MODULE 4: TIPS AND GUIDELINES IN WRITING AND PACKAGING POLICY BRIEFS

July 24-26, 2024
Panorama Summit Hotel, Tigatto Road, Buhangin, Davao City

DIP LAB
Development Innovations and Policy Laboratory

Capacity Building Toward Innovative and Inclusive Policymaking
for the Development in the Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR) Sector

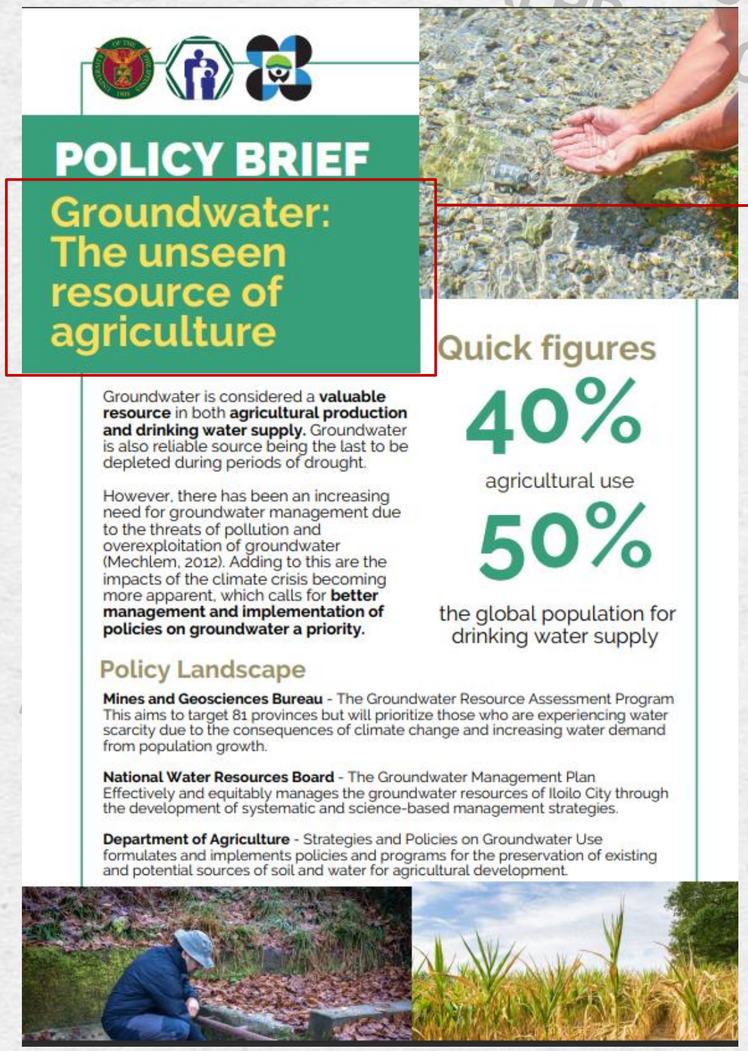
fb.com/diplab.uplb @diplab_uplb diplab.uplb@up.edu.ph diplab.uplb.edu.ph

WRITING AND PACKAGING A POLICY BRIEF

A well-packaged policy brief should have complete, credible, and relevant information, and should grab the reader's attention.

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF



POLICY BRIEF

Groundwater: The unseen resource of agriculture

Quick figures

40%

agricultural use

50%

the global population for drinking water supply

Groundwater is considered a **valuable resource** in both **agricultural production and drinking water supply.** Groundwater is also reliable source being the last to be depleted during periods of drought.

However, there has been an increasing need for groundwater management due to the threats of pollution and overexploitation of groundwater (Mechlem, 2012). Adding to this are the impacts of the climate crisis becoming more apparent, which calls for **better management and implementation of policies on groundwater a priority.**

Policy Landscape

Mines and Geosciences Bureau - The Groundwater Resource Assessment Program This aims to target 81 provinces but will prioritize those who are experiencing water scarcity due to the consequences of climate change and increasing water demand from population growth.

National Water Resources Board - The Groundwater Management Plan Effectively and equitably manages the groundwater resources of Iloilo City through the development of systematic and science-based management strategies.

Department of Agriculture - Strategies and Policies on Groundwater Use formulates and implements policies and programs for the preservation of existing and potential sources of soil and water for agricultural development.

TITLE

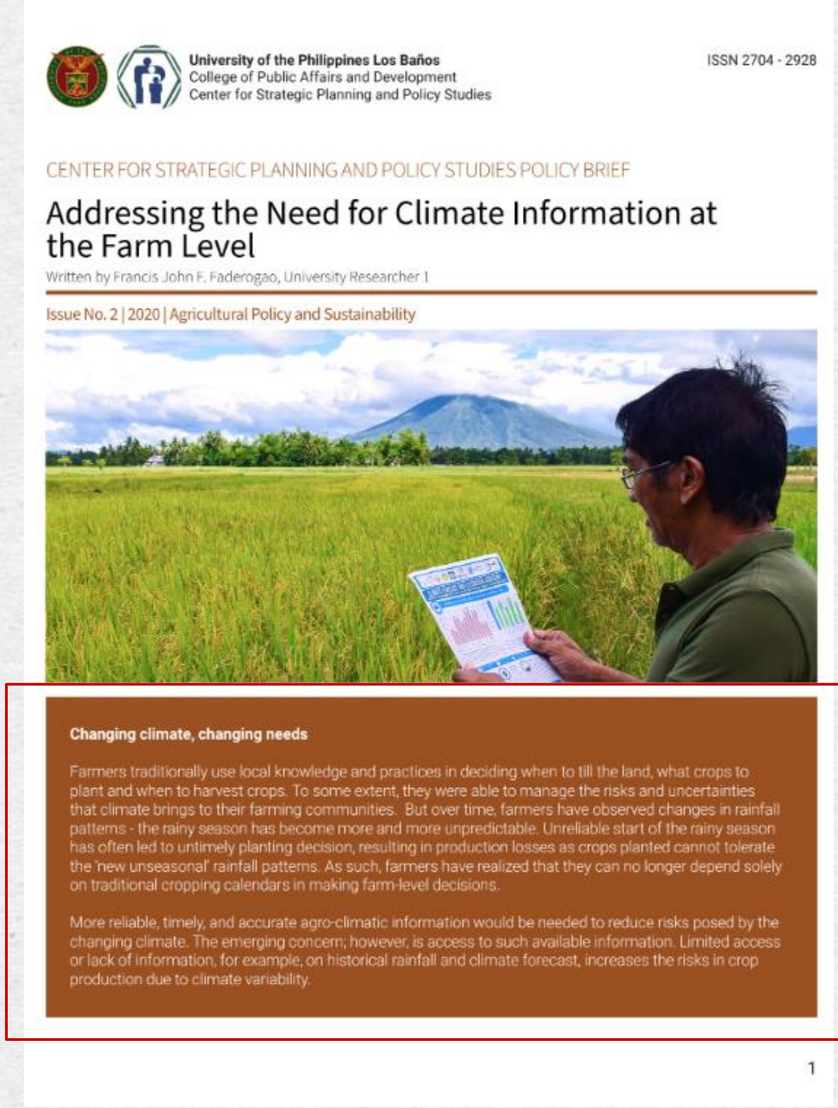
- **Short:**
  - Try to keep it to less than 12 words.
  - Alternatively, break it into a title and subtitle.
- **Catchy:**
  - Should grab attention.
  - Include relevant key words
  - Find an unusual turn of phrase that sticks in the mind
  - Consider using a question as a title.
- **Snapshot of the content**

