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By: Paul Angelo Juan, Jean Paula Regulano and Jerome Ilagan

In the face of the intensifying effects of climate change, countries are confronted with differentiated and disproportionate impacts. Developing countries contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions are those most affected, vulnerable and at-risk to climate change. With limited resources, developing countries face difficulty in immediately addressing the multifaceted issues posed by climate change.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

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By: Janna Marie Pineda

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By: Secretary Robert E.A. Borje

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The Climate Change Commission (CCC) emphasized the importance of policies and plans that prioritize the long-term resilience of mountain regions in the face of a changing climate as the nation observes the Month of the Mountains this June.

MANILA STANDARD

[Climate change body urges creation of national adaptation plan](#)

By: Charles Dantes

The Philippines' Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday called on stakeholders to implement a "National Adaptation Plan Process" to reduce the country's climate change vulnerability.

PCO

[Climate Change Commission urges stakeholders to carry out a National Adaptation Plan](#)

An official from the Philippines' Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday urged all stakeholders to carry out a "National Adaptation Plan Process" in order to reduce the country's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[CCC calls for 'whole country' effort for nat'l adaptation plan](#)

By Filane Mikee Cervantes

An official of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday called for a "whole country effort" to carry out the Philippines' national adaptation plan (NAP) to minimize risks related to climate change and its impacts.

THE MANILA TIMES

['Whole-of-country approach needed vs climate change'](#)

By: Catherine S. Valente

Climate Change Commission Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca on Saturday called for the immediate implementation of a national adaptation plan (NAP) for climate change.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

BORNEO BULLETIN

Philippines goes all in for natural gas, a climate pollutant

Sea turtles still scramble from the waters of Batangas Bay, paddling up the sand to bury their eggs. Coral reefs that some marine biologists call the Amazon of the ocean lie just offshore, home to giant clams, nurturing small fish, which in turn are prey for manta rays.

But above the surface the land is changed. The fishing village of Santa Clara is now surrounded by four power generating stations, all burning natural gas.

The construction isn't over. Four more power plants that burn natural gas are planned for the coastline. What was a string of fishing villages is now an industrial zone.

The Philippines is going all in for electricity made via climate-damaging combustion, with almost two dozen power stations planned and the ambition to become a gas hub for the entire Asia Pacific region.

When natural gas is super-chilled into a liquid, special tanker ships can transport millions of cubic feet of it at a time, and the global trade in liquified natural gas or LNG is growing fast.

It's one of the world's largest natural gas power buildouts and will contribute to climate change at a time when alternative, renewable electricity has never been cheaper.

"It's mindboggling that the Philippines, a climate-vulnerable country, would still pursue dirty fuels which exacerbate climate disasters," said Executive Director of the Philippine nonprofit Centre for Energy, Ecology and Development.

Natural gas causes warming of the atmosphere both when it leaks out, unburned, and when it is burned for heat or electricity. Experts who have studied the country found its future growth could be met entirely with renewables; reliance on natural gas will make power more expensive for Filipinos and there will be other environmental costs.

A grandmother of four Wilma Abanil witnessed changes after the first plant opened in 2002.

Within two years, the fish catch was falling, she said. It grew worse as more plants opened.

“Before when you worked really hard, you could send your children to school,” Abanil said.

“We were happy. We could support our family. These days we have nothing.”

While Philippine fish exports are going up nationally, officials records show the catch from Batangas Province in a slide. Many residents blame the power plants. There is overfishing, too.

“We heard they will build more,” Abanil said. “What will happen to us?”

But Philippine Department of Energy Fossil Fuels Director Rino Abad defended the plans.

“We just have to make our best choice which is natural gas,” he said in a Zoom interview, describing it as the least expensive energy source, flexible and very clean. “We cannot increase our energy capacity by RE (renewable energy) alone.”

He noted the country is not building any new power plants that burn coal, which is dirtier.

