



## NEWS ROUNDUP

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- MMDA to start study on 50-year drainage master plan
- Future-proofing communities throughout the Philippines
- PHL urged to boost long-term El Niño readiness — UN agency
- A window of opportunity for climate change and biodiversity
- Govt action needed to address climate change
- Greenland fossils reveal greater sea-level threat from climate change
- Marcos inaugurates P7.57-B flood control project in Pampanga

### CCC IN THE NEWS:

- Clean canals, PBBM urges LGUs
- Marcos urges public to dispose of waste properly
- Lalo bang maghihirap ang mga mahirap dahil sa climate change?
- Marcos: Manage waterways, garbage disposal to ensure success of flood control projects
- Promoting climate-smart practices, technologies

### ABS CBN

#### [MMDA to start study on 50-year drainage master plan](#)

By: Victoria Tulad

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) aims to begin within the year its study on the 50-year Drainage Master Plan for Metro Manila to avoid widespread flooding such as the floods during the onslaught of Typhoon Carina and southwest monsoon last month.

## **BUSINESS WORLD**

### **[Future-proofing communities throughout the Philippines](#)**

By: Jomarc Angelo M. Corpuz

In recent years, the Philippines has been constantly ravaged by natural disasters that have caused billions worth of damages and displaced millions of people, particularly in urban areas. As the country grows more concerned about the effects of climate change and urbanization, the call for growth that leaves no one behind — including nature — is amplified.

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## **ECO BUSINESS**

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World leaders must take advantage of a pivotal window of opportunity for forging a much-needed joined-up approach to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, say scientists from the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and York University. Without this, work on tackling either crisis could inadvertently harm progress on the other.

## **MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT**

### **[Govt action needed to address climate change](#)**

By: Irma Isip

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## **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**

### **[Greenland fossils reveal greater sea-level threat from climate change](#)**

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## **PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

### **[Marcos inaugurates P7.57-B flood control project in Pampanga](#)**

By: Darryl John Esguerra

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Wednesday led the inauguration of the PHP7.57-billion Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Project - Stage 1 (IDRR-CCA 1) in this town in the province of Pampanga.

## **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

## **DAILY TRIBUNE**

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## **GMA NEWS**

### **[Lalo bang maghihirap ang mga mahirap dahil sa climate change?](#)**

Sa mahigit 100 milyong populasyon ngayon ng Pilipinas, dalawang milyon ang walang trabaho. Umabot na sa 22.4% noong 2023 at 42% naman sa unang quarter ng 2024 ang kinokonsidera ang kanilang sarili na mahirap. Lalo bang maghihirap ang mga mahirap dahil sa climate change? Here's what you #NeedToKnow.

## **MANILA BULLETIN**

### **[Marcos: Manage waterways, garbage disposal to ensure success of flood control projects](#)**

By: Argyll Cyrus Geducos

Stressing that climate change will bring more floods to the country, President Marcos encouraged local government units (LGUs) and ordinary citizens on Wednesday, Aug. 7, to properly maintain their waterways and promote recycling to ensure the efficiency of flood control projects.

## **SUNSTAR**

### **[Promoting climate-smart practices, technologies](#)**

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) emphasized the crucial role of the private sector in adaptation and mitigation efforts during the Disaster Resilience Forum held recently at the San Miguel Corp. headquarters. The forum focused on transitioning to a green economy and enhancing climate resilience.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division**

## **ABS CBN**

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The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) aims to begin within the year its study on the 50-year Drainage Master Plan for Metro Manila to avoid widespread flooding such as the floods during the onslaught of Typhoon Carina and southwest monsoon last month.

In Tuesday's hearing of the Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, MMDA General Manager Undersecretary Procopio Lipana said the master plan will propose upgrades and expansions to the drainage network.

"I-integrate natin lahat ng drainage system ng 16 cities and one municipality (We will integrate the drainage system of 16 cities and one municipality)," Lipana said.

Committee Chair Senator Robinhood Padilla, however, lamented the length of time it will take to see results.