TITLE

Examples

- **Is Eradicating Poverty in the Philippines by 2030 Doable?**
- **Rising food prices – A global crisis:** Action needed now to avoid poverty and hunger
- **Natural resources:** The climate change challenge

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF



University of the Philippines Los Baños
College of Public Affairs and Development
Center for Strategic Planning and Policy Studies

ISSN 2704 - 2928

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY STUDIES POLICY BRIEF

Addressing the Need for Climate Information at the Farm Level

Written by Francis John F. Faderogao, University Researcher 1

Issue No. 2 | 2020 | Agricultural Policy and Sustainability

Changing climate, changing needs

Farmers traditionally use local knowledge and practices in deciding when to till the land, what crops to plant and when to harvest crops. To some extent, they were able to manage the risks and uncertainties that climate brings to their farming communities. But over time, farmers have observed changes in rainfall patterns - the rainy season has become more and more unpredictable. Unreliable start of the rainy season has often led to untimely planting decision, resulting in production losses as crops planted cannot tolerate the 'new unseasonal' rainfall patterns. As such, farmers have realized that they can no longer depend solely on traditional cropping calendars in making farm-level decisions.

More reliable, timely, and accurate agro-climatic information would be needed to reduce risks posed by the changing climate. The emerging concern, however, is access to such available information. Limited access or lack of information, for example, on historical rainfall and climate forecast, increases the risks in crop production due to climate variability.

1

SUMMARY

- Indicates the **main points** policymakers should get – even if they read nothing else
- Can be **placed in a box** or in different font type.
- May contain 3-4 bullets giving the main points in the policy brief.

SUMMARY

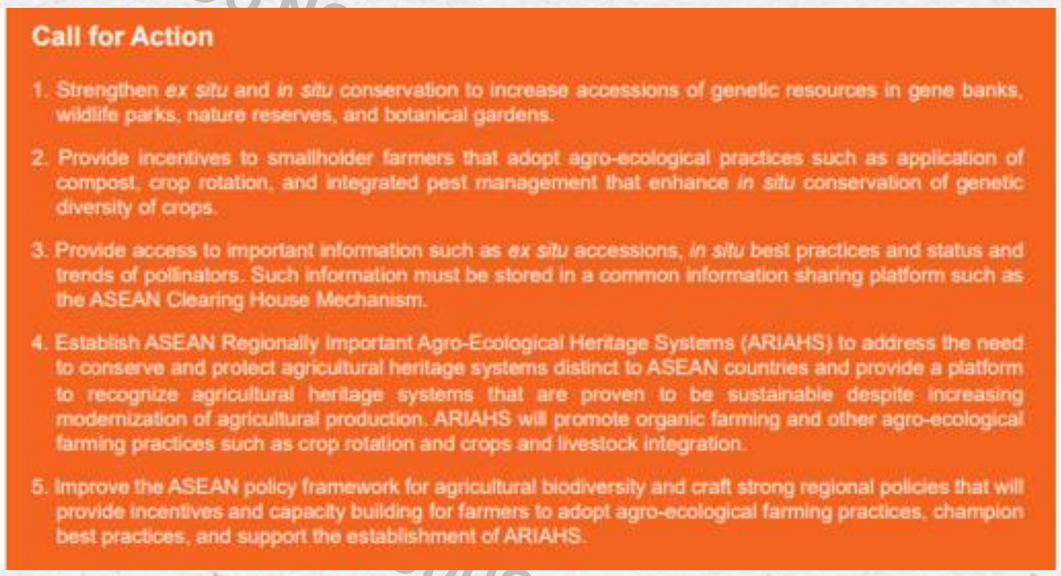
Examples

The summary gave a glimpse of the recommendations on how to further harness and explore the potential benefits of climate change in enhancing food security and livelihood.

Potential impacts of climate change on agriculture are usually perceived to be negative. In the case of Pangasinan, however, the projected change appears favourable to rice production. As such, the leaderships of the province of Pangasinan and the municipality of Sison should be able explore to potential benefits of the projected climate change in enhancing food security and livelihood of small-scale farmers. Being in the forefront of disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA), the local government unit (LGU) should improve its capacity to be able to prepare and implement its plans. Availability of necessary support services and infrastructure will help the LGU and its constituents in increasing their adaptive capacity and harnessing the potential positive impacts of climate change.

