



Appendix S

Donors' Perspectives: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)

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Good morning. Thank you, Madam Chair. She just told me 10 minutes ago that I should address this so I'm not very prepared.

For the sake of protocol, GTZD is not a donor. I have to say this, otherwise, my ambassador will be mad at me. The donor is our German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development or BMZ. They also have an attaché usually at the German embassy.

GTZD is working on behalf of BMZ. We're still active in 120 countries. We have 10,000 employees worldwide. We get about 70% of the funds from our main donors, but also funds from EU, ADB and we're happy to do projects on their behalf. Thank you for the invitation. I enjoyed the presentation very much.

Actually, I have two issues coming up from the presentations yesterday. I think it was the second or third one talking about healthy ecosystems and climate change. I think this is a key issue because climate change will happen. There are effects that are clear. We have already learned about this. And ecosystems have to cope with it. One of the key issues for me is that ecosystems are more capable towards stress and to cope with the effects of climate change like in the marine environment, its rise in temperature.

Where do we find healthy ecosystems? Mainly in forests or marine reserves. So both marine protected areas or forest reserves, actually, it's a tool to cope with the effect. These reserves could also function as a kind of, the surrounding waters, like in the marine environment. Also recruit new corals or fish species, whatever, from the marine reserves.

But like hardliner conservations always forget, you cannot just plaster the whole coastline with the declared marine reserves. You need consensus of communities. You need support, of course, by local government units and by politicians because local funds should also support the establishment of marine protected areas. This is one of the areas where GTZD is working in the Philippines, next to forest conservation, its fisheries management and marine protected area management.

Realizing Challenges, Exploring Opportunities

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The second issue was disaster and risk management. That's also an area which we are working here. The policy of our government is actually, to achieve an impact on local community level. That's why I'm hoping that an outcome of this conference are going to be more projects, more money from donors. But also of course, more money from the governments concerned because donors will go away sooner or later, so the ownership should be with the governments.

We can all learn from each other. It's still quite a new area if we talk about marine protected areas or forest reserves. It's not easy. It's a big job. It's a dangerous job. Areas need to be protected. People lose their lives. So it's always good if there's pressure on politicians to continue support. Network meetings like this are very, very important.

And with these few words, Madam Chair, thank you very much.