"Kalungkot naman 'yun," Padilla said. "Maganda ang plano pero ang gusto natin baka may kagyat nang maumpisahan. Fifty years naku, di ko na makikita yan."

(That is sad. The plan is good but we want to see if some things can already be started. Fifty years, I won't see that anymore.)

Other proposed projects of MMDA is the construction of new pumping stations, flood tunnels and small water impounding projects through the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), construction of an additional Malabon-Navotas Floodgate, improvement and upgrading of effective flood control operational system and relocation of informal settler families along waterways and easements.

Various local governments were also asked about their responses to climate change.

According to Christian Evangelista, Chief Research and Planning Division of the Manila Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, they are also crafting their own drainage master plan.

## **BUSINESS WORLD**

### **[Future-proofing communities throughout the Philippines](#)**

By: Jomarc Angelo M. Corpuz

In recent years, the Philippines has been constantly ravaged by natural disasters that have caused billions worth of damages and displaced millions of people, particularly in urban areas. As the country grows more concerned about the effects of climate change and urbanization, the call for growth that leaves no one behind — including nature — is amplified.

The latest edition of BusinessWorld's monthly Insights forum, held last July 31 at Dusit Thani Manila with the theme "Building Sustainable and Inclusive Communities for the Future," focused on addressing the critical need for resilience, inclusivity, and sustainability in a world where the effects of global warming are becoming more evident.

BusinessWorld Executive Vice-President Lucien C. Dy Tioco kicked off the event with a welcome address, emphasizing the importance of having discussions about enabling communities that encourage sustainable living as well as espousing inclusive cultures.

"We stand at a pivotal moment where the decisions we make and the actions we take can significantly influence the well-being and prosperity of our communities for generations to come," Mr. Dy Tioco said.

Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development Undersecretary (DHSUD) Henry Yap delivered the forum's keynote address. He underscored the urgent need for comprehensive, coordinated, and resilient urban planning and development in response to sustainability and inclusivity challenges.

While Mr. Yap did say that urbanization has brought economic growth and opportunities, he also acknowledged the numerous challenges that it brings including informal settlements, urban blight, traffic congestion, insufficient public transportation, and environmental degradation.

The undersecretary also mentioned the Philippines' rapid urbanization rate is at nearly 54% of Filipinos, or approximately 58.9 million of the current population, residing in urban barangays. He also noted several of his department's programs that promote the transformation of urban landscapes through the implementation of innovative, green, and resilient urban renewal and development projects.

Following Mr. Yap's address was a presentation by Arch. Felino A. Palafox Jr., the president of Palafox Architecture Group, Inc., which highlighted the country's need for more sustainable cities as well as the Philippines' potential to become a leading economy.

"[We will have] 150 million Filipinos by 2050 and 70% will be urban population in cities. With that, we need 100 new cities by 2050 that are sustainable, resilient, liveable, healthier, smart cities by 2050. Otherwise, our existing cities will be as bad, if not worse, than what Metro Manila is today," he said.

Mr. Palafox also mentioned his company's advocacy for the Philippines to become a first-world country and economy by 2050. Although he believes it's achievable, Mr. Palafox outlined six key challenges that must be tackled to make it a reality: corruption, criminality, climate change, inequality, infrastructure, and the need to attract more investments.

Robinsons Land Corp. Chief Strategist Ramon Rivero, in another presentation, noted that the local real estate industry should be working towards sustainability and resilience.

"As we stand at the crossroads of rapid urbanization and environmental stewardship, the real estate in the Philippines holds a unique position of influence and responsibility. The choices we make today will shape the landscapes, economies, and quality of life for generations to come," he said.

Mr. Rivero added that sustainable development was no longer an option and has become an imperative. In addition, he expressed the importance of involving local communities and ensuring that their needs and voices are heard when building sustainable developments.

### Spaces for sustainable living

Messrs. Palafox and Rivero joined TruNorth Homes Founder and CEO Earl Forlales for the first panel discussion, themed "The Quest for Sustainable Living in Filipino Communities," which centered mostly on the current situation of sustainable living in the country and the roles the Philippine government and private sector can play in making more sustainable communities.