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

RECOMMENDATION

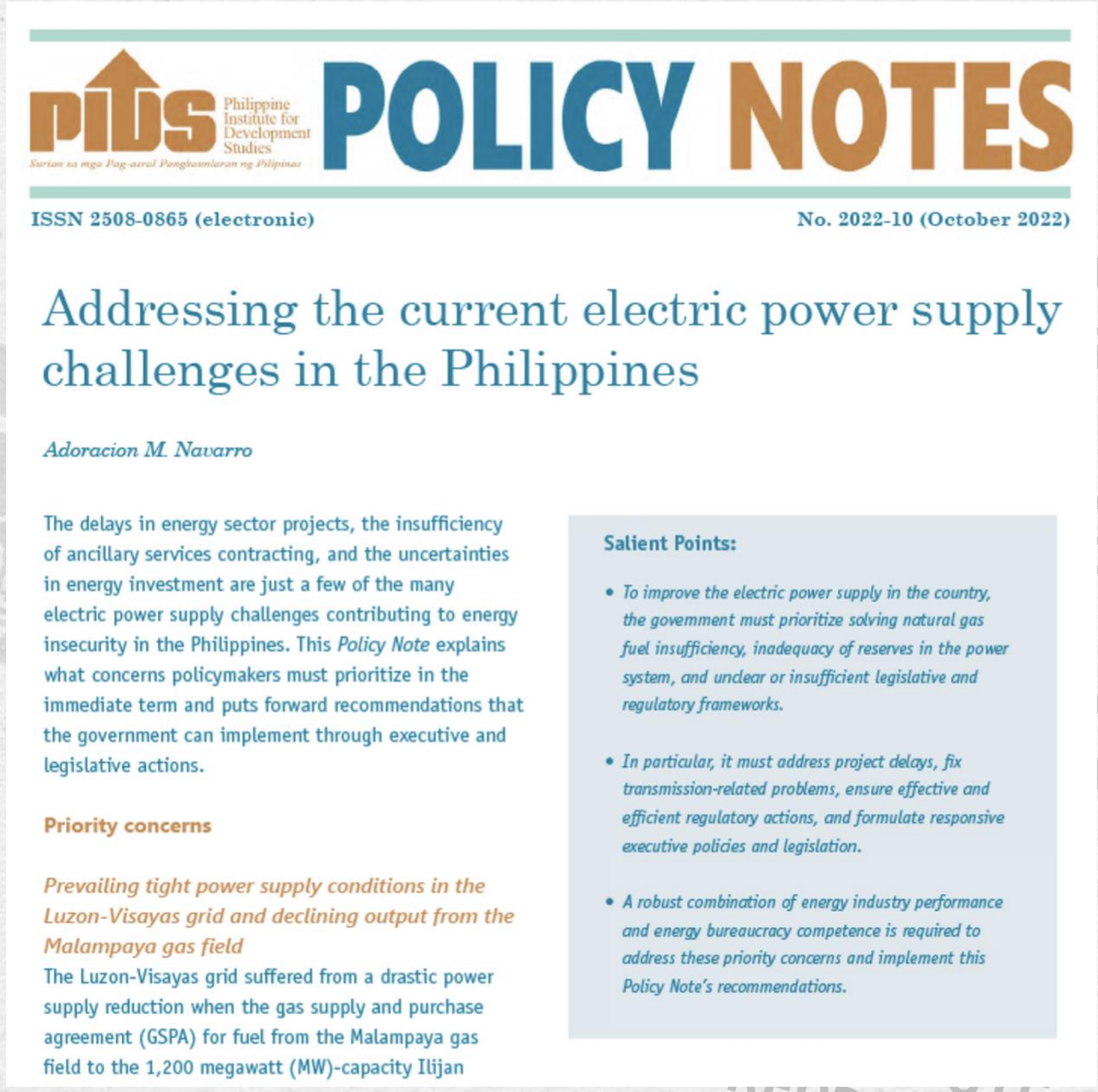


- Can be presented on the first page, at the end, or distributed throughout the policy brief
- Must be **short, clear, easy to understand**
- Must be **realistic and doable**
- Must be easy to find (Use different font styles, place in a box with label)
- Could be termed as **“Recommendations,” “Call to Action,” ”Ways Forward,” or “Next Steps”**
- Use action words

RECOMMENDATIONS

Example

Bulleted points placed in the side bar of the front page – where the reader cannot fail to see them



PIDS Philippine Institute for Development Studies
Surian sa mga Pag-aaral Pangkaunlaran ng Pilipinas

POLICY NOTES

ISSN 2508-0865 (electronic) No. 2022-10 (October 2022)

Addressing the current electric power supply challenges in the Philippines

Adoracion M. Navarro

The delays in energy sector projects, the insufficiency of ancillary services contracting, and the uncertainties in energy investment are just a few of the many electric power supply challenges contributing to energy insecurity in the Philippines. This *Policy Note* explains what concerns policymakers must prioritize in the immediate term and puts forward recommendations that the government can implement through executive and legislative actions.

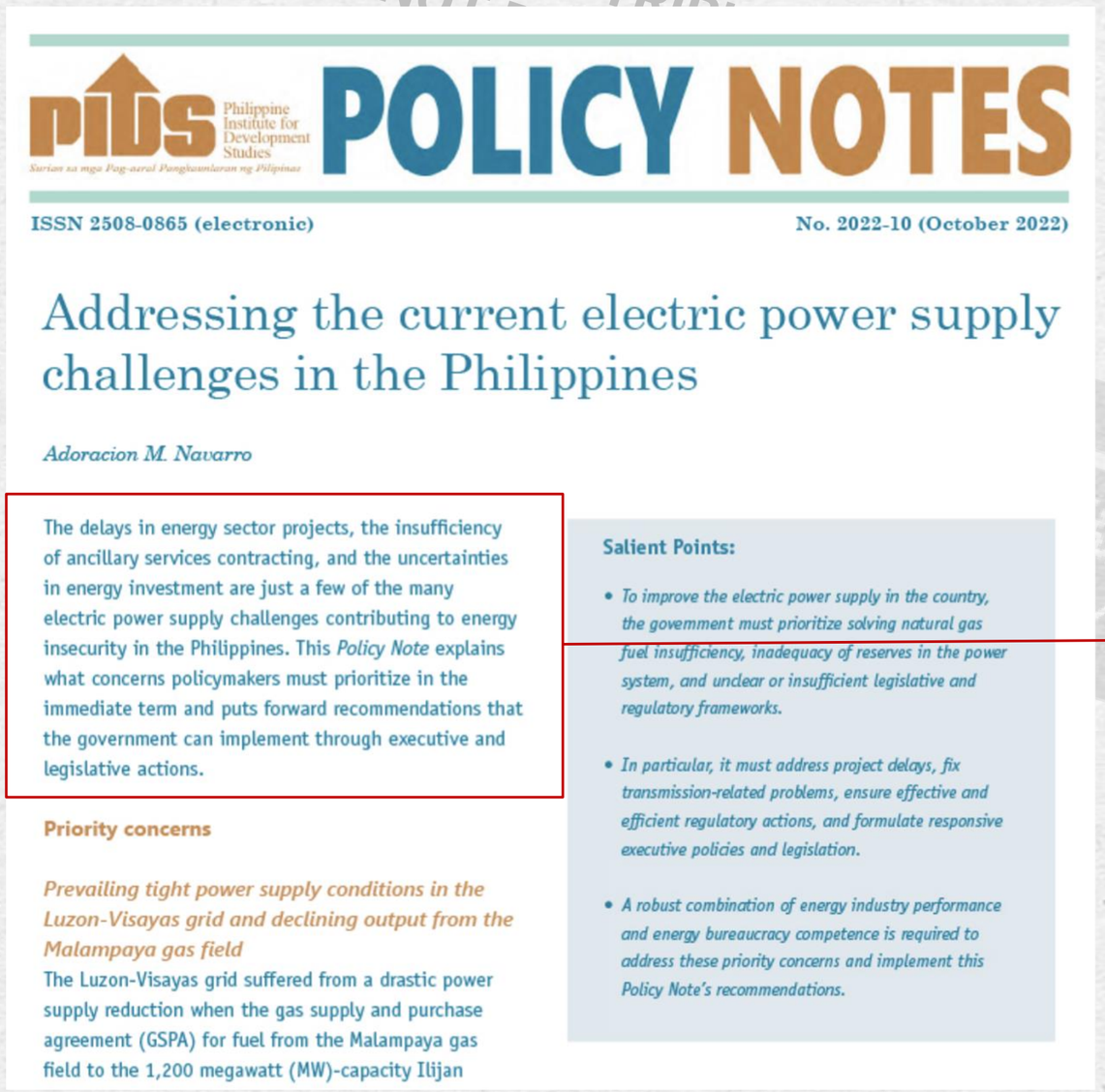
Salient Points:

