



## NEWS ROUNDUP

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#### [La Mesa Ecopark reopens](#)

By: Kris Anne Mendoza and Jomari Gimongala

The La Mesa Ecopark reopened after months of rehabilitation, with new management led by the Manila Water Foundation (MWF), holding a ceremony on Saturday, June 29.

### DAILY TRIBUNE

#### [How 'green' is Phl's PROPERTY industry](#)

By: Tiziana Celine Piatos

The country's property industry is going through a major change, not just because of economic factors, but also because people have come to realize the importance of being environmentally responsible.

## **PALAWAN NEWS**

### **[PPUR, Tubbataha to star in new documentary on climate change impact](#)**

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Palawan's world heritage sites will be featured in an upcoming short film showcasing environmental protection efforts in the Philippines.

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### **[\[Opinion\] New focus on coral reefs](#)**

With record-high sea temperatures bleaching coral reefs worldwide, reef guards and environmentalists have suggested immediate restoration.

## **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**

### **[Marcos pushes for global 'greener' tourism initiatives](#)**

By: Zacarian Sarao

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Friday called for more sustainable tourism both domestically and globally, urging countries to develop "greener" initiatives.

## **PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

### **[Extreme heat due to climate change affected 5 billion people in June](#)**

Nearly five billion people suffered from extreme heat due to climate change from June 16 to June 24, according to Climate Central.

### **['Green' transformation, education take centerstage at UNWTO meet](#)**

By: Joyce Ann L. Rocamora

Green transformation and efforts to boost tourism in a sustainable way in the region will take the centerstage at the 36th Joint Commission Meeting of the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific and the Commission for South Asia (CAP-CSA) in Cebu, Tourism Secretary Christina Frasco said Friday.

## **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

## **DAILY TRIBUNE**

### **[CCC pushes safeguard to disaster](#)**

As the country observes the National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) this July, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

### **[DoF launches Green Climate Fund Phl website](#)**

By: Kathryn Jose

The Department of Finance (DoF) has officially launched the Green Climate Fund Philippines' website to ensure transparency on the country's projects on mitigating climate change.

### [Step up our resilience game against climate change](#)

By: Secretary Robert E.A. Borje

The world is changing due to climate change, making disaster resilience a crucial policy and planning concern. Communities have been faced with unprecedented challenges from global warming and intensifying extreme weather events. The impacts of climate change are increasing vulnerabilities, emphasizing the need for more resilient systems and plans.

#### **MANILA BULLETIN**

### [Climate change action efforts progressing, says DENR chief](#)

By: Jel Santos

Significant progress has been made in the country's climate change action plan and its supporting mechanisms, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga reported.

### [Create emergency plan for climate-related risks—climate change body](#)

By: Betheena Unite

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) made the call as it underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

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### [CCC highlights climate resilience on National Disaster Resilience Month](#)

As the country observes the National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) this July, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

### [Nominations now open for the 2nd Philippine Resilience Awards](#)

Nominations for the 2nd Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA), an initiative that recognizes outstanding contributions to climate action and disaster resilience, are now open.

#### **THE MANILA TIMES**

### [Govt, groups fill climate action gaps](#)

A recent roundtable organized by the Climate Change Commission (CCC) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) provided a platform for participating organizations to strengthen the Philippines' climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. It took a step forward in accelerating support for the Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan and the National Adaptation Plan.

### [Resilience focus of July climate month events](#)

By: Kristina Maralit

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

### [PH resilience awards nominations now open](#)

By: Aric John Sy Cua

Nominations are now open for the second Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA), which recognizes "outstanding contributions" to climate action and disaster resilience.

## **THE PHILIPPINE STAR**

### **[43 provinces may still have below normal rainfall](#)**

By: Romina Cabrera

Despite the end of the El Niño phenomenon, 43 provinces may still experience below normal rainfall conditions in July, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division**

## **ABS CBN**

### **[La Mesa Ecopark reopens](#)**

By: Kris Anne Mendoza and Jomari Gimongala

The La Mesa Ecopark reopened after months of rehabilitation, with new management led by the Manila Water Foundation (MWF), holding a ceremony on Saturday, June 29.

The ecopark is meant to help visitors learn to appreciate and protect watersheds and rainforests.

"We are in a climate crisis, climate change, and it's high time we understand the vital role that forests play in sustaining our planet," MWF executive director Reginald Andal said.

"So by visiting the La Mesa Ecopark, you are contributing to a greater cause which is supporting biodiversity and enhancing the climate resilient," he added.

