
*THE INTERACTION
BETWEEN INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES AND
LOCAL COMMUNITIES,
SPECIFIC GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES AND IP
OFFICES*

Information Sharing Session

WIPO IGC 52 | Geneva, March 5, 2026 (afternoon)

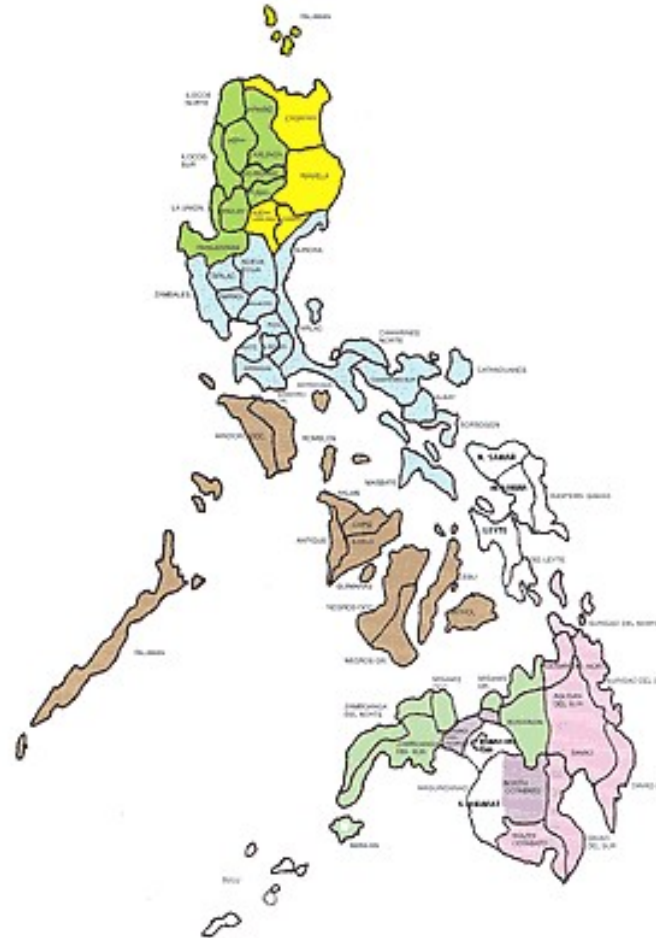
Jennifer Tauli Corpuz, UNPFII



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE PHILIPPINES

- 110 Ethnolinguistic Groups

ETHNOGRAPHIC REGIONS



Source: NCIP



ETHNOGRAPHIC MAP

Source:
NCIP

CORDILLERA & REGION I

Isnag, Kalinga, Bontok, Tinguian, Kankanaey, Ifugao, Ibaloi, Balangao, Karao, Bago, Kalanguya

