



## NEWS ROUNDUP

13 AUGUST 2024 [ 08:00 am]

---

- The uninsurable world: rethinking how to cover for climate damage
- Forest restoration can boost people, nature and climate simultaneously
- Lawmaker wants DA's original P500-B budget for 2025 restored
- DPWH to use recycled plastic in road projects
- DENR targets 3 million hectares of forest cover by 2028
- Government urged: Prioritize climate responses
- 'Habagat' to bring rains over Luzon, Visayas

### CCC IN THE NEWS:

- Private sector role stressed in mitigating disaster risks

## FINANCIAL TIMES

### [The uninsurable world: rethinking how to cover for climate damage](#)

By: Ian Smith

Thomas Brennan is well placed to observe the mounting pressure from climate change on the insurability of American business. An insurance broker, he is also a member of the wider Brennan family that has owned restaurants across New Orleans since his grandfather's generation.

## PHYS ORG

### [Forest restoration can boost people, nature and climate simultaneously](#)

Forest restoration can benefit humans, boost biodiversity and help tackle climate change simultaneously, new research suggests.

## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### [Lawmaker wants DA's original P500-B budget for 2025 restored](#)

By: Filane Mikee Cervantes

A party-list lawmaker on Monday sought to restore the original budget proposal of the Department of Agriculture (DA) for 2025 amounting to PHP513.8 billion.

## **THE MANILA TIMES**

### **[DPWH to use recycled plastic in road projects](#)**

By: William B. Depasupil

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has approved the use of plastic waste to extend the lifespan of asphalt pavement, and, at the same time, help address the alarming rise in plastic pollution, one of the major causes of flooding in the metropolis.

## **THE PHILIPPINE STAR**

### **[DENR targets 3 million hectares of forest cover by 2028](#)**

By: Bella Cariaso

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources targets to increase the country's forest cover by an additional three million hectares by 2028 as part of efforts to minimize the impact of climate change, DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga revealed.

### **[Government urged: Prioritize climate responses](#)**

By: Caecent No-ot Magsumbol

A multi-sectoral group is calling on the national government to prioritize comprehensive climate responses, especially with the DOST-PAGASA already raised a La Nina alert.

### **['Habagat' to bring rains over Luzon, Visayas](#)**

By: Ian Laqui

The southwest monsoon, locally known as "habagat," is anticipated to bring rain showers over Luzon and western portions of Visayas on Sunday, state weather bureau PAGASA said.

## **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

## **MANILA STANDARD**

### **[Private sector role stressed in mitigating disaster risks](#)**

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) stressed 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**

## FINANCIAL TIMES

### [The uninsurable world: rethinking how to cover for climate damage](#)

By: Ian Smith

Thomas Brennan is well placed to observe the mounting pressure from climate change on the insurability of American business. An insurance broker, he is also a member of the wider Brennan family that has owned restaurants across New Orleans since his grandfather's generation.

The low-lying city — like many other areas especially exposed to floods, fires or storms — has been hit as insurers pull back, spooked by a toxic mix of inflation in the costs of claims and increasing extreme weather events.

The scramble to get affordable insurance, Brennan says, has become even more fraught for businesses such as his family's than in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the costliest ever windstorm.

"I would argue that the market is worse now than it was then," he told the Financial Times, on the challenge of finding private flood insurance. A last-resort federal government insurance scheme is available but it has a limit of \$500,000 for building damage and separate cover for contents.

"The limit [of additional cover available through private-sector policies] got eroded, rates went up, deductibles were higher," said Brennan.

The Brennan restaurants turned instead to FloodFlash, a UK start-up that is one of an expanding cohort of insurers, big and small, offering a form of insurance known as parametric: cover at a set amount based on a pre-agreed trigger.

In this case, the trigger is a water sensor at the claimants' premises. A flood of sufficient depth will be covered, and the claim paid out quickly at the set rate.

Parametric insurance is just one way the global insurance sector is trying to keep homes and businesses insurable as climate change fuels more extreme weather and mounting losses.

Another strategy getting more attention is adaptation. After bottling company Coca-Cola Consolidated suffered a damaging flood at its Nashville plant in 2010, it worked with its insurer FM to reconfigure the factory, so that flood waters can run through the building without damaging critical electrical equipment and other vulnerable areas.

