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# Institutionalizing the Nexus Approach

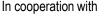
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### **Outline of Presentation**

- About ICLEI
- The Nexus Approach in SEA: ICLEI's Role
- 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







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## 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







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#### **WATER**

#### **FOOD**

#### **ENERGY**

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

Department of Agriculture (DA) plus attached agencies, particularly

- 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**

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** 

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# 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 socioeconomic 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







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#### 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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#### 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







#### 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)







#### 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).







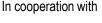
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#### **Conclusions**

- 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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