ISLAND GROUPS

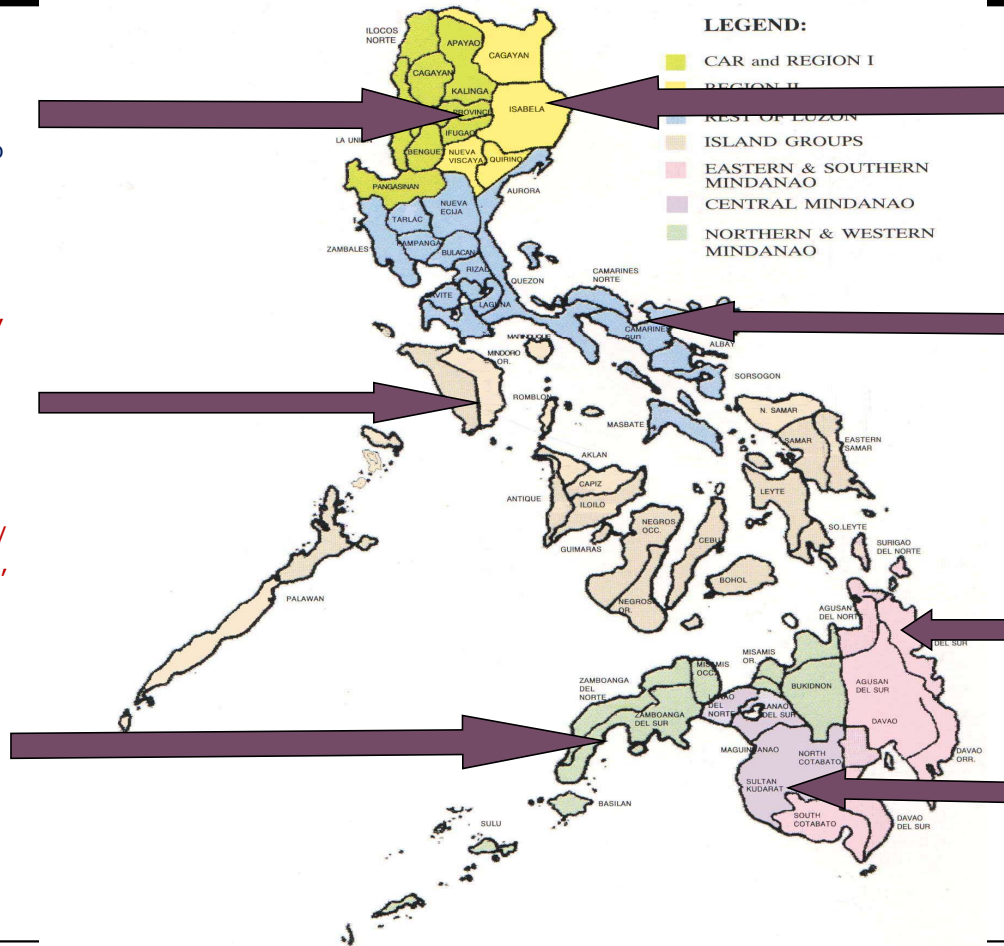
Mindoro Mangyan: Iraya, Alangan, Batangan, Bangon, Tadyawan, Buhid, Hanuno, Ratagnon, Gubatnon.

Palawan: Tagbanua, Kalamianen, Agutaynon, Kagayanen, Kuyonen, Palawanon, Molbog, Batak, Tao't Bato.

Visayas: Bantoanon, Sulod/Bukidnon, Magahat, Ati, Ata, Escaya, Dagayanen, Korolanos

NORTHERN & WESTERN MINDANAO

Subanen, Manobo, Higaonon, Matigsalug, Kamigin, Tigwahanon, Badjao, Kalibugan
Muslim IPs: Tausog, Sama, Yakan, Jama Mapun



REGION II, CARABALLO MOUNTAINS

Ivatan, Itbayat, Agta, Malaweg, Ibanag, Gaddang, Iwak, Bugkalot, Isinai, Yogad, Dumagat, Itawis, Kalanguya, Paranan

REST OF LUZON, SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS

Aeta, Atta, Abelling, Aburlin, Sambal, Dumagat, Remontado, Cimaron, Itom, Kabihug, Tabangnon, Abiya, Isarog

SOUTHERN & EASTERN MINDANAO

Mamanwa, Manobo, Mandaya, Mansaka, Bagobo, Dibabawon, Banwaon, Talaingod, Higaonon, Tagabawa, Mangguangan, Tigwahanon, Isamal

CENTRAL MINDANAO

B'laan, Manobo, Aromanon, T'boli, Teduray, Bagobo, Ubo, Lambangian, Sangil
Muslim IPs: Maguindanaon, Maranao, Iranon



