

**[DENR MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2011-01,
March 08, 2011]**

**GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM**

Pursuant to Sec. 2.6 of Executive Order (EO) No. 23 and EO 26, both series of 2011, mandating the DA-DAR-DENR Convergence Initiative to develop a National Greening Program in coordination with DepEd, CHED, DSWD, DBM, private sector and other concerned agencies and institutions; and declaring the implementation of the National Greening Program as a government priority; respectively, and in order to provide guidance for DENR and NGP partners-implementers and participants through a common framework and understanding on the mechanics of implementation, the following guidelines and procedures are hereby issued:

Section 1. Objectives. The National Greening Program (MGP) shall aim to:

1. Contribute in reducing poverty among upland and lowland poor households, indigenous peoples, and in coastal and urban areas;
2. Implement sustainable management of natural resources through resource conservation, protection, and productivity enhancement;
3. Provide food, goods and services such as timber, fiber, non-timber forest products, aesthetic values, air enhancement values, water regulation values, and mitigate climate change by expanding forest cover that serve as carbon sink;
4. Promote public awareness as well as instill social and environmental consciousness on the value of forests and watersheds;
5. Enhance the formation of positive values among the youth and other partners through shared responsibilities in sustainable management of tree plantations and forest resources; and
6. Consolidate and harmonize all greening efforts of the government, civil society and the private sector.

Section 2. Scope and Coverage. The NGP shall plant 1.5 billion trees in 1.5 million hectares of lands of the public domain for a period of six (6) years from CY 2011 to CY 2016.

2.1 Areas for Development. The following areas shall be eligible for development under the program:

2.1.1 Forestlands

2.1.2 Mangrove areas and protected areas

2.1.3 Ancestral domains

2.1.4 Civil and military reservations

2.1.5 Urban areas identified by the LGUs such as urban parks and open spaces, highways and road-sides, church, schools and office compounds

2.1.6 Inactive and abandoned mine sites

2.1.7 Riverbanks, stream banks and other suitable public lands.

2.2 Development components. The NGP shall have the following components to develop these areas:

2.2.1 Production of planting materials for forest trees and fruit tree species and bamboo in nurseries and other appropriate sites by DA, DAR, DENR, DepEd, CHED, DOJ, DND, LGUs, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), and other government agencies and instrumentalities, private sector, and communities;

2.2.2 Development of upland farms through agroforestry and rainforestation;

2.2.3 Reforestation of grasslands/brushlands and rehabilitation of coastal and mangrove areas in community-managed forestlands, consistent with their respective management plans;

2.2.4 Rehabilitation of degraded areas in priority watersheds and protected areas;

2.2.5 Rehabilitation of rivers and stream banks and other suitable areas using bamboos;

2.2.6 Development of tree/forest parks and greenbelts in suitable sites in urban areas such as churches, schools, offices, military camps, highways and road-sides, and open spaces; and

2.2.7 Maintenance and protection of planted trees and established plantations by partner

implementers.

2.3 Targets for development. Annual targets for development under the NGP shall be set to achieve the total target of 1.5 million hectares in six (6) years. For CY 2011, the DENR shall develop an initial 100,000 hectares under the NGP, broken down as follows:

2.3.1 60,000 hectares (ha) within community-managed forestlands, including mangrove and coastal areas

2.3.2 20,000 ha within protected areas

2.3.3 10,000 ha in ancestral domain areas

2.3.4 10,000 ha in other areas

Additional areas may be allocated for tree planting activities by the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders.

Section 3. Nursery Operations. Whenever applicable, forest tree seed and seedling production, collection and disposition shall be governed by DAO 2010-11, and shall be implemented in complementation with the establishment/expansion or rehabilitation of clonal nurseries and facilities.

3.1 Pursuant to EO 26, DA-DAR-DENR under the National Convergence Initiative, DepEd, CHED, LGUs, DND, DOJ, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), and other government agencies and instrumentalities, private sector, and communities shall be responsible for seed and seedling production and establishment of nurseries for the NGP, among others. DENR shall be principally responsible for the production of forest tree species and provision of technical assistance in nursery operations. The production of seedlings of fruit trees and other crops for agroforestry shall be the primary concern of DA and DAR. However, DENR may also engage in the production of seeds and seedlings of fruit trees.

3.2 The DENR field offices shall organize seed collection teams. Collected seeds shall be turned over to the ERDS for quality control, storage and propagation/distribution.

3.3 As far as practicable and to ensure high survival rate, seedlings shall be produced at or near the

planting sites in coordination with the LGUs and communities concerned.

- 3.4 The DENR field offices, in coordination with DA, DAR, and the LGUs and communities concerned, among others, shall determine the number and type/species of seedlings to be produced in their respective localities and jurisdictions.
- 3.5 Whenever necessary and appropriate, the DENR field offices particularly the PENROs and CENROs may enter into contracts/agreements for the use of vacant and private lots for seedling production and nursery operations in consideration of the future requirements of NGP for planting materials, at no cost to the government.
- 3.6 Whenever necessary, the DENR field offices may hire additional personnel to oversee seedling production and nursery operations, and plantation establishment.
- 3.7 Seedlings may also be procured from accredited nurseries and other sources subject to strict adherence with procurement and other applicable laws, rules and regulations and prescribed/market prices and unit costs.
- 3.8 For CY 2011, DENR shall produce or procure 50 million seedlings of premium, indigenous, fast-growing, and other forest species and fruit trees including bamboo in its clonal facilities and other nurseries, and from accredited nurseries and other sources including those managed by communities and schools, broken down as follows:
 - 3.8.1 Five (5) million seedlings of dipterocarps, narra, and other premium and indigenous forest tree species
 - 3.8.2 25 million seedlings of mahogany, gmelina, bagras, acacia spp., rubber, fast-growing and other production/protection forest tree species including bamboo, urban, and mangrove species
 - 3.8.3 20 million seedlings of mango, coffee, cacao, cashew, guyabano, and other fruit trees.

Section 4. Site Selection. The DENR field offices shall consider the following criteria in identifying and selecting areas and sites for planting and plantation development under the NGP: