



***Safeguards of
Indigenous Knowledge in the Operation of
Small Scale Mining in Pidlisan***

Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Rights-Based
Sustainable Development

Westlake Resort, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

October 8-9, 2019



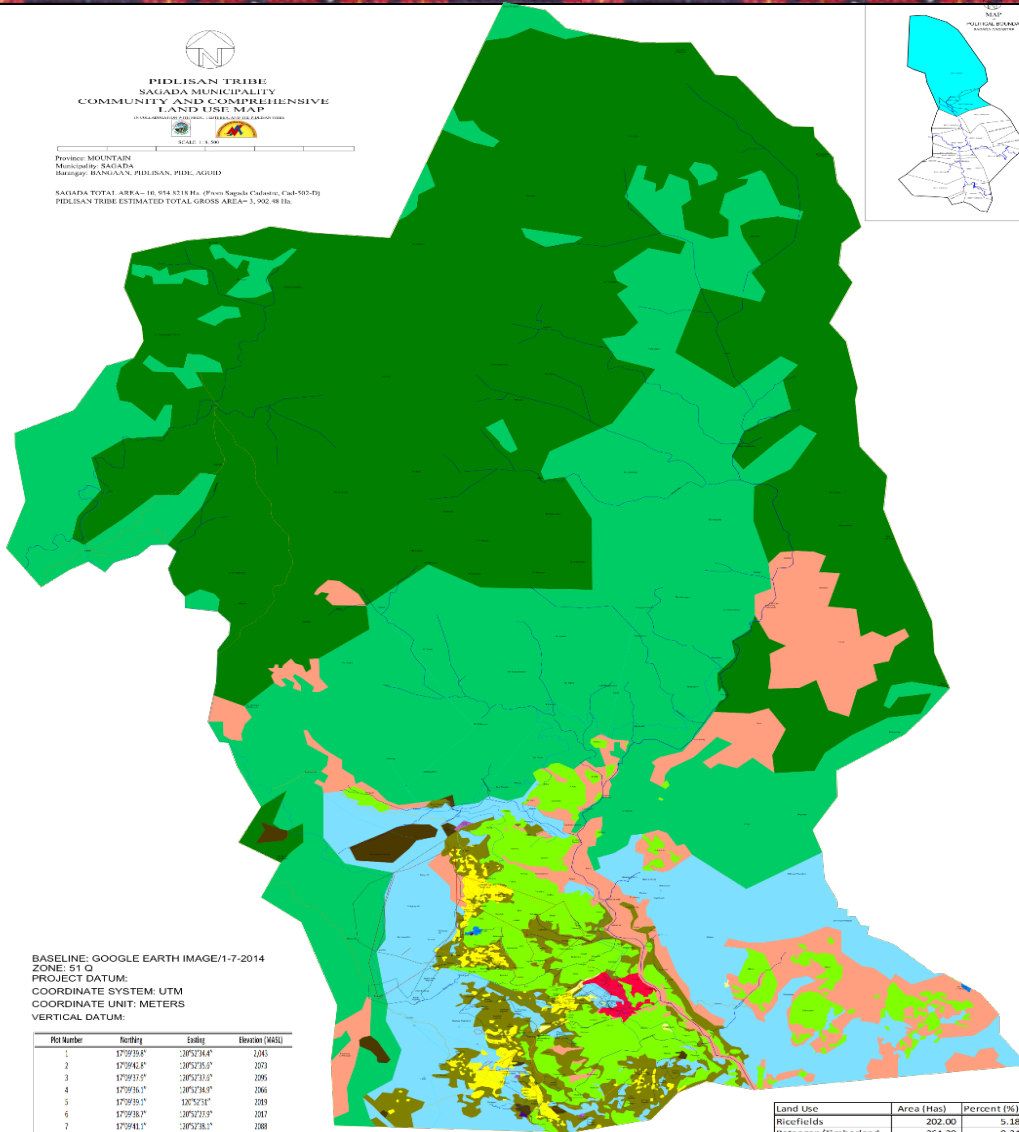
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Pidlisan Tribe
Organization

Information comes from the community action research facilitated by Pidlisan Tribe Organization and Tebtebba, 2011-2012 hosted by the mother settlement-Fedilisan Barangay



**PIDLISAN TRIBE
SAGADA MUNICIPALITY
COMMUNITY AND COMPREHENSIVE
LAND USE MAP**

Province: MOUNTAIN
Municipality: SAGADA
Barangay: BANSUAN, PIDLISAN, PIDL-AGUID
SAGADA TOTAL AREA= 16,934,831 Hc. (From Sagda Cadastre, Cad-50-70)
PIDLISAN TRIBE ESTIMATED TOTAL GROSS AREA= 3,302,48 Hc.