Phase 1 of the rehabilitation includes the La Mesa Ecopark Administration Building, Eco Academy Pavilion, Viewing Deck, Souvenir Shop, Group Activity Area, and Picnic Area, promoting biodiversity conservation in the city.

More activities can be expected as the park opens to the public on Saturday afternoon.

Entrance fee is free for Quezon City residents, while non-residents will need to pay P20.

Phases 2 and 3 are set to be completed by 2025.

MWSS said in February as the park was closed to the public that the rehabilitation will give La Mesa Ecopark visitors experiential learning on watershed protection and climate action when it is done.

Manila Water also said that there will be environmental awareness attractions within the park that will move visitors to be good stewards of the environment.

"The La Mesa Ecopark will be a place to commune with nature without traveling far," Manila Water president Jocot de Dios said.

## DAILY TRIBUNE

### [How 'green' is Phl's PROPERTY industry](#)

By: Tiziana Celine Piatos

The country's property industry is going through a major change, not just because of economic factors, but also because people have come to realize the importance of being environmentally responsible.

It used to be that sustainability was only a niche concern — now it's becoming a top priority for developers, investors and homeowners.

This shift reflects a global trend towards creating a built environment that is more environmentally conscious. This places the Philippines in a great position to be advantageous of this growing demand.

"Real estate accounts for a significant portion of global carbon emissions," Karina San Jose, a sustainability consultant for an architecture firm in Manila told DAILY TRIBUNE in a phone call.

Data from the World Green Building Council showed that 39 percent of global carbon emissions derive from the real estate sector.

Of these emissions, approximately 70 percent are produced by building operations, while the remaining 30 percent comes from construction.

"The Philippines, being an archipelago nation, is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Sustainable practices in property development are no longer a luxury, they're a necessity," San Jose said.

San Jose pointed out that sustainable practices in property development are no longer a luxury, but a necessity for building resilience and ensuring the longevity of the communities.

Real estate and investment management service provider Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) said the number of certified green buildings in the Philippines has seen a compounded annual growth rate of 4.6 percent over the past five years, with office spaces leading the way.

Environmental, economic benefits

What exactly makes sustainable property development so valuable?

The advantages are multifaceted, impacting both the environment and the bottom line. Sustainability in real estate is driven by economic factors.

"Green buildings are designed to be energy-efficient," Architect Jessa Soledad told DAILY TRIBUNE in another phone call.

"This translates to lower operating costs for residents and businesses, thanks to features like LED lighting, improved insulation, and even renewable energy sources like solar panels," Soledad added.

Soledad also mentioned that sustainable buildings, with their advanced energy-saving technologies, offer substantial savings on utility bills.

Beyond energy savings, sustainable developments often incorporate water conservation measures, such as rainwater harvesting and low-flow fixtures. It not only reduces strain on precious water resources but also lowers water bills for occupants.

“There’s a clear economic benefit to sustainability,” Soledad said.

“The initial investment in eco-friendly materials and technologies might be slightly higher, but the long-term savings on utilities and maintenance are significant,” Soledad added.

### Changing market

The demand for sustainable properties isn’t just about cost-efficiency. A growing segment of Filipinos, particularly millennials and Gen Z, are prioritizing environmentally friendly living spaces.

“There’s a definite shift in buyer preferences,” Daniel Tan, a real estate broker specializing in condominiums, told DAILY TRIBUNE in another phone call.

“Younger buyers are increasingly asking about features like energy-efficient appliances, waste management systems and access to green spaces,” Tan added.

This trend aligns with global data. A Dodge Data & Analytics report revealed that 70 percent of millennials would be willing to pay a premium for sustainable features in their homes.

Data from JLL found that 72 percent of Filipino occupiers are interested in working in green buildings. Similarly, a survey by Santos Knight Frank revealed that a growing number of homebuyers consider low-density and green spaces for their next home.

This demand is being met by a growing number of developers incorporating sustainable practices into their projects.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, a globally recognized green building rating system, is gaining traction in the Philippines.

The number of LEED-certified buildings has grown steadily in recent years, with office spaces leading the way.

### Gov’t incentives

The Philippine government is also playing a crucial role in promoting sustainable practices.

The Department of Energy’s Green Building Program provides incentives for developers who construct energy-efficient buildings.

Additionally, the national government has set ambitious climate goals, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent by 2030.

Despite the challenges, the future of the Philippine property industry appears to be painted green.

With increasing environmental awareness, government support, and growing consumer demand, sustainability is no longer a niche concern but a core value proposition.

