

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GREEN GROWTH: MAJOR AGRICULTURAL POLICIES IN THE PHILIPPINES

ALBERT PEREZ AQUINO

PRINCESS ALMA B. ANI

MELIZA A. FESTEJO

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Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Agriculture, Environment, Poverty and Inclusive Growth
- Public Policy Framework as Basis for Agricultural Policy Formulation
- Achieving Inclusive Green Growth through Policies
- Conclusion

Sustainable development

- Sustainable development underpins the long-term stability of an economy
- Meeting the needs of the present without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (World Commission on Environment, 1987)
- Encourages growth in the economy while promoting environmental protection from the pressures of such economic growth

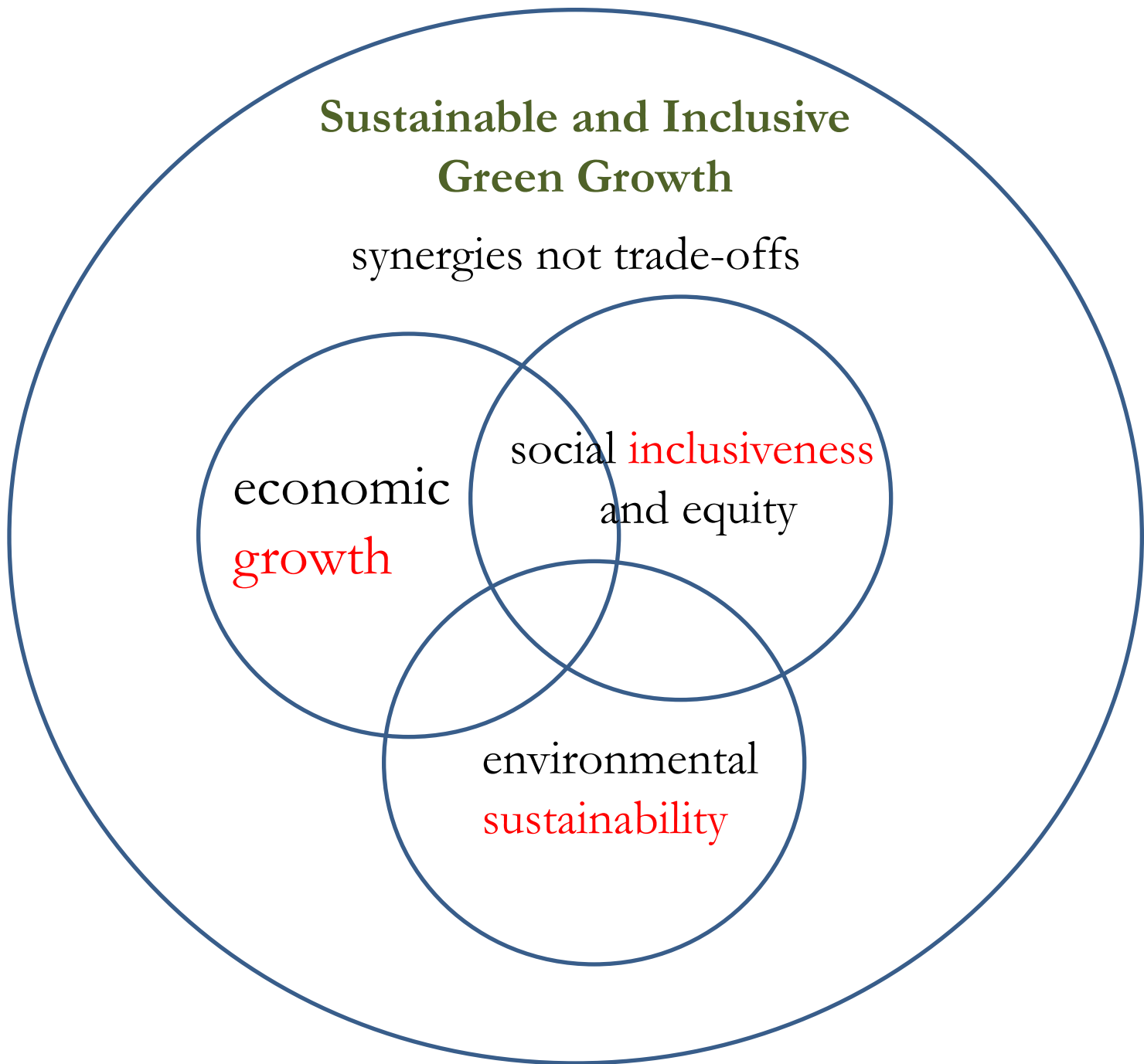
Sustainable and Inclusive Green Growth

synergies not trade-offs

economic
growth

social **inclusiveness**
and equity

environmental
sustainability





