

# Conservation and Proper Management of Water Resources for Life Sustainability and Abatement Water problems through Baseline Studies

## Hydrology for Environment Life and Policy, (HELP) Davao Network

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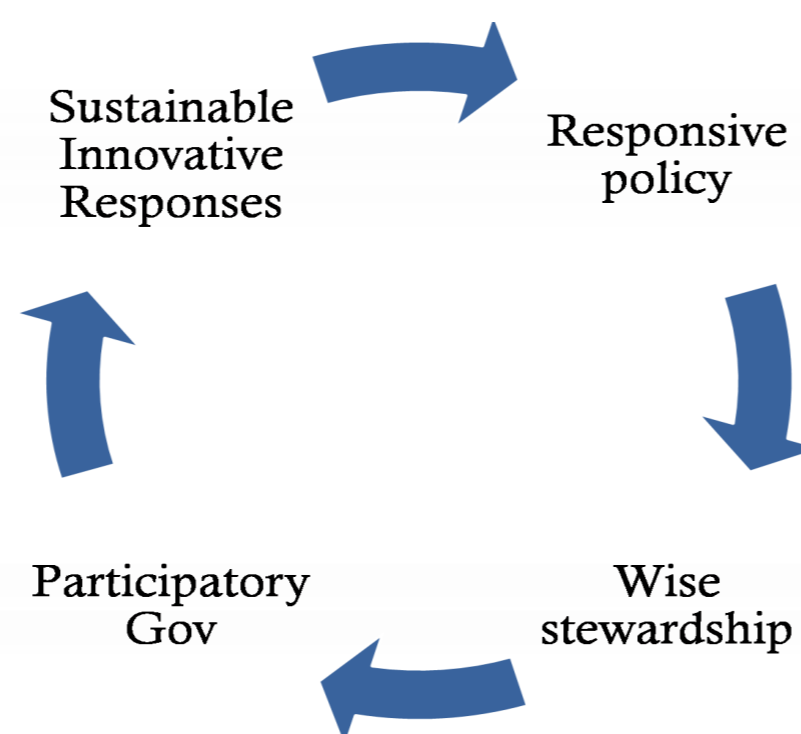
Management Committee, HELP Davao Network



The Davao River Basin, is the 3rd largest catchment in the Southern Philippines island of Mindanao and is home to an estimated 2 million people with a cluster of 8 smaller rivers discharging to the Davao Gulf.

Formed in 2004, HELP Davao Network is mandated to research, facilitate and disseminate the knowledge, awareness and application of sound science that can be used to better inform complex decisions and hard choices in relation to the management and wise use of water.

The scientific approach as advocated by civil society groups has reinforced the paradigm shift in local governance – from decisions based on politics to decisions based on scientific principles and reliable information from various stakeholders. The endorsement of the IWRM Action Plan by the Regional Development Council of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) sets a formal framework for intensifying IWRM efforts in Davao City and scaling up these efforts across Region XI.



As we enter the third decade of IWRM in Davao, the challenge is how to consolidate the strengths of the sectoral initiatives and harmonize efforts in order to reach greater and longer-term goals.

Recent environmental issues, such as pollution of waters from pesticides, ground water abstract, water and energy conflict, and flashfloods, have increased the awareness of groups to work alongside each other and to seek solutions based on reliable information.



Pilot Helophyte Filter System at Department of Science and Technology XI Laboratory

