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ECO BUSINESS

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By: Lou Albano

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PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

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By: Christopher Lloyd Caliwan

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United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Monday called on the world to “stop the madness” of climate change, as he visited the Himalayan regions in Nepal.

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THE PHILIPPINE STAR

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Extreme climate conditions have pushed the term "climate change" in the mainstream. But while it is a term that many use to describe as the cause of the disasters they see, officials said it has yet to be fully grasped by most Filipinos.

BUSINESS MIRROR

[National Adaptation Plan for climate resilience out soon](#)

By: Samuel P. Medenilla

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) said the country's first ever National Adaptation Plan (NAP), which will help boost local resilience against the impact of extreme weather, will be out soon.

PHL CCC to push for global fund for climate adaptation at COP28

By: Samuel P. Medenilla

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) said it will push for the creation of global funding for climate adaptation during the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) next month.

MAHARLIKA

CCC urges Filipinos to embrace responsible living, foster climate change-resilient PH

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has urged Filipinos to embrace responsible living as a means to foster a climate change-resilient Philippines.

RAPPLER

PH's greenhouse gas inventory that can track emissions now in the works

By: Iya Gozum

A greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory being developed by the Climate Change Commission (CCC), which will help the Philippines track carbon emissions and avail of climate financing, is already in the works.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

'Honoring climate deals is rich countries' moral obligations' – PH

By: Nestor Corrales

The Philippines made a call ahead of the 2023 United Nations climate change conference in Dubai this December where President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is expected to attend that it is a “moral obligation” of rich countries to honor climate deals like the Paris Agreement.

THE MANILA TIMES

[PH to present case in Dubai climate summit](#)

By: Catherine S. Valente

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has announced that the Philippines is ready to present a "strongest case" at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), from Nov. 30 to Dec. 12, 2023.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

[Philippines to benefit from COP28 attendance](#)

By: Bella Cariaso

The Philippines will benefit from the attendance of President Marcos at the 28th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in December, where he was personally invited by COP28 president Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Climate Change Commission Secretary Robert E.A. Borje said yesterday.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

ABS CBN

Ten key moments in the climate change fight

Ahead of UN climate talks in Dubai from November 30, here are 10 key dates in the battle against global warming.

1988: Alarm bells

Alerted by scientists to signs that the Earth's surface was warming, in 1988 the United Nations established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to investigate.

Two years later, the panel reported that heat-trapping "greenhouse" gases generated by human activity were on the rise and could intensify planetary warming.

In a series of studies, evidence accumulated that human activities —voracious burning of coal, oil and gas; rainforest logging; and destructive farming practices — were heating the Earth's surface, a prelude to disruptions of its climate system.

1992: Earth Summit

An "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 created the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with the aim of reducing greenhouse-gas emissions.

Since 1995, so called "Conferences of the Parties", or COPs, have been meeting to pursue that elusive goal.

1997: Kyoto Protocol

In 1997, nations agreed in Kyoto, Japan, on a 2008-2012 timeframe for industrialised nations to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by an average of 5.2 percent from 1990 levels.

Developing countries, including China, India and Brazil, were not required to take on binding targets.

But in 2001, the United States, at the time the world's biggest carbon emitter, refused to ratify the protocol, which took effect in 2005.

Nobel prize

The IPCC reported in 2007 that evidence of global warming was now "unequivocal" and that extreme weather events would probably multiply.

In October 2007, the UN panel shared the Nobel Peace Prize with former US vice president Al Gore for their efforts in raising the alarm about climate change.

Copenhagen collapse

Participants at the COP15 gathering in Copenhagen failed to achieve an agreement for the post-2012 period.

Several dozen major emitters, including China and the United States, announced a goal of limiting global temperature increases to two degrees Celsius (35.6 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels but were vague on how the goal was to be reached.

2015: Breakthrough in Paris

In December 2015, nearly every nation on Earth committed to limit warming to "well below" two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

A more ambitious cap of 1.5 Celsius is also adopted as the preferred target.

2018: Greta Thunberg

In 2018, Swedish teen Greta Thunberg started skipping school on Fridays to sit outside the Swedish parliament, demanding more substantive action to combat climate change.

