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By: Fred de Sam Lazaro

Across the U.S. and around the world, coastal cities are grappling with rising seas and worsening floods. With 42 million people, Jakarta, Indonesia, is the world's most populated city. It's sinking rapidly as climate change and overdevelopment collide. Fred de Sam Lazaro reports for our series Tipping Point.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

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By: Marita Moaje

MANILA – The Climate Change Commission (CCC) is strengthening efforts to integrate gender equality into the country's climate agenda by rolling out the implementation phase of the Nationally Determined Contribution Gender Action Plan (NDC-GAP) 2024–2030.

DAILY TRIBUNE

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Information and Knowledge Management Division

ABS CBN

Tag-init na! PAGASA warns of warmer than normal dry season

By: Ariel Rojas

MANILA — The warm and dry season has begun, PAGASA announced Monday.

The state weather bureau said the formation of a high pressure area over the northwestern Pacific Ocean led to the shift in the wind direction from northeasterly to easterly, marking the end of the northeast monsoon or Amihan season and the start of the warm and dry season.

“Nagtapos na ang northeast monsoon season so hudyat na ito na nag-start na ang mainit at maalinsangan na panahon,” PAGASA Administrator Dr. Nathaniel Servando said in a press conference.

(The end of the northeast monsoon season is the start of the warm and humid season.)

Daily weather across the country will gradually become warmer, with occurrence of isolated thunderstorms still likely in the afternoon.

“Inaasahan natin ang mataas na temperature at maalinsangan na panahon in the coming days. Ito ay mag-peak sa buwan ng April and the first half of May,” Servando added.

(We expect high temperatures and humid weather in the coming days, which may peak in April and the first half of May.)

PAGASA also warned against less rainfall and higher heat index values in the coming weeks.

WARMER THAN NORMAL

This year’s warm and dry season may be warmer than in the past years.

Temperatures in Northern Luzon may soar to 40.5 degrees Celsius in April and 40.2°C in May while in the lowlands of Luzon, the mercury may rise to 40.0°C in April and 39.7°C in May.

In Metro Manila, up to 39.0°C and 37.5°C readings are forecast in April and May, respectively.

“Kung ikukumpara natin ito sa mga nakalipas na taon, inaasahan natin na posibleng mas mainit yung ating mga temperature [ngayong taon] lalong lalo na sa mga buwan ng Abril at Mayo,” senior climatologist Dr. Joseph Basconcillo said.

(Relative to the previous years, it is possible that the April and May temperatures this year may be hotter.)

However, they also clarified that the dry season in 2024 would still be warmer than this year's.

“Ating matatandaan n’ung 2024 ay [may] strong El Niño so kung i-compare natin... mas mainit noong 2024 kesa itong 2026,” Climatology and Agrometeorology Division Chief Thelma Cinco said.

(If we recall, 2024 is a strong El Niño year so the dry season then will remain warmer than this 2026.)

Planet trapped record heat in 2025: UN

While PAGASA advised the public to optimize water use both for personal and domestic consumption, it also allayed fears of potential water shortage during the dry season.

“As far as the present situation is concerned, ang ating mga dams po naman ay nasa masasabing comfortable level naman in contrast sa normal levels,” Hydrometeorology Division Chief Socrates Paat said.

(As far as the present situation is concerned, our dams remain at comfortable levels relative to their normal water level.)

The warm and dry season in the Philippines typically ends between the second half of May and the first half of June, with the onset of the southwest monsoon or Habagat season.

EURO NEWS

Cyprus: War-related tourism concerns and climate change efforts

By: Ioannis Karagiorgas

Cypriot authorities stress that the country is safe, wanting to prevent a possible decrease in tourist flows due to the war in the Middle East.

After the outbreak of war in the Middle East and the attacks on the British bases at Akrotiri in Cyprus, the authorities of the country are worried about possible unpleasant consequences for tourism.

That is why for about two weeks now, both the President of the Republic, Nicos Christodoulides, and government ministers have been telling the international media that Cyprus remains a safe country.

Given that in March there were cancellations of bookings made in Cyprus, the country's tourism sector and the relevant authorities are mobilising to send a clear message of safety to tourists.

As industry professionals point out, a comprehensive action mechanism should be put in place within the next few weeks, starting at the highest state level and extending to ministries, diplomatic missions, Hermes, hoteliers and all concerned. The aim is a broad mobilisation that will touch every level of decision making, including local authorities and RTBs, which are invited to actively contribute to the effort to raise awareness and restore the country's image.

