



Organization: Bukidnon Umayamnon Tribe Kapu-unan To Mga Datu Association (BUKDAA)

Location: Malaybalay City and Cabanglasan, Bukidnon Province

Solution: Cultivating bamboo and cacao for building climate resilience and creating new sources of income in Mindanao, the Philippines

Factsheet Period: First round of UNDP AFCIA funding (18 months)



Community members working in the bamboo plantation in Bukidnon province, The Philippines @BUKDAA

The Philippines lost approximately 6.2% of its tree cover between 2001 and 2021, driven by unsustainable farming practices ([Global Forest Watch](#)). The Bukidnon Umayamnon Tribe's Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan aims to address biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation caused by illegal logging. The solution focuses on establishing giant bamboo plantations and promoting bamboo and cacao cultivation to combat deforestation, soil erosion, flooding and pollution. The solution provides training in cultivation, harvesting and marketing to enhance livelihoods and foster climate resilience while preserving the tribe's ancestral lands.



Key achievements

- Established 20 hectares of giant bamboo and cacao in riverbanks of Pulangi River
- Successfully engaged 138 individuals from Indigenous and cultural communities in sustainable management practices of giant bamboo and cacao, ensuring long-term productivity, environmental and biodiversity benefits
- Managed and protected 10 hectares each of giant bamboo and cacao
- Provided short-term paid employment to 11 Indigenous families
- Led by Indigenous leaders, supported by the "Council of Elders", implemented by local communities
- Supported cacao plantation development in Misamis Oriental Province



Social impact

- Creates sustainable livelihoods for Indigenous communities through agricultural production, sales and marketing of bamboo poles and cacao beans
- Strengthens 'Council of Elders' for local stewardship of resources





Adaptation benefits

- Promotes nature-based solutions for erosion control, watershed rehabilitation and climate resilience
- Engages communities in governance and climate adaptation efforts
- Enhances riparian ecosystem resilience through bamboo's carbon sequestration capacity



Innovation

- Integrates sustainable harvesting schemes to ensure long-term productivity of bamboo and cacao
- Utilizes low-cost nature-based solutions for soil erosion, watershed rehabilitation and biodiversity conservation and enhancement



Replication potential

- Planting giant bamboo and cacao is replicable across riverbanks of ancestral domains in similar contexts
- Council of Elders model ensures a strong foundation for sustainable practices
- Community-driven adaptation measures can be scaled within and beyond Bukidnon's Indigenous Ancestral Domain



Funding snapshot

- UNDP-AFCIA grant: US\$125,000 (first grant: \$60,000; scaling grant: \$65,000-- under implementation- data still unavailable)

Investability

Revenue per year	N/A while crops are growing.
Sustaining criteria	Seeking to establish market links with potential buyers and social entrepreneurs. 70% of net income will be allocated for market and site development.
Financial innovation	<p>Indigenous farmers are provided with capacity building, logistical support and access to industry and entrepreneur networks to support their long-term financial sustainability as social entrepreneurs.</p> <p>BUKDAA is exploring a revenue-sharing model with its farmers and, eventually, a revolving credit fund to allow farmers to scale and improve their operations.</p>
Expected return	Starting in year 5, cacao sales are expected to bring in \$13,500 each year. Bamboo sales will add \$2,800 annually starting in year 7, increasing to \$11,200 per year from year 10 onwards.