



MESSAGE

In the Philippines, volunteerism is equated to the spirit of *bayanihan*—or the spirit of communal work, unity, and cooperation to achieve a particular goal. This Filipino tradition lives on amid the devastating impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and the recent extreme weather events exacerbated by the prevailing climate emergency.

In the past months, Filipino volunteers from all walks of life showcased the *bayanihan* spirit by providing transportation for health care workers and other frontliners, relief for those who have lost their means to earn, food and shelter to those who have evacuated from their homes. They have gone above and beyond to respond to the needs of our countrymen.

Thus, in celebration of the **International Volunteers Day**, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) pays tribute to the Filipino volunteers who have been at the forefront of medical, community, and societal responses to the pandemic and the climate-related disasters we have experienced this year.

May your selfless actions serve as a beacon of hope and inspire more people to answer calls in times of crisis and be of service to those who are in need.

Let us join forces toward staging a climate-resilient recovery that leaves no one behind—a recovery that will pave the way for a more sustainable, inclusive, and equitable future for the Filipino people.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "EMM".

SECRETARY EMMANUEL M. DE GUZMAN
Vice Chairperson and Executive Director
Climate Change Commission

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

6th Floor, First Residences, 1557 J.P. Laurel Street, Malacañang, San Miguel, Manila, Philippines 1005
info@climate.gov.ph | www.climate.gov.ph