When flood waters returned with a vengeance a decade later, the damage was minimal and the plant was down only a few days rather than a few weeks.

Such efforts feed a hope in the insurance sector that a combination of preventive and adaptive measures by property owners, plus new ways of measuring or insuring risks, will be enough to meet the climate challenge.

Paula Jarzabkowski, an expert on risk at University of Queensland, is an advocate for a new insurance “ecosystem” of public and private initiatives that can keep homes and businesses insurable as the planet warms.

On this view, the worldwide patchwork of last-resort insurance now provided by government schemes alone will not be sufficient. “A lot of what we have already . . . hasn’t grown up to fix the problem we’re in,” she said.

The private sector innovation falls broadly into two buckets: closer calibration of the risks — which can remove enough uncertainty to provide traditional property coverage — or finding new forms of insurance cover.

Risk-modelling companies have recently poured investment into technology they say can much more closely identify the risks posed by highly localised events, such as fire and floods that might affect a building on one side of the street and not another.

“We’re in a position where we can now offer much more sophisticated modelling methodologies, and more insights into this kind of risk, because we now have the computing power to do that,” said Julie Serakos, head of the model product management team at risk modeller Moody’s RMS.

There are a variety of approaches. Drawing on the ever greater data sources available to underwriters, specialist property insurers such as London-listed Hiscox are able to analyse home insurance risk house by house.

And start-ups have emerged, such as Delos, founded in San Francisco in 2017, using machine learning and satellite data to get a more detailed understanding of the wildfire risk of an individual property — aiming to provide coverage to households that others applying broad risk assessments may be avoiding.

Some insurers are leaning on third-party climate specialists, such as US-based Jupiter Intelligence, which provides forward-looking analytics on how climate change will affect their portfolio.

The insurance market has also been supported by a proliferation of structures such as catastrophe bonds — an increasingly mainstream form of cover against extreme weather provided by investors through securities. Issuance has boomed in recent years.

Parametric policies are also gradually being employed by even the largest in the industry. “With a parametric trigger, uninsurable exposures become more insurable,” Aon, one of the biggest insurance brokers, said.

But there are pitfalls, experts say, to some of these approaches. Parametric insurance, for example, runs the risk that a flood or hurricane does not hit precisely the required trigger, and there is no cover at all.

While ever more granular analysis might allow some properties to be underwritten that could not be otherwise, it could also widen the divide between those properties and people viewed as “good risks” and “bad risks”.

Policymakers are also increasingly concerned with the role of local and national governments in providing a backstop.

Petra Hielkema, head of Eiopa, the EU’s insurance regulator, told the FT there was growing support among politicians in the bloc — in the world’s fastest-warming continent — for national risk-sharing schemes for natural catastrophes. A “next step”, she added, would be a pan-EU scheme that was proposed by the regulator and the European Central Bank last year.

“These [natural catastrophe] problems, that are this size, ultimately you will need a European solution,” said Hielkema, though she added it would have to be carefully constructed to avoid moral hazard such as reducing the incentive for individual countries to invest in resilience measures.

Meanwhile, there are smaller-scale initiatives, such as a pilot programme to provide low - and moderate-income families in New York in high-flood risk neighbourhoods with an emergency cash payout after a major flood.

Some think it is up to local communities to engage with the insurance industry and regulators on the insurability question.

A non-profit promoting new insurance solutions to climate risk, InnSure, says community leaders can “protect their insurability” by applying insurance-focused assessments to new developments and infrastructure.

“Simply asking, ‘If we do this, what are the insurance implications and resulting economic impacts’, can be incredibly impactful, as unaffordable insurance can affect home prices and damage community wealth,” said Charlie Sidoti, its executive director.

For some executives, the way forward is simply to recognise the scale of the problem and adapt — working with clients or households to either protect themselves from water or fire reaching the door, or to make sure it does not do significant damage when it does. Such actions can keep insurance costs to an affordable level, they say.

FM’s chief executive Malcolm Roberts told the FT that requests from companies such as the Coca-Cola bottler for its resilience services, which draw on its own risk maps for natural hazards, are at unprecedented levels.