As the industry embraces greener practices, the Philippines can position itself as a leader in sustainable development, creating a future where economic growth and environmental responsibility go hand in hand.



## MANILA STANDARD

### [\[Opinion\] New focus on coral reefs](#)

With record-high sea temperatures bleaching coral reefs worldwide, reef guards and environmentalists have suggested immediate restoration.

This issue affects the Philippines since this archipelago of 115 million people is within the Coral Triangle, a marine area in the western Pacific Ocean which includes the waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Solomon Islands.

The Philippines has the Apo Reef, off the coast of Occidental Mindoro within the Coral Triangle, the second largest contiguous coral reef in the world, second only to the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

The Apo Reef Natural Park consists of three islands which are surrounded by lush mangrove forests.

Coastal ecosystems like mangroves, sea grass and coral reefs are critical to the healthy functioning of the planet, according to environmentalists.

Mangroves and seagrass can capture more carbon than forests on land. Healthy coral reefs can absorb wave energy and are home to nearly a quarter of the oceans' biodiversity.

Coral reefs, some of the most diverse and valuable ecosystems on Earth, support more species per unit area than any other marine environment, including about 4,000 species of fish, 800 species of hard corals and hundreds of other species.

The dismal condition of our reefs – boldly described as in a rapid decline – is further exacerbated by destruction of marine habitats including dump-and-fill projects, destructive fishing practices, pollution, climate change and other anthropogenic pressures.

In the Philippines, coral reef fisheries provide livelihood for more than a million small-scale fishers who contribute almost \$1 billion annually to the country's economy. Over half a billion people depend on reefs for food, income, and protection.

The rapidly growing population needs increasing amounts of fish and other marine organisms.

Coral reefs, which protect coastlines from storms and erosion, provide jobs for local communities, and offer opportunities for recreation, provide sources of food and new medicines.

As a response to the coral degradation in the country, the Department of Science and Technology and the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development funded the "Filipinnovation" on Coral Reef Restoration Program that started in 2012.

We have also passed several laws to protect marine life, including the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act and amended Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998.

But environmentalists strongly urge there is need for more action. We must avoid touching reefs or anchoring our boats on them since contact with the reef will damage the delicate coral animals, and anchoring on the reef can kill corals, reason we must look for sandy bottoms or use moorings. Our efforts must include building coral resilience as well to threats like climate change.

## **PALAWAN NEWS**

### **[PPUR, Tubbataha to star in new documentary on climate change impact](#)**

By: Hwlwn Mae Padrones

Palawan's world heritage sites will be featured in an upcoming short film showcasing environmental protection efforts in the Philippines.

The Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) and the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM) have signed a memorandum of agreement to schedule filming sessions over the next few months, with the film scheduled for release next year.

PCSDS spokesperson Jovic Fabello mentioned that the initiative for the documentary came from Senator Loren Legarda, who chaired the Senate Committee on Culture and the Arts.

"UNESCO has been tasked with highlighting the impact of climate change on UNESCO sites in Palawan. (...) The partnership with UNESCO will compile previous and current biosphere-related studies," Fabello said.

He noted that UNESCO had the discretion to select filmmakers for the project, which will include a 15-minute documentary and a 3-minute trailer.

Fabello confirmed that filming for the project will commence this year, focusing on Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park and Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park. He expressed hope that the film will promote greater efforts in preserving Palawan's local ecosystems

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

### [Marcos pushes for global 'greener' tourism initiatives](#)

By: Zacarian Sarao

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Friday called for more sustainable tourism both domestically and globally, urging countries to develop “greener” initiatives.

Marcos made the pronouncement during the 36th joint meeting of the United Nations Tourism Commission for East Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Commission for South Asia, which the country hosted in Cebu.

“We need to adopt sustainability in our society and economy, and certainly in the sector of tourism. We must go green in the transformation of our tourism products and services as a solution to address climate change, resource preservation, and long-term industry sustainability,” said Marcos in his speech.

“As a matter of fact, I would take that even a step further. If we are to talk about tourism, I am of the belief that the greener you are, the better the tourism experience will be,” he added.

Marcos said the government is already working with the private sector to pursue reforms that encourage tourists to “visit, stay, spend, and return,” such as easing visa access, enhancing water sanitation and healthcare facilities in tourist destinations, and improving connectivity hubs such as airports.

“By adopting these practices, we create a tourism industry that not only creates responsible visitors but also uplifts the lives of those who are part of that activity,” the President said.

Additionally, Marcos stressed the need to invest in education, training and skills upgrading among personnel working in the tourism industry.

