



NEWS AT A GLANCE

August 1-7, 2022

TO: ALL CCC-CCO OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Happy Monday! Take a peek and learn from last week's news articles, opinion pieces and latest developments on environment and climate change-related issues. Enjoy this **News At A Glance** from your IKM Division!

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- Abra delaying school opening due to earthquake damage
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- We Must Start Preparing Now For How Climate Change Might End Civilization, Says Report

- 'Climate emergency' drives next Makati govt projects
- Green groups hit Japan's promotion of 'false solutions' vs climate crisis
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Happy Reading!
IKM Division

NEWS AT A GLANCE

August 1-7, 2022

ABS-CBN NEWS

'Need to act fast': Makati City declares 'climate emergency'

By Anjo Bagaoisan

Makati City, the Philippines' financial hub, has declared a state of climate emergency in a bid to lead local efforts to address the on-ground effects of rising global temperatures.

SEC approves SM Investment's acquisition of Philippine Geothermal Production

Manila - The Securities and Exchange Commission has approved SM Investment Corp's acquisition of 81 percent stake in AllfirstEquity Holdings Inc in exchange for SMIC shares, the Sy-led firm said Tuesday.

AP NEWS

Blinken: China should not hold global concerns 'hostage'

By Jim Gomez

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Saturday that China should not hold hostage talks on important global matters such as the climate crisis, after Beijing cut off contacts with Washington in retaliation for U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan earlier this week.

ARAB NEWS

Awash in plastic, calls for action spring in Philippines to tackle growing crisis

By Ellie Aben

When President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. delivered his first speech as the newly elected leader of the Philippines at the end of June, he touched on the country's massive plastic problem.

BBC NEWS

Climate change: More studies needed on possibility of human extinction

Catastrophic climate change outcomes, including human extinction, are not being taken seriously enough by scientists, a new study says.

BOLLY INSIDE

Blinken on China's "irresponsible" behavior after Pelosi's visit: "China should not take global concerns hostage"

US State Secretary Antony Blinken on Saturday said that China should not hold cooperation on matters of global concern hostage because of its differences over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan. "We should not hold hostage cooperation on matters of global concern because of differences between our two countries. Others are rightly expecting us to continue to work together on issues that matter to the lives and livelihoods of their people as well as our own," Blinken said during a press conference with Philippines counterpart Enrique Manalo in Manila.

BUSINESS MIRROR

Spain mandates temperature highs and lows in buildings to save energy

Madrid – Spanish businesses, restaurants, museums and public transport will be required to adhere to strict temperature requirements under emergency measures the government announced on Monday to save energy.

Climate migration growing but not fully recognized by world

By: Julie Watson

Tijuana, Mexico—Worsening climate from the burning of coal and gas is intensifying a range of disasters and uprooting millions of people, with wildfires overrunning towns in California, rising seas overtaking island nations and drought exacerbating conflicts in various parts of the world.

US State Secretary Blinken to meet Marcos on August 6

By: Malou Talisog-Bartolome

US State Secretary Antony Blinken is flying next week to two capitals in Asia — Phnom Penh and Manila — to show US President Joe Biden's commitment to the Indo-Pacific region already largely influenced by rival China, and to "strengthen" bilateral ties with the Philippines that were earlier strained during the first four years of President Duterte's administration.

BUSINESS WORLD

[OPINION] The Philippines is now a theocracy

By Jemy Gatdula

There was a time when critical thinking meant the ability to question prevailing dogma and subjecting it to logic, reason, and experience, and perhaps consequently, this led to religion being recently rebuffed, specially when its high priests haughtily rejected thinking's demands by blithely escaping behind the notions of faith and obedience. Accordingly, many matters of faith that should have had a rightful place in public discourse are now roundly ignored.

[Opinion] Making net zero a reality in the Philippines sooner rather than later

By: Jon Canto

A number of countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including China and Indonesia, have set aggressive targets to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, despite significant coal exposure. The Philippines has not yet followed suit. Instead, it has pledged to reduce emissions by 75% from the "business as usual" trajectory by 2030; this promise is also almost entirely conditional on international financial support that has so far not been forthcoming. The Philippine Energy Plan forecasts emissions increasing until at least 2040.

Deloitte Philippines strengthens practice with new Partners and dedicated climate & sustainability team

Deloitte Philippines is proud to welcome four new partners to its Audit & Assurance practice, and a new partner and a director to its Risk Advisory practice. Claire Orille, Jenny Menes, Lloyd Moraño, and Sonny Lalunio have between them a combined 70+ years of experience auditing organizations from a wide range of industries.

