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Climate change must be declared 'global health emergency'—study
By: Rébecca Frasquet

PARIS, France — Climate change must be declared a "global health emergency" to shape governments' policies after heat caused three million deaths between 2016 and 2023, a report in The Lancet said Wednesday

DAILY TRIBUNE

Rains threaten Quezon, Palawan as LPA approaches Eastern Samar
By: Josephine D. Escovidal

PAGASA warns of possible flash floods and landslides as holiday travelers prepare for Undas

GMA NEWS ONLINE

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The shear line and trough of the Low Pressure Area (LPA) to bring cloudy skies with scattered rains over parts of the country with Northeast Monsoon affecting the rest of Northern Luzon on Friday, PAGASA reported.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITEE OF THE RED CROSS

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MANILA BULLETIN

PAGASA: Scattered rains, thunderstorms to affect parts of PH during Undas
By: Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz

Scattered rains and thunderstorms are expected in several parts of the country during the Undas break from Oct. 30 to Nov. 2 due to the shear line and the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said.

MANILA STANDARD

PAGASA forecasts 'cloudy' Undas
By: Gabriel Oliva & Rio N. Araja

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) forecasts generally cloudy skies in a special weather outlook for the upcoming "Undas" (All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day) observance.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

Fisherfolk in Apayao, Ifugao to benefit from P4-M climate-resilient cage project
By: Rod G. Asurin

BAGUIO CITY (PIA) — Fifty-three fisherfolk in Apayao and Ifugao are set to receive aquaculture livelihood assistance under a P4-million project aimed at boosting fish production, improving food security, and strengthening resilience to severe weather conditions.

Trike group sees potential fuel savings from e-tricycles amid PBBM EV push

A tricycle operators and drivers association in Biñan, Laguna, sees electric tricycles as a way to cut fuel expenses and increase drivers' take-home earnings as the Marcos administration pushes for local electric vehicle manufacturing.

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BUSINESS WORLD

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By: Jonathan L. Mayuga

THE Climate Change Commission (CCC) and Prime Infra, a leading infrastructure developer and operator of critical assets, are combining government policy expertise and private-sector capabilities to strengthen climate resilience, ecological stewardship, and local capacity building.

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CCC Honors Resilience Champions; Urges Early Action, Climate-Ready Communities

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Wednesday honored women and youth leaders advancing disaster preparedness and climate action, highlighting the importance of early action and climate-informed planning as El Niño could persist into the first half of 2027.

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.

Women and Youth Climate Champions Honored at 4th Philippine Resilience Awards

MANILA — Now in its fourth year, the Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA) 2026 recognized women and youth climate leaders for their exceptional work in strengthening community climate resilience.

THE CHRONICLE

CCC honors resilience champions; urges early action, climate-ready communities
By: Barr Belara

MANILA – The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Wednesday honored women and youth leaders advancing disaster preparedness and climate action, highlighting the importance of early action and climate-informed planning as El Niño could persist into the first half of 2027.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

ABS CBN

Climate change must be declared 'global health emergency'—study
By: Rébecca Frasquet

PARIS, France — Climate change must be declared a "global health emergency" to shape governments' policies after heat caused three million deaths between 2016 and 2023, a report in The Lancet said Wednesday

Published by the British medical journal ahead of the COP 31 climate summit in November, the 10th edition of the report brought together 146 researchers from 30 countries to assess the impact of climate change on the health of the world's population.

It said there were a record 710,000 heat-related deaths in 2023 with more than 70 percent of that toll linked to human-caused climate change.

Marina Romanello, the executive director of the health and climate research project Lancet Countdown, said there were "three million heat-related deaths globally in an eight-year span since the Paris Agreement" of 2015.

"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.

DAILY TRIBUNE

Rains threaten Quezon, Palawan as LPA approaches Eastern Samar

By: Josephine D. Escovidal

PAGASA warns of possible flash floods and landslides as holiday travelers prepare for Undas

QUEZON — Residents and travelers in Quezon and Palawan were advised to prepare for possible heavy rainfall on Friday, 30 October, as a shear line and the trough of a low-pressure area (LPA) bring unsettled weather to parts of the country ahead of the Undas observance.

In its 4 a.m. weather bulletin, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the LPA was located approximately 585 kilometers east of Borongan City, Eastern Samar, as of 3 a.m.

The weather bureau forecast cloudy skies with scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms over Quezon province due to the shear line.