Abad disputed the size of the expansion, saying 14 plants are planned. But that appears to include only those in the department’s formal pipeline and not others that are at an earlier stage or more recently announced.

Today, the Philippines accounts for less than four per cent of overall natural gas use in Southeast Asia, Abad said. Indonesia and Thailand use several times more.

Philippine environmental guidelines protect the coral reefs, he said, for example limiting the temperature of hot water discharged from power plants.

All the plants surrounding Santa Clara are owned by First Gen, the Philippines’ leading natural gas energy company.

Many energy watchers disagree that in 2024, it’s essential to build new fossil fuel plants for electricity, or that it’s the least expensive. Natural gas plants require a constant supply of fuel that rises and falls in price on international markets, unlike solar, wind and geothermal electricity, which cost very little to run once they are built.

Relying on “very expensive, unreliable, imported fuel,” is a mistake, said Sam Reynolds of the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, which analysed the Philippines’ energy plan in several white papers.

Electricity made from burning liquefied natural gas is between two and three times as expensive for Filipinos than electricity made from renewables, he found.

And coastal power plants can cause environmental damage in a number of ways. Their hot water discharge can kill corals; changing the coastline alters flows of seawater and sand, which can disrupt delicate ecosystems, and tanker ships risk importing invasive species.

DAILY TRIBUNE

[High stakes: What SBs and COPs mean for the Philippines](#)

By: Kathryn Jose

In the face of the intensifying effects of climate change, countries are confronted with differentiated and disproportionate impacts. Developing countries contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions are those most affected, vulnerable and at-risk to climate change. With limited resources, developing countries face difficulty in immediately addressing the multifaceted issues posed by climate change.

These challenges strengthen the resolve of developing countries like the Philippines to participate in international climate negotiations such as the Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Philippines needs to ensure our voices are heard and our unique national circumstances are considered in global roadmaps to climate resilience, low-carbon and sustainable development.

The UNFCCC is a platform for developed and developing countries to tackle actions that would address the climate crisis. Since the birth of UNFCCC in 1995, and the first COP in the same year, countries have been engaged in an intense yet nuanced negotiation process to address the climate crisis, develop global norms, frameworks and programs to bring down solutions tailored to national circumstances that will directly benefit the communities.

Every year, the COP and the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) of the UNFCCC meet twice, in June and in November, to stocktake progress in critical climate discussions such as the provision of support for developing countries, in the form of climate finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building. This is the crux of the negotiations process, with developing countries facing the need to safeguard the decisions across negotiation workstreams and between sessions.

As decisions shape the dynamics of support modalities, the inclusive process of “asserting climate justice and equity, and historical responsibilities” is a product of continuing coordination with various entities within or outside of government in terms of legal rights, policy directions, data on financial resources, including regard for vulnerable sectors.

The stakes are high for the Philippines. The UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement are cornerstones of possible solutions to augment limited domestic resources to fund current needs, albeit still at a limited capacity. The need to adapt to increasingly threatening

scenarios due to climate impact drivers such as extreme precipitation, sea level rise, extreme temperature, is costly, and amounts to addressing existential threats.

From its membership to the UNFCCC in 1995, the Philippines has achieved a myriad of successes in the international climate negotiation — from its significant contributions in developing solutions packages such as the Green Climate Fund, to the most recent inclusion in the agenda item of loss and damage to the adoption of the Loss and Damage Fund and Funding Arrangements.

In COP28 last year, the Philippines was one of the last few countries standing in the deliberation of the first Global Stocktake outcomes which informs countries of course-correcting measures towards resilience and sustainable development.

Under the leadership of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., the Philippines' participation in climate talks is anchored on its Nationally Determined Contribution, the first National Adaptation Plan completed only under the Marcos administration, and the groundbreaking 2023 to 2028 Philippine Development Plan, which for the first time has a dedicated chapter on climate change and disaster resilience.

