NEWS ROUNDUP
29 OCTOBER 2026 | 08:00 am

- Climate change must be declared 'global health emergency'—study
- US data center buildout risks erasing climate progress
- Climate change must be declared 'global health emergency'- study
- 'Climate change a global health emergency'
- Palawan to see warm weather, isolated thunderstorms; shear line to bring rain to parts of Mimaropa
- Minors identified in mangrove destruction in Matina Aplaya
- Climate damage to Philippine ports could cost US$70b a year by 2100
- Forum highlights need for climate resilience

CCC IN THE NEWS:

- Prime Infra, CCC partner to advance climate action
- Prime Infra, Climate Change Commission team up on climate action
- CCC, Prime Infra partner to advance sustainability efforts for climate adaptation and mitigation
- Govt partners with private firm for climate action plans

ABS CBN

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Forum highlights need for climate resilience
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THE imperative to build climate-resilient food systems in the Philippines has become more urgent as the country grapples with the escalating impact of climate change, which can be worsened by the upcoming very strong El Niño.

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Minors identified in mangrove destruction in Matina Aplaya

THREE minors were identified as the individuals involved in the destruction of 117 mangrove seedlings at a rehabilitation site in Purok Tabok, Barangay Matina Aplaya, Talomo District, Davao City, earlier this month, a volunteer group said.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT

Prime Infra, CCC partner to advance climate action
By: Jed Macapagal

Prime Infrastructure Capital Inc. (Prime Infra) and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) have signed a memorandum of understanding to support national climate priorities and strengthen local governments' capacity to address climate change.

MANILA STANDARD

Prime Infra, Climate Change Commission team up on climate action
By: Alena Mae S. Flores

Prime Infrastructure Capital Inc. and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) signed an umbrella memorandum of understanding on Oct. 20 to strengthen climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in the Philippines.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

CCC, Prime Infra partner to advance sustainability efforts for climate adaptation and mitigation

PASAY CITY, Philippines — The Climate Change Commission (CCC) and Prime Infrastructure Capital, Inc. (Prime Infra) signed a partnership agreement to translate national climate priorities into local action. The partnership aims to advance sustainability initiatives for climate adaptation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help build a more climate-resilient Philippines.

THE MANILA TIMES

Govt partners with private firm for climate action plans
By Giselle P. Jordan

RIME Infra, a company with businesses in water, waste management and energy, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Climate Change Commission (CCC) to help communities prepare for weather disruptions and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

ABS CBN

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"That's roughly equivalent to the entire population of Wales being wiped out in the space of eight years due to heat," she told a news conference.

And "68 percent of those deaths are directly attributable to climate change."

The legally binding international climate treaty adopted in the French capital aimed to limit global warming to well below 2C and pursue efforts to keep it to 1.5C compared to pre-industrial levels.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

Romanello said the global health emergency due to climate change should have "an integrated approach so that we're not responding to emergency after emergency".

Instead she called for "a cohesive long-term response that builds resilience, builds capacities, and builds the possibilities of countries to avoid further emergencies moving forward".

To determine the share of deaths attributable to warming caused by human activity, the researchers compiled the number of heat-related deaths recorded by states, then subtracted those that would have occurred in the absence of climate change, said Professor Ollie Jay of the University of Sydney.

Jay said the intensity and frequency of periods of intense heat were amplified by climate change, pointing out that last year an extreme drought affected more than half of the world's land surface for at least one month.

ECONOMIC COST

By reducing worker productivity, warming has cost the global economy more than one trillion dollars per year over the past three years, the researchers said.

Southeast Asia and Africa, the hardest-hit regions, are estimated to have lost the equivalent of 3.9 percent and 3.2 percent of their GDP, compared with 0.2 percent for Europe and 1.5 percent for the Americas.

However there has been concrete progress in some areas.

Since 2016, 56 of the WHO's 194 member states have adapted their health and early-warning systems to anticipate extreme events.

Investment in clean energy reached $2.1 trillion in 2025 -- double that of the amount invested in fossil fuels, which cause climate change.

However fossil fuels still account for 80 percent of global energy, causing air pollution that results in 2.73 million deaths per year, the study said.

