



NEWS ROUNDUP

07 MAY 2024 [08:00 am]

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By: Lenie Lectura

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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By: Nanette Guadalquiver

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THE STAR

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By: Michael Lim Ubac

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The five-day Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plan (eLCCAP) Training Workshop started yesterday, May 6, at Negros Residences in Bacolod City.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

BUSINESS MIRROR

DOE awards 92 offshore wind energy service deals

By: Lenie Lectura

The Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded a total of 92 offshore wind (OSW) energy service contracts with a potential capacity 65 gigawatt hours (GWh).

These are spread mainly in north of Luzon, west of Metro Manila, north and south of Mindoro, Panay and Guimaras Strait. The DOE said all OSW service contracts are currently under development stage, mainly preliminary wind data gathering, applications for endorsement, and request for system impact studies.

Four of the 92 OSW service contracts recorded as of March 25 were awarded to 100-percent foreign owned companies. OSW is the only renewable energy with its own Executive Order which directs the establishment of the policy and administrative framework for its development.

The Philippines has immense OSW potential, with the World Bank estimating over 178 GWs of technical offshore wind potential. With a rapidly rising energy demand and goals to increase RE shares to 50 percent in the country's energy mix by 2040, OSW is seen playing a key role in boosting energy security and decarbonization efforts in the Philippines.

Building up the country's offshore wind market can also spur job creation, local economic growth and low-cost sustainable energy, the World Bank said earlier.

An environmentalist think tank released early this month a report citing three high-potential OSW development zones in the country.

According to Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), these are located near Manila Bay, Tayabas Bay, and Guimaras.

"To keep pace with its economic growth and energy security, Southeast Asian countries need to rapidly develop renewable energy, of which wind power has huge room for development.

"This report explores potential offshore wind power areas for development in the Philippines and identifies specific challenges potentially preventing market readiness for large-scale offshore wind projects," said Wini Rizkiningayu, Regional Director, RMI Southeast Asia Energy Program.

RMI partnered with the Southeast Asia Clean Energy Facility (SEACEF) to conduct this study, funded by the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) and Tara Climate Foundation.

The three high-priority OSW zones were chosen for their potential to provide the Philippines's first OSW projects and future opportunities for longer-term development as a floating OSW market matures.

These zones were also chosen for their high wind speeds of greater than 7 meters per second, proximity to major load centers in southern Luzon and western Visayas, areas with relatively shallow water depths that allow for fixed foundation wind turbine generator designs for the market's first projects, and access to deeper areas for floating offshore wind farms.

Manila Bay and Tayabas Bay have the potential for near-term—likely operational by 2035—OSW development, with wind farms using fixed foundation turbines and wind service energy contract (WSEC) leases of less than 300 megawatts (MW).

The waters surrounding Guimaras Province are recommended for near-term development for fixed foundation turbines. Available WSECs in this area have economies of scale with 600 MW or higher capacities, the report said.

The report recommended a phased development based on where ports and transmission can best support smaller capacity OSW, or those more than 300MW, specifically near Manila Bay and Tayabas Bay, where substations are better equipped for interconnection and nearby ports would require minimal upgrades.

MANILA BULLETIN

[Climate Champion: Makati earns spot in climate change challenge](#)

By: Patrick Garcia

The Makati City local government announced that it has been named one of the three cities in the country to earn the spot as a national finalist in the World Wide Fund for Nature's (WWF) prestigious One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) 2023-2024 which recognizes the efforts and initiatives of local government units (LGUs) around the world against climate change.

Joining Makati City as finalists are Baguio City and Tagum City.

"This distinction not only celebrates Makati's environmental achievements but also sets us as a leader in ecological responsibility among over 350 cities from 50 countries," the city said.

According to WWF, nearly 900 cities participated in the OPCC in just over 10 years, with more joining the cause.

"This friendly biennial global competition aims to help cities deliver the commitments in the Paris Agreement to limit the rise in global temperature to below 1.5°C. It also commends cities that are actively advancing their efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, maintaining a well-rounded approach aligned with their objectives," the WWF said.

"As cities contribute over 70 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and consume more than 75 percent of their natural resources, their efforts in planning, implementing, and monitoring climate action are crucial for transitioning to a low-carbon and sustainable future," it added.

