



## NEWS ROUNDUP

18 JUNE 2024 [ 08:00 am]

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#### [DOE allows renewable energy developers to conduct study prior service of contract](#)

By: Lady Vicencio

Renewable energy (RE) developers will be able to start applying for permits and conduct feasibility studies before the official 25-year service of contract commences, the Department of Energy announced on Friday.

## **AL JAZEERA**

### **[Once fruitful, Libyan village suffers amid climate crisis](#)**

In the Libyan village of Kabaw in the Nafusa Mountains, Mohamed Maakaf waters an ailing fig tree as climate change pushes villagers to forsake lands and livestock.

## **BUSINESS MIRROR**

### **[ADB, Canada create trust fund for climate solutions](#)**

By: Cai U. Ordinario

The Canadian government, through the Asian Development Bank (ADB), has set aside a climate-related trust fund to finance private sector projects in the Asia and the Pacific region.

## **DAILY TRIBUNE**

### **[Asia-Pacific allotted \\$255-M climate fund](#)**

By: Kathryn Jose

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Canadian government launched a \$255-million US dollar fund to mitigate climate change and promote gender equality in Asia and the Pacific.

## **MANILA STANDARD**

### **[Canada, ADB launch new fund for climate solutions](#)**

Canada and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced a partnership to create a new CA\$360 million trust fund (US\$255 million).

## **NIKKEI ASIA**

### **[\[Opinion\] Asia should not yield opportunity to lead on climate disclosure](#)**

By: Patrick Winter

In March, Hong Kong Financial Secretary Paul Chan announced that the city would introduce sustainability disclosure rules for listed companies and regulated financial institutions.

## **PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY**

### **[DENR-Ilocos Sur calls for collective action vs. climate change](#)**

By: Aila Villanueva and Katherine Manaog

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Ilocos Sur encouraged the public to help in environmental conservation as the nation observes Environment Month.

## **RAPPLER**

### **[Quezon City plans to make city-owned buildings solar-powered](#)**

By: James Patrick Cruz

Three buildings in the Quezon City Hall complex are now solar-powered, marking a significant step toward the city's goal of making all its structures energy self-sufficient.

## **THE MANILA TIMES**

### **[\[Opinion\] Fossil fuel lobby vs climate change lobby — choose your funder](#)**

By: Yen Makabenta

When I started to write on the climate debate in 2015, at the time of the Paris Conference of the Parties (COP), I started off with the disclosure that I do not receive any funding or reward in any form from either side of the debate.

## **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

## **DAILY TRIBUNE**

### **[CCC urges efficient land restoration, water management](#)**

In observance of the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) called on Filipinos to engage in effective land restoration and water management to enhance resilience against these environmental challenges.

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The Climate Change Commission (CCC) highlighted the significant intersection of faith and climate change as it joined the Muslim community in the celebration of Eid al-Adha.

## **MANILA STANDARD**

### **[CCC hails law on environment data gathering](#)**

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) lauded President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.'s signing of Republic Act No. 11995 (RA 11995), or the Philippine Ecosystem and Natural Capital Accounting System (PENCAS) Act, saying the institutionalization of national resource accounting will protect and promote ecological balance and advance climate resilience of the Philippines.

## **PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY**

### **[CCC Celebrates Eid al-Adha, emphasizes intersection of faith and climate action](#)**

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) highlighted the significant intersection of faith and climate change as it joined the Muslim community in the celebration of Eid al-Adha.

### **[On World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: CCC urges efficient land restoration and water management](#)**

In observance of the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) called on Filipinos to engage in effective land restoration and water management to enhance resilience against these environmental challenges.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division**

## **ABS CBN**

### **DOE allows renewable energy developers to conduct study prior service of contract**

By: Lady Vicencio

Renewable energy (RE) developers will be able to start applying for permits and conduct feasibility studies before the official 25-year service of contract commences, the Department of Energy announced on Friday.

DOE revised its omnibus guidelines for renewable energy developments to promote ease of doing business in the sector.

DOE Undersecretary Sharon Garin said the RE industry in the country is past its “infancy stage” as investments continue to come in.