Meanwhile, roughly 323,000 deaths have been avoided in "at least" 77 countries where air pollution from fossil fuels has fallen since 2016, according to the report.

Although funding for climate-related medical research has increased sevenfold to reach $316 million in 2024, 84 percent of these funds go to researchers in wealthy countries, even though the least developed nations are the most affected by the growing climate-related health threats.

Romanello said this year for the first time the researchers' work was complicated by the disappearance of certain data sources, particularly from the United States, such as fossil fuel subsidies, which have not been made public by the US authorities.

And for the past two years, global geopolitical instability has pushed global warming and its health impact into the background, she said, stressing that inaction was exacerbating the situation.

BUSINESS MIRROR

US data center buildout risks erasing climate progress

By: Eric Roston & Olivia Raimonde

The surge in construction of fossil-fueled power plants to run AI data centers is set to undo 15 years' worth of greenhouse gas reductions from US electricity generation, according to an internal analysis by the Sierra Club.

The US power sector would emit 2.1 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2030, after factoring in planned AI projects. That's 618 million tons more than 2025 levels, by the Sierra Club's calculations, or about a 42 percent increase.

A year and a half ago, researchers at the nonprofit environmental group would have estimated that the buildout and its impact would have been a quarter or half of current projections, said Jeremy Fisher, the Sierra Club's principal advisor for climate and energy. "The numbers continue to sort of boggle our minds," he said.

Many data center developers are turning to natural gas to meet the immense electricity demand, relying on power sources that are both on and off the grid. The bulk of the expected emissions by 2030 would come from sources that are not directly linked to the grid, often built by tech companies to avoid the long wait for a connection. These could exceed 460 million tons, Fisher said, roughly the same as the annual emissions of Mexico.

Helen Kou, a BloombergNEF analyst, said if there's significant growth in gas power for new facilities, "you would presume emissions would increase from year to date."

But how much is a difficult question to answer. There's so much uncertainty in the projections for power emissions that the lowest and highest estimates differ by more electricity than the combined demand of California and Florida.

The Sierra Club's estimate of the climate impacts of the data center buildout is higher than others released so far. The wide range of projections is due to questions around how many facilities will actually be built, what technologies they will ultimately use and how much renewable energy capacity comes online over the next few years.

The environmental nonprofit Union of Concerned Scientists in January projected that fossil-fuel-powered electricity for data centers could increase US power-sector emissions by 19 percent to 29 percent, or as much as 342 million tons a year by 2035. US and Canadian researchers in June published a journal article projecting a 28 percent rise in the sector's emissions.

Other forecasts see US electricity continuing to decarbonize as economically competitive renewables outperform fossil fuels, despite the data center boom. Rhodium Group, a research

firm that projects energy use and CO2, finds that in its highest-emission scenario for 2040 that the sector's greenhouse gas emissions fall 24 percent below their 2025 level.

If the rush to build AI data centers leads to the upper bounds of the emissions projected by these researchers, it represents a reversal of a two-decade economic and policy trend toward less US power-sector climate pollution.

Electricity emissions peaked in 2007. In 2009, thanks to advances in hydraulic fracturing, the US became the world's largest natural gas producer. The fracking boom in turn drove down the price of natural gas, displacing dirtier coal plants across the US. Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency wrote regulations to dial down carbon from power plants, and former President Joe Biden aimed to decarbonize the grid completely by 2035.

Today, natural gas prices are historically low and President Donald Trump has undertaken a dramatic rollback of climate rules. That helped nudge US power-sector emissions back up in 2025.

The Sierra Club analysis draws on public filings and other groups' data center projections, including the Environmental Integrity Project's count of expected plants and emissions by 2030.

Grid-connected generators alone would increase 2030 baseline emissions by 10%, or 154 million tons of CO2. Then there are the bring-your-own-power projects. Four-fifths of the energy for those could come from natural gas, according to a separate analysis by Earthjustice and Better Data Center Project. The increased local air and climate pollution from such plants has already helped stoke opposition to data centers across the country.

If all the projected data centers do end up being built on time, and with new natural gas fueling inefficient turbines 24/7 at some facilities, that could drive power emissions up, said Brendan Pierpont, director of electricity at Energy Innovation, a non-partisan energy and climate policy think tank.

