

Advancing Sustainable Livelihoods in Vulnerable Watersheds through **Corporate Partnerships**

Joanne Dulce, Project Management Specialist, USAID/Philippines

Alma D. Porciuncula, Chief of Party, USAID Safe Water Activity

Jazmin Gutierrez, Private Sector Engagement Advisor, USAID Safe Water Activity

Neil Patel, WSSH Specialist, DAI































Presentation Outline



Introduction to USAID Safe Water



Case Studies (Coca Cola, Sunlight Foods, Greentropics)



Corporate Roundtable



Group Activity: Pitch Competition!



Conclusions & Takeaways



Learning Objectives

- Understand the role of private sector partnerships in advancing sustainable livelihoods and watershed management.
- Explore successful models of collaboration between communities, corporations, and development organizations.
- Identify key strategies for integrating economic development with environmental sustainability in rural areas.

































Panelists



Alma Porciuncula Chief of Party, USAID Safe Water



Joanne Dulce Project Management Specialist, USAID/Philippines



Jazmin Gutierrez Private Sector Engagement Advisor, USAID Safe Water































State of Watersheds in the Philippines



Diminishing forest cover: Forest cover is down to 23%; 40% is needed for ecological balance



Water availability: Current water availability is at 1,400 cu.m. per capita per year and declining



Underinvestment: Public investments for water resource management average only 1% of total national and local budgets; financing gap of 60% to achieve 40% forest cover



Unsustainable livelihood **activities:** Rampant practices include slash-and-burn agriculture, monocropping, land conversion, chemical inputs, etc.









































USAID Philippines Safe Water Project

Achieving a water-secure future for the country's most water-stressed communities































All I

IMPROVED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Sustainable water resources availability Objective 2 - originates in the upstream
as agricultural practices, protected areas
management, water diversions, and upland
communities drive change within the
watershed. Active watershed councils and
river basin organizations play a key role in
safeguarding water quality and quantity.

USAID Safe Water



STRENGTHENED WATER SECTOR GOVERNANCE

Good water governance - Objective 3 - underpins the enabling environment for water security, with locally accountable LGUs proactively planning and coordinating water and sanitation services and national government agencies enabling service expansion through new policies, regulatory reforms, and strategic investments.





INCREASED ACCESS TO RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES

Upstream stewardship comes to fruition in downstream access to water and sanitation services - **Objective I** - through reliable and resilient water service providers supported by responsive local government units. Water-wise households and committed private sector actors are conscientious consumers of water services and support a clean and green environment through a responsible wastewater management.































PARTNERSHIPS FORGED

Water Demand Management

















Nature-based Solutions/ Sustainable Livelihoods











































Key Results to Date

- **133,858 people** receiving livelihood co-benefits from sustainable landscapes activities, including better quality of produce, expanded livelihood opportunities, improved market linkages, and higher incomes.
- **55% women** participation in livelihood trainings
- \$18,174,157 in investments mobilized for sustainable landscapes
- **724,596** in CO₂ GHG emissions mitigated from improved watershed management and reforestation efforts

























