

**Report on Filipino-Dutch cooperation
Biodiversity Research Programme**

MOUNT MALINDANG

14 January – 24 January

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ABSTRACT

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The Mount Malindang researches on vegetation and policies, which are taking place in the context of the Biodiversity Research Programme, are making a transformation to 'second-generation research'. They therefore search for new methods as compared to what has been done in the 'first generation'. The mission in January 2002 focussed on this transformation. For the vegetation research, this meant the introduction and development of new methodology on field sampling and vegetation analysis. For the policy research a qualitative step was made towards more in-depth interviews, to gain insight into the motivations and power relations behind forest degradation and loss of biodiversity. In order to do so, an interview frame was designed. For both research groups, possibilities to enhance the coherence of the research as a whole were explored.

Key words: Biodiversity, Philippines, policies, multidisciplinary research, vegetation, methodologies.

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List of abbreviations

AWESOME	Agencies Working for Ecological Sustainability on Mt. Malindang's Environs
BRP	Biodiversity Research Programme
CARE	International Humanitarian Organization
DA	Department of Agriculture
DENR	Department of Environment and natural Resources
GIS	Geographical Information System
IPRA	Indigenous Peoples Rights Act
ISF	Integrated Social Forestry
JPC	Joint Programme Committee
NCIP	National Commission on indigenous Peoples
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
PAMB	Protected Areas Management Board
PASU	Protected Area Unit
PENRO	Provincial Environment and Natural Resource Office
PMO	Programme Management Office
PRA	Participatory Rapid Appraisal
RAWOO	Netherlands Development Assistance Research Council
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
SEAMEO	Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization
SEARCA	SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture
UP	University of the Philippines

1 Background of the mission

The project

The vision of the Biodiversity Research Programme is: “Economically and culturally prosperous communities living harmoniously in a sustainable environment where biodiversity conservation is founded on an integrative and participatory research model”. (SEAMEO SEARCA and RAWOO, 2000) The programme principles are summarized as follows:

“Research and sustainable development work should be mutually reinforcing. Research that is driven by societal needs should produce essential, accurate, and verifiable information on which future decisions and actions for development are to be based. Sustainable development work, on the other hand, engages civil society and governments in a process that uses knowledge from relevant research for effective development actions. During its conception, BRP was envisioned as a collaborative biodiversity research programme for development that is founded on three important principles.

1. Steering biodiversity research through a society-driven approach
2. Developing a comprehensive approach that aims to integrate support for collaborative research and for building and strengthening national capacity for biodiversity research
3. Research cooperation on equal footing” (SEAMEO SEARCA and RAWOO, 2000: 2-3)

This mission took place in the context of these principles.

The mission

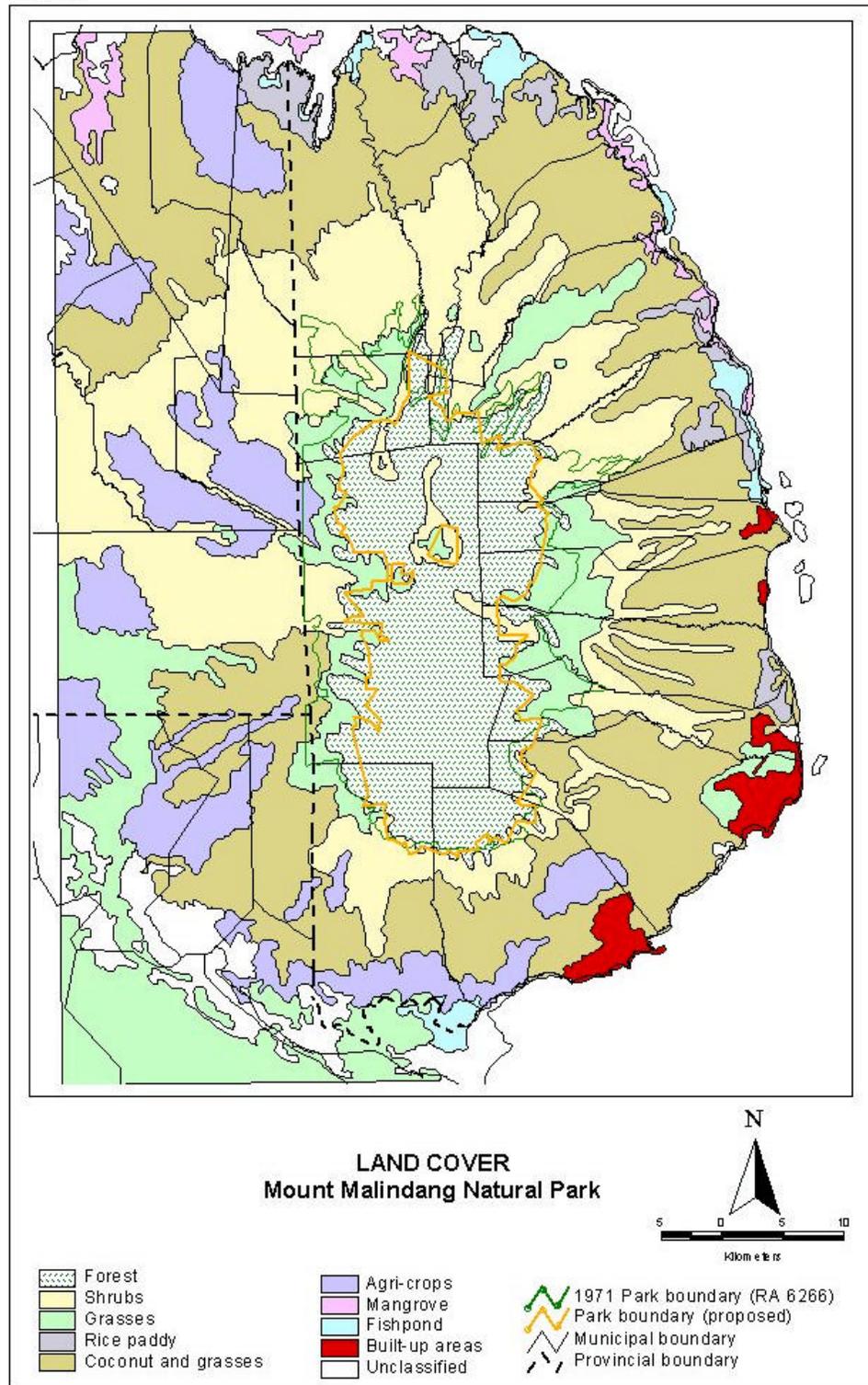
The general objectives of the mission:

