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By: Laura Paddison

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By: Tristan Nodalo

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GMA

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KHALEEJ TIMES

COP28 President-designate commits to put health at centre of climate discussions

By: WAM

Dr Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President-designate, has vowed that COP28 will drive international action on climate and health, with the first-ever Health Day and climate-health ministerial at a COP acting as a ground-breaking opportunity to determine steps towards equitable, climate-resilient health systems and mobilise vital investment in the sector.

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By: Billy Begas

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Nagkaroo ng coastal clean-up drive sa pangunguna ng Climate Change Commission o CCC. Ang mga ganitong hakbangin ay nagpapakita ng kahalagahang koletibong aksyon upang protektahan ang mga mangrove ecosystem sa bansa.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

CCC boosts Palawan LGUs' capacity to combat climate change change
By: Jelly Musico

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has conducted a series of capacity-building activities here to strengthen the province's Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) and facilitate access to the People's Survival Fund (PSF).

Information and Knowledge Management Division

BUSINESS MIRROR

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The Philippines, which won the landmark 2016 arbitral ruling on the South China Sea, is supporting the small island nations in requiring the countries to protect the oceans and seas to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Filipino high ranking diplomats and the Office of the Solicitor General argued Tuesday for the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) issue an advisory opinion on the the obligations of the members states that sign the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

"Today, in ITLOS, team Philippines stood in solidarity with nations and peoples with full belief in 1982 UNCLOS and the authority of international law in forging a more unified response and just solutions to the climate crisis," Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo said in his X post.

Small islands from the Pacific and the Caribbean — Niue, Palau, St. Lucia, Vanuatu, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and the Bahamas — have formed the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change (COCIS) to seek climate justice from ITLOS. Small islands are facing existential threat of rising sea levels caused by climate change.

CICOS is asking the ITLOS to issue an advisory opinion to determine the specific obligations of the 164 members of UNCLOS to "prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment" and to "protect and preserve the marine environment to stop ocean warming sea level rise and acidification."

Philippine Permanent Mission Representative to the UN in Geneva Carlos Sorreta cited UNCLOS' preamble in Articles 192 and 193 which state that states have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment."

Sorreta said the 2016 South China Sea ruling further elaborated on this obligations of the states. "The Tribunal considers it well established that Article 192 does impose a duty on states that contempt which is informed by other provisions that part dwell and other applicable rules of international law. This general obligation extends both the protection of the marine environment from future damage and preservation in the sense of maintaining or improving its present condition," Sorreta guoted the ruling.

Aside from UNCLOS, other international agreements such as Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the Agreement on Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction identify ways for the global community to mitigate climate change.

"The Philippines would like to make the argument that in the field of international environmental law, various international agreements and international environmental protection build upon each other to create a normative synergy between past, present and future agreements," Sorreta said.

China had earlier opposed the COCIS bid before ITLOS arguing that other international laws are also covering the issue of climate change.

Beijing also dismissed countries which cited the South China Arbitration ruling during the ITLOS proceedings.

"The arbitral tribunal in the South China Sea arbitration acted ultra vires, erred in fact finding, misinterpreted and perverted the law in adjudication. The so-called "awards" are null and void and should not be invoked as a legal basis acted ultra vires, erred in fact finding, misinterpreted and perverted the law in adjudication," said Ma Xinmin of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbiration invalidated the nine-dash line claim of China over the South China Sea. It also ruled that China caused severe harm to the coral reef environment with the construction of artificial islands and violated its obligation to preserve and protect the marine environment in the disputed territory.

CNN

Horrific Libya flooding made up to 50 times more likely by planet-warming pollution, scientists find

By: Laura Paddison

The deadly rainfall which caused catastrophic flooding and destruction in Libya, as well as other parts of the Mediterranean, this month was made much more likely and worse by the human-caused climate crisis, in addition to other human factors, according to a new scientific analysis.

The World Weather Attribution initiative – a team of scientists that analyze the role of climate change in the aftermath of extreme weather events – found planet-warming pollution made the deadly rainfall in Libya up to 50 times more likely to occur and 50% worse. They also found the extreme rainfall that hit Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria was made up to 10 times more likely.