Agriculture is fundamental to discussions on sustainable development

- Agriculture relies on the ecological services provided by the environment and natural resource systems.
- About half of the 91 million Filipinos (in 2009), more than 30% of whom are considered poor, is dependent on agriculture (Rapera et al., 2011).
- A strong link between poverty and environment
 - the dependence of most Filipinos on agriculture for their livelihoods lead to severely diminished and degraded resources.
- Agriculture, therefore, is critical for sustainable development and its growth can be a powerful means to achieve inclusive growth.

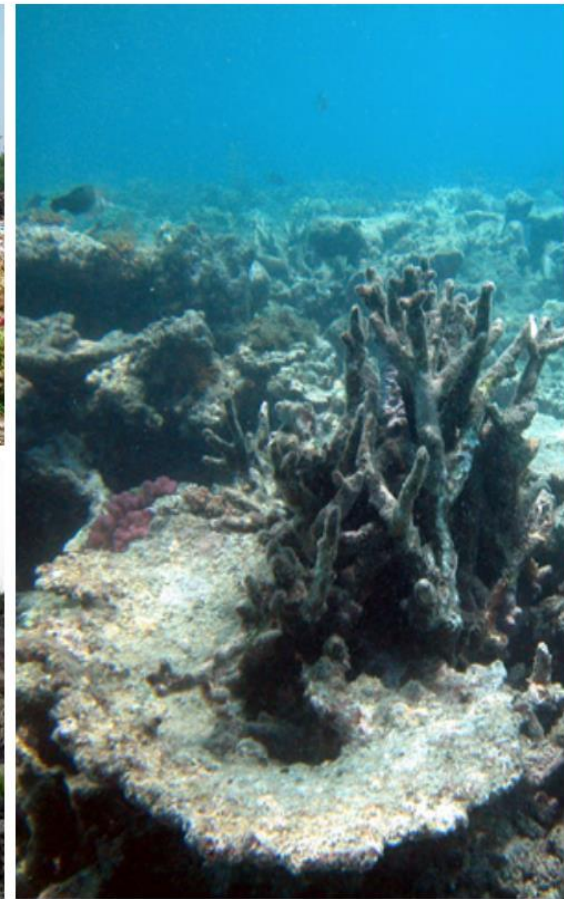
The State of the Environment in the Philippines

More than 100,000 ha of forests are lost annually and only about 800,000 ha of virgin forest are left.

45% of the arable lands suffer from moderate to severe erosion.

Steady decline of coral cover (from 5% in 1981 to less than 1% in 2000-2004)

Mangrove area has significantly decreased at annual rate of 19% (1918-1995)