- *To improve the electric power supply in the country, the government must prioritize solving natural gas fuel insufficiency, inadequacy of reserves in the power system, and unclear or insufficient legislative and regulatory frameworks.*
- *In particular, it must address project delays, fix transmission-related problems, ensure effective and efficient regulatory actions, and formulate responsive executive policies and legislation.*
- *A robust combination of energy industry performance and energy bureaucracy competence is required to address these priority concerns and implement this Policy Note's recommendations.*

Priority concerns

Prevailing tight power supply conditions in the Luzon-Visayas grid and declining output from the Malampaya gas field

The Luzon-Visayas grid suffered from a drastic power supply reduction when the gas supply and purchase agreement (GSPA) for fuel from the Malampaya gas field to the 1,200 megawatt (MW)-capacity Ilijan



PIDS Philippine Institute for Development Studies
Surian sa mga Pag-aaral Pangkaunlaran ng Pilipinas

POLICY NOTES

ISSN 2508-0865 (electronic) No. 2022-10 (October 2022)

Addressing the current electric power supply challenges in the Philippines

Adoracion M. Navarro

The delays in energy sector projects, the insufficiency of ancillary services contracting, and the uncertainties in energy investment are just a few of the many electric power supply challenges contributing to energy insecurity in the Philippines. This *Policy Note* explains what concerns policymakers must prioritize in the immediate term and puts forward recommendations that the government can implement through executive and legislative actions.

Salient Points:

- *To improve the electric power supply in the country, the government must prioritize solving natural gas fuel insufficiency, inadequacy of reserves in the power system, and unclear or insufficient legislative and regulatory frameworks.*
- *In particular, it must address project delays, fix transmission-related problems, ensure effective and efficient regulatory actions, and formulate responsive executive policies and legislation.*
- *A robust combination of energy industry performance and energy bureaucracy competence is required to address these priority concerns and implement this Policy Note's recommendations.*

Priority concerns

Prevailing tight power supply conditions in the Luzon-Visayas grid and declining output from the Malampaya gas field

The Luzon-Visayas grid suffered from a drastic power supply reduction when the gas supply and purchase agreement (GSPA) for fuel from the Malampaya gas field to the 1,200 megawatt (MW)-capacity Ilijan

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

INTRODUCTION

- Introduces the topic
- Says why it is important
- Tells the reader why they should do something about the issue

SIANI
Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative

Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture:
Working for food and nutrition security in the Philippines

Policy Brief
March 2016

This Policy Brief describes the state of the art in agriculture education in the Philippines, provides an overview of the environmental concerns linked to agriculture in the country and the implications for higher education, and makes recommendations on how to resolve national agro-environmental issues and improve higher education in order to increase the sustainability of agriculture. The Brief contains recommendations by the SIANI Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture (HESA) Philippines Experts' Group, made at a two-day dialogue and 'write-shop' held at the University of the Philippines, Diliman Campus, on 22–23 July 2015.

Background and Rationale

Higher education institutions in the Philippines must undertake better research, improve their teaching and support enhanced extension services in order to provide a more effective response to the many environmental and agriculture- and development-related concerns in the country. The current state of higher education is not adequate to the task of addressing the many environmental, economic and social problems associated with mainstream approaches to industrial agriculture. The Philippines faces many complex global and national environmental problems linked to its agriculture.

The widespread and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers, hybrid seeds and pesticides, for example, leads to various environmental and health-related hazards and socio-economic problems. Worldwide food and agricultural trends are exacerbating the global ecological crisis. It has been estimated that 56 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions are linked to food production. Soils are also being degraded and eroded or made more acidic, decreasing the supply of nutrients for crop uptake. Farmers must then apply more fertilizers and pesticides to maintain or increase yields, while pests develop resistance. Pesticide residues in the food chain and ecosystem also threaten human health, ranging from increased incidence of cancers to food poisoning. Not all such health problems can be attributed to agriculture alone, but some correlations to various types of disease are suggestive. There is substantial evidence of well documented problems, such as the ingestion of toxic pesticides in food in the Philippines and elsewhere in Asia.

As the population of the world increases, the amount of grain being grown per person is declining. The Green Revolution of the 1960s was a package of technological innovations designed to increase agricultural yields. It consisted of the use of high yielding varieties, fertilizers and pesticides, and was initially focused on rice growing in the humid tropics of Asia in order to address a predicted rice shortage. The strategy was later expanded to all crops, including aquaculture. Agricultural crop and livestock yields increased, averting 'Malthusian' concerns about an impending food crisis.

Today, however, at least 800 million people still go hungry, and about 150 million children under the age of five are severely undernourished. Such problems could intensify if the world population increases as predicted from the current 6.7 billion to 9.2 billion by 2050.

At the same time, the widespread adoption of sustainable agricultural practices in the Philippines, across the ASEAN region

Winnowing Rice by Hand - Rice Preparation in Philippines. Photo by Daniel Peckham via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

and worldwide could help to increase resilience to climate change and improve climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. It is essential to promote and support truly sustainable agriculture based on local soil and climate conditions, as well as local traditions and culture. Agro-ecological systems and practices should reflect these too.

However, a shift to sustainable agriculture will require local government entities, community-based family farms and cooperatives to have access to more information, and better education and communication on sustainable agriculture, as well as support to get access to technology and best organic farming and manufacturing practices. There is also a need to operationalize comprehensive agricultural extension and training support services for small-scale family farms.

The Need for a Response from Higher Education Institutions

In response to such environment-, health-, and agriculture-related development challenges, the SIANI Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture (HESA) Philippines Experts Group held a two-day dialogue and write-shop in July 2015. The dialogue was facilitated by SIANI-HESA and the Food Security in Southeast Asia Experts' Group Project. The dialogue aimed to ascertain the status of courses on sustainable agriculture and food security in higher education institutions (HEIs) and state universities and colleges (SUCs) across the Philippines.

SIANI.se

PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

BODY

- Keep the paragraphs short and restricted to a single idea.
- Use headings and subheadings
- **Tip:** Re-read each paragraph and ask yourself "so what?"
- **Do not forget the policy implications**. These implications answer the "so what" question.
- Structure text in a logical manner

CONCLUSION

- Keep it **short** – one paragraph is enough.
- Draw the text to a close by explaining how **urgent** the situation is, or to make a **final pitch** for your recommendation
- Could include a **compelling statement**

OTHER PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

OTHER PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

- Masthead (the series title)
- Authors

ISSN 2704 - 2928

POLICY BRIEF SPECIAL RELEASE

DEVELOPMENT INNOVATIONS AND POLICY LABORATORY
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY STUDIES

PARTE KO, PARTE MO SA IRIGASYON:
Strengthening Capacities for Collaborative Water Governance towards Food Security

Written by **Paulo T. Abiera, Dante B. Arcigal Jr.,** and **Rosalie E. Lanceras**
DIP Lab Policy Hackathon POLISIYA PASYA SYENSYA 2022 Second Place Winners

CPAf 25th Anniversary Special Release | DIP Lab | Issue No. 4 | 2023 | Water and Development

OTHER PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

- Acknowledgements
- Publication details
- References and Footnotes

Bibliography:

BFAR-IX.(nd). The Joint DA-DILG Administrative Order No. 1 (JAO No. 1) - A Management Measure for the Sardine Fishery in Zamboanga Peninsula. Powerpoint presentation.

