

**PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE TRANSLINKS NATURE,  
WEALTH AND POWER WORKSHOP**

**QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES**

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# Emerging Tools and Lessons that Link Forestlands Management with Economic Growth and Governance

**The Philippine Environmental Governance 2 Project**



# Key Topics

- The EcoGov 2 Project
- Strategies in the forestry sector
- Key messages
- Some tools
- What appears to be working
- A few lessons learned

# EcoGov 1 and 2, a USAID Grant



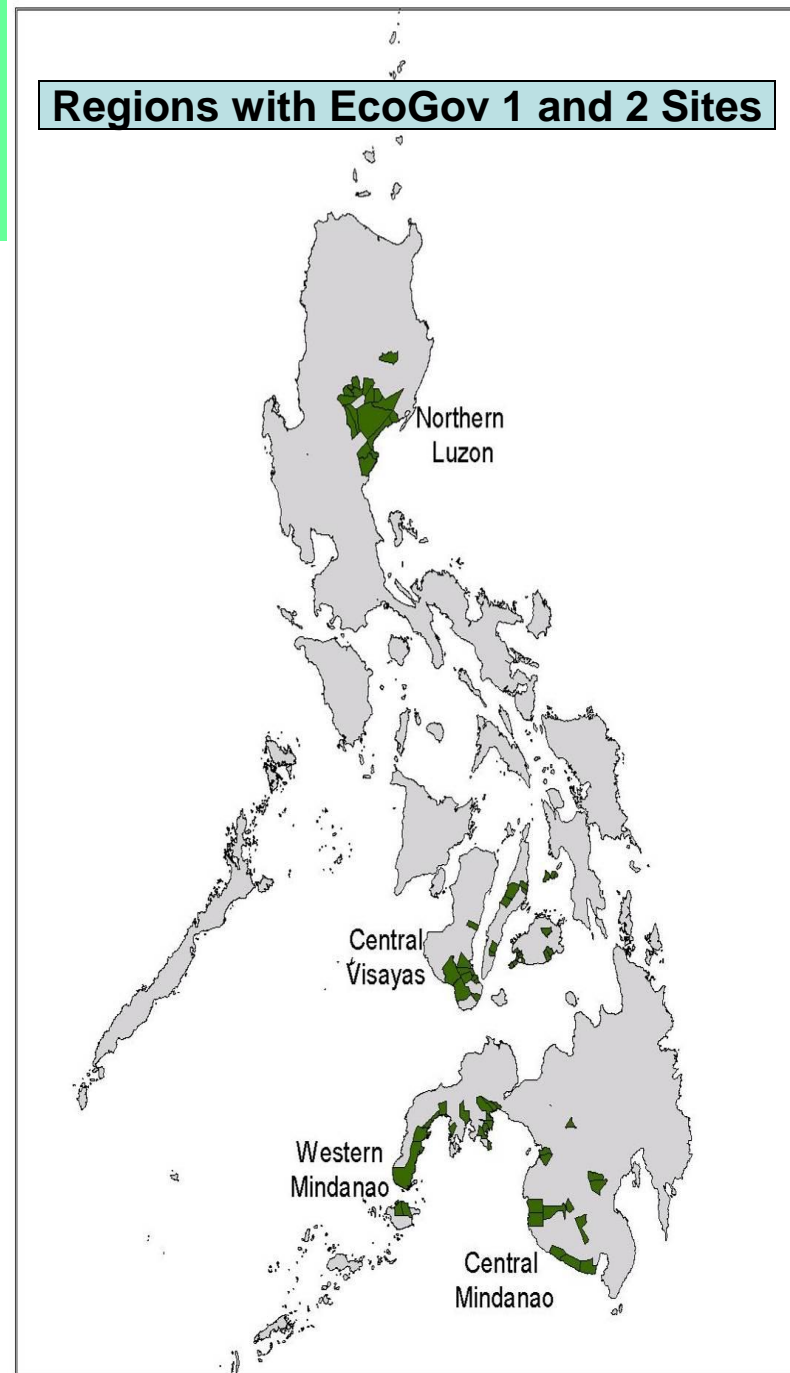
- **The EcoGov Project (Phases 1 and 2), a Technical Assistance Grant** from the US Government to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP)
- **DENR as the main counterpart** for implementing the Project under the MOA signed by USAID, DENR, and the DILG on June 9, 2005