The company has been making an insurance and prevention pitch since 1835, when Rhode Island textile mill owners created a mutual insurer for those willing to take prevention measures such as thick floors and firewalls to minimise fire losses.

“When insurance gets expensive,” said Roberts, “that’s when people start to say, ‘What can I do about it?’”

## PHYS ORG

### [Forest restoration can boost people, nature and climate simultaneously](#)

Forest restoration can benefit humans, boost biodiversity and help tackle climate change simultaneously, new research suggests.

Restoring forests is often seen in terms of "trade-offs"—meaning it often focuses on a specific goal such as capturing carbon, nurturing nature or supporting human livelihoods.

The new study, by the universities of Exeter and Oxford, found that restoration plans aimed at a single goal tend not to deliver the others. However, "integrated" plans would deliver over 80% of the benefits in all three areas at once.

It also found that socioeconomically disadvantaged groups would benefit disproportionately from this approach.

The paper, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, is titled: "Optimizing Restoration: holistic spatial planning to deliver Nature's Contributions to People with minimal tradeoffs and maximal equity."

The researchers used a framework called Nature's Contribution to People (NCP), which emphasizes a holistic relationship between restoration and benefits to humanity, including equity.

It applied this to large areas of India, examining the benefits of natural regeneration of native forest in suitable places that aren't currently forest.

"Restoration projects sometimes have a narrow focus, which can lead to trade-offs," said Dr. Trisha Gopalakrishna, from the University of Exeter and formerly at Oxford.

"For example, if you focus on carbon storage, you might plant particular tree species and fence the forests off to protect them.

"If you focus on biodiversity, you might manage forests for particular species, like the emblematic Bengal tiger or Asiatic elephant.

"If you focus on human livelihoods, you might plant species that provide housing materials and fuelwood for cooking.

"The philosophy you choose would dictate your choices.

"Unsurprisingly, our study shows that plans with one NCP in mind tend not to deliver the others.

"However, we were surprised and pleased to find that an 'integrated' plan can deliver all three remarkably efficiently."

The researchers used an optimization algorithm to generate maps of 3.88 million hectares of possible forest restoration area, avoiding areas such as grasslands and agricultural land.

The results showed that integrated forest restoration plans (aimed at multiple goals) deliver on average 83.3% of climate change mitigation NCP, 89.9% of biodiversity value NCP and 93.9% of societal NCP delivered by single-objective plans.

Commenting on why this happens, Dr. Gopalakrishna said, "Integrated plans create a multifunctional landscape, with connectivity so people and animals can thrive."

The findings show that 38%–41% of the people impacted by integrated spatial plans belong to socioeconomically disadvantaged groups, greater than their overall representation in India's population.

Dr. Gopalakrishna added, "Many countries, like India, have committed to very big goals on climate and the environment.

"The blueprint we have developed provides an approach to designing conservation policies, specifically ecosystem restoration activities.

"It would be useful to know if our findings hold true in other countries using different types of ecosystem restoration plans and focused on different benefits."



## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### [Lawmaker wants DA's original P500-B budget for 2025 restored](#)

By: Filane Mikee Cervantes

A party-list lawmaker on Monday sought to restore the original budget proposal of the Department of Agriculture (DA) for 2025 amounting to PHP513.8 billion.

During the budget briefing of the House Committee on Appropriations, AGRI Party-list Rep. Wilbert Lee called for an increase in the DA's budget from the PHP200.2 billion proposed by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for next year.

"Priority ba natin talaga ang agrikultura? Seryoso ba tayo dito? Dahil ang nabasa ko, sinabi ni [DA] Secretary [Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr.], PHP513 billion ang request niya. Ngayon, nakita ko PHP200 billion lang ang binigay. Ang laki ng difference. Paano natin pabababain ang presyo ng pagkain kung kulang ang inilaan na pondo para sa agrikultura? (Is agriculture really our priority? Are we serious about this? Because what I've read is that the Secretary said PHP513 billion was his request. Now, what I've seen is that only PHP200 billion was given. That is a huge difference. How are we supposed to lower food prices if we have insufficient funds for agriculture?)," Lee said.

