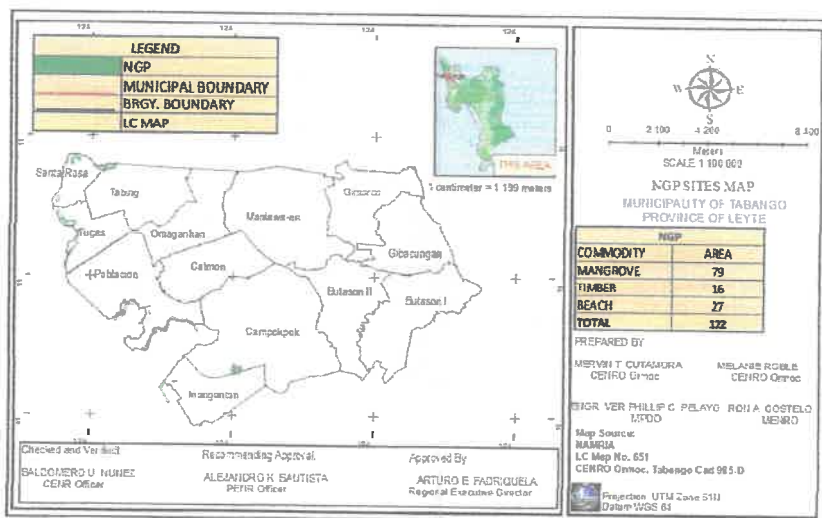


The plantation at Brgy. Poblacion, Inangatan, and Tugas, Tabango, Leyte.

- **National Greening Program (NGP).** Tabango has an NGP sites located in the barangay of Sta Rosa, Tabing, Tugas, Gimarco, Poblacion, Campokpok, Inangatan, Butason II, Butason I, and Manlawaan.

Since FLUP only focuses on the areas which have not yet have any existing tenure, the identified existing NGP Sites are hereby exempted in this plan as they have their own management scheme. However, possible interventions could be associated with NGP whenever possible.

Figure 10: The National Greening Program Location Map of Tabango, Leyte



7.4 Tenured Areas

Aside from existing tenured areas covered by National Greening Program (NGP) by DENR, other existing tenured areas which will be exempted for FLUP implementation are the fishpond areas and built-up areas. The following are the maps identified as to where these areas have been located including the number of hectares it is covering in the FFL. In regard, the FLUP focuses only to the open access areas, hence, the fishpond areas, built-up areas, and NGP area have been deducted from the total forestland area to come up with the open access that will be subjected for FLUP implementation.

Figure 12: The Fishpond Map of Tabango, Leyte

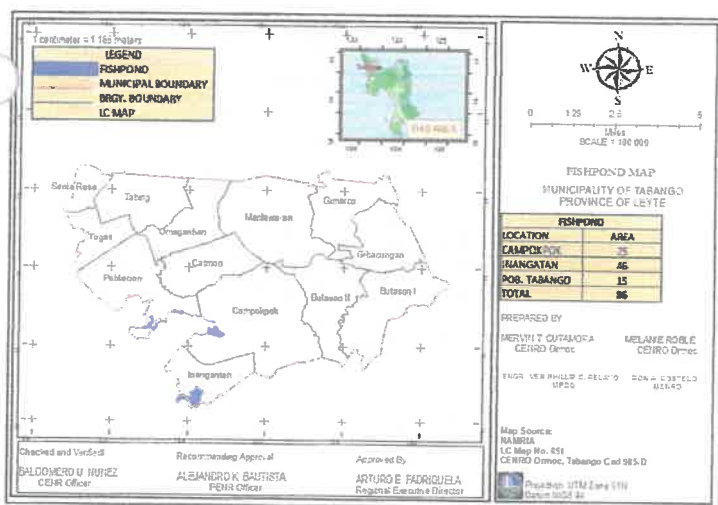
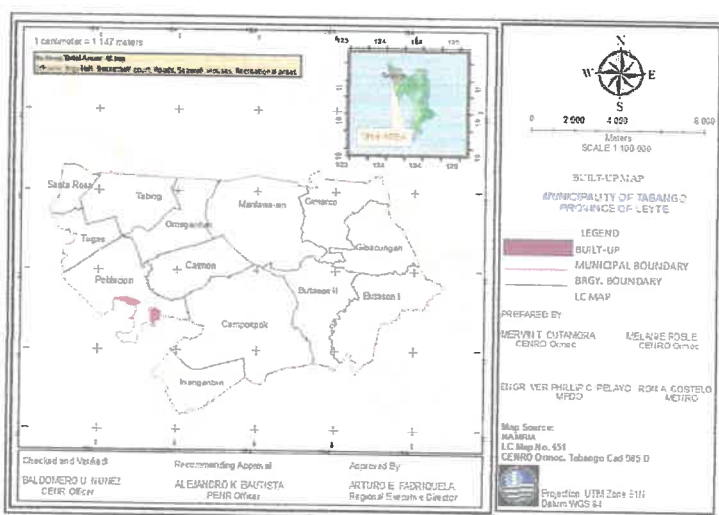