"There's certainly a risk that that's enough emissions to push us back many years of our progress on reducing power-sector emissions," he said. "But it's not a foregone conclusion that that's going to happen."

But Pierpont said it's challenging to model data-center emissions when little is known about factors like backlogs of gas turbine orders, wait times for grid connections or myriad other things that can slow or halt projects.

"There's just enormous uncertainty, both around the scale of data center demand that ultimately gets built and gets added as well as the power supply strategy," Pierpont said.

Many projects could be delayed or canceled. Just last month Oracle Corp. submitted a force majeure notice to the developer of its Project Jupiter data center in New Mexico, saying there is

a risk that it won't come online by 2028 as planned due to regulatory setbacks and community opposition.

"The big question of the day is trying to create an accurate forecast of project demand," BloombergNEF's Kou said.

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Climate change impact

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Economic cost

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Weather forecaster Obet Badrina said Palawan and other areas outside the main rain-bearing weather systems could experience showers or thunderstorms, particularly in the afternoon and evening.

"Sa bahagi po ng Palawan, Visayas, at Mindanao, inaasahan natin ang maalinsangang panahon," Badrina said.

Temperatures in Puerto Princesa City are forecast to range from 24°C to 33°C. In the Kalayaan Islands, temperatures will range from 26°C to 32°C.

Across Mimaropa, conditions will vary. Marinduque and Oriental Mindoro are among the areas forecast to experience cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms associated with the shear line, where cold air from the northeast monsoon meets warm air from the Pacific.

Other parts of Mimaropa will have generally fair weather, although localized thunderstorms could still bring rain. The briefing did not provide separate temperature forecasts for Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque or Romblon.

The northeast monsoon, or amihan, and the shear line are the two weather systems affecting the country, Badrina said. The amihan is bringing light rain to parts of northern Luzon, while the shear line is affecting areas farther south.

PAGASA was monitoring no low-pressure area inside or outside the Philippine Area of Responsibility during the briefing.

"Makikita po natin sa ngayon, wala po tayong minomonitor na low pressure area sa loob at labas ng Philippine Area of Responsibility," Badrina said.

He said the likelihood of a tropical cyclone developing over the coming weekend remained low.

For people planning trips for Undas, however, the weekend outlook could bring a change in conditions over Palawan. Badrina said the intertropical convergence zone, or ITCZ, could bring cloudy skies to the province, as well as parts of the Visayas and Mindanao.

The shear line could meanwhile shift toward northern Luzon, bringing cloudy skies there. Much of the rest of Luzon is expected to have generally fair weather during the weekend.

For sea travel, PAGASA reported that no gale warning was in effect anywhere in the country at the time of the briefing.

“Sa ngayon po, wala po tayong naka-issue na gale warning sa anumang bahagi ng ating kapuluan,” Badrina said.

He nevertheless reminded operators of small boats to exercise caution when thunderstorms occur. The absence of a gale warning should not be treated as an assurance that conditions will remain safe throughout a trip.

Badrina also explained that El Niño does not mean rainfall will stop. Weather systems such as the amihan, shear line, easterlies and ITCZ can still bring rain, even when rainfall totals are below normal.

He said temperatures could average above normal, although periods of cooler weather from amihan surges remain possible.

Residents and travelers were advised to follow PAGASA’s succeeding forecasts and advisories, particularly for changes in the weekend outlook and conditions at sea.

THE MANILA TIMES

Forum highlights need for climate resilience

By:Ludwig Federigan

THE imperative to build climate-resilient food systems in the Philippines has become more urgent as the country grapples with the escalating impact of climate change, which can be worsened by the upcoming very strong El Niño.

This theme took center stage at the forum titled "Beyond El Niño: Building Climate-Resilient Food Systems," held on Oct. 22, 2026, at Solaire North, Quezon City.

Jointly organized by the Stratbase and the Embassy of Israel in the Philippines, the first panel discussion titled "Driving Productivity, Strengthening Food Security: Addressing the Philippines' Agricultural Challenges Through Innovation and Technology" convened to explore actionable solutions to production volatility and infrastructure deficiencies.