Advancements in domestic policies and measures increases the number of workstreams participated by the Philippines, which now includes: adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage, climate finance, technology, capacity building, global stocktake, just transition, gender, local communities and indigenous peoples, agriculture, response measures and transparency.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

[DOH, DOE partner to help healthcare facilities access renewable energy](#)

By:Janna Marie Pineda

The Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Energy (DOE) are partnering to help the country's health sector transition to the use of cleaner and cheaper sources of energy for its operations and services.

In a meeting with health and energy stakeholders from the public and private sector, the DOH underscored the need for the healthcare industry to develop renewable energy pathways as a response to challenges brought about by climate change.

"The prospect of using renewable energy in our health facilities are viable ways for future proofing of investments [for health], and ensuring health infrastructures are capable of adapting to the modern challenges of global warming," said DOH Assistant Secretary for Health Regulation and Facility Development Cluster (HRFDC) Charade B. Mercado-Grande.

In particular, the healthcare sector significantly contributes to global greenhouse gas emissions at around 5 percent alongside the use of the current fixed-rate energy resources.

By transitioning into renewable energy, hospitals and other medical facilities in the country will not only lessen its carbon footprint but also reduce its operational expenses and power consumption costs.

According to the Grid Planning and Competitive Renewable Energy Zones in the Philippines Report by DOE, hydropower, one of the indigenous sources of renewable energy, can approximately harness 655,034 megawatts which is significantly higher than the country's 16,000 megawatts peak demand.

The use of renewable energy has also proven to lower the settlement price of electricity by at least 28 percent during peak hours despite its small share in the country's energy mix.

This, in turn, can lead into a more sustainable financial portfolio for the healthcare sector while gearing the direction of its budget allocation towards improving patient care and medical facilities.

Green Energy Option Program

As such, the DOH identified the implementation of the Green Energy Option Program (GEOP) as the most viable option to pave the way for the slow transition of the healthcare sector into the use of renewable energy.

GEOP is a voluntary policy and a non-regulated activity under the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 that provides electricity end-users the power to choose renewable energy sources, highlighting their efficacy to contribute to the solutions addressing climate change, particularly decarbonization.

Opting for the GEOP can primarily help healthcare facilities to establish energy self-sufficiency by sourcing 100% renewable energy resources without capital costs.

The DOE, for its part, underscored the importance of this transition towards reaching the goal of increasing the renewable energy in the country's power mix to 35 percent by 2030 and 50 percent by 2040.

However, the adoption of GEOP is confronted by a significant challenge in terms of the limited renewable energy supply.

As of January 2024, the International Trade Administration (ITA) identified that the Philippine renewable energy market only comprised 14.6 percent geothermal resources, 1.4 percent solar and wind resources, 4.1 percent hydropower, and 12.6 percent biomass.

To date, there are only four (4) hospitals that were recorded to have switched to the use of renewable energy as a source through GEOP. These are the Asociacion Benevola De Cebu, Mercado General Hospital Sta. Rosa as well as the Mercado Ambulatory and Surgical Centers in Laguna, and the Urology Center of the Philippines in Quezon City.

In this regard, the energy department expressed its commitment to implement policy initiatives that will support the construction of additional renewable energy infrastructures in the country by encouraging more developers, investors, generation companies, and suppliers who can potentially invest in renewable energy power plants.

The Climate Change Commission (CCC), the country's lead governmental policy-making body on climate change, also pledged to provide the DOH and the DOE with the necessary policy, technical, and climate financing support in order to accelerate the transition of the healthcare sector to GEOP.

The GEOP is complemented by other resource-specific programs of the DOE including the Waste-to-Energy Program, the Expanded Rooftop Solar Program, and the Derisking of Geothermal Power Projects which are all geared towards harnessing the renewable energy potential of the country.

“As we transition to clean energy by developing renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric power, we can mitigate the environmental impact of plastic pollution and carbon emissions,” said the DOE.