One Planet Cities Project Manager for WWF-Philippines Imee Bellen expressed hope that more cities will rise to the challenge of addressing the climate crisis while emphasizing the importance of stakeholder engagement.

"We applaud the commitment of these Philippine cities that participated in this latest run of the OPCC. It is also important to highlight that the collective climate action of cities and their citizens plays a significant role in both mitigating and adapting to climate change," Bellen said.

The organization explained that all OPCC participating cities received a "Strategic Feedback Report" based on the climate data reported by them which contained an

assessment of their climate journey highlighting both the city's successes in the climate arena and other areas where improvement is needed.

It also offers a list of recommended effective mitigation and adaptation actions to help the city better address the impacts of global warming.

"The three Philippine finalists, along with those finalists from other countries, are also qualified to participate in the OPCC's related activity called We Love Cities (WLC). This public engagement campaign aims to bridge and foster better communication between city officials and the citizens so that they can work together on climate and sustainability issues," WWF said.

"All OPCC finalists will be evaluated by an international jury composed of leading experts within the field of urban sustainability from around the globe. National and global winners will be announced publicly by September-October 2024," it added.

As a climate change champion, Makati City Mayor Abby Binay spearheaded numerous proactive programs and initiatives aimed at mitigating the city's carbon emissions and adapt to the latest technology in its climate change efforts.

These include the deployment of smart and sustainable mass transportation, the use of government electric vehicles, installation of solar panels in all government buildings and schools, and other systems detecting the adverse effects of climate change in Makati.

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Ilocos Norte Fortifies Defense Vs. Climate Change With Mangroves

Volunteers and government workers planted 800 mangrove propagules in the coastal village of Ablan in Burgos, Ilocos Norte on Friday.

Employees of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Philippine Coast Guard joined the volunteers and community officials.

The Ablan mangrove site is part of the more than 23 hectares being rehabilitated in various coastal municipalities the province.

“The mangrove planting activity aims to not only enhance the biodiversity of coastal communities, but also foster a sense of environmental responsibility and stewardship among the people,” Vic Ines, provincial agrarian reform officer, told the Philippine News Agency in an interview.

Ines said the simple act of planting mangroves could help cool the environment while protecting communities from the adverse impacts of climate change, providing habitat for diverse marine life, reducing erosion and absorbing impacts of weather disturbances.

“This is also a form of bonding time of our staff in DAR-Ilocos Norte, which we do annually. We might do it twice this year in time for the rainy season,” he said.

Jay-Ar Tiguiamo, environment officer of Burgos, said village and municipal governments will monitor and nurture the newly planted mangroves to ensure their growth.

If left undisturbed, mangroves can live up to 100 years. The more they mature, the more they help the marine ecological system.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

[Bridging gaps on gender and climate justice \(1\)](#)

By: Rufa Cagoco-Guam

I am here at Miriam College, at the 7th National Women's Summit (NSW), with the theme, "Accelerating Gender Equality in the Midst of Multiple Crises: Toward 30 Years of Beijing Platform for Action." The two-day event started yesterday. One of the crises identified in this summit is what we are experiencing now—extraordinarily scorching heat every day of our lives, with daily temperatures averaging 40-45 degrees Celsius.

I was invited to speak at a panel on "bridging the gap on gender and climate justice," which took place yesterday afternoon. I think this invitation is based on recent research I have done on the intersections of climate change with conflicts, gender inequality, and social exclusion in selected Bangsamoro communities in Mindanao.

The summit started with keynote speeches from prominent women leaders in the country, bringing to the forefront significant roles female policymakers and implementers play as they navigate predominant practices and perspectives like misogyny and gender unequal relations that have defined government bureaucracies in the country, both in the past and the present.

Such perspectives and practices have given rise to multiple crises that have affected women and girls just because of who they are, as members of the more "vulnerable" sectors of society. But when these identities overlap with being members of already marginalized sectors like indigenous communities, or part of the nonbinary gender identities of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and others (LGBTQI++) or having disabilities of any kind, individuals become even more subjected to discrimination and emotional, mental and physical and, in some cases, sexual abuse.