Acknowledging the housing stock in the country, Mr. Forlales emphasized the significance of making sustainable housing affordable to Filipinos who "can't even play in the home-buying market anymore even if they wanted to."

“The greenest building is the one that is already built. Often when we talk about sustainable building, we only focus on how we can build moving forward while failing to account for the massive existing housing stock that we already have,” he added.

Meanwhile, Mr. Palafox, speaking on the need for more sustainable communities after the devastating effects of Super-Typhoon Carina, noted that it is 90% less expensive to address the hazards before they become disasters. He added that it saves more human lives, buildings, infrastructures, and agriculture.

Additionally, Mr. Palafox said that sustainable communities in the Philippines recycle resources, are walkable, use fewer resources, and have infrastructure that lasts for several generations.

Furthermore, Mr. Rivero commended the current administration’s accessibility and willingness to work with the private sector and that the government has been a catalyst for private sector solutions. Moreover, he explained that sustainability has to be an “easy option” for Filipinos either through incentives or education.

“The philosophy of incrementality is so key in sustainability, as long as we are gradually improving, then we’re in the right direction because incrementality can change over time,” Mr. Rivero said.

#### Inclusive urban planning

The second panel discussion featured experts from the Gokongwei Group and Aboitiz InfraCapital Economic Estates who shared their insights on “Inclusive Planning for Enriched Communities.” The panel composed of Gokongwei Group’s Head of Sustainability and CSR Yvonne Flores and Aboitiz InfraCapital Economic Estates Vice-President for Inventory Generation Jolan Formalejo talked about the challenges and opportunities linked to inclusive urban planning.

While discussing how to balance economic development with social inclusivity, Ms. Flores underscored the importance of understanding how businesses can include low-income communities in their operations.

“Urban planning makes the solutions happen. It’s all based on how you maximize opportunities. Make sure that whatever the vision is, it’s part of the plan and executed in the best way,” she added.



In addition, Mr. Formalejo named overcrowding as the biggest challenge brought about by fast-paced urbanization. Conversely, he noted that opportunities for building inclusive urban communities lie in the collaboration between public and private companies in promoting sustainable developments across the regions.

“It’s not only the numbers that we can achieve in terms of economic growth but also the achievements that we can all accomplish in terms of implementing projects related to inclusivity and sustainable development,” Mr. Formalejo explained.

As the country struggles with rapid urbanization and the growing impacts of climate change, a concerted effort toward building sustainable and inclusive communities in the Philippines has become even more agent.

This BusinessWorld Insights forum was presented by BusinessWorld Publishing Corp. together with Robinsons Land Corp.; and is sponsored by Aboitiz InfraCapital Economic Estates; with the support of Filinvest City and SM Offices; together with the Asian Consulting Group, American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, British Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Bank Marketing Association of the Philippines, Management Association of the Philippines, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Philippine Franchise Association, Philippine Retailers Association, and official media partner The Philippine STAR.

## [PHL urged to boost long-term El Niño readiness — UN agency](#)

By: John Victor D. Ordoñez

The Philippines needs to work on long-term preparations and inter-agency communication to mitigate the impact of drought and dry spells during El Niño episodes, according to the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Philippines.

At a Senate hearing of the environment, natural resources, and climate change committee, UN OCHA Philippines Head Manja Vidic described El Niño as a slow-onset disaster requiring a different approach to preparations compared to typhoons.

“El Niño becomes a crisis because we wait too long, but we have enough time and months to prepare for this compared to typhoons,” she said.

“It’s probably a governance issue rather than something that is purely a natural disaster issue.”

She said her office has noted some sound practices in response to El Niño, singling out the information caravans organized by Bicol local governments.

“The LGUs did go ahead and communicated with the tools it had in place and engaged with the local population,” Ms. Vidic said.

Farm damage caused by El Niño was reckoned at P15.3 billion, with 333,195 farmers and fisherfolk affected by droughts and dry spells, according to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

In its final farm damage bulletin connected to El Niño, the DA said crop losses amounted to 784,344 metric tons, spanning farmland of 270,855 hectares.

About 184,182 hectares of crops were deemed recoverable, it added.