Brillo, B. B. C., & Elazegui, D. D. (2016). Assessing the Formulation and Implementation of the Closed Fishing Season Policy for Sardines in Zamboanga Peninsula , Philippines. Philippine Journal of Science, 145(4), 395–404.

DOLE Region IX. (2014). ADVISORY NO. RIX-01: Advisory on the Implementation of Productivity-Based Incentives Schemes for the Sardines Canning Industry in the Zamboanga Peninsula Region. Zamboanga City. http://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781107415324.004

Dunn, W. N. (2004). Public policy analysis: an introduction (3rd ed.). New Jersey.

FAO. (1997). Fisheries Management. In FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries. No. 4.

Jalotjot, H. C., & Cervantes, C. P. (2016). Income and Livelihood Impacts of Closed Season Policy of Sardines, Zamboanga Peninsula, Philippines (No. 2016–10).

Naguit, M. R. A. (2016). Impact of Closed Season Policy of Sardines on Landed Catch, Zamboanga Peninsula, Philippines (No. 2016–11).

Narvaez, T. A., & Cornelio, N. (2016). Industry Level Impact of Closed Season Policy of Sardines, Zamboanga Peninsula, Philippines (No. 2016–12).

Paunlagui, M. M. (2016). Knowledge, Attitude, and Perception of Fishers and Sardine Factory Workers (No. 2016–13).

PSA CountrSTAT Philippines. (2016). Commercial Fisheries: Volume of Production by Species, by Region and by Province. Retrieved July 12, 2016, from http://countrystat.psa.gov.ph/?cont=10&pageid=1&ma=C80PNVPP

Rola, A. C., Narvaez, T. A., Naguit, M. R. A., Jalotjot, H. C., & Cervantes, C. A. (2016). Social Benefit Cost Analysis of the Closed Season Policy of Sardines, Zamboanga Peninsula, Philippines (No. 2017–1).

Valerio, R. (2015). Sardines: The State of the Industry. A presentation material during the 1st Sardine Congress Zamboanga City.

This policy brief was based on the project entitled "Impact Evaluation of the Closed Fishing Season Policy for Sardines in Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX)". This was implemented by the University of the Philippines Los Baños, in collaboration with Western Mindanao State University and Jose Rizal Memorial State University, and was funded by the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development.

Published by the Center for Strategic Planning and Policy Studies, College of Public Affairs and Development, University of the Philippines Los Baños

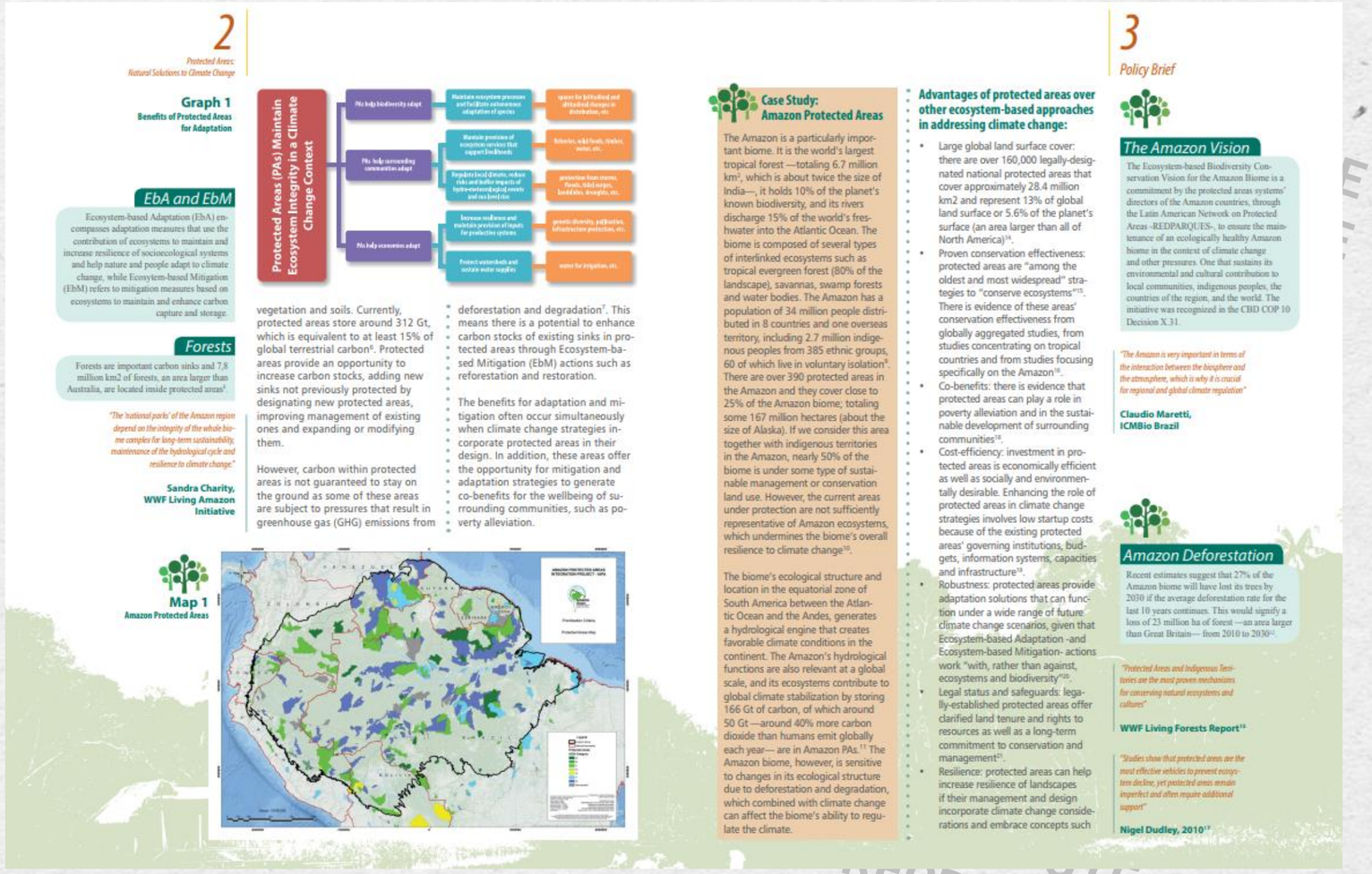
+63 (49) 536 - 3455

cpafcspps.uplb@up.edu.ph

OTHER PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

- Visual elements (photos, graphics, illustrations, and graphs; boxes and sidebars)

- Case studies
Humanizes the issue; presents actual experiences and stories



2

Protected Areas: Natural Solutions to Climate Change

Graph 1
Benefits of Protected Areas for Adaptation

EbA and EbM

Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) encompasses adaptation measures that use the contribution of ecosystems to maintain and increase resilience of socioecological systems and help nature and people adapt to climate change, while Ecosystem-based Mitigation (EbM) refers to mitigation measures based on ecosystems to maintain and enhance carbon capture and storage.

