



**SECRETARY EMMANUEL DE GUZMAN**  
**Climate Change Commission**

**IP Mindanao Cluster Convergence Summit**  
27 June 2018  
Cagayan De Oro, Misamis Oriental

Our beloved Cabinet Secretary Jun Evasco; fellow workers in government; leaders and members of our Indigenous Peoples Groups: *Maayong buntag sa inyong tanan.*

*Hindi lingid sa ating kaalaman na hatid ng nagbabagong klima ang panganib sa ating buhay at kinabukasan.*

Climate change has become the most defining threat of our time – as a runaway, unabated global warming brings us more disasters and recurring loss and damage in human lives, properties, and livelihoods.

For the past three years, the global average temperatures have been record high. This rising trend in global temperature augurs ill for climate vulnerable developing countries like ours.

This means more weather extremes — tulad ng mas matitinding bagyo o super typhoons, mas malalakas na buhos ng ulan (intense rainfalls), at mas matitinding tagtuyot (prolonged droughts).

This also means inevitable rise in sea levels where the highest has been observed to occur in the country, more than three times the global average, thereby increasing the risk of flood and storm surge in our coastal towns and cities and causing sea water to intrude into farmlands killing crops.

This also means more health problems with the resurgence of vector borne diseases and the rising incidence of heat stroke, among others.

These and the projected decline in labor and food productivity, the looming water crisis, the degradation of most corals due to the warmer seas, and the propensities for conflict over scarce resources, all more pronounced by mid-century, inevitably present a national security problem.

Clearly, climate change is a development issue that calls for rethinking paradigms, redefining development approaches, and innovating the way we live and do things.

*Tayo po ay hinahamon ng panahon na maging malikhain sa pag-iisip ng solusyon at kumilos para sa tunay na pagbabago.*

**S U R V I V E # 1 0 5 C T H R I V E**

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Inevitably, climate change drives risk and vulnerability. Its impact devastates, erodes hard-won development gains, and sets back economic progress. It affects most the vulnerable, the poor, who is trapped in the vicious cycle of poverty and risk. And the victims include the indigenous peoples.

Sa ganitong krisis sa klima, mananatiling mahirap ang mahirap — at hindi po natin gusto ito.

Maaalala po ninyo:

In 2013, we witnessed the unprecedented devastation caused by Super typhoon Yolanda: At least 6,300 lives lost and more than 89 billion pesos worth of damages to public and private infrastructure and lands.

Yolanda is not an isolated incident. Since 2009, we have been experiencing many highly destructive weather events.

Ondoy, Pepeng, Sendong, and Pablo collectively claimed over 3,000 lives, affected more than 10 million people, and caused economic losses of as much as US\$ 5.7 billion.

*Ayon sa projection ng mga scientist, marami pang parating na ganitong krisis dahil sa walang humpay na pag-init ng mundo.*

With this trend, we cannot afford to be idle, complacent, and apathetic. We must act immediately to protect our people and to help them adapt and be more resilient to the impact of climate change. And we must act with preferential attention to the poor, to the vulnerable, to the marginalized, which includes our Indigenous Peoples (IPs).

Our IPs are among the country's poor and vulnerable, highly dependent on their ancestral domain not only for their livelihood but also for their cultural heritage and identity. They need utmost attention, protection, and care of our government and our society.

Protecting our IPs by reducing their risk to disasters and strengthening their adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change, is clearly upholding social justice, climate justice for our IPs.

It is in this context that your Climate Change Commission has embarked on the development of a framework for mainstreaming culture-sensitive climate actions in local development plans for IP communities.

It is in this regard that we pledge our commitment to sustained multistakeholder action to build and ensure the resilience of IPs in this era of climate change, consistent with our mandate under the laws, the Climate Change Act, as amended, and the Indigenous Peoples Right Act.

We shall translate into action our commitment to help our IP communities survive and thrive through five ways:

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**First, we will promote multi-stakeholder convergence for action on climate change adaptation and mitigation and sustainable development for the IPs.**

Early this year, the Commission has passed a resolution that mandates the integration of your knowledge, systems, and practices on climate change adaptation in the Local Climate Change Action Plans, and Annual Investment Plans.