I want to highlight my presentation at this summit, on the need to understand the intricacies of understanding climate change and various intersections with the multiple crises facing women, girls, and members of nonbinary gender identities and of other "vulnerabilities" listed above; and on what has been popularized in academic and civil society circles as "climate justice."

I just finished writing the report on the latest exploratory research I led in selected communities in the Bangsamoro mainland on the intersections of climate security, gender inequality, and social exclusion. Just a disclaimer: given the limited funds for this project, our study locales were limited to some barangays in three distinct areas in three provinces: Maguindanao del Norte and del Sur, and Lanao del Sur. (We have to

constantly cite this as a serious limitation in our study, but at the same time, it is an opportunity open to those interested in pursuing these issues further).

Our study findings showed how climate stressors like droughts and flooding have exacerbated existing vulnerabilities or weaknesses among community members, especially those already marginalized and impoverished. Vulnerabilities are not only based on gender and nonbinary gender identities, like being gay or being a member of the LGBTQI++ community, and other outcomes of a confluence of social exclusion markers, like being poor, being a member of a “second-order” minority groups like indigenous peoples, and having some types of disabilities, whether physical or emotional and mental.

Our study areas are also prone to violent conflicts in the past and present, leading one of my co-researchers to note that the Bangsamoro region is considered an “epicenter” or a major arena of violent conflict. And we saw these happen during our fieldwork held at the time of the barangay elections. At one point, my team of field researchers had to return to their homes in General Santos City when they learned that the house of one of their local coordinators was hit by an M-79 grenade launcher.

Just last week, a violent encounter occurred in Kitango, a small barangay in an area designated by the Philippine military as the Salbu-Pagatin-Mamasapano-Shariff Aguak (SPMS) box. In this newest rash of violent conflict incidents, more than 10 alleged members of a faction of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Forces, the Karialan faction, were killed by Philippine army elements.

The SPMS box has earned notoriety as a “deadly” territory, that stemmed from its being the location of the infamous “Mamasapano” tragedy in 2015 that killed 44 Special Action Forces of the Philippine National Police and seven civilians, including women and children. At present, motorists avoid the highway built within this complex, as a shortcut in traversing the Cotabato City-General Santos route, especially during “critical times” of the day, like late afternoon or early morning.

[Bridging gaps on gender and climate justice \(2\)](#)

By: Rufa Cagoco-Guiam

Climate change has shown to be a “threat multiplier” as it exacerbates existing weaknesses among governments and their constituents. Climate change events like droughts and floods can seriously challenge financially- and (human) resource-poor local government units (LGUs).

Local government units classified as fourth to sixth class, based on their incomes and their shares from the national government through the Internal Revenue Allotment, struggle to deal with the adverse consequences of droughts and flooding. In these LGUs, many of the required facilities and equipment, as well as pre-positioned goods and assistance packages, are either absent or inadequate. Capacities of local government functionaries assigned in a town or a barangay’s disaster risks reduction and management offices are also wanting; indicating a shallow bench of both skills and experience in dealing with climate change events. Many times, deaths from drowning (during floods) or from starvation (during a very long dry spell) happen, although these could have been prevented had LGUs been fully capacitated (and equipped) to prevent, mitigate, or reduce their constituents’ vulnerabilities to extreme weather events.

These are among the findings in the recently concluded qualitative study on the intersections of climate change, conflicts, gender inequality, and social exclusion in selected communities in three provinces that are part of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)—Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao del Norte, and Maguindanao del Sur.

Aside from vulnerabilities to climate change weather events like flooding and droughts, the communities studied in the three provinces are also perennially exposed to violent conflicts, in the past and present. The three provinces are among the most conflict-affected compared to other areas in the BARMM.

Climate change stressors have pushed gender gaps or inequalities based on gender identities to the surface, and these have caused tensions within families and community members. In highly patriarchal-oriented and conservative families in the communities we studied, behavior associated with nonbinary gender identities is still considered “not normal.” There is a popular belief that calamities brought about by extreme weather events are the result of “fitna” (Arabic for trial or civil strife) or what Cebuano-speaking Visayans call “gaba” or curse. A number of our informants said that droughts, typhoons, and flooding are caused by nature, or are expressions of the wrath of God after people have become remiss of their religious duties and responsibilities. They cited the case of a hurricane happening after a community staged a gay beauty pageant, that led to a mass exodus of gay men in a small community in Maguindanao del Norte to Cotabato

City. The local chief executive in that community reportedly ordered all gay men there to be castrated. One informant also disclosed how he “put some sense” into the mind of his niece, who used to behave like a lesbian. He was proud to disclose that he beat her up until she “realized” that she needed to behave like a regular woman.