Forests

Forests are important carbon sinks and 7.8 million km2 of forests, an area larger than Australia, are located inside protected areas[6].

"The 'national parks' of the Amazon region depend on the integrity of the whole biome complex for long-term sustainability, maintenance of the hydrological cycle and resilience to climate change."

Sandra Charity, WWF Living Amazon Initiative

vegetation and soils. Currently, protected areas store around 312 Gt, which is equivalent to at least 15% of global terrestrial carbon[6]. Protected areas provide an opportunity to increase carbon stocks, adding new sinks not previously protected by designating new protected areas, improving management of existing ones and expanding or modifying them.

However, carbon within protected areas is not guaranteed to stay on the ground as some of these areas are subject to pressures that result in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from deforestation and degradation[7]. This means there is a potential to enhance carbon stocks of existing sinks in protected areas through Ecosystem-based Mitigation (EbM) actions such as reforestation and restoration.

The benefits for adaptation and mitigation often occur simultaneously when climate change strategies incorporate protected areas in their design. In addition, these areas offer the opportunity for mitigation and adaptation strategies to generate co-benefits for the wellbeing of surrounding communities, such as poverty alleviation.

Map 1
Amazon Protected Areas

Case Study: Amazon Protected Areas

The Amazon is a particularly important biome. It is the world's largest tropical forest —totaling 6.7 million km², which is about twice the size of India—, it holds 10% of the planet's known biodiversity, and its rivers discharge 15% of the world's freshwater into the Atlantic Ocean. The biome is composed of several types of interlinked ecosystems such as tropical evergreen forest (80% of the landscape), savannas, swamp forests and water bodies. The Amazon has a population of 34 million people distributed in 8 countries and one overseas territory, including 2.7 million indigenous peoples from 385 ethnic groups, 60 of which live in voluntary isolation[8]. There are over 390 protected areas in the Amazon and they cover close to 25% of the Amazon biome; totaling some 167 million hectares (about the size of Alaska). If we consider this area together with indigenous territories in the Amazon, nearly 50% of the biome is under some type of sustainable management or conservation land use. However, the current areas under protection are not sufficiently representative of Amazon ecosystems, which undermines the biome's overall resilience to climate change[10].

The biome's ecological structure and location in the equatorial zone of South America between the Atlantic Ocean and the Andes, generates a hydrological engine that creates favorable climate conditions in the continent. The Amazon's hydrological functions are also relevant at a global scale, and its ecosystems contribute to global climate stabilization by storing 166 Gt of carbon, of which around 50 Gt —around 40% more carbon dioxide than humans emit globally each year— are in Amazon PAs.[11] The Amazon biome, however, is sensitive to changes in its ecological structure due to deforestation and degradation, which combined with climate change can affect the biome's ability to regulate the climate.

Advantages of protected areas over other ecosystem-based approaches in addressing climate change:

- Large global land surface cover: there are over 160,000 legally-designated national protected areas that cover approximately 28.4 million km2 and represent 13% of global land surface or 5.6% of the planet's surface (an area larger than all of North America)[14].
- Proven conservation effectiveness: protected areas are "among the oldest and most widespread" strategies to "conserve ecosystems"[15]. There is evidence of these areas' conservation effectiveness from globally aggregated studies, from studies concentrating on tropical countries and from studies focusing specifically on the Amazon[16].
- Co-benefits: there is evidence that protected areas can play a role in poverty alleviation and in the sustainable development of surrounding communities[18].
- Cost-efficiency: investment in protected areas is economically efficient as well as socially and environmentally desirable. Enhancing the role of protected areas in climate change strategies involves low startup costs because of the existing protected areas' governing institutions, budgets, information systems, capacities and infrastructure[19].
- Robustness: protected areas provide adaptation solutions that can function under a wide range of future climate change scenarios, given that Ecosystem-based Adaptation -and Ecosystem-based Mitigation- actions work "with, rather than against, ecosystems and biodiversity"[20].
- Legal status and safeguards: legally-established protected areas offer clarified land tenure and rights to resources as well as a long-term commitment to conservation and management[21].
- Resilience: protected areas can help increase resilience of landscapes if their management and design incorporate climate change considerations and embrace concepts such

3

Policy Brief

The Amazon Vision

The Ecosystem-based Biodiversity Conservation Vision for the Amazon Biome is a commitment by the protected areas systems' directors of the Amazon countries, through the Latin American Network on Protected Areas -REDPARQUES-, to ensure the maintenance of an ecologically healthy Amazon biome in the context of climate change and other pressures. One that sustains its environmental and cultural contribution to local communities, indigenous peoples, the countries of the region, and the world. The initiative was recognized in the CBD COP 10 Decision X.31.

"The Amazon is very important in terms of the interaction between the biosphere and the atmosphere, which is why it is crucial for regional and global climate regulation"

Claudio Maretti, ICMBio Brazil

Amazon Deforestation

Recent estimates suggest that 27% of the Amazon biome will have lost its trees by 2030 if the average deforestation rate for the last 10 years continues. This would signify a loss of 23 million ha of forest —an area larger than Great Britain— from 2010 to 2030[22].

"Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories are the most proven mechanisms for conserving natural ecosystems and cultures"

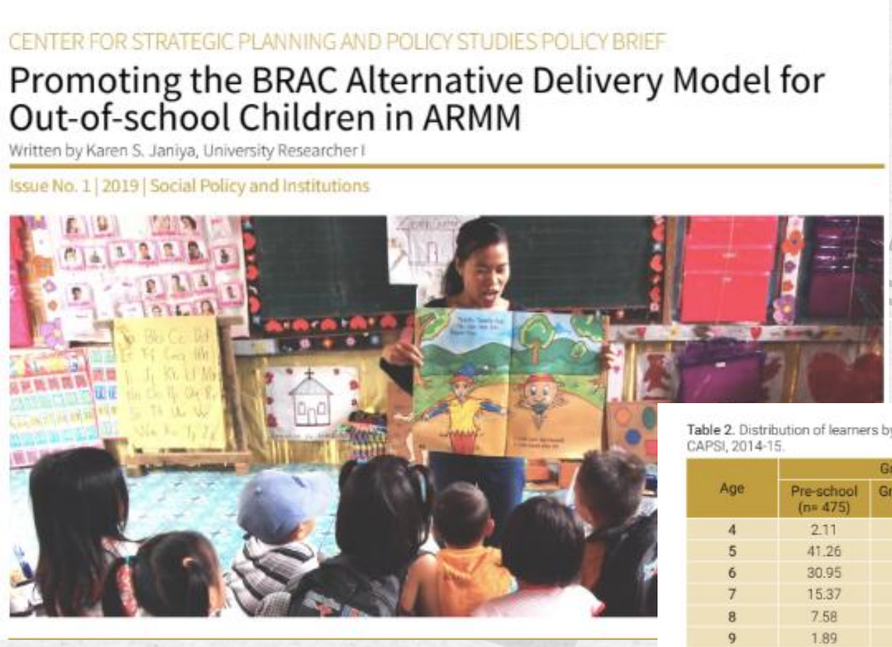
WWF Living Forests Report[23]

"Studies show that protected areas are the most effective vehicles to prevent ecosystem decline, yet protected areas remain imperfect and often require additional support"

Nigel Dudley, 2010[17]

OTHER PARTS OF A POLICY BRIEF

- Photographs
  - Good-quality photos
  - Carries a message
  - Gender-balanced
  - Permission to use
- Tables
  - Simple
  - Numbers/Textual info



CENTER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY STUDIES POLICY BRIEF

Promoting the BRAC Alternative Delivery Model for Out-of-school Children in ARMM

Written by Karen S. Janiya, University Researcher I

Issue No. 1 | 2019 | Social Policy and Institutions

Table 2. Distribution of learners by single age group by level, CAPSI, 2014-15.

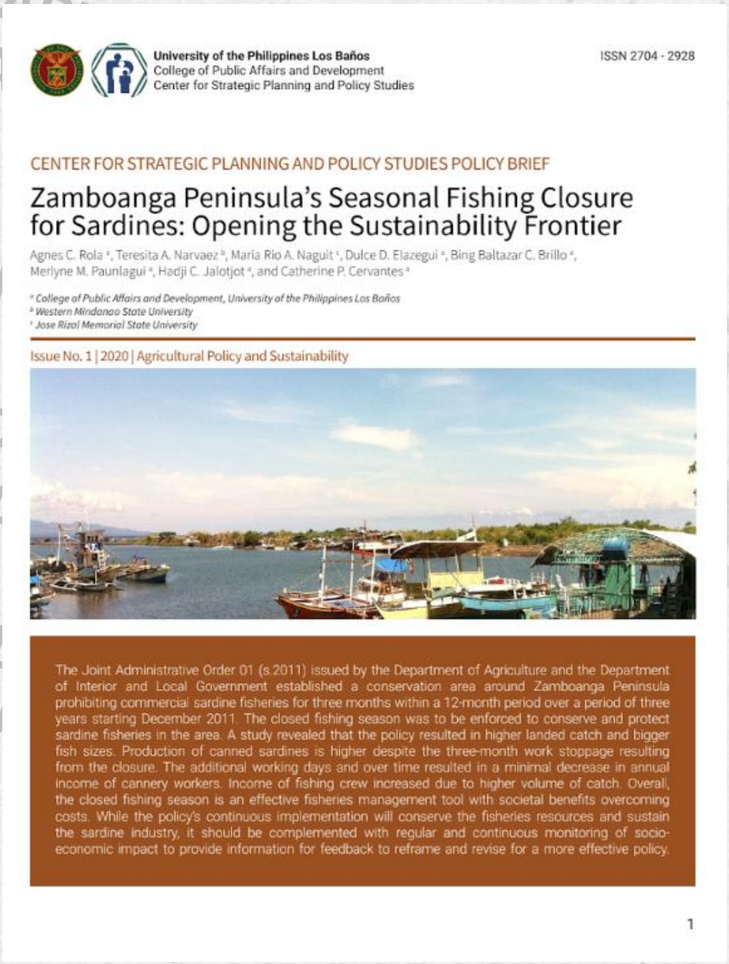
Age	Grade Level		
	Pre-school (n= 475)	Grade 1 (n = 206)	Grade 2 (n = 190)
4	2.11	0.00	0.00
5	41.26	3.88	0.00
6	30.95	35.92	1.58
7	15.37	38.35	8.95
8	7.58	11.65	26.32
9	1.89	7.77	31.05
10	0.63	1.94	22.63
11	0.00	0.49	5.26
12	0.00	0.00	3.68
13	0.00	0.00	0.53
15	0.21	0.00	0.00
Average Age	6.43	7.42	9.47

Source: University of the Philippines Los Baños – Foundation Inc., (2015) BRAC Alternative Delivery Model (ADM) Project: The Baseline and Midline Study (unpublished)

Before the implementation of the BRAC ADM project, Basic Education Assistance for Muslim Mindanao – Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BEAM-ARMM) projected the number of teachers and classroom needed for 2011 to 2020 using the 2007 NSO population. Based on their estimates, by 2017, ARMM will be needing 6,582 teachers and classrooms. By the end of the implementation of the BRAC ADM project, they were able to establish 1,724 BLCs, which means that there were at least 4,858 teachers and classrooms that were still needed in 2017. By design, BLCs adapt a one-cohort system of basic education wherein their LF from grade 1 will stay with the same students until grade 5. Estimates from the BEAM-ARMM also stated that in 2011, there are 594 barangays without school in ARMM. Through the BRAC ADM project, they were able to cover around 213 barangays in their first year of implementation. In 2017, implementation of BRAC ADM project no longer admit kindergarten students. BRAC, together with DepEd-ARMM, prepared for the transition of BRAC learners to the DepEd system for SY 2017-2018. It was agreed that after the implementation of the project, learners will be transferred to catchment schools or schools that were nearest to the BLCs. Based on BEAM-ARMM's End of Program Review (2017), one of the issues that might arise in the transition is the decrease in attendance of learners in DepEd-ARMM schools because of the distance of the catchment schools. According to the baseline survey conducted by UPLB-FI (2013), in Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao

TO CONSIDER

Branding and style guide



University of the Philippines Los Baños
College of Public Affairs and Development
Center for Strategic Planning and Policy Studies

ISSN 2704 - 2928

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY STUDIES POLICY BRIEF

Zamboanga Peninsula's Seasonal Fishing Closure for Sardines: Opening the Sustainability Frontier

Agnes C. Rola [a], Teresita A. Narvaez [b], Maria Rio A. Naguit [a], Dulce D. Elazegui [a], Bing Baltazar C. Brillo [a], Merlyne M. Paunlagui [a], Hadji C. Jalotjot [a], and Catherine P. Cervantes [a]