The panel brought together a diverse range of expertise to address these challenges: U-Nichols Manalo, Assistant Secretary for Operations at the Department of Agriculture (DA); Fermin Adriano, former DA undersecretary; Herbert Betz, Philippine Representative for Anyway Solutions; Lior Asaf, Director of the Hydrology Division and Project Team Leader for the Feasibility Study of Waterways and Canals for the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) under the DA; and James Amparo, Asean-Business Advisory Council Senior Adviser for Food Security and Agriculture, and president of Yovel East Research and Development Inc.

The panelists emphasized that incremental improvements are insufficient for agriculture to become climate resilient. Instead, a systemic transformation is required.

Adriano and Manalo provided critical policy perspectives, underscoring the government's role in facilitating an environment where innovation can thrive at the grassroots level. They highlighted that policy must bridge the gap between high-level research and the practical needs of smallholder farmers.

Technological adoption emerged as a recurring theme. Betz and Asaf illustrated how targeted investments in precision agriculture and data-driven infrastructure can mitigate risks. Specifically, they pointed to the potential of advanced hydrological studies and canal development in managing water resources more effectively, a vital component of resilience against both drought and flooding.

The panelists reached a consensus on several key pillars for future agricultural planning:

Climate-smart infrastructure – Shifting from reactive disaster management to proactive infrastructure development, such as improved irrigation systems that can withstand extreme weather events.

Data-driven planning – Utilizing real-time agricultural and hydrological data for planting cycles, resource allocation, and market projections, which can reduce waste and enhance productivity.

Strengthen logistics – Addressing the critical bottleneck of farm-to-market connectivity. Innovation in post-harvest technology and logistics is essential to ensure that increased productivity translates directly into higher incomes for farmers and lower prices for consumers.

The forum served as a vital platform for aligning these disparate but interconnected strategies. By integrating the technical expertise represented by Anyway Solutions with the regulatory and operational experience of the Department of Agriculture, the panel successfully reframed the agricultural challenge not just as a burden of vulnerability, but as an opportunity for technological leapfrogging.

The goal articulated by the speakers was clear: to transform the Philippine agricultural sector into a robust, technology-driven enterprise. By investing in the tools of resilience, from hydrological engineering to digital logistics, the Philippines can move beyond the cyclical threats of the El Niño, ensuring a stable and productive food system for years to come.

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

Climate damage to Philippine ports could cost US$70b a year by 2100

By: Sam Beltran

Rising seas and fiercer typhoons threaten to paralyse trade lines, driving up food costs and devastating coastal communities

The Philippines faces the highest climate-driven port damage costs in Southeast Asia, with annual losses projected to hit US$70.2 billion by 2100, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has warned.
Analysts say the damage could cripple supply chains, drive up food prices and threaten livelihoods, urging Manila to adopt a more coordinated approach to flood protection rather than simply strengthening port infrastructure.

In its latest report titled “Asia-Pacific Climate Report 2026: Coastal Risks on the Rise – Actions for a Resilient Future”, the ADB said the Philippines could sustain US$20.6 billion in port damage under a moderate-emissions scenario, in which sea levels were projected to rise by 50cm to 80cm.

A high-emissions scenario where sea levels could rise up to 1 metre could see annual port damages climb to US$70.2 billion by 2100.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the Philippines only trails China, with projected annual losses ranging from US$82.2 billion to US$332 billion, while India’s projections are from US$70 billion to US$254 billion, which would be expected to include the cost of repairing damaged port infrastructure and losses from maritime trade disruption.

Port damage can disrupt operations, delay shipments and interrupt supply chains that businesses and communities rely on for essential goods.

“Because these networks link farms to markets, fishers to buyers, and households to health services and food supplies, their disruption cascades directly into livelihoods, nutrition, and well-being,” said the report, released last Wednesday.

“The extent of exposed infrastructure is likely to increase as urban development increasingly puts these built assets in harm’s way.”

In September, the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), the agency tasked with regulating and managing the country’s seaports, said that it had embarked on efforts to strengthen its infrastructure, including climate- and disaster-resilient measures, to ensure business continuity and that ports could withstand typhoons and earthquakes and continue moving essential items in times of emergencies.