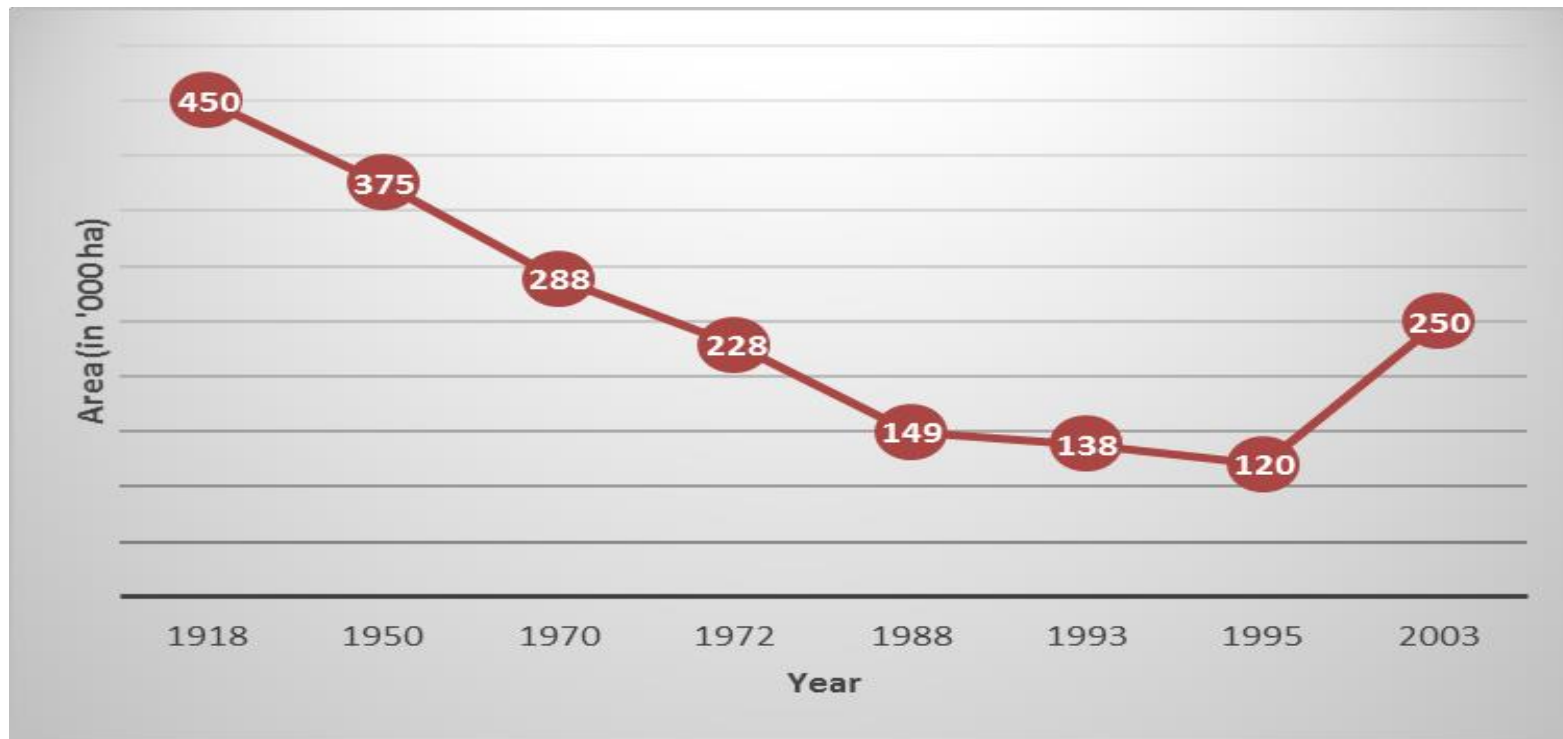
