



## NEWS ROUNDUP

04 JULY 2024 [ 08:00 am]

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### ABS CBN

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By: Rowegie Abanto

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## **PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

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## **SUNSTAR**

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## **THE PHILIPPINE STAR**

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This week, five mini workshops will be conducted in different barangay clusters throughout San Francisco, Camotes to encourage the youth (15-24 years old) to share their climate action ideas/proposals.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division**

**ABS CBN**

**2 or 3 storms may enter PAR this July — PAGASA**

By: Rowegie Abanto

Two to three tropical cyclones could form or enter the Philippine area of responsibility this July, state weather bureau PAGASA said Monday.

Citing PAGASA's climatological model, PAGASA weather specialist Obet Badrina said most of July storms pass the Bicol area, move toward northern Luzon, and could recurve to Japan.

Sometimes, he said, storms do not hit land and only pass through the northern part of the country.

However, they could still enhance the southwest monsoon or habagat and bring heavy rains in parts of western Luzon and Visayas.

Badrina said in the early Monday forecast that the weather service has not monitored any low pressure area that could become a storm inside or outside the Philippine area of responsibility.

This means, he said, there is little chance that the Philippines would be hit by a storm in the next two to three days.

## Vatican's Gallagher to meet with Marcos, CBCP during visit to PH

Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, the Vatican Secretary for Relations with States and International Organizations, will meet with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Filipino bishops during his 5-day visit to the Philippines, according to the Vatican News.

Gallagher will make a courtesy visit to Marcos' office on Tuesday that will be followed by a meeting with Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo.

Gallagher and Manalo will "discuss areas of cooperation between the Holy See and the Philippines, such as higher education, migration, governance, interfaith dialogue, and climate change," according to a Department of Foreign Affairs release.

"They will also exchange views on regional and international issues. Their meeting will serve as an opportunity to underscore the shared commitment of the Philippines and the Holy See to the promotion of peace, human rights, rule of law and sustainable development," it added.

On Wednesday, Gallagher will participate in the plenary session of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of the Philippines, the Vatican News said.

He will also join a bishops' retreat, according to the CBCP News, which runs from July 2-4, at the Transfiguration Abbey run by the Benedictine Monks in Malaybalay, Bukidnon where he will serve as one of the speakers.

Gallagher will deliver a lecture to the more than 80 bishops about "Moral Governance and Ethical Leadership" which according to the information released by the Department of Foreign Affairs, is part of the "Mabini Dialogue series of the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of Foreign Affairs."

The Vatican News said Gallagher will also participate in the annual "Pope's Day" which marks the feast day of St. Peter and St. Paul at the Apostolic Nunciature in Manila.

On Friday, Gallagher will attend a conference in Manila at the Foreign Service Institute, the training, research, and publications arm of the DFA.

Archbishop Gallagher was ordained to the priesthood on July 31, 1977, and has a doctorate in Canon Law, according to the website [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk), which represents the Catholic bishops of England and Wales.

"His first three postings in the diplomatic service took him to three continents: to Africa and Tanzania; Uruguay in South America and to Asia and the Philippines," the website said.

He was appointed as Secretary for Relations with States by Pope Francis on November 8, 2014.

## DAILY GUARDIAN

### [DOF leads discussion on climate finance in PHL](#)

The Department of Finance (DOF) recently led a hybrid roundtable discussion aimed at enhancing climate finance initiatives in the Philippines.

The event brought together various government agencies and development partners to streamline climate change components into public financial management and improve access to climate finance.

Maria Luwalhati Dorotan Tiuseco, DOF Chief-of-Staff and Undersecretary for Climate Finance Policy Group, highlighted the department's commitment to the idea of climate finance.

“We at the DOF are pleased to lead the initiatives of the Climate Finance Network in the Philippines, working hand-in-hand with government agencies and development partners to access and monitor climate finance most effectively.”

The roundtable was part of the Climate Finance Network (CFN) initiatives, funded by the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (UK-FCDO) and executed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The CFN acts as a knowledge management and technical support facility, assisting Ministries of Finance and sub-national governments in identifying and scaling up climate finance innovations.