# The EcoGov 1 and 2 Projects

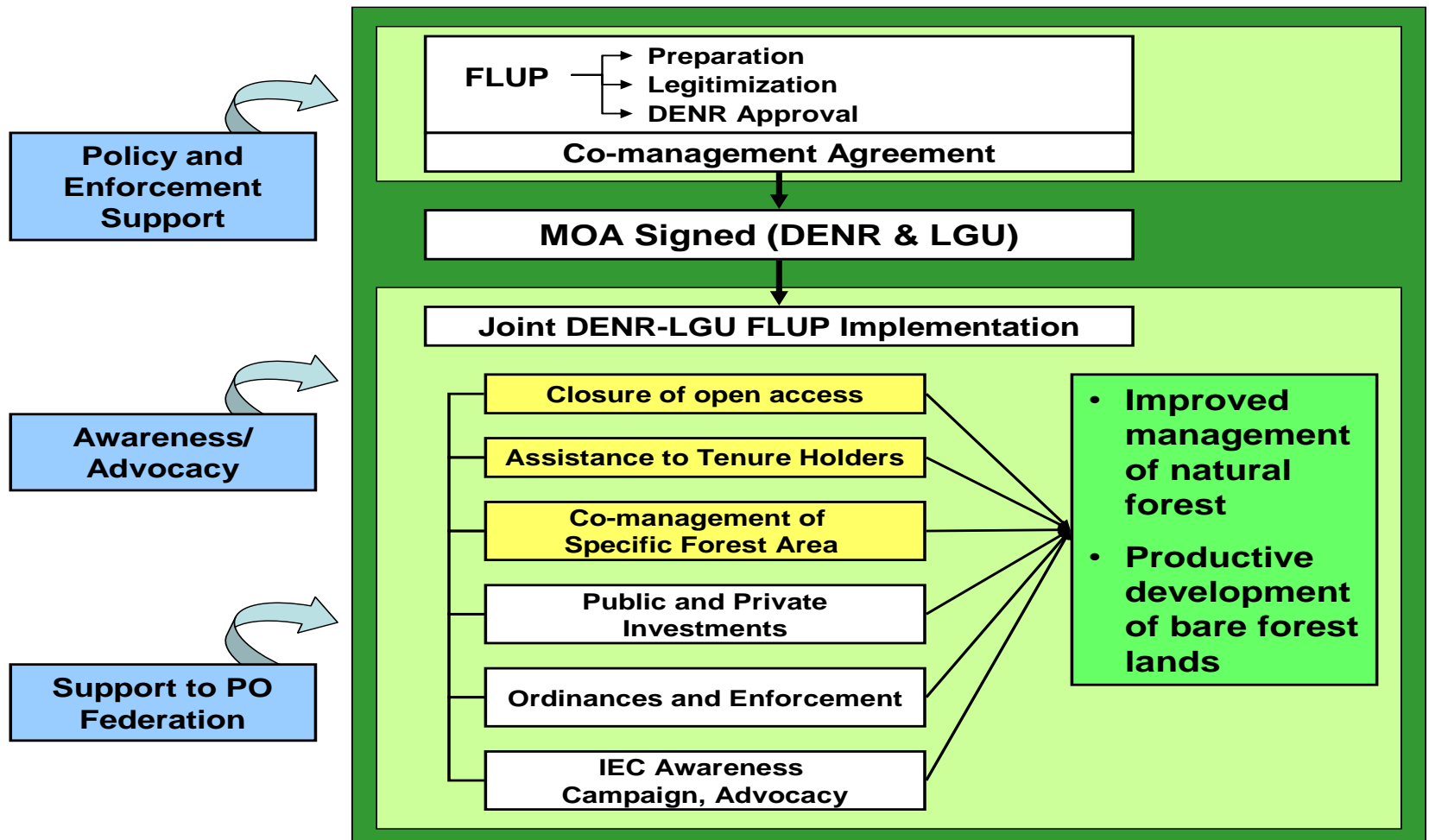
**Providing options and  
empowering LGUs and  
communities so that they benefit  
from devolved and decentralized  
ENR policies**

# EcoGov 1 and 2

- USAID Technical Assistance Contractor – Advisors and Facilitators: **Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI)**
- Geographical coverage: **Conflict-affected Mindanao (Southern, Central, and Western Mindanao, ARRM), Central Visayas, and Northern Luzon**



# Strategies and Approaches in the Forestry Sector



# Key Messages

- **Philippine forests are being depleted at a fast rate because of illegal logging and land conversion.**
- ❖ **To solve this, we need to strengthen “stewardships” as property rights in forestlands so that tenure-holders become responsible and are authorized and accountable in protecting, developing, and managing their forestlands.**