- Explore possibilities for second generation research;
- To bring in new approaches for methodology development;
- To make the first steps towards integration of the participating disciplines of the project, in other words, to identify chances to towards a ‘holistic framework’ that would be able to link the separate researches

At the preparatory meeting with the Filipino part of the Joint Programme Committee in Manila, the objective of reflecting on the experiences with multidisciplinary, multi-cultural research was added. Capacity development of the Mindanao researchers was emphasized.

For the policy research group, specific objectives in addition to the above were:

- To bring more focus into the study;
- To explore ways to come to policy recommendations in the end.



For the vegetation research group, specific objective in addition to the general objective was to make a comprehensive vegetation analysis and digital vegetation map, in order to be able to prepare conservation strategies specific for differentiations of vegetation cover across ecosystems. In the words of the terms of reference: “To determine an innovative and participatory standard scientific methodology with the local people in the conduct of inventory and assessment of the flora and fauna resources, in order to generate an in-depth understanding of the kind, level, and status of flora and fauna resources in the Mt. Malindang Upland ecosystem.”

2 Summary of activities

14 January 2002: Manila

Common activities of the Dutch researchers:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Dutch researchers have a breakfast meeting with Delfin Ganapin, Mariliza Ticsay and Gil Saguiguid for a presentation by Delfin Ganapin on the BRP programme and for discussion on expectation of the mission. Expectations: capacity building, link research activities to the overall objective of the programme, experiences with multidisciplinary, cross-cultural cooperation. ◦ Shortly met with Roberto R. Arano, Executive Director of the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park ◦ Visit Pilipino bookstore, Makati ◦ Read BRP-project documents. ◦ Marleen, Aart and Anton have dinner with Koen, Peter Verburg and Merlijn van der Weerd, Dutch researchers. ◦ Merlijn is working with the NIPAP project in Palanan. Several suggestions for contacts, esp. on participative mapping.

Tuesday 15 January 2002

Common activity: Travel by plane to Dipolog, and then by car to Oroquieta, Mindanao.	
Policy research group	Vegetation research group
Meeting with Olivia Canencia and Marina Segumpan in the Programme Management Office of the BRP. Re-formulation of programme of the mission.	Short visit to the PMO

Wednesday 16 January 2002

Common activity: Short plenary session with the two research teams.	
Policy research group	Vegetation research group
Discuss the policy research performed so far. Enrich the research frame.	Presentation and discussion on ongoing vegetation research. First exchange of ideas on the methodology on vegetation research for the Mt. Malindang area. Visit Department of Environmental and Natural Resources. Demonstration of GIS database (DENR) Site reconnaissance at coastal research sites.

Thursday 17 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Test of interview with Hannibal Rabillas, one of the policy researchers who is also a member of the PAMB.</p> <p>Adjust the interview format</p> <p>Interview with forester Rolando S. Dingal, PASU (superintendent of the NIPAS project, Mount Malindang Protected Area)</p> <p>Adjust the interview format.</p> <p>Include a guide for the interviewer.</p>	<p>Depart for Brgy. Mansawan and lake Duminagat. Excursion was focussing on demonstration of changed land use: deforestation, secondary forest, new strategies for sustainable landuse.</p> <p>Visit of the 1 ha forest plot and discussion on the goals and objectives of the plot research and the application of the results.</p>

Friday 18 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Breakfastmeeting of Marleen with Marhz about first experiences – consult her about the preliminary findings which she assessed positively and suggested to put them forward to the JPC.</p> <p>Interview with Forester John B. Bragas, Provincial office of the DENR, PENRO Misamis Occidental.</p> <p>Elaboration of the 3 interviews, continue work on the mission report.</p>	<p>Site reconnaissance at Bry. Lake Duminagat environs.</p> <p>Examples of land use around the settlement of Duminagat, use of forest products, threats and opportunities for forest development. Contract with local Subanen experts on plant species (indigenous knowledge). Discussion on the problem of different species lists.</p>