He also stressed the need to engage experts and professionals to make tourism “a meaningful, educational, and impactful experience not only for our tourists but also for our stakeholders.”

“For what good will any tourism effort be if it ends up destroying the local culture and ecology,” Marcos said.

According to Marcos, the Department of Tourism recorded 5.45 million international tourists in 2023, exceeding its target of 4.8 million.

He said this translated to a tourism direct gross value of P2.09 trillion, or 8.6 percent of the country’s gross domestic product in 2023.

Meanwhile, from January to March 2024, international tourist arrivals in the Philippines have reached 2.9 million.

## **PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

### **Extreme heat due to climate change affected 5 billion people in June**

Nearly five billion people suffered from extreme heat due to climate change from June 16 to June 24, according to Climate Central.

Due to climate change caused by emissions from burning petrol, gas, and coal, 619 million people in India and 579 million people in China were exposed to extreme heat, according to a nonprofit news organization based in the US that reports on climate science.

Extreme heat affected 231 million people in Indonesia, 206 million in Nigeria, 176 million in Brazil, 171 million in Bangladesh, 165 million in the US, 152 million in Europe, 123 million in Mexico, 121 million in Ethiopia, and 103 million in Egypt.

At least 1,300 hajj pilgrims died in Saudi Arabia due to extreme heat.

## 'Green' transformation, education take centerstage at UNWTO meet

By: Joyce Ann L. Rocamora

Green transformation and efforts to boost tourism in a sustainable way in the region will take the centerstage at the 36th Joint Commission Meeting of the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific and the Commission for South Asia (CAP-CSA) in Cebu, Tourism Secretary Christina Frasco said Friday.

The Philippine-hosted meeting formally opened at Sheraton Mactan on June 28 and was graced by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

“As we gather as a community of nations under the banner of the United Nations Tourism, we emphasize our fair dedication to preserving our culture and promoting cross-border collaboration and aligning our tourism policies,” Frasco said.

“Along with all the global leaders here today, we will lead discussions in the current tourism situation prevailing among our regions and work towards green transformation, sustainable tourism development and education in tourism,” she said.

The UN Tourism earlier underscored the need for the tourism industry to embrace a low carbon pathway by 2030.

Tourism is one of the most vulnerable sectors to climate change but is also major contributor to the emission of greenhouse gases.

In a 2019 study, the UN Tourism said transport-related emissions from international tourism are forecast to increase by 25 percent to 665 metric tons (MT) in 2030 from 458 MT CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) in 2016.

### Post-pandemic recovery

On top of this, the sector is confronted with the challenge of fully recovering from the devastating impacts of coronavirus disease 2019.

In a May 2024 global survey of the UN Tourism among its panel of experts, more than 50 percent of the respondents said higher transport and accommodation costs, as well as, economic environment, are the “main factors” weighing on the recovery of international tourism.

More than 20 percent of the respondents also cited the Hamas-Israel conflict and staff shortages as challenges to tourism.

Other factors affecting the tourism recovery were the Russian offensive on Ukraine (19 percent), low consumer confidence (18 percent), and travel restrictions, including visa requirements (13 percent), among others.

In the Philippines, Marcos said the government had been doubling efforts to strengthen collaboration with private sector and make reforms to make tourists visit, stay, and return to the country.

Among the measures he cited were easing visa access, enhancing water sanitation and health care facilities in tourist destinations, and improving connectivity.

Marcos also underscored the importance of raising the standards and practices in the sector by investing in education, training, and skills upgrading of tourism workers.

## CCC IN THE NEWS:

### DAILY TRIBUNE

#### [CCC pushes safeguard to disaster](#)

As the country observes the National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) this July, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

Under the theme “Bantayog ng Katatagan at ang Pagbubuklod sa Layuning Kahandaan” (Pillar of Resilience and Uniting for Preparedness), this year’s observance emphasizes the necessity of proactive measures to enhance the country’s ability to withstand and recover from climate-related disasters.

As the impacts of climate change become more evident, embracing climate resilience is crucial. The CCC advocates for preparedness by urging individuals and communities to stay informed about climate-related risks and integrate climate considerations into their disaster plans. Families are encouraged to create emergency plans that account for climate hazards and to prepare disaster supply kits with essentials such as water, food, medication, and important documents.

Adaptation plays a pivotal role in enhancing climate resilience. The CCC calls for support for climate-resilient infrastructure improvement and the adoption of sustainable practices, including recycling, energy conservation and sustainable transportation. Engaging in local disaster risk reduction programs and integrating climate adaptation strategies into community planning are vital steps in building resilient communities.