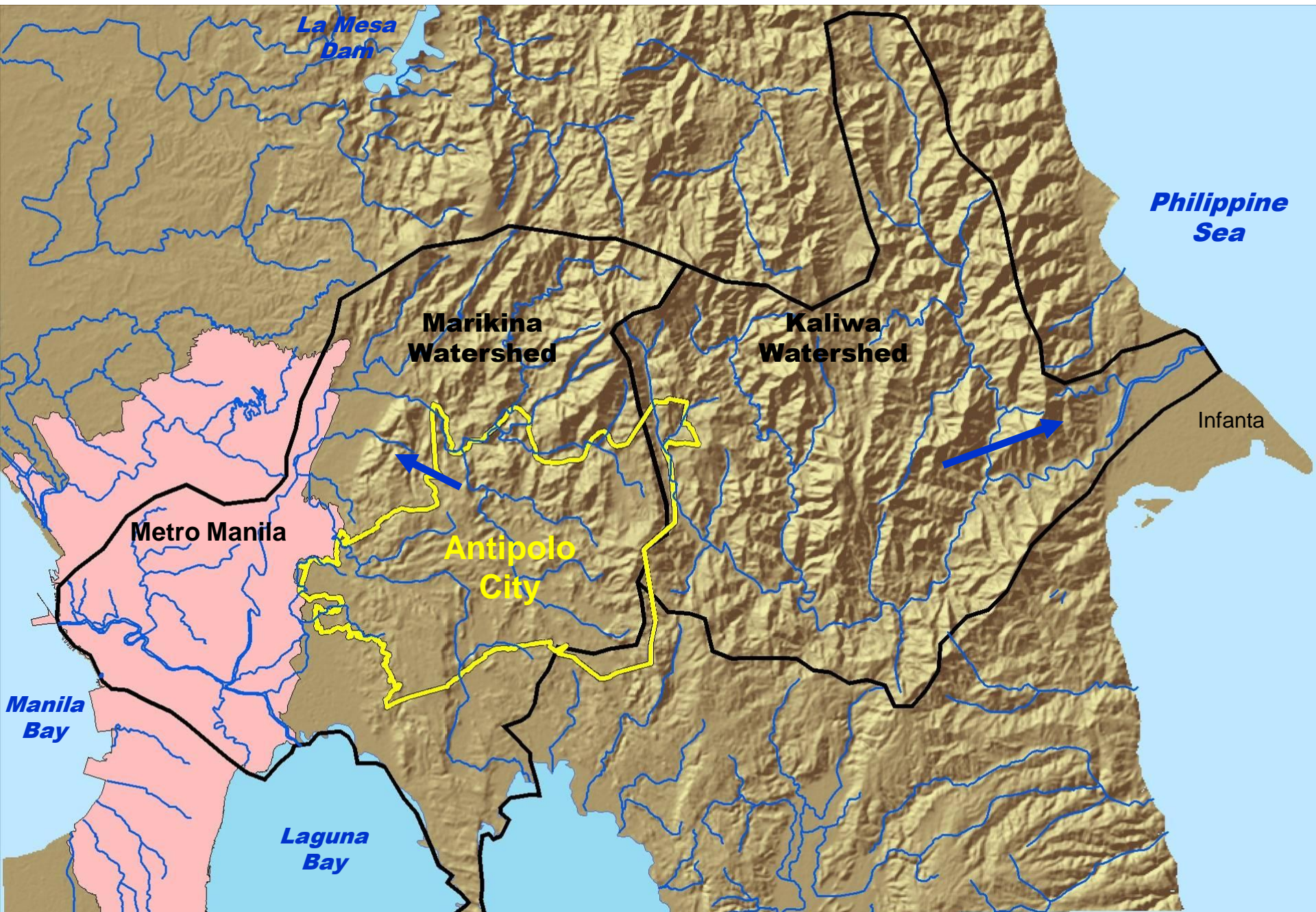


# FFM Key Messages

- **For this to happen:**
  - ❖ **The State must be consistent, transparent and predictable in carrying out policies on property rights;**
  - ❖ **Local governments must co-manage forestlands as their natural resource assets, mobilize resources and promote public and private investments in these areas;**
  - ❖ **Local governments must support community tenure-holders in protecting and managing their forestlands;**
  - ❖ **Tenure-holders and occupants must have incentives, capabilities, and support system;**
  - ❖ **The business climate should reduce the “cost of investment entry” by:**
    - **Discouraging state and elite control,**
    - **Mandating transparency and easy access to information on forestlands, and**
    - **Imposing externality charges, but providing subsidies for good environmental practices**

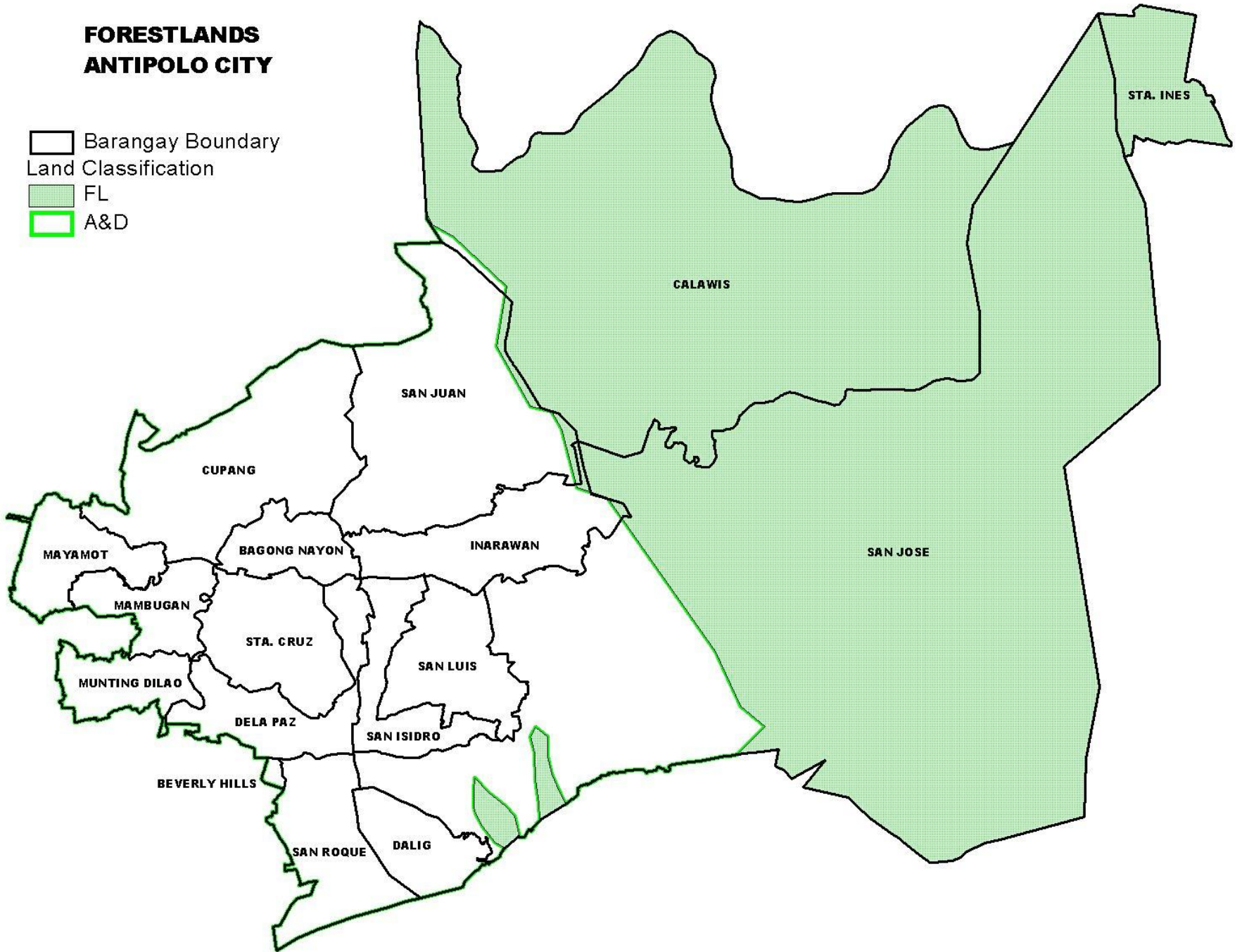
# Some Tools

- Governance- and watershed-oriented forest land use planning at the municipality or city level (spatial analysis)
- Tenure assessment (instrument)
- Individual property rights in communal tenured areas (protected areas, watershed reservations, co-mgt, CBFMAs, CADTs/CADCs) via resolutions, agreements, administrative orders or ordinances
- Getting agreements (all kinds of planning and implementing MOAs, business contracts)
- Co-management agreements between DENR and LGU




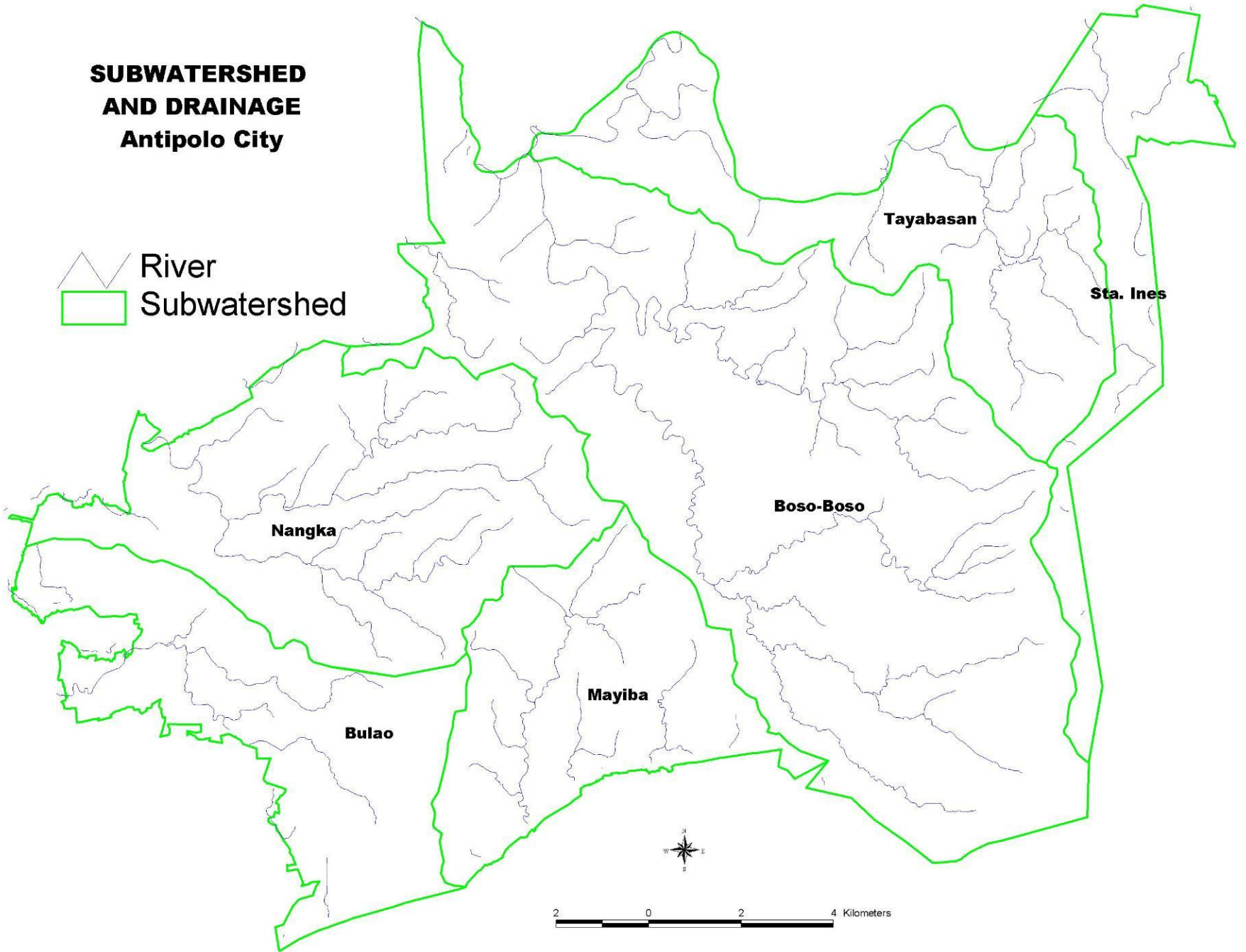
# FORESTLANDS ANTIPOLO CITY

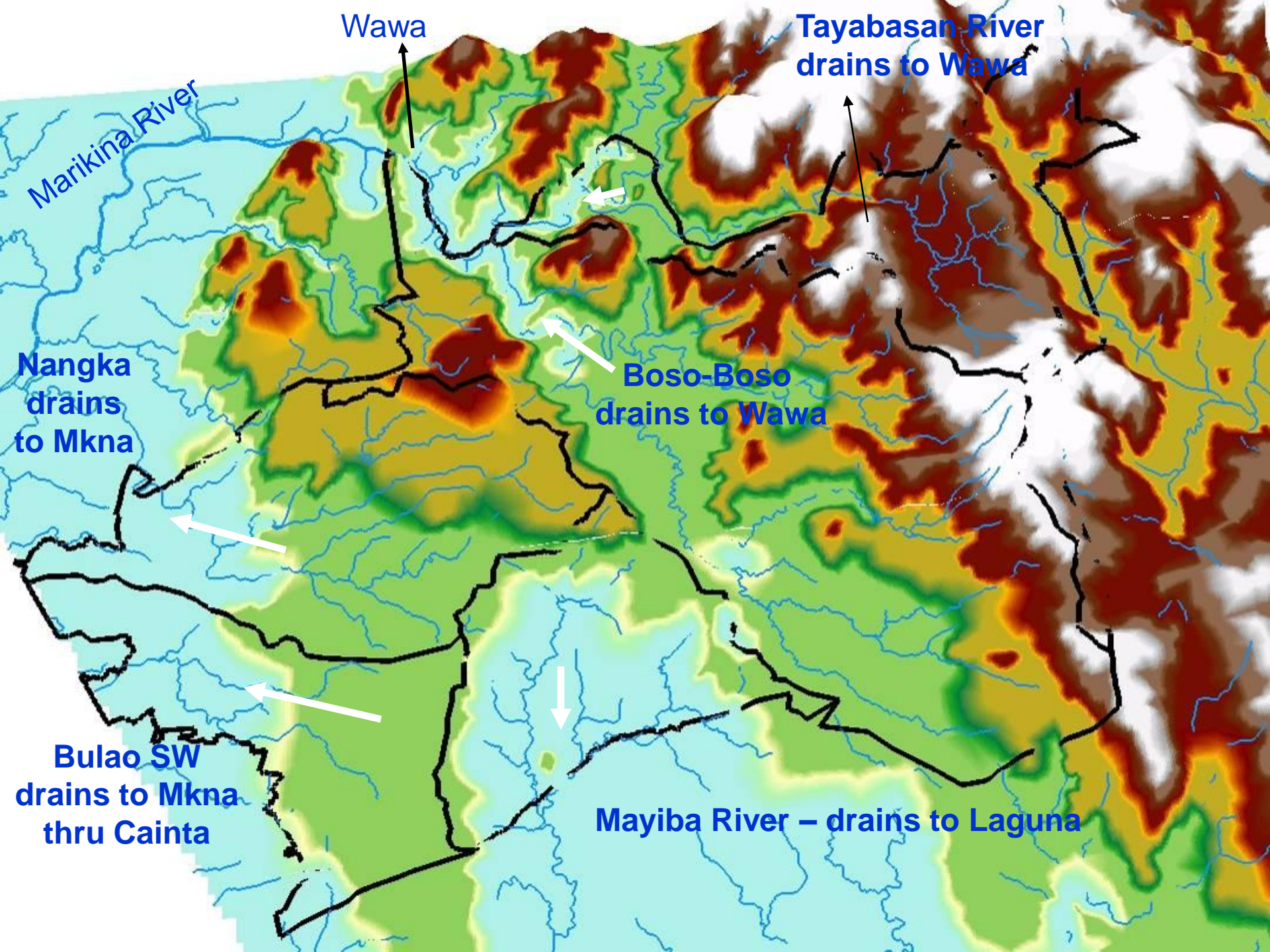
- Barangay Boundary
- Land Classification
  - FL
  - A&D




**SUBWATERSHED  
AND DRAINAGE  
Antipolo City**

 River  
 Subwatershed

















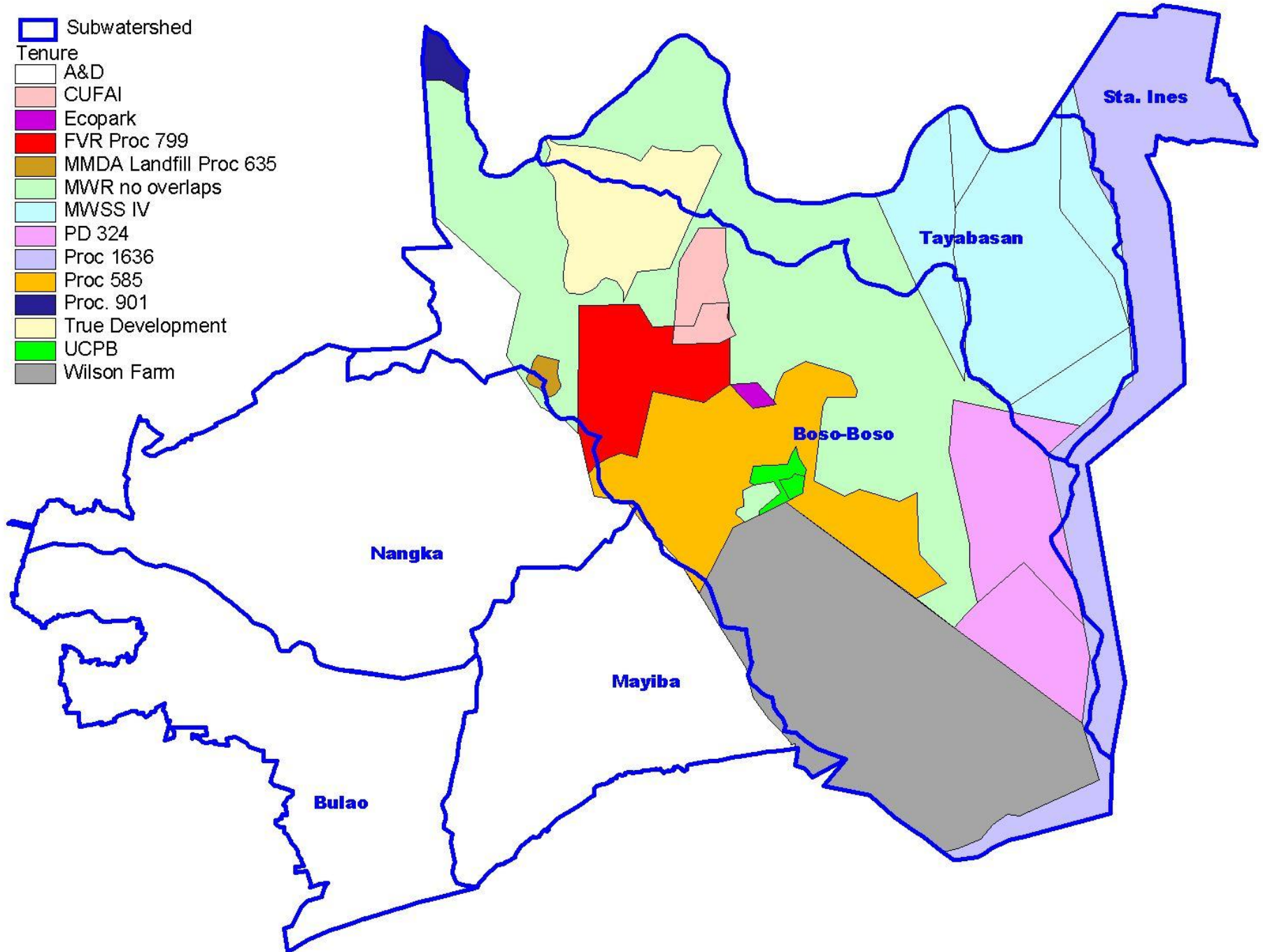


# Tenure

 Subwatershed

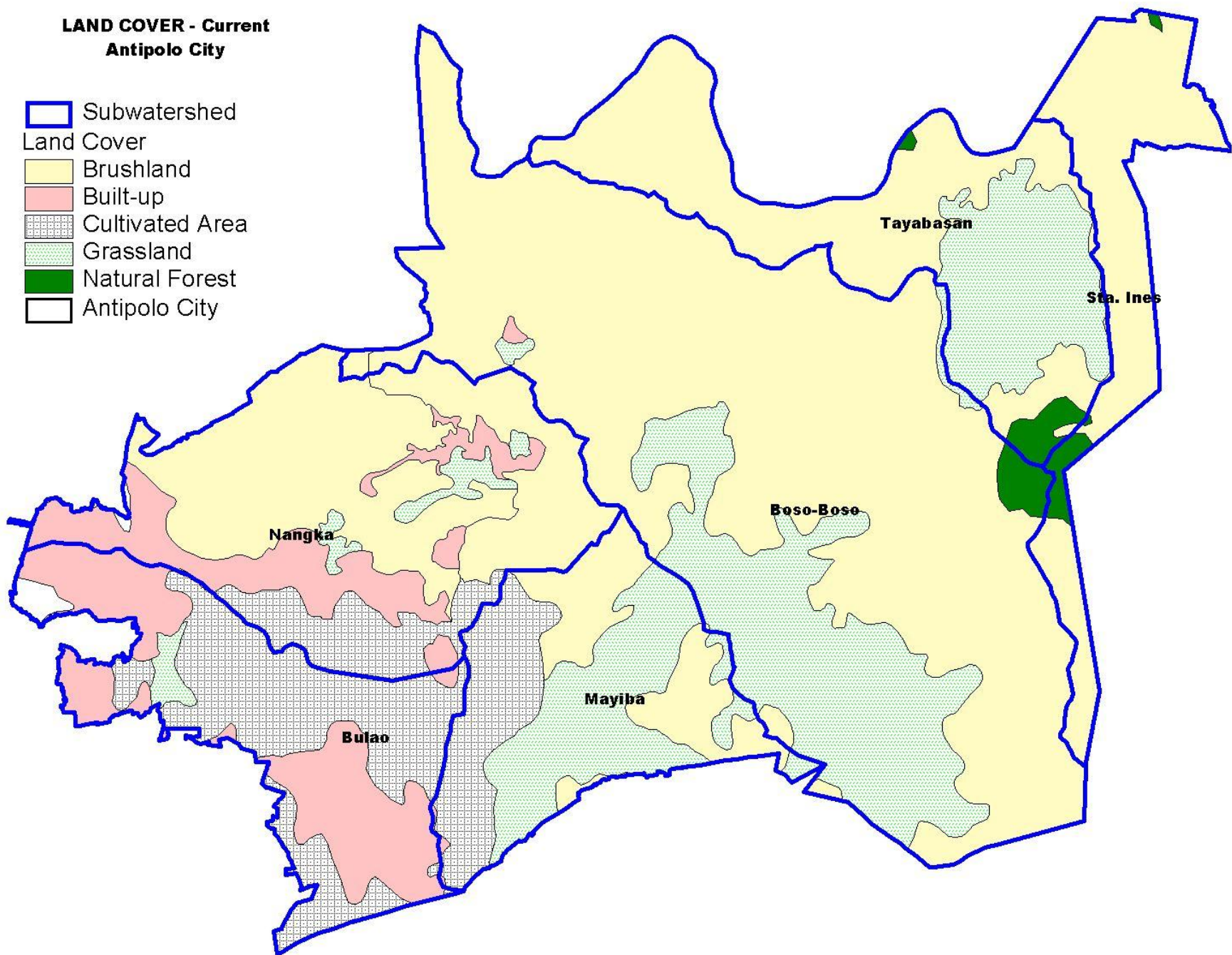
Tenure

-  A&D
-  CUFAI
-  Ecopark
-  FVR Proc 799
-  MMDA Landfill Proc 635
-  MWR no overlaps
-  MWSS IV
-  PD 324
-  Proc 1636
-  Proc 585
-  Proc. 901
-  True Development
-  UCPB
-  Wilson Fam



**LAND COVER - Current  
Antipolo City**

-  Subwatershed
- Land Cover