The “Making Renewable Energy Accessible to Health Facilities” roundtable initiative was spearheaded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in partnership with the Climate Reality Project Philippines.

Renewable energy is key in addressing climate change and power supply woes – DENR

By: Mark Bryan Lito

The development of a new wind power project in Rizal is set to mark a significant milestone in the government's commitment to improving renewable energy and promoting sustainable development.

During the groundbreaking ceremony on June 4, attended by officials and representatives from the government and private sector, a director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said that the project's timely commencement is crucial for urgently tackling environment-friendly initiatives.

"Renewable energy like this is crucial in addressing climate change caused by fossil fuel use. This project will help alleviate energy problems by introducing renewable energy. Moreover, we take pride in the fact that this project underwent thorough and lawful processes," DENR IV-A regional executive director Nilo Tamoria said.

The Tanay Wind Power Project, spearheaded by the Tanay Wind Power Corp. in partnership with the Rizal provincial government and the local government of Tanay promises a stable electricity supply at competitive prices, a reduction in dependence on fossil fuels, and contributions to the government's renewable energy target of 50 percent by 2040.

As the project is situated within the vicinity of a protected area and near Indigenous Peoples' settlements, the necessary permits and clearances, including a Certificate of Non-Overlap from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), approval from the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) of the Kaliwa Watershed Forest Area, and an Environmental Compliance Certificate from the DENR, were awarded.

Located between the Barangays of San Andres and Cuyambay in Tanay, the wind project will have an installed capacity of 112 MW after its wind energy service contract was approved by the Department of Energy (DOE) and given 25-year concession rights to harness wind resources in the two barangays.

Additionally, ATWC obtained height clearance from the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) for the installation of 16 wind turbine towers.

Tanay Mayor Rafael Tanjuatco highlighted the project's comprehensive planning which is expected to generate tax revenue, create jobs, boost socio-economic activities, enhance the tourism industry, support the educational system, and protect the environment.

“We carefully considered the environmental impact, the benefits to tourism, and the protection of our citizens. This project deserves support from our government.”

Barangay Captain Sofia Dela Rosa of San Andres, Tanay, expressed optimism that the project will provide alternative and cleaner jobs for the public.

“We hope this project will benefit our citizens, and we expect our constituents here in our barangay to be employed. We also hope our tour guides’ livelihoods remain unaffected during construction. We rely on the support Alternergy promised to our indigenous communities,” Dela Rosa added.

In an interview with Knud Hedeager, President of Alternergy Tanay Wind Corporation, he expressed his dedication to establishing a safe and dependable clean energy source to promote economic prosperity in Tanay and Rizal Province.

“We created a Memorandum of Agreement on how we will operate in the next 18 months. We will work diligently and take care. Safety first, we are a zero-accident company, and we don’t accept any excuses. We also promise to take good care of the tourist guides here. We promise to keep safe the biodiversity that we have in this beautiful part of the country,” Hedeager explained.

To augment and provide additional energy supply to the national grid, a proposed transmission route spans a distance of 30 kilometers, comprising a 115 kV line connecting to the National Grid Corporation (NGCP), a representative of the joint endeavor between the government and private sector in crafting a mutual dedication to renewable energy.

SUNSTAR

Poll chief pushes for guidelines on green campaigning

With concerns over climate change increasing by the day, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) is now considering making campaign activities more environment-friendly.

In a memorandum addressed to the commission en banc, Comelec Chairman George Garcia asked his colleagues to consider creating the Committee on Environmentally Sustainable Elections.

"The undersigned respectfully recommends to the Honorable Commission En Banc the creation of the Committee on Environmentally Sustainable Elections, who shall study and propose measures that will minimize the environmental impact of campaign activities, such as rallies and sorties, and the production and eventual disposal of campaign materials," said Garcia.

He said the committee is projected to be guided by the current environmental laws, rules, and regulations.