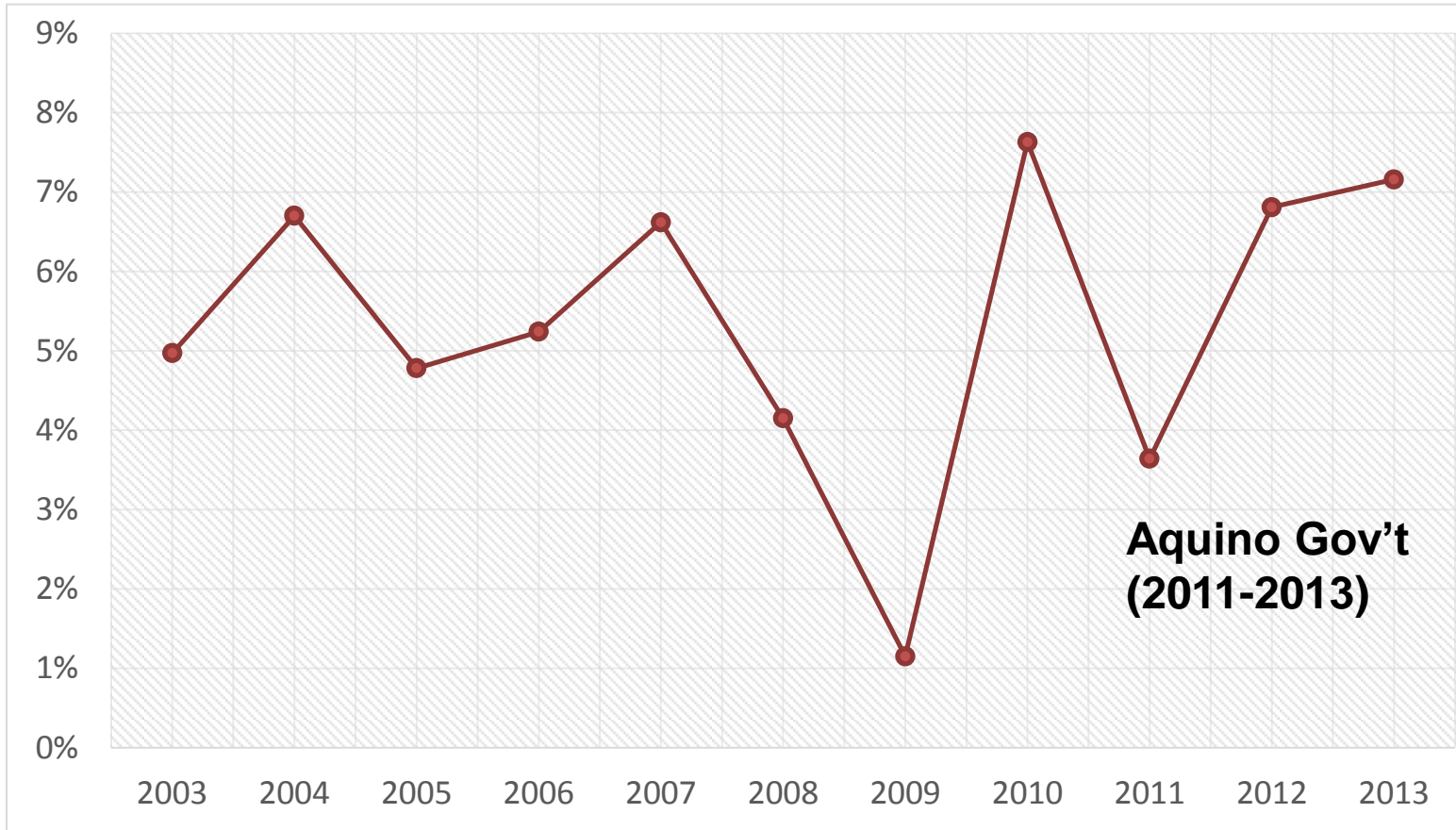