During the discussion, the UNDP introduced the CFN Programme and Country Plan, presenting preliminary findings of the Climate Change Budget Integration Index (CCBII++), a tool assessing the integration of climate change finances in public financial management.

This tool, now including gender and human rights aspects, helps establish baselines for each country to track progress in mainstreaming climate change into planning and budgeting.

The CFN's Philippine Country Strategy 2022 – 2026 outlines key initiatives, including results-based climate budgeting, adaptive social protection, and climate performance audit support.

The strategy aims to aid the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in creating guidelines for climate-aligned budget calls and medium-term expenditure frameworks.

Additionally, the CFN supports the Commission on Audit (COA) in conducting climate performance audits, ensuring accountability and sustainability.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is also developing an Adaptive Social Protection Baseline Assessment to integrate climate measures into social protection agendas, enhancing the government's readiness for adaptive social protection measures.

Undersecretary Tiuseco expressed gratitude for international support, emphasizing the importance of collaboration.

“As climate finance remains an emerging area of focus, we leverage the expertise of each agency so we can amplify our impact, accelerate the implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation projects, and ultimately attain our national targets.”

The roundtable was attended by representatives from various national government agencies, including the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), DBM, DSWD, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), COA, NEDA, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), and Congress Research and Budget Policy (CPBRD), along with development partners from UNDP Philippines and UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub.

The collaborative effort underscores the Philippines' dedication to building long-term resilience against climate risks and transitioning to a low-carbon, sustainable development pathway.

The DOF continues to support innovative and intergovernmental solutions to manage climate finance, disaster risk financing, and sustainable finance coordination effectively.



## DAILY TRIBUNE

### [Guardians of the Deep: Palawan's Marine Sanctuaries Combat Climate Change](#)

In an inspiring collaboration, Daily Tribune and Extra Mile Production have joined forces to showcase the vital role of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the fight against climate change. The short documentary, titled "CORAL RESILIENCY," is part of the "Know Your North" series created by acclaimed Filipino documentary filmmaker Gabriel "Gabby" Malvar. Featured on Daily Tribune's TARSINEHAN, this compelling film offers an in-depth look at the network of MPAs in Taytay, Palawan. Malvar, known for his dedication to capturing authentic narratives of the Philippines, brings his expertise in balancing tourism promotion with cultural and environmental preservation to this important project, continuing his mission to reveal the multifaceted beauty and challenges of the Philippine archipelago.

The film explores how these protected areas, ranging from privately-owned to community-run and government-managed sanctuaries, are crucial in boosting coral resiliency. By safeguarding these underwater ecosystems, the MPAs of Taytay are at the forefront of efforts to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on marine life.

This eye-opening documentary aligns with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, highlighting the intersection of environmental conservation and social responsibility. Viewers are invited to witness firsthand the importance of these marine sanctuaries in the Western Visayas region, offering a glimpse into the ongoing efforts to preserve our oceans for future generations.

## MANILA BULLETIN

### [Study reveals QCinema audiences have high level of climate change awareness, presents solutions](#)

By: Nestor Cuartero

A study conducted in 2023 by a team of scholars funded by the University of Glasgow (UofG) Glasgow Centre for International Development in partnership with the UPLB Foundation, Inc. noted a high level of climate change awareness among QCinema audiences.

Other significant findings include: Seventy percent of respondents were highly aware of climate change issues, while almost 86 percent rated climate change as an essential issue.

Also, 72.92 per cent strongly supported climate change efforts despite less than half (48.03 per cent) being moderately involved in activities contributing to climate change solutions. It also found out that 64.63 per cent of respondents were willing to pay a sustainability fee on top of the ticket price.

On the ecological impact, the data showed that some 60 per cent of the audience consumed food bought from establishments at the venues, and 76 per cent consumed mostly water and soda, generating solid waste from popcorn, chips, water bottles, and soda cans.

The research paper, "Setting the Stage for Sustainability: An Environmental Impact Baseline Study of QCinema International Film Festival" is the first study of its kind in the Philippines to examine how cultural and creative industries impact on sustainability.

