

● Institutionalizing the Nexus Approach

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Outline of Presentation

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- Initiatives Undertaken
 - Desk review of city planning documents
 - City workshops
 - Mapping of relevant national laws
- Potential “nexus” collaborations
- Conclusions and Next Steps

What is ICLEI?



- Was founded in 1990 as the “**International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives**”



- An international **association** of local governments that have made a commitment to sustainable development;



- In 2003, it became “**ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability**” with a broader mandate to address sustainability issues.

ICLEI Offices



The Nexus Approach in SEA: ICLEI's Role

- Task 1: Promotion of Nexus initiative
 - City Visits
 - FGDs and key informant interviews
- Task 2: Development of Nexus methodologies and guidelines
 - Desk review of relevant city documents
 - City storylines: case studies for two Philippine cities
 - Strategy paper: policy recommendations and possible incentive mechanisms
 - Standard procedures: checklist to examine nexus sensitivity

The Nexus Approach in SEA: ICLEI's Role

- Task 3: Building City's Capacity on Integrated Resource Management (based on city's perceived needs)
 - Community Development
 - Stakeholder Engagement
 - Technical training
- Task 4: Linking with Other Regional Learning Networks / Platform

Initiatives Undertaken (Jan. to June 2014)

- Mapping of Relevant National Laws and Institutions
- Review of City Planning Documents
- City Workshop/s and Site Visit
 - Naga City (April 02, 2014)
 - Santa Rosa (May 23, 2014)
- Exploring potential collaborations with other organizations

Sectors

WATER

FOOD

ENERGY

Institutions

- Dept. of Env't and Natural Resources plus attached agencies, particularly National Water Resources Board (NWRB)

- Department of Agriculture (DA) plus attached agencies, particularly National Irrigation Administration

- Department of Energy
- Power sector: *privatized*

- Department of Interior and Local Government – Local Government Academy
- National Economic and Development Authority (planning agency)
- Public-Private Partnership Center
- Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board
- Climate Change Commission

Policies

RA 9275 – Clean Water Act: integrated water resources management, re-use of wastewater for irrigation and other agricultural uses, ECOSAN

RA 8435 – Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization Act
RA 10601 - Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization (AFMech) Law

RA 9513 – Renewable Energy Act
RA 9003 – Ecological Solid Waste Management Act

RA 9729 – Climate Change Act

Local Government Units RA 7160: Local Government Code

Mapping of Relevant Laws and Institutions

- No Philippine law explicitly providing for the integrated management of food, water, and energy resources
 - A number of laws and issuances recognize the interdependencies among these three sectors.
- Conducted a desk review of Philippine laws and institutions; looked at implications to local government mandates and functions, with respect to the three Nexus sectors

Review of City Planning Document/s

- Served as scoping exercise to determine challenges and existing initiatives at the city level vis-à-vis the WEF nexus sphere
- City's fundamental planning documents
 - Comprehensive Land Use Plan (spatial)
 - Comprehensive Development Plan (sectoral)
- Provided a clear picture of the city's future plans and at the same time, identify entry points on how WEF can be prioritized.

City Workshop/s Conducted

- **Naga City: April 02, 2014**

- Desk review of relevant planning documents

- Land use conversion, especially agricultural lands to cater socio-economic activities brought about by increasing population is seen as a major issue.
- Ongoing update of the city's Land Use Plan (2016-2030) is an opportune time to integrate nexus.

- Nexus pilot project: Low-cost Housing

- Incorporates centralized sewerage system/treatment facility
- Designed for city government employees and financing is facilitated through Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF)

City Workshop/s Conducted

- **Santa Rosa: May 23, 2014**
 - Desk review of relevant planning documents
 - Santa Rosa's economy shifted from agriculture to industry-based from the 1980s to 1990s. This shift highlighted the issue of land use conversion and its implications.
 - There is groundwater depletion caused by increasing demand from various sectors.
 - Nexus pilot project: Low-cost Housing
 - Showcase of the nexus approach (green building, inclusion of energy-saving measures, urban agriculture)
 - Targets informal settlers comprised of 94 households/families; proposed site is a newly-procured land by the city government

Potential “nexus” collaborations

- **United Nations Environment Programme**
 - Exploratory discussion on how the Global Initiative for Resource Efficient Cities (GI-REC) complements the nexus standard procedures to be developed
 - Ultimate goal of GI-REC: mainstream resource efficiency and SCP into policies and tools at the city level (www.unep.org)

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Potential “nexus” collaborations

- **Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN)**
 - APAN supports governments and other orgs working on adaptation, with special emphasis on knowledge management and capacity building.
 - ICLEI SEAS serves as sub-regional node for APAN
 - APAN-ICLEI intends to conduct nexus training for national climate change focal points (*design and concept note to be developed by ICLEI subject to APAN’s approval*)
 - Objective: look at how the “nexus” approach can be used to enhance capacity for climate change adaptation in Southeast Asia

Potential “nexus” collaborations

- **Other ICLEI offices**

- ICLEI World Secretariat, in partnership with ICLEI Africa and ICLEI South Asia, is also implementing a nexus project also through GIZ.
- Synergies being Explored:
 - Development of an Operationalized Nexus Framework
 - Evaluating projects and programs from a “nexus” standpoint (e.g., nexus checklist)

Potential “nexus” collaborations

- **Resilient Cities Asia 2015**
 - Organized by ICLEI Asia offices
 - Taking off from the successes of Bonn Resilient Cities, this event aims to provide an Asian platform for urban resilience and climate change
 - Examine linkages of nexus and resilience as an emerging issue and trend
 - The Water Institute, Univ. of North Carolina came up with **Nexus Declaration** submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General for consideration in relation to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG-SDG).

Conclusions

- There exists, to some extent, an enabling policy framework to facilitate nexus institutionalization in the Philippines.
- While this is spread across a number of laws, specific provisions can help catalyze the realization of integrated resource management, particularly at the local level.
- Functions concerning water and food are to some extent devolved to local governments. For energy, the utilization of RE has great potential as nexus entry point.

Conclusions

- Nexus pilot projects in Santa Rosa and Naga City can serve as entry points for integration with national level plans and programs.
- National and sub-national nexus interventions should be done concurrently and should not be approached in isolation.
- While national governments can provide an overarching nexus framework, concrete interventions should be implemented by local governments.

Next Steps

- **Training Needs Assessment for Nexus Cities**
 - Technical skills and capacities, if any, that the Nexus Core Team seeks to develop
 - Challenges encountered on the following areas:
 - Holistic urban planning
 - Multi-level approach
 - Stakeholder/community engagement
 - Identification of new technologies already in use by other localities that may be helpful to realize the cities' proposed nexus project

Next Steps

- **Roundtable Discussion with Philippine Cities and National Government**
 - Facilitate knowledge sharing and exchange between Philippine cities implementing nexus and relevant government agencies involved in WEF; and those involved in the nexus pilot project
 - Determine how nexus thinking is viewed at the national level and identify gaps for WEF integration
 - Draft concrete policy recommendations to mainstream the nexus concept

Thank you for listening!



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