

STREAM 3
WELCOME MESSAGE
DIRECTOR RICARDO L. CALDERON, CESO III

DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES, GUESTS, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN, / GOOD AFTERNOON. / WELCOME TO CLARK, PAMPANGA AND CONGRATULATIONS FOR CHOOSING TO JOIN STREAM 3 : “SERVING SOCIETY: FORESTRY AND PEOPLE”. / THANK YOU FOR YOUR DECISION TO TAKE PART IN THIS HISTORIC SHARING OF EXPERIENCES AND WISDOM, / TO MAKE PEOPLE-CENTERED FORESTRY EVEN MORE RELEVANT/ IN ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OR SDG’s.

REDUCING POVERTY, / ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE, / PROMOTING EQUALITY AND PEACE, / LIVING IN A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, / SUSTAINING LIFE ON EARTH/ IN BRIEF, / ARE THE BASIC CONCERNS OF THE 17 GLOBAL SDGs. / GOAL NUMBER 15 EMPHASIZES THE NEED TO PROTECT, RESTORE, AND SUSTAINABLY USE FOREST RESOURCES. / WHY? / BECAUSE FORESTS ARE IMPORTANT FOR HUMAN SURVIVAL.

FORESTS AND PEOPLE ARE INTERDEPENDENT. / EVERYDAY, WE ARE AFFECTED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY THE LIFE SUSTAINING VALUES OF FORESTS: / FROM THE FOOD WE EAT, THE WATER WE DRINK, THE AIR WE BREATHE, OUR CLOTHING, SHELTER, AND MORE. / THE PROTECTIVE, AESTHETIC, CULTURAL, AND ECOSYSTEMS SERVICE VALUES OF FORESTS / INCLUDING CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL / MAKE THESE RESOURCES TRULY INDISPENSABLE TO SOCIETY.

FORESTS HOWEVER, ARE DECLINING AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL. / THE IDENTIFIED DRIVERS OF FOREST DEGRADATION AND DEFORESTATION ARE IN MANY CASES ANTHROPOGENIC. / THEREFORE PEOPLE OR COMMUNITIES OF MEN AND WOMEN AFFECTED BY THESE PROBLEMS WILL ALSO BE POTENTIAL

SOURCES OF VALUABLE EXPERIENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS / IN ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM ON DECREASING QUALITY OR LOSS OF FORESTS. / THUS, WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO LET OUR EXPERIENCES, IDEAS AND IDEALS BE SHARED AND HEARD / TO COME UP WITH STRATEGIES GEARED TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR COMMON SD GOALS.

HOW DO WE THEN TAKE PART IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT / IN LINE WITH SOCIETY'S ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS THROUGH FORESTRY AND PEOPLE? / IN THE CASE OF THE PHILIPPINES, / COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT OR CBFM IS ADOPTED AS THE NATIONAL STRATEGY / IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS FORESTLANDS AND RESOURCES. / CBFM HAS EVOLVED FROM INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY APPROACHES ON FOREST DEVELOPMENT IN THE 70's AND 80's / TO COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGIES IN THE 90's UP TO THE PRESENT.

COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT IS A CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGY / AND IS INTEGRATED IN THE RECENTLY UPDATED PHILIPPINES MASTER PLAN FOR FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT / WITH PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY. / CBFM IS ALSO THE STRATEGY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM / THAT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED PLANTED AREAS BY ABOUT ONE MILLION HECTARES SINCE 2011 / AND THE COVERAGE WILL BE EXPANDED UNTIL 2028.

IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 2016 ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK, THE SESSIONS UNDER STREAM 3 WILL DISCUSS THE ROLE OF: 1) FORESTS; 2) COMMUNITY FORESTRY; 3) SUSTAINABLE INDIGENOUS PRACTICES; 4) AGROFORESTRY; 5) PAYMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES; 6) BENEFIT-SHARING; AND 7) GENDER EQUITY, AND THEIR IMPORTANCE IN ACHIEVING THE SDG's. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES IN THIS ROOM / AND THE ENSUING SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND IDEAS WILL BE TRANSLATED INTO PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS, / STRATEGIC PLAN OF

ACTION AND COMMITMENTS / FOR MOVING SOCIAL OR COMMUNITY FORESTRY FORWARD TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE SDGs. THESE WILL BE USEFUL IN LOCAL PLANNING IN LINE WITH THE MEDIUM-TERM PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, / THE MASTER PLAN FOR FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT, / AND POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES SUCH AS THE NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM AND CBFM.

TOGETHER, LET US BUILD NETWORKS THAT PROMOTE HARMONY AND SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN FORESTS AND PEOPLE / AT THE FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT, WITHIN BROADER LANDSCAPES, REGIONALLY, AND GLOBALLY.

LOOKING FORWARD TO A PARTICIPATIVE AND PRODUCTIVE STREAM. ENJOY YOUR STAY IN THE PHILIPPINES. MABUHAY!