Figure 13: The Built-up Map of Tabango, Leyte



7.5 Beach Forest Trees

The beach forest is another area of great significance. It supplements the existing mangrove forests along the shorelines. These types of trees may have a low economic value but are still considered important in their role in the ecosystem. They hold together the soil particles and act as barriers against storm waves and withstand strong winds.

Existing beach forest trees in Tabango, Leyte includes Pagatpat (*Sonneratia caeseolaris*) and Talisay (*Terminalia catappa*) of a great majority which commonly been home to birds and other fauna, however, they also served as a playing area for kids and houses nearby the area like the portion of barangay Sta. Cruz, Tabango, Leyte.

7.6 Grassland and Brushlands

Patches of grasses in the portion of the Mt. Cantur-aw hill and growing grasses on the beaches have been observed. Grasses identified in the forestland area include as follows:

Table 8: The grasses observed in timberland area of Tabango, Leyte

Grasses	Scientific name	Status	Reason
Gatas-gatas	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Expanding	Undisturbed. As cultivation expands, grasses invasion in the FFL also expands, especially in the small portions at Mt. Cantur-aw where trees have been disturbed by the typhoon.
Cogon	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Fragments	
Carabao grass	<i>Paspalum conjugatum</i>	Expanding	
Tigbao	<i>Acanthus</i>	Expanding	
Ferns	<i>Tracheophyta</i>	Expanding	

7.7 Cultivated Lands

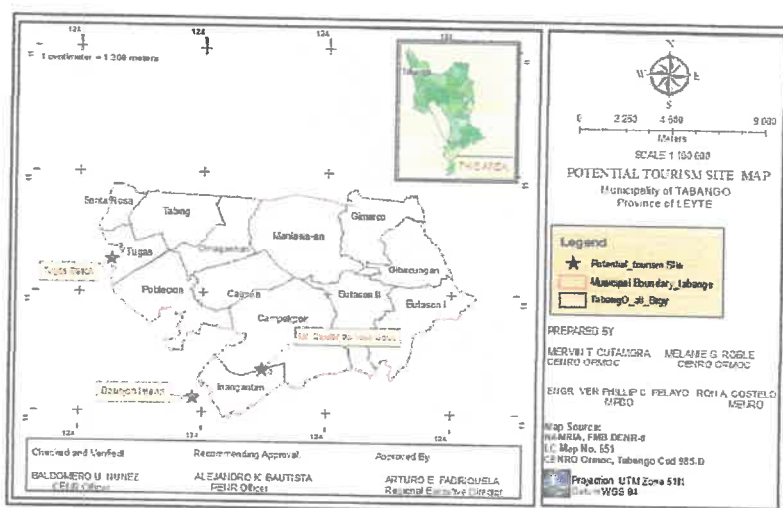
Compared to other municipalities, the community in Tabango, Leyte has been cultivating in the alienable and disposable land. No cultivation is happening within the timberland since the majority of the area is covered with mangroves, while the upland area is covered by NGP plantation and other reforestation initiated by the MLGU. Subsequently, the remaining upland area has been also protected and subjected to tourism development. The following table shows the usual vegetables that the respondents claimed were being cultivated in their area.

Table 9: The vegetables cultivated by farmers in Tabango, Leyte

Vegetables including root crops	Scientific name	Status	Reason
Okra/Lady Finger	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>	The amount depends on its season, but the cultivation of the said vegetables has accordingly increase.	To address the need for food and income.
String Beans	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>		
Squash	<i>Cucurbita</i>		
Eggplant	<i>Solanum melongena</i>		
Bottle gourd/Upo	<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>		
Corn	<i>Zea mays</i>		
Petchay	<i>Brassica rapa subsp.chinensis</i>		
Root crops	.		
Sweet potato	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>		
Cassava	<i>Manihot esculenta</i>		
Taro	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>		

Figure 11: The Potential Tourism Site Map of Tabango, Leyte

7.8 Ecotourism Sites, Mt. Canturaw is one of the tourist destinations in Tabango, Leyte within the classified forestland area of the municipality. Accordingly, the MLGU of Tabango has been eyeing its development to attract more tourists and gain additional income and livelihood for the people living therein through possible services that the locals could offer like being a guide. As per site verification, various



development will take place, especially the replacement of the stairs for safety purposes of the tourists. An overlooking view has been the main purpose of the people visiting the site.