Palawan, Iloilo, Camarines Sur and Occidental Mindoro were most affected by these dry spells and drought, the DA said.

In June the government weather service, known as PAGASA (Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration), announced the end of El Niño after conditions in the tropical Pacific returned to El Niño Southern Oscillation neutral levels, meaning neither El Niño nor La Niña was in effect.

## ECO BUSINESS

### [A window of opportunity for climate change and biodiversity](#)

World leaders must take advantage of a pivotal window of opportunity for forging a much-needed joined-up approach to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, say scientists from the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and York University. Without this, work on tackling either crisis could inadvertently harm progress on the other.

Published today (Tuesday 23 July) in the Journal of Applied Ecology, a paper from international conservation charity ZSL and researchers at York University, Toronto, titled 'The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Paris Agreement need a joint work programme for climate, nature, and people' conceptualises how a joint work programme between the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) could be established.

Highlighting the issues the joint programme must tackle, and recommendations for successful implementation – the paper argues that such a unified political tool is critical to meet international commitments under both the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Professor Nathalie Pettorelli, who has long been calling for united solutions to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, is co-author of the paper and researcher at ZSL's Institute of Zoology explained: "We urgently need a global approach that addresses the nature and climate crises together - because they are intrinsically connected.

"The UNFCCC and CBD are incredible platforms for providing the evidence to, and guiding the way through the changes we need, but higher levels of integration between the biodiversity and climate change agendas are needed to plug implementation gaps.

"The upcoming Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC and CBD present a clear policy window for the two conventions to introduce a formal governance structure that brings together ideas, people, organisations and processes necessary for joining the dots on how to both stabilise our climate and recover our nature."

Global action to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss

World leaders will come together later this year for two global conventions to separately tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. In October, the CBD will meet in Columbia for the 16th United Nations Biodiversity conference (COP16). A week after its close in

November, the UNFCCC will meet in Azerbaijan for the 29th United Nations Climate Change conference (COP29).

Nathalie added: “With the closely related policy agendas of the upcoming UNFCCC and CBD’s COPs, negotiators have a key opportunity to take coordinated, bold and transformative action to deliver a new, more integrated and coherent approach to addressing the entwined nature and climate crises. The urgency is such that both conventions need to work together now, and take advantage of the many potential synergies we highlighted between climate change and biodiversity policies to change humanity’s course towards a sustainable future”.

Government representatives at COP16 will be tasked with assessing the state of implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which was adopted in 2022, outlining a path for humanity to live in harmony with nature by 2050 - with goals including halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. Discussions during COP29 will be key in progress towards the landmark international treaty to limit global temperature increases to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, known as the Paris Agreement.

#### Nature-based solutions

Climate change and biodiversity loss are inherently interconnected; rapidly changing conditions drive the loss of species and the subsequent breakdown of ecosystems across the world – however healthy, functioning ecosystems are absolutely key to tackling climate change and mitigating its impacts.

Professor Idil Boran, co-author and researcher at York University, Toronto said: “The world is currently at a crossroads. World leaders have signed international treaties that commit them to take action to address these two crises – but there is currently a massive gap in the tools available to ensure this action is unified. We need a programme that fills these gaps, identifies areas where climate actions may harm to biodiversity, provides clear recommendations and develops methods to monitor progress on shared goals.

“Without this, we risk action to tackle one crisis creating major setbacks for the other. For example, the replacement of natural grasslands with forests may help capture and store planet-warming carbon dioxide, but it does so at a cost of the ecosystems and wildlife that previously used the land.”

Properly implemented Nature-based Solutions (NbS) – natural systems that help achieve societal goals – tackle climate change and biodiversity loss simultaneously, while also bringing benefits to people. For example, the restoration of mangroves not only helps with carbon storage, but also protects the homes of species such as Endangered Bengal tigers and Critically Endangered Philippine cockatoo, and provides food and resources for local communities.

The paper also calls for the vital need for the reallocation of resources to address imbalances in funds and support available for action to address climate change in comparison with biodiversity loss.