Saturday 19 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Fieldtrip to lowland barangay Mamalad. In-depth interview with the barangay-captain.</p> <p>Excursion to the dam and community swimming resort.</p> <p>The team was accompanied by Jesus C. Enerio and Boy Militante of the Municipal Office of Calamba. They wanted to show us a swimmingpool and springs. This was added to the travel itinerary.</p> <p>Evaluation of the interview method, proposal of changes. Formulation of follow-up questions and brainstorm about questions for linking up with the vegetation research team.</p>	<p>Site reconnaissance at Mt. Binalabag Range and Mt. Ampiro at Brgy. Small Potongan, Concepcion.</p> <p>Accent on differences between submontaan and montane primary forest. Contact with local people who assisted in the assessment.</p>

Sunday 20 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Visit the barangay Panalsalan, a coastal barangay. Interview on the basis of a new set of questions. Even if Panansalan will not anymore be included in the focus area of the study, the group investigated the relationship with the uplands as arrangements for a meeting had already been made.</p> <p>In the afternoon the vegetation and the policy research group come together to present their work and to exchange ideas on how the two researches may contribute to each other.</p>	<p>Wrap-Up session. Conclusions and recommendations on the methodology to be developed in the second generation research.</p> <p>Formulate steps to develop a useful vegetation/land use map (field work, computer analysis, mapping, application, training of local people).</p>
<p>Common activity in the afternoon: Short meeting with the two teams.</p>	

Monday 21 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Discuss work programme for the coming days.</p> <p>Elaborate interview reports</p> <p>Interview with DA</p> <p>Evaluation of interview with DA</p> <p>Work on workplan</p> <p>Work on mission report</p> <p>Discussion about organisation and leadership of the project.</p>	<p>Departure of the Mindanao researchers.</p> <p>Departure of Anton Stortelder to the Netherlands.</p> <p>Exchange of GIS database information with DENR (Aart van den Berg, Francis T. Pilapil)</p>

Tuesday 22 January 2002

Policy research group	Vegetation research group
<p>Interview with Datu Felipe Ending, provincial commissioner of the National Commission on indigenous Peoples (NCIP)</p> <p>Meeting of Carlo, Aart and Marleen with CARE, Ozamiz City. With Andy O. Pestaño (Project Director), Arturo S. Manamtan (Biodiversity Specialist) and other project staff.</p> <p>Finalization of interview reports and of workplan.</p>	<p>Meeting of Carlo, Aart and Marleen with CARE, Ozamiz City. With Andy O. Pestaño (Project Director), Arturo S. Manamtan (Biodiversity Specialist) and other project staff.</p>

Wednesday 23 January 2002

Departure of Aart and Marleen to Manila
Meeting with Jan Willem Cools, First Secretary Netherlands Embassy, Forests and Environment.
Co-operation with CARE is emphasized in this meeting.

Thursday 24 January 2002

Visit Solidaridad Bookstore (see list of relevant literature in the appendix)
Departure of Aart and Marleen to the Netherlands

3 Towards a second generation vegetation research

Summary of activities carried out during the first year (2001)

The project schedule of activities is defined and listed in the full-blown research proposal "Development of participatory methodology for inventory and assesment of floral resources and their characterization in the montane forests of Mt. Malindang"

The activities so far focussed on selection and location of study sites. These possible study sites are located in three municipalities within two zones of the lower and upper montane rainforest and in the lowland forests. During the first year two semi-permanent plots were intended to be studied.

However, up till now only one ha plot in the primary forest has been realized, with the help of the Subanens. Results of the participatory methodology for inventory of this 1 ha semi-permanent plot has been reported in a "Quarterly Progress report 1 July - 30 September 2001"

A second permanent 1 ha plot in the secondary forest is planned to start in the near future . This means a delay of 3-4 months according the original project schedule.

Proposed second generation vegetation research

The two 1 ha semi-permanent plots, which will be realized in the first phase of the project can be considered relevant for education, training, biodiversity protection and analysis of forest dynamics. The inventory of the two 1 ha plots will provide detailed information on those two specific locations. The contribution to a good understanding of the geographical variation in (forest) vegetation, however, is poor. Apart from the differences between lowland forest, lower montain rainforest (between 1000 – 1500 m) and upper montain rainforest (above 1500 m), we may see significant differences in species composition in forest on north facing slopes compared to forest on south facing slopes. The same applies to forests on different soils (geological formation) and to different water tables. So we may encounter a series of different forest types, within each type a chartacteristic combination of species.

For protection of biodiversity it is of primary interest to have an idea of these differences in species groups, linked to a vegetation map (geografical information on biodiversity)

If it is known where the different forest types occur and what species in each type are the most relevant with respect to biodiversity, it is possible to train local people to recognize these species (a small selected group as compared with the total list of species).

They form the key species for a monitoring program for the area. A strategy for selecting a considerable number of small sample plots (400m²) is necessary for defining vegetation types (which can be described and identified by key species), habitats and vegetation mapping.

Inventory/sampling activities include:

- preparation of species lists of vascular plants of Mt. Malindang area (incl. synonyms) tree species, ferns and herbs.
- selection of sample plots by a stratified random sampling technique.

Stratifying will be based on a preliminary land use map, composed from a LANDSAT7 image (which shows the main geomorphological features and indications for land use) and a contour map (DENR) to determine altitude, slope and aspect, which are also important ecological strata.

A vegetation data base will be built up containing all the biotic as well as the abiotic data of the samples (ALTERRA software TURBOVEG for storing, selecting sample data).

The cluster analysis of the vegetation data will result in a phytosociological table showing the vegetation types with their key species.

The composition of the abiotic data of the vegetation types provide the key for extrapolation and mapping of the vegetation types resulting in a new land unit map.