Figure 1. Estimated Area of Mangrove Forests in the Philippines (1918-2003)

* Since 1995, an increasing trend is being observed

Agriculture, Environment, Poverty and Inclusive Growth



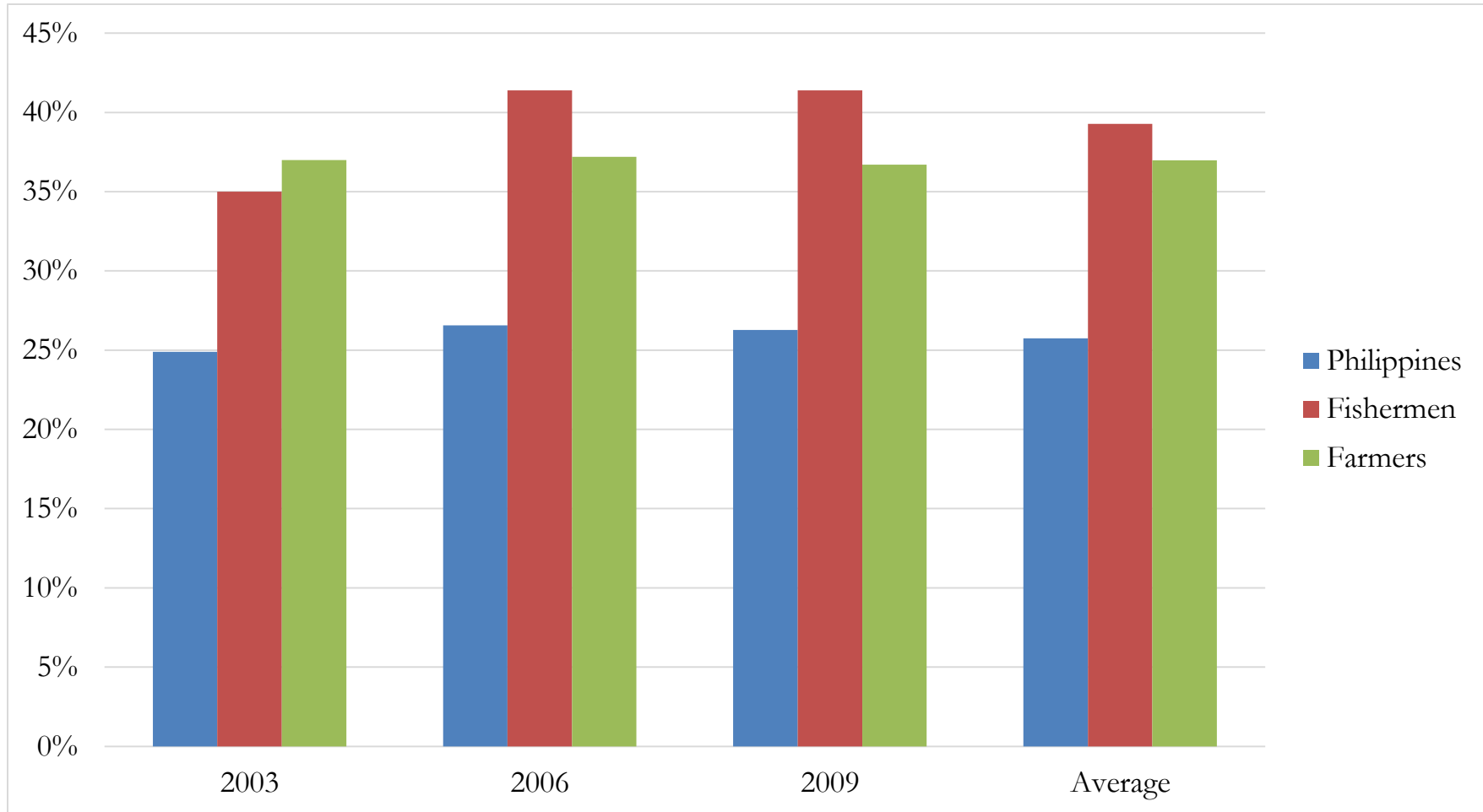
Annual Growth Rates (%) of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Philippines, 2003-2013

Agriculture, Environment, Poverty and Inclusive Growth



- The Philippines has seen significant improvements in the growth of its gross domestic product (GDP) at an average annual rate of 5.35% (2003-2013).
- In 2013, the country's real GDP outperformed other ASEAN countries having an average growth rate of 6.8% while Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand grew only at 4.7%, 5.3% and 2.9%, respectively.
- Such growth would imply a healthy and robust economy for the Philippines.

Agriculture, Environment, Poverty and Inclusive Growth



Poverty incidence in the Philippines and the rural sectors, 2003-2009

Agriculture, Environment, Poverty and Inclusive Growth



- The apparent contradiction:
 - High economic growth
 - High poverty incidence
 - at 25.2% > 16.6% set under the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).
- Agriculture is the poorest sector.
 - Poverty incidence among farmers = 37%
 - The number of poor fishermen grew from 35% in 2003 to more than 41% in 2009



Poverty is a
manifestation of
failure of growth to
be inclusive.