Nathalie added: “There is a wider need for world leaders to ensure they’re putting nature at the heart of their decision making. Functioning ecosystems aren’t just important for addressing rapid climate change – losing them impacts every aspect of our lives, from food security to access to clean water. We need these to be recognised and conservation to receive the resources needed for it to be part of the solution towards tackling climate change and championing human wellbeing.”

From restoring mangrove forests in the Philippines equivalent to over 1,000 football pitches to calling for the rewilding of urban spaces to help protect city dwellers from the worst impacts of climate change, this call is part of ZSL’s wider global work pushing for and implementing urgent action to build a better future for people and planet.

## **MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT**

### **Govt action needed to address climate change**

By: Irma Isip

With 95 percent of Filipinos reporting they have experienced the effects of climate change, 94 percent say the government should spend more to protect communities from water-related climate change events, like storms, floods and rising sea levels.

New research from global professional services company GHD showed the proportion of Filipinos that experienced climate change is much higher than the 10-country average of 64 percent.

GHD's Crossroads intergenerational equity research is based on a comprehensive survey conducted across 10 countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, New Zealand, the Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

A total of 13,000 adults, sampled to be representative of age, gender and region in these countries, participated in the survey in mid-May.

All Filipino generations are more optimistic than their "Anglosphere" counterparts when asked to look 30 years into the future and consider "...whether the decisions being made by the current generation of leaders will leave your community in a better or worse state than it is today."

The optimism level is much higher among older generations, with 63 percent of Filipino Gen X and 65percent of Filipino Baby Boomers agreeing the state of their community would be much better or a little better, compared to 10-country averages of 44 percent and 34 percent respectively.

All generations in the Philippines cited "Developing green, nature-based solutions to ensure supply of clean, safe drinking water that protects natural waterways/oceans" as the highest priority, with Generation Z respondents giving equal priority to "Building a sustainable economy that reduces, reuses, repairs,recycles, recovers and disposes sustainably."

According to Daniele Coronacion, GHD executive advisor for the Philippines, the findings reflect widespread support across all age groups for resilient infrastructure that can withstand climate-related challenges.

“Our objective in pursuing this research was to better understand intergenerational differences, but what we have found is that all generations in the Philippines are united in their desire for more sustainable infrastructure and communities,” Coronacion said.

“Intergenerational equity is about achieving fairness and justice across all generations, both now and in the future. The survey shows that there is broad agreement on priorities that must be tackled and an optimistic outlook that makes progress possible. At the same time, there is a need to ensure that everyone’s voices are heard and all generations are included in decision-making.”

About 95 percent of Filipino respondents say they are committed to making sustainable choices and practicing more eco-friendly habits to reduce the impact of climate change.

The same proportion would like to see more green and sustainable building methods.

Ninety-three percent say the government needs to do more to cut transport emissions, like providing incentives for electric vehicles, encouraging public transport use and providing safe paths for walking and cycling.

The survey said 9 in 10 Filipinos would use public transport more to get to work, school, shopping and healthcare if it was easier, more reliable and/or cheaper while 83 percent of Filipino respondents are willing to pay more for household water if it means everyone in the community has access to clean drinking water and sanitation

Seven in 10 are open to “drinking treated or recycled water like purified wastewater, stormwater, or sea water with the salt taken out.”

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

### [Greenland fossils reveal greater sea-level threat from climate change](#)

In the not-too-distant past, Greenland lived up to its name. Scientists have discovered plant and insect remains under a two-mile-deep (three km) ice core extracted from the center of the island, providing the clearest proof yet that nearly all of this vast territory was green within the past million years, when atmospheric carbon levels were much lower than today.

Their research, published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, indicates even greater potential for global sea level rise due to human-caused climate than previously thought.

The ice core, named GISP2, was drilled in 1993 and although its rock and ice had been studied extensively, nobody had thought to look for fossils in the “till,” or the mixed sediment at the bottom.

That’s because until recently the idea that Greenland was ice-free in the recent geologic past seemed too far-fetched.

“Literally, we saw the fossils within the first hour, maybe half hour, of working on it,” lead author Paul Bierman, a professor of environmental science at the University of Vermont, told AFP.