Destruction from the rainfall was worsened by a tangle of other factors, including inadequate infrastructure and building in flood-prone areas, according to the analysis published Tuesday.

Extreme rainfall has swept across large parts of the Mediterranean region since the start of the month.

On September 3, Spain saw huge amounts of rain over the course of just a few hours, leading to floods which killed at least six people. Then Storm Daniel formed, causing severe flooding over four days in Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria.

At least 17 people died in Greece and large stretches of farmland in the central part of the country were left under water, causing damage experts say could take years to recover from. Storm Daniel also caused at least seven deaths in Turkey and four in Bulgaria.

By far the most catastrophic impacts, however, were in Libya.

Gaining energy from the unusually warm waters of the Mediterranean, Storm Daniel dumped record amounts of rainfall in parts of the country's northeast, leading to the collapse of two dams and resulting in a 7-meter (23-foot) wave of water slamming into the city of Derna, sweeping people and buildings into the sea.

Official estimates suggest around 4,000 people were killed, while more than 10,000 remain missing.

To understand the impact of climate change on the likelihood and intensity of this heavy rainfall, WWA scientists analyzed climate data as well as climate models, which allow them to compare today's climate – around 1.2 degrees Celsius warmer than preindustrial levels – to a world without climate change.

They found in Libya, not only did climate change make the extreme rainfall up to 50 times more likely, it also made it up to 50% more intense.

An event as severe as the one the country experienced is unusual even in today's warmer climate, the report found, and can be expected around once in every 600 years.

For Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria, climate change made the rainfall up to 10 times more likely and up to 40% heavier, the analysis found.

The kind of extreme rainfall this region experienced is likely to happen around once every 10 years, according to the report. Although for central Greece, which bore the brunt of the destruction between the three countries, it is only expected to happen around once in every 80 to 250 years.

The WWA scientists acknowledged that there remain uncertainties with the findings. It is not possible to definitively rule out the possibility the climate crisis had no impact on the floods, the report authors said. But, they added, there are "multiple reasons we can be confident that climate change did make the events more likely."

Scientific research has long linked climate change to more intense rainfall. Studies have found that for every 1 degree Celsius of warming, the air can hold around 7% more moisture.

What united many of the places the analysis focused on was the collision of the climate crisis and high levels of vulnerability, the report found. In central Greece, many communities live in flood-prone areas. In Libya, a lethal cocktail of aging, poorly-maintained infrastructure, a lack of warnings and deep political fractures turned a crisis into a humanitarian catastrophe.

"Through these events we are already seeing how climate change and human factors can combine to create compounding and cascading impacts," Maja Vahlberg, of the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and a report author, said on a call with reporters.

Steps can be taken to mitigate the risk, according to the report, including better early warning systems and evacuation plans.

"Reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience to all types of extreme weather is paramount for saving lives," Friederike Otto, senior lecturer in climate science at Grantham Institute for Climate Change and the Environment, at Imperial College London, said in a statement.

Karsten Haustein, a climate researcher at Leipzig University in Germany who was not involved in the study, said the findings show how rare these extreme rainfall events would have been in a world without climate change.

It's "a remarkable result," he told CNN.

Jasper Knight, a geoscientist at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, also not involved in the study, said that the results shine a light on how climate change is affecting extreme events in the Mediterranean, a region which tends not to receive much attention.

But, he told CNN, "we also need more in-depth analysis based on longer and more accurate records."

PH reaffirms 2016 Arbitral Award in int'l tribunal hearing on marine protection, preservation

By: Tristan Nodalo

The Philippines highlighted the significance of the 2016 Arbitral Award in the South China Sea in a public hearing before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany.

The tribunal invited 35 member states of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), including the Philippines and China, to participate in the hearing following the request of the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (COSIS) for an advice on how to hold big polluting countries accountable.

COSIS is composed of Pacific island nations such as Palau, The Bahamas, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Antiqua and Barbud.

