



# Integrating Population, Health and Environment Approach For Human and Ecosystems Health: The Philippines Experience

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ALLEVIATING POVERTY \* IMPROVING HEALTH \* PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY-SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# Republic of the Philippines



- **100M Population**
- **Fast growing (1.9% p.a.)**
- **Young population**
- **Fishing dependent**
- **Global epicenter of marine biodiversity**

# Food Insecurity



“Sometimes there is not enough food and the family goes hungry”  
(72%)

Source: 2001 Population and Household Survey, IPOPCORM

# Overpopulation

“Barangay may soon face a crisis ...too many people and not enough fish to go around”  
(87%)



# Community Despair



“Our community is helpless in protecting its coastal resources” (58%)

# IPOPCORM Project

- Worked across the population, health, environment and livelihood sectors
- Focused on food security from the sea
- Targeted marine conservation areas with high population growth and density





# Builds Capacity



**Community-based Coastal Resource Management (CB-CRM)**

# Builds Capacity



**Community-based Family Planning (CB-FP)**



# Builds Capacity

## Alternative Livelihood



**Mangrove-friendly shrimp cultivation**



**Sea-weed farming**

# Builds Capacity

## Social Marketing of PHE concepts



3 critical actions to assure food security



“Every teen has a dream but those who guard their sexuality and the environment have a brighter future”

# Program Monitoring

- Increased FP use (43% in 2003 to 83% in 2006)
- Improved conservation and fishing practices
- Reduced illegal fishing practices
- HH income up 21%
- Fewer HH “lack for food”





# Community Feedback

- “Abundant fish harvest”
- “Enough food for family”
- “Less malnutrition”
- “Community empowered



# Relevance of Integration

- Natural Resource Management provides a context for better understanding of the need to limit family size
- Family Planning is essential to assure sustainability of conservation gains in biodiversity hotspots
- Integrated approach contributes to
  - ✓ Greater female involvement
  - ✓ Greater access to men about RH/FP
  - ✓ Increased participation of adolescents



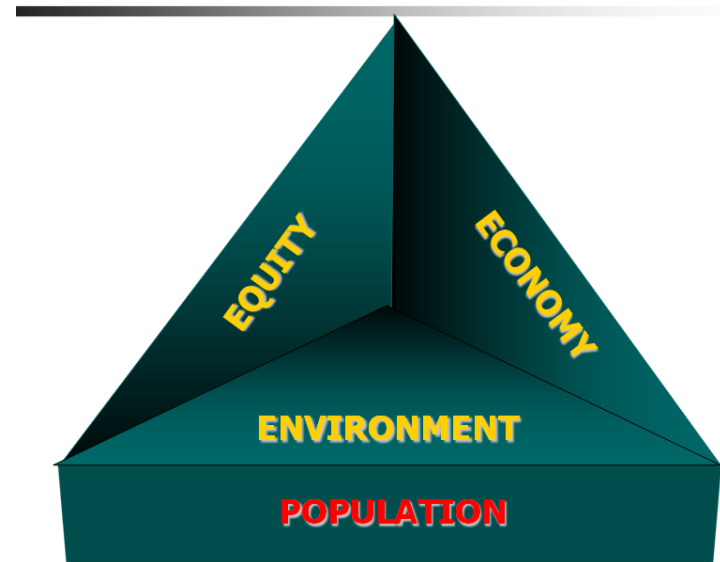
# Lessons Learned

- Integration makes sense and cents
- Integrated approaches generate higher impact than sectoral approaches

# Lessons Learned

- PHE approach is a practical solution to interrelated issues and relates to way of life.

**Sustainable Development = 3 E+**



# Challenges

- Time
- Need for integrated indicators
- Lack of transport and telecommunication facilities in hot spots delayed project implementation
- Religious influence
- Availability of intersectoral funding source

# Implications for Policy and Practice

- Design, implement and monitor integrated programs that provides multisectoral services to remote areas and includes livelihood opportunities as part of equity-focused programs
- Advance and promote the benefits of the PHE approach in international mandates, like climate change, post 2015 discourse and agenda

# Moving Forward ...

- Engage in reciprocal agreements
- For development aid establish multisectoral funding for intersectoral programs
- Act and think beyond our generation





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