Lee said a higher budgetary allocation is necessary to increase agricultural productivity and lower food prices.

"Dapat ibigay yung ni-request ng ahensya, at gastusin nang tama para maramdaman agad ng mamamayan (We should grant the request of the agency and spend it right so that it can be felt by the citizens)," Lee said.

Lee's call was echoed by some lawmakers, including Isabela Rep. Antonio Albano, Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte Jr., and TGP Party-list Rep. Jose Teves Jr., among others.

"Kailangan nating suportahan ang budget ng Department of Agriculture (We need to support the budget of the Department of Agriculture)," Teves said.

Lee vowed to work closely with the DA submit his proposed amendments to increase the agency's capital outlay for next year.

"May pondo ang gobyerno... Ano pa ang hinihintay natin? Murang pagkain, mataas na produksyon, gawin na natin (The government has funds... What are we waiting for? Cheaper food, higher productivity, let's do it)," Lee said.

Toward a Masaganang Bagong Pilipinas

Laurel, meanwhile, underscored the need for substantial investments in agriculture in order to deliver on the Marcos administration's promise of a "Masaganang Bagong Pilipinas" (A Prosperous New Philippines).

This program focuses on expanding agri-fisheries areas for increased production, modernizing agri and fishery production systems, and developing and improving post-harvest systems and infrastructures, among others.

Laurel said the agri-fishery sector is crucial for increasing food availability, reducing food insecurity, and alleviating malnutrition.

"It holds the promise of breaking the cycle of conflict and poverty, we must enhance Philippine agriculture to make it more productive, competitive, and resilient to support our growing population and build prosperous rural communities," he said.

Laurel noted that the DA's budget for 2025 amounting to PHP200.2 billion would fund essential interventions for agricultural modernization, as well as increase productivity, global competitiveness, and resilience against disasters, climate change and pandemics.

Laurel said the agency's budget is part of a national plan aimed at addressing rising prices, reducing poverty and ensuring that "every Filipino benefits from economic growth".

"We have prepared this budget with careful consideration of its importance to the President's governance reforms and initiatives. We are committed to managing it with transparency and efficiency. We aspire for a prosperous, stable, and comfortable life for our farmers and fishers," he said.

Marikina Rep. Stella Luz Quimbo, senior vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the DA plays a crucial role in ensuring the country's food security, thus the need to provide sufficient funding and support for the agriculture sector.

"Ang ating mga magsasaka at mangingisda ang pundasyon ng seguridad sa pagkain ng bansa. Sila ang nagdadala ng pagkain sa mesa ng bawat pamilyang Pilipino. Tungkulin natin na tiyakin na ang kanilang pagsisikap ay kinikilala at sapat na sinusupportahan (Our farmers and fisherfolk are the foundation of food security in the country. They bring food to the table of every Filipino family. It is our duty to make sure that their efforts are acknowledge and aptly supported)," Quimbo said.

Quimbo recognized the interventions made by the DA, particularly the loans granted to farmers released through the Expanded Rice Credit Assistance under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ERCA-RCEF).

State-run Land Bank of the Philippines earlier said the total loans reached PHP2.5 billion as of April 30, 2024, benefitting more than 15,400 rice farmers and 270 cooperatives with more than 21,300 member-beneficiaries.

Quimbo said the DA should strengthen programs aimed at providing insurance coverage for crops, livestock, and fisheries to guarantee the protection of the agriculture sector in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

“Ang tagumpay ng agrikultura ay tagumpay ng bawat Pilipino. Kailangan nating tiyakin na ang bawat hakbang ay nagdudulot ng konkretong suporta para sa ating mga magsasaka at mangingisda para sa kaunlaran ng bansa (The success of the agriculture sector is the success of every Filipino. We need to ensure that every step we make provides concrete support for our farmers and fisherfolk for the development of the nation),” she said.

## THE MANILA TIMES

### [DPWH to use recycled plastic in road projects](#)

By: William B. Depasupil

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has approved the use of plastic waste to extend the lifespan of asphalt pavement, and, at the same time, help address the alarming rise in plastic pollution, one of the major causes of flooding in the metropolis.