Solidarity and collective action are fundamental to climate resilience. Building strong connections with neighbors and community organizations, participating in local volunteer efforts focused on climate-related disaster response and recovery, and spreading awareness about climate resilience through schools, workplaces and social networks are also important.

The CCC encourages everyone to support climate initiatives that enhance disaster resilience, educate others about the importance of climate resilience, and take proactive steps to reduce vulnerability to climate-induced disasters.

“Effective climate resilience measures can save lives, reduce economic losses, and protect livelihoods. They contribute to the preservation of natural resources and biodiversity. As we observe National Disaster Resilience Month, let us commit to integrate climate considerations into our preparedness efforts, enhance our adaptive capacities, and foster solidarity,” said Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, CCC vice chairperson and executive director.

The observance of the NDRM, as mandated by Executive Order 29 s.2017, shifts focus from disaster awareness building to disaster resilience. This transition underscores the importance of equipping individuals, communities, organizations and local government units with the capacity to adapt to and recover from the effects of hazards and disasters through effective risk management.

## [DoF launches Green Climate Fund Phl website](#)

By: Kathryn Jose

The Department of Finance (DoF) has officially launched the Green Climate Fund Philippines' website to ensure transparency on the country's projects on mitigating climate change.

The DoF on Friday said the website allows the public to view details of climate projects and track them from conception to implementation and evaluation.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest fund for developing countries that helps create solutions to the effects of climate change.

The GCF provides various financing methods and was established through partnerships with global and national commercial banks, multilateral and regional finance institutions, equity funds institutions, United Nations agencies, and civil society organizations.

Powerful message

"It is our desire that this partnership with the GCF will deliver a powerful message and serve as a promising model to the international community in striking collective action in addressing climate change," DoF Secretary Ralph Recto said.

In March last year, the Philippine Climate Change Commission said the country received \$26.3 million from the GCF. This was followed by another \$10-million grant announced by the DoF in May.

The country is now implementing eight GCF projects for climate change mitigation worth a total of \$137.7 million.

Meanwhile, there are five projects for climate change adaptation amounting to \$2.2 million.

"The projects that will be developed with the GCF will not only have a lasting impact on our local communities but also globally in building a more secure and sustainable world," Recto said.

'GCF Handbook'

Aside from the launch of the GCF Philippines' website on Friday, the DoF also introduced the GCF Handbook for the Philippines during the National Stakeholders Conference on the GCF in the Philippines.

The handbook contains guidelines on streamlining and broadening access of the government to a range of GCF financing.

As a main policy, the GCF stresses that the climate projects and specific policies should be government-led and it should ensure that the projects will be revenue-generating.

The conference was led by Finance Undersecretary Joven Balbosa of the International Finance Group.

## [Step up our resilience game against climate change](#)

By: Secretary Robert E.A. Borje

The world is changing due to climate change, making disaster resilience a crucial policy and planning concern. Communities have been faced with unprecedented challenges from global warming and intensifying extreme weather events. The impacts of climate change are increasing vulnerabilities, emphasizing the need for more resilient systems and plans.

Disaster resilience involves the ability of LGUs, communities, and individuals to be able to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters or emergencies. It also entails promoting adaptive capacity to withstand shocks and stresses while still maintaining vital functions and protecting community wellbeing. This concept is closely related to climate change, where the intensity and frequency of natural disasters and extreme weather events continue to escalate, threatening lives, livelihoods and even future generations.

Building more resilient infrastructure, together with sustainable urban planning, is a key component in promoting disaster resilience. Infrastructure systems form the backbone of modern and physically integrated society. Therefore, integrating climate-smart designs into transportation networks, telecommunications, water supply systems and energy grids, among others, becomes necessary for communities to minimize impacts of natural hazards and strengthen overall resilience.

Through effective early warning systems and accurate and timely information, well-constructed disaster preparedness plans can minimize losses during emergencies or disasters. They assist communities in taking precautionary measures, allowing for safe evacuation and ensuring individual safety.

We must also tackle underlying socioeconomic vulnerabilities when building our nation's resilience through inclusive community-centric approaches. Limited social support systems coupled with unequal access to resources make vulnerable groups, such as children, women and elderly, become victims of climatic changes. In this regard, equitable resource distribution must be ensured, including equal access to information and decision-making processes.

The recent multiple forest fire incidents in the Mountain Province were stark reminders of how much we can lose. Typhoon "Yolanda," which devastated Leyte and Samar over 10 years ago, demonstrates the interdependence of ecological, economic and social systems, as well as the need for a holistic approach in developing resilience.