There have been beach resorts in the municipality that are privately owned. White beaches are covered with luscious green beach trees at the side, with crystal clear water area. However, since FLUP focuses only to the development of tourist sites located within the timberland area that has not been in any tenurial instrument with any government or private organizations, Boho beach and others will not be included in the development proposals but they are still monitored per respective unit of DENR assigned for the tenurial instruments given to the aforementioned establishments. This is to assure their compliance with any environment-related certificates needed to secure. That, they are complying with the set standard for the sustainable management and protection of the area. In connection, the same is need to be done and secure in Dauajon island if certain individual or the LGU is interested to be the key manager in the area.

Moreover, there are existing beach areas in the barangays of Sta. Rosa, and Tugos that can be possibly subjected to development. Public white beaches could be developed for tourism purposes. It could serve as an additional source of income for the dwellers therein. Products for their organized POs and other auxiliary services can help the concerned barangays and residents gain an additional source of income.

7.7 Wildlife Resources

The respondents of the conducted survey interview disclosed the observance of the decreasing trend of wildlife resources due to intense heat and higher demand for food and income. At the coastal barangays, the respondents said that the abundance of the species with the local name "bogo" can be found in the barangays of Tabang, Campokok, and Poblacion. During the site-verification various bird species have been observed in the mangrove areas. Colorful birds including the locally known *tabon* have been detected fishing under the mangroves. Also, the FLUP team witnessed a fish with accordingly locally known as "sasa" skidding on the waters of barangay Campokok, and Inangatan.



Table 10: The wildlife species in Tabango, Leyte

Local name	English name	Scientific name	Status	Reason
BIRDS				
Tikling	Buff-banded rail	<i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Tuwabong	Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Tabon	Tabon scrubfowl	<i>Megapodius reinwardt</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Parotpot/sapsap	Great-billed Parrot	<i>Tanygnathus megalonychos</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Tukmo	Philippine collared dove	<i>Streptopelia bitorquata</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Alimokon	White-eared brown dove	<i>Phapitreron leucotis</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Lupay/ Lapay	Great-billed heron	<i>Ardea sumatrana</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Goryon	Sparrow	<i>Passeridae</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Tikarol	White-collared kingfisher	<i>Todivornis chloris</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Antoliban/Antolihao	Philippine oriole	<i>Oriolus seerii</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Kusi	Philippine hanging parrot	<i>Loriculus philippensis</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Balinasayaw	Edible-nest swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphagus</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Maya	Chesnut munia	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Pari-pari	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Kokok	Coucal	<i>Centropus</i>	Not threatened	Thick mangrove/no animal poaching
Primate (Tarsier)	Tarsier	<i>Tarsiidae</i>	Threatened	Noise, FFL expansion, and increasing population.
FISHES				
Atimikad	Samar conch	<i>Canarium labratum</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Tuyom	Long-spined black sea urchin	<i>Diodora antillarum</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Tamban	Sardinella	<i>Sardinella</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Pagi	Stringray	<i>Myliobatoidae</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Masag	Crabs	<i>Carcinus maenas</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Pusit	Squid	<i>Teuthida</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Gisaw	Mullet	<i>Mugilidae</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Limb	Edible arc shell/clams	<i>Bivalvia</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Sesa	Barred garfish	<i>Hemiramphus far</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Balintong	Skipjack tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Hawol-hawol	Ray-finned fishes	<i>Actinopterygii</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Tuloy	Clownfish	<i>Amphiprioninae</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Bogo	=	=	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.
Tambasakan	Mudskippers	<i>Oxudercinae</i>	Threatened	Increasing population/ Higher demand for food.

7.8 FIREWOOD CHOICES AND CONSUMPTION

Firewood and charcoal are the common materials that the residents living within and near the forestland areas have been using. It has been a given scenario since the materials have been readily available around the area. However, during the survey interview from the six (6) covered barangays, the respondents clarified the sources of their fuelwood and charcoal. Accordingly, it has been sourced from the private land areas in the municipality. Others have been accordingly supplied from the neighboring towns of Tabango. The previously ten (10) pesos small bundle of firewood now costs fifteen (15) pesos, while charcoal also increased in the same price per pack. The following is the firewood consumption of the six (6) visited barangays.