The Philippines delivered its oral statement on Tuesday through Philippine Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Carlos Sorreta, Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Maria Angela Ponce, and Assistant Solicitor General Gilbert Medrano.

Ponce cited that the South China Sea arbitration "provide the most authoritative determination on the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment".

"It [South China Sea Arbitration] pronounced legal doctrines that could help determine the outcome of these proceedings," Ponce said. "It is a legally binding international law. Its validity cannot be assailed."

Ponce added: "From the South China Sea arbitration, we can deduce that the obligation of due diligence is two-fold. First is adopting appropriate rules to prohibit a harmful practice. Second, is ensuring enforcement and compliant with said rules."

Sorreta, on the other hand, said that UNCLOS member-states have a general obligation to take active measures to protect and preserve the marine environment.

"The South China Sea arbitration, it is the obligation of states to adopt appropriate rules and measures to preserve and protect the marine environment and to ensure compliance by entities under its control and jurisdiction," he said.

The Philippines also reiterated its willingness to cooperate with regional countries.

"Following the arbitral ruling, the Philippines emphasizes the duty under 197 cooperate on a global or regional basis, directly or through competent international organizations for the protection and the preservation of the marine environment in relation to climate change impacts," Sorreta said.

The Philippines' statement on marine preservation and protection coincides with the recent reports of massive coral destruction in some parts of the West Philippine Sea.

In a separate statement, the DFA expressed serious concerns over the harmful activities in the West Philippine Sea committed by foreign vessels.

"We, therefore, call on everyone concerned to act responsibly and cease all activities that can damage our precious marine environment," the DFA said.

"The well-being of millions of people who depend on the South China Sea for their livelihood is at stake," it also said.

China rejects use of Arbitral Ruling in int'l tribunal

In the same tribunal hearing, China reiterated its position that it is not recognizing the 2016 Arbitral Award on the South China Sea as it delivered its oral statement in ITLOS.

"China notices that some States mentioned the so-called South China 41 Sea arbitration awards in their written and oral statements," said Ma Xinmin, director-general, Department of Treaty and Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

"The position of China on this issue is clear and consistent," he stressed. "The arbitral tribunal in the South China Sea arbitration acted ultra vires, erred in fact-finding, misinterpreted and perverted the law in adjudication."

"The so-called 'awards' are null and void and should not be 45 invoked as a legal basis," the official added

Beijing also said that ITLOS does not have the advisory competence to grant the request of small island nations.

FINANCIAL TIMES

NY climate week: Yellen warns of 'significant economic costs' of climate change By: Aime Williams and Brooke Masters

US Treasury secretary Janet Yellen announced a series of voluntary "principles" to spur more private sector cash into climate and clean energy projects and combat greenwashing, in response to what she described as the "significant economic costs" from global warming.

In a speech delivered in New York during climate week, taking place alongside the UN general assembly, Yellen warned that record heatwaves and unprecedented wildfires threatened to be a major economic drag.

Yellen said that climate change presented an investment opportunity for US companies, citing research estimating more than \$3tn was needed to cut emissions each year between now and 2050, including in the US.

At the same time, the heads of state of 17 countries including France, Spain, Denmark and Kenya, said investment in technologies such as carbon capture and storage had only a "minimal" role to play in decarbonising energy systems. The technology is not yet operating at scale, yet is relied upon by fossil fuel producers to make a case for new projects.

"We cannot use it to greenlight fossil fuel expansion," said the country leaders. "Restoring and protecting carbon sinks should be a top priority. We must set and meet ambitious global targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency, as part of a just and equitable transition that delivers global clean energy access."

Yellen also emphasised that financial institutions' net zero greenhouse gas emission commitments should promote "consistency and credibility".

"Without considering these factors, financial institutions risk being left behind with stranded assets, outdated business models and missed opportunities to invest in the growing clean energy economy," Yellen said.

The Treasury recommendations included that financial institutions' climate commitments should use credible metrics, develop an implementation strategy, be transparent about their pledges and progress, and account for environmental justice. be in line with limiting the rise in global temperatures to 1.5C since pre-industrial times.