To their amazement, researchers found within this three-inch-layer soil willow wood, spores from spikemoss, fungi, the compound eye of an insect, and a poppy seed — together suggesting a vibrant tundra ecosystem.

If ice at the center of the island had melted away, it almost certainly means that it was also absent across the rest of Greenland — spelling trouble for today’s fossil-fuel supercharged climate, said Bierman.

If greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels are not drastically reduced, Greenland’s ice sheet could almost entirely melt over the next several centuries to a few millennia, resulting in a sea level rise of approximately 23 feet (seven meters) that would wipe away the world’s coastal cities.

“Hundreds of millions of people around the world are going to lose their places to live,” he warned.



## Checkmate for impenetrable ice-fortress theory

The new work builds on two important recent findings. In 2016, scientists tested bedrock from the same 1993 ice core, using radioactive dating to estimate it could be no more than 1.1 million-years-old.

Their modeling also showed that if the ice was melted at the GISP2 site, then 90 percent of the rest of Greenland would have been ice-free.

But the finding was controversial because of a longstanding theory that Greenland was an impenetrable ice fortress for the past several million years.

Then in 2019, Bierman and an international team reexamined another ice core, this time extracted from the abandoned US military base, Camp Century, near the coast of Greenland in the 1960s.

They were shocked to learn it contained not just sediment but leaves and moss. More advanced dating techniques available to them helped them constrain the disappearance of that section of ice to 416,000 years ago.

The discovery of organic matter in the core from near the coast prompted Bierman to go back to the 1993 core to look for similar material — and finding it confirmed unequivocally what scientists had previously inferred through models and calculations.

“The ice had to be gone, because otherwise there would be no plants, no insects, and no soil fungus,” said Bierman. “Now we know for sure that the ice was gone not just at Camp Century but at GISP2 right at the center of the ice sheet. Now we know the whole ice sheet is vulnerable to melting.”

Co-author Halley Mastro, a graduate student at the University of Vermont who studied the fossils, emphasized the need for further drilling into Greenland’s ice cores to find more ancient organisms that hold important implications for our future.

“It’s so obvious once you know it’s there — but if you didn’t expect it to be there, and you weren’t looking for these tiny little dark flecks that float a little bit differently, you would never see them,” she told AFP.

## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### [Marcos inaugurates P7.57-B flood control project in Pampanga](#)

By: Darryl John Esguerra

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Wednesday led the inauguration of the PHP7.57-billion Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Project - Stage 1 (IDRR-CCA 1) in this town in the province of Pampanga.

In his speech, Marcos said the project would benefit the towns of Macabebe, Masantol, Minalin, and Sto. Tomas.

“We are very optimistic that this will redound to improving the people’s lives by enhancing the disaster resilience of all our communities,” Marcos said during the inauguration, held in Barangay Anac in Masantol.

Funded through the Official Development Assistance (ODA) from the Republic of Korea, the project aims to increase and improve the capacity of the Third River, Eastern Branch River, Caduang Tete River, and Sapang Maragul River, all tributaries of the Pampanga River.

The project includes excavation, dredging, and widening of river channels, as well as the construction of embankments to enhance flood control.

In addition, the project involves the construction of three new bridges, five footbridges, eight sluice gate structures, and 164 fish pond gates.

Marcos also thanked the South Korean government for its technical assistance in realizing the project.

The President, likewise, instructed the Department of Public Works and Highways to ensure that the second phase of the project will proceed as scheduled “to fully realize the project’s benefits and provide long-term solutions to flooding” in Pampanga.

“Let me assure all that the government, through the Public Works, will expeditiously complete the ongoing flood control projects here in Region 3 (Central Luzon),” Marcos told the Masantol residents in attendance.

He, however, conceded that game-changing flood-control projects are “only half of the solution,” noting that keeping the surroundings clean and drainages waste-free will also help mitigate floods.

“For flood control to work, we must do our part in maintaining our canals and waterways, and in recycling and properly disposing of our garbage,” Marcos said.