“Philippines is awash of foreign investments in renewable energy whether it’s wind or solar. Hindi na siya infancy in which you have to push investors to come to the Philippines. We don’t need to encourage them to come in nor do we need to market them to come in. We have so many applications and so many contracts already issued,” Garin said.

With 1,300 existing service contracts in the renewable energy sector alone, the DOE is confident the sector can produce up to 62 gigawatts of electricity and hit the government’s renewable energy target of 35% renewable energy share by 2030 and 50% by 2040.

“That’s more than enough to cover our needs in the future,” Garin said.

Revisions in the omnibus guidelines will also help filter “serious and legitimate” developers who can commit to the set timeline and budget for developments.

Under the revised guidelines, the DOE will issue a Certificate of Authority to developers that will allow them to start procuring licensing from government agencies and conducting feasibility studies even before the start of their contract of service.

Availing of fiscal incentives for duty-free importation has been simplified.

Developers can be given a Certificate of Registration upon contract signing that will grant access to duty-free import benefits.

DOE is also suspending the Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop (EVOSS) System to give way for enhancements.

Will acceptance of new Letters of Intent and RE applications will temporarily be on a halt, applications submitted before the suspension will still be processed.

The revised guidelines will be effective by June 25, 2025.

## AL JAZEERA

### Once fruitful, Libyan village suffers amid climate crisis

In the Libyan village of Kabaw in the Nafusa Mountains, Mohamed Maakaf waters an ailing fig tree as climate change pushes villagers to forsake lands and livestock.

Kabaw was once flourishing and known for its figs, olives and almonds. Now its fields are mostly barren and battered by climate change-induced drought.

The area about 200km (125 miles) southwest of Tripoli was once “green and prosperous until the beginning of the millennium”, Maakaf recalled. “People loved to come here and take walks, but today it has become so dry that it’s unbearable.”

“We no longer see the green meadows we knew in the 1960s and ’70s,” added the 65-year-old, wearing a traditional white tunic and sirwal trousers.

Kabaw, like many villages in the Nafusa Mountains, is primarily inhabited by Amazigh people, a non-Arab minority.

Libya, which is about 95 percent desert, is one of the world’s most water-scarce countries, according to the United Nations.

Its annual precipitation in coastal areas has fallen from 400mm (16 inches) in 2019 to 200mm (8 inches) today, and water demand is higher than what is available.

Mourad Makhoulf, mayor of Kabaw, says drought in the last decade has pushed hundreds of families to leave for the capital, Tripoli, and other coastal cities, where water is easier to access.

“It’s not just about water scarcity or crops dying due to drought,” Makhoulf said. “There is a demographic and human dimension with the exodus of hundreds of families towards the capital and coastal towns.”

Suleiman Mohammed, a local farmer, fears that climate change will soon cause everyone to leave because “living without water is certain death.”

“How can we be patient?” he said. “It has gotten to the point where breeders sell their livestock because keeping them costs twice their value.”

Standing by a cluster of dead tree trunks, Maakaf decried the loss of “thousands of olive trees”.

“Some were 200 years old and inherited from our grandfathers,” he said.

Hoping to alleviate the burden, local authorities began selling subsidised water for 25 Libyan dinars (about \$5) per 12,000 litres (3,170 gallons).

“We manage to water our fields two to three times a week, but water is expensive,” Maakaf said, adding that they also rely on private tanker trucks selling the same amount for up to 160 dinars (\$33).



## **BUSINESS MIRROR**

### **[ADB, Canada create trust fund for climate solutions](#)**

By: Cai U. Ordinario

The Canadian government, through the Asian Development Bank (ADB), has set aside a climate-related trust fund to finance private sector projects in the Asia and the Pacific region.

In a statement on Monday, ADB said the Canadian government has set up the CA\$360 million Canadian Climate and Nature Fund for Private Sector in Asia (CANPA). In US dollars, the amount of the fund is \$255 million.

The bulk of the fund, or CA\$350 million, is for climate and nature-based solutions while CA\$10 million is set aside for projects that also accelerate gender equity.

“This fund continues and deepens our decade-long partnership with Canada to help Asia and the Pacific mobilize private capital to advance the fight against climate change,” said ADB Vice President for Market Solutions Bhargav Dasgupta.

