

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community-based Forest Management Program (CBFMP) revolutionized forest development and rehabilitation efforts of the government when it was institutionalized by Executive Order No. 263 in 1995. Communities living within or in adjacent forestlands were given top priority in undertaking developmental activities on forestlands.

Whereas financial gains were the primary motivating factor of contract reforestation awardees before, the adoption of CBFM approach in the implementation of the Forestry Sector Project (FSP) to rehabilitate critical watersheds empowered the beneficiary communities economically, socially, technically and politically while transforming them into environmentally responsible managers. The tenurial right to manage subproject sites alongside the various inputs from the Subproject deepened their commitment to collaborate with other stakeholders in the implementation of these subprojects.

Ubay-Mabini -Alicia Watershed Rehabilitation Subproject is located in the municipalities of Ubay, Mabini and Alicia, Bohol. This is a part of the most important watershed in the province of Bohol. It provides water supply for the domestic needs of the nearby municipalities and its barangays and supports two dam structures of the National Irrigation Administration. These two dams supports the irrigation needs of thousands of hectares of rice fields downstream.

The people's organizations, Ubay Federated Tree Planters Association Inc, Mabini Reforestation Association Inc. and Alicia Farmers Tree Planters Association Inc. were organized by the Argao Mountain Climbers Assn. Inc. from Sept. 1997 to Dec. 1999. Under the Comprehensive Site Development contract, the PO's rehabilitated a total of 1,312 hectares of forest plantations. The CSD contract was implemented from January 1998-July 2003 with a total cost of Php 17.34 million. To assess the quality of established plantations and the socio-economic impacts of the project, FARMERS Inc. and First Consolidated Bank Foundation were contracted to undertake Physical Validation and Institutional Project Benefit Assessment on the area. Based on the latest evaluation, the overall weighted average survival rate of the subproject is 82.63%.

To improve the accessibility of the barangay residents and their farm products to the town proper, Val Anthony Construction was contracted to rehabilitate 3.816 kilometers of farm- to-market road.

The three (3) PO's were able to operate nine (9) livelihood projects with total investments of Php 1.83 million.

The project has uplifted the socio economic condition of the local communities through the wages and other benefits they derived from the project. They participated in plantation establishment, construction of infrastructure and livelihood projects. The benefits that they were able to get are very evident from the house improvements, furniture's/ appliances acquisitions and capabilities to send their children to schools.