This map will be a great help to tackle the overall questions of the Mt. Malindang project: Various products can be derived from this information e.g. an evaluation of areas in terms of biodiversity (maps)

evaluation of species selection for participatory inventory and vice versa

- monitoring
- support to other BRP projects

Recommendations/actions

BRP:

- Inventory of the 1 ha-subplots, to be sent to ALTERRA, as an example to demonstrate the methodology
- Preparation of the species list (trees, herbs, lichens, shrubs) (incl. Synonyms)
- Preparation of a time schedule for the second generation research, send it to ALTERRA

ALTERRA

- Demonstration of TURBOVEG with 1 ha plot data (next mission in Sept. '02)
- Preparation of the sampling strategy
- Preparation of a recent LANDSAT map

Finally it is highly recommended to make a complete inventory of all Mt. Malindang related research reports, documents, results and data and make it available at the BRP office in Oroquieta.

During the Wrap-Up Session there was full agreement on the proposed change in methodology between the BRP Vegetation Research Group and the ALTERRA experts.

Proposed collaboration: ALTERRA to produce a digital map of Mt. Malindang and its environs based on recent LANDSAT photographs, and vegetation analysis and the definition of vegetation types based on species compositions of identifiable plant species and aerial photographs.

4 Towards second generation policy research

Summary of activities carried out June – December 2001

The policy research group is now half way the first year. With a total budget of 300.000 pesos for the first year, the group has - with a positive learning attitude and teamspirit - performed the following research activities:

1. Generate a list of relevant policies
2. Organize a community assembly for site selection and validation of sites
3. Two focus group discussions, of which one with implementors (implementors assembly) and one with policy formulators (policy formulators assembly).
4. Formulation of survey design and interview schedule. Different versions were made of the interview schedule. It was pretested in (n = 68) in 2 barangays Sinampongan and Punta Miray for lowland and coastal respectively.
5. The above barangays selected are based on the results of PRA

Thus, a set of detailed questionnaires formed the core of the first stage of the research. The questionnaires focussed on bans and prohibitions. Questions were asked on the effectiveness, awareness, relevance and acceptability of the policies. The researchers decided to focus, in the continuation of their research, on 4 major policies: IPRA, NIPAS, the fisheries code and codes of the Local Government Unit. Unwritten rules were added later on. The context of the policies, like the actors involved, their options and motivations, the main driving forces behind their activities and the interactions between the stakeholders (including government agencies, etc.) will now be taken up in the “second generation research”.

Research workshop with Cynthia Bautista (December 2001)

Mid December the Filipino team had a workshop with Cynthia Bautista of UP Diliman. She is positive about the “spirit and commitment” of the group. In our own words, her main advise to the research group is to 1. focus the research; 2. adopt an integrated landscape approach; 3. explore the ‘why’: “factors that facilitate or constrain the implementation of the policies”. The group elaborated upon the advice of Cynthia Bautista. In the period from 14 until 23 January the group could give the above advise hand and feet. One important advise of Cynthia Bautista was that the team would need additional funding support. This was reconfirmed during this mission.

Focusing and framing the research

In two ways the team has elaborated the recommendations of the December workshop. In doing this the group twinned the financial concern with concerns on the focus of the study. They therefore propose to:

- Narrow the focus of the study even further. This can be done by taking the uplands as point of departure and then to look for the relationships with the surroundings of the upland landscape. This integrative landscape approach implies that the team will not have to dive deep into coastal zone and lowland dynamics and -policies. However, these are relevant to the extent that they

- influence what is going on in the uplands, and to the extent that what is going on in the uplands would impact on the lowlands and coastal area.
- Chances for integration with the vegetation group are improved since they also concentrate their studies on the uplands.
 - Budget requirements may become more realistic.
 - It then depends on the new workplan whether the budget still needs to be augmented.

From policy analysis to institutional analysis

Existing policies, and specifically bans and prohibitions, were taken as point of departure in the first phase of the report. The second generation research will focus more on an investigation of the context of these policies, on the options and motivations of the people behind the biodiversity-relevant activities, on the relationships between relevant actors, on the power structure and the resources that people and organisations have access to in order to accomplish their objectives. This second generation research will lead to policy recommendations that take into account these contextual factors. It is expected that this approach will contribute to the policy relevance of the analyses and recommendations.

Effectiveness, awareness, relevance, acceptability: from input of questions towards criteria items.

In the first generation research, the four 'indicator criteria' effectiveness, awareness, relevance and acceptability were used as input for the interviews. This resulted in questions such as "Of the following policies, laws, rules and regulations mentioned above in A.1, which of these are effective in answering your needs." The respondent would then rate the policy. In line with, and as a follow-up to the advice of Cynthia Bautista, the team decided to look for an additional research instrument that would go deeper into the motivations behind activities that may, or may not be in line with the policies. ('Investigating the why'.) So rather than taking the effectiveness, awareness, relevance and acceptability of a ban or prohibition as point of departure, the policy context would become point of departure. The analysis of these contextual factors would then be done by using the criteria as reference. In the second generation research, the criteria will be elaborated and enriched and will be used as a reference in the phase of analysing the research results. What do all kinds of stakeholders (including policy makers, etc.) consider as the most important criteria for a good policy? (See also Healy, 1997)

Semi-structured, in-depth interviews.