ADB said it will administer CANPA on behalf of Canada to help private sector companies lower their greenhouse emissions, transition from carbon-based operations, and improve their climate resilience.

The Manila-based multilateral development bank also said the fund will help reduce risks to bring viable projects to market that would be unlikely to proceed solely on a commercial basis, while empowering women and girls by supporting their engagement in a just transition.

The fund, ADB said, will also finance nature-based solutions such as sustainable agriculture and aquaculture to protect, manage, and restore ecosystems.

“CANPA will help accelerate the region’s transition to low carbon and climate-resilient growth by lowering financing risks and making projects more commercially bankable, with a specific emphasis on empowering women and girls,” Dasgupta said.

ADB said the fund will encourage opportunistic investments, leveraging ADB’s private sector platform and capabilities. It follows the successful deployment of the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in Asia (CFPS) in 2013 and CFPS II in 2017.

The Asia and the Pacific region is responsible for more than half of global greenhouse gas emissions. It is susceptible to the most destructive effects of climate change.

This includes damage from extreme weather, prolonged droughts, and flooding. More than 60 percent of the region's population works in sectors most at risk from climate change.

## DAILY TRIBUNE

### [Asia-Pacific allotted \\$255-M climate fund](#)

By: Kathryn Jose

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Canadian government launched a \$255-million US dollar fund to mitigate climate change and promote gender equality in Asia and the Pacific.

Canada will fund private firms for project investments and for technical assistance to help achieve the project's goal under the Canadian Climate and Nature Fund for Private Sector in Asia (CANPA).

CANPA supports projects with low carbon emissions and socioeconomic opportunities for women.

"CANPA will help accelerate the region's transition to low carbon and climate-resilient growth by lowering financing risks and making projects more commercially bankable, with a specific emphasis on empowering women and girls," ADB vice president for market solutions Bhargav Dasgupta said.

Half of global emission

ADB's research shows Asia and the Pacific contributes more than half of the world's carbon emissions. It adds 60 percent of the regional population work in sectors that are highly vulnerable to climate change.

ADB said making growth in agriculture and aquaculture more sustainable will be critical.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said Filipino farmers could see 15 to 20 percent lower agricultural production in a decade if climate change worsens, leading to extreme weather conditions.

The IPCC said the Philippines already lost P673.3 billion in various types of damage from stronger typhoons from 2011 to 2021.

## MANILA STANDARD

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The Canadian Climate and Nature Fund for Private Sector in Asia (CANPA) will support private-sector projects in Asia and the Pacific focused on climate and nature-based solutions while accelerating gender equity. Canada is providing CA\$350 million for project investments and CA\$10 million for technical assistance.

ADB will administer CANPA on behalf of Canada to help private sector companies lower their greenhouse emissions, transition from carbon-based operations and improve their climate resilience.

The fund will lower risks to bring viable projects to market that would be unlikely to proceed solely on a commercial basis, while empowering women and girls by supporting their engagement in a just transition.

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The Asia and the Pacific region is responsible for more than half of global greenhouse gas emissions. It is susceptible to the most destructive effects of climate change, including damage from extreme weather, prolonged droughts and flooding.

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## NIKKEI ASIA

### [\[Opinion\] Asia should not yield opportunity to lead on climate disclosure](#)

By: Patrick Winter

In March, Hong Kong Financial Secretary Paul Chan announced that the city would introduce sustainability disclosure rules for listed companies and regulated financial institutions.

The unveiling of the standards, to be aligned with benchmarks set out by the International Sustainability Standards Board, are the latest sign of how Asian jurisdictions are encouraging, and sometimes demanding, that businesses disclose clear and consistent information about their sustainability policies and metrics.

With this data, investors and consumers will be better able to understand the impact companies in Asia are having on nature and the climate, as well as how the climate and nature impact these companies.

Singapore, which like Hong Kong is vying for the title of Asia's premier green finance hub, is to implement mandatory climate-related reporting requirements for listed companies as early as next year. Large nonlisted companies will face similar obligations from 2027. The city-state has also announced millions in funding to develop skills in sustainable finance.