The world has already warmed by at least 1.1C and endured its hottest June to August season on record.

At the New York climate week event, Yellen also met with finance executives including BlackRock chief executive Larry Fink and HSBC chief executive Noel Quinn to discuss the measures.

Alongside the Treasury announcement, the coalition of financial institutions, known as Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero, launched a consultation document on strategies for financial institutions.

The paper by Gfanz, which is co-chaired by former Bank of England governor Mark Carney, aims to develop ways to measure reductions of emissions through technologies, the phaseout of major polluting assets such as coal plants, or funding companies that have plans to shift their business in line with a goal to limit global warming to 1.5C.

However, the Gfanz plan allows for absolute emissions to continue to rise temporarily.

"These frameworks support financing companies with high emissions that have credible plans to get them down," said Carney. "It is a viable strategy to see your portfolio emissions go up while you are financing to get emissions in the businesses you're investing in down."

The world's 60 largest banks by assets have invested \$5.5tn in the fossil fuel industry since the Paris accord in 2015 to limit global warming was signed by almost 200 countries, data from the Rainforest Action Network campaign group has shown.

GMA

Philippines backs small island-states' bid for protection vs. climate change

The Philippines has expressed support to the call of small island states for protection against the impact of climate change, seeking an advisory opinion from an international tribunal on the obligations of nations to mitigate it.

In an oral statement before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany, Ambassador and Permanent Representative Carlos Sorreta of the Philippine Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva said, "staying a step ahead of climate change is the existential challenge for us all."

He said the Philippines itself has been devastated by strong typhoons and droughts as a result of the changing climate and sea levels.

Sorreta said the Philippines submits that ITLOS "has jurisdiction to give an advisory opinion" in response to the request submitted by the Commission of Small Island States (COSIS).

Composed of small islands from the Pacific and Caribbean, COSIS was formed to seek climate justice from ITLOS amid the threat of rising sea levels they are facing.

Ministers representing the COSIS have argued before the tribunal that countries have an obligation to protect the marine environment under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Sorreta said, "There exist no compelling reason for the tribunal to decline giving an advisory opinion, rather what exist are compelling reasons for the tribunal to exercise its discretion and issue an advisory."

"The advisory opinion should rule that there are specific identifiable obligations on the part of the state parties to UNCLOS to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment in relation to the deleterious effects of climate change," the Philippine official said.

He added that existing norms and general principles of international law support and reinforce these obligations.

Department of Foreign Affairs' Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office Assistant Secretary Maria Angela A. Ponce and Assistant Solicitor General Gilbert U. Medrano of the Office of the Solicitor General also spoke before the tribunal.

ITLOS is an independent judicial body established by the UNCLOS to adjudicate disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of the Convention.

KHALEEJ TIMES

<u>COP28 President-designate commits to put health at centre of climate</u> discussions

By: WAM

Dr Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President-designate, has vowed that COP28 will drive international action on climate and health, with the first-ever Health Day and climate-health ministerial at a COP acting as a ground-breaking opportunity to determine steps towards equitable, climate-resilient health systems and mobilise vital investment in the sector.

Speaking against the backdrop of the United Nations General Assembly and New York Climate Week, alongside Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), and Dr Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of Malawi, Dr Al Jaber called on the international community to support the day and ministerial, which will be co-hosted with the WHO and several countries.

He stressed the importance of addressing the crucial connection between climate change and health. He said: "The connection between health and climate change is evident, yet it has not been a specific focus of the COP process — until now. This must change."

He continued: "As we prepare for the groundbreaking Health Day at COP28, we are resolute in our determination to address the challenges posed to health by climate change and encourage ambitious investment in the health sector. Our goal is to build resilient, equitable health systems capable of withstanding the impact of climate change."

He went on to thank the country champions, Brazil, the UK, the USA, the Netherlands, Kenya, Fiji, India, Egypt, Sierra Leone, and Germany for their work to lead the climate health discussions at COP28.

During his remarks, Dr Al Jaber highlighted the risks climate change poses to human health, including shifting disease patterns, expanding vectors, and the resurgence of previously contained diseases.