The main element of the step from first- to second generation research was to complement the structured, closed questionnaires with semi-structured, in-depth interviews. In the course of the week, an interview guide was developed for the preparation, carrying out, and follow-up of the interviews. Most of the guidelines resulted from actual experience of the interviewers. The interview format (for the policy makers and implementors) is taken up in appendix 2. An adjusted interview format for the local stakeholders will still be elaborated.

Triangulation

The use of a combination of research methods to improve the reliability of the research work is called triangulation. The group applied this method already in the first phase of the research. Focus was put on the questionnaires and the results presented were based on these questionnaires. In working towards the second generation research, the group will focus more on the method of semi-structured, in-depth interviews.

Methods of the second generation research include:

- participative observation, e.g. at a PAMB meeting
- semi-structured, in-depth interviews on the basis of an interview guide (see annex)
- questionnaires
- focus group discussions
- literature study

Background and experience of the researchers

There is a great challenge in building up the social scientific research capacity of the Mindanao universities. The policy research in the (multidisciplinary!) BRP project has the potential to contribute to this capacity-building. Social Science research experience in the JPC is mainly represented by Dutch scientists. This is not problematic as long as guidance of the Mindanao researchers is taken up by experts with relevant (field-) experience.

Organisation and leadership of the policy research team

At present, the work in the team can be characterized by a high degree of teamwork. This is perhaps the greatest strength of the team. The policy group is supervised by Bing Canencia. Since she has a considerable amount of management and leadership experience, this role suits her very well. In combining it with research work however, the workload becomes heavy, especially because the project is complex in terms of reporting obligations, relations with SEARCA in particular and the JPC in general, interactions with foreign consultants, and not in the last, with people in the area. The heavy workload is also due to the fact that the other researchers in the group are all from universities in other locations, which makes it more difficult to delegate tasks. It is therefore that the group proposes to separate overall project management and organisational responsibilities from scientific responsibilities. Bing Canencia is project leader and responsible for general management of the project.

Edgardo Aranico, in cooperation with Maring Segumpal, will take charge of the (they are already the study leaders) latter. This has two implications.

- Bing Canencia will continue to be the overall project leader. Ed Aranico will be the main responsible person for the reports on the scientific contents of the research work (the technical reports). He will coordinate this with the other members of the group, especially with Maring Segumpal.
- At presentations (for the JPC and for others), the persons will present according to their responsibilities.

Budget implications of the new organisation structure are limited and should be taken into consideration.

Tasks

1. Send the interview reports to the respondents and invite them to react on them.
2. Elaborate an interview format for the local stakeholders.
3. Triangulation is about combining research methods to achieve scientific rigour. Because of the limited experience in the group with in-depth interviews and the significant contribution that this method can have for social scientific analysis, the group concentrated on this method in January. Parts of the quantitative type of questionnaires that were carried out in the first half year of the project will still be of value to obtain specific kinds of data. In addition the group will therefore work on a short questionnaire that will contribute to gaining more insight into the policy context (problems, problematic activities, actors, power and resources, socio-cultural perspectives).
4. Refinement and enrichment of the criteria (effectiveness, awareness, acceptability and relevance).
5. The group will work on a well-grounded list of proposed respondents. Like the original plan, these will mainly consist of two groups: policy makers/ implementors and other people living in the villages.
6. The group will still do the planned review of documents and compilation of relevant policies. The work done on this by the BRP policy research group, as well as the work done by CARE, will be drawn upon.
7. The group will continue brainstorming on interrelationships with the vegetation research group.
8. The vegetation and the policy research group will go into the field together.

Workplan

On the basis of the above, a revised workplan with budget will be submitted to the JPC. The new workplan requires an increase of budget. Activities will have to be postponed or cancelled if the budgetary requests can not be met.

Guide for the interviewer

Before the interview:

- Each interview is preceded by a short review and discussion of the interview format, as each interview will give new information that may give rise to more specific or new questions.
- The position and role of the researchers themselves will be taken into account by the interviewers because this may also influence the answers of the respondents.
- As much as possible the presence of higher officials during in-depth interviews will be avoided since this may influence the responses.
- The interviews will be carried out in couples, so that one person can take the lead in asking questions, and the other one can take notes. This also has the advantage of being able to exchange ideas about results after the interview. The interview is prepared by the couple.

During the interview:

- Announce that the interview is going to take 1,5 hours
- Tell the respondent that it is confidential
- Repeat a question in other words if necessary
- Do not use questions that are inviting 'political answers' (e.g.: don't you think that...), in other words: the team will try to be very sensitive not to ask leading questions.
- Announce that the report is going to be sent back to the respondent for his or her approval or to add to it etc.
- Distinguish descriptive questions and answers from normative questions and answers. (Questions about the actual situation and questions about what the respondent wants).
- Use the actor-diagram when asking the questions about the involved people and organisations and their relationships. (see annex 2).
- Explain about the project (objective, the policy research, etc.)
- Ask for examples if this will clarify the answer of the respondent

After the interview:

- Each interview will be followed by a short exchange of observations and suggestions for the next interview, by the research team.
- Include the actor diagram into the report.
- Process the interview-report as soon as possible after the interview.
- Write the report of the interview as much as possible in the words that the respondent uses

5 Chances for integration

Science for development rather than science for science: a motive for integration

Until this time the BRP consists of separate projects that are not connected to each other through organized common activities in the field. The workprogrammes of this mission were, in the same line of practice, not tuned to each other. Attempts in the vegetation group to discuss the relevance of their vegetation analyses for policy-making and – implementation, demonstrated that this is not part of experience. The policy research group was more inclined to look for possible links with the vegetation research.