■ 5 MILLION HECTARES

■ 12 MILLION IPs

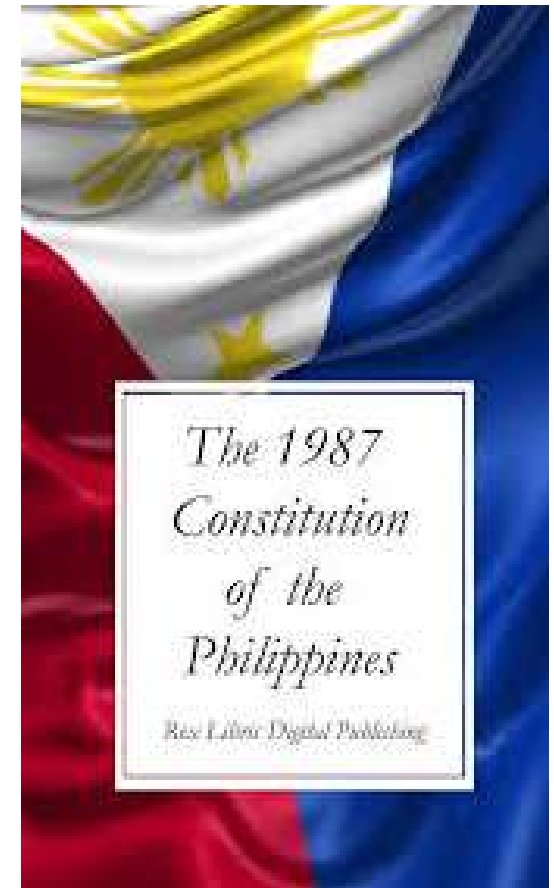
■ 110 ETHNOLINGUISTIC GROUPS



- Nationalist fighters Jose W. Diokno and Lorenzo Tañada meet with tribal elders in Kalinga in 1980 to support their struggle against the World Bank-supported Chico dam project and their human rights cases against the US-Marcos dictatorship, including the coldblooded murder of Macliing Dulag. (Photo from Asiaweek News Service)
- From Facebook post of Jun Verzola
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10202382537588778&set=a.10202861395959938&type=3&theater>

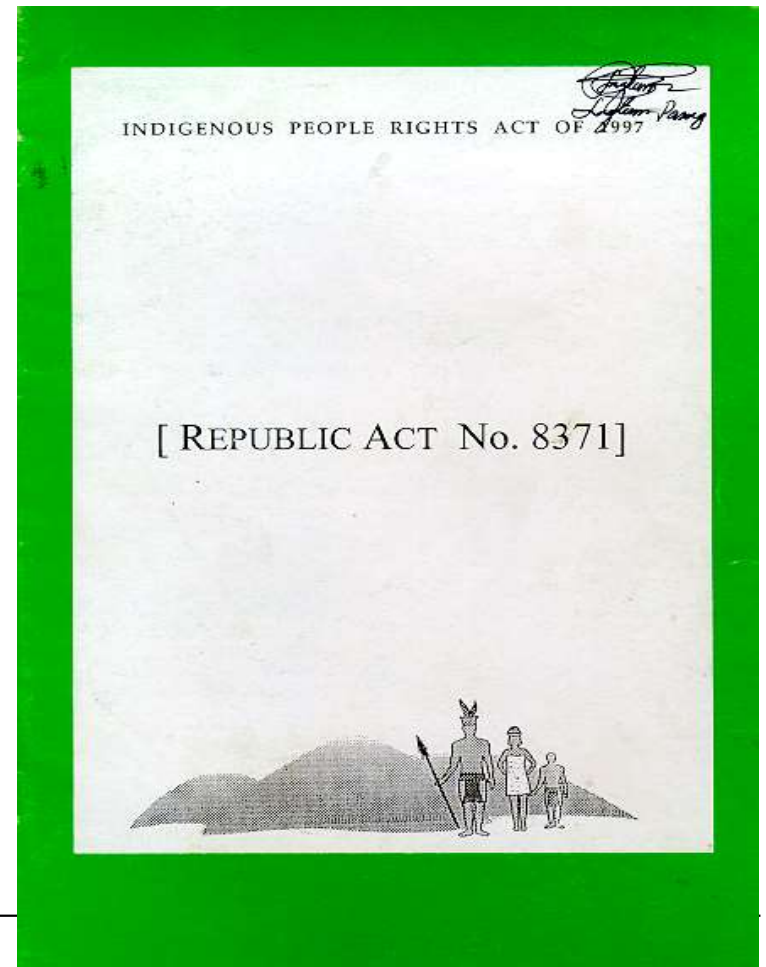
IN THE PHILIPPINES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS ARE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