Economic growth is
necessary but not a
sufficient condition
to alleviate poverty

Inclusive growth

Growth that is *rapid* enough to matter, given the country's large population, geographical differences, and social complexity. It is *sustained growth* that creates jobs, draws the majority into the economic and social mainstream, and continuously reduces mass poverty (Philippine Development Plan)

Inclusive growth

- Because poverty in the Philippines:
 - has remained largely in rural areas, and
 - has always been agricultural,

We must also consider poverty reduction strategies that target agriculture in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive green growth.

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework



The 1987 Philippine Constitution articulated the responsibility of the state *to attain sustainable and inclusive development through exploration, development and utilization of our natural resources in a manner that promotes protection and advancement of the people's right to a balanced and healthful ecology*

(Philippine Constitution, Article II, Section 16 and Article XII, Section 2).

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework



- President Aquino's (P-NOY's) Social Contract with the Filipino People
- Philippine Development Plan (PDP) (Agricultural Sector)
- Department of Agriculture's (DA) Major Final Outputs (MFOs)

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework



- President Aquino's (P-NOY's) Social Contract with the Filipino People

envisions a country with an “organized and widely-shared rapid expansion of the economy through a government dedicated to honing and mobilizing the people’s skills and synergies as well as the responsible harnessing of the country’s natural resources.

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework

- President Aquino's (P-NOY's) Social Contract with the Filipino People: The Official Gazette (2014) stipulates
- “ (7) From treating the rural economy as just source of problems to recognizing farms and rural enterprises as vital to achieving food security and more equitable economic growth, worthy of re-investment for sustained productivity;
- (16) From a government obsessed with exploiting the country for immediate gains to the detriment of its environment to a government that will encourage sustainable use of resources to benefit the present and future generations.”

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework



Philippine Development Plan (PDP) (Agricultural Sector)

- Aims to improve productivity and competitiveness of the agriculture sector in a manner that is sustainable and with prudence in the use of natural resources and the environment.
- Outlines the long-term plans and sectoral development programs for agriculture on improving food security and income, increasing the agriculture sector's resilience to climate change risks and promoting increased growth in the sector.

Towards Sustainable Growth: A Policy Framework



Department of Agriculture's (DA) Major Final Outputs (MFOs)

- embody the department's commitment to adhere to its mandated function to promote agricultural development and growth.
- The MFOs served as indicators to gauge the country's performance in terms of achieving sustainable growth in agriculture.
- Other Departments (e.g. DENR and DOST) complement these MFOs of the Agriculture Department via their sustainable development- focused MFOs

Achieving Inclusive Green Growth Through Policies



Focused only on national legislations related to sustainable and green growth formulated by both Houses of Congress

Achieving Inclusive Green Growth Through Policies

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
1997	<i>Republic Act (RA) No. 8435</i> Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary policy in the development of the agriculture and fisheries sector• Seven core principles:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) poverty alleviation and social equityb) food securityc) rational use of resourcesd) global competitivenesse) sustainable developmentf) people empowermentg) protection from unfair competition

Policies to Improve Land Resources

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
2000	<i>Republic Act (RA) 9003</i> Ecological Solid Waste Management Act	Environmentally sound technique in waste minimization through composting which can be used in producing organic or bio-fertilizer
2010	<i>Republic Act (RA) 10068</i> Organic Agriculture Act	Promotion of ecologically sound, viable and technically feasible production of food and fibers (i.e. under chemical-free conditions)
1997	Strategic Agricultural and Fisheries Development Zones (SAFDZ) under AFMA	Creation of a system of zone-based management on based on the principle of using efficiency in assigning agricultural areas for food production, security and environmental protection

Policies to Improve Fishery Resources

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
1974	Presidential Decree (PD) No. 534	Provision of penalties for illegal fishing (fishing with obnoxious or poisonous substances, explosives, and electro-fishing)
1975	Presidential Decree (PD) No. 704	Reservation of the seven-kilometer zone to small fisherfolk and prohibition of trawling in waters up to seven fathoms deep
1979	Establishment of the Coastal Zone Management Task Force	Regulation of the use of coastal areas for tourism, mining, human and industrial development, reclamation and fishing
1986	Department of Agriculture Fisheries Administrative Order No. 163 s. 1986	Banning of destructive gear (e.g. “muro-ami” and “kayakas”); establishment of habitat protection measures