Despite ending her Friday protests in 2023 after graduating, her protest inspired students worldwide to skip class each Friday in a bid for more efforts from global leaders.

Record emissions

In 2022, the International Energy Agency reported that global CO2 emissions would hit an annual record.

But at a COP27 meeting that year in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, participants failed to agree on more ambitious emissions cuts.

2022: Biodiversity deal

An accord on biodiversity is reached in Montreal in December 2022, calling for the designation of 30 percent of the planet's land and oceans as protected zones by 2030, and an end of extinctions of threatened species due to human activities.

New warning

The United Nations warned that despite efforts so far, the world would see its first full year at 1.5 Celsius above pre-industrial levels in the early 2030s.

According to the European Union's climate observatory Copernicus, global temperatures in the summer of 2023 were the hottest ever registered.

CNN

[DOE's Energy Efficiency Campaign: A bold step toward a more sustainable, energy-efficient future](#)

The Department of Energy (DOE) has introduced its groundbreaking energy efficiency campaign in a bold step toward a more sustainable and energy-efficient future.

The “You have the Power” campaign was unveiled on March 6, 2023 on DOE’s Facebook page. It was designed to revolutionize how the country consumes energy, reduce energy costs, and stop climate change.

The campaign is a key element to the Philippines’ commitment to environmental stewardship and economic development. With a dual mission of reducing carbon emissions and enhancing energy security, it sets out to promote energy conservation practices and stimulate the adoption of cleaner, more sustainable energy technologies across the nation.

Key highlights of the “You have the Power” Energy Efficiency Campaign

Investment in Renewable Energy: A major focus of the campaign is the development of renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydroelectricity. This involves incentivizing the adoption of renewable energy technologies and facilitating investment in clean energy projects to diversify the country’s energy mix.

Consumer Empowerment: Empowering the consumer is a goal of the Energy Efficiency Campaign by educating consumers. To encourage informed decisions and investments in sustainable solutions, introduction to basic energy-efficient practices, and recommendations for energy-efficient appliances will be offered.

Transportation Transformation: The campaign places a strong focus on modernizing the transportation sector by encouraging the adoption of electric vehicles. (EVs) This transition will not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also promote energy independence.

Community and Industry Engagement: DOE will engage with local communities and industries to foster a culture of energy conservation. Partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations will facilitate knowledge sharing and implementation of energy-efficient practices.

Energy Undersecretary Felix William Fuentebella underscored the importance of the initiative.

"The current administration is aggressive towards developing other sources of energy," he said. "This includes offshore wind and nuclear power plants. The main goal is to reach 50% of the country's renewable energy source by 2040."

The launch of "You Have the Power" campaign marks a significant leap for the Philippines in its journey toward sustainability and a greener future. With a comprehensive strategy and strong determination, the nation is poised to set an example in the Asia-Pacific region and align itself with international efforts to combat climate change.

ECO BUSINESS

[Asian and Pacific countries at UN forum agree on measures to shape energy transition, address climate crisis](#)

Asian and Pacific countries agreed today on measures to shape the future of energy use and generation, and to address climate change in a region that consumes more than 40 per cent of the world's power and generates more than half of global greenhouse gas emissions.

These critical issues were the focus of the third Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (APEF), which closed today at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. This event brought together more than 265 participants from 42 countries, including ministers, senior officials, experts and representatives of international organisations.

“Recent crises have tested us all, resulting in economic shocks, energy supply price rises and supply chain disruptions, all of which have threatened progress on the energy transition and, more broadly, sustainable development,” said Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in her opening remarks.

She added, “These events remind us of the need for energy resilience and security to be considered alongside sustainability. For the energy sector, pursuing better energy efficiency, universal access to modern energy and increasing the share of renewable energy are strategies that can improve our collective ability to weather these shocks and recover better.”

Asia and the Pacific undergoing rapid development is standing at a pivotal moment in the global energy transition. It plays a critical role in securing policies, strategies and initiatives that address energy resilience and security, and progress on Sustainable Development Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy).

Across the region, there is a crucial need to close the final gaps in universal electricity access, clean cooking, energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption. Countries also have agreed on a Regional Road Map on Power System Connectivity for creating secure, sustainable and affordable power systems. The Road Map also underscores the importance of multilateral power trading to unlock the flexibility needed to enable the integration of high shares of renewable energy.