Climate justice refers to the moral and ethical dimensions of climate change events. The disastrous effects of climate change are the results of the action of a group of elite “polluters” by destroying forests and mountains through excessive logging and mining. Members of impoverished communities who contributed the least or even did not contribute at all are the ones suffering from the ravages of typhoons, flooding, or droughts. This is climate “injustice.”

Logging and mining can lead to soil erosion and the weakening of a mountain’s walls, causing it to crumble during excessive rainfall after a strong typhoon like what happened when Typhoon “Paeng” struck the seashore areas of Maguindanao del Sur. Several people died in the flood, with some of them buried alive under rocks and mud that came with the landslide after the heavy rains. The deaths of the victims, all members of the indigenous Teduray, could have been avoided if Mount Minandar still had its forests and if it had not been mined for gravel for the construction of houses and resorts near the seashore in Kusiong. They died as a consequence of the actions of business persons who benefited from their logging concessions in Mount Minandar that started more than 50 years ago.

Gender gaps and inequalities are aggravated in times of both violent conflicts and extreme weather events. Forging climate justice can start with collaborative and collective action animating communities to demand their voices be heard in climate change decision-making policies.

Pagasa: Hot, humid weather to continue across PH on Tuesday

By: Zacarian Sarao

Hot and humid weather will continue to prevail throughout the country on Tuesday, with chances of rain in the afternoon and evening, said the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa).

“Sa Luzon, magpapatuloy pa rin ang mainit at maalinsangang panahon may mga tiyansa ng panandaliang buhos ng ulan sa hapon at sa gabi,” said Pagasa weather specialist Rhea Torres.

(In Luzon, hot and humid weather will continue, with chances of brief rain especially in the afternoon and evening.)

“Sa nalalabing bahagi ng ating bansa, generally fair weather conditions na may mga tiyansa ng panandaliang buhos ng pagulan lalong lalo na sa hapon o sa gabi,” she added.

(In the rest of the country, generally fair weather conditions with chances of rains in the afternoon and evening will also prevail.)

Meanwhile, no typhoons or low pressure areas are expected to enter or form within the Philippine area of responsibility (PAR).

However, Torres said there is a possibility of a weather disturbance or cloud cluster that may enter PAR by weekend, and affect parts of Mindanao.

Pagasa said the temperature range in key cities/areas across the country for Tuesday will be:

- Metro Manila: 27 to 36 degrees Celsius
- Baguio City: 18 to 27 degrees Celsius
- Laoag City: 26 to 34 degrees Celsius
- Tuguegarao: 25 to 39 degrees Celsius
- Legazpi City: 25 to 33 degrees Celsius
- Puerto Princesa City: 27 to 34 degrees Celsius
- Tagaytay: 24 to 32 degrees Celsius
- Kalayaan Islands: 27 to 35 degrees Celsius
- Iloilo City: 27 to 34 degrees Celsius
- Cebu: 28 to 33 degrees Celsius
- Tacloban City: 26 to 33 degrees Celsius

- Cagayan De Oro City: 26 to 33 degrees Celsius
- Zamboanga City: 25 to 34 degrees Celsius
- Davao City: 26 to 34 degrees Celsius

No gale warning is also raised, with only light to moderate wave conditions expected across the country's in-land seas and surrounding coasts.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

Negros Occidental calls for exhibitors in renewable energy expo

By: Nanette Guadalquiver

The Negros Occidental provincial government on Monday announced the opening of participation for exhibitors in the Renewable Energy Week Expo on May 20 to 22.

The activity is part of the 1st Renewable Energy Week of the province set on May 20 to 24 at the Ayala Malls Capitol Central Activity Center here, under the SecuRE Negros campaign and in observance of Executive Order 04-09 issued by Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson.

“Booths will be provided free of charge while exhibitors will shoulder the cost of their own exhibit materials and assigned personnel,” the provincial government said in its announcement.