The project was presented June 28 at a Quezon City restaurant to local government officials, representatives from academia, entertainment industry stakeholders, and media professionals.

A total of 229 individuals responded to the survey. It sought to profile QCinema audiences, their festival viewing habits, level of awareness on climate change issues, willingness to act towards climate action, and perception of the festival's economic and cultural impact.

Lead researcher Michael Kho Lim of the University of Glasgow said that this initiative to establish baseline data is the first step towards creating a possible environmental

management plan and sustainability framework for the festival. This can form the basis of similar plans and frameworks for other cultural and creative activities in the country.

"There is an urgent need to adopt sustainable festival practices, especially since we are a country that celebrates thousands of festivals. Many studies have shown that mounting these events considerably negatively impacts our environment. It is high time other organizers followed suit and took significant steps that could drive the cultural and creative industries towards a greener and more sustainable future," says Kho Lim.

The study also examined the festival's impact on the entertainment industry. Over 84 percent view the event as a pivotal educational platform. A total of 92 percent highly rated the festival's contribution to appreciation of the art and craft of filmmaking. More than 85 percent of the respondents highly rated QCinema's contribution to producing high-quality films.

The study also revealed that film festivals are perceived to have a significant impact on the country's economy. Seventy-three percent of the respondents underscored the festivals' significant role in economic stimulation, potentially boosting local spending, tourism, and employment opportunities generated by the event.

## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### Surigao Sur gets weather instruments for disaster preparedness

By: Alexander Lopez

Surigao del Sur province has new weather instruments donated by the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines and its partner, A2D Project Research Group for Alternatives to Development Inc., to boost preparation for calamities and disasters.

In an interview on Tuesday, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO) chief Alex Arana said the instruments will help the provincial and the local governments strengthen response to disasters.

The donated instruments, received Monday, consist of 15 sets of rain gauges with complete accessories, a standalone Davis instrument and another unit of Davis instrument with console.

“This will certainly bolster our efforts to prepare our communities for disasters and calamities,” Arana said.

He said the Davis instrument with console will be installed in Carmen town as it is situated between other towns in the northern portion of the province.

Arana said the rain gauges will be distributed to municipalities prone to flooding, while the standalone Davis instrument will be installed at the PDRRMO office to upgrade its weather monitoring services.

## SUNSTAR

### [DSWD to launch climate project](#)

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), through its Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS), is now in the initial planning stage of a new project to address the impact of climate change.

Dubbed “Panahon ng Pagkilos (Time to Move),” the community-led climate adaptation project will cater to areas with high poverty incidence, severe climatic hazards and a significant proportion of the indigenous population.

“The Kalahi-CIDSS is committed to institutionalizing its program and preparing a new project to help poor communities deal with the climate crisis,” Kalahi-CIDSS National Program manager Bernadette Mapue-Joaquin said.

Joaquin said the climate crisis is deeply intertwined with social inequality, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations.

“Addressing this requires integrated solutions that promote social justice and leverage local knowledge to ensure that adaptation efforts are inclusive and effective,” she said.

In combating climate risks, the Kalahi-CIDSS has achieved significant milestones, transforming communities and enhancing their resilience.

The program helped construct 1,250 community centers, multi-purpose buildings and evacuation centers, providing safe havens during disasters.

The Kalahi-CIDSS also supplied 928 units of disaster and pandemic response and rescue equipment, bolstering the preparedness and response capabilities of local communities.

These resources ensure the timely and effective dissemination of critical information during emergencies.

Recognizing the importance of healthcare facilities, the program also built 3,566 quarantine facilities, now repurposed to help manage public health emergencies during disasters.

“Effective local-level financing is essential to build resilience and adaptive capacity in these communities, ensuring they can withstand and recover from climate-related disasters,” Joaquin pointed out.

### Retooling efforts

In 2023 alone, the Kalahi-CIDSS completed 16,320 subprojects, positively impacting 5.56 million households. This success is attributed to strategic retooling efforts, including clustering subprojects, streamlining requirements and increasing engagement with local chief executives.