He noted that WHO statistics reveal that air pollution alone leads to seven million excess deaths annually and that vector-borne diseases, such as Malaria, are expanding their reach due to rising temperatures and changing weather patterns, disproportionately affecting vulnerable communities.

Alongside this growing threat, the COP28 Health Day – scheduled for December 3 – will also take into account the fragility of public health systems worldwide, as exposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the urgent need for transformative changes to adapt these systems in response to climate change.

"COP28 is determined to shine a light on these issues and to bring together partners who can make a positive difference. We are determined to reverse these trends by bringing the world together around an inclusive action agenda centered around a just transition, fairer climate finance and improved lives and livelihoods." Dr Al Jaber said.

Finance will also be a priority during COP28's Health Day. The financial toll of health crises attributed to climate change is estimated to reach between \$2-4 billion annually by 2030, exacerbating poverty, particularly in disadvantaged regions. The World Bank projects that nearly 40 percent of climate-related poverty will result from the direct health impacts of climate change, impacting productivity, income, and health expenses.

In his remarks, Dr Al Jaber called for increased concessional funds to the Global South to lower risks and attract private capital. He emphasised the need to rebalance finance and called on governments to double adaptation finance by 2025, urging them to contribute generously to replenish the Green Climate Fund.

Dr Al Jaber also underscored the significance of investing in health as a crucial aspect of climate resilience, emphasising that these expenses should be viewed as investments rather than costs. According to the World Bank, every dollar invested in building climate resilience yields an average benefit of four dollars.

As such, he called on financial institutions, including development banks, to prioritise climate-health investments. Dr Al Jaber commended the leadership of organisations such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Green Climate Fund, the Rockefeller Foundation for their commitment to closing the climate-health financing gap at COP28.

During the session, Dr Al Jaber highlighted the UAE's legacy and leadership to safeguard human health. He underscored the commitment of the Founding Father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, and the President, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to prioritise the lives and livelihoods of people.

He highlighted initiatives such as "Reaching the Last Mile", which, through Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, has committed over \$455 million to improve global health outcomes, with an emphasis on supporting resilient health systems that best serve vulnerable communities.

The UN event, "Looking Forward Towards COP's First-Ever Day of Health: Advancing A Bold Vision for Action, Equity, and Accountability", featured prominent figures including Adnan Amin, CEO of COP28; and Dr. Maria Neira, Director of the Department of Environment, Climate Change, and Health at the WHO. The session was moderated by Vanessa Kerry, WHO's Special Envoy on Climate Change and Health.

The COP28 Presidency's Action Agenda outlines a science-based, action-oriented plan focused on charting a new course to address the climate crisis. It combines passion with pragmatism and ambition with realism.

Health sits within the part of the Agenda that focuses on people, lives, and livelihoods. This also includes the creation of a Food Declaration aimed at mobilising political commitment to drive positive changes in systems, enhance food security, and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, COP28 will feature the first-ever climate-Health Ministerial Declaration and a significant mobilisation of nature-climate finance on a large scale.

The other three focus areas include fast-tracking the energy transition, fixing climate finance, and ensuring a fully inclusive COP28.

POLITIKO

<u>Yamsuan seeks to institutionalize use of tailor-made crop climate calendars</u> By: Billy Begas

Bicol Saro party-list Rep. Brian Raymund Yamsuan has introduced a measure seeking to institutionalize the use of crop climate calendars tailor-made for each specific locality.

Yamsuan said his proposal would help farmers harness the power of science and technology to better adapt to the challenges posed by climate change.

Under the proposed Climate-Resilient Agriculture Act (House Bill 9129), crop climate calendars must be presented in simple English, Filipino, or the dialect where it will be used to ensure they can be easily understood.

"The traditional crop calendars distributed to farmers should be improved by coming up with crop climate calendars that would equip farmers with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions in helping secure the country's food production, amid the disruptions brought about by climate change on their planting and harvesting schedules," Yamsuan said.