The Dutch partners recommend to have joint field trips and frequent exchange of information about separate research activities. It would be advisable to join in some of each others activities, so that a greater understanding of the methods and purpose of activities of the other researchers can be obtained. This exchange of information is a first essential step towards the formulation of a common, coherent methodological framework. This first step should not be underestimated and is an essential part of capacity-building for multi-disciplinary researchwork. Furthermore it is important to inform each other on solution-oriented ideas to improve the interrelationship between local people and the biodiversity of the forest ecosystem. Most of the Filipino researchers shared this concern.

At the preparatory meeting of this mission of the Filipino part of the JPC, emphasis was put on the necessity of creating a basis for integration by transforming the contents of the researches. This was expected to facilitate integration in a later stage of the project. Integration in terms of process was expected not to be feasible yet. However, the Alterra researchers consider chances for integration of the contents very low if the researchers do not get acquainted more with each others work. Linking the research processes of the groups will force the researchers to formulate the link between their research and development in the Mt Malindang area (which is intrinsically linked to biodiversity conservation). This should especially be the case since the development-orientedness is core of the BRP mission. If this development-oriented concern is not built more into the research, there is a risk of doing research for the sake of research.

At the joint closing session of the two teams, they therefore agreed to have a common field trip in the short run. Also the teams agreed to continue their work on the formulation of integrative questions and ideas.

Contributions from the PMO

The PMO in Oroquieta city has been established at the start of 2001. The assistance of Carlo Custodio, Programme Manager, in arranging for workaccomodation, travel, making arrangements with other organisations etc., has been very helpful to make this mission a success. He has also played a positive role by stimulating a stronger co-

operation between the research teams. With the leadership of Carlo Custodio at PMO, and the committed work of Alice B. Guimalan and Jovial B. Anoling in administrative tasks, the BRP has a strong organisation potential.

The project will benefit from embedding the BRP well into the local 'world' of projects and programmes. Competition between the organisations, if existing, should be replaced by a shared awareness of ways how the projects and programmes can contribute to each others objectives. It is obvious that this can enhance the productivity of projects with limited resources, like the BRP. This would lead to a bigger role for PMO and esp. Carlo in coordinating with other local projects and programmes such as CARE-AWESOME, the Philippine Australian project, etc. Similarly, PMO could assist in linking the researches that are so far carried out separately. This would give the PMO a bigger technical role in the project.

The research teams are confronted with a considerable workload in terms of quarterly administrative paperwork (bookkeeping, accounting, liquidation, entries to the vouchers, summary expenses forms, etc.). The organisational strength of the PMO could, if this is an option in terms of availability of personnel at PMO, play a facilitating role by assisting in the administrative obligations of the research teams. Of course, the members of the teams should provide to PMO receipts and whatever is needed to accomplish this administrative tasks.

The PMO in Oroquieta can assist in achieving the objective of by the creation of a library/ bookshelf that includes, apart from the reports resulting from the BRP itself:

- Documents of other development-oriented projects and programmes in the area
- Copies of relevant policies and programmes such as NIPAS, IPRA, ISF, the Private Forest Plantations etc.
- Data on the NIPAP studies (PRA, RRA, etc.)
- Researches that have been done in the context of these projects
- Scientific literature on the relevant fields, or if already available in other offices in Oroquieta, give a good overview of where such relevant documents can be found
- Literature on multidisciplinary research
- Literature on social-scientific research methods
- Literature of other, comparable projects in the Philippines, such as CARE.
- Etc.

Integrative questions and ideas formulated in preparation of and presented at the joint meeting

The policy research group produced the following questions to the other research groups:

1. What are the objectives of the researches of the other research groups in the BRP?
2. What are the processes and methodologies used in the other research groups that may have policy implications?
3. What is the impact of the dam (for the irrigation and ecotourism) near Mamalad on vegetation and biodiversity?
4. What forest regeneration technology is needed to regenerate the degraded forest?
5. What is the perspective of the degraded forest?
6. What are the points in the researches that relate to each other?
7. What activities in the forest are most threatening to biodiversity?
8. What alternative livelihood practices can go hand in hand with biodiversity conservation?
9. What socio-economic, cultural dimensions are of relevance for biodiversity conservation?

The vegetation research group would like the policy group to take the following ideas into consideration:

- Each visitor to Lake Duminagat should pay a certain amount for treeplanting. The seedlings for the treeplanting come from the gardens of individuals. The research in the researchplot has an information and education objective and will give information on indigenous forest species that will be promulgated.
- The local people of the barangays could be encouraged to select and propagate decorative plants (herbs, shrubs) and sell it as a regional product. This applies especially to plants that cannot be found elsewhere (a marketing program is needed to promote these activities).

6 Other general impressions

This was the first time for the Alterra research team to participate in the project. Other consultants/researchers had been active in the pre-implementation phase of the project. BRP will benefit from a more coherent input from outsiders. For the Alterra team it was rather unclear which Dutch advisors had been participating in BRP, and with what objective. They only had a meeting with Gerard Persoon in preparation of their mission, upon their own initiative. The Alterra team therefore suggests to have more frequent interaction among Dutch involved experts, in order to exchange experiences in relation to the BRP.

Annex 1 List of respondents of the policy research group

- Dr. Hannibal T. Rabillas
PAMB, Executive member

- Forester Rolando S. Dingal
NIPAP Superintendant (PASU)
Mount Malindang Protected Area

- Forester John B. Bragas
PENR officer (PENRO)
Misamis Occidental

- Liberato Branzuelo Nagasan
Barangay Captain of Mamalad, Calamba

- Bobby Timkang
Barangay Kagawad, Panalsalan, Plaridel

- Atty. Procoio C. Lao IV
Provincial Agricultural Officer
Department of Agriculture

- Datu Felipe Ending
Provincial Commissioner
National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

Annex 2 Preliminary interview frame and interview tool actor diagram of the policy research group

(To be further developed in the course of the policy research)

Respondents: policy makers and implementors

Date:

Guide for the interviewer

Before the interview:

- Each interview is preceded by a short review and discussion of the interview format, as each interview will give new information that may give rise to more specific or new questions.
- The position and role of the researchers themselves will be taken into account by the interviewers because this may also influence the answers of the respondents.
- As much as possible the presence of higher officials during in-depth interviews will be avoided since this may influence the responses.
- The interviews will be carried out in couples, so that one person can take the lead in asking questions, and the other one can take notes. This also has the advantage of being able to exchange ideas about results. The interview is prepared by the couple.

During the interview:

- Announce that the interview is going to take 1,5 hours
- Tell the respondent that it is confidential
- Repeat a question in other words if necessary
- Do not use questions that are inviting 'political answers' (e.g.: don't you think that...), in other words: the team will try to be very sensitive not to ask leading questions.
- Announce that the report is going to be sent back to the respondent for his or her approval or to add things etc.
- Distinguish descriptive questions and answers from normative questions and answers. (Questions about the actual situation and questions about what the respondent wants).
- Use the actor-diagram when asking the questions about the involved people and organisations and their relationships.
- Explain about the project (objective, the policy research, etc.)
- Ask for examples if this will clarify the answer of the respondent

After the interview:

- Each interview will be followed by a short exchange of observations and suggestions for the next interview, by the research team.
- Include the actor diagram into the report (see Annex 1 for an example)
- Process the interview-report as soon as possible
- Write the report of the interview as much as possible in the words that the respondent uses

Respondents Profile

1. Name:
2. Office:
3. Designation and position:
4. Experience in Policy Formulation/ Implementation
5. Experience in relation to biodiversity conservation, natural resources etc.:

General questions

1. What is biodiversity, in your eyes?
2. In what way does your organisation deal with biodiversity?
3. What is the main problem in relation to biodiversity?
4. What do you think is the main cause of, and the main activities behind, that problem?
5. What is the interaction between the upland and the lowland in relation to this problem?

Involved people and organizations and their partnerships

1. Who are involved with biodiversity conservation and natural resource management?
2. Who are the most important stakeholders? Why?
3. What relevant relationships exist in relation to biodiversity?
4. Which relationships would you describe as weak, or strong? For what reason?
5. Which relationships should be strengthened?
6. Which relationship would be the first one to be improved?
7. How?

Influence, power and resources

(The amount of power is determined by access to:

- human resources;
- knowledge resources;
- financial resources;
- legitimacy and acceptability to the community;
- legal rules;
- policies;
- media)

1. What resources are needed to solve the problem and which one do you think is the most important one?
2. Which resources do you have access to?
3. What programmes would you give priority to when allocating your resources?
4. We know that there are several policies and programmes in relation to biodiversity conservation. Which are the most important ones, in your view?
5. Are they coherent or are they sometimes conflicting?