Prioritizing resilience building is necessary for communities, businesses and policymakers. Strengthening vulnerable sectors and global linkages, and investing in innovative solutions can help us to prepare better for and recover from climate change impacts.

Let's embrace resilience during National Disaster Resilience Month as a guiding principle that should be integrated into all our policies and practices. Strategic investments in resilience can pave the way to a more sustainable future. It is time to act now.

The country observes the National Disaster Resilience Month every July as stipulated under Executive Order 29 s.2017. Shifting focus from disaster awareness building to disaster resilience underscores the importance of making communities, organizations and local government units able to adapt and recover from hazards/disasters through an effective risk management system.



## MANILA BULLETIN

### [Climate change action efforts progressing, says DENR chief](#)

By: Jel Santos

Significant progress has been made in the country's climate change action plan and its supporting mechanisms, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga reported.

According to the DENR chief, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan (NDCIP) are now in full swing to address climate change impacts and enhance the resilience of local governments.

Loyzaga, representing President Marcos Jr. at the Climate Change Commission (CCC), underscored the strategic coordination of assistance and investments from development partners and financial institutions to meet mitigation and adaptation goals.

"This will ensure that adaptation and mitigation can be embedded across sectors, scales, and geographies," said Loyzaga during a forum in Makati City on June 20.

The forum, she said, is a crucial platform for collaboration with countries committed to a rules-based international order, striving for inclusive and climate-resilient development to reduce regional and global risks.

The Philippines is among 56 nations that have submitted their NAP to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the DENR noted.

Loyzaga said the support from development partners aligns with the country's climate action priorities, including the protection and regeneration of ecosystems, building climate-resilient communities, transitioning to clean energy, ensuring water and food security, sustainable mineral resource development, investing in infrastructure, promoting digitalization, and creating green jobs.

Echoing President Marcos' directive, Loyzaga stressed that the benefits of NAP and NDCIP must reach communities and that these plans should be actively disseminated among local governments.

The forum, themed "Mobilizing Support for the NAP and NDCIP," was held in collaboration with the Department of Finance (DOF) and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the government of the United Kingdom.

DENR Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems, and Climate Change Analiza Rebuelta-Teh presented the NDCIP's focus and priorities, while CCC Commissioner Rachel Ann Herrera discussed the NAP's content and direction.

## Create emergency plan for climate-related risks—climate change body

By: Betheena Unite

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) made the call as it underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

As the impacts of climate change become more evident, embracing climate resilience is crucial. The CCC advocates for preparedness by urging individuals and communities to stay informed about climate-related risks and integrate climate considerations into their disaster plans," the CCC said in a statement.

"Families are encouraged to create emergency plans that account for climate hazards and to prepare disaster supply kits with essentials such as water, food, medication, and important documents," it added.

It also called for support for climate-resilient infrastructure improvement and the adoption of sustainable practices, including recycling, energy conservation, and sustainable transportation.

Engaging in local disaster risk reduction programs and integrating climate adaptation strategies into community planning are vital steps in building resilient communities, it stressed.

The commission cited the importance of building strong connections with neighbors and community organizations, participating in local volunteer efforts focused on climate-related disaster response and recovery.

It also encouraged individuals and groups to spread awareness about climate resilience through schools, workplaces, and social networks.

"Effective climate resilience measures can save lives, reduce economic losses, and protect livelihoods. They contribute to the preservation of natural resources and biodiversity," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said.

"As we observe National Disaster Resilience Month, let us commit to integrate climate considerations into our preparedness efforts, enhance our adaptive capacities, and foster solidarity," Borje added.

The country is observing the National Disaster Resilience Month dubbed "Bantayog ng Katatagan at ang Pagbubuklod sa Layuning Kahandaan" (Pillar of Resilience and Uniting for Preparedness), which emphasizes the necessity of proactive measures to enhance the country's ability to withstand and recover from climate-related disasters.

## PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

### [CCC highlights climate resilience on National Disaster Resilience Month](#)

As the country observes the National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) this July, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

Under the theme “Bantayog ng Katatagan at ang Pagbubuklod sa Layuning Kahandaan” (Pillar of Resilience and Uniting for Preparedness), this year’s observance emphasizes the necessity of proactive measures to enhance the country’s ability to withstand and recover from climate-related disasters.

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Solidarity and collective action are fundamental to climate resilience. Building strong connections with neighbors and community organizations, participating in local volunteer efforts focused on climate-related disaster response and recovery, and spreading awareness about climate resilience through schools, workplaces, and social networks are also important.