Garcia said it is also expected to adopt the current best practices in terms of environmental sustainability in elections and the recommendations of environmental groups and election stakeholders.

In a phone interview, the poll chief said the proposal is part of the Comelec's efforts to help in the fight against climate change.

"This is our little way of contributing to this cause for the generations yet to come," said Garcia.

In the past, candidates and political parties have been using campaign materials that contribute largely to the country's waste products.

These include printed campaign materials in papers, tarpaulins, plastic, and even rubber.

There are also instances in the past where campaign materials are pasted or stapled in trees and other plants.

THE MANILA TIMES

Philippines embraces natural gas, a climate pollutant

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But above the surface, the land is changed.

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It's one of the world's largest natural gas power buildouts and will contribute to climate change at a time when alternative, renewable electricity has never been cheaper.

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CCC IN THE NEWS:

DAILY GUARDIAN

[PH urges immediate climate action at SB60](#)

The Philippines has called for urgent and transformative climate action during the 60th Sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI).

“We are now at a point of no return,” declared Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, Vice Chairperson and Executive Director of the Climate Change Commission, and Co-Head of the Philippine Delegation. He stressed the need for stronger and sustained momentum in climate action, grounded in science, evidence, and indigenous knowledge.

Climate change has become integral to national policies in the Philippines, influencing planning and decision-making across all levels.

Borje urged nations to build on COP28 outcomes, including the Global Stocktake results, the UAE Global Climate Resilience Framework, and the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund.

“The Philippines expresses grave concerns over the destruction caused by extreme weather events in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and other regions. We need to change these stories of developing countries from fragility to agility,” Borje emphasized.

The Philippines recently completed its first National Adaptation Plan (NAP), becoming the third ASEAN country and the 56th globally to do so. The country is actively working on the NDC Implementation Plan, Just Transition Work Programme, Biennial Transparency Report, Long Term Strategy, and NDC updating.

Borje called for collective action to:

- Close mitigation and adaptation gaps, and support the development and implementation of NAPs and NDCs by developing nations.
- Urgently operationalize the Loss and Damage Fund, with the Philippines ready to participate in the decision-making process.
- Implement the Just Transition Work Programme to uphold human rights, create green jobs, enhance livelihoods, and develop green and blue economies.

– Accelerate the provision, mobilization, and delivery of finance, technology, and capacity from developed to developing countries.

– Ensure transformative climate action for all vulnerable populations, including indigenous peoples, local communities, women and girls, children and youth, the elderly, and differently-abled individuals.

Borje emphasized the need for inclusive processes and universal participation to restore trust in the UNFCCC’s multilateral process.

“There is no turning back. We must forge ahead and move forward together for humanity’s sake, particularly for the most vulnerable and at-risk. Let us work together and create the results we want and need,” he said .

The Philippine delegation at SB60 includes representatives from 11 agencies, such as the Climate Change Commission, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Foreign Affairs, and others. SB60, held in Bonn from June 3 to 13, 2024, sets the stage for COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

DAILY TRIBUNE

Addressing climate change through Filipino unity

By: Secretary Robert E.A. Borje

As we near the 126th anniversary of the Philippines' Independence Day, Filipinos around the globe have every reason to reflect on the sacrifices of and battles fought by our forefathers for our sovereignty and the wars we still need to wage and win for a progressive and prosperous Philippines.

Rightly, we must be grateful for the independence we enjoy today. But our freedom comes with the responsibility to protect it and the resolve to continue contributing to nation-building.

As we face the modern enemy and existential challenge that is climate change, Filipinos must unite and strive for collective action toward resilience.

Despite contributing only 0.49 percent of the total global greenhouse gas emissions, the Philippines is among the countries severely impacted by climate change and the effects of global warming.

Climate change worsens ecological issues such as sea-level rise, coastal erosion, flooding, ocean acidification, intensified tropical cyclones, extreme droughts and rainfalls, climate-induced diseases, changing wind patterns, heat waves, biodiversity loss, and habitat loss, which are becoming more intense and frequent in the region.