In Canberra, a pending bill would phase in climate disclosure requirements for Australian companies that would vary depending on their size and other criteria. The first mandate for sustainability reports, which would be released alongside financial reports, would come into effect next year.

Many companies in mainland China will be bound by comparable obligations come 2026, when a broad range of disclosure rules regarding company performance on economic, social and governance (ESG) benchmarks will become mandatory for larger companies listed on the Shanghai, Shenzhen and Beijing stock exchanges.

Altogether, this adds up to growing progress, momentum and leadership in ESG across Asia-Pacific markets. Business leaders must recognize that this is not just a matter of new regulatory requirements but also an opportunity to double down by crafting more sustainably sound financial decisions.

Asia's leadership in this area cannot be taken for granted. With some regional companies reporting that climate change is slipping down their list of priorities, it is crucial that business leaders reevaluate their key focus areas to keep up with the ambition and action of the region's regulators.

In an EY survey earlier this year of board directors and business leaders in Australia, Japan, South Korea, China and the Philippines, only 21% of respondents ranked climate change and environmental stewardship as a key current concern. They ranked economic conditions, talent, capital allocation, cybersecurity, evolving technology and regulatory change as higher priorities.

In a separate EY survey of chief executives, however, decarbonization and achieving net-zero emissions ranked as top priorities for the next three years, ahead of revenue growth, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

While that is good news, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that many companies are ready to slow their progress toward climate goals despite the growing urgency of the situation. In another EY survey, this one involving Asian sustainability executives, participants' responses showed their companies were twice as likely as global peers to view the cost of achieving climate commitments as too high.

Indeed, nearly two-thirds of Asia-Pacific companies report that they plan to spend no more on addressing climate change this year than they did last year. Some are even winding back commitments to net-zero.

Yet businesses have been instrumental in public-private partnerships that have laid the foundation for governments and regulators to now drive environmental frameworks and standards around Asia.

As Asian governments and regulators step up to create a more sustainable world, the environmental cost of doing business is becoming increasingly clear in company reports. At the same time, the variety of Asian rules and frameworks has the potential to be more than the sum of its parts: It can be a testing ground for what works and attracts investment, and what does not, in a diverse region.

The opportunity is even greater because other regions are falling behind.

New U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rules on climate-related disclosures unveiled in March lacked a crucial element. So-called Scope 3 reporting requirements,

which address emissions across the full life cycle of a company's products, were not included.

Legal challenges over the climate-related rules that the SEC did publish mean there will be uncertainty over climate disclosure requirements for some time to come in the U.S., where ESG has become a polarized and politicized issue.

The European Union has solid ambitions when it comes to ESG reporting, as shown by the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, which came into force last year.

Crucially, the directive does cover Scope 3 releases, but in February, the EU announced a delay in the introduction of sector-specific sustainability disclosures. The complexity of drafting standards across the bloc's diverse economies, and the competing agenda of its member states, means it will take time for the EU to truly deliver on its ambitious goals.

At this crucial moment, Asia-Pacific businesses cannot afford to lose their position at the forefront of dealing with the climate crisis by disengaging. At stake is not just their profits and margins, but also the opportunity to help set the direction of global corporate governance, which can pave the way toward a more sustainable future.



## PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

### [DENR-Ilocos Sur calls for collective action vs. climate change](#)

By: Aila Villanueva and Katherine Manaog

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Ilocos Sur encouraged the public to help in environmental conservation as the nation observes Environment Month.

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Rosemarie Jornacion reiterated the call for environmental responsibility during the interview held on June 10.

“Take note that the preservation and protection of the environment comes within our hearts. Tayo ang magsisimula ng aksyon para pangalagaan ang ating kapaligiran,” Jornacion said.

She explained that the public can still contribute in their simple ways such as practicing the 3R’s or the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle in their homes.

Jornacion advised, “We can reduce the use of plastics, particularly, single-use plastics especially those that we use daily. We can reuse and recycle some of these too just like the plastic bottles, there are a lot of creative ways to recycle now; we can make a lot of products.”

She also recommended the use of energy-saving devices at home, implementation of solid-waste management, and removing plugs of appliances when not in use.

Another simple way to practice environmental conservation is by biking more and driving less, or opting for walking if the distance is not too long.