Interested parties may send a letter addressed to former governor Rafael Coscolluela, the provincial consultant on energy and environment concerns, through pceenegocc@gmail.com by May 10. Details will be discussed with participants on May 13.

The SecuRE Negros campaign is the province-led commitment to energy security through the support for distributed energy systems or distributed energy resource models and the use of renewable energy sources.

It is adopting the #RRAAASEON2030 for Reliable, Renewable, Available, Accessible, Affordable, and Sustainable Energy for Occidental Negros, with 2030 as the target deadline.

During the campaign launch last February, Lacson acknowledged that ensuring energy security for the province is “not an easy, short-term endeavor,” adding that “it requires careful study, strategic planning and implementation, and continuous consultation.”

“In this, we have been proactive, strategic, and consultative,” he said.

On May 3, the Provincial Stakeholders’ Consultative Power Summit convened representatives from the energy industry stakeholder groups to craft the Provincial Energy Development Roadmap to 2030.

A key recommendation from the sectoral consultation workshops was to create a collaborative task force composed of government agencies, industry stakeholders and

community representatives that will oversee the implementation of the roadmap and ensure a seamless transition to renewable energy sources while maintaining power security and reliability in the province.

Lacson, in his keynote address during the summit, reiterated the province's dedication to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

He also highlighted the role of renewable energy in enhancing power security, reducing carbon emissions, mitigating climate change impacts, and fostering economic growth and job creation in Negros Occidental.

THE STAR

[Single-use plastics ban is the way to solve the Philippines crisis](#)

By: Michael Lim Ubac

The Philippines can play a significant role in the global fight against plastic pollution by taking multiple measures, including banning single-use plastics.

A global plastics treaty that bans single-use plastics received almost 90% support from Filipinos in a Greenpeace survey conducted across 19 countries last February. Some 94% of Filipino respondents believed that a cap on plastic production would stop plastic pollution, prevent biodiversity loss, and limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

This would be welcome news to negotiators from around the world who met from April 23-29, 2024, in Ottawa, Canada, to hammer out a United Nations (UN) treaty to end plastic pollution, including its scourge on the marine environment.

In 2022, the assembly began negotiations in Uruguay and planned to finalise a treaty in South Korea in November.

Let's consider the extent of our single-use plastic problem and its impact on the world's oceans and biodiversity.

In 2019, Filipinos consumed 163 million sachets, 48 million shopping bags, 45 million thin film (labo) bags, and three million pieces of diapers every day, according to the environmental justice group Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (Gaia).

The latest brand audit by Gaia has shown that the "sachet culture" in the Philippines and South-East Asia is widespread, which is causing harm to marine life and clogging waterways.

Gaia released the report before the Earth Day celebration last month.

Every year, the Philippines generates 2.7 million tonnes of plastic waste.

Most of the plastic waste ends up in landfills and bodies of water (20% of which ends up in the ocean) due to the combination of these two factors: the proliferation of single-use plastics combined with a very weak waste management system.

Using the study of Meijer et al. (2021), Our World in Data, a scientific online publication, revealed that plastic pollution in the Philippines reached 36.38% in 2019, followed by India (12.92%) and Malaysia (7.46%).

According to GreenMatch, the Philippines has the highest annual output of ocean plastic waste (356,371 tonnes) compared with the plastic waste produced by India (126,513), Malaysia (73,098), China (70,707), and Indonesia (56,333).

The figures are baffling to Sonia Mendoza, chair of Mother Earth Foundation, an environmental group that is championing a “zero waste” philosophy in waste management.

Mendoza noted that China is the largest plastic producer. Statista.com states that China produced 32% of global plastic in 2022. The rest of Asia accounted for only 19%, while North America supplied 17%.

According to GreenMatch, China was only recycling 16 million tonnes of plastic waste out of a total of 60 million tonnes.

The UN Environmental Program did not rank nations but confirmed that the highest share of the world’s marine litter and plastic pollution came from Asia, with China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam considered “hotspots.” Drop in the bucket. Efforts to recycle plastic waste in our community are numerous, but scaling them up to become national programmes is a challenge.

These include the various ordinances in Metro Manila that ban the use of plastic bags; but why can’t authorities compel all local government units nationwide to do so? A barangay in Cavite is doling out a kg of rice for every kg of plastic waste.