PHL to participate in ASEAN program to jointly manage large marine ecosystems

By Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it is preparing to participate in an ASEAN collaborative project on large marine ecosystems (LMEs), which is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

CHANNEL NEWS ASIA

A Philippine tribe is fighting to protect their land. The ripples could affect us all

Aurora, Philippines: Riding in a motorcycle sidecar with a mere wooden plank for a seat, I held on for dear life with one hand while the other captured the tumultuous 90-minute journey on camera.

CLIMATE HOME

The problem with The Bahamas' blue carbon market plans

By Marjahn Finlayson

The Bahamian parliament is in discussions to finalize its first-ever “blue” carbon credits via the Climate Change and Carbon Markets Initiatives Bill.

CNN PHILIPPINES

Makati declares state of climate emergency

Makati Mayor Abby Binay has declared a state of climate emergency in the city.

Magnitude 5.6 quake hits Sultan Kudarat

By: Faith Yuen Wei Ragasa

A magnitude 5.6 earthquake jolted Sultan Kudarat province Tuesday afternoon, state seismologists reported.

This giant 'water battery' under the Alps could be a game-changer for renewable energy in Europe

By: Rebecca Cairns

Switzerland has unveiled its latest renewable energy innovation: a giant water battery.

Filipino among confirmed monkeypox cases in Singapore

A Filipino is among Singapore’s confirmed cases of monkeypox, its Ministry of Health (MOH) reported.

PH mourns death of former President Fidel V. Ramos

Among those who expressed their sadness and sent condolences to the bereaved family were President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr., government agencies, lawmakers, and even other nations.

GMA NEWS

Abby Binay declares climate emergency in Makati

By Richa Noriega

Makati Mayor Abby Binay declared a state of climate emergency in the city and vowed to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country's financial center.

Magnitude 5.6 earthquake strikes offshore Davao Oriental

A magnitude 5.6 earthquake was recorded offshore Davao Oriental before dawn on Wednesday, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

GOV INSIDER

Data vs disaster: Inside the Philippines’ natural emergency preparedness programme

By Jaz Low

One of the most powerful tropical cyclones ever recorded struck the Philippines nine years ago. Six-metre storm surges hurled boats inland, collapsed buildings, and swept debris out to sea. Typhoon Haiyan devastated large parts of the country and left thousands of people dead.

MANILA BULLETIN

Filipino nurses in US are ‘angels’, says Blinken

by Betheena Unite

Angels in the United States. This was how US State Secretary Antony Blinken regarded Filipino nurses in his country as he hailed them for their work ethic.

Facing the plastics crisis

By Johannes Chua

Environment writers have been calling out the attention of authorities and our country’s leaders to look into the plastic pollution crisis that is now happening. This is an inevitable outcome of a long pandemic that relied on plastics, especially single-use plastics, to protect us from an unseen enemy — the virus that causes Covid.

‘Disaster-prone’: Solons underscore need to build permanent evacuation facilities in PH

By Ellson Quismorio

There is a move in the House of Representatives to establish fully-equipped, fully-operational evacuation centers nationwide following the magnitude 7 earthquake that displaced over 33,000 people in northern Luzon.

Environment lovers plant thousands of tree seedlings in Baguio

By: Comanda Rizaldy

Baguio City – The City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) reported that environment lovers have committed to planting some 4,385 saplings/tree seedlings in city parks and available venues up to the end of September in Baguio City.

Iloilo governor backs disaster response in ROTC

By Tara Yap

Iloilo City – Gov. Arthur Defensor Jr. of Iloilo backs the integration of disaster response in the proposal to make the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) mandatory.

MANILA STANDARD

[Opinion] Coping with disasters

A week after the magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit Abra and other areas in Luzon, it’s only now that we are getting a clearer picture of the devastation it caused.

Urgent Need for a DDR

By: Emil Jurado

The recent magnitude-7 earthquake that hit Northern Luzon with epicenter in the town of Tayum in Abra emphasizes once again the urgency of the passage of the DDR (Department of Disaster Resilience) by the Senate.

5.2 quake strikes Abra anew; More shocks expected

By: Willie Casas

A magnitude 5.2 earthquake hit Abra at 2:48 a.m. on Monday, five days after it was hit by a deadly 7.0-magnitude quake last Wednesday that damaged structures in the region and killed at least 10 people.