To strengthen this policy resolution, we have established the Comprehensive Integrated Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Program for the Indigenous Peoples or CICARP.

*Binalangkas at binuo po ng Komisyon ang programang ito sa loob ng mahigit isang taon batay sa kunsultasyon sa mga IP.*

This program was initially implemented in Mt. Pulag as a model for sustainable area development for replication in the provinces of Negros Occidental in the Visayas, Sarangani, Bukidon and District 3 of Davao City here in Mindanao.

**Second, we will facilitate the direct delivery of basic adaptation programs and services to IP communities by national government agencies concerned.**

Through convergence of efforts of government agencies, local governments, and the private sector, CICARP will pursue the efficient and effective delivery of relevant basic services in the seven thematic areas of the National Climate Change Action Plan: food security, water sufficiency, ecosystem and environmental sustainability, human security, sustainable energy, climate-friendly industries and services, and knowledge and capacity development.

*Para sa pagkain at tubig ~*

For food and water security, we will promote resilient crops from indigenous varieties, more community food gardens, and more rainwater harvesters and water catchment facilities for climate-adaptive agriculture based on indigenous knowledge and practices.

*Para sa kalikasan at kapaligiran ~*

For environmental sustainability, we shall facilitate the provision of technical support on ecological solid waste management to LGUs and IP communities.

*Para sa enerhiya ~*

For sustainable energy, we will facilitate the provision of renewable energy such as solar electricity for off-grid and remote IP communities, especially in their schools.

*Para sa trabaho at kabuhatan ~*

For climate-friendly industries and services, we will promote bamboo growing and processing and create jobs, resilient enterprises, and sustainable livelihoods for the IPs.

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*Para sa kaalaman at kasanayan ~*

For knowledge and capacity development, we will provide continuing capacity building and training, and information and education support for the IPs on climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development planning.

To sustain the resilience building initiatives for the IPs, we will sponsor special trainings for the IPs on developing their proposals on climate change adaptation projects that may be funded by the Peoples Survival Fund. To deliver these trainings, we will collaborate with major academic institutions in Mindanao, such as the Mindanao State University System, the University of Southeastern Philippines, and the Western Mindanao State University.

**Third, together with the academe, we will bring special skills training to IP communities on climate-resilient livelihood, especially for the women and the farmers.**

Just recently, we have finalized our partnership with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples on climate-proofing IP programs and projects and on capacity building to enhance the adaptive capacities of IPs.

As articulated in our draft MOA, the Commission also intends to partner with CHED and Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) on providing capacity building and training to IP leaders and members of indigenous cultural communities.

To this end, we will facilitate academic networking and provide local experts who may be tapped as resource persons for the training programs.

**Fourth, we will help protect the environment and ecosystems of the IPs from exploitation and decline.**

The CCC will provide technical assistance to LGUs and IP communities in formulating their Indigenous Peoples Climate Change Action Plan (IPCCAP) which could be integrated into the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan and the LCCAPs of the LGUs.

**And lastly, fifth, *para sa tulong na pondo pamproyekto*, we will mobilize resources of the international community and development partners for improving the welfare and quality of life of the IPs through resilience building programs.**

The Commission wishes to ensure that IPs will benefit from projects to be funded by the Green Climate Fund and shall play a significant role in any local government's projects to be funded by the Peoples Survival Fund, or by any donor agencies and fund sources.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we move forward and pursue the path of resilience, we are constantly challenged to ensure the inclusion of the IPs and their specific needs

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and interests in all climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction programs.

As we heed this challenge, we in the Climate Change Commission, shall always seize and maximize the opportunity to harness the potentials of the IPs as agents of change and transformation as we advance climate actions and sustainable development at all levels.

*Hangad po ng Komisyon ang todo asenso ng mahal nating mga IP.*

*At dahil dito, kay Cabsec Evasco, todo suporta po kami sa programa ninyo para sa ikabubuti at ikauunlad ng buhay ng mga IP.*

*Daghang salamat.*