

## ***Event title: “Forest Development Planning for Climate Change Resilience and Poverty Reduction”***

*Organizers: Forest Management Bureau-DENR, The World Bank, and the Program on Forests(PROFOR)*

Stream 2, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb. 11:00 – 12:30 Widus Hotel, Room Vegas 1&2

The importance of forests ecosystem services to human well-being cannot be overemphasized. Without forests, economic activities like agriculture, fisheries, and industries will be adversely affected. Forests also play a key role in buffering the impacts of weather-related shocks. In response to widespread deforestation, the Government of the Philippines (GoP) established two flagship programs – the National Greening Program (NGP) and the Risk Resiliency Program (RRP) for the 18 Major River Basins program. These programs are expected to contribute to building national resilience to climate change impacts and to economic and environmental shocks that can disrupt sustainable development efforts including poverty reduction.

There is a need however to improve the understanding of the benefits that are generated from investments such as the NGP and RRP in natural capital in order to justify the investments, and also to be able to leverage future investments. In the case of the Philippines, the GoP would benefit from an improved understanding of how the ecosystem services generated or improved as a result of the NGP and RRP are translated into benefits for the Philippine population, especially the poor.

In this session, we will (i) present an ecosystem-based approach for assessing the contribution of forest services to enhancing resilience to climate change, and poverty reduction, and (ii) discuss how the Government of the Philippines is using data and information assessments such as these to inform development planning. The study that underpins this ecosystem assessment is funded by the Program on Forests (PROFOR) and undertaken by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Philippines and the World Bank Group.

11:00-11:05am	Welcome Remarks – <i>Asst. Dir. Mayumi Quintos-Natividad, TWG Chair</i>
11:05-11:20am	“Beyond Reforestation: Valuing Forest Ecosystem Services” – <i>Dir. Ricardo L. Calderon, PMC Chair</i>
11:20-11:50am	“Assessing the Role of Forests in Reducing Poverty and Enhancing Climate Resilience” – <i>Dr. Maurice Andres Rawlins, NRM Specialist WB</i>
11:50-11:55am	Discussant, <i>Dir. Mercedita Sombilla, ANRES-NEDA</i>
11:55-12:00nn	Discussant, <i>LGU- Bago, Negros Occidental</i>
12:00-12:25pm	Open Forum
12:25-12:30pm	Concluding Remarks – <i>Mr. Leonardo B. Paat Jr., Task Team Leader WB</i> <i>Moderator: Dr. Margaret M. Calderon, STC-WB</i>