The retooling process expanded the scope of subprojects by introducing clustered subprojects, bringing together barangays within the same Kalahi-CIDSS municipality for larger community projects.

This approach allows for greater funding and increased capacity. For instance, instead of each barangay building its own evacuation center with limited capacity, communities can pool resources to construct a single, larger center.

In Roseller Lim, Zamboanga Sibugay, 26 barangays collaborated to build a 15-room evacuation center that accommodates 300 people. Similarly, in San Pablo, Zamboanga del Sur, 22 barangays built an eight-room center.

## THE MANILA TIMES

### [No silver bullet to developing sustainable energy strategy – UP prof](#)

Different energy sources vary in affordability, sustainability, reliability and modernity through the "unfortunate tetrahedron" framework, whereby not all factors can be positively reached by a single energy source.

This was what the University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD) Department of Chemical Engineering Laboratory of Electrochemical Engineering head Joey Ocon, PhD, said as he illustrated the present energy situation the country is facing.

"Balancing the tradeoffs between conventional, renewable and nuclear energy sources is crucial. There is no silver bullet to developing a sustainable and reliable energy strategy. Each option has its pros and cons," he said.

Ocon is co-convenor of the energy think tank Center for Energy Research and Policy (CERP) with lawyer Noel Baga as co-convenor.

CERP completed the first run of its educational "Watts Up: CERP Sparks Energy Dialogue" university roadshow at UPD on June 3, 2024, which facilitated dialogue on pressing energy issues to empower students to shape the future of energy, especially amid prevalent yellow and red alerts.

#### Most expensive power rates in Asean

The Department of Energy National Total Electrification Roadmap 2023-2032 report reveals that 8.9 percent of Filipino households, equivalent to 2.5 million households, have no access to electricity.

Moreover, the Philippines grapples with one of the most expensive power rates in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) region, Baga said. He emphasized the need to prioritize the development of indigenous energy sources, provide energy subsidies to consumers, and allow foreign participation in the energy sector to alleviate the high electricity prices burdening Filipino households.

"Almost 60 percent of our power supply is from coal, and about 81 percent of this coal is imported. This is both more costly and less secure. We have many bills currently pending in the Senate and House to encourage more local and foreign investments in the energy sector, and we must continue to diversify our energy sources," Baga said.

Meanwhile, Ocon shared that the Philippines scores low in self-sufficiency due to heavy dependence on imported sources. He recommends strictly implementing energy laws, boosting generation capacity, enhancing transmission infrastructure, and streamlining distribution networks to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Rallying students, engaging Filipino youth

During the question-and-answer session, Ocon and Baga discussed the importance of increasing power supply and streamlining grid interconnections to respond to yellow and red alerts.

The latter underscored the necessity of required reserve power supplies for each subregion and attracting more investors to the power generation sector.

The discussion then shifted to the Philippines' role in combating climate change.

A student asked, "Would transitioning to fully renewable energy in the Philippines significantly mitigate climate change?"

Ocon responded, "Not significantly. We contribute less than 1 percent of global emissions despite having 1.4 percent of the world's population. Yet, as a vulnerable archipelago, we must still lead by example."

Another student inquired about expanding coal and gas power plants.

"Globally, the impact would be minimal. But our decisions can't be based solely on global metrics. It's crucial to balance our country's unique needs for affordable, reliable and sustainable energy," Ocon said.

The UPD roadshow began CERP's efforts to engage Filipino youth in the current energy crisis.

CERP is extending this initiative to other universities to broaden student engagement.

Through initiatives like these and disseminating well-researched findings, CERP aims to urge leaders to address pressing energy issues and take decisive action.



Anchored in inclusivity, CERP unites experts and advocates to foster participatory governance and provides actionable insights on energy development, thereby ensuring efficient, affordable and sustainable power for the country.

## THE PHILIPPINE STAR

### San Fran Camotes Youth: Climate Action Proposals

By: Cherry Ballescas

This week, five mini workshops will be conducted in different barangay clusters throughout San Francisco, Camotes to encourage the youth (15-24 years old) to share their climate action ideas/proposals.