BASELINE: GOOGLE EARTH IMAGE/1-7-2014
ZONE: 51 Q
PROJECT DATUM:
COORDINATE SYSTEM: UTM
COORDINATE UNIT: METERS
VERTICAL DATUM:

Plot Number	Northing	Easting	Elevation (MSL)
1	177919.4	1075734.4	2245
2	177914.8	1075735.0	2273
3	177919.4	1075735.0	2296
4	177918.1	1075740.0	2261
5	177919.1	1075731.0	2283
6	177918.1	1075723.0	2287
7	177914.1	1075735.0	2288
8	177919.4	1075735.0	2299
9	177918.1	1075741.2	2296
10	177918.0	1075741.2	2296

Legend:

- Demarcation Line
- Possible Water System
- Roads
- Trails
- River
- Creeks
- Prpp. Hall
- Water Tank
- Equitation
- School
- Church
- Relocation Site
- Spring
- Mixed Dipterocarp Forest
- Pine Forest
- Timberland
- Crocodile
- Rice/land
- Residential
- Swidden Farm
- Orchard
- Fishpond
- Grassland
- Cemetery
- Disaster Prone Areas with Checks

Name	Area(Hect)
Saguday	32.60
St. Mathews Church Compound	0.65
St. Mathews Church Claim	8.30

Saguday Land Tenure	
Land Usage	Area(Hc)
Swidden Farm	16.43
Residential	2.88
Timberland	10.13
Orchard	0.26
Cemetery	0.19
Swidden	1.13
Pine Forest	1.83
Total	33.97

Land Use	Area (Hec)	Percent (%)
Rice/Fields	202.00	5.18
Batangan/Timberland	364.30	9.34
Orchard/Coffee		
Plantation	16.67	0.43
Swidden	121.00	3.10
Farming/Garden	0.24	0.01
Fishpond	0.73	0.02
Cemetery	29.00	0.74
Residential	1.15	0.03
Grassland	7.75	0.20
SSM	0.64	0.02
Lakes	275.00	7.05
Grassland	1,214.00	31.11
Pine Forest	3,600.00	42.79
Mixed Dipterocarp		
Total	3,302.48	100.00

Pidlisan territory is composed of 4 barangays of Sagada, CAR, Phil

Gold extraction is a traditional occupation

Knowledge and skills in mining was acquired from corporate mining

Land Use

Areas in Has.

1. watershed

2.88

2. timberland

5.34

3. grassland

7.05

4. farmlands

4

202.00

5.18

121.00

3.10

4

16.67

0.43

5. residential

29.00

0.74

6. small scale mining area

7.75

0.20

7 sacred sites in residential

1.79

0.05

8. lakes and ponds

0.88

0.02

3 902.39

100.00

of the 3,902 total area, .20% or 7.75 hectares was delineated as mining area

Our elders prohibited mining as it destroy natural land formation
But after more than 10 years of negotiation and agreement
on safeguards and other policies guided by their indigenous views



Elders demarcated the mining site with strict
policy not to go beyond the boundaries set

the mining site is a land of the commons and
must not be “privatized”

Distance between Usok/tunnels- not lesser than 2
meters

- DON'T use**
- **Chemicals**
 - **Dynamite**
 - **Powertools**

❖ Non members of the tribe are NOT permitted to work in the mining site. They may do harm to the land and the custom laws cannot be imposed upon them

❖ *** No work in the mines during “*obaya*”

❖ No drinking and gambling in the minesite and DON'T use earnings from the mines for drinking and gambling

❖ At a time when customary governance weakened, the women sector took on the responsibility to impose the policies

THREE PHASES OF THE SMALL SCALE MINING INDUSTRY

- ❖ 70's to 2000 traditional values are upheld.
- ❖ Sugpon - people pool their resources to produce and divide products equally
- ❖ *mining is seasonal and generally working with hand tools* and water and gravity concentration is the main method of separating the gold dust
- ❖ *Saga-ok* which is the sharing of gold ores and arrangement where better-off miners help the less fortunate ones- a genuine spirit of helping other miners sustained by the belief that miners who extend help to others will be blessed with more finds
- ❖ 2nd phase was when it opened up its mines to financiers/suppliers – capitalist systems were adopted

- From 1984-1996, the elders closed the mines due to the violation of no use of chemicals. In 2012, one manager was suspected to be using chemical in Jan, was investigated and penalized in Sept of that same year. Except for these, no use of chemicals was followed despite miners knowing that they loss 40-60% produce
- 3rd - re-affirmation of the policies passed by the elders and resolving problems that cropped up due to constant violations

The image features a scenic landscape of a valley with a winding river and a church spire in the distance. In the foreground, two people in blue raincoats are engaged in tree planting on a grassy slope. A large, stylized title is overlaid on the scene.

Resolution of Problems : tree planting

- ❖ Backfilling
- ❖ Clear and higher sanctions for violation of policies
- ❖ Slowly retrenched the violators of the tribe who are working in the mines



Financiers who are not participating in the production should step out as they are not mindful of whatever happens in the community



LESSONS LEARNED

- ❖ The traditional cooperativism should have been enriched and broadened to include the whole for better management.
- ❖ A governance systems should have been agreed on to ensure the rights of the workers

As land of the commons , each collective or association should Allocate a share for the central fund of the tribe to be plowed back for development/services for the community

Benefits derived from mining



Majority of the household (200+) were able to send their children colleges/universities; improve their housing; some established own business, buy cars.

The miners' group
Sponsor health
Care...



Many Thanks