

**Secretary Emmanuel M. De Guzman  
Climate Change Commission**

**OPENING REMARKS**

**Information Matters Summary Workshop  
and Closing Event  
August 31, 2017, Quezon City**

On behalf of the Climate Change Commission, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to the team behind the Information Matters project—some of whom have probably been working on this since 2013.

What a fruitful journey it has been, and we especially thank the GIZ and BMUB, as well as our partners who have been with us the past years, for your tremendous support in this endeavor.

Four years ago, the Information Matters project developed a roadmap that would support a national monitoring and reporting of climate-relevant data, primarily on measuring, reporting and verifying (MRV) of emissions and producing sectoral and national climate change mitigation baselines.

The project also assisted in the design of a national IT system for climate change data management, which we are now calling the National Integrated Climate Change Database and Information Exchange System or NICCDIES.

Years of hard work and passion from fellow climate change advocates and stakeholders were put into knowledge products that will certainly steer our country into the right direction.

These knowledge products come at an opportune time now that the CCC is promoting efforts to transition our nation towards a green economy.

These materials will be instrumental as the CCC takes the lead in finalizing our Nationally Determined Contributions or NDCs, as part of our commitment to the Paris Agreement. These will also aid us in enhancing the knowledge and capacity of our local government units, especially in understanding climate risks and in conducting greenhouse gases inventory trainings.

As we conclude this worthwhile undertaking, let me say that our country is honored to be one of the eight participating countries of this global project, and again, we thank the GIZ and BMUB for making this happen.

We hope for more meaningful cooperation, such as this, in the future. And we also hope for everyone's continued support and participation in our climate change action and advocacy.

Thank you very much.