In recent statements to Cyprus' state radio, the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Costas Coumis, stressed that the priority at the moment is to reshape the image of Cyprus through targeted actions. In this context, the cooperation with a specialised public relations company continues, while contacts with key partners both within and outside the country have been intensified.

At the same time, market developments are closely monitored, with more frequent contacts and information exchange, in order to formulate appropriate response strategies. He stressed that the course of events will largely depend on the duration and intensity of the crisis in the Middle East.

According to information from Cypriot media, however, after the cancellations in March and April, the phenomenon seems to be extending into May, despite the fact that flight activity in Cyprus has returned to normal and no emergency prevention measures are in place.

At the same time, bookings for the summer season are proceeding at a particularly slow pace, which is a matter of great concern, especially given the timing.

Possible tourism support measures and difficulties

As far as possible support measures are concerned, the strengthening of domestic tourism demand is also being considered, with the aim of providing incentives for Cypriots to choose local accommodation during the holiday season.

However, it remains crucial to maintain the flow of tourists from the European market, which is the main pool of visitors for Cyprus. However, the challenge is now more complex than in previous years. Unlike in the period 2022-2023, when the main issue was the loss of the Russian and Ukrainian markets, today the problem extends to the general climate of insecurity affecting the psychology of European travellers. The negative image of the region is acting as a deterrent, making recovery more difficult.

At the same time, the loss of the Israeli market, as well as markets from the Arabian Peninsula, has already been recorded. In an attempt to partially meet demand, the Israeli airline ISSTA has announced the creation of an alternative air link between Jordan and Cyprus.

Specifically, during the Jewish Passover period (30 March - 8 April), there will be daily flights from Aqaba to Paphos, serving travellers looking for short breaks during a period of limited availability of direct flights from Israel.

MANILA BULLETIN

[Public urged to take part in Earth Hour 2026 observance at Rizal Park](#)

By: Jel Santos

The National Parks Development Committee (NPDC) on Thursday, March 26, urged the public to join the Earth Hour 2026 observance on March 28 at Rizal Park in Manila, as part of the global call to protect the environment.

“The public is encouraged to participate, bring family and friends, and commit to simple, sustainable habits that can be practiced throughout the year,” NPDC said in a statement.

“Because real change does not end in an hour—it grows every day.”

Held in support of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the campaign is marking its 20th year with the theme “Switch On Habits for Earth,” underscoring sustained environmental action beyond the traditional switch-off hour.

According to NPDC, the observance will feature a full-day lineup of activities at Rizal Park aimed at promoting environmental awareness, sustainability education, and community engagement.

Among the activities is the “Tree of Habits,” a symbolic installation where visitors can write and hang their environmental pledges on leaf-shaped cards.

Likewise, the event will include a documentary screening of *The Foresters: A Story of Climate Keepers*, which tells stories of individuals working to protect the environment.

The NPDC said the park will feature sustainability initiatives, including the Urban Garden, Materials Recovery (MaRe!) Kiosk, and Children’s Play Garden, offering visitors practical examples of eco-friendly practices in urban environments.

It added that recycling and upcycling activities will also be held at the MaRe! Kiosk in partnership with Dewaste Solutions, encouraging responsible waste management and creative reuse.

As part of the global observance, NPDC said non-essential lights across the park will be switched off from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. during the “Give an Hour for Earth” ceremony.

The lights-off event will be accompanied by the illumination of the Tree of Habits and a sound bath activity aimed at providing a reflective experience for participants.

The NPDC underscored that Earth Hour goes beyond a one-night activity, as it continues to promote sustainable practices such as urban farming, recycling, and water conservation under its “Beyond the Hour” campaign.

MANILA STANDARD

Climate emergency: UNEP warns of disastrous results for the planet

The world is in a climate emergency. Unless greenhouse gas emissions fall dramatically, warming could pass 2.9°C this century, which would have catastrophic consequences for life on this planet.

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the UN's leading global authority on the environment, has warned that the world is ironically nature's decline.

For every dollar the world invests in protecting or restoring nature, \$30 are spent on activities that degrade it.

UNEP's new State of Finance for Nature 2026 report shows how this imbalance is accelerating climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution — and why shifting financial flows is now one of the most powerful levers available to governments, businesses and investors.