Table 11: The fuelwood consumption per household in Tabango, Leyte

BARANGAYS	MEMBERS PER HOUSEHOLD	CONSUMED PER WEEK - TYPE (Charcoal or fuelwood)
Inangatan	5-8	Fuelwood (15 small bundles)
Campokpok	5-8	Fuelwood (15 small bundles) & charcoal (20 packs)
Poblacion	5-8	Charcoal (half sack) & fuelwood (14 small bundles)
Tugas	5-8	Fuelwood (12 small bundles)
Sta. Rosa	5-8	Charcoal (20 packs)
Tabing	5-8	Fuelwood (15 small bundles) & charcoal (half sack)

Identifying the firewood consumption is necessary to foresee the possible scenario of the affected municipality in years to come from consuming certain bundles of firewood in a week. Subsequently, compared to some places in Leyte where the communities heavily rely on their timberland area for fuelwood, the coastal residents of Tabango do not. This is by the fact that the municipality has only 333 hectares of forestland areas which are mostly occupied by mangrove ecosystem. However, it would be essential if Tabango has an ordinance requiring the private land owners to plant trees in their land, especially for those that are located at certain elevations for protection purposes aside from producing fuelwood tree species. This way, fuelwood production from nearby municipalities where some of Tabango residents' have been sourcing will be minimized, while the watershed area has been well protected. Through this, water reservoirs could not be dried out as disclosed, landslides could be prevented, and flooding could be mitigated. Otherwise, private lands, including from the nearby municipalities supplying fuelwood in Tabango and other places could be denuded in due time will result in landslide and other unwanted disasters which often becomes worst into loss of lives, and properties.



Table 12: The pressing issue in the FFL of Tabango, Leyte and the participant's conceptualization on their forestlands 10 years from now with and without FLUP.

RESOURCES	STATUS	CAUSE(S)	LOCATION	WITHOUT FLUP	WITH FLUP
MANGROVE RESOURCES	Threatened	Fishpond nearby, solid wastes and the like	All FLUP covered barangays	Declined mangrove forest trees	Protected, Improved/Enhanced, Maintained
MARINE RESOURCES	Threatened	Population demand, change of climate /season, illegal fishing	All FLUP covered barangays	Depletion of and the continuous diminishing amount of fish caught	Increase of fishery production and other marine species
WILDLIFE RESOURCES	Threatened	Illegal poaching, and disturbed habitat	All FLUP covered barangays	Decreasing trend of wildlife resources	Increase of migratory and local wildlife species
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION	Threatened	Unpredicted weather events, seasons, insects and climate	All barangays with agricultural produce/production area	Decreased of harvested agricultural produce	Abundant produce cause by well-protected and managed FFL area and balance ecosystem as a whole
HAZARD RISK	Threatened	Heavy rain causes flooding; Lack of flood control/ripraps; overflows of river due to siltation and shallow riverbed	All barangays of Tabango, Leyte	Degradation of FFL due to increase of cultivation. Presence of insect infestation crops, increase surface temperature and intense flooding and landslide in the municipality	Hazards are inevitable but with FLUP it could be less disastrous to humans and properties.
ECOTOURISM	Threatened	Unpredicted geological and meteorological events, human disturbance	Mt. Cantur-aw at Brgy. Campokpok and Inangatan	Disturbed Mt. Cantur-aw with dumped solid wastes materials at the summit	Well-managed Mt. Cantur-aw that is safe and relaxing for tourist to visit

There are groups or individuals who have obligations and interests over the forestland of Tabango, Leyte. They have potential influence on how the forestlands and watersheds will be effectively managed, therefore, they should be included and considered in crafting any development plans and proposals.

It is important to understand the roles and potential contributions of the identified stakeholders for consensus building and ensuring a participatory forest governance process.

Water Users

The availability of water resources is vital for survival. People, which are the end-users rely on the accessibility of this resource to provide for their water needs both for domestic and agricultural use. Hence, water is not limited to the users at the source but includes the entire community- in and outside the FFL.

The major rivers including its tributaries in the municipality irrigate rice lands and for other agricultural productions. In addition, rivers readily serve as a source of water for the communities for domestic, recreation, freshwater fish culture, and many other uses. Hence, protecting the water bodies is as equally important as managing and conserving the forest and forestland.