- **Section 5, Article XII of the Constitution provides that the State shall, subject to the provisions of this Constitution and National Development Policies and Programs, protect the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities to their Ancestral Lands to ensure their economic, social and cultural well-being.**
- **The Congress may provide for the applicability of customary laws governing property rights or relations in determining the ownership and extent of ancestral domains.**



THE IPRA

- **The Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act or Republic Act 8371 was passed into law on October 22, 1997 and became effective 15 days after its publication**



COMMUNITY INTELLECTUAL RIGHTS

SEC. 32. Community Intellectual Rights. – ICCs/IPs have the right to practice and revitalize their own cultural traditions and customs. The State shall preserve, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures as well as the right to the restitution of cultural, intellectual, religious, and spiritual property taken without their free and prior informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs.

RIGHT TO INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

SEC. 34. Right to Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices and to Develop own Sciences and Technologies. – ICCs/ IPs are entitled to the recognition of the full ownership and control and protection of their cultural and intellectual rights. They shall have the right to special measures to control, develop and protect their sciences, technologies and cultural manifestations, including human and other genetic resources, seeds, including derivatives of these resources, traditional medicines and health practices, vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals, indigenous knowledge systems and practices, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literature, designs, and visual and performing arts.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF THE PHILIPPINES

IPOPHL is the government agency mandated to administer and implement State policies on intellectual property (IP) to strengthen the protection of IP rights in the country.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
OFFICE OF THE PHILIPPINES

JOINT IPOPHL-NCIP ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

**“Rules and Regulations on
Intellectual Property Rights
Application and Registration
Protecting the Indigenous
Knowledge Systems and Practices
of the Indigenous Peoples and
Indigenous Cultural
Communities”**



	Traditional Knowledge	Intellectual Property
Creation	Collective	Individual
Maintenance	Collective	Individual
Ownership	Collective	Individual
Term of Ownership	Indefinite	Fixed
Public domain	No	Yes

SECTION 32 OF THE IPRA:
COMMUNITY INTELLECTUAL RIGHTS

TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE PHILIPPINES





GR, TK AND
TCES OF
INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES IN
THE
PHILIPPINES

JOINT IPOPHL-NCIP ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Scope: “examination and registration on intellectual property applications that use IKSP of IPs”

Objectives

1. Harmonized rules to protect intellectual creations of IPs
2. Provide institutional arrangements between IPOPHL and NCIP
3. Prevent misappropriation of IKSP

SALIENT FEATURES OF JOINT IPOPHL- NCIP A0

IPRs applications required to disclose IKSP used

If registration not required – disclosure in all communication of subject matter to the public

IPOPHL may motu proprio or upon request refer application to NCIP for verification of ownership and compliance with FPIC