With no signs of a decrease in the global temperature, the Philippines is expected to suffer more losses and damages. In the last 10 years alone, tropical cyclones have cost the country economic losses of P673.30 billion or 3 percent of our gross domestic product.

Other climate change-induced disasters, particularly floods and droughts combined with ecological degradation, caused a significant 5 percent reduction in rice crop yields and a decline in fish catch potential, affecting many of our farmers and fisherfolk. Intensifying severe weather events have contributed to a surge of public health problems such as dengue, malaria, cholera and typhoid fever in the country.

Given these pressing climate change-induced issues, it is crystal clear that our battle for a secure, sustainable, prosperous and progressive Philippines continues.

Recognizing the gravity of our current struggle with climate change, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s administration has ramped up efforts to address the issue. The country aims to build a climate-resilient and climate-smart Philippines through effective policy

development, environmental resource monitoring and management, and awareness building.

Aligning with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the country has developed several plans that encapsulate its strategies and actions for climate change adaptation and to lessen its effects. The National Climate Change Action Plan 2011-2028, a comprehensive framework developed to help enhance the country's resilience and adaptive capacity, is one. It is focused on ensuring food security, water sufficiency, ecosystems and environmental stability, human security, climate-smart industries and services, sustainable energy, and knowledge and capacity development amid climate change impacts.

Meanwhile, the Philippines' first National Adaptation Plan — completed under President Marcos' administration — is a strategic document that outlines our climate adaptation measures. It identifies ways and strategies to enhance the country's resilience by integrating adaptation strategies into national and local development planning. Likewise, through the Philippine Development Plan, climate resiliency is integrated into the formulation of the country's development goals, strategies, and policies, ensuring that climate change is mainstreamed across all sectors.

Besides policy formulation and planning, the government has also initiated programs to restore, protect and monitor our environment's health, which ultimately contribute to our efforts to address climate change. These plans and initiatives demonstrate the power of Filipino collectivity, echoing the spirit of unity during our fight for Philippine independence.

To further bolster and ensure transformative climate action, government policies, plans and projects, however, the key to freedom from the compounding, disproportionate and differentiated impacts of climate change lies within: the common resolve that binds us all together to act as one nation.

And while support for and compliance with government policies, plans and projects will be critical for success, as individuals, we can do many things to help address climate change.

Whether we reduce our energy consumption, manage our waste efficiently, travel sustainably, conserve water or educate others on climate change, we all play a vital role in promoting a sustainable future. Just as every effort of our forefathers counted in the fight for our independence, every action we take today can contribute to our goal of freeing ourselves from climate change and its deleterious impacts on all of us.

On the 126th anniversary of the declaration of Philippine independence, the challenge to us all is clear and the required collective science-based actions are indisputable. Let us

all do our part. Let us remember, no task is too small nor any responsibility too big for us to contribute and ensure that we win the fight against climate change.

CCC calls for national effort to mitigate climate change Impacts

By: Lade Jean Kabagani

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday called for a “whole country effort” in carrying out the country’s national adaptation plan (NAP) to minimize risks related to climate change and its impacts.

In a news forum in Quezon City, CCC Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca said the Philippines has already submitted its NAP to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The NAP integrates climate change adaptation into policies, programs, and activities within all relevant sectors, necessitating a whole-of-country approach that involves not only the CCC, but all national government agencies, the private sector, science organizations, the academe, and local governments.

Cuenca said the NAP will allow the country “to make sure that all these plans are guided and aligned and integrated so that it becomes a whole-of-country effort and not just a proposal of the Climate Change Commission.”

“[It will be implemented] in all sectors — private sector, academe, national government — they each have plans based on their respective mandate,” he added.

Cuenca explained that the NAP aims to reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience and facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into policies and programs.