To enhance the usefulness of the crop climate calendar, the measure will tap the expertise of the Philippine Space Agency (PSA) to provide satellite data.

"Institutionalizing the use crop climate calendars can reduce the risk of crop losses and also assist farmers in determining how best to maximize the use of water and fertilizers in line with the country's commitment to sustainable farming," the solon added.

Crop climate calendars refer to visual tools that present cultivation practices against the timeline of the cropping season and the risks faced by a crop per growing stage in relation to changes in climate and weather conditions.

"The government should be able to catch up with fast-changing technological applications to enable our farmers to harness the power of space and science in developing innovative farming and adapting to the disruptions triggered by climate change," Yamsuan added.

Yamsuan said his proposal will benefit about 9.7 million farmers, of which around 708,000 are employed in the Bicol Region.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

PTV

<u>Climate Change Commission, nanguna sa coastal cleanup bilang pakikiisa sa</u>

<u>National Cleanup Month</u>

Nagkaroo ng coastal clean-up drive sa pangunguna ng Climate Change Commission o CCC. Ang mga ganitong hakbangin ay nagpapakita ng kahalagahang koletibong aksyon upang protektahan ang mga mangrove ecosystem sa bansa.

Sa pangunguna ng Climate Change Commission at pakikipagtulungan ng iba't ibang sektor at komunidad isinagawa ang isang coastal clean-up drive sa Tanza Marine Tree Park. Bilang bahagi na rin ng paggunita sa National clean-up month ngayong Setyembre

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

CCC boosts Palawan LGUs' capacity to combat climate change change By: Jelly Musico

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has conducted a series of capacity-building activities here to strengthen the province's Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) and facilitate access to the People's Survival Fund (PSF).

The recent training workshop on Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plan (eLCCAP) provided a comprehensive understanding of the key components of the LCCAP and knowledge about developing science-based and risk-informed plans.

Among the topics discussed were understanding climate projections and Climate Extremes Risk Analysis Matrix, an introduction to the eLCCAP formulation process, climate and disaster risk assessment (CDRA) procedures and an overview of community-level greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and data requirements.

The methodologies for estimating GHG emissions across sectors, a walk-through of the GHG Inventory (GHGI) Toolkit, climate change expenditure tagging, and the PSF process were also tackled during the training workshop.

A total of 78 representatives of 23 local government units (LGUs) participated in the training workshop, representing various offices, such as the Planning and Development Office, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Agriculture Office, Environment and Natural Resource Office, as well as members of the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners (PIEP) Palawan Chapter.

"We recognize the vital role of LGUs in adaptation and climate resilience. Through these capacity-building activities, we aim to enhance the capacity of our LGUs to access and utilize the PSF in initiatives that will help their communities become more resilient to the impacts of climate change," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said in a news release on Tuesday.

He said the CCC remains steadfast in providing the necessary support and resources to strengthen the capabilities of LGUs throughout the country.

This commitment includes the continuous provision of capacity-building programs focused on CDRA, GHGI, and PSF proposal development, as well as establishing a contact group mechanism between CCC, LGUs, the provincial government of Palawan, and PIEP-Palawan to monitor the progress of LGUs' eLCCAP development.

"We will continue working closely with the province of Palawan, along with other LGUs in the country, to ensure the successful implementation of the eLCCAP and further enhance resilience against climate change impacts," Borje said.

The LCCAP serves as a roadmap for local-level climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, outlining specific actions and measures tailored to the unique needs and vulnerabilities of each locality.

The submission of the LCCAP is a key deliverable mandated by Republic Act 9729, or the Climate Change Act, and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Memorandum Circular 2021-068.

As of Aug. 23, about 85.95 percent or 1,474 out of 1,715 LGUs across the country have successfully submitted their LCCAPs to the CCC with Palawan achieving a 100 percent compliance rate.

The CCC is actively collaborating with the DILG-Local Government Agency and other relevant partners to equip LGUs and other stakeholders with the knowledge and skills required to develop effective climate action plans and implement climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

Aside from LGUs, a total of 167 state universities and colleges and higher education institutions have also gained from the CCC's activities.

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