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In its 4 a.m. weather bulletin, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the LPA was located approximately 585 kilometers east of Borongan City, Eastern Samar, as of 3 a.m.

The weather bureau forecast cloudy skies with scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms over Quezon province due to the shear line.

Palawan, meanwhile, is expected to experience similar weather conditions because of the trough of the LPA.

PAGASA warned that moderate to occasionally heavy rainfall could trigger flash floods or landslides in vulnerable areas.

Metro Manila, including Taguig, Parañaque, Muntinlupa and Pateros, as well as the rest of CALABARZON and MIMAROPA, may experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms.

The agency cautioned that severe thunderstorms could also cause localized flooding or landslides.

Moderate northeasterly winds are expected over Luzon, with coastal waters reaching 1.5 to 2.5 meters.

The weather disturbance comes as passengers begin traveling to their home provinces for All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

PAGASA also reported that Super Typhoon In-Fa remained outside the Philippine Area of Responsibility, approximately 2,935 kilometers east of Northern Luzon as of 3 a.m.

No major weather-related damage, evacuation or transport disruption in Quezon or Palawan had been independently confirmed at the time of reporting.

Residents, motorists and sea travelers were advised to monitor subsequent PAGASA bulletins and official local government advisories for changes in weather and travel conditions.

GMA NEWS ONLINE

Shear Line, LPA's trough to bring cloudy skies, rains over parts of PH

The shear line and trough of the Low Pressure Area (LPA) to bring cloudy skies with scattered rains over parts of the country with Northeast Monsoon affecting the rest of Northern Luzon on Friday, PAGASA reported.

At 3 a.m., the LPA was estimated based on all available data at 585 km East of Borongan City, Eastern Samar and unlikely to develop into a tropical depression. The Shear Line will be affecting the eastern sections of Northern and Central Luzon while the northeast Monsoon affecting the rest of Northern Luzon.

The tropical cyclone outside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), Super Typhoon IN-FA is 2,935 kilometers east of Northern Luzon, packing maximum winds of 185 kilometers per hour near the center, gutiness of up to 230 km/h, and moving west northwestward at 30 km/h.

Forecast Weather Conditions

Cagayan, Isabela, Quirino, Nueva Vizcaya, Aurora, and Quezon will have cloudy skies with scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms due to the Shear Line and flash floods or landslides may occur due to moderate to at times heavy rains.

Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, BARMM, Northern Mindanao, Caraga, and Palawan will have cloudy skies with scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms due to the Trough of the LPA and flash floods or landslides may occur due to moderate to at times heavy rains.

Ilocos Region, Cordillera Administrative Region, and Batanes will ave partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated light rains due to the Northeast Monsoon but with no significant impact.

Metro Manila and the rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms due to localized thunderstorms and flash floods or landslides may occur during severe thunderstorms.

Forecast Wind and Coastal Water Conditions

The wind speed forecast for Luzon is moderate and moving northeastward while coastal waters will be moderate.

The rest of the country will experience light to moderate and moving in the northeast to north direction with slight to moderate.

Sunrise at 5:51 a.m., sunset at 5:29 p.m. — BAP, GMA News

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

COP31: The ICRC's call to strengthen climate action and finance to reach people in conflict settings

Climate change poses a grave threat to people everywhere. Warming is causing climate variations, including more extreme and less predictable weather around the world, and global efforts have so far not been enough to prevent, let alone reverse, these trends.

People living through armed conflict and other situations of violence are among the hardest hit, yet they have the fewest means and the least support to cope with and adapt to a changing climate (ICRC, 2026). Conflict wears down countries' adaptive capacities, making them highly vulnerable to climate shocks. Where climate risks and conflict converge, institutional capacity is weakened, essential services become harder to access, and food, water and economic insecurity deepen. (ICRC, 2020 and 2023).

Recognition has grown of the need to strengthen climate action and deliver more climate financing in conflict-affected and fragile settings, including notably through key commitments such as the COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace. These commitments must lead to practical action. Strong, sustainably financed climate action in conflict-affected and fragile settings is essential to address humanitarian needs, help build resilience, prevent development reversals and avoid entrenching fragility.

1. Take urgent and ambitious political action to reduce emissions and to keep global warming within a habitable range in order to avoid the worst consequences of climate change for people and communities
Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries committed to limit global warming to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5 degrees. Over ten years later, the world remains off course, with the 1.5-degree threshold very likely to be crossed within the next decade (UNEP, 2025).