Zero waste

The “zero waste” campaign in Potrero, Malabon is harnessing the community’s power to separate waste at source, recycle nontoxic plastics, and compost food waste.

Commendable as they are, these are just a small drop in the bucket in an ocean of single-use plastics.

Mendoza is therefore pushing for a ban on single-use plastics and reducing plastic production.

Comparing plastic production to a water tap, she said: “Our goal is to close the tap. The tap can’t be opened while the bathtub is overflowing because only 9% of plastic waste is recycled globally.” No matter how we argue about it, we will always come to the same conclusion: Single-use plastics are a scourge that should be stopped. Easily refuted

The argument that the ban would be anti-poor, since sari-sari stores (neighbourhood retailers) sell cheaper goods in sachets, can be easily refuted.

Back in the day, we used to bring our own used bottles when buying vinegar, oil, and other condiments.

Instant coffee wasn't always packaged in sachets. They were mostly sold in glass jars that could be reused later as coffee mugs or containers.

Today, sachets are available even at the most luxurious convenience stores and supermarkets. Convenience is the name of the game, illustrating that big manufacturers have exploited people and the planet solely for the sake of profit. — Philippine Daily Inquirer/ANN

Michael Lim Ubac is a former reporter and editor of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. The views expressed here are the writer's own.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[CCC launches Ocean Month drive for marine ecosystem sustainability](#)

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) is launching the Month of the Ocean social media campaign “Dive Deep, Change the Tides” this May.

“Climate change greatly affects our oceans, leading to rising sea levels, coral reef degradation, and an increase in severe weather events. These changes have profound impacts, not just on our ecosystems and biodiversity, but also to our communities,” the CCC said in a news release on Monday.

In response to these challenges, the CCC is committed to promoting nature-based solutions, enhancing climate finance, and working towards resilience.

Anchored in this year’s ocean month theme “Develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy,” the campaign aims to inform, educate, and inspire action among Filipinos and the global community to address ocean-related issues and to cultivate a deep appreciation for the ocean's role in climate action.

Using carousel posts, infographics, and reels, the campaign will highlight the ocean's contributions to climate regulation, oxygen production, carbon sequestration, biodiversity support, food security, and weather patterns.

It will also address the challenges of pollution, acidification, habitat and biodiversity loss, and overfishing. Real-life accounts from fisherfolk will show the tangible impacts of these issues, along with actionable tips for adopting ocean-friendly habits to promote sustainability.

"Oceans are the lifeblood of our planet, and also our frontline against climate change. Our actions today will determine the health of our oceans tomorrow. We all have a role to play in ensuring their protection and sustainability," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said.

Throughout the month, the CCC will engage audiences across multiple platforms – Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram– with a variety of informative content.

This campaign aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which focuses on conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas, and marine

resources for sustainable development, as well as SDG 13, which urges to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Through Presidential Proclamation No. 57, s.1999, May is designated as Month of the Ocean, emphasizing the responsibility of the Philippine government and the Filipino people to promote sustainable ocean practices and raise public awareness about the importance of our oceans.

“Stay tuned to our social media accounts for the upcoming contents and to join the conversation about ocean preservation and climate action,” the CCC said.

SUNSTAR

[LGUs join 5-day climate change action plan training](#)

The five-day Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plan (eLCCAP) Training Workshop started yesterday, May 6, at Negros Residences in Bacolod City.

The training workshop of representatives of local government units of the Province of Negros Occidental aims to gain a thorough understanding of climate change and determine the necessary actions, given the severity of its impact on the province's current situation.

It also aims to enhance the knowledge of the LGUs on climate change and take the necessary steps to implement the Enhanced Local Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson assured the LGUs that they can count on the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental to provide all the support they need in the battle against climate change.

"We all know that the most effective way to address this very alarming concern is through the cooperation of people and institutions on a global scale. As I have previously stated, climate change is a problem of global proportion, but reducing its adverse impacts must be done at the local level," said Lacson.

"Always remember that you will initiate the momentum that we urgently need because we need everyone, every Negrense, to do their part—not as a mere proposition, but as an urgent necessity," he added.

The activity is spearheaded by the Provincial Disaster Management Program Division in collaboration with the Climate Change Commission.

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