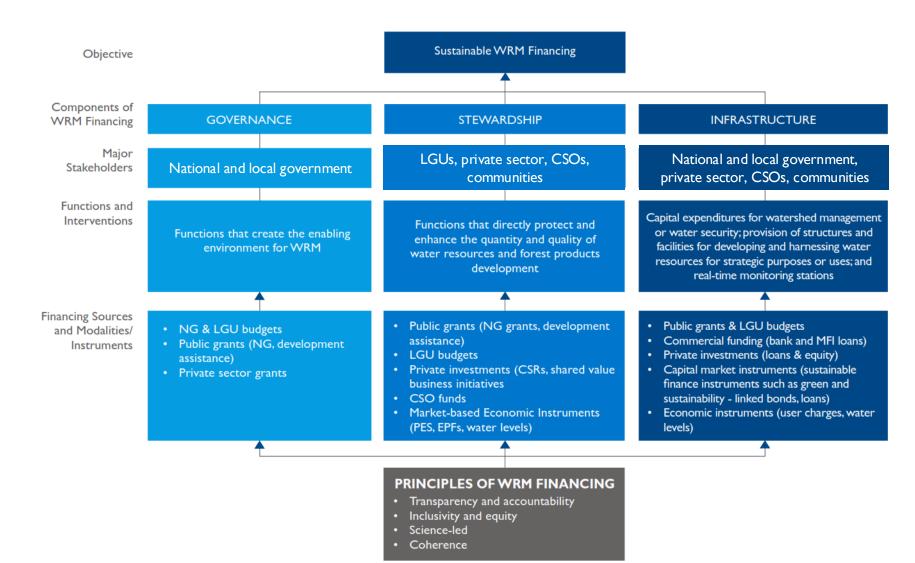








Sustainable WRM Financing and the Role of Private Sector



































USAID PHILIPPINES (SAFE WATER)

PARTNERSHIP WITH **COCA-COLA**

Achieving a water-secure future for the country's most water-stressed communities











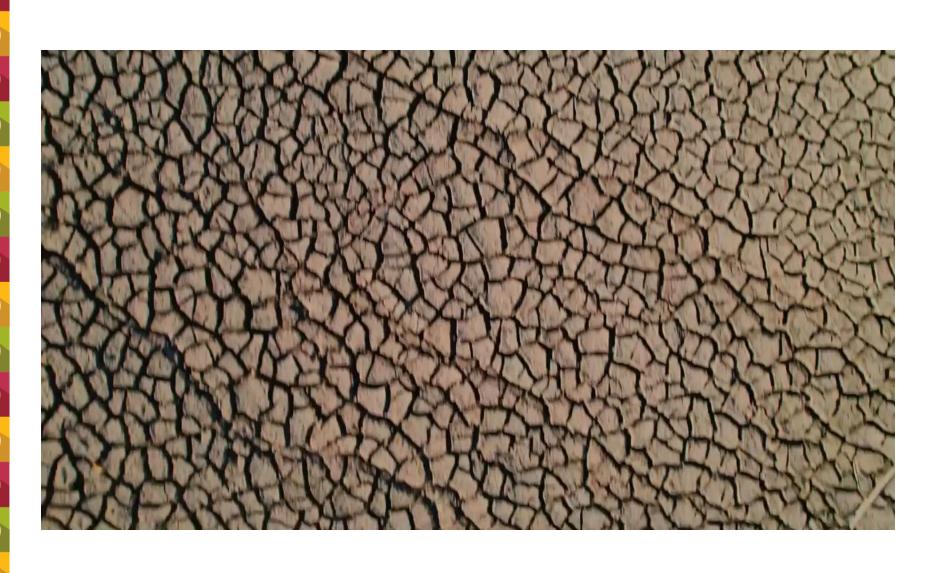












What's in it for Coca-Cola?

"Water is a priority for The Coca-Cola Company because it is essential to life, our beverages and the communities we serve. It is also critical to public health, food security, biodiversity and the climate crisis. The world is experiencing increased water insecurity, which is evident through water scarcity, with demands for safe, usable water exceeding supply in certain areas."

Water Leadership, The Coca-Cola Business and Sustainability Report 2022





























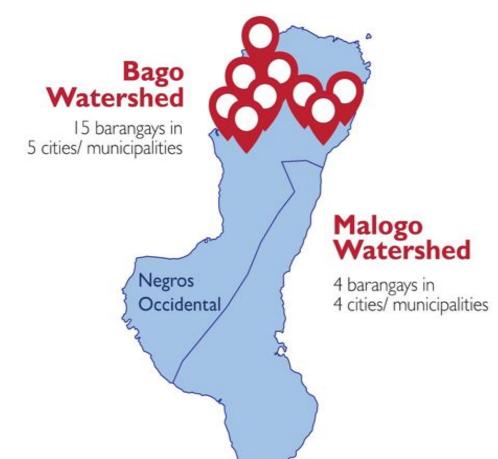
P4WatER Project PROJECT BACKGROUND

Economic development project that integrates forest protection and rehabilitation

Overall Objective:

To improve quality of lives among communities around Bago and Malogo watersheds through sustainable livelihoods and watershed conservation.