Their proposals may benefit from a review of available data about San Fran, its population/resources/situationer/challenges of barangays/puroks) and the 2024-2026 Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) to provide comprehensive background/context for their climate action proposals.

Which of the 15 barangays (coastal/upland) have urgent, priority climate change and other socio-economic challenges?

Are food/water/other resources, health/educational facilities and main sources of livelihood sufficient and sustainable for the 59,236 residents (as of 2020 Census) throughout the 106.93 square kilometer-land area of the municipality?

The seven strategic priorities included in the San Francisco LCCAP for 2024-2026 are:

- 1) Blue-Green Community-Based Tourism which aims to protect/preserve the municipality's terrestrial/aquatic resources for sustainable tourism and community development.
- 2) Ecological & Environmental Sustainability Program (Malahutayong Kinaiyahan Kaugmaon sa Tanan - Sustainable Environment for Life and Development) that proposes to do an inventory & assessment of biotic and abiotic components of the San Francisco environment, protect/conservate terrestrial and aquatic resources of the municipality, delineate land/water use, and pass/implement relevant ordinances to protect/conservate/maintain/ improve and rehabilitate the natural environment.
- 3) Food security Program (Kalambuan sa Agrikultura Unahon Nato (K.A.U.N) sa San Fran) to ensure adequate/sustainable food supply from locally-produced farm and aquatic products.
- 4) Human/Health Security/DRR Program (Himsog nga katawhan sa luwas nga katilingban- Healthy people in a resilient community) aimed at maintaining

healthy/resilient population, building community resilience to climate risks, and, producing pro-active individuals in managing health/climate risks.

5) Water Sufficiency Program (Tubig for Life) to ensure sufficient supply of good quality water for human consumption & purposes, to maintain/preserve aquatic resources and ecosystem, and, to conserve/maximize the utilization of rain and groundwater.

6) Knowledge and Capacity-building Program (Continuous grassroots education towards CCA-DRRM resilience) to educate San Franciscoans on CCA-DRRM, to become a learning hub of information on CCA-DRRM, to transform social interaction and learning to provide socio-economic benefits.

7) Renewable energy and public infrastructures Program (San Francisco Camotes Organic Renewable Energy & Resilient Infrastructures (SCORER) aimed at having all puroks energized, exploring and utilizing possible sources of alternative energy, and building/constructing infrastructures that are climate proof.

Last June 3, it was heartening to observe that most of the issues needing climate action mentioned by the San Fran youth participants were included in the San Fran LCCAP.

Strategic Priority Program (SPP) #2 had several proposals like a) watershed strengthening through inclusive/participatory tree planting/monitoring, b) mangrove rehabilitation/restoration with prior identification/prioritization of what/when/where to plant (preferably in most needy areas as project sites), c) bamboo planting/growing/nurturing with out-of-school-youth as lead stewards for livelihood, starting with planting 200 bamboo trees in land-rich areas, and, d) reforestation through tree planting/conservation to arrest forest degradation/reduce forest deforestation rate.

SPP#3 proposals included a) organic farming, b) sustainable supply of organic fertilizer, and, c) provision of adequate irrigation for farms.

For SPP #4 proposals- centered on waste management for better health of people and the environment- included a) promoting sustainable waste management through waste segregation, b) have trash bins made from used bottles, c) promote eco-bricking/construct Material Recovery Facilities and other structures from ecobricks, starting from identification of plastic-prone areas, mobilizing youth to gather/collect ecobricks and installation/completion of ecobrick structures, and, d) campaign to encourage 3Rs and composting in households (with use of microorganisms).

Proposals for SPP #5 included a) assessment of water situation per area, b) water catchment, c) water (poso) rehabilitation to address water shortage, d) tapping experts to identify spring sources, e) water remediation of Awihaw water source, f) sustainable/ accessible clean water supply, and, g) having rainwater harvesting facilities.

There was a proposal for #6 through information and education and for #7 focused on installation of street solar lighting.

**=END=**