

# CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS IN LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

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# Philippine Laws on Environmental Management

- Enacted to enhance enforcement of environmental protection laws particularly on prevention of water pollution
  - Republic Act No. 8749 – Clean Air Act
  - Republic Act No. 9275 – Clean Water Act



# Factors Constraining Effective Implementation of Environmental Laws

- Inconsistent enforcement by local governments
- The implementing rules of the laws are not clear on the appropriate design and standards for the construction of WWTF for livestock farms
  - Private companies offer various set ups and designs that may not be sanctioned by appropriate government agencies
- Government agencies and academic institutions are not able to provide commercial scale designs for WWTF for farmers who seek technical assistance
  - Government agencies and state universities are not adequately funded to pursue research and development on this discipline

# Factors that Reduce Motivation of Livestock Farmers to Comply

- High cost of constructing WWTF with no clear commercial return for the farmer
- No price advantage for products from farms complying with environmental laws
- Lack of commercial incentives to comply for farmers especially for waste water treatment facility (WWTF) without biogas and electricity generation
  - Mostly modern pig farms with high energy requirement for climate control appreciate the benefits of generating electricity from biogas
- Many pig farms constructed before the 1990's do not have space provision for modern waste water treatment and cannot retrofit

# Private Sector (Company) Initiatives

- Contract growers are paid an Environment Protection Fee of least Php40/head for complying with government requirements on waste water treatment based on BOD of discharge
- Company links the contract grower with financial institutions through tripartite agreements to secure cheap loans for constructing WWTF
- Company accredits technology providers and links them with contract partners for them to have access to the appropriate technology for the scale and nature of their farm operations with possibility of constructing under “Build-Operate-Transfer” scheme

# Recommended General Directions

- Environmental management agencies should establish clear standards on WWTF design and waste management particularly for livestock farms
- Government agencies and state universities should be provided with funds to pursue research on WWTF designs including those that are appropriate for small scale farms
- Improve consistency of implementation of environmental laws by local governments through better coordination with the national government
- Provide tax incentives for livestock farmers who will comply with the law and/or generate energy and fertilizer from WWTF