Forest Foundation Philippines
Let's grow together.

Approaches

RESEARCH

Generating knowledge and lessons that lead to innovative and sustainable solutions to forestry challenges has become more complex. Forest research needs a balanced focus between scientific knowledge and local, indigenous knowledge in crafting forest protection and conservation policies and plans. This is achieved by looking at scientific and social aspects through a systems perspective.

In the systems perspective, collaboration among various disciplines is essential to understand complex issues (e.g. biodiversity and livelihoods) that put forests at the center of the equation. The Foundation recognizes the need for efficient systems to generate, synthesize, analyze, and communicate knowledge on forests and sustainable forest management. This is vital for mainstreaming sustainable forest management in government practices, business/private sector planning processes, and community engagements.

Knowledge on forests, however, should not only be confined within the sector, scientific community, and development practitioners. The Foundation acknowledges the power of citizen participation in protecting and sustainably managing the forests.

The **Research Grant Program** was crafted to address the need for providing a scientific basis for crafting policies, programs, and activities to protect, conserve, and restore the remaining Philippine forests.

For the last 10 years, the Foundation has supported more than 40 research projects, which include undergraduate theses, dissertation, and applied and action research.

This is achieved through the participation of various research institutions and non-government organizations with established research programs, and individuals.

One of the notable research projects that the Foundation supported is the Applied Research Grant of Dr. Marilyn Quimado regarding the native metallophytes in Zambales and its potential use for the phytoremediation of abandoned and mined out areas. Another research supported by the Foundation is the validation of nesting sites of Philippine Eagle in North Luzon through the Philippine Eagle Foundation.

OBJECTIVES

The Foundation's Research Grant Program generally aims to support research projects focused on conserving the remaining Philippine forests, particularly their associated flora and fauna.

It focuses on following main research streams:

- **Forest Ecosystem**
  - Support studies related to different forest formations in the Philippines, such as biodiversity conservation, forest restoration and rehabilitation strategies, climate change mitigation and adaptation, resilience of small islands, etc.
  - Promote use of landscape approach in forest management
  - Support pilot studies on effective forest management strategies
  - Enhance urban biodiversity
- **Sustainable Livelihoods**
  - Promote the sustainable livelihood approach starting from the assessment of the existing sustainable livelihood assets of the communities to the assessment of sustainable livelihood strategies
  - Support studies on sustainable financing mechanisms, such as ecotourism, PES scheme, REDD-Plus, etc.
- **Policies and Partnerships**
  - Support research on forest-related policies and its implications to forest management and sustainable livelihoods
  - Assess existing governance systems, co-management, and partnership mechanisms
- **Knowledge Management, Communications and Advocacy**
  - Support participatory action research on development communication in forestry and natural resources management
  - Enhance understanding of the role of women and youth in forest management
  - Document indigenous knowledge systems and practices
- **Special Topics**
  - Medicinal uses of tropical forest plant life
  - Forest and health

PROJECT SITES

Eligible project areas include the Foundation's focal landscapes, areas covered by the Mangrove Conservation Program and Small Island Ecosystems Conservation Program, and areas representative of the 12 forest formations in the Philippines as explained by Fernando, et al. (2008).

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Specific activities eligible for fund support may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Forest biodiversity documentation in the Foundation's areas (e.g. distribution pattern of flora and fauna, disturbance patterns, etc.)
- Seed propagation techniques for pioneer Philippine native trees
- Documentation of typhoon-resilient forest tree species (e.g. based on post-Yolanda and focal areas) and their economic values
- Carbon sequestration potential of pioneer Philippine native trees
- Economic potential of Philippine native trees and plants for timber and wood products, landscaping/ornamentals, urban forestry and non-timber forest products
- Economic valuation on focal areas
- Documentation of traditional forest management system of indigenous people

For more information:
Forest Foundation Philippines
2F Valderrama Building, 107 Esteban St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1229

(+63 2) 8891 0595 · (+63 2) 8864 0287
info@forestfoundation.ph
www.forestfoundation.ph
@forestfoundationph