Because of past emissions, some warming will continue, which will compound and intensify climate extremes and deepen humanitarian crises. In all scenarios, more climate adaptation will be needed, requiring profound social, cultural, political and economic change. Without effective mitigation, and once the limits of adaptation strategies are exceeded, climate change will continue to take a toll on all aspects of people's lives: their homes, infrastructure, assets and livelihoods. Communities will need support to avert, minimize and address the loss and damage associated with the impacts of climate change, and to limit biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, so that the most vulnerable people and communities – including those affected by conflict – do not fall even further behind.

2. Acknowledge officially that conflict-affected and fragile countries are highly vulnerable to climate risks owing to their limited capacity to adapt

The international community has committed to providing support to countries that are highly vulnerable to climate change. Over half the countries considered most vulnerable and least ready to adapt to climate change are enduring armed conflict. Climate change does not directly cause conflict, but conflict does increase the fragility of the institutions, services, infrastructure and governance that are essential to helping people and communities cope with and adapt to a changing climate.

The COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace was an important acknowledgement of the need for stronger climate action in conflict settings, with clear commitments made by states and other actors. This can be built upon by incorporating into formal COP outcome documents language recognizing the particular vulnerability of least developed countries affected by conflict or fragility, which would help focus efforts towards addressing their specific needs. This would not create a new category: most conflict-affected countries are already counted among the world's least developed countries – a group the UNFCCC recognizes as requiring specific support to adapt to a changing climate (UNFCCC, 2015). Outcome documents should also recognize that conflict and fragility drive individual and community vulnerability. This recognition will help ongoing efforts to support vulnerable commu-nities in conflict-affected and fragile settings.

3. Implement commitments to scale up climate action in countries affected by conflict and ensure that such action is underpinned by sufficient, accessible and fit-for-purpose finance
The international community has recognized that people in conflict-affected settings need help to adapt to a changing climate. While there has been some positive progress on this, it remains insufficient. Climate action and finance are lagging in highly unstable settings because of the challenges of delivering long-term programming in these contexts. Further, conflict-affected areas within countries, especially in areas not under state control, can often be excluded from climate finance because of risk mitigation strategies, leaving millions of people without this support (Cao et al., 2021).

This gap can and must be closed. Delivering climate action is possible even in the most complex settings. It requires delivering and scaling up climate finance that is mainly grant-based or highly concessional (particularly for adaptation), and addressing loss and damage, including using tailored risk assessments and flexible eligibility criteria that can keep pace with fast-changing situations (ICRC and ODI, 2024). Support must reach people and communities across the full spectrum of fragility and conflict, not only those contexts where fit-for-purpose financing is less challenging to secure and disburse.

MANILA BULLETIN

PAGASA: Scattered rains, thunderstorms to affect parts of PH during Undas

By: Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz

Scattered rains and thunderstorms are expected in several parts of the country during the Undas break from Oct. 30 to Nov. 2 due to the shear line and the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said.

In its special weather outlook, PAGASA said the shear line, where warm and cold air masses collide, is expected to affect parts of Luzon and Eastern Visayas, while the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), where winds from the northern and southern hemispheres converge, will bring rains to parts of the Visayas and Mindanao, particularly at the start of the long weekend.

On Friday, Oct. 30, the shear line will bring cloudy skies, scattered rains, and isolated thunderstorms over Isabela, Aurora, and Quezon.

The ITCZ will bring mostly cloudy skies with scattered rains and thunderstorms over Central Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Caraga, Southern Leyte, Negros Oriental, and Siquijor.

The northeast monsoon, or “amihan,” may also bring cloudy skies and isolated light rains over Batanes, Cagayan, Apayao, Abra, and Ilocos Norte.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, cloudy skies with rains are expected over Batanes, Cagayan, and Isabela due to the northeast monsoon, while the shear line will bring scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms over Bicol Region, Aurora, Quezon, Northern Samar, Eastern Samar, and Samar.

The ITCZ will also bring scattered rains and thunderstorms over Palawan, Zamboanga Peninsula, Basilan, and Tawi-Tawi.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, All Saints’ Day, the shear line will continue to bring scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms over Bicol Region, Aurora, and Quezon, while the ITCZ will affect Palawan, Zamboanga Peninsula, Basilan, and Tawi-Tawi.

