



HARMONIZING ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS: SYNERGY BETWEEN EEPSEA AND REAP

♦ What is REAP?

- REAP stands for “Resource and Environmental Economics Foundation of the Philippines, Inc.
- It is a non-stock, non-profit association of professionals who are keen to actively participate and contribute to the formulation of sound and appropriate programs, strategies, and policies involving natural resource and environmental economics and management concerns.
- REAP is committed to harmonizing economic development, equity, environmental protection, and resource sustainability.
- The ultimate task of the REAP is to generate and to help build a critical mass of professionals who will help discover the pluses, the means of advancing this interaction between the economy and the environment in a positive way.



♦ Synergy between EEPSEA and REAP

- The Association was organized way back in 2003 through the initiative of several people connected to EEPSEA particularly Dr. Hermi Francisco and Dr. Ann Delos Angeles.
- Since its inception, EEPSEA has provided financial and technical support for various activities of REAP including meetings, conferences, and publication of books.
- During the first two years, several meetings particularly in the preparation for the legal registration of Association and the preparation for first REAP conference were sponsored by EEPSEA.

* REAP Conferences:

- The 1st Conference on *Sustainability Assessment of Natural Resource Use* was held on May 9, 2003 at the Traders Hotel in Manila.
- The 2nd Conference on *Risks Assessment, Policy and Financial Challenges and Natural Resource Allocation Decision* held on February 19, 2004 at the University Hotel in the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.



1st Annual Conference of REAP

- The 3rd Conference with the theme “*Economics in Action for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation*” was held on July 10, 2008 in New Horizon Hotel, Mandaluyong City.
- With the pressing issues related to climate change, the 4th Conference of REAP that was held on July 9 and 10, 2009 focused on *Recent Developments on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptations in the Philippines*.

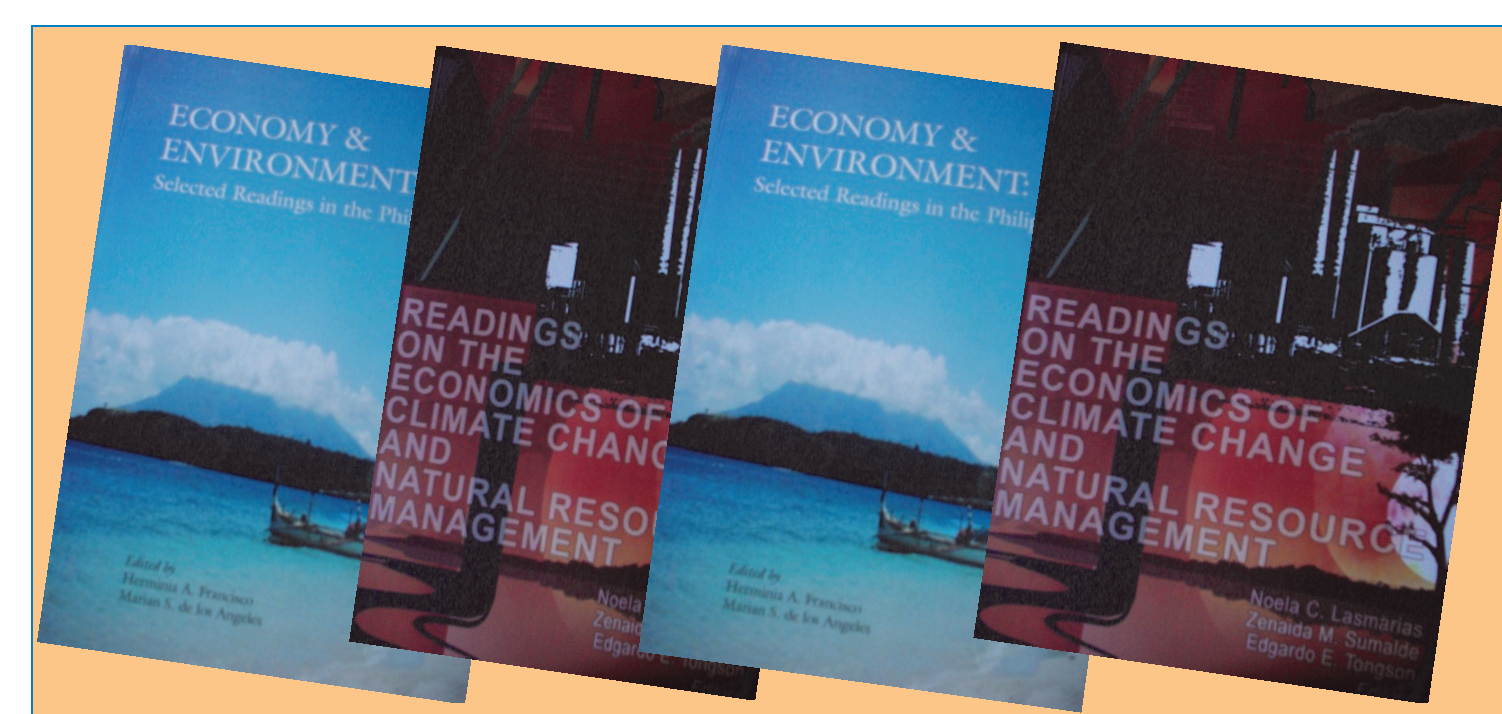
* Books Published by REAP

- The first book published by REAP is entitled “*Economy and Environment: Selected Readings in the Philippines*”. Edited by Dr. Hermi Francisco and Dr. Ann Delos Angeles, the book is the first comprehensive anthology to deal with environmental and resource management problems in the Philippines from an economic perspective. It was launched during the 2nd Conference.
- The second book of REAP is the “*Reading on the Economics of Climate Change and Natural Resource Management*”. The book focuses on climate change, coastal resource management and land allocation issues. This book that was edited by REAP board members namely: Ms. Noela C. Lasmarias, Dr. Zenaida M. Sumalde and Dr. Edgardo E. Tongson, was launched during the 4th REAP Conference.

♦ Impact of the REAP Activities

- All the conferences, meetings and publication of the books were not made possible without the financial support from EEPSEA.
- The conferences disseminate recent development related to natural resource use and environmental management and serve as venue for discussing issues related to sustainable natural resource use and environmental protection.

- The impact of the conferences maybe viewed from the involvements of the participants.
- Participants to the conferences are professionals and students coming from different institutional affiliations including those from the academe, government agencies, private organizations, international organizations, and both local and international NGOs.
- Those in the academe can obtain updated materials for their teaching and research functions from the conferences and books published by REAP.
- Participants from government agencies including those at the local government units can apply the knowledge gained from the different topics discussed in influencing the policy directions related to natural resource use and environmental management in their respective offices.
- The NGOs who are very vocal in their sentiments about environmental problems benefit from the exchanges in ideas which they could use in advocacy works.
- The REAP books which contain specific cases on natural resource and environmental management and protection in the Philippines provide good reference materials about the topic.



♦ Future Directions of REAP

- The officers of REAP are determined to continue with the activities that would contribute toward the harmonization of environmental and economic concerns.
- Planning for the 5th Conference to be held in July 2010 is underway.
- Monthly seminar series is also envisioned to provide venue for the discussion of recent issues related to natural resource management and environmental protection.

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