The CCC encourages everyone to support climate initiatives that enhance disaster resilience, educate others about the importance of climate resilience, and take proactive steps to reduce vulnerability to climate-induced disasters.

“Effective climate resilience measures can save lives, reduce economic losses, and protect livelihoods. They contribute to the preservation of natural resources and biodiversity. As we observe National Disaster Resilience Month, let us commit to integrate climate considerations into our preparedness efforts, enhance our adaptive capacities, and foster solidarity,” said Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director.

The observance of the National Disaster Resilience Month, as mandated by Executive Order 29 s.2017, shifts focus from disaster awareness building to disaster resilience. This transition underscores the importance of equipping individuals, communities, organizations, and local government units with the capacity to adapt to and recover from the effects of hazards and disasters through effective risk management.

For more information on the CCC’s climate mainstreaming activities, visit [www.climate.gov.ph](http://www.climate.gov.ph) and [www.facebook.com/CCCPhl](https://www.facebook.com/CCCPhl). (CCC)

## [Nominations now open for the 2nd Philippine Resilience Awards](#)

Nominations for the 2nd Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA), an initiative that recognizes outstanding contributions to climate action and disaster resilience, are now open.

Under the theme “Kabataan at Kababaihan: Katatagan ng Bayan,” this year’s awards will honor both women champions and youth leaders from across the country.

Last year’s notable PRA awardees included Mayor Joy Belmonte of Quezon City; Director Alicia Ilaga from the Department of Agriculture; Undersecretary Maria Catalina Cabral of the Department of Public Works and Highways; Dr. Shirley Agrupis, University President of the Mariano Marcos State University in Batac, Ilocos Norte; Dr. Joy Mirasol, University President of the Bukidnon State University; and Maria Vicente Jalandoni, President of the Base Bahay Foundation, Inc. These women exemplified resilience and dedication to climate action and disaster risk reduction.

Following the success of last year’s awards, which highlighted the remarkable achievements of women champions, the PRA now broadens its scope to include the youth, to reflect the program’s commitment to inclusivity and recognition of leaders across multiple sectors.

Women Resilience Champions showcase exceptional leadership in climate risk reduction, emphasizing their central role in resilience building. Youth Resilience Champions are young leaders committed to build resilient communities through science-based and evidence-informed risk and resilience governance.

“Together, under the banner of “Kabataan at Kababaihan: Katatagan ng Bayan,” let’s move towards a more sustainable and resilient future. Join us in recognizing and empowering the champions leading the way in climate action,” said Senator Loren Legarda.

Initiated by the Office of Senator Loren Legarda, the PRA is supported by a distinguished group of partners: the Climate Change Commission, Philippine Commission on Women, National Resilience Council, Carlos P. Romulo Foundation, SM Prime, ARISE Philippines, and Women’s International Network on DRR – Philippines.

Qualified nominees are invited to submit their applications through the PRA nomination portal. The nomination period is open until July 31, 2024.

For more information on nomination guidelines, eligibility, and submission procedures, visit <https://bit.ly/2024PRA-NominateWomen> for Women Champions and <https://bit.ly/2024PRA-NominateYouth> for Youth Champions.

## THE MANILA TIMES

### Govt, groups fill climate action gaps

A recent roundtable organized by the Climate Change Commission (CCC) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) provided a platform for participating organizations to strengthen the Philippines' climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. It took a step forward in accelerating support for the Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan and the National Adaptation Plan.

The forum also identified key challenges like data and information gaps, financial constraints, capacity and training deficits, low public awareness and technological barriers. Participants stressed the urgency of localizing national climate plans to meet the specialized needs of local communities effectively.

Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, CCC vice chairman and executive director, also spoke of the importance of identifying strategic directions toward addressing climate and green financing gaps, and exploring sustainable coordination and reporting mechanisms between the Philippine government and its development partners.

Development partners, such as the Asian Development Bank, British Embassy, German Development Cooperation, Global Green Growth Institute, Japan International Cooperation Agency and Korean International Agency, proposed solutions to address the aforementioned gaps. These included creating collaborative platforms, intentional programming, private sector engagement, and enhancing capacity and data management through robust partnerships.

Environment Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga underscored the need for strong partnerships, saying that it is "essential to take stock and leverage support from international development partners that will complement domestic public financing and design the way forward."

The forum was held in collaboration with the Department of Finance and the National Economic and Development Authority.

## Resilience focus of July climate month events

By: Kristina Maralit

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) underscored the critical role of climate resilience in safeguarding the Philippines from the escalating impacts of climate change.