“We continue to conduct drills, test different scenarios, strengthen coordination, and improve our infrastructure so that when a disaster comes, our ports can continue serving as safe and reliable lifelines for the country,” PPA general manager Jay Santiago said in a statement.

This Week in Asia has reached out to the authority for comments on the ADB report.

Manuel Jose Camagay, a transport, urban and logistics specialist, said the Philippines bore higher logistics costs than its neighbours in mainland Southeast Asia.

“Ports are gateways to supply chains and natural disasters play the crucial villainous role of disrupting the normal flow of goods and people across the country,” he said.

Ven Paolo Valenzuela, a research fellow at Singapore Management University’s College of Integrative Studies, said that when ports failed in an archipelagic country, the whole economy would stumble.

“We’re very dependent on ports. Your food prices spike, your supply chain is severely disrupted, and post-typhoon relief cannot access devastated islands or coastal communities,” Valenzuela said.

He echoed the report’s implications, adding that port damage created a compounding effect, from physical destruction to longer operational downtime.

Valenzuela added that sea level rise was not the sole factor that could devastate ports, though it amplified other hazards such as coastal flooding from storm surges, powerful winds from intensifying tropical cyclones and coastal erosion in port areas.

“Because of that, the disruption ripples across industries’ supply chains. You cannot move goods from Luzon to Visayas without going through a port,” he said, calling the problem a “big gap”.

More than 20 typhoons hit the Philippines each year, affecting ports that dot its coasts.

Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 showed “how storm surges can wipe out ports and the communities around them”, Valenzuela said.

Camagay said that port damage was tantamount to trade and economic loss due to shipment delays and disruptions of basic commodities, losses of raw materials and equipment to continue operations, higher cost of goods and forgone income when deadlines were not met.

He also called ports “employment magnets” given their appeal to flocks of migrant workers living in urban areas around these ports.

Such communities were directly affected by port damage and coastal flooding, Valenzuela said, adding that Metro Manila's main port complex, which handled the bulk of the country's international and domestic container throughput, was vulnerable to storm surges, coastal flooding and knock-on effects of groundwater extraction.

Other coastal hubs such as Iloilo, Cebu, Batangas, Subic, Davao and Cagayan de Oro were seeing rapid urbanisation in flood-prone zones that outpaced the building of drainage and other protective infrastructure, he said.

Beyond port infrastructure
Valenzuela said the Philippines lacked the means to protect its ports against climate change.

"Technically, we know how to elevate and climate-proof ports – my own research in Japan proves it can be done sequentially without halting trade," he said.

"It's easy to defend the port itself, but if the surrounding infrastructure isn't planned as a system, it doesn't matter how nice your defences are."

Valenzuela said that raising a port to address sea level rise would be "pointless" if drainage systems from the land were blocked and if the challenges of land sinking were not addressed.

As for seismic risks, the Philippines cannot afford to ignore them, as it is a country prone to earthquakes, according to Valenzuela.

Meanwhile, the Philippines could look to Indonesia and Singapore to learn how these countries had progressively upgraded their port facilities to mitigate climate impact without causing disruptions to cargo operations, he said.

Indonesia had deployed floating piers, pontoons and logistics bases that could adjust to rising water levels, Valenzuela said.

Singapore had been protecting its ports as part of its national efforts against rising sea levels, anchored by a multibillion-dollar coastal and flood protection fund, he added.

Camagay said that at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations level, the bloc could also do its part to mitigate climate damage such as through its proposed adoption of green shipping operations, he added.

"The goal is to reduce, if not eliminate, the carbon footprint not only from the sea vessels but also from the cargo, the packaging and the use of plastics and anything that impacts the environment."

SUNSTAR

Minors identified in mangrove destruction in Matina Aplaya

THREE minors were identified as the individuals involved in the destruction of 117 mangrove seedlings at a rehabilitation site in Purok Tabok, Barangay Matina Aplaya, Talomo District, Davao City, earlier this month, a volunteer group said.