Public Works Secretary Manuel Bonoan has directed all DPWH regional offices, district engineering offices, and Unified Project Management Office Clusters to use shredded plastic in road construction projects.

Bonoan said the latest policy aims to promote the recycling of low-density polyethylene (LDPE) plastic bag waste by shredding and using it as an additive to reduce the susceptibility to permanent deformation of bituminous concrete surface course or asphalt concrete.

"This development is in line with the continuing efforts of the department to support sustainable engineering and upgrade construction technology through adoption of successful research studies," he said.

The use of LDPE waste in asphalt cement mix has been successfully tested by the DPWH Bureau of Research and Standards.

According to a World Bank report, the Philippines' plastic industry provides low-cost consumer goods to poor and middle-income families.

However, the heavy reliance on single-use plastic has made the country a "sachet economy" that continues to worsen the alarming levels of marine pollution, the WB said.

It is estimated that the Philippines consumes 163 million pieces of sachets every day.

A separate study showed that the Philippines had the biggest share of plastic waste dumped into the ocean in 2019 — 36.38 percent. It is far bigger than India, the second-largest plastic polluter, which accounted for 12.92 percent.

It said 80 percent of plastic waste comes from rivers and seven of the top 10 plastic-polluted rivers in the world are in the Philippines.

The study said the Pasig River has surpassed the Yangtze River of China as the most polluted river in 2017.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority has blamed improper waste management practices as a major cause of the widespread flooding in Metro Manila during the monsoon rains enhanced by Typhoon Carina.

Majority of plastic and other waste materials are thrown into canals, creeks, sewers and other waterways, and eventually clog pumping stations and other flood control equipment.

## THE PHILIPPINE STAR

### [DENR targets 3 million hectares of forest cover by 2028](#)

By: Bella Cariaso

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources targets to increase the country's forest cover by an additional three million hectares by 2028 as part of efforts to minimize the impact of climate change, DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga revealed.

"We have four targeted areas for reforestation, 1.2 million hectares that can be made available to projects for reforestation in the country. Our goal in the DENR is by 2028, to add at least three million hectares of forest cover to our 50 million hectares classified forest lands, seven million of which are actually covered with forest," Loyzaga said during the recent deliberation of the House committee on appropriations on the agency's 2025 proposed budget of P26.027 billion.

Loyzaga noted that the DENR has launched its geospatial database, a system to map the country's natural resources.

"The quality of forest is something that we are studying, whether these are fragmented, whether these are close or open, those have also bearing on what we are calling relevant to climate change and its impact," she added.

To promote this idea, Loyzaga said the DENR plans to provide incentives.

"There is a concerted move on the part of the DENR to provide incentives and hopefully invite interested parties to invest in forestry for the first 1.2 million hectares after we present this (plan) to President Marcos for his appreciation," the secretary said.

Meanwhile, Loyzaga said the DENR would finish in September a study on the impact of reclamation projects in Manila Bay, including its possible contribution to flooding in Metro Manila. The agency, she added, has tapped various experts, including the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute, in the ongoing study.

"We have yet to run the flood modeling relating to the different scenarios. We are running four different scenarios. The first one would be no reclamation; second one, there would be reclamation projects that are ongoing; the third one would be for those that actually have Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC); and the fourth one would be, the full-blown reclamation project scenario," she pointed out.

According to Loyzaga, data on the recent Typhoon Carina will be used in the study and that the findings would be submitted to the Office of the President through the Philippine Reclamation Authority.

Loyzaga clarified that it is not the DENR who will suspend or decide on the continuation of the reclamation projects.

“We are submitting the results of the investigation and evaluation of both the ECC and area clearances that the conditionalities that were attached to this given the different conditions wherein they were granted at the time of the previous administration,” she noted.

According to Loyzaga, the study aims to determine the economic, ecological and social impacts of the reclamation projects.

“Again, the DENR is bound by the mandamus order of the Supreme Court ... in order to restore Manila Bay’s swimmability,” she stressed.

## **Government urged: Prioritize climate responses**

By: Caecent No-ot Magsumbol

A multi-sectoral group is calling on the national government to prioritize comprehensive climate responses, especially with the DOST-PAGASA already raised a La Nina alert.

The Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development reported that environmental advocacy groups, Church leaders, and community representatives made such call following the so-called “grave inadequacies in both preparing for intensifying climate impacts and mitigating worse climate change”.

“The recent onslaught of Typhoons Butchoy, Carina, and Habagat, coupled with the catastrophic oil spill, has caused immense suffering and destruction, particularly among the most vulnerable sectors of our society. All these, as Filipinos have yet to recover from the extreme impacts of the El Niño earlier in the year,” said Bishop Gerry Alminaza, Vice Chairperson of Caritas Philippines and Convenor of the EcoConvergence National Hub.

Bishop Alminaza also stressed that the climate crisis and the exacerbation of its impacts are facilitated by systemic problems that allow business-as-usual proliferation of destructive practices, and which push vulnerable people even further to the margins.

“We urge the government to finally acknowledge the gravity of the emergency we are in and prioritize the protection of our environment and the well-being of its citizens. This includes implementing robust climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, enforcing environmental laws, and supporting sustainable development initiatives,” added Bishop Alminaza.

The group also noted that the extreme heat from El Nino, the recent typhoons and Habagat, and the oil spill in Bataan and Manila Bay have led to state of calamity declarations in 618 cities and municipalities across the country, according to data from the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

With massive flooding in Metro Manila and many parts of the country occurring despite the reported 5,500 flood control projects accomplished ahead of SONA and a reported P556 billion budget for flood control since the administration took office, the groups said it is high time for the government to take accountability for neglecting to protect critical natural barriers against disasters.

“The sequential occurrence of the typhoon and another devastating oil spill is a literal illustration of the consequences of our government's support to the continued proliferation of fossil fuels and the climate crisis,” Krishna Ariola, Energy and Climate Campaigner at the Center for energy, Ecology, and Development (CEED) and Founding Convenor of Youth for Climate Hope.



Ariola cited that coal, oil, and gas, are destructive all throughout their life cycle - even during their transport she said.

“They are completely incompatible to a country that suffers an average of 20 typhoons a year, yet continue to be supported by national policies and development directions,” Ariola added.

With Carina and Habagat only serving as the start of the rainy season and a La Niña phenomenon expected to take off in August, ramping up comprehensive climate responses should be seriously prioritized by the government.

Based on DOST-PAGASA’s climate monitoring and analyses show further cooling of the sea surface temperatures (SSTs) across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific (CEEP).

Most climate models combined with expert judgments suggest 70% chance of La Niña forming in August-September-October (ASO) 2024 season and is likely to persist until the first quarter of 2025.

With this development, the DOST-PAGASA ENSO Alert and Warning System has been raised to La Niña Alert since middle of July.

“The Marcos administration speaks of championing climate causes, yet there remains no plan or policy direction ambitious and comprehensive enough to ensure the very survival of vulnerable Filipinos from worsening realities of the climate crisis. What it does have is a master plan for worse destruction and business as usual,” Atty. Aaron Pedrosa, Secretary General of Sanlakas said.

## 'Habagat' to bring rains over Luzon, Visayas

By: Ian Laqui

The southwest monsoon, locally known as "habagat," is anticipated to bring rain showers over Luzon and western portions of Visayas on Sunday, state weather bureau PAGASA said.

In its latest weather forecast, PAGASA reported that the Ilocos Region, Zambales, Bataan, Occidental Mindoro and Palawan may expect cloudy skies with scattered rains and thunderstorms due to habagat.

Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, Western Visayas and Negros Island Region may also expect partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms due to the weather system.

Residents in these regions are urged to prepare for potential flooding and take the required safety measures.

Meanwhile, the rest of the country may expect partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms due to localized thunderstorms.

The state weather bureau also warned individuals living in the area to take caution for flash floods or landslides during severe thunderstorms.

## CCC IN THE NEWS:

### MANILA STANDARD

#### [Private sector role stressed in mitigating disaster risks](#)

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) stressed 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 cited 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.

“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,” said Assistant Secretary and CCC deputy executive director Romell Antonio O. Cuenca.

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.

“Attracting foreign investments is key to overcoming technological barriers and enhancing the country’s capacity for green innovation.” said Cuenca. He added 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=**