The country observes National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) this July.

The CCC said this year's NDRM observance, with the theme "Bantayog ng Katatagan at ang Pagbubuklod sa Layuning Kahandaan" (Pillar of Resilience and Uniting for Preparedness), focuses on putting in place proactive measures meant to ensure the country's ability to withstand and recover from climate-related disasters.

It said the impact of climate change has become more evident, the reason it is advocating for preparedness by urging individuals and communities to stay informed about climate-related risks and integrate climate considerations into their disaster plans.

This includes encouraging families to create emergency plans that account for climate hazards and to prepare disaster supply kits with essentials such as water, food, medication and important documents.

"As we observe the National Disaster Resilience Month, let us commit to integrate climate considerations into our preparedness efforts, enhance our adaptive capacities, and foster solidarity," said Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, CCC vice chairman and executive director.

Moreover, he said that adaptation plays a pivotal role in enhancing climate resilience.

The agency said building strong connections with neighbors and community organizations, participating in local volunteer efforts focused on climate-related disaster response and recovery, and spreading awareness about climate resilience through schools, workplaces and social networks are also important.

It encouraged everyone to support climate initiatives that enhance disaster resilience, educate others about the importance of climate resilience, and take proactive steps to reduce vulnerability to climate-induced disasters.

## [PH resilience awards nominations now open](#)

By: Aric John Sy Cua

Nominations are now open for the second Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA), which recognizes "outstanding contributions" to climate action and disaster resilience.

The theme for this year's edition is "Kabataan at Kababaihan: Katatagan ng Bayan" (Youth and Women: Strength of the Nation), which will honor women champions and youth leaders across the nation.

In a statement on Friday, the PRA said it was broadening its scope to include the youth in reflecting their commitments to inclusivity and recognizing leaders across multiple sectors.

This year's PRA has two categories: The Women Resilience Champions and the Youth Resilience Champions.

"Women Resilience Champions showcase exceptional leadership in climate risk reduction, emphasizing their central role in resilience building. Youth Resilience Champions are young leaders committed to building resilient communities through science-based and evidence-informed risk and resilience governance," it explained.

Last year's PRA awardees were Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte; Department of Agriculture Director Alicia Ilaga; Department of Public Works and Highways Undersecretary Maria Catalina Cabral; Mariano Marcos State University President Shirley Agrupis; Bukidnon State University President Joy Mirasol; and Base Bahay Foundation Inc. President Maria Vicente Jalandoni.

Qualified nominees can submit their applications through the PRA's nomination portal until July 31, 2024.

The PRA was initiated by Sen. Loren Legarda, with partners that include the Climate Change Commission, Philippine Commission on Women, National Resilience Council, Carlos P. Romulo Foundation, SM Prime, Arise Philippines, and Women's International Network on DRR-Philippines.

## THE PHILIPPINE STAR

### [43 provinces may still have below normal rainfall](#)

By: Romina Cabrera

Despite the end of the El Niño phenomenon, 43 provinces may still experience below normal rainfall conditions in July, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

PAGASA said below normal conditions are expected over many parts of Luzon and the Visayas next month.

This means that these areas will receive up to 80 percent of the normal rainfall typical for the month, according to Ana Liza Solis, chief of the climate monitoring and prediction section of PAGASA.

“Most parts of Luzon, particularly in Mimaropa, parts of Bicol and Eastern Visayas may experience rainfall below normal levels,” Solis said in Filipino.

The climatologist said there is still plenty of rainfall expected, as the amount of rain is typically higher for July.

Meanwhile, rainfall conditions are expected to be above normal in 49 provinces by October.

A transition to a weak La Niña phenomenon is seen between August and October this year, as PAGASA said there is a 65 percent chance that La Niña will develop while entering in the last quarter.

La Niña is associated with above normal rainfall conditions that may bring adverse impacts such as floods and landslides.

#### Climate change fight

Meanwhile, Environment Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga on yesterday said the efforts to minimize the impact of climate change are gaining headway with the implementation of an action plan along with its support mechanisms through the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan (NDCIP).

Loyzaga, also the official representative of President Marcos to the Climate Change Commission, said the NAP and its companion measure, the NDCIP, are in full swing in the collective efforts to address the impacts of climate change and make local governments adapt to them and become resilient.

Loyzaga has mobilized support for the NAP and NDCIP, particularly in coordinating the assistance and investments of development partners and financial institutions to achieve mitigation and adaptation goals.

The Philippines is one of the only 56 countries that have submitted their NAP to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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