"Whether investments flow into nature's destruction or into its protection will determine if we live in climate-vulnerable concrete jungles or in climate-resilient green cities," says Inger Andersen, UNEP Executive Director.

The report sets out a clear path: phase out harmful investments, scale up high-integrity nature-based solutions (NbS), and build an economy that works with nature instead of against it.

In 2023, an estimated US\$7.3 trillion flowed into activities that damage ecosystems and undermine climate and biodiversity goals. Most of this came from private capital in energy, utilities, industrials and basic materials, as well as public subsidies to the fossil fuels, agriculture, water, transport and construction industries.

By contrast, only US\$220 billion supported NbS. Nearly 90 percent of that came from public spending; private-sector contributions amounted to just US\$ 23 billion.

The imbalance—30:1 in favour of nature-negative finance—is clear.

How far off are we from where we need to be?

To meet global biodiversity, climate and land restoration targets, annual NbS finance must increase 2.5 times to US\$ 571 billion by 2030. This is equivalent to roughly 0.5 percent of the global gross domestic product—a modest shift compared to the scale of harmful flows already in the system.

Redirecting even a fraction of the trillions currently spent on nature-negative activities would close the gap.

How can the world begin this financial shift?

The report introduces the Nature Transition X-Curve, a new framework guiding how governments and businesses can redirect capital flows.

It outlines two simultaneous, mutually reinforcing transitions. Phasing out destructive investments and harmful subsidies; and scaling up high-integrity NbS and nature-positive investments catalysing a “nature transition economy.”

This is the blueprint for moving from a nature-negative to a nature-positive economy.

Are nature-positive options realistic for business? Yes—and they cover every major sector. Opportunities include regenerative agriculture and sustainable forestry; deforestation-free supply chains; biodiversity credits and high-integrity carbon markets; nature-linked bonds and innovative green finance; urban greening and resilient urban development

Momentum is building. Over 700 organizations, representing US\$20 trillion in assets, have already adopted the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) to assess and manage their nature dependencies and impacts.

Is the shift already happening anywhere?

Yes. governments and businesses around the world are already taking steps toward a nature-positive transition.

Examples include: greening cities to counter heat-island effects and improve liveability; embedding nature directly into infrastructure design; producing building materials that store carbon instead of releasing it; supporting debt-for-nature swaps; and scaling up ecosystem protection and restoration.

A trillion-dollar nature transition economy is within reach. But reaching it requires shifting where money flows: away from activities that harm nature and toward solutions that restore it.

DA anchors agriculture expansion on climate resilience, investments

By: Othel V. Campos

The Philippines is sharpening its pitch for agriculture to global investors, recasting the sector as a sustainable, bankable growth engine anchored on modern, climate-resilient practices.

In partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Department of Agriculture (DA) reaffirmed its commitment through the recent Hand-in-Hand National Investment Forum 2026, an enduring collaboration to mobilize capital for a more resilient and sustainable farm sector.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. said the initiative forms part of a broader push to align investments with the DA's sustainability agenda, from climate-smart farming to more efficient, low-waste value chains.

"This is a shared vision for the agri-fisheries sector. We redefine Philippine agriculture from being a legacy of the past to a sustainable engine for growth," he said, noting that the initiative brings together development institutions and private investors to accelerate rural growth while advancing sustainable practices.

The forum, organized with the Food and Agriculture Organization, is designed to channel private capital into farming, fisheries and rural infrastructure, with emphasis on projects that strengthen resilience, improve productivity and promote responsible resource use.

Sustainable investment

The Hand-in-Hand (HIH) initiative is a global FAO platform that matches data-driven agricultural priorities with financing and technical expertise.

Hosting the forum in Manila underscores the Philippines' push to convert global interest into investments that build inclusive, sustainable value chains—aligned with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s agenda of strengthening food security, boosting farm productivity and advancing climate resilience.

Tiu Laurel said the country's participation in the FAO Global Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum in 2024 and 2025 demonstrated that Philippine agriculture could attract global financiers.

Bringing the forum to Manila, he said, is meant to bridge global capital with local stakeholders, particularly in scaling up sustainability-driven, investment-ready projects.

Climate-resilient programs

The DA has been laying the groundwork for a more sustainable sector through a range of climate-focused programs, such as the Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA), which

supports climate-resilient farming and fishing communities through risk management tools, enterprise development and localized climate adaptation strategies.

