



SECRETARY EMMANUEL M. DE GUZMAN Climate Change Commission

MESSAGE

Official Ceremonial Signing of Financing Agreements Between The PSF Board and Four LGUs 07 March 2018

Good afternoon. The Climate Change Commission is pleased to be a part of this significant milestone in our country's pursuit of community resilience to climate change.

The release of adaptation grants to the first batch of recipient local governments proves that climate resilience is central to the government's development agenda, thanks to the strong leadership of President Rodrigo Duterte, Senator Loren Legarda, and Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez who chairs the PSF Board.

We also express our grateful appreciation to all the members of the PSF Board and the Secretariat for their hard work and dedication.

The People's Survival Fund was conceived as a catalyst for transformational change at the local community level through effective adaptation interventions and investments that reduce disaster risks and build climate resilience. Our event today marks the start of that transformational change that we want to see in communities of farmers, fisher folks, and other vulnerable groups.

To this end, we congratulate the recipient local governments for coming up with innovative climate change adaptation projects. We encourage you to share your adaptation strategies and projects for other LGUs to emulate.

With the first funding releases underway, we expect demand for the PSF to grow. In this regard, we in the Climate Change Commission will work closely with Senator Legarda, chair of the Senate Committees on Climate Change and Finance and author of the Climate Change Act as amended, to ensure that more funds are made available next year.

Moreover, we assure you that we will continue our capacity building initiatives to help more local governments readily access the fund. Thank you!