



REHABILITATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Calbiga River Care

MAYOR MELCHOR F. NACARIO
Calbiga, Samar, Philippines

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General Data

Calbiga is a municipality with a **population of 20,500** and land area of **28,000 hectares**. Calbiga River traverses twenty-one villages.

Samar is the third largest island of the Philippines, facing the Pacific, with an area of **1.34 million hectares** and crisscrossed by twenty-five major surface rivers fed by networks of subterranean river channels.

Current River-Related Activities:

- Freshwater fish hatchery is being constructed.
- Gravity-driven irrigation system is about to be built.
- Tapping hydro power is being researched.
- Ecotourism program is being pursued.

Problem: Resource misuse and extractive economics of an increasing population, as evidenced partly by dwindling rainforests, are now also taking their toll on the river's adaptive capacity. Sustainable infrastructure support has proven indispensable to responding to the present demands of caring for the Calbiga River.

Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Projects

1. DREDGING EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT

To remove abandoned bridge debris and other clog catchers and sustainably desilt the main river, its various creeks and tributaries and the three-kilometer silt accumulation from near the river mouth and into Maqueda Bay which stalls traffic during low tide. The budget includes roughly five years operational cost.

Estimated Cost: USD1,000,000

Estimated Duration: Two (2) years and maintenance dredging thenceforth



Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Projects

2. DIVERSION RIVER CHANNEL

To minimize the impact of water current during rainy season on a village at the head of a winding route and save on travel time and fuel. The 20-meter wide and 250-meter long channel abbreviates the two-kilometer roundabout distance. To include stone masonry or steel structures and a foot bridge. This project can benefit from the use of the dredging equipment if made available.

Estimated Cost: USD700,000

Estimated Duration: One (1) year

Technical Specifications: Program of Work available



Proposed River Channel



Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Projects

3. RIVER BANKS REHABILITATION

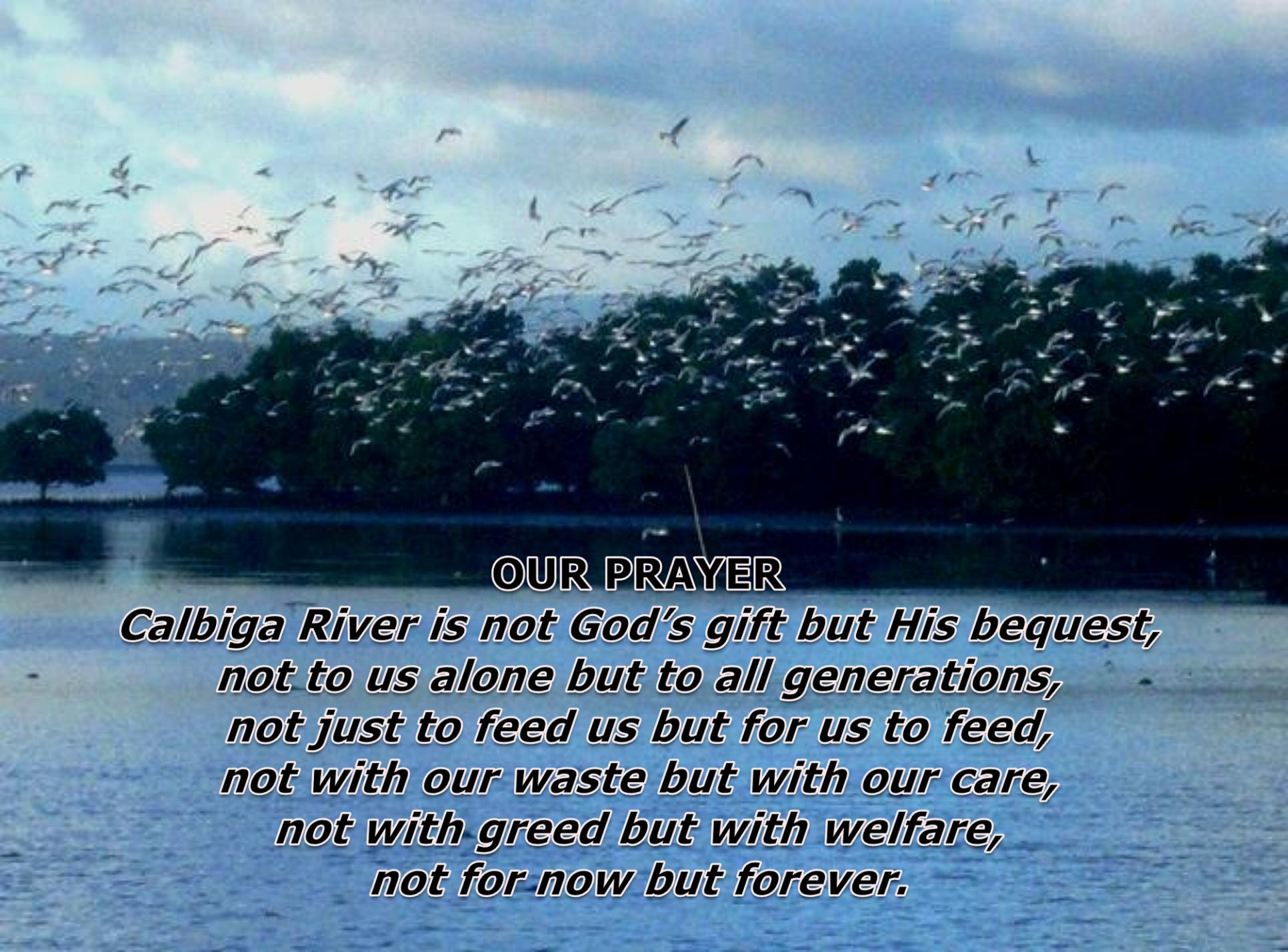
Mainly to prevent soil erosion or subsidence, this includes concrete or steel embankments and other river control works which shall focus on residence areas in the main river and the tributaries. The establishment of nurseries and reforestation with various species of bamboos, indigenous fruit-bearing trees and other high-value vegetation within and beyond the easement areas shall engage farmers' groups and individual households as this will also address their livelihood needs.

Estimated Cost: USD2,315,000

Estimated Duration: One (1) year and maintenance work thenceforth

Technical Specifications: Programs of Work available



A large flock of birds, likely terns, is seen in flight over a body of water, possibly a river or bay, during the "blue hour" of dusk. The sky is a deep, dark blue with some lighter patches where the sun has recently set. The birds are silhouetted against the sky, creating a sense of movement and activity. In the background, there are dark silhouettes of trees and a distant shoreline. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

OUR PRAYER

*Calbiga River is not God's gift but His bequest,
not to us alone but to all generations,
not just to feed us but for us to feed,
not with our waste but with our care,
not with greed but with welfare,
not for now but forever.*