“Adaptive capacity is the ability of a community, a region, a city, a country to be able to reduce the harm and to exploit the benefits that can come out of adaptation action,” he added.

He mentioned that the government has already identified priority high-risk and climate change-vulnerable areas in the Philippines through the implementation of the NAP.

Month of Mountains: Protect peaks, Borje urges

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) emphasized the importance of policies and plans that prioritize the long-term resilience of mountain regions in the face of a changing climate as the nation observes the Month of the Mountains this June.

“It is crucial for the government and communities to work together to implement and ramp up adaptation strategies that will help safeguard both mountains and the people who call these regions home,” said Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, CCC vice chairperson and executive director.

The Philippines’ first National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for 2023-2050, completed and submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change under the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. underscores the sustainable management of ecosystems, including mountains, as a priority for climate adaptation.

The CCC encouraged the public to support local conservation initiatives, participate in reforestation projects, and contribute to broader efforts to combat climate change.

“Let’s continue to raise awareness and mobilize action for the conservation and sustainable management of our mountain regions, not just for this month. We urge everyone to join us in these efforts to ensure the resilience and sustainability of our mountains for the current and future generations,” Borje said.

Mountains support biodiversity and ecological systems by providing vital resources such as water and food. They also serve as natural barriers that reduce the wind speed of destructive typhoons and contribute to flood control and soil erosion prevention.

MANILA STANDARD

[Climate change body urges creation of national adaptation plan](#)

By: Charles Dantes

The Philippines' Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday called on stakeholders to implement a "National Adaptation Plan Process" to reduce the country's climate change vulnerability.

"We need to create a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) because we have to adjust to the climate changes. In the last couple of years, we have already drafted and finalized the National Adaptation Plan," CCC Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca said in a Quezon City news forum.

He highlighted the United Nations' (UN) call for national adaptation plans to "reduce vulnerability and build adaptive capacity."

"Adaptive capacity is the ability of a community, a region, a city, a country to be able to reduce the harm and to exploit the benefits that can come out of adaptation action," Cuenca said.

He stressed the need for an integrated national adaptation plan, involving all sectors—government agencies, the private sector, academia, and local governments—to ensure a unified approach to climate resilience.

The said plan prioritizes high-risk areas, integrates adaptation into all planning levels, and aligns national strategies with international commitments.

Cuenca focused on identifying vulnerable areas and sectors while stressing the need for global cooperation, especially at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) conferences, to garner support from major emitting countries under the Paris Agreement.

The Philippines recently submitted its National Adaptation Plan to the UNFCCC, the CCC said in a June 4 statement.

The commission noted that the Philippines is the third ASEAN country and the 56th globally to submit a NAP. The document, submitted on May 30, outlines the country's adaptation strategies for the period from 2030 to 2050.

PCO

[Climate Change Commission urges stakeholders to carry out a National Adaptation Plan](#)

An official from the Philippines' Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday urged all stakeholders to carry out a "National Adaptation Plan Process" in order to reduce the country's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

"National Adaptation Plan, because we need to adapt to the changes in the climate, gumawa tayo... in the last couple of years na-draft na natin, napa-finalize natin iyong National Adaptation Plan," CCC Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca said in a Saturday news forum in Quezon City.

Cuenca said the UN Convention on Climate Change had urged that all signatories must adapt a national adaptation plan process in each of their own countries to "reduce the vulnerability to the impacts of climate change to build up the adaptive capacity."

"Adaptive capacity is the ability of a community, a region, a city, a country to be able to reduce the harm and to exploit the benefits that can come out of adaptation action," he said.

Cuenca said there is a need to have a national adaptation plan to integrate all plans in the country.

Climate change is not just the concern or problem of the Climate Change Commission, Cuenca said but a problem of all national government agencies, the private sector, science organizations, the academe, and local governments.