Upland Farmers

Upland farmers benefited the most from FFL with their cultivation being done within the FFL for economic purposes. Hence, they are considered one of the on-site stakeholders of the forest. It is imperative that they understand fully and learn how to manage the FFL areas being direct beneficiaries therefrom.

Fisherfolks and Coastal Communities

In times of flooding and other forms of water disturbance, marginalized fisher folks are at the forefront in terms of vulnerability. The MLGU made sustained efforts for these communities to be involved in the protection and rehabilitation of its coastal areas in partnership with several concerned government agencies and non-government organizations, especially in the rehabilitation of mangroves. The existence of mangroves in the coastal areas serves as a natural defense against typhoons, storm surges, and other calamities.

Lowland Community Residents

Residents in the lowlands are considered off-site stakeholders. Their association with the denudation of the FFL may be minimal but they are equally vulnerable to the occupants inside FFL due to the effects of forest degradation. Hence, they should be involved and must take part in the protection and preservation of the FFL.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, being the primary agency of the government-mandated for the effective and efficient exploration, development, utilization, and conservation of the country's natural resources, has its

mission to mobilize the citizenry, especially the local government units (LGUs) in the management and protection of their FFL areas. It provides technical and financial support to local communities and BLGUs through the National Greening Program (NGP) and other Environment and Natural Resources services and projects in the watershed areas as well as in legislated National Protected Areas.

Barangay Local Government Units with FFL

The six (6) barangays with FFL should collaborate with the MLGU and other government agencies and non-government agencies in implementing environmental-related programs and safeguarding their forest and forestland.

Municipal Local Government Unit

Bestowed with the functions of ENR services under Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991, MLGU of Tabango, Leyte performs natural resources management and protection-related activities, projects, and programs both for their coastal and upland FFL. It continues to partner with various agencies and organizations that promote the welfare of its people and the environment.

People's Organization

They are organized groups for a specific purpose- assisting government agencies and non-government organizations in the implementation of various programs. As to the implementation of Forest Land Protection and Management, the formation or strengthening of People's Organizations is vital to the sustainability of the programs and projects to be implemented.

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)

To enforce all fishery laws, rules, and regulations governing the conservation and protection of fisheries and aquatic resources within his area of jurisdiction.

National Irrigation Administration (NIA)

The National Irrigation Administration (NIA) is a government-owned and controlled corporation primarily responsible for irrigation development and management throughout the country. It was created under Republic Act (RA) 3601 on 22 June 1963. The issuance of this particular law integrated all irrigation activities under the Agency throughout the country.

National Housing Authority (NHA)

With the increase in the demand for housing projects and relocation/resettlement programs of the government, proper identification of the areas where the housing should be built is necessary taking into consideration the geological hazards that may exist in the identified sites. The NHA is tasked to help develop and implement a comprehensive and integrated program that shall embrace among others, housing development and resettlement, sources and schemes of financing, and delineation of government and private sector participation.

Non-Government Organizations and Other Line Government Agencies

The NGOs and other line government agencies are potential partners in the protection, management, and implementation of programs, activities, and projects for the municipality's FFL.

Also, other governments and private agencies have a role in protecting and sustaining good management of Tabango's forest and forestland areas.



CHAPTER 9

KEY ISSUES, PROBLEMS, NEEDS, THREATS, SOCIO-ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

9.1 PROBLEMS, ISSUES, AND NEEDS

The FFL of Tabango, Leyte is threatened by anthropogenic activities found in the area. The continuous disturbance of several anthropogenic activities may further denude the forest, endanger wildlife species, and destroy the watersheds in the municipality. It should be understood that its adverse environmental impacts are unfavorable to the social and economic state of the municipality and its constituents.

Table 13: Summary of the key issues, problems, concerns and opportunities of Tabango's FFL area.