In an update posted on Facebook on October 22, 2026, LakBai Tinabangay Volunteers Inc. said it accompanied the three individuals' guardians to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR-Cenro) in Bangkal, where it confirmed they are minors.

The group said it is arranging restorative measures, including a tree-planting activity with the minors and their guardians, to help them understand the importance of mangroves and environmental protection. It said it will submit the necessary affidavits and other documents to the concerned authorities.

The group said it will not post any photos, videos, or identifying information about the minors, and asked the public to refrain from sharing content that could identify them.

As of writing, DENR-Davao has yet to issue a public statement on the update.

DENR measures

In a statement on Oct. 7, the DENR Davao Region said the seedlings were damaged in an incident reported on Oct. 3, and were found smashed during an inspection by Cenro-Davao City personnel on Oct. 5.

Before the minors were identified, the agency said initial findings suggested the seedlings may have been intentionally damaged, and that it would pursue legal and administrative action if warranted.

DENR-Davao Regional Executive Director Ma. Mercedes Dumagan said the agency is also strengthening efforts to protect mangrove rehabilitation sites across the region.

"Proposed measures include the installation of warning signs, intensified environmental awareness campaigns, and increased monitoring through community partners and enforcement personnel," Dumagan said.

Community volunteers, including LakBai Tinabangay Volunteers, Sta. Ana Shrine Parish and Holy Cross of Davao College.

Tagum planting

Meanwhile, the Department of Education (DepEd) Tagum City Division led a mangrove planting activity at Hijo Resorts in Barangay Madaum, Tagum City, on Saturday, October 24, as part of its climate change adaptation and mitigation program.

Disaster risk reduction and management focal persons from DepEd's regional office in Davao and its central office joined local partners from Hijo Resorts in planting mangrove seedlings in selected coastal areas, DepEd Tagum City said in a Facebook post.

DENR said mangroves help protect coastal communities by reducing erosion and weakening storm surges. They also serve as breeding grounds for marine life and absorb carbon from the atmosphere.

Nationwide, the agency said on Oct. 18 that it is expanding forest protection and reforestation, including mangrove planting, to help ecosystems withstand the effects of El Niño. GRS

CCC IN THE NEWS:

MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT

Prime Infra, CCC partner to advance climate action
By: Jed Macapagal

Prime Infrastructure Capital Inc. (Prime Infra) and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) have signed a memorandum of understanding to support national climate priorities and strengthen local governments' capacity to address climate change.

In a joint statement on Monday, the parties said the partnership would support the implementation of the Philippines' National Adaptation Plan and Nationally Determined Contribution.

Cooperation will include helping local government units strengthen their Local Climate Change Action Plans and integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into local development plans and programs.

The partnership will also help build local capacity to access climate financing, including the People's Survival Fund, and prepare greenhouse gas inventories. Watershed protection will be supported through Prime Infra's sustainability platform, Prime Kalikasan.Hire Lawyers

"The partnership that this agreement fosters is a great combination between the CCC's leadership in driving the mandate and initiatives of the government and our experience in developing and operating projects," Guillaume Lucci, Prime Infra president and chief executive officer, said.

"The private sector plays a vital role in protecting local communities from the impacts of climate change. Through partnerships that mobilize private sector expertise, resources, and innovation, we can strengthen community resilience and support climate solutions that respond to local needs. By working together, we can turn national climate priorities into concrete action that protects lives and livelihoods," Robert Borje, CCC vice chairperson and executive director, said.

The CCC is the country's lead policymaking body on climate change. It coordinates and evaluates government climate programs and works to integrate climate policies into national, sectoral and local development planning.

Prime Infra develops, invests in and operates infrastructure assets in essential utilities, energy security and the energy transition.

MANILA STANDARD

Prime Infra, Climate Change Commission team up on climate action

By: Alena Mae S. Flores

Prime Infrastructure Capital Inc. and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) signed an umbrella memorandum of understanding on Oct. 20 to strengthen climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in the Philippines.

The partnership will support national climate priorities, including the Philippines' National Adaptation Plan and Nationally Determined Contribution. It combines government policy expertise with private-sector capabilities to strengthen climate resilience, ecological stewardship and local capacity building.