Ingrid Power plans to build 270-MW battery energy storage system in Rizal

By: Alena Mae Flores

Ingrid Power Holdings Inc., a joint venture of ACEN Corp. and Axia Power Holdings Philippines Corp., plans to put up a 270-megawatt battery energy storage system in Barangay Malaya, Pililla, Rizal that will cost nearly P7 billion.

THE MANILA TIMES

Mobilizing investments for mine development

By Albert Gamboa

"The mining industry holds the greatest potential to be a key driver in our economic recovery and long-term growth, especially now that world metal prices are high. The Philippines, after all, is one of the world's most richly endowed countries in terms of mineral resources."

Torrential rains lash northeast, central Japan

By Xinhua News Agency

Tokyo: Heavy rains have been pounding regions in northeastern and central Japan since Wednesday, with local authorities in the country's Yamagata and Niigata prefectures urging residents to seek shelter.

Lipa gets garbage facility from Nestlé

By: Bella Cariaso

NESTLE Philippines Inc. (NPI), one of the country's largest food and beverage manufacturers, has turned over a new materials recovery facility (MRF) in Barangay Bagong Pook in Lipa City as part of its program to support the construction of MRFs in barangay (villages).

Keep Southeast Asia nuke-free – DFA chief

By Bernadette E. Tamayo

Nothing justifies the use of nuclear weapons and Southeast Asia should remain a nuclear-free region, Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo said during the 10th

Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in New York that began on Aug. 1, 2022.

Prospects for the maritime industry under the SONA

By Atty. Brenda V. Pimentel

Before President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s delivery of his State of the Nation Address (SONA) last July 15, there was anxious expectation marked by optimism among the maritime stakeholders that this time, the maritime industry will be included in the Philippine President's platform of government. The expectation is not without basis, after all, President Marcos Jr. must have acquired that strong affinity to the sea with his ancestral roots founded in the coastal province of Ilocos Norte and the island of Leyte. As governor of Ilocos Norte, he is not oblivious of the beauty of the waters that line the coast of his home province. It is therefore easy to assume he shares the Filipino's pride in being a citizen of the Philippine archipelago.

Go makes pitch for disaster resilience agency

By Bernadette E. Tamayo

Sen. Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go cited the urgency to have his proposed measure that establishes the Department of Disaster Resilience (DDR) approved in the aftermath of the magnitude 7 earthquake that hit Northern Luzon on July 27.

PH will not rejoin ICC – Marcos

By: Kristina Maralit

The Philippines "has no intention" of rejoining the International Criminal Court (ICC), President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. said on Monday.

DoF studies Indonesia's carbon tax system

By Mayvelin U. Caraballo

As part of its efforts to improve the country's tax system, the Department of Finance (DoF) is studying Indonesia's experience with the implementation of carbon pricing.

Rich countries fall short of climate change pledge

By PNA

Ankara, Turkey: Rich countries are still failing to fulfill their pledge to provide \$100 billion for climate action in poorer nations, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said.

[Opinion] SONA: For most Filipinos, it's the economy, stupid

By: Ricardo Saludo

BEFORE the headline topic, a rejoinder on the change in policy direction by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. The day after he declared the need for a Department of Disaster Resilience after the Abra earthquake, he reversed course.

[OPINION] Water is life

By Marit Stinus-Cabugon

The sitio where I live had just celebrated the second night of the annual fiesta with a "Hot Mama" pageant. A few hours later we woke up to voices yelling, "Sunog!" (Fire!) The sight of the orange flames dancing in the dark night and the frantic activity outside was surreal. Fortunately, a few minutes later fire trucks arrived and the fire was put under control.

NBC NEWS

Kentucky flood survivors say there was no time to escape the deluge

By: Minyvonne Burke, Melissa Chan and Corky Siemaszko

Leburn, Ky. — As the floodwaters receded, tales of survival emerged Tuesday from victims who were roused from sleep by alerts and quickly found themselves trapped in their homes by floating furniture blocking the doors.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the Philippines, Blinken Vows to Strengthen Military Ties

By Edward Wong

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. of the Philippines and Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken said on Saturday that their nations were committed to strengthening their military alliance, and that their governments would need to deal with rising tensions in Asia, including those involving China and Taiwan.