Policies to Improve Fishery Resources

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
1998	<i>Republic Act (RA) 8550</i> The Philippine Fisheries Code	National policy on sustainable use of fishery resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishment of fish refuge and marine sanctuaries• Cultivation and conversion of mangroves• Prohibitions and penalties to the collection, possession, selling and export of all types of corals, white sand, silica, pebbles and other materials that make up the marine habitat• Establishment of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Councils (FARMCs)

Policies to Improve Fishery Resources

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
2006	Executive Order (EO) No. 533	Adoption of the Integrated Coastal Management as a National Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating ICM into primary and secondary education curricula • ICM training programs for LGUs • Mandating the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the National Statistics Coordination Board to incorporate coastal and marine resource accounting • Establishing the Coastal and Marine Environmental Information Management System and Network
2004	<i>Republic Act (RA) No. 9275</i> The Philippine Clean Water Act	Main policy in providing comprehensive water quality management; protection of fresh, brackish and marine waters from land-based sources of pollution

Policies to Improve Forestry and Natural Resources

Year.	Policy	Main Thrust
1975	Presidential Decree (PD) No. 705 Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines	Embodies regulations on the management, administration, utilization, protection and development of forest resources in the country
1975	Forest Occupancy Management (FOM)	Programs that involved individuals and upland communities in forest management
1976	Family Approach to Reforestation (FAR)	
1978	Communal Tree Farming (CTF) Program for Forest Ecosystem Management (PROFEM)	
1985	Integrated Social Forestry Program (ISFP)	Consolidated FOM, FAR and CTF

Policies to Improve Forestry and Natural Resources



Year	Policy	Main Thrust
1995	Executive Order No. 263	Adoption of the Community-based Forest Management (CBFM) as national strategy for sustainable forest development while promoting social justice and improved well-being at local communities
2004	Executive Order No. 318	Adoption of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) as the official policy framework for all plans and programs in the sector
2011	Executive Order No. 23	Moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in natural forest and creation of the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force
2011	Executive Order No. 26	Establishment of the National Greening Program (NGP), a convergence initiative to harmonize all greening efforts/initiatives of the government

Cross-Cutting Laws on Sustainable Development

Year	Policy	Main Thrust
1992	Republic Act (RA) No. 7586 National Integrated Protected Areas System Act	Provides for establishment and management of protected areas in the country (e.g. forest areas, marine and aquatic resources)
2009	Republic Act (RA) No. 9729 Climate Change Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mainstreaming of climate change into government formulation of programs and projects, plans and strategies, and policies• Creation of the Climate Change Commission• Establishment of Framework Strategy and Program on climate change

Summary and Conclusion



- The report provided an overview of the importance of sustainable development and how it can be achieved given the pressing issues on poverty and environmental degradation.
- It was emphasized that these problems are high in the agriculture sector, hence the battle against poverty and environmental depletion will be ultimately won in the rural economy.

Summary and Conclusion



- The Philippines has envisioned achieving sustainable and inclusive green growth through its various policy pronouncements
- Ultimately, green growth will be measured in terms of improving the food security and income of those involved in the agriculture and fisheries sector, increasing the sector's competitiveness, alleviating poverty especially in the rural areas and increasing the sector's resilience to climate change impacts.

Summary and Conclusion



- Lessons from the past policy implementation that heavily focused on production and competitiveness point succinctly that such strategy will not be sustainable and not enough to achieve inclusive growth.
- Policy harmonization *cum* complementation are a must in order to achieve a synergy between economic growth and sustainable development

**Thank You Very Much
(Maraming Salamat Po!)**

ALBERT PEREZ AQUINO

apaq656@yahoo.com

apaq656@gmail.com

a.aquino@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph