



NEWS AT A GLANCE

August 15-21, 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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- Climate change: 'Staggering' rate of global tree losses from fires
- Acting on Climate Change
- Climate change and sports
- Disaster and Calamity Preparedness: Is The Philippines Ready?
- Can Indonesia's Muslim leaders help combat climate change?
- A model for climate change response
- One-third of the food we eat is at risk because the climate crisis is endangering butterflies and bees
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- Foul-smelling seaweed covers pristine Caribbean beaches - is climate change to blame?
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Happy Reading!
IKM Division

NEWS AT A GLANCE

August 15-21, 2022

ABS-CBN NEWS

US enacts \$437-B law, touting largest climate change investment

Washington - President Joe Biden on Tuesday signed into law a \$437 billion investment bill that includes what he calls the largest U.S. spending ever aimed at combating climate change, while raising taxes on large companies.

BBC NEWS

Climate change: 'Staggering' rate of global tree losses from fires

By: Matt McGrath

Around 16 football pitches of trees per minute were lost to forest fires in 2021, a new report says.

BUSINESS MIRROR

Acting on Climate Change

Ambassador Laure Beaufile of the United Kingdom (second from right) launched the "Climate Action Implementation Programme" with Mayor Josefina G. Belmonte of Quezon City (second from left).

Climate change and sports

By: Vincent Juico

You don't usually hear climate change said or written in the same sentence nor mentioned in the same breath unless it's a cause for alarm because it's making an environmental impact on soccer fields, baseball diamonds, football pitches, cricket grounds and other areas where outdoor sports are played.

Disaster and Calamity Preparedness: Is The Philippines Ready?

As an archipelago found within the Pacific Ring of Fire and along the Typhoon Belt, the Philippines plays host to dozens of typhoons each year and is home to a handful of active volcanoes. This makes the Philippines highly prone to natural calamities and disasters – necessitating solid disaster management and preparedness plans for both national and local government units.

BUSINESS WORLD

Can Indonesia's Muslim leaders help combat climate change?

Kuala Lumpur — From packed mosques during Friday prayers to the classrooms of thousands of Islamic boarding schools, Indonesia's Muslim leaders have been urged to use their sermons and influence to boost conservation efforts and win over climate change sceptics.

A model for climate change response

By: Oscar Lagman Jr.

On Aug. 5, Makati City Mayor Abby Binay declared a state of climate emergency in the city in response to the crisis brought about by climate change. "As temperatures and sea levels continue to rise, low-lying coastal areas in cities like Makati have become

more vulnerable to strong typhoons that bring floods and landslides. This will result not only in the disruption of public services but also the displacement of families and even entire communities,” Binay said during a webinar organized by Makati Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO).

CNN

One-third of the food we eat is at risk because the climate crisis is endangering butterflies and bees

By: Allison Chinchar and Jennifer Gray

Bee populations are declining. More than half of the bat species in the United States are in severe decline or listed as endangered. And international scientists recently announced the monarch butterfly is perilously close to extinction.

ENERGY MIX

Historic Climate Bill Passes U.S. House, Goes to Biden for Signature

By Mitchell Beer

U.S. climate hawks declared victory, Congressional Democrats got credit for a newly pragmatic approach to climate action, community campaigners demanded more ambitious action, and attention shifted to implementation after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the country’s \$370-billion climate and clean energy plan and sent it to President Joe Biden’s desk for signature.

EURONEWS

Foul-smelling seaweed covers pristine Caribbean beaches - is climate change to blame?

By Maeve Campbell

Millions of tons of brown seaweed has washed up along Mexico's beaches this summer and it’s putting the country’s post-COVID travel boom at risk.

GMA NEWS

Philippines, Japan bolster ties for infra projects —DPWH

By Ted Cordero

The Japanese government has committed to continue its support to the Philippine government's infrastructure initiatives under the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) said Thursday.

THE KOREA HERALD

PM urges new disaster response system to cope with climate change

By Yonhap

Prime Minister Han Duck-soo on Tuesday called for a new disaster response system to cope with climate change, as the heaviest rainfall in decades battered Seoul and its surrounding areas last week.

MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT

Winford Manila plants for a cleaner, greener PH

Winford Manila Resort & Casino (WMRC) has joined forces with ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc. (AFI) at the La Mesa Nature Reserve for a scheduled tree-planting activity.

MANILA BULLETIN

[OPINION] Nuclear Energy Regulation

By Senator Francis Tolentino

Last Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, I filed my bill on The Philippine Nuclear Regulation Act of 2022.

THE MANILA TIMES

Young people may be the most significant answer

By Ludwig Federigan

The Filipino youth are either hopeful or worried about a climate emergency for the next five to 10 years, according to The World We Want Philippines Report. It, along with good governance and post-Covid recovery, are the top three issues they are most hopeful about, based on consultations with 150 Filipino youth from August 9 to 15, 2022 that coincided with the celebration of International Youth Day.

DoE boosts utilization of electric vehicles

By Eireene Jairee Gomez

The Department of Energy (DoE) is conducting a series of public consultations to formulate a comprehensive and coordinated policy direction among national agencies to accelerate the development, commercialization and utilization of electric vehicles (EVs) in the country.

Attracting the youth to agriculture

By William Dar

If more students are enrolled in agriculture and agribusiness courses this school year, particularly in state universities and colleges, that means they are answering the call of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. to take part in leveling up the country's farming and fishery sector, so we can eventually produce at least 100 percent of our major staples like rice, corn, poultry, livestock and fisheries.

BBM reviews water management proposal

By Kristina Maralit

President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. is reviewing a proposal to establish an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Program that seeks to balance the country's economic, social and environmental sustainability.

Biden inks major climate, health care law

By Associated Press

Washington, D.C.: United States President Joe Biden signed his fellow Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill into law on Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila), delivering what he has called the "final piece" of his pared-down domestic agenda, as he aims to boost his party's standing with voters less than three months before America's midterm elections.

Expert: Businesses need resilience, sustainability

By: Bella Carisao

An expert on Wednesday said that businesses should adopt eight initiatives to address the pandemic, climate change and other global challenges.

LandBank lends P5.8B for agri climate resiliency

By Eireene Jairee Gomez

In support of building a climate-resilient agribusiness value chain in the country, the Land Bank of the Philippines (LandBank) has approved loans totaling P5.8 billion to 15 borrowers as of June 30, 2022.

Spain, Portugal battle to control huge wildfires

By Agence France-Presse

Madrid: Spain and neighboring Portugal fought against large wildfires on Tuesday, while three people were badly injured after their train hurtled into a smaller Spanish blaze.

SPNEC to establish biggest solar farm

By Eireene Jairee Gomez

SOLAR Philippines Nueva Ecija Corp. (SPNEC) allocated proceeds from its various capital raises to complete securing at least 2,500 hectares in the provinces of Nueva Ecija and Bulacan for a planned 3.5-gigawatt (GW) solar farm, as it aims to be the world's largest solar farm.

DoST to focus on agri, food security

By Kaithreen Cruz

Newly installed Science and Technology chief Dr. Renato Solidum Jr. aims to refocus the plans of the Department of Science and Technology (DoST) to align with the economic agenda of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.

PH, France eyeing more projects

By Tiziana Celine Piatos

The Philippines and France are eyeing to extend cooperation over a wide range of economic and social initiatives, such as agriculture and climate change, according to the Department of Finance.

Awkward accountability

By: Ben Kritz

LAST month, in a discomfiting but obviously quite necessary candid admission, the environmental group Ocean Conservancy issued a "statement of accountability" concerning what was at the time a landmark report titled "Stemming the Tide," which the group published in September 2015. The report was significant to the Philippines because at the time, and for several years after the report's publication, the Philippines was identified as one of the world's biggest sources of plastic pollution in the ocean.

[Opinion] Facing humanitarian and ecological disasters, world's nations must be united

By: Marit Stinus-Cabugon

IT struck me as somewhat odd that the United Nations General Assembly chose this time to declare the access to a clean and healthy environment a universal human right. Odd because the UN appears impotent in the face of Putin's ongoing military attack on Ukraine. The war has caused massive destruction to civilian infrastructure including homes, about 12 million people have been displaced, thousands have been killed, and the disruptions in international trade in fuel, fertilizer, grains and other foodstuffs have caused inflation to soar across the globe.

PANAY NEWS

Philippine economy: Firing on all cylinders

By Manny B. Villar Jr.

The 7.4-percent expansion of the Philippine economy in the second quarter of the year came as no surprise to me. Robust corporate earnings in the April-to-June period, a booming travel sector and energetic consumers visiting and dining in the malls are telltale signs that the economy is powering through the headwinds.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

'Much still has to be done' to mitigate, adapt to climate change — Legarda

By: Maila Ager

Unlike the United States, the Philippines still has a "long way to go" to mitigate and adapt to climate change, according to Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda.

China factories ration power as heatwave sends demand soaring

By Agence France-Presse

Chinese lithium hub Sichuan province will ration electricity supply to factories until Saturday, state media reported, as a heatwave sends power demands soaring and dries up reservoirs.

Lawyers denounce terror financing case vs ‘rights defenders’

By John Eric Mendoza

Financing terrorism is a “dangerous accusation” against the 16 individuals, four of them nuns, who were indicted on Monday for allegedly violating the Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act of 2022.

BIZ BUZZ: Not just cars, but mobility solutions

The statistics for Toyota Motors Philippines (TMP) are impressive.

According to the company’s chair, Alfred Ty, the firm delivered its two millionth Toyota vehicle in March of this year, just as it celebrated its 34th year in the country earlier this month.

Extreme weather events and conflict (3)

By Rufa Cagoco-Guiam

Cotabato City—Here in the seat of the autonomous Bangsamoro region, some regional and local officials do not seem to realize the urgency of the impacts of climate change in more than 1,000 barangays within it. Members of our small research team noticed that some officials in executive level positions tend to brush aside issues and challenges posed by the intersections of extreme weather events and community security, and on how some of their so-called urgent programs (like dumping a town’s solid wastes near a barangay road) have even aggravated the negative consequences of such environmental phenomena. In contrast, community members seem to be more insightful than their leaders.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

Cable cars to alleviate traffic, benefit environment: Palafox

By: Leonel Abasola

Urban planner Felino “Jun” Palafox Jr. supported a proposal of Senator Robin Padilla to use cable cars in urban centers to help alleviate traffic congestion.

PBBM seeks enhanced PH-US ties on economics, energy, agriculture

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

MANILA – President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. on Thursday expressed hope for an improved cooperation between the Philippines and the United States (US) in the fields of economics, energy and agriculture.

House panel pushes for conservation, protection of PH wildlife

By Filane Mikee Cervantes

A House of Representatives panel on Wednesday approved measures for the conservation and protection of wildlife resources, as well as the promotion of sustainable forest management.

Mindanao coffee farmers now earn more after Nescafé training

By Christine Cudis

Davao City – Some 1,500 small coffee farmers in Mindanao have increased their yield and income by around 64 percent and 45 percent, respectively, in 2021.

Firm to supply renewable energy in Bataan

By Kris Crismundo

The Peninsula Electric Cooperative, Inc. (PENELCO) has diversified its power sources to be distributed in its franchise areas, now tapping solar power through a unit of renewable energy firm Alternergy Holdings Corp.

1K narra trees planted at Northern Negros Natural Park

By: Nanette Guadalquiver

Bacolod City – Stakeholders from various sectors have planted 1,000 narra trees at the Gawahon EcoPark in Victorias City, Negros Occidental as one of the events marking the 17th year of the Northern Negros Natural Park (NNNP).

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

ACEN's Australian unit gets A\$100 million green financing

By: Richmond Mercurio

ACEN Corp. subsidiary ACEN Australia and DBS Bank Australia have executed a facility agreement for a A\$100 million green long-term revolving loan facility.

[OPINION] Medalla's battles

By: Iris Gonzales

I imagined La Serenissima or Venice, the Floating City but minus the gondoliers and their gondolas, when Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Felipe Medalla talked about how the BSP compound in Manila became “a small island surrounded by water” not too long ago. Perhaps it was one of those rainy days of August.

Biden signs major climate change, health care law

By: Agence France Presse

Washington, United States — President Joe Biden on Tuesday signed into law a big climate change and health care spending bill, giving Democrats another boost ahead of midterm elections in which Republicans are suddenly less certain of their predicted crushing victory.

Carbon tax under study - Philstar.com

By Louise Maureen Simeon

The Department of Finance (DOF) is studying the viability of imposing a carbon tax in a bid to generate much-needed revenues and address environmental concerns.

45 Years of EU-ASEAN: Deeper 'understanding' that strengthens ties

By Nillicent Bautista, Matthew Dave Jucom and Dawn Danielle Solano

An enhanced relationship between the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union (EU) has been a product of years of hard work, maturity and understanding, experts noted on the 45th anniversary of the two blocs' ties.

DOE to make energy sector more attractive to investors

By: Richmond Mercurio

Manila, Philippines — The Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing to make the country's power and energy environment more appealing and friendly to investors, in cooperation with its attached agencies and legislators.

RAPPLER

'Delikado' review: An environmental film that does not hold back

By: John Leo Algo

What drives environmental defenders to risk their lives? This is one of the major questions answered in Karl Malakunas's Delikado. The closing film for this year's Cinemalaya Festival tells the intertwining narratives of environmental activists defending the forests and seas of Palawan, considered as the Philippines's "Last Frontier."

RED HOT NEWS

UN selects former Grenada minister as climate chief

WASHINGTON (REUTERS, AFP) - Grenada's former Climate Resilience Minister Simon Stiell will become the new United Nations climate chief, UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced on Monday (Aug 16).

STANFORD NEWS

Scientists identify potential bioindicators for monitoring plastic pollution in the North Pacific Ocean

By: Alex Boss

With an estimated 8 million metric tons of plastic waste escaping to our oceans each year, plastic pollution adversely affects the environment, climate, and even our health. Many plastic products break down in the ocean and are ingested by marine wildlife. Scientists can study these organisms as potential bioindicators to measure how much plastic exists in different ocean regions and help assess the overall health of the marine environment.

SUNSTAR

Mideast's Jordan River: Rich in holiness, poor in water

Along the Jordan River — Kristen Burckhartt felt overwhelmed. She needed time to reflect, to let it sink in that she had just briefly soaked her feet in the water where Jesus is said to have been baptized, in the Jordan River.

[Opinion] Algo: Achieving climate justice thru loss and damage finance

By: John Leo Algo

Climate justice is the anchor of any discussion or action to address loss and damage (L&D). With every typhoon, drought, or other hazard that hits our nation, it is always the poorest and most vulnerable peoples who experience its gravest impacts.

[OPINION] Espinoza: Climate change and the politicians

By Elias Espinoza

Climate change is no longer a fairy tale, or theory, but it is a fact and a reality that our and the future generation will have to face its dire consequences if our political leaders put a premium on playing politics instead of taking care of our environment by strictly enforcing the environmental laws, or crafting new laws that would enhance the existing laws that protect our environment. The signs are clear that our climate has changed a lot. Scientists put the blame on people and business entrepreneurs' lack of concern for the environment because human activities have resulted in high emission of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

What is the climatarian diet, and is it better for the planet than going vegan or vegetarian?

By Mark Maslin

The food we consume has a massive impact on our planet. Agriculture takes up half the habitable land on Earth, destroys forests and other ecosystems and produces a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Meat and dairy specifically accounts for around 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

CCC in the News

MANILA BULLETIN

Legarda commends US President Biden for climate change action

By: Mario Casayuran

Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda commended on Wednesday, Aug. 17 United States (US) President Joe Biden for signing into law a legislation addressing climate change.

RAPPLER

The road to carbon-neutral through Philippine business alliance

By John Leo C. Algo

It is impossible to solve the climate crisis without addressing its root cause: the pollution being emitted into our environment. This pollution, in the form of greenhouse gases (GHG) such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), is largely produced from burning fossil fuels, such as coal and natural gas.

SUNSTAR

Bondoc: Climate change hitting Pampanga towns

By: Princess Clea Arcellaz

Masantol Fourth district Representative Anna York Bondoc has raised concern over the effects of climate change in the province.

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