PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE BUDGETING COLLABORATION

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The Institute

- We work on fair climate policy and low carbon development
- International-national-local portfolios
- Bridge research to policy and vice versa
- We approach things sideways with a small lean, hungry team
RE-Charge Tacloban

- 10 kW solar array
- Schneider 4.5 kW inverter/charger
- 250 W Renesola solar panels
- Trojan 6 V deep cycle batteries
- Schneider Conext monitoring system
Energy democracy thru RE
Legislature and CSOs partnership to prioritize climate investments

Climate finance is important, but it is limited.

WHERE SHOULD IT GO?
In the PHL, people call the corrupt as “buwaya” or crocodiles
USD240 million, lump sum
An ecosystem

How to allow policy-makers become policy enablers?
Budget Cycle

Proposals from the Executive → National Expenditure Program (NEP)

Philippine Senate → House of Representatives

Bicameral Meeting → General Appropriations Act (GAA) or national budget
We have many laws, how many are truly effective?

Research is often left to the academe

National policies are disconnected to research
When “direct” is not that direct after all, beneficiaries suffer the most.
Ensuring Access thru the People’s Survival Fund

- Philippine national climate fund, passed in 2012
- Allocation of at least Php1,000,000,000 or USD24 million in the General Appropriations Act (GAA)
- A rewards fund, not a super fund
- Accepts proposals from LGUs and “communities”
- Replenishable
- Non-reverting fund
- Follows an “enhanced direct access” modality of disbursement
PSF was passed with strong emphasis on accountability
Climate budget is a combination of national and international sources.
How much are we counting?

- International climate finance in 2010-2014 is $882,676,133.97 for adaptation and $803,032,323.85 for mitigation.
- That’s huge!— and scary, because no one knows about it.
What do we know?

- Tagging fiesta – a recognizable inclination to tag everything as climate-related is problematic, because of underlying reasons. (i.e. international data shows that less than 30% of the adaptation projects have adaptation as a primary intent).

- In the national budget, measurements do not work. Current budget tagging only codifies proposed budgets and not actual budgets.

- Double counting due to lack of delineation in shared projects is highly possible.

- Sources of funds are not excited with the idea of being transparent.

- Local tracking results event shows scarier results.
Partnership gains

- We leverage our influence with legislators, but also with in-house think tanks such as the Congressional Policy Budget and Research Department and Senate Economic Planning Office.

- Resulted to joint policy recommendations before the budget cycle that considers international and national fund sources.

- Influence of partnership reaches other executive offices such as the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and Department of Finance (DOF).

- Our partnerships resulted to a strong critique on CPEIR, establishment of oversight and special committees on climate change in legislature, improved research agenda, and commitment to increase funds such as the People’s Survival Fund.
Why is it worth it?

- Funds are expected to increase
- Budget oversight lies with CSOs and legislature
- Accountability compels more access opportunities
- Finding the right balance between access, research, and accountability is not linear
We need to act because the price of inaction is getting higher