"Sa lahat ng mga sektor na iyan – private sector, academe, national government – may kaniya-kaniyang plano iyan para sa kaniya-kaniyang mandato. The National Adaptation Plan will allow us to make sure that all these plans are guided and aligned and integrated so that it becomes a whole-of-country effort and not just panukala lang iyan ni Climate Change Commission," Cuenca stressed.

He said the National Adaptation Plan first seeks to identify priority high-risk climate change vulnerable areas of the Philippines then provide guidance on integrating adaptation considerations into planning, coordination and implementation processes at all levels of government and across society; and third, harmonize national strategies with international commitments.

Cuenca stressed the need to identify the sectors involved, the areas of the country which are highly vulnerable to climate change, and the risk to climate change.

The National Adaptation Plan gives guidance how the country can align, consolidate, coordinate all plans, he said.

This is based on what the Philippines has done and how the country could communicate with international platforms, he added.

“Tulad ngayon, nangyayari ngayon ang Conference of Parties (COP) – ito iyong bunsod ng UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). So, nandoon ngayon tayo, mayroon tayong Philippine delegation ngayon – binabantayan lahat ng issues para... we make sure na ang country position ng CCC ay napuprotektahan at hindi nada-dilute para naman ang... the largest emitting countries who’ve been able to develop because of their emissions ay makatayo naman sila at makatulong sa atin base sa mga agreement na pinirmahan din noong ginawa sa Paris Agreement,” Cuenca said.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[CCC calls for 'whole country' effort for nat'l adaptation plan](#)

By Filane Mikee Cervantes

An official of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Saturday called for a "whole country effort" to carry out the Philippines' national adaptation plan (NAP) to minimize risks related to climate change and its impacts.

In a news forum in Quezon City, CCC Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca reported that the Philippines has submitted its NAP to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Cuenca said the NAP integrates climate change adaptation into policies, programs, and activities within all relevant sectors, necessitating a whole-of-country approach that involves not only the CCC, but all national government agencies, the private sector, science organizations, the academe, and local governments.

“Sa lahat ng mga sektor na iyan – private sector, academe, national government – may kaniya-kaniyang plano iyan para sa kaniya-kaniyang mandato (In all sectors – private sector, academe, national government – they each have plans based on their respective mandate). The National Adaptation Plan will allow us to make sure that all these plans are guided and aligned and integrated so that it becomes a whole-of-country effort and not just panukala lang iyan ni (a proposal of the) Climate Change Commission,” Cuenca said.

The NAP aims to reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience and facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into policies and programs.

“Adaptive capacity is the ability of a community, a region, a city, a country to be able to reduce the harm and to exploit the benefits that can come out of adaptation action,” he said.

He said the NAP seeks to identify priority high-risk, climate change-vulnerable areas of the Philippines.

It also provides guidance on integrating adaptation considerations into planning, coordination, and implementation processes at all levels of government and across society, as well as harmonizes national strategies with international commitments.

Cuenca cited the need to identify the sectors involved, the areas of the country that are highly vulnerable to climate change, and the risks of climate change.

THE MANILA TIMES

'Whole-of-country approach needed vs climate change'

By: Catherine S. Valente

Climate Change Commission Assistant Secretary Rommel Cuenca on Saturday called for the immediate implementation of a national adaptation plan (NAP) for climate change.

He said that the country has submitted its NAP for the period covering 2030 to 2050 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

He added that since the NAP integrates climate change adaptation into policies, programs and activities within all relevant sectors, it necessitates a whole-of-country approach.

"In all sectors — private sector, academe, national government — they each have plans based on their respective mandate. The national adaptation plan will allow us to make sure that all these plans are guided and aligned and integrated so that it becomes a whole-of-country effort and not just a proposal of the Climate Change Commission," Cuenca said in a forum.

He added that the NAP seeks to identify climate change-vulnerable areas of the Philippines.

"Adaptive capacity is the ability of a community, a region, a city, a country to be able to reduce the harm and to exploit the benefits that can come out of adaptation action," he said.

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