## CCC IN THE NEWS:

### DAILY TRIBUNE

#### [Clean canals, PBBM urges LGUs](#)

By: Tiziana Celine Piatos and Jonas Reyes

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. urged local government units and the public on Wednesday to implement proper waste management and clean both the canals and waterways for flood control projects to work.

In his speech during the inauguration of the Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Project Stage 1 (IDRR-CCA 1), in Masantol, Pampanga, Marcos said the country has been experiencing more floods on the back of climate change and overpopulation.

The Chief Executive stressed that effective projects, designed to reduce flood heights and shorten the duration of flood events, require a collective effort.

“With climate change and with the effects — increasing overpopulation — we expect that we will experience more and more of these historic flooding events. For flood control to work, we must do our part in maintaining our canals and waterways, and in recycling and properly disposing of our garbage,” Marcos said.

He emphasized that the government is committed to pursuing initiatives and programs aimed at protecting citizens and the environment, innovating current trends in disaster risk reduction, and ensuring heightened climate responsibility and justice.

Marcos also pointed out the crucial role of local government units (LGUs) and citizens in managing flood risks. He called on communities to actively participate in flood management efforts to complement government initiatives.

“Rest assured this government is working and doing all it can to pursue initiatives and programs to protect our citizens and the environment, to innovate [on] current trends in disaster risk reduction and management, as well as to ensure heightened climate responsibility and justice,” he said.

“Our local government units and our citizens have an extremely important role to play,” he added.

The DPWH-UPMO Flood Control Management Cluster is working on an infrastructure project designed to safeguard Pampanga’s low-lying regions, including Macabebe, Masantol, Minalin, Sto. Tomas and Apalit.

Once fully operational, the IDRR-CCA 1 project, which has a budget exceeding P7 billion, is expected to cut the flood levels and duration in these municipalities from 68 days to 17 days.

Additionally, the project aims to improve drainage systems in major river channels such as the Third River, Eastern Branch River, Caduang Tete and Sapang Maragul.

This initiative is part of a larger effort by the Climate Change Commission, which has been actively involved in climate adaptation research and community engagement in Central Luzon (Region III).

To ensure the project's full impact and provide enduring flood solutions for Pampanga, Marcos has directed the DPWH to keep Stage 2 of the IDRR-CCA on track.

Marcos also expressed gratitude to South Korea for their support in the project's first stage and for confirming that planning and technical assessments for IDRR-CCA 2 are underway.

## Marcos urges public to dispose of waste properly

By: Tiziana Celine Piatos

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Marcos Jr. also pointed out the crucial role of local government units (LGUs) and citizens in managing flood risks. He called on communities to actively participate in flood management efforts to complement government initiatives.

"Our local government units and our citizens have an extremely important role to play," he added.

The DPWH-UPMO Flood Control Management Cluster is working on an infrastructure project designed to safeguard Pampanga's low-lying regions, including Macabebe, Masantol, Minalin, Sto. Tomas, and Apalit.

Once fully operational, the IDRR-CCA 1 project, which has a budget exceeding P7 billion, is expected to cut the flood level and duration in these municipalities from 68 days to 17 days.

Additionally, the project aims to improve drainage systems in major river channels such as the Third River, Eastern Branch River, Caduang Tete, and Sapang Maragul.

This initiative is part of a larger effort by the Climate Change Commission (CCC), which has been actively involved in climate adaptation research and community engagement in Central Luzon (Region III).

To ensure the project's full impact and provide enduring flood solutions for Pampanga, Marcos has directed the DPWH to keep Stage 2 of the IDRR-CCA on track.

Marcos also expressed gratitude to South Korea for their support in the project's first stage and for confirming that planning and technical assessments for IDRR-CCA 2 are underway.

## GMA NEWS

### [Lalo bang maghihirap ang mga mahirap dahil sa climate change?](#)

Sa mahigit 100 milyong populasyon ngayon ng Pilipinas, dalawang milyon ang walang trabaho. Umabot na sa 22.4% noong 2023 at 42% naman sa unang quarter ng 2024 ang kinokonsidera ang kanilang sarili na mahirap. Lalo bang maghihirap ang mga mahirap dahil sa climate change? Here's what you #NeedToKnow.