Jornacion said if a person has ways to be an instrument to educate people, they should discuss what the citizens can do to help.

“We can also plant trees because this is the most important for our future, and the future of our children,” she added.

Moreover, the DENR Ilocos Sur will be conducting river clean-ups involving the youth at the Chico River in Suyo town, and at the Sucoc River in Narvacan Ilocos Sur to be led by the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Tagudin and CENRO Bantay respectively on June 19.

Tree planting activities in Mount Caniaw in Bantay town, and in Cacadiran, Cabugao will also be conducted on June 24 and 25 respectively, to promote community participation, demonstrate practical action, and raise environmental awareness.

## RAPPLER

### [Quezon City plans to make city-owned buildings solar-powered](#)

By: James Patrick Cruz

Three buildings in the Quezon City Hall complex are now solar-powered, marking a significant step toward the city's goal of making all its structures energy self-sufficient.

"In QC we aim to prioritize reducing energy demand through efficient building solutions and transitioning to renewable energy sources in all of our city-owned infrastructures," Mayor Joy Belmonte said in a statement released on Monday, June 17.

In the 15-floor high-rise Main Building, a total of 180 panels were installed, 108 panels in the Legislative Building and about 290 panels in the Treasury Building.

With these solar panels, Quezon City can save up to around P1.5 million yearly in electrical expenses which could be used to maintain and rehabilitate six daycare centers or four healthcare centers yearly, City Engineer Dale Perral said. This initiative is also expected to reduce the city's carbon footprint by 125 tons.

The solar panels could also be revenue-generating as Perral said that unused energy or excess supply can be sold to Meralco.

The city plans to install over 1,000 solar panels in other city-owned hospitals and schools. Target hospitals include Rosario Maclang Bautista General Hospital, Novaliches District Hospital, and Quezon City General Hospital.

Meanwhile, the schools slated for solar panel installations were Culiati Elementary School, Culiati High School, Judge Feliciano Belmonte Sr. High School, New Era High School, and Tandang Sora Elementary School.

Quezon City's solar energy transition is funded by the United Kingdom government's Urban Climate Action Programme, launched in 2021.

In collaboration with Meralco, the Quezon City government plans to open a dedicated service center at the city hall, making it easier for residents to apply for solar energy adoption and net-metering.

The move towards solar energy comes amid electricity supply challenges nationwide.

In April, the Department of Energy advised Filipinos to limit the use of high-energy-consuming devices, such as air conditioners and elevators because of supply problems. This precautionary measure followed a wave of class suspensions due to excessive heat experienced in the same month.

The Quezon City local government is also urging the private sector to comply with and support the City's Green Building Ordinance, contributing to the development of a greener, more sustainable urban environment.

Quezon City has been proactive in promoting green policies. In 2019, Belmonte signed an ordinance which bans single-use plastics in hotels, restaurants, and other similar establishments in the city.

In partnership with Greenpeace, the Quezon City government also launched the "Kuha sa Tingi" program in July 2023. This livelihood initiative offers consumers affordable and convenient alternatives to sacheted products through simple reuse and refill systems in sari-sari stores. Belmonte said that they plan to expand the campaign to 1,000 stores.

Quezon City is at the forefront of active transport with its progressive bike policies and infrastructure. In the 2023 Mobility Awards, it earned the title of the most bicycle-friendly city, achieving a "gold rating."

## THE MANILA TIMES

### [\[Opinion\] Fossil fuel lobby vs climate change lobby — choose your funder](#)

By: Yen Makabenta

When I started to write on the climate debate in 2015, at the time of the Paris Conference of the Parties (COP), I started off with the disclosure that I do not receive any funding or reward in any form from either side of the debate.

I thought this necessary because I found the issues in debate to be serious and quite hair-raising, and the alignment of forces on both sides was indeed formidable.

On one side, there were the promoters of global warming and a looming climate apocalypse, which included the United Nations, several hundred scientists constituting a supposed scientific consensus, and a number of developed nations that had bought the idea of a human-induced climate crisis. On the other side were the big companies in the petroleum industry whose oil and products were being tagged as the chief cause of the climate crisis, and on this side also were inclined scientists who disagreed with the consensus.