 CCFPI Grant: Php11,994,200.00

















PARTNERSHIP FOR WATER AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE WITH MUAD, COCA-COLA & USAID











Watershed protection: enhance skills and knowledge on the protection of forests and springs, including Lawin forest protection system.

Improve savings: organize and increase generation of community level savings to support livelihoods.









































P4WatER Results to Date



1,162 upland farmers trained on agroforestry and benefitting from training on seedling nursery establishment and propagation



23 Community Green Farms (CGF) and nurseries established for production of vegetables, fruit trees and native trees with 2 caretakers each CGF in-charge of maintenance



24 people's organizations (POs) trained on ICARE Food House Technologies for organic farming and conservation, linked to Abanse Producers Consumers Club for marketing and provided with access to financing through EDSIA.



21.3M in Php as total savings generated for upland farmers to sustain, enhance and diversify their livelihood

































P4WatER Results to Date



1,705 infiltration wells established in 23 Community Green Farms and 117 Retirement Tree farms and captured an estimated 290, 717.30 cu m. of surface run-off



7000+ metric tons of GHG emissions reduced from 52.06 hectares of land surrounding water sources used for irrigation and other agricultural activities planted with native trees and 61.72 hectares within retirement tree farms planted with fruit trees



50 PO members trained in LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System and conducting regular patrolling in their respective areas



50% proportion of women in leadership and managerial positions



































COMMUNITY FARMS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME





- Swales are small scale infiltration wells, dug with canals that serve as rain impounding structure around the community farms
- They are more environmentally friendly, easier to install; can capture and replenish water back into the ecosystem
- 1,705 swales established in 23 barangays
- Estimated annual volume of surface runoff captured in 2024: approx. 1,183,039,200 liters (equivalent to 473 Olympic-sized swimming pool)

























































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Testimonial: Benefits of Swale

"As a farmer working the uplands, I've seen firsthand how rainwater runoff can strip our soil of vital nutrients and negatively impact water sources in the lowlands. However, since adopting simple yet innovative techniques like swales and infiltration canals, we've been able to redirect excess rainwater back to our fields. This not only conserves the topsoil and keeps the nutrients right where we need them but also safeguards the water quality in the springs below. It's straightforward and laborintensive, sure, but the benefits to our farm and the environment far outweigh the effort. A small sacrifice for such big rewards!"

Joselito Libre

Magazine 2 General Savings and Investment Association farmer



































Sunlight Foods: Purple Yam Contract Growing Scheme Among Small Holders





A Missed Livelihood Opportunity

- Poor upland communities in Palawan cultivate lands anywhere from 500 sqm to half a hectare individually
- While ube is a traditional crop, lack of technical know-how and access to the market does not allow ube to be an alternative livelihood source
- How they farmed ube before: "plant and forget"
- Safe Water conducted livelihood scoping and assessment: local soil and weather conditions are suitable to ube production
- Safe Water led community consultations and negotiated with communities and partners































The Partners

- Sunlight Foods **Corporation-** buyer, source of planting materials, organic farm inputs and training provider on sustainable ube production
- 23 farmers' associations (FAs) who used to cultivate rice and corn as main crops
- **DUMRIA** one of the FAs who acts as consolidator
- Department of Agriculture **Reginal Office** – facilitates scale-up in other areas of Palawan



































What's In it for **Sunlight?**

- Major supplier of Unilever and local leading brands such as Jollibee, Red Ribbon, Caramia Cakes, Gardenia and Magnolia
- Steady supply of raw materials for its processing business
- Compliance with the sustainability standards of Unilever, its major client
- Farm sources need to be USACcertified through annual audits
- Fulfills SFC's environmental sustainability goals