  -  Brushland
  -  Built-up
  -  Cultivated Area
  -  Grassland
  -  Natural Forest
  -  Antipolo City





**INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**Antipolo City**

Water Extraction Permits

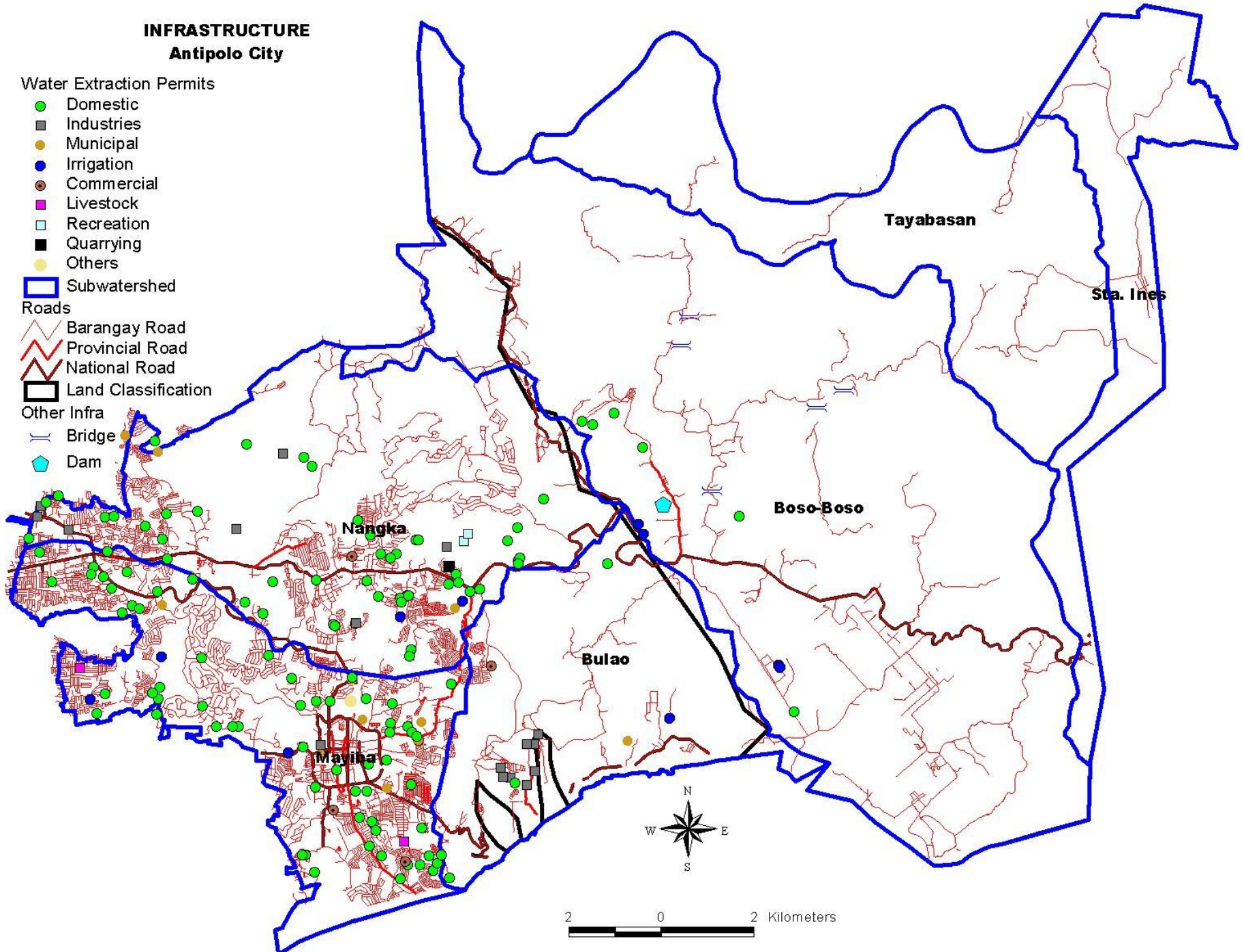
- Domestic
- Industries
- Municipal
- Irrigation
- Commercial
- Livestock
- Recreation
- Quarrying
- Others

Subwatershed

- ▭ Roads
- ▭ Barangay Road
- ▭ Provincial Road
- ▭ National Road
- ▭ Land Classification