Efforts to lobby against environmental regulation have included campaigns to manufacture doubt about the science behind climate change and to obscure the scientific consensus and data. These have undermined public confidence in climate science.

As of 2015, the climate change denial industry is the most powerful in the US. Efforts by climate change denial groups played a significant role in the United States' rejection of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997.

Fossil fuel firms and other private sector actors

Research conducted at an Exxon archival collection at the University of Texas and interviews with former Exxon employees indicate that the company's scientific opinion and its public posture toward climate change were contradictory. A systematic review of Exxon's climate modeling projections concluded that in private and academic circles since the late 1970s and early 1980s, Exxon Mobil predicted global warming correctly and skillfully, correctly dismissed the possibility of a coming ice age in favor of a "carbon dioxide induced super-interglacial," and reasonably estimated how much CO<sub>2</sub> would lead to dangerous warming.

Between 1989 and 2002, the Global Climate Coalition, a group of mainly US businesses, used aggressive lobbying and public relations tactics to oppose action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight the Kyoto Protocol. Large corporations and trade groups from the oil, coal and auto industries financed the coalition. The New York Times reported that "even as the coalition worked to sway opinion [toward skepticism], its own scientific and technical experts were advising that the science backing the role of greenhouse gases in global warming could not be refuted." In 2000, the Ford Motor Company was the first company to leave the coalition as a result of pressure from environmentalists. Daimler-Chrysler, Texaco, the Southern Company and General Motors subsequently left the GCC. It closed in 2002.

### Funding for deniers

Journalists reported in 2015 that oil companies had known since the 1970s that burning oil and gas could cause climate change but nonetheless funded deniers for years.

Several large fossil fuel corporations provide significant funding for attempts to mislead the public about climate science's trustworthiness. ExxonMobil and the Koch family foundations have been identified as especially influential funders of climate change contrarianism. The bankruptcy of the coal company Cloud Peak Energy revealed it funded the Institute for Energy Research, a climate denial think tank, as well as several other policy influencers.

### Green funding for climate emergency reports

In sharp contrast to the reported funding by the fossil fuel lobby of climate change denialism and opposition to the hoped-for energy transition away from fossils, there was a report published this June on the "Daily Skeptic" website, which claimed that plenty of money was being funneled by a green billionaire fund for the circulation and promotion of climate change and environmental reporting. Written by Chris Morrison, the report said:

"A massive global grooming program aimed at mostly mainstream media involving climate catastrophism and Net Zero promotion is detailed in a recently published report from the green billionaire-funded Internews's Earth Journalism Network (EJN). The work is a shocking insight into the corruption of independent, investigative journalism. At one point the report observes 'a concerning trend among journalists in some countries still seeking to 'balance' their climate change reporting.' The report shows clearly that the green billionaires are calling most of the shots in promoting stories of Net Zero-inspired

climate collapse. It is noted that they may fund journalists 'to cover stories in a particular subject area, determined by funder interests and goals.'

Over the last 20 years, the tax-efficient billionaire foundations have stepped into the funding gaps left by declining circulation and advertising sales across mainstream media. It is noted by the EJV that journalists 'overwhelmingly agreed' that support from external funding organizations was 'essential' to enabling their climate and environmental reporting. Any journalist can apply to be a member of the EJV and the 'primary benefit' is said to be access to grant funding for stories and 'training opportunities.' The operation claims over 25,000 members in 200 countries.

The list of EJV funders is a long one and includes many well-known supporters of climate fearmongering work. Included is the European Climate Foundation, heavily supported by Michael Bloomberg and Extinction Rebellion paymaster Sir Christopher Hohn. Other supporters include Tides, Gulbenkian, Oak, Packard, Climate Justice Resilience, and the MacArthur and Rockefeller foundations. Helping out with taxpayer money are political and government organizations, including the United Nations and the British Foreign Office.

The EJV report is said to provide a novel, truly global benchmark of the current state of climate and environmental journalism. Unhappily this would appear to be true. As we have seen in many past issues of the 'Daily Sceptic,' very few 'grassroots' green operations can survive without elite billionaire funding. The same is true of media coverage. Much of the global barrage of climate catastrophe reporting would not exist without this vital outside lifeline. It is obvious that the cash handouts have a clear political agenda, namely an elite-mandated Net Zero global collectivization made easier by the growth of supranational organizations.

