



Mainstreaming environmental accounting: Experience from the Philippines

Lisa Grace S. Bersales*

Philippines Statistical Authority – Manila, Philippines – lsbersales@gmail.com

The Philippines has recognized the importance of environmental accounting and its eventual mainstreaming since the 1990s. In 1999, initiated Philippine Framework on the development of Environment Statistics (PFDES) and it has published the Compendium of Philippine Environment Statistics (CPES). It is currently working on adoption of the Revised UN FDES.

It also piloted a satellite account for environment-economic accounting based on a conceptual framework illustrating the interaction between economy and environment and for describing stocks and changes of environmental assets. This was done under the UNDP-funded Environmental Natural Resource Accounting Project, which adopted the UN System of integrated Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) Framework, a satellite account of the 1993 SNA. This led to the institutionalization through Executive Order 406 of the Philippine Economic-Environment and Natural Resource Accounting System (PEENRA), which is now funded by the Philippine government. Asset accounts by type of natural resources prepared in collaboration with involved agencies:

- Mineral Resource
- Forest Resource
- Fishery Resource
- Water and Land/Soil Resources

Key to the accomplishments on environment statistics and economic environment accounting are the coordination within the country and coordination with the international experts and development partners. The Interagency Committee on Environment and Natural Resource statistics was established in 2007. It was supported by three technical working groups- Water (2009), Land/Soil (2009) and Minerals (2013) which resulted in approval of the policy body of the national statistical system of 34 terms and concepts for water (22) and land/soil (12).

Moving forward, the following are considerations in mainstreaming environmental accounting and indicators:

- Continued support from government for availability of resources (human & financial)
- Institutional support, commitment and cooperation of partner agencies as well as the relevant private sector entities to maintain PEENRA
- Continuous capacity building to increase more staff for PEENRA
- Advocacy work is crucial for public appreciation to include includes consultative fora and dissemination fora
- Support of experts from the international and local communities
- Inclusion of the development and maintenance of environmental accounting and indicators in the National Statistical Development Program

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