Metro Manila and the rest of the country may experience isolated rain showers or thunderstorms from Friday through Sunday.

By Monday, Nov. 2, All Souls’ Day, the northeast monsoon will bring isolated light rains over Metro Manila, Cagayan Valley, Cordillera Administrative Region, Ilocos Region, Central Luzon, Cavite, Batangas, Laguna, and Rizal.

MANILA STANDARD

PAGASA forecasts 'cloudy' Undas

By: Gabriel Oliva & Rio N. Araja

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) forecasts generally cloudy skies in a special weather outlook for the upcoming "Undas" (All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day) observance.

According to the state weather bureau, the northeast monsoon (Amihan), shear line, and Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) will be the dominant factors affecting the country.

During All Saints' Day on November 1, the shear line is expected to bring cloudy skies with scattered rains and isolated thunderstorms over the Bicol Region, Aurora, and Quezon, while partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated light rains are expected to shower parts of the Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) due to the Amihan.

The ITCZ will also bring cloudy skies with scattered thunderstorms over Palawan, Zamboanga Peninsula, Basilan, and Tawi-Tawi, while Metro Manila and the rest of the Philippines will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies with chances of localized rain showers or thunderstorms.

Meanwhile, on All Souls' Day on November 2, the northeast monsoon will bring partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated light rains over Metro Manila, Cagayan Valley, CAR, Ilocos Region, Central Luzon, Cavite, Batangas, Laguna, and Rizal.

The rest of the country will also have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms.

PAGASA noted that its weather outlook is still subject to updates should "significant" changes in the weather pattern occur.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

Fisherfolk in Apayao, Ifugao to benefit from P4-M climate-resilient cage project

By: Rod G. Asurin

BAGUIO CITY (PIA) — Fifty-three fisherfolk in Apayao and Ifugao are set to receive aquaculture livelihood assistance under a P4-million project aimed at boosting fish production, improving food security, and strengthening resilience to severe weather conditions.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-Cordillera Administrative Region (BFAR-CAR) is implementing the Aquaculture Livelihood Assistance and Guidance for Adaptive Development (ALAGAD) Project, which will provide two fisherfolk organizations with high-density polyethylene (HDPE) fish cages and other production inputs.

The beneficiaries are the 30-member Descendants Farmers and Fisherfolk Association in Luna, Apayao, and the 23-member Riverside Rural Improvement Club in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao.

Each organization will receive one HDPE fish cage complete with nets and mooring systems, valued at approximately P1.3 million, to be installed in designated aquaculture park areas.

The project allocates P2 million for the two cages while the remaining P2 million will cover fingerlings, feeds, specialized training, social preparation, and other operating expenses.

Unlike traditional bamboo cages, HDPE systems are designed to better withstand harsh weather, although their performance during typhoons depends on proper installation, mooring, site conditions, and storm intensity.

“HDPE is a durable, corrosion-resistant material used in aquaculture cage systems,” said Laura Marie C. Benigno, officer-in-charge of Ubao Fish Farm.

The assistance is intended to support two six-month production cycles, giving the organizations an initial 12-month production period to develop their aquaculture operations.

Before receiving the livelihood inputs, the organizations participated in a two-day social preparation activity conducted by BFAR-CAR to assess their resources, identify livelihood challenges, and strengthen their capacity to manage the project.

Participants examined seasonal livelihood patterns and suitable fish stocking and harvesting periods and identified operational problems and possible solutions. They also underwent organizational profiling and sessions on members’ roles and responsibilities.

BFAR-CAR also promotes proper fish cage management within designated aquaculture park areas to help reduce environmental risks, including fish kills and excessive nutrient accumulation.

The project seeks to expand livelihood opportunities for organized fisherfolk and provide an alternative source of income that may help ease pressure on wild fish stocks.

The beneficiary organizations were selected based on registration, membership, operating history and other eligibility requirements, including verification of members through the Fisheries Registration Information System and/or the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture. (JDP/RGA-PIA CAR with reports from BFAR-CAR)

Trike group sees potential fuel savings from e-tricycles amid PBBM EV push

A tricycle operators and drivers association in Biñan, Laguna, sees electric tricycles as a way to cut fuel expenses and increase drivers' take-home earnings as the Marcos administration pushes for local electric vehicle manufacturing.

Regino Cabrera, president of the Mamplasan Tricycle Operators and Drivers Association (TODA), welcomed the prospect of switching to electric tricycles, citing potential savings on fuel costs.