The report makes the obvious point that climate and environmental journalists have long been criticized for lacking objectivity. However the 'literature' is said to suggest that journalism as a whole 'has been moving away from objectivity as a professional practice in the digital landscape.' Some researchers are said to have pointed to a need to think 'beyond journalism' and to formulate a broader definition.

It might be argued that if you are being paid to be a poodle, you are already 'beyond journalism.' As 1984 author George Orwell once wrote: 'Journalism is printing what someone else does not want printed; anything else is public relations.'"

Alas, it would seem that some climate skepticism remains despite all the best funding efforts. The scientific opinion that humans control the climate thermostat by burning

hydrocarbons is disputed by some of the finest scientific minds in the world. Fudged figures, pseudo-scientific weather attributions, and the huge downplaying of the role of natural variations do not convince everyone. According to the EJN, this means that in many countries, media audiences are being led to believe that the causes of climate change are not clear. Certainly, it might be said that the causes of climate change are unclear to believers in the scientific discovery process, such as the 2022 winner of the Nobel Physics Prize, Dr. John Clauser. He said recently that the link between temperature and carbon dioxide was a 'crock of crap.' Or the distinguished Princeton emeritus professor William Happer, who, when asked to choose between 'climate scam' or 'hoax,' said he preferred 'scam' but could live with 'hoax.'

For the billionaire-funded EJN, this is 'highly problematic' since widespread public understanding of the causes and impacts of climate change 'is so urgently needed to support climate action on a global scale.'

Alas, again, the report seemed to find some disturbing evidence that some comrades are not fully on board with the wishes of Big Climate Brother and the 'settled' science promoted by the Ministry of Truth. Citizens are reminded that at the time of the Great Covid-19 pandemic, 'media in many countries clearly aligned with government positions on vaccine mandates and lockdown orders — often under the uniting phrase of 'we are all in this together.' On the basis of this example, it is suggested that journalists should be less hesitant to advocate the climate message in the 'public interest.'"

All this talk of funds on both sides of the climate debate makes one wonder whether the funding has reached the Philippines and local journalists and propagandists in our midst.



## CCC IN THE NEWS:

### DAILY TRIBUNE

#### [CCC urges efficient land restoration, water management](#)

In observance of the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) called on Filipinos to engage in effective land restoration and water management to enhance resilience against these environmental challenges.

Desertification is the degradation of land resulting primarily from climatic variations and human activities. It reduces soil's ability to support crops, which leads to lower yields and increased food scarcity.

Drought, on the other hand, is a natural phenomenon characterized by a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall that leads to a shortage of water. It affects drinking water supplies, agriculture and industrial activities.

With climate change, desertification and droughts are expected to worsen and intensify. This loss affects ecosystems' ability to function and provide essential services. The degradation of land and water resources leads to malnutrition, poverty, and displacement, particularly in vulnerable communities in developing regions.

According to the United Nations, up to 40 percent of the world's land is already considered degraded. Degraded lands release stored carbon into the atmosphere, which contributes to climate change.

The CCC urged the public to take concerted action in land restoration and water management to reduce the impacts of these threats, and in effect, climate change.

"Addressing desertification and drought is crucial for our nation's resilience and food security," said Secretary Robert Borje, CCC vice chairperson and executive director. "We must act collectively to restore degraded lands and manage our water resources sustainably."

Officially declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 1994 (A/RES/49/115), the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed every 17 June. It aims to promote public awareness of the issues linked to desertification, land degradation and drought and to showcase human-led solutions to prevent desertification and reverse intensifying droughts.

## Spirit of Eid al-Adha resonates in climate action

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) highlighted the significant intersection of faith and climate change as it joined the Muslim community in the celebration of Eid al-Adha.

Eid al-Adha, also known as the Feast of Sacrifice, is a time of reflection, devotion and unity for Muslims worldwide. The spirit of Eid al-Adha, which emphasizes sacrifice and stewardship, resonates with the principles of environmental conservation and sustainable living.