OPENGOV ASIA

The Philippines to Boost Online payment options

By Yen Ocampo

Michael G. Regino, President and CEO of SSS, announced that self-employed, volunteer, non-working spouses, and land-based Overseas Filipino Workers can pay their contributions through the online method of their choice. This was done in cooperation with the different financial and private sectors.

PANAY NEWS

[Opinion] Renewable energy

It was great to hear President Marcos talk about renewable energy in his State of the Nation Address. Indeed, our search for new power sources should always be with an eye to improving the mix of the energy supply between traditional and renewable sources.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Cebu City hit by worst flood since Typhoon Odette

Cebu City — This city and many localities in Metro Cebu were hit by severe floods that reached up to four feet in some areas on Thursday night following hours of heavy rain.

'Climate emergency' drives next Makati gov't projects

By: Dexter Cabalza

Makati City, the country's financial capital, has declared a "state of climate emergency," becoming the first local government in Metro Manila to acknowledge it is in crisis due to climate change.

Toward climate resiliency for the agri sector

By: Hazel Tanchuling

Anxiety and uncertainty brought about by the increase in the prices of fuel and food heralded the administration of President Marcos Jr. Along with the lingering threat of the COVID-19 virus, these circumstances will further undermine the already precarious condition of the marginalized sectors of farmers and fishers.

Int'l scholars probe SE Asians' responses to climate, disaster issues in last 700 years

By: Gina Lumauig

More than 20 international scholars and academics from various fields of disciplines – archeology, anthropology, environmental history, geography, and indigenous studies – recently convened in person in Caramoan, Camarines Sur, to address pressing climate change and disaster issues in Southeast Asia.

Heavy rains flood 3 Ifugao villages

By: Villamor Visaya Jr.

Alfonso Lista, Ifugao—Heavy rains on Monday, August 1, submerged three low-lying villages in Lamut town in this province in floodwater.

Non-stop rains flood 85 hectares of rice fields, 21 barangays in Antique

By: Gerica Vienne Ferrer

San Jose De Buenavista, Antique — At least 85 hectares of rice fields and 21 barangays in the province of Antique were affected by non-stop rains brought about by Tropical Depression Ester last Saturday.

US Senate Democrats hope for green light on \$430 billion climate, drug bill

By Reuters

Washington — U.S. Senate Democrats on Monday were awaiting a ruling from the a chamber referee this week on whether they can override the legislature's normal rules to pass a \$430 billion drugs, energy and tax bill despite Republican objections.

Mountain melt shuts classic Alpine routes

By Agence France-Presse

Geneva — Little snow cover and glaciers melting at an alarming rate amid Europe's sweltering heatwaves have put some of the most classic Alpine hiking routes off-limits.

[OPINION] San Carlos bishop: There is still time to change course and push for more renewable energy

In the explainer by the United States Energy Information Administration, natural gas is defined as “a fossil energy source that formed deep beneath the earth’s surface.” It is made up of “the remains of plants and animals (such as diatoms) built up in thick layers on the earth’s surface and ocean floors, sometimes mixed with sand, silt, and calcium carbonate.” It is found by drilling it from the earth and from the seafloor. And the burning of “natural” gas emits “nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), and carbon dioxide (CO2), nitrous oxide (N2O), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), trace amounts of sulfur dioxide (SO2), and particulate matter (PM).” Like oil and coal.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

PH, France eye stronger ties on defense, climate change

By Priam Nepomuceno

The Philippines and France are looking at broadening cooperation in climate change initiatives and defense acquisition, among others.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

US, Philippines agree to continue food security talks

The US and the Philippines agreed Saturday to continue discussions on ensuring food security for the Southeast Asian country amid global supply disruptions caused by climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Blinken vows US support for Philippines' clean energy transition

Gaea Katreena Cabico

The United States is committed to help the Philippines shift to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources, State Secretary Antony Blinken said Saturday.

‘We are feeling its impact’: Makati City declares climate emergency

Following a webinar on climate change last week, Makati City Mayor Abby Binay declared a climate emergency in the city and now calls on all stakeholders to help the city achieve its climate goals.

Atok-Big Wedge moving into renewable energy

By Richmond Mercurio

Roberto Ongpin-Led Atok-Big Wedge Co. Inc. Is Moving Forward With Its Plan To Expand Into Renewable Energy.

Filipinos most worried about ‘serious harm’ brought by severe weather

By: Kaycee Valmonte

Manila, Philippines — Filipinos are worried about the “serious harm” severe weather changes bring, the 2021 World Risk Poll by the Lloyd Register Foundation showed.