The initiative is complemented by the Adapting Philippine Agriculture to Climate Change (APA) project, which expands access to climate information, strengthens agri-enterprises and helps farmers adopt adaptive practices that improve productivity and incomes.

The DA has also been mainstreaming climate-smart agriculture across its programs, including farmer training on water management, soil health and sustainable production systems, alongside the use of modern technologies to enhance efficiency and reduce losses.

Path to sustainability

Despite employing millions, agriculture has struggled to attract large-scale investment due to fragmented supply chains, climate risks and infrastructure deficits—challenges the DA is addressing through modernization efforts that embed sustainability across production and post-harvest systems.

By promoting agriculture as a “highly bankable sector,” the DA is signaling a shift toward investment-led transformation that supports climate-adaptive farming, reduces losses and enhances supply chain efficiency.

The DA noted that private-sector participation proves that public funds alone cannot drive the transition. While institutions such as ADB and FAO provide frameworks, technical support and credibility, scaling sustainable agriculture will depend on mobilizing commercial capital.

MIRAGE NEWS

[WHO Gains Green Climate Fund Accreditation](#)

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The World Health Organization (WHO) has today received accreditation by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) , a fund for climate finance that was established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The accreditation will unlock new funding to protect communities worldwide from the health impacts of climate change.

"Climate and health action saves lives," said Dr Ruediger Krech, Director of the department of Environment, Climate Change, One Health and Migration at WHO, "Climate financing will ensure that the health sector is prepared to meet the demands of the climate crisis without contributing further emissions to climate change."

This landmark decision is the result of extensive preparations including high-level exchanges between the Director General of WHO and the Executive Director of the GCF.

Placing climate action at the heart of public health

WHO has over 25 years of climate and health policy and technical leadership, and over 15 years of implementing climate and health programmes in over 30 countries. Extensive country presence and partnerships with ministries of health and governmental agencies position WHO as a vital partner in addressing global climate and health challenges. The combined strength of WHO and GCF will lead to direct climate and health programmes and the development of health-promoting interventions at the country level by leveraging a network of health ministries and key partners.

WHO will support projects by facilitating technical partnerships, providing implementation toolkits, coordinating peer reviews and monitoring processes to ensure quality and scalability. The WHO-hosted Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH) , launched in 2022, will play a critical role, including identifying co-financing for any potential investments by GCF through its network of over 200 country and partner members.

There has been remarkable progress in global climate-health action since WHO's application to the GCF in 2015. Responding to climate change was made the priority objective in WHO's Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW14) for 2025-2028. In 2024 a Resolution on Climate Change and Health was adopted at the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly and health has become a consistent focus at recent UN Climate Change Conferences (COPs), which have included dedicated Health Days and the adoption of the Belém Health Action Plan at COP30 in Brazil.

"Climate financing is crucial to tackling the climate-health crisis," said Dr Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, Head of Climate Change, Air Quality, Energy and Health at WHO, "WHO will use this opportunity to ensure low- and middle-income countries have access to the resources needed to build climate-resilient and sustainable low-carbon health systems."

Linking climate realities with the health response

The impact of climate change on humanity is well established, with the recognition of health impacts of climate change growing in the international community. Health is identified as a priority in 91% of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), national climate action plans by each country under the Paris Agreement, but only a few NDCs specify actions to maximize health benefits from climate adaptation and/or mitigation.

According to estimates, just 2% of adaptation funding and only 0.5% of multilateral climate funding go to health, leaving the health sector with the greatest unmet demand. WHO aims to address these needs for climate finance support and empower national health ministries to develop climate-resilient health systems, reduce emissions and bolster climate-health action across sectors.

WHO's accreditation to the GCF catalyses a paradigm shift by embedding health resilience and health equity into climate finance, thereby transforming how climate adaptation and mitigation are designed, implemented, and evaluated. WHO's leadership in global health, combined with its operational capacity and normative authority, positions it to oversee and supervise impactful, multisectoral projects.

PBS

[Jakarta rapidly sinks as climate change and overdevelopment collide](#)

By: Fred de Sam Lazaro

Across the U.S. and around the world, coastal cities are grappling with rising seas and worsening floods. With 42 million people, Jakarta, Indonesia, is the world's most populated city. It's sinking rapidly as climate change and overdevelopment collide. Fred de Sam Lazaro reports for our series Tipping Point.

Geoff Bennett:

Across the U.S. and around the world, coastal cities are grappling with rising seas and worsening floods. Now a look at a place facing those threats on an even larger scale.

Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, now the world's largest city and home to 42 million people, is sinking rapidly, as climate change and overdevelopment collide.

For our climate series tipping point, Fred de Sam Lazaro reports now from North Jakarta.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

In Jakarta's north, only a seawall stands between this megacity and the Java Sea, holding back the tide, but not always, especially between October and April, as the rainy season and rising seas collide.

Entire neighborhoods are submerged, motorbikes stall in water, and children find new joy in the streets filled with contaminated floodwaters. For millions like 35-year-old Ratini, who, like many Indonesians, goes by just one name, this flooding is now routine.

Ratini, Jakarta, Indonesia, Resident (through interpreter):

The water can reach thigh high. Cars and motorcycles can't enter the area.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

She spent her entire life here and cares for a family of seven.

Ratini (through interpreter):

It's difficult for everyone, because, when there is a flood, it's hard to make a living for me and the children.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

When we visited, one son was sick, a reminder of the flood season's impact.

Ratini (through interpreter):

We often get sick during floods. Everything becomes chaotic. Sometimes, electricity goes out as well.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

Her husband, like many here, supports the family by collecting scrap, earning roughly \$6 a day. During floods, that slashed in half. About 40 percent of Jakarta is below sea level, and it's estimated nearly half of the city could be inundated and uninhabitable by 2050.

Water is everywhere in Indonesia, an archipelago of 17,000 islands. Farmers here depend on the rains to flood rice paddies that help feed the world's fourth most populous country. But in the densely populated capital, water is no longer a lifeline; it's a threat.

M. Abdul Baits, Indonesian Forum for the Environment (through interpreter): It's reached the second floor.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

M. Abdul Baits, with one of Indonesia's most prominent environmental groups, showed us the impact years of flooding has had in Ratini's neighborhood.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

This is proof that Jakarta has sunk below sea level here. This used to be a two-story house.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

Nearby, this submerged mosque has become a symbol of what's been lost in the world's largest Muslim-majority country, its dome disappearing over recent years. The capital city has been sinking as much as six inches per year, and, at the same time, sea levels have risen about four inches in the last three decades.

That's led to more severe flooding, in 2020 reaching record levels that killed more than 60 and forced tens of thousands to evacuate. Decades of growth has depleted groundwater, slowly hollowing out the land and causing it to sink.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

During the 1970s and '80s, there was massive development, especially in industrial and commercial areas. That level of construction required huge amounts of water.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

And the glittering high-rises that now stretch out for miles add to the burden.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

Most structures are made of concrete. The weight of those buildings adds significant pressure to the land.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

This construction covered wetlands and mangrove swamps.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

It is no longer ecologically functional. Jakarta is like a sponge. If the sponge is sealed, it can no longer absorb water, and eventually it collapses.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

By law, a third of Jakarta is supposed to be green, open space. In reality, Baits says, it's less than 5 percent, leaving rainwater nowhere to go. Trash and debris often block existing drainage points.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

Flooding in Jakarta has a huge impact on people, especially those living in slums and densely populated areas. This is deeply unfair. They're not the ones causing the flooding, yet they suffer the most.

Karitem, Jakarta, Indonesia, Resident (through interpreter):

Tidal flooding is the worst. Luckily, this house is on stilts now. We couldn't cook at all. We even had to boil water using candles.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

Karitem (ph), Ratini's mother, lost her nearby home to flooding and moved in with her daughter. They feel safe for now a level above the street.

Ratini (through interpreter):

After the embankment was built, we don't get flooded as much. The water is blocked now, so it feels much safer.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

The government began building coastal defenses and pumps in the early 2000s. Today, roughly nine miles of seawall protect parts of the shoreline. Last year, the government announced plans for a massive 435-mile seawall project.

And, in 2019, Indonesia also announced plans to move its capital, now on the island of Java, to Borneo, a transition scheduled for 2028. Pitched as a green, futuristic city by former President Joko Widodo, it was meant to ease Jakarta's burdens.

Joko Widodo, Former Indonesian President (through interpreter):

This is a massive project with a timeline of 15 to 20 years. This isn't a one-to two-year project.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

But progress has been slow. Only parts are built, mainly government offices and housing, with few residents so far. And environmental and indigenous groups warn, the project could endanger one of the world's largest surviving tropical rain forests.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

Relocating the capital does not address the root environmental and social problems. Those issues remain unresolved.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

Baits wants to see existing laws about green space enforced, and local communities consulted to find the solutions, instead of what he calls top-down big infrastructure projects.

