



MESSAGE

The risks of climate change and pandemics escalate among the most vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society, particularly in urban areas where people live in crowded quarters and informal settlements.

This highlights the urgent need for nations around the world to address urban vulnerabilities, such as weak social protection services, poor quality housing, insufficient green spaces, and unsustainable development patterns.

Thus, on this **World Habitat Day**, the Climate Change Commission underscores the critical role of sustainable urban planning in protecting the Filipino people against the impacts of climate change and the spread of infectious diseases.

Furthermore, we call for the full and strict implementation of the Urban Development and Housing Act, which aims to uplift the conditions of the underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban areas and resettlement areas in the country by making available to them decent housing at affordable cost, basic services, and employment opportunities.

Lastly, we reiterate the call to embed climate and environmental resilience into Covid-19 economic stimulus packages to ensure a more inclusive and equitable recovery that preserves our people's right to health, housing, water and sanitation, and self-determination.

Together, let us seize this rare opportunity to create a safer, healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous future for all.

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

5 October 2020
Manila, Philippines

S U R V I V E # 1 0 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