“At the heart of this challenge is affordability. Energy must be more accessible and affordable to marginalised and underserved communities,” underscored H.E. Pirapan Salirathavibhaga, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy of Thailand.

The Forum culminated in the adoption of a ministerial declaration on “Building a Secure, Sustainable and Interconnected Energy Future for Asia and the Pacific” that will guide the partnership between ESCAP and its member States in addressing these pressing energy challenges towards a sustainable energy future in the region.

GMA

[Two Filipinas win at Youth4Climate Challenge in Italy!](#)

By: Lou Albano

Congratulations and mabuhay to Lara Jean Salaysay and Pau Asuncion for winning at the recently concluded Youth4Climate Challenge in Italy!

Both Filipinas won a monetary grant of \$20,000 each for their climate action projects at the Youth4Climate: Sparking Solutions event, held in Rome, Italy last October 17-19.

The event is a collaboration between the Italian government the United Nations Development Program, and the World Bank Group's Connect4Climate initiative.

Salaysay won for her "Green Economy Ready" project, which aims to introduce green jobs into career counseling programs for senior high school students in the Philippines.

Asuncion meanwhile won for her "Bagsakan Kabataan" project, which aims to mobilize rural and urban youth to upscale and promote agroecology and climate action in the Philippines through youth-led organic farmers markets.

Salaysay's and Asuncion's projects were the only two projects from the Philippines entered to the months-long Youth4Climate: Sparking Solutions event, which began in March with calls for innovative ideas from young people all over the world to focus their skills and creativity in taking climate action.

It focuses on four areas — Urban Sustainability, Food and Agriculture, Education, and Sustainable Recovery — and features a selection process of three rounds.

In the first round, Youth4Climate: Sparking Solutions received more than 1,000 submissions from around the world. Only 100 applications were selected, which then required shortlisted candidates to pitch their project at the Youth4Climate event in Italy.

Only 4% of the total number of submissions were funded.

Speaking to GMA News Online over email, Salaysay said "the competition was tight because there were 25 entries per category."

"I prepared a lot for the pitching where I took advantage of the 1:1 coaching provided by the organizers. They judges didn't ask any questions comported to previous speakers. My peers said it was a good sign since my pitch was clear and straightforward," she continued.

Before studying for a Master of Environment and Sustainability specializing in Leadership for Sustainable Development at Australia's Monash University, the 28-year-old Filipina held "meaningful youth engagement projects for climate action and democracy" where she met young people eager to be part of the solution but soon find themselves torn between green jobs and better-paying jobs.

"However, as I am working in a climate job, I believe they don't have to choose between a job that can satisfy their needs and a job that contributes to sustainable development," Salaysay said.

"I am a firm believer that any job can be a green job," she continued, explaining working in and with the fossil fuel industry is the exemption.

Salaysay's interest in climate change and climate action started to take form in 2015, when, as a coastal clean-up volunteer, she witnessed "an island of waste drifted by the currents to a small island in Navotas City."

A series of typhoons, especially 2018's Typhoon Ompong, turned her interest into something of a calling. "Looking back, I realized flooding should not be normal. When I was in studying, tuwing umuulan kinakailangan lumusong sa baha para makaabot sa school. Dahil nakagisnan ko na iyon, akala ko normal lang. Hindi pala dapat normal iyon. Because of climate change and poor adaptive practices, our flooding experience worsened," Salaysay said.

"I started to learn about climate change and climate action. I was a teacher back then so I integrated these concepts into classroom instruction and conversed with administration on how to make our practices more eco-friendly."

She then took on work at the Department of Education as the Climate Change focal person. "Since then, I worked on my personal and institutional climate action and helped thousands of teachers and learners along the way."

Asuncion meanwhile is the National Vice Chairperson of the National Network of Agrarian Reform Advocates - Youth. She is an advocate for rural women, farmers, fisherfolk and a climate justice activist.

Salaysay's and Asuncion's projects were the only only from the Philippines but there were two other Filipino delegates at Youth4Climate in Italy. Louise Mabulo, co-founder of Cacao Project, served as moderator of the