[a] College of Public Affairs and Development, University of the Philippines Los Baños
[b] Western Mindanao State University
[c] Jose Rizal Memorial State University

Issue No. 1 | 2020 | Agricultural Policy and Sustainability

The Joint Administrative Order 01 (s.2011) issued by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior and Local Government established a conservation area around Zamboanga Peninsula prohibiting commercial sardine fisheries for three months within a 12-month period over a period of three years starting December 2011. The closed fishing season was to be enforced to conserve and protect sardine fisheries in the area. A study revealed that the policy resulted in higher landed catch and bigger fish sizes. Production of canned sardines is higher despite the three-month work stoppage resulting from the closure. The additional working days and over time resulted in a minimal decrease in annual income of cannery workers. Income of fishing crew increased due to higher volume of catch. Overall, the closed fishing season is an effective fisheries management tool with societal benefits overcoming costs. While the policy's continuous implementation will conserve the fisheries resources and sustain the sardine industry, it should be complemented with regular and continuous monitoring of socio-economic impact to provide information for feedback to reframe and revise for a more effective policy.

1

ISSN 2704 - 2928

POLICY BRIEF SPECIAL RELEASE

DEVELOPMENT INNOVATIONS AND POLICY LABORATORY
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY STUDIES

PARTE KO, PARTE MO SA IRIGASYON: Strengthening Capacities for Collaborative Water Governance towards Food Security

Written by **Paulo T. Abiera, Dante B. Arcigal Jr.,** and **Rosalie E. Lanceras**
DIP Lab Policy Hackathon POLISIYA PASYA SYENSYA 2022 Second Place Winners

CPAf 25th Anniversary Special Release | DIP Lab | Issue No. 4 | 2023 | Water and Development

SUMMARY

Water plays a critical role in agri-food production, particularly of rice, which is largely cultivated in irrigated ecosystems. However, irrigation is encumbered with intersectoral challenges resulting in food insecurity. Such is evident in the Sta. Cruz Watershed where farmers are facing rice shortage due to insufficient water supply.

This policy brief proposes a holistic approach for the sustainability of water supply for agri-food production in Sta. Cruz Watetshed.

This policy brief puts forward the need for a continuing capacity development program that embodies strategies for addressing the multifaceted challenges to the effective governance of irrigation water. Moreover, LGUs must provide an enabling environment for cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders. Resources also have to be mobilized to meet operational needs in irrigation systems.

Center for Strategic Planning and Policy Studies | Development Innovations and Policy Laboratory 1

WRITING TIPS

WRITING TIPS

- **START AT THE BEGINNING or THE END**

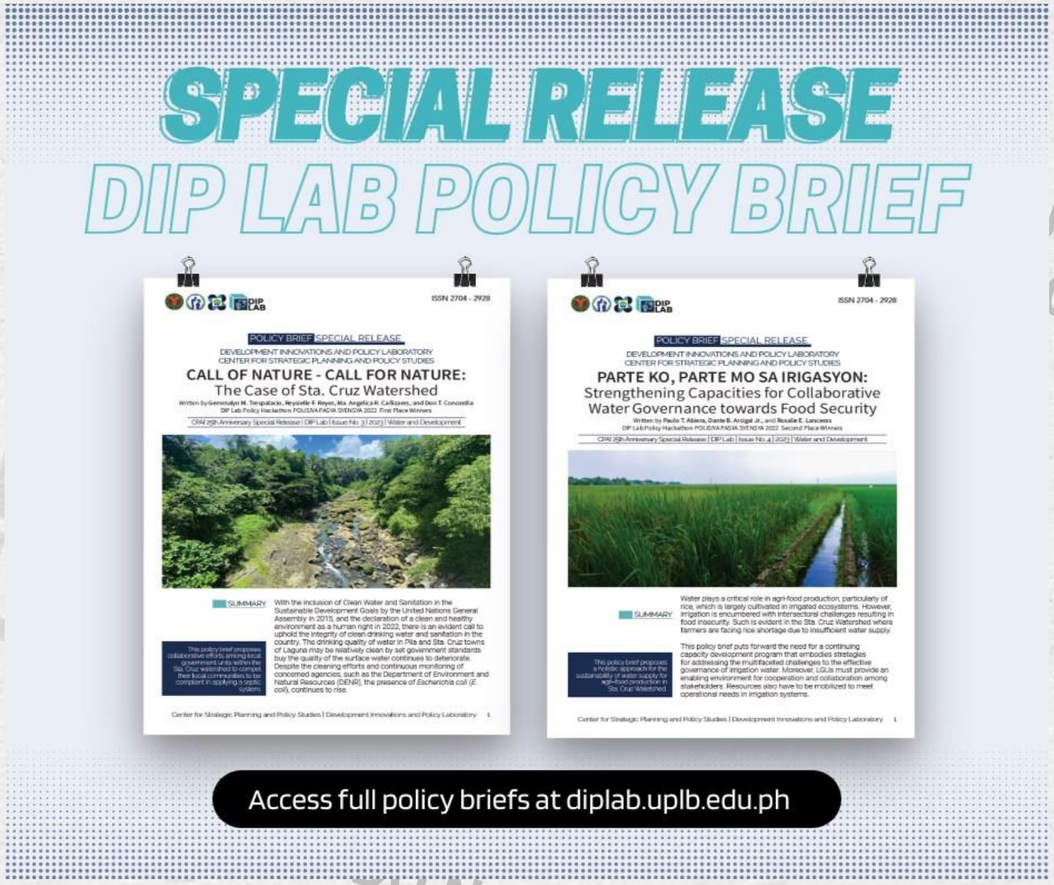
- Follow institutional **Style Guides**
- Avoid **redundancy**
- Avoid **unnecessary qualifiers**
- Use **this**, not that
- Use the **active voice**
- Use **transition words** when jumping to one topic to another

Writing Tips

- Spell out **acronyms**
- Use appropriate **terminologies**
- Pay attention to **sentence length**
- Be culturally **sensitive**
- Levels of **writing and editing** – check for content, clarity, logic, sensitivity, spelling, punctuation, grammar, and compliance with Style Guide

Using Policy Briefs: What to do after?

- As **printed hardcopies** (conferences, meetings, gatherings)
- As **softcopies** (email, social media, website)
- Combine them with other types of information materials.



Tools

- Canva.com
- MS Word
- MS Publisher
- Adobe InDesign/Photoshop

REFERENCES

Food and Agriculture Organization. 2011. *Preparing Policy Briefs* - https://www.fao.org/3/i2195e/i2195e03.pdf

Dunn, W.N. 2014. Public Policy Analysis Fifth Edition. Person Education Limited

ARE YOU READY TO WRITE YOUR POLICY BRIEFS?

Contact us

diplab.uplb@up.edu.ph

University of the Philippines Los Baños, College, Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna, 4031

facebook.com/diplab.uplb

@diplab_uplb