"Mas maganda po kung mabibigyan kami ng ganyang electric kasi wala na akong gasolina," Cabrera said in an interview on the sidelines of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s visit to the manufacturing and assembly plant of Sazgar Philippines Inc. on Thursday.

Cabrera, who has been driving a tricycle for about 15 years, said drivers could earn around Php800 a day, with earnings reaching as much as Php1,500 depending on the number of hours worked and passengers served.

"Dito po sa loob, medyo mataas po. Kapag masipag, medyo mataas po. Rumi-rate po ng mga PhP800. Hindi pa po pinakamataas iyon. Siguro mga Php1,500 kapag maghapong pasada," he said.

Cabrera said rising fuel costs remain a concern for drivers who rely on their daily earnings to support their families.

Switching to electric tricycles, he said, could help reduce operating expenses and allow drivers to keep more of their earnings.

"Kung tayo may pambili na, baka bumili po," he said, expressing interest in purchasing an electric tricycle if it becomes affordable.

Affordability, however, remains a key consideration for drivers, particularly those who purchase their vehicles through installment arrangements.

Cabrera said some drivers pay around PhP150 daily for their tricycles.

Apart from the purchase price, he emphasized the importance of operating costs, durability, and maintenance in choosing a vehicle for daily use.

"Matipid po," Cabrera said when asked about the most important feature he looks for in a tricycle.

He also stressed the importance of proper vehicle maintenance to avoid breakdowns that could affect a driver's livelihood.

“Yung laging malinis, hindi nasisira. Yung tricycle ko po, hindi po nasisira iyon eh. Alaga ko po iyon,” Cabrera said.

The Sazgar Philippines facility in Barangay Mamplasan manufactures and assembles three-wheeled vehicles, including electric models, as part of efforts to expand domestic manufacturing and provide alternative transportation options.

President Marcos visited the facility Thursday as the administration seeks to attract investments, generate jobs, and support the adoption of cleaner transportation technologies.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

BUSINESS WORLD

CCC, Prime Infra partner for resilience
By: Jonathan L. Mayuga

THE Climate Change Commission (CCC) and Prime Infra, a leading infrastructure developer and operator of critical assets, are combining government policy expertise and private-sector capabilities to strengthen climate resilience, ecological stewardship, and local capacity building.

The two parties signed an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during a ceremony at the Prime Infra head office recently to strengthen climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.

The partnership will support the implementation of national climate priorities, including the Philippines' National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

In his message, Prime Infra President and Chief Executive Officer Guillaume Lucci emphasized the importance of integrating climate resilience into 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.

Prime Infra operates across three core sectors: essential utilities, energy security, and energy transition. Its businesses span water supply, waste management, natural gas, power generation, and pumped storage hydropower, with ecological stewardship and community development forming part of its approach to developing and operating critical infrastructure.

"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," Lucci said.

Under the MOU, areas of cooperation include capacity-building initiatives for local government units (LGUs) to strengthen their Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs). These efforts also aim to integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into local development plans and programs.

This includes building capacity to access 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.

“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,” CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said for his part.

The CCC is the country’s lead policymaking body on climate change pursuant to 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.

Following the MOU signing, Lucci and Borje also signed the 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.

PAGEONE

CCC Honors Resilience Champions; Urges Early Action, Climate-Ready Communities

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Wednesday honored women and youth leaders advancing disaster preparedness and climate action, highlighting the importance of early action and climate-informed planning as El Niño could persist into the first half of 2027.

At the 2026 Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA) at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Manila, CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said climate forecasts must guide government decisions before communities feel the full effects of climate hazards.

“Predictive governance means bringing science, climate information and risk assessments into the decisions we make before impacts are fully felt,” Borje said in his message.

He said the awards should also help champions share lessons, find partners and extend their initiatives to other communities.

Borje noted the importance of recognizing individuals who have found ways to make resilience practical in their communities.

Among the awardees for the PRA 2026 was Quezon City Persons with Disability Affairs Office head Deborah Dacanay, whose project promotes the involvement of persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness.

“Mahalaga na ma-consider ang mga taong may kapansanan o people with disabilities, kasi sa usapin ng disaster walang pinipiling status (It is important to consider people with disabilities, because in matters of disaster, no one is exempt from the impact),” Dacanay said.