PROBLEMS, ISSUES, CONCERNS & OPPORTUNITIES	RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES
1. Improper Solid Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct of Information, Education and Communication Campaign on proper solid waste segregation and disposal. ➤ Creation of Ordinance at the barangay level penalizing the improper disposal of garbage. ➤ Materialization of approved 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan.
2. Presence of informal settlers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Suggestions arise during the conduct of FLUP series of activities which include the intensification of the protection of mangrove areas thereby building relocation sites and proposing livelihood to the community to be affected.
3. Illegal Cutting & Poaching of Mangroves and fuelwood consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tighten enforcement activities against illegal cutting and poaching of mangrove species/ Intensify campaign against mangrove poaching. ➤ Conduct of Information, Education and Communication Campaign on Illegal cutting/poaching of mangrove trees. ➤ Information dissemination on proper plantation of mangrove species to avoid high rates of mortality before the conduct of any reforestation activity. ➤ Encourage the private land owners to broadcast ipil-ipil seeds in their private lots in order to avoid illegal cutting and poaching of trees for firewood use. The MLGU cannot allocate certain portion of the FFL for fuelwood production since the forestland area of the municipality is dominated by mangrove areas.
4. Land Claims and Conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Utilize the updated cadastral map from the Land Management Bureau in verifying municipal boundary.
5. Lack of livelihood opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Legitimize the existing People's Organizations eyeing to create a production area for seaweed (<i>goso</i>), <i>talaba</i>, and king crabs. ➤ Identify other existing raw materials that could be improved for additional livelihood opportunities for the residents.
Tourism Opportunity 1. Mt. Cantur-aw 2. Dawahon Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Clean Mt. Cantur-aw from existing solid wastes at the summit. Reconstruct the stairs and all other possible improvements to be made to attract tourists. LGU Tabango has already eyeing for its development. ➤ Clarify if the current management has a tenurial instrument on managing the island. If none, the LGU has to apply for tenurial instrument to develop the island. The island is a public property, identified as forestland area and cannot be owned by any private entity. The existence of the island should be protected and sustainably manage following the guidelines, law, rules, and regulations set by DENR on this kind of matter.

➤ **Improper Solid Waste Disposal**



➤ **Informal Settlers within the Mangrove Areas.**



➤ **Illegal Poaching of Mangrove Trees**



➤ **Land Claims and Conflict**



Fuelwood source consumption

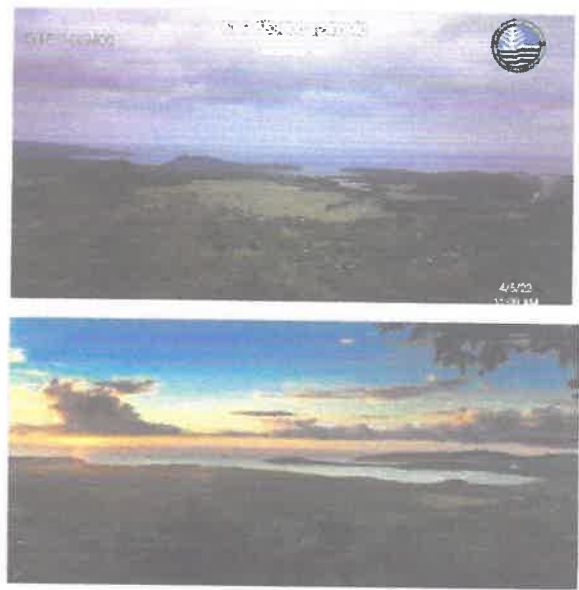


Tourism Opportunities

-Dawahon Island



-Mt. Cantur-aw



Reforesting the identified open access area in Tabango, Leyte is the first step towards closing of the area. The activity should be undertaken to guarantee or accelerate the rehabilitation and enhancement, address the dependence of residents on forests for food security and income, enough water supply, and mitigate climate change.

➤ **Materialization of the Approved Solid Waste Management Plan of Tabango**

The municipality has already the 10-year Solid Waste and Management Plan. The materialization of this plan will help address the concerning issues of solid waste in the municipality, and lessen the health concerns of the environment and the people living therein.

➤ **Additional Livelihood Opportunities with Free Trainings and Seminars**

The problem of additional livelihood opportunities has been the concern of the barangay officials, especially in the barangay of Tabing where the residents have no organized PO unlike in barangay Sta. Rosa and other barangays. The livelihood seminars and training being disclosed that have been seen as applicable to these coastal residents include; seaweed production, tahong production, protection of "donsol" that is the main source of "lukot", chairs making, and the like out of goso with direct market for the disposal of the product.



➤ **Additional Water Equipment.** The majority of the residents in Tabango, Leyte has been dependent to mineral water for drinking consumption. Other domestic water needs have been sourced out from deep-well or tap water. Further discussion with the respondents revealed that there are times when the reservoir dried out. While other areas have no tap water or faucet connection at all. These issues made them install deep wells and preserved those wells that have not been used for some time. Additional water equipment like water pipes, faucets, and the like have been one of the stakeholder's recommendations to address the problems being disclosed. However, the respondents have clarified their preference in consuming mineral water for drinking, amidst possible improvement of water supply.