## MANILA BULLETIN

### [Marcos: Manage waterways, garbage disposal to ensure success of flood control projects](#)

By: Argyll Cyrus Geducos

Stressing that climate change will bring more floods to the country, President Marcos encouraged local government units (LGUs) and ordinary citizens on Wednesday, Aug. 7, to properly maintain their waterways and promote recycling to ensure the efficiency of flood control projects.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Project - Stage 1 (IDRR-CCA 1) in Masantol, Pampanga, the President said this marks a significant step in enhancing the country's resilience to natural disasters and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change.

"We are very optimistic that this will redound to improving the people's lives by enhancing the disaster resilience of all our communities," he said.

However, Marcos noted that having flood control projects was only half of the solution, especially with the effects of climate change.

"With climate change and with the effects of an increasing population, we expect that we will experience more and more of these historic flooding events," he said.

"For flood control to work, we must do our part in maintaining our canals and waterways and in recycling and properly disposing of our garbage," he added.

The Department of Public Works and Highways - Unified Project Management Office (DPWH-UPMO) Flood Control Management Cluster's infrastructure project aims to protect Pampanga's low-lying areas including Macabebe, Masantol, Minalin, Sto. Tomas, and Apalit.

Once fully completed, the IDRR-CCA 1, which costs over P7 billion, will reduce the flood level and flood duration from 68 days to 17 days in the said municipalities.

It also aims to enhance drainage in key river channels like the Third River, Eastern Branch River, Caduang Tete, and Sapang Maragul.

The IDRR-CCA 1 project is part of the broader initiatives by the Climate Change Commission (CCC), which has been actively engaged in climate adaptation studies and community outreach in Region III or Central Luzon.

To fully realize the project's benefits and provide long-term solutions to flooding in Pampanga, President Marcos has instructed the DPWH to ensure Stage 2 of the IDRR-CCA will be proceeding as scheduled.

Meanwhile, Marcos also thanked the South Korean government for their help in the project's first stage and for assuring him that the planning and technical examination for the IDRR-CCA 2 had already begun.

"Let me once again thank our friends from the Korean government for their help in completing this important stage 1 of the IDRR-CCA project," he said.

"Let us continue to explore other areas of cooperation that will uplift both our countries and the lives of our people," he added.

## SUNSTAR

### Promoting climate-smart practices, technologies

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) emphasized the crucial role of the private sector in adaptation and mitigation efforts during the Disaster Resilience Forum held recently at the San Miguel Corp. headquarters. The forum focused on transitioning to a green economy and enhancing climate resilience.

The CCC underscored the importance of transformative climate action in the private sector by adopting and promoting climate-smart practices and technologies. This includes utilizing renewable energy and developing products or services that reduce ecological impacts and carbon emissions.

Assistant Secretary Romell Antonio Cuenca, the deputy executive director of CCC, stated, “The complexities and challenges brought by climate change need to have a whole-of-society approach, which involves active participation and collaboration of government, the private sector, academe, and communities.”

Recognizing that the global crisis requires collaborative efforts from all sectors, the CCC has established various coordination mechanisms, including the Communicating

Opportunities to Network, Navigate and Explore Climate Transformation (CONNECT) to strengthen partnerships with the private sector.

Cuenca also noted, “Attracting foreign investments is key to overcoming technological barriers and enhancing the country’s capacity for green innovation.” He emphasized that prioritizing these aspects enables the private sector, particularly large corporations, to advance technology while reducing their carbon footprints.

With the recent flooding caused by super typhoon Carina, the CCC continues to pursue various initiatives to address climate change impacts and the need for holistic approaches and strategies for increasing resilience and adaptation capacities, as well as reducing the effects of climate change.

The Disaster Resilience Forum was attended by key employees from the San Miguel Group of Companies involved in business continuity, crisis management, emergency preparedness, and safety. This event marked the culmination of the National Disaster Resilience Month commemoration.

The CCC remains committed to coordinate and collaborate with development partners, local government units, and civil society organizations to enhance disaster resilience and climate action efforts.

**=END=**