Local leading **brands** supplied by Sunlight with fruit preserves







































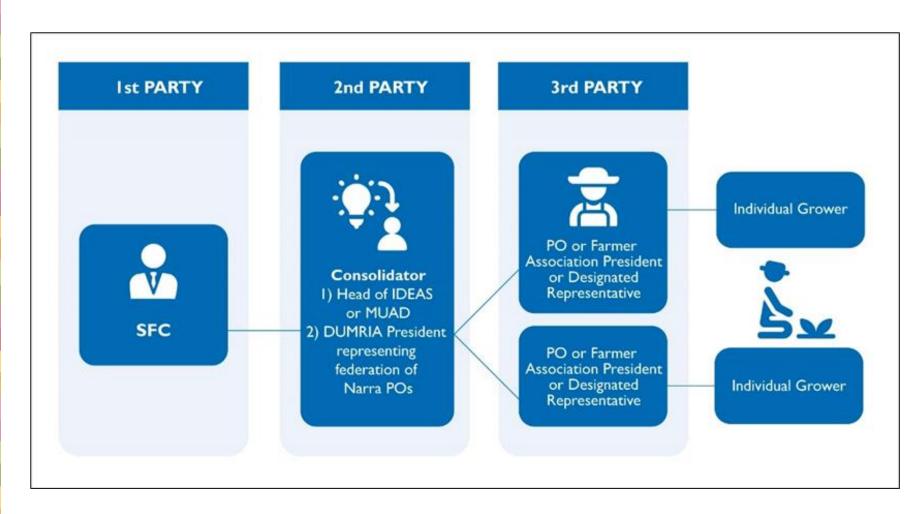








The Ube Contract Growing Scheme































Results to Date

- 25 demo farms established in Palawan Negros Occidental and Sarangani Provinces
- Harvested 10,613 kilos from the in Palawan alone and paid for by SFC to the farmers
- Farmers starting to plant ube in their own farm lots (3rd cropping cycle)



Link







From Beans to Cups: Indigenous People in the Coffee Value Chain



























The Coffee **Partnership**

- Coffee: a traditional but neglected crop among upland farmers in Sarangani
- **Constraints:** Unsustainable farming practices, market access, post-harvest skills and organizational capacity of people's organizations
- Opportunity: High demand for Arabica and specialty coffee; existing coffee trees needing rejuvenation





- Greentropics Enterprise (GCE) is a social enterprise with extensive experience in coffee cultivation, trading, processing, and marketing
- Introduced sustainable coffee livelihood to the IP communities in Siguel Watershed
- **Fred's vision** is to put Sarangani in the coffee map

























































Indigenous Peoples Skilled

- Trained more than 300 farmers from 366 POs on:
 - Farm Planning and Farming as Business;
 - Coffee Farm Establishment, Care and Maintenance;
 - Integrated Nutrient Management (Plant Nutrition and Fertilization); and
 - Integrated Pest and Diseases Management with Pruning and Rejuvenation.
 - Post-harvest handling, grading, and roasting.
- Developed 20 IP coffee mentors to assist POs in coffee production

































The Aroma of **Early Success**

- Adoption of GAP: Increased selling price of Green Coffee Beans from PhP 70-80 per kilo to PhP 240 per kilo.
- Coffee farmers who practiced selective harvesting and sorting of GCBs were able to sell their sorted GCBs as high as PhP 350 per kilo.
- Coffee mentors who apply their GAP skills are now selling their own specialty coffee brands





Corporate Roundtable

Featuring:

Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, Inc. Sunlight Foods Corporation Greentropics Coffee

































Group Activity

- Each group will be assigned a prompt outlining an illustrative corporate partner and technical workstream from the Safe Water Activity. Your job is to identify potential partnership opportunities to advance water security in the Philippines.
- Prepare a 2-3 minute pitch to our panelists, who will provide feedback on your proposed approach. Your pitch should touch on:
 - What resources can the corporate partner provide?
 - What incentives does the corporate partner has to engage in this activity?
 - How will project-supported communities benefit from the proposed partnership?































Lessons

- There is a clear business case for investing in sustainable livelihoods in vulnerable watersheds, including compliance with environmental regulations, reputation, reliable supply chains, and resilience to natural disasters
- Corporate partnerships help address the poverty-related drivers of deforestation, ensuring that livelihoods programming extends beyond project lifetime
- Demonstration farms can visibly demonstrate the value of nature-based solutions in agricultural communities; speeds up the adoption
- Supporting small farmers and IP communities in sustainable livelihood can unleash their potential as stewards of the watersheds
- Increased income, secure food sources, and self-mobilized savings for communities are critical to their resilience