➤ **Relocation Site for the Informal Settlers**

The barangays of Campokpok, Inangatan, Poblacion, and Sta. Rosa has been the barangays seriously confronting problems with informal settlers. Land conflict within the barangay has been tied up with this problem. There has been no ideal relocation site for the informal settlers as of this writing, but the MLGU has been finding ways to best a suitable place for the informal settlers especially those whose houses are installed inside the mangrove area.

➤ **Additional Boats for Patrolling**

Additional equipment like boats is proposed by the residents in coastal communities that will help them guard their mangrove areas and marine resources against illegal activities.

➤ **Establishment of Additional Watch Towers**

Every municipality has a watchtower, however, like the Poblacion area, it has been slowly dilapidated. Besides, there is a vast mangrove area in Tabango, Leyte wherein the installation of a watchtower is highly necessary for the protection, conservation, and proper management of the mangrove areas.

➤ **Strict Implementation of Environmental Laws, Rules, and Regulations**

Sustainable forest management and other sustainable goals of MLGU Tabango can only be attained with the strict implementation of existing Environmental Laws and ordinances. The hiring of forest guards and coast guards in forest and mangrove areas could help maintain, conserve and protect the existing natural resources of the municipality.

➤ **Construction of Bridges, Flood controls, and ripraps/ tidal embankments**

The respondents have disclosed the everyday hassle of having a deteriorated tidal embankment, bridges, lack of ripraps, and flood control in the area. Accordingly, the MLGU and concerned BLGU, like of Poblacion area had already presented proposals for the bridge and the canals/riprap but the owner of the said parcels have been accordingly not cooperative.

➤ **Ecotourism Sites Development**

The development of the ecotourism sites will help create job opportunities of the residents and other auxiliary services that will help contribute to the financial growth of the residents living therein.

➤ **Define Roles of Every Stakeholder**

To attain sustainable forest management, every resident of the community and all concerned institutions including MLGU, BLGUs, DENR, BWD, and other line agencies must stand to its roles and collectively ensure the sustainability of Tabango's FFL. This role should include information sharing, conservation, and enforcement roles.



11.1 Allocation of the Open Access Area

The open access area of Tabango, Leyte covering 194 hectares has been planned out according to the vision, mission, and the desired scenarios which the LGU wanted to achieve. All these plans were considered during the allocation of the open access area hence the following land uses is being proposed in order to have closure of the open access area. It will serve as the road map of the concerned barangay LGUs and the municipal LGU for their sustainable management of the Forest and Forest Lands in Tabango, Leyte.

Table 14: The Allocation and Zoning of the Open Access Area of Tabango, Leyte

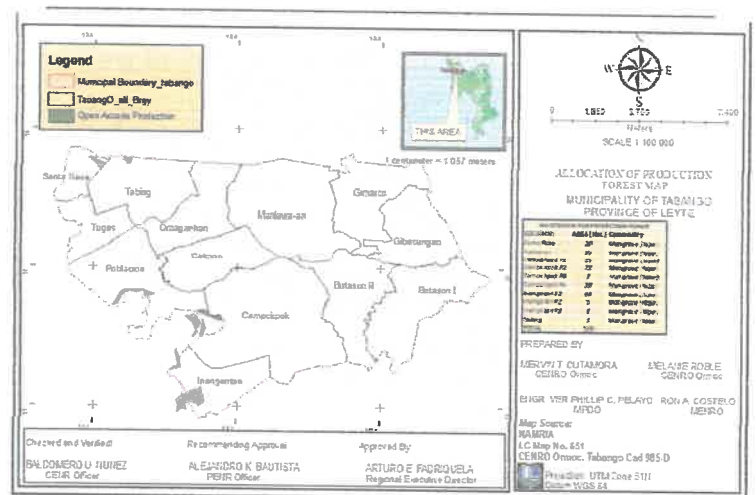
ZONE	TOTAL ACCESS AREA	OPV	BRGY LOCATION	PARTNERS FOR DEVELOPMENT	TECHNICAL INTERVENTION
Protection Forest Zone (MANGROVES)	24		CAMPOKPOK		
	11		INANGATAN		
TOTAL	35				
Production Forest areas Nipa	53		CAMPOKPOK		-Enrichment plantation through the dominantly growing species -baklan and niyap...
	7		TABANGI	LGU, BLGU, and other prospective public and private agencies	- Allocate area that is specifically for fuelwood plantation.
	10		STAROSA		
	22		POBLACION		
	67		INANGATAN		
TOTAL	194				