M. Abdul Baits (through interpreter):

This is not a long-term solution. Seawater gradually erodes concrete, and, over time, it will weaken and fail. In fact, it could become a time bomb. People may feel safe because the wall is there, but it does not eliminate the risk. If a larger disaster happens, the impact could be far worse.

Fred de Sam Lazaro:

In a city that has adapted to the sea since its very beginning 500 years ago, Baits says that skill will be put to its severest test in generations to come.

For the "PBS News Hour," I'm Fred de Sam Lazaro.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[CCC ramps up gender-responsive climate action](#)

By: Marita Moaje

MANILA – The Climate Change Commission (CCC) is strengthening efforts to integrate gender equality into the country’s climate agenda by rolling out the implementation phase of the Nationally Determined Contribution Gender Action Plan (NDC-GAP) 2024–2030.

In a news release Thursday, the CCC said that at the core of the rollout is the establishment of a Gender and Climate Change Advisory Group (GCAG), a multisectoral body tasked to lead implementation by finalizing its membership and guidelines, conducting stakeholder mapping, and rolling out capacity-building sessions for Gender and Development (GAD) focal points across agencies.

The GCAG will be co-chaired by CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne Herrera, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Undersecretary Analiza Rebuelta-Teh and Philippine Commission on Women Deputy Executive Director Anita Baleda.

"The implementation of the NDC-GAP marks an important step for the Philippines. It moves us from mere recognition that climate change is not gender neutral, to concrete action, by putting gender and social inclusion squarely into how we plan, implement, monitor, and improve our climate actions," Herrera said.

The NDC-GAP 2024–2030 serves as the country’s framework for integrating gender and social inclusion into climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, ensuring that policies and investments actively reduce inequalities and empower vulnerable sectors.

It emphasizes mainstreaming gender across all stages of climate governance, from planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation, while strengthening accountability systems and coordination among agencies.

GCAG members committed to a unified implementation strategy for the six-year plan, clarified member roles and responsibilities, and identified immediate priority actions to sustain momentum across all government levels, noting the importance of coordinated action across government agencies.

Officials said the plan marks a shift from recognizing that climate change is not gender-neutral to institutionalizing inclusive, gender-responsive climate governance, aligned with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s goal of a climate-resilient Philippines.

The GCAG also includes other key agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy and Department of Transportation, along with the partner institution, the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development.

The CCC said development partners such as the Agence Française de Développement and the Asian Development Bank are supporting the initiative, with technical assistance from the Miriam College - Women and Gender Institute. (PNA)

DAILY TRIBUNE

[Philippines launches gender-climate advisory group](#)

The Climate Change Commission (CCC), in partnership with national agencies and development partners, has launched the Gender and Climate Change Advisory Group (GCAG) to advance inclusive climate action under the country's Nationally Determined Contribution Gender Action Plan (NDC-GAP) 2024–2030. Philippine Travel Guides

The GCAG will serve as a multi-sectoral body tasked with steering the implementation of the six-year plan, ensuring that climate mitigation efforts integrate gender and social inclusion across policies and programs.

The group is co-chaired by CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne Herrera, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Undersecretary Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, and Philippine Commission on Women Deputy Executive Director Anita Baleda.

Participating agencies include the Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy, and Department of Transportation, alongside development partners such as the Asian Development Bank and Agence Française de Développement.

During its inaugural meeting, the GCAG outlined a unified implementation strategy, clarified roles among member agencies, and identified priority actions to sustain momentum across government levels. "The implementation of the NDC-GAP marks an important step for the Philippines. It moves us from mere recognition that climate change is not gender neutral to concrete action," Herrera said.

Officials said the initiative aims to ensure that climate policies and investments address systemic inequalities while empowering vulnerable sectors. Baleda emphasized that the platform should lead to "concrete, institutionalized actions" that strengthen gender-responsive climate governance across agencies.

Meanwhile, Rebuelta-Teh highlighted the importance of closely monitoring implementation in key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, and other land uses.

The GCAG is expected to finalize its membership and operational guidelines, conduct stakeholder mapping, and roll out capacity-building programs for gender and development focal points across agencies.

The CCC said the initiative supports the administration's push for a more inclusive and climate-resilient Philippines.

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