[OPINION] 'Household risk' for COVID-19

By: Susan Mercado

Ask anyone who has caught COVID-19 in recent weeks about how they got it. They are likely to say "it entered my household." They will also tell you that some had mild or no symptoms, and others in the family were incapacitated for a few days and continued to have symptoms way over the seven-day isolation.

PXP Energy cuts loss to P6 million in H1

By: Richmond Mercurio

Manila, Philippines — Listed upstream oil and gas company PXP Energy Corp. has significantly slashed its net loss in the first half to P6.4 million on the back of higher profit from the Galoc operations.

PHYS ORG

Climate change makes some volcanic plumes less effective at reducing global temperatures

by Sarah Wild

New analysis of ash clouds created from large volcanic eruptions shows the temporary cooling effects are changed as the environment becomes hotter.

RAPPLER

Lanao del Sur lawmakers sound alarm over PH internal displacement rate

By Merlyn Manos

Iligan City, Philippines – Lanao del Sur lawmakers sounded alarm bells over the rate of evacuations in the country due to man-made and natural causes, saying the number of cases of internal displacement reached more than 5.6 million in 2021 alone.

Abra delaying school opening due to earthquake damage

Manila, Philippines – Abra province will delay the opening of classes for school year 2022-2023 due to the big number of schools destroyed or damaged by the July 27 magnitude 7 earthquake, the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council announced during a briefing on Sunday, July 31.

REUTERS

India approves new emissions targets to tackle climate change

By Shilpa Jamkhandikar and Gloria Dickie

MUMBAI - India, the world's third largest carbon polluter, has finally approved new targets for slashing planet-warming emissions, more than a year after a United Nations deadline for updated commitments.

SCIENCE ALERT

We Must Start Preparing Now For How Climate Change Might End Civilization, Says Report

By Mike Mcrae

Speculating over humanity's demise is a sport we humans have enjoyed since forever. We build religions on our eschatological hopes, weave fiction out of our dystopian fears, and even write songs about the end of the world as we know it.

THE STAR

'Climate emergency' drives next Makati govt projects

Makati City, the country's financial capital, has declared a "state of climate emergency", becoming the first local government in Metro Manila to acknowledge it is in crisis due to climate change.

SUN STAR

Green groups hit Japan's promotion of 'false solutions' vs climate crisis

By: Ronaldo Reyes

FILIPINO environmental groups have protested the Japanese government and corporations to stop the alleged promotion of technologies that are "false solutions" to the global climate crisis.

UNITED NATIONS NEWS

Seven Developing Countries Take Another Important Step in the Race to Net Zero

UN Climate Change News, 4 July 2022 –After two and a half years of virtual processes due to Covid-19 restrictions, technical experts resumed in-person meetings in Bonn for the technical analysis of developing countries' biennial update reports (BURs). It was held from 20 to 24 June 2022 and included 32 technical experts from diverse climate change-related thematic areas, representing various developed and developing countries across Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

CCC in the News

BUSINESS MIRROR

DepEd, YSEALI boost climate change education

The Department of Education (DepEd), in partnership with Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), exchange alumni, is boosting climate change education through the conduct of Climate Changemakers.

GMA NEWS

DepEd backs strengthening climate education in K to 12 curriculum

The Department of Education (DepEd) has expressed support for initiatives aimed at boosting climate literacy in the country.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

DepEd, YSEALI strengthen climate change education through online teacher training

Pasig City -- The Department of Education (DepEd), in partnership with Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), exchange alumni sets out to strengthen climate change education through the conduct of Climate Changemakers.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sustainability as the key to resiliency

By Ar. Vittoria Mawis-Aliston

The Philippines, with its rich landscape, has always been vulnerable to natural calamities. Thunderstorms, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes—these are just some of the dangers we have faced in the past. And with the onset of global warming, these calamities seemed to have gotten more dangerous in recent years.

Record ice melt in Greenland: Why should we care?

By Cristina Eloisa Baclig

Manila, Philippines—Since the early 1990s, many of the world's glaciers have been rapidly melting, mainly due to human activity. In the past years, scientists have been raising the alarm on Greenland's ice sheets, which may be approaching a dangerous tipping point.

PHILIPPINE STAR

Climate body welcomes new law for eco-friendly businesses

By Janvic Mateo

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has welcomed the passage of the law mandating large enterprises to implement programs to reduce the plastic waste they generate.

END