The CCC recognized that these values are pivotal in addressing the global climate crisis. Secretary Robert Borje, vice chair and executive director of CCC, emphasized the importance of integrating faith-based approaches in the fight against climate change.

“The values of compassion, stewardship, and communal responsibility that are taught by Islam support national transformative climate action. The Muslim regions in Mindanao, one of the country’s areas most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, have a crucial role in leading sustainable practices and resilience-building efforts,” he said.

Borje highlighted the importance of community-driven climate solutions, stating, “Our Muslim brothers and sisters have long practiced sustainable agricultural and fishing methods. By supporting and amplifying these traditional practices, we can foster a more resilient and sustainable future. Faith-based climate action is not only possible but essential in our shared mission to combat climate change.”

The CCC continues to engage with various sectors, including religious communities, to promote inclusive and comprehensive climate action strategies.

## MANILA STANDARD

### [CCC hails law on environment data gathering](#)

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) lauded President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.'s signing of Republic Act No. 11995 (RA 11995), or the Philippine Ecosystem and Natural Capital Accounting System (PENCAS) Act, saying the institutionalization of national resource accounting will protect and promote ecological balance and advance climate resilience of the Philippines.

The CCC said the PENCAS represented a “significant stride towards aligning the country’s economic policies with sustainable practices to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation are at the center of the country’s national development plans, consistent with the vision of President Marcos of a climate smart and resilient Philippines.”

CCC vice chair and executive director Robert Borje said PENCAS initiated the adoption and integration of internationally accepted environmental economic accounting frameworks into the country’s resource management.

The PENCAS, Borje added, mandates the compilation of officially designated statistics on the depletion, degradation, and restoration of natural capital, environmental protection expenditures, pollution, and quality of lands, air and water. He said the data sets would be the basis for national decision-making processes on economic, environmental and health policy developments.

The law established a mechanism for monitoring and reporting that will contribute to the protection, conservation, and restoration of Philippine ecosystems and environmental resources.

“We thank President Marcos for signing the PENCAS Act. The new law is crucial in realizing the vision of a climate resilient and smart Philippines. PENCAS helps ensure that national policies continue to be driven by best available science and current and more complete data sets,” Borje said.

The CCC also thanked the Senate and the House of Representatives, including Senator Loren Legarda, for key roles in passing the law.

“The PENCAS Act mandates the inclusion of the country’s natural resources as a vital component of the national economy, supplementing traditional metrics such as gross

domestic product (GDP) and human capital,” said Senator Loren Legarda, principal author of the law.

The CCC recognized PENCAS’ alignment with global and national climate frameworks, such as the Paris Agreement, National Climate Change Action Plan, National Adaptation Plan, Philippine Development Plan, and Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan.

“PENCAS is the cornerstone for precise and transparent policy formulation and decision-making in ecological and natural resources management in the country. Furthermore, it provides the solid rationale for directing investments towards programs aimed at fostering healthy, sustainable ecosystem services, and resilient Filipino communities,” said Borje.

## PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

### [CCC Celebrates Eid al-Adha, emphasizes intersection of faith and climate action](#)

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## [On World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: CCC urges efficient land restoration and water management](#)

In observance of the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) called on Filipinos to engage in effective land restoration and water management to enhance resilience against these environmental challenges.

Desertification is the degradation of land resulting primarily from climatic variations and human activities. It reduces soil's ability to support crops, which leads to lower yields and increased food scarcity. Drought, on the other hand, is a natural phenomenon characterized by a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall that leads to a shortage of water. It affects drinking water supplies, agriculture, and industrial activities.

With climate change, desertification and droughts are expected to worsen and intensify. This loss affects ecosystems' ability to function and provide essential services. The degradation of land and water resources leads to malnutrition, poverty, and displacement, particularly in vulnerable communities in developing regions.

According to the United Nations, up to 40 percent of the world's land is already considered degraded. Degraded lands release stored carbon into the atmosphere, which contributes to climate change.

The CCC urged the public to take concerted action in land restoration and water management to reduce the impacts of these threats, and in effect, climate change.

“Addressing desertification and drought is crucial for our nation’s resilience and food security,” said Secretary Robert Borje, CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director. “We must act collectively to restore degraded lands and manage our water resources sustainably.”

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