SALIENT FEATURES OF JOINT IPOPHL- NCIP A0

Registration only upon compliance with disclosure and compliance with FPIC

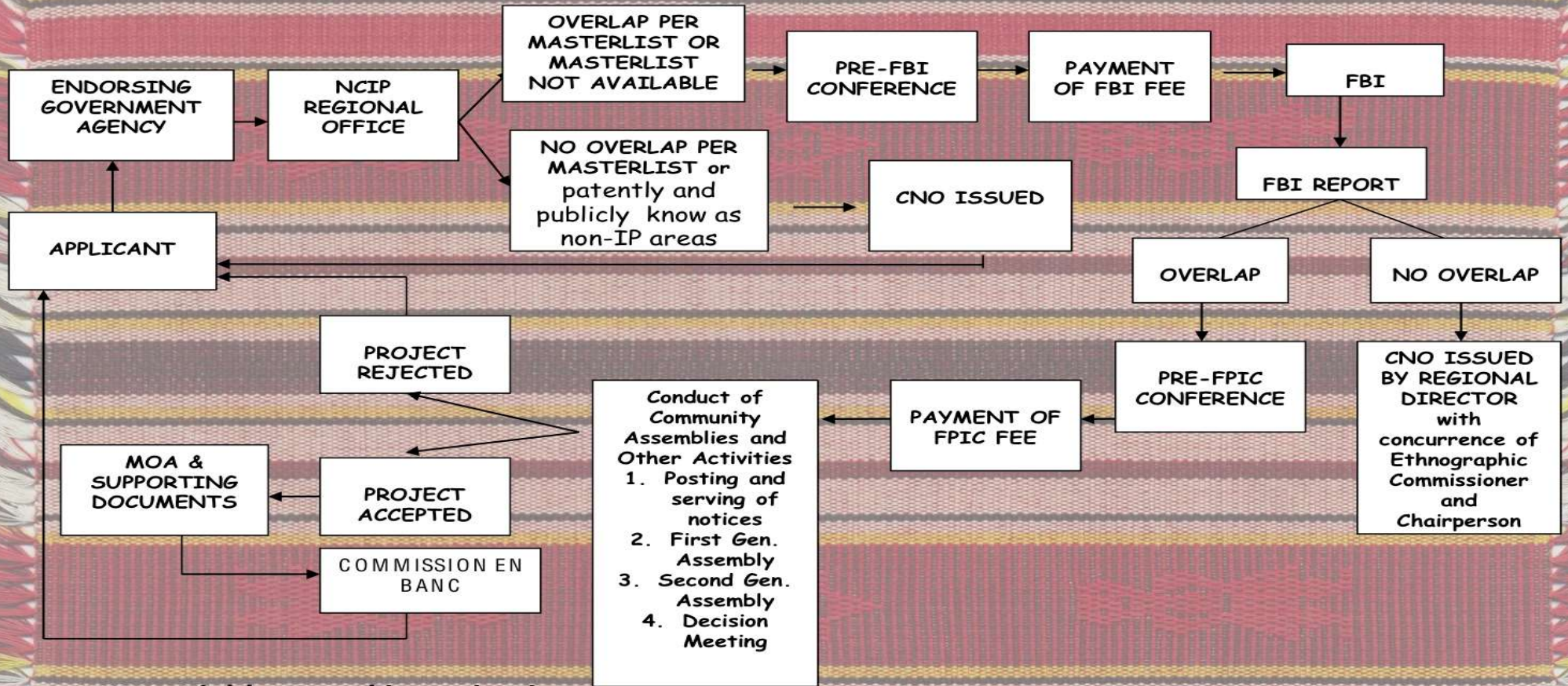
IPOPHL reserves judgment to determine registration and misappropriation

Collective management by IPs of artistic/literary work

FPIC UNDER THE IPRA

- Required for, inter alia:
 - Bio-prospecting and related activities (considered large-scale and extractive; full FPIC)
 - Non-extractive exploitation and utilization of natural resources
 - Programs, plans, activities not covered in the enumeration of large scale & extractive activities
 - Activities not requiring government permits
 - Feasibility studies on subjects not covered by the enumeration large scale & extractive activities
 - Similar/analogous activities
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FPIC PROCESS FLOWCHART FOR E I L S A



FBI - Field – Based investigation

CNO – Certificate of Non-Overlap Issued by Regional Director

MOA – Memorandum of Agreement

ELSA – Extractive, Large Scale Activities

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

1. Laws (international, regional and national) on Indigenous Peoples' rights contain requirements for protection of resources and cultural and intellectual property, including GR, TK, TCEs
 2. There are specialized bodies that have the mandate to protect intellectual property. Such bodies do not usually have expertise on the diversity of Indigenous Peoples and other groups that collectively create, own, maintain and transmit TK and TCEs.
 3. A practical approach would be to create a linkage between bodies that have expertise on Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities and the intellectual property offices. In some contexts, such as the Nagoya Protocol, identifying “indigenous competent authorities” may be a useful approach to ensure cooperation for TK & TCE protection.
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THANK YOU!
IYAMAN!