Socio-cultural perspectives and perceptions

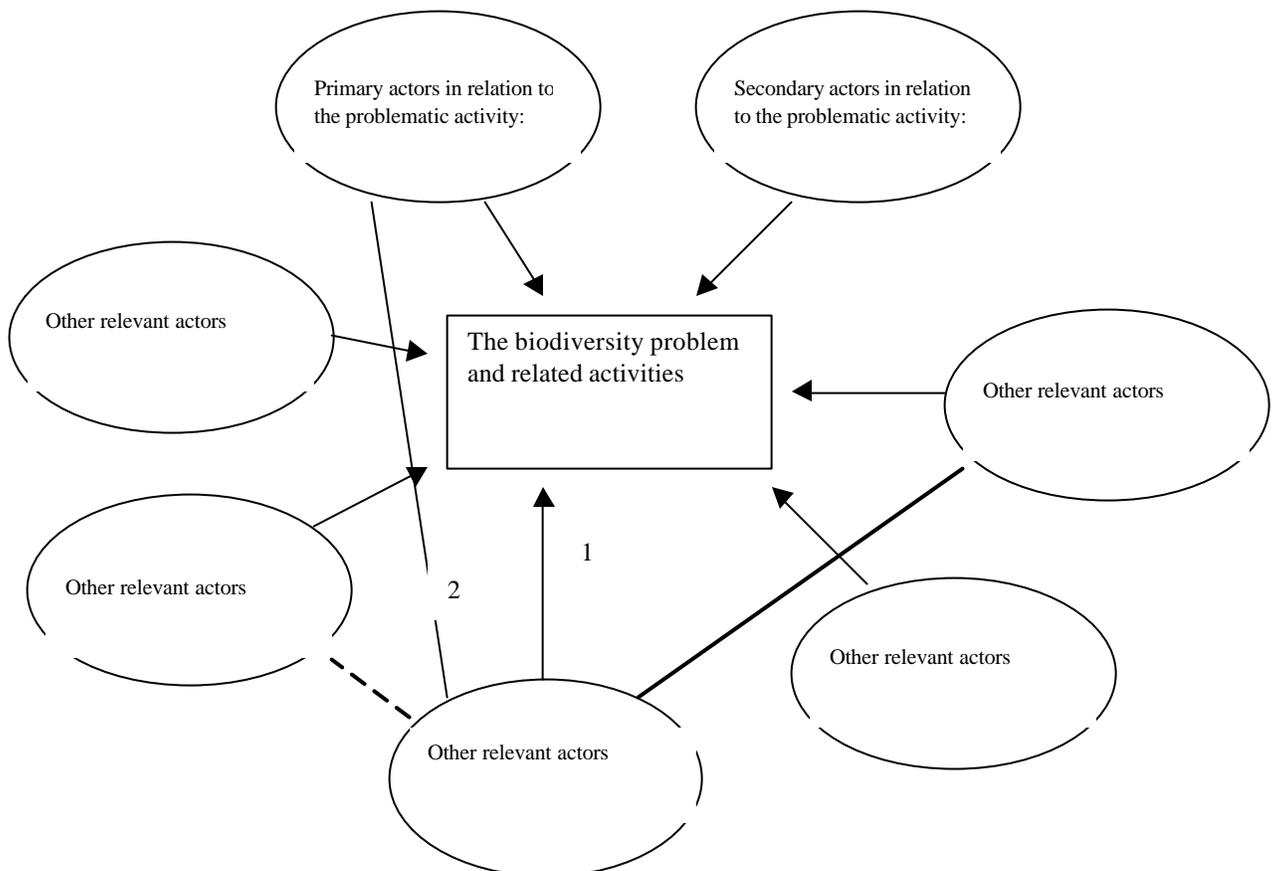
1. What policy do you consider appropriate considering the social condition, identity and cultural background of the people living in the area? Why?
2. Are there customary laws, practices or rituals that you think of relevance to biodiversity?
3. What do you think should be the role of indigenous people in biodiversity conservation?
4. What do you expect of a bigger role for indigenous people in biodiversity conservation?

5. Do you think that biodiversity conservation and the exploitation of natural resources can go hand in hand, or can they not? If yes, why and how?

Concluding questions

1. Are there things we did not ask that you think are very important?
2. What other persons could you recommend to us to be interviewed?

Interview tool policy research group: Actor/ stakeholder diagram



1: Each arrow represents the relationship between the actor and the problem situation . In the interviews text will explain the nature of the relationship. In the report this can be illustrated by using numbers.
 2. The lines represent different kinds of relationships between the actors/ stakeholders. In the report they will be explained by using numbers and explaining texts.

Annex 3 Other involved persons

Mahrz Ticsay, SEARCA
Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist to the BRP-Programme
Los Baños

Carlo C. Custodio, Programme Manager
BRP-Programme Management Office
Oroquieta city

Jovial B. Anoling
Information Specialist
BRP-Programme Management Office
Oroquieta City

Alice B. Guimalan
Bookkeeper
BRP-Programme Management Office
Oroquieta City

Pershing S. King
Driver-Mechanic
BRP-Programme Management Office
Oroquieta City

Andy O. Pestaño
Project Director
AWESOME project
CARE Philippines

Jesus C. Enerio
Administrator, Municipality of Calamba
Misamis Occidental

Boy Militante
Kagawad, Sangguniang Bayan
Municipality of Calamba, Misamis Occidental

Annex 4 Shared literature

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* copies can be borrowed from Bing Canencia

+ copies are present in the PMO (and with the researchers in the policy research group)

x can be obtained at Solidaridad Bookstore (Padre Faure) in Manila

y copies can be obtained through the Alterra vegetation experts

Annex 5 Short report of meeting with CARE

Short report of meeting with CARE: Meeting of Carlo, Aart and Marleen with CARE, Ozamiz City. With Andy O. Pestaño (Project Director), Arturo S. Manamtan (Biodiversity Specialist) and other project staff.

CARE and BRP both relate to the Mt Malindang area. CARE is development oriented (AWESOME), BRP is research oriented. CARE is implementing livelihood projects in the bufferzone, as these are expected to keep people out of the park. To support the development projects, research is carried out by CARE, or by others under guidance of CARE. Chances of collaboration between AWESOME and BRP appear to be of mutual benefit. The CARE-personnel is very motivated to collaborate with the research being done in the BRP. They see the relevance of the vegetation and policy research. Modest GIS tools are available at the CARE office in Ozamiz (ARCVIEW and PC_ARCINFO and A0 plot facilities), these are lacking in the BRP office in Oroquieta. Possibilities of sharing hard- and software should be explored.

At this moment CARE avails of a lot of data and maps, mostly derived from NIPAP-activities.

However this information is not being used at present in relevant decision processes.

Other relevant information:

- In the Mt. Malindang area there are no CADCs (Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim). Organizations of IP's (Indigenous People) are competing with each other.

- In the context of NIPAS community based management strategies will be formulated. Care intends to assist in this process.

- It is expected that the PAO will be trained to take over some of the activities of CARE (Care submitted a proposal for extension after 2003)

- DENR is establishing plantations in the park. Sometimes existing natural areas are replaced by plantations with commercial species.

- CARE is only providing endemic species to the people, which have a medium- or even long term benefit to the community.

- CARE international will make a transformation from a needs-based to a rights-based strategy.