Prime Infra president and chief executive Guillaume Lucci said climate resilience is central to the company's businesses and operations.

"Whether it is dealing with watersheds and securing water supply for our customers, or addressing emissions through our waste management processes, or ensuring that our projects truly make a positive impact on the communities where we operate, climate resilience is something we take as a central element and very seriously," Lucci said.

"The partnership that this agreement fosters is a great combination between the CCC's leadership in driving the mandate and initiatives of the government and our experience in developing and operating projects," he said.

Under the agreement, the parties will cooperate on capacity-building for local government units to strengthen their Local Climate Change Action Plans. The efforts also aim to integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into local development plans and programs.

Other areas include building capacity to access climate financing such as the People's Survival Fund and to prepare greenhouse gas inventories. The partners will also support watershed protection through Prime Infra's sustainability platform, Prime Kalikasan.

"The private sector plays a vital role in protecting local communities from the impacts of climate change. Through partnerships that mobilize private sector expertise, resources and innovation, we can strengthen community resilience and support climate solutions that respond to local needs," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert Borje said.

"By working together, we can turn national climate priorities into concrete action that protects lives and livelihoods," he said.
Lucci and Borje also signed a memorandum of agreement for Prime Infra's support of the Philippine Hub at the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Prime Infra, led by businessman Enrique Razon Jr., operates in 3 core sectors: essential utilities, energy security and energy transition. Its businesses span water supply, waste management, natural gas, power generation and pumped storage hydropower.

The CCC is the country's lead policymaking body on climate change under the Climate Change Act of 2009. It coordinates and evaluates government programs on climate change and works to mainstream climate policies into national, sectoral and local development planning.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

CCC, Prime Infra partner to advance sustainability efforts for climate adaptation and mitigation

PASAY CITY, Philippines — The Climate Change Commission (CCC) and Prime Infrastructure Capital, Inc. (Prime Infra) signed a partnership agreement to translate national climate priorities into local action. The partnership aims to advance sustainability initiatives for climate adaptation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help build a more climate-resilient Philippines.

The partnership was formalized by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The agreements cover cooperation on the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Philippines' Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which outlines the country's climate targets, including greenhouse gas emissions reduction and avoidance.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje emphasized the importance of government and private sector collaboration in advancing climate action.

"Neither the government nor the private sector can solve this crisis in isolation. Real impact requires a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society approach. This partnership connects our national policy, our NAP and Nationally Determined Contributions, to LGU empowerment at the grassroots level," Borje said.

Under the MOU, the CCC and Prime Infra will collaborate on technical and policy initiatives and develop Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs). This includes expanding access to climate financing such as the People's Survival Fund, building capacity for greenhouse gas inventories, and supporting watershed protection through Prime Infra's sustainability platform, Prime Kalikasan.

Prime Infrastructure President and CEO Guillaume Lucci highlighted the importance of delivering tangible benefits to communities through infrastructure projects.

"We're ensuring that we really impact the society and towns in which we operate when we do major projects that are driving our resilience towards fighting climate change," Lucci said.

The CCC continues to strengthen partnerships with the private sector to advance the Philippines' climate commitments, empower local governments, and build climate-resilient communities.

THE MANILA TIMES

Govt partners with private firm for climate action plans

By Giselle P. Jordan

RIME Infra, a company with businesses in water, waste management and energy, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Climate Change Commission (CCC) to help communities prepare for weather disruptions and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In a statement Monday, the company said the partnership would combine government policy expertise with private-sector resources to support the country's climate priorities, including the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and its commitments to cut emissions under the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

The NAP is the country's roadmap for preparing for the effects of climate change, such as stronger typhoons, floods, droughts and rising sea levels. It guides efforts to protect communities, livelihoods and infrastructure.

The NDC sets out the country's commitments under the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change.

The partnership will help local government units strengthen their climate action plans and incorporate measures to address climate risks and reduce emissions into local development programs.

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The partnership will help local government units strengthen their climate action plans and incorporate measures to address climate risks and reduce emissions into local development programs.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said private-sector partnerships provide expertise, resources, and innovation to help protect communities from climate change.

"By working together, we can turn national climate priorities into concrete action that protects lives and livelihoods," he said.

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