She said that QC trains PWDs, like deaf and blind residents in emergency preparedness, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), to help them respond to emergencies.

“Sa QC meron kaming 110,000 persons with disabilities at napakalaking bilang ito, ibat ibang type of disabilities at bawat disability ay may kanya kanyang uniqueness at strength so hindi namin ineequate ang disability sa inability, na wala silang kayang gawin sa lipunan (In QC, we have 110,000 persons with disabilities, and this is a huge number. There are different types of disabilities, and each disability has its own uniqueness and strength, so we do not equate disability with inability, that they cannot do anything in society), so we want to empower them,” she added.

Another awardee, Marife Matic Mustacisa from Samar State University, leads the LETS CARE or Livelihood Empowerment through Sustainable Climate-Resilient Agri-Aqua and Natural

Resources Enhancement project, which promotes climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries technologies and community-based climate action.

“Ang resiliency kasi hindi yung response lang na nandiyan na yung disaster (Resiliency is not just the response when the disaster is already there),” Mustacisa said, emphasizing the need to prepare communities for extreme weather before it strikes.

Other awardees include Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development Assistant Secretary Mylene Rivera for the PLANADO or Plan & Do Program; environmental advocate Angelina Galang for Ako ang Bukas; former Rizal governor Rebecca “Nini” Ynares for the YES Program; Naga City planning officer James Nathaniel Refugio for the Bicolano Young Leaders Program; and community advocate Ervie Ann Conte for the Paglajag Program.

Each awardee will receive a cash grant of up to PHP150,000, a medallion and a plaque.

Conceived in 2023, the awards recognize women and youth whose initiatives help communities prepare for climate and disaster risks. (PNA)

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.

Women and Youth Climate Champions Honored at 4th Philippine Resilience Awards

MANILA — Now in its fourth year, the Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA) 2026 recognized women and youth climate leaders for their exceptional work in strengthening community climate resilience.

Two young climate champions were recognized in the Youth Category: James Nathaniel Refugio, founder of Bicolano Young Leaders Initiatives, was recognized for the Bicolano Young Leaders Program, which equips young people with leadership skills and practical tools for climate action, environmental protection, and disaster resilience.

Ervie Ann C. Conte was honored for the Paglajag Program, which promotes environmental conservation, literacy, nutrition, and sustainable livelihood in the last mile island communities in Siargao, Surigao del Norte.

Five women climate champions were recognized in the Women Category: Deborah C. Dacanay, head of the Quezon City Persons with Disability Affairs Office, was recognized for advancing disability-inclusive disaster preparedness and climate resilience through inclusive planning and sustainable livelihood initiatives.

Dr. Angelina P. Galang of Green Convergence for Safe Food, Healthy Environment, and Sustainable Economy was honored for Ako ang Bukas, an initiative that promotes ecological sustainability and climate awareness.

Marife M. Mustacisa of Samar State University was recognized for LETs CARE–AGHAM, which strengthens climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, food security, and livelihoods in vulnerable coastal communities.

Rebecca A. Ynares, former governor of Rizal, was honored for the YES Program, a provincial initiative that integrates environmental management, waste reduction, greening, and disaster risk reduction.

Mylene A. Rivera of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development was recognized for the PLANADO Program, which advances risk-informed land use planning and climate-resilient settlements through digital tools and improved local governance.

Beyond recognizing outstanding initiatives, the PRA provides a platform called “Community of Practice” (CoP) to highlight community-driven solutions and connect resilience champions with the support they need to strengthen their work.

The PRA also launched the Philippine Resilience Awards Compendium 2023-2025, including the Video Documentaries of selected PRA Resilience Champions. The PRA Digital Hub, which serves as a repository of the stories of PRA Awardees, advocacy efforts, and other relevant

resources, was launched together with the Compendium. The Digital Hub is accessible through the PRA website.

“Through the Digital Hub, stakeholders can explore the work of our Resilience Champions, access relevant resources, and gain a better understanding of the different ways resilience is being advanced across the Philippines,” said CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne S. Herrera.

This commitment to sustaining community-led resilience was further affirmed through the renewal of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) among the PRA convenors.

Senator Loren Legarda, who initiated the PRA, underscored the importance of continuing to support women and youth climate champions and strengthening their capacity to expand their initiatives.

“The renewal of this MOA reaffirms our collective commitment to recognize and elevate the indispensable contributions of women and youth on the frontlines of climate action, while strengthening their capacities to sustain and scale their work,” Legarda said.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje emphasized the importance of recognizing these efforts and learning from the experiences of communities on the frontlines of climate change.

“The Philippine Resilience Awards matters because it recognizes people who make resilience practical in their communities. Our role as convenors is to listen, learn, and build stronger ways to connect their experiences with the support their communities need,” Borje said.

Among those making significant contributions to community resilience are young people who translate their knowledge into practical solutions for climate and disaster risks.

Commissioner Herrera highlighted how their initiatives demonstrate the value of turning knowledge into action.

“These are stories of hope, showing how young trailblazers turned academic knowledge into practical solutions, from hazard maps to environmental monitoring systems, to help communities confront climate challenges,” Herrera said.

The resilience champions, Herrera said, are “people who chose to confront the challenges before them and build solutions.”

“In a world rapidly being reshaped by climate change, these are the stories we need to remember,” she added.

The event gathered institutional partners and members of the PRA network, including Mr. Silvestre Barrameda, Jr., Executive Director of the National Resilience Council; Engr. Liza B.

Silerio, Vice President of SM Prime and ARISE Philippines; Retired Vice Admiral Alexander Pama of ARISE Philippines; and Dr. Ma. Teresita Pastor-Medado of WINDRR Philippines.

Initiated by Senator Legarda, the Philippine Resilience Awards is a multi-stakeholder program of the Climate Change Commission in collaboration with the Philippine Commission on Women, National Resilience Council, SM Prime, Women's International Network on Disaster Risk Reduction, and ARISE Philippines. All awardees will receive continued support to expand and strengthen their resilience initiatives nationwide.

THE CHRONICLE

CCC honors resilience champions; urges early action, climate-ready communities
By: Barr Belara

MANILA – The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Wednesday honored women and youth leaders advancing disaster preparedness and climate action, highlighting the importance of early action and climate-informed planning as El Niño could persist into the first half of 2027.

At the 2026 Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA) at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Manila, CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said climate forecasts must guide government decisions before communities feel the full effects of climate hazards.

“Predictive governance means bringing science, climate information and risk assessments into the decisions we make before impacts are fully felt,” Borje said in his message.

He said the awards should also help champions share lessons, find partners and extend their initiatives to other communities.

Borje noted the importance of recognizing individuals who have found ways to make resilience practical in their communities.

Among the awardees for the PRA 2026 was Quezon City Persons with Disability Affairs Office head Deborah Dacanay, whose project promotes the involvement of persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness.

“Mahalaga na ma-consider ang mga taong may kapansanan o people with disabilities, kasi sa usapin ng disaster walang pinipiling status (It is important to consider people with disabilities, because in matters of disaster, no one is exempt from the impact),” Dacanay said.

She said that QC trains PWDs, like deaf and blind residents in emergency preparedness, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), to help them respond to emergencies.

“Sa QC meron kaming 110,000 persons with disabilities at napakalaking bilang ito, ibat ibang type of disabilities at bawat disability ay may kanya kanyang uniqueness at strength so hindi namin ineequate ang disability sa inability, na wala silang kayang gawin sa lipunan (In QC, we have 110,000 persons with disabilities, and this is a huge number. There are different types of disabilities, and each disability has its own uniqueness and strength, so we do not equate disability with inability, that they cannot do anything in society), so we want to empower them,” she added.

Another awardee, Marife Matic Mustacisa from Samar State University, leads the LETS CARE or Livelihood Empowerment through Sustainable Climate-Resilient Agri-Aqua and Natural

Resources Enhancement project, which promotes climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries technologies and community-based climate action.

“Ang resiliency kasi hindi yung response lang na nandiyan na yung disaster (Resiliency is not just the response when the disaster is already there),” Mustacisa said, emphasizing the need to prepare communities for extreme weather before it strikes.

Other awardees include Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development Assistant Secretary Mylene Rivera for the PLANADO or Plan & Do Program; environmental advocate Angelina Galang for Ako ang Bukas; former Rizal governor Rebecca “Nini” Ynares for the YES Program; Naga City planning officer James Nathaniel Refugio for the Bicolano Young Leaders Program; and community advocate Ervie Ann Conte for the Paglajag Program.

Each awardee will receive a cash grant of up to PHP150,000, a medallion and a plaque.

Conceived in 2023, the awards recognize women and youth whose initiatives help communities prepare for climate and disaster risks. (PNA)

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