11.1.1 ALLOCATION OF THE PRODUCTION FOREST

The PRODUCTION FOREST of Tabango covering 159 hectares will be subjected to interventions such as enrichment plantation and fuelwood production. The whole 159 hectares equality subdivided in five (5) FLUP covered barangays since Barangay Tugos has no more open access area to count. In addition, technical suggestion includes encouraging the private and owners to broadcast ipil-ipil seeds in their private lots in order to avoid illegal cutting and poaching of trees for firewood use. The MLGU cannot allocate certain portion of the FFL for fuelwood production since the forestland area of the municipality is dominated by mangrove areas.

This problem if addressed could contribute on minimizing the effect of climate change in all sense.

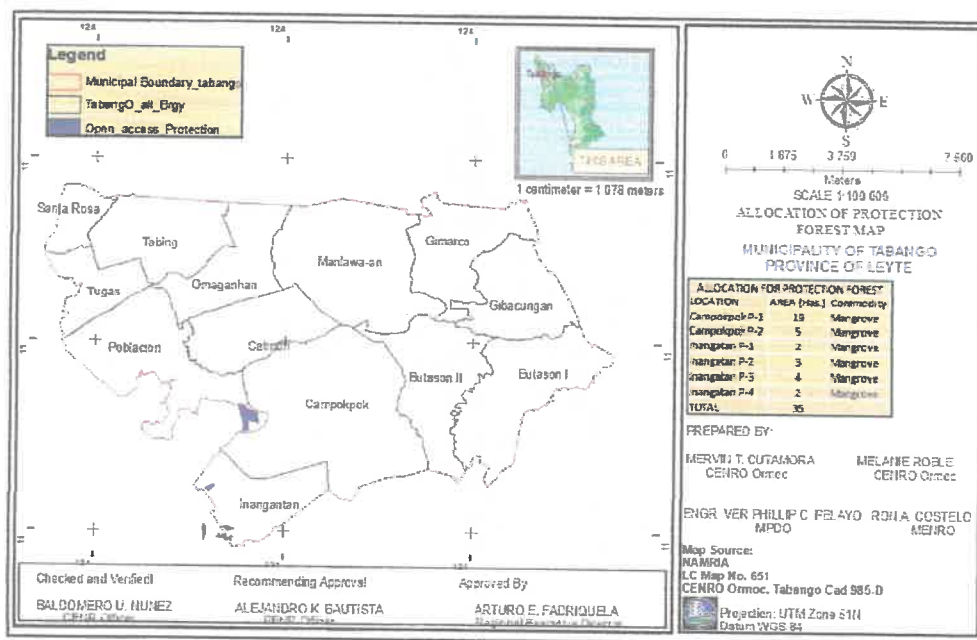
Figure 12: The Allocation Map in the Production Forest Area of Tabango, Leyte



11.1.2 ALLOCATION OF THE PROTECTION FOREST

The PROTECTION FOREST has been fully targeted on the first year. It covers 35 hectares of the total land area. Enrichment plantation is suggested since it is covering mangrove forest at the coastal and indigenous plantation at the upland area established by different agencies where the DENR on its National Greening Program is included. While planting mangroves provides shelter and breeding grounds of different marine species, also as a spare to the existing household from storms and other impacts that could be contributed by hightides, the planting of indigenous tree species will be done to ensure species suitability in the planting area and eventually attained high survival rate of the plantation. Moreover,, it will restore denuded forest cover of the areas and ensure stable supply of water for domestic and agricultural purposes. ***Cutting of trees inside protection forest for firewood and other domestic use shall be prohibited.***

Figure 13: The Allocation Map in the Protection Forest of Tabango, Leyte



11.1.3 Budgetary Requirement of the Proposed Intervention

The proposed interventions under Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) has a **Direct Project Cost of Php33,930,288.00** covering five years (5) operations plus the **15% supervision cost of Php1,687,500.00**, hence the **total project cost of Php35,617,788.00** for five (5) years operation. The annual fund requirement of the project will be: For Year 1 is **Php21,375,946.00**; for Year 2 is **Php 3,989,946.00**; for Year 3 is **Php 4,099,100.00**; for Year 4 is **Php 4,480,400.00** and for Year 5 is **Php 1,671,396.00**. *(Please see Five(5) Year Work and Financial Plan for detailed reference)*

CHAPTER 12

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR FLUP IMPLEMENTATION