Other Infra

- Bridge
- ◆ Dam



2 0 2 Kilometers

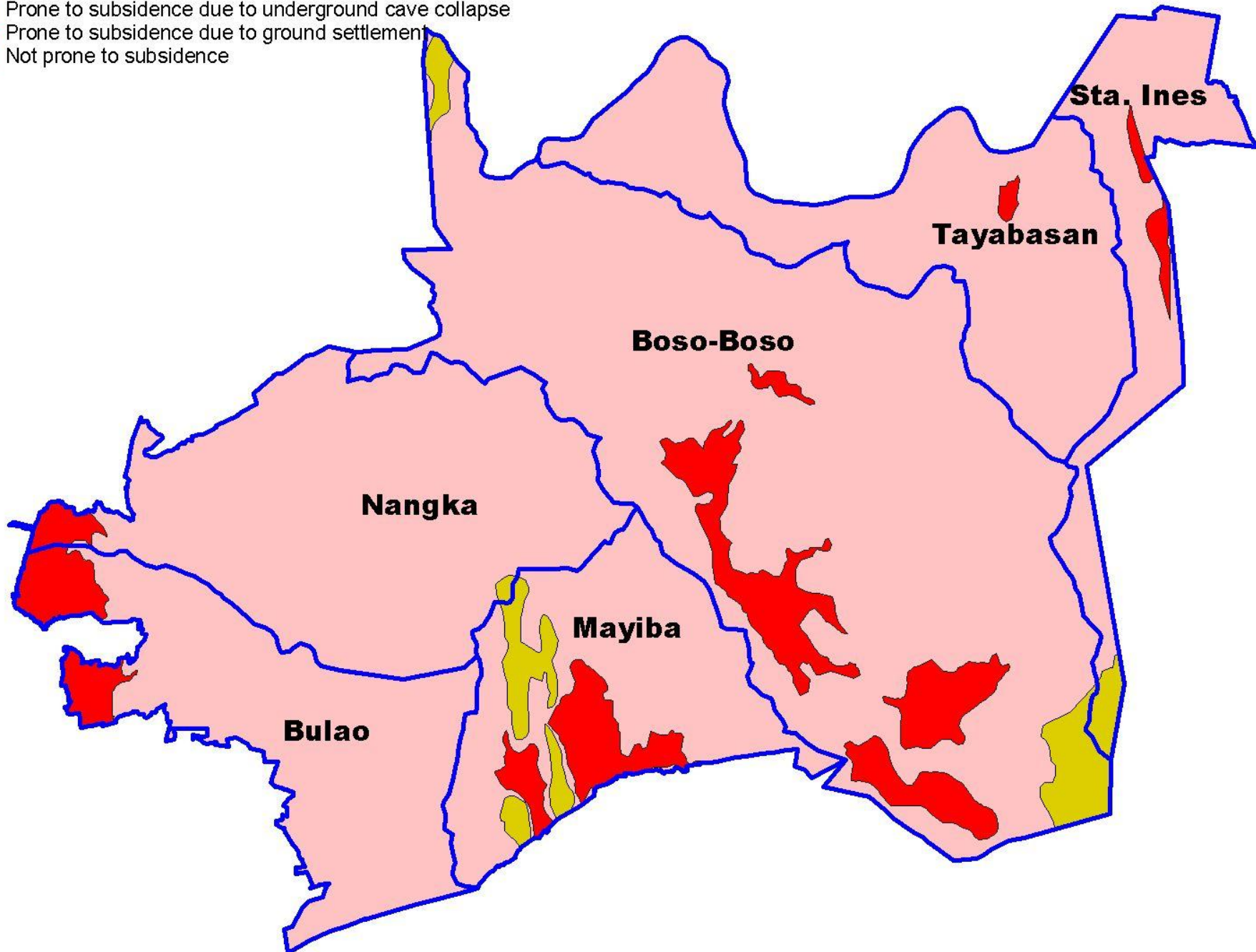
Subwatershed

Subsidence

Prone to subsidence due to underground cave collapse

Prone to subsidence due to ground settlement

Not prone to subsidence



# What Appears to be Working

- ▶ FLUP and co-mgt agreements as “tools” in partnering with LGUs and tenure holders to address the perennial concerns of “illegal logging” and “forest lands conversions”
- ▶ FLUP as rallying point for investments – IPR holders, tenure holders, LGUs, private sector, NGOs, donors, and NGAs
- ▶ FLUP as a tool for resolving boundary conflicts
- ▶ FLUP as a basis in anticipating natural disasters especially flash floods and damages to lives and properties
- ▶ FLUP as the basis of transparent, accountable, and participatory decision making especially in allocating forest lands, in issuing use rights, and issuing environmental compliance certificates (ECCs)

# A few lessons learned

- ✓ Forest lands, regardless of their state and condition, are natural resource assets
- ✓ Managing forest lands requires a “social enterprise perspective”
- ✓ Rehabilitating degrading forest lands need not to be a “social cost” if we can institutionalize a system of imposing “externality charges” or providing “safety nets” for marginalized communities as subsidies
- ✓ A watershed perspective clearly shows that “forest lands” are contribute to the overall GDP of the economy via – agriculture, energy, tourism, savings from disasters and damages of infrastructure and lives, domestic water services, local forest-based industries

# **The Challenge**

**When do we stop talking? When do we get our acts together and do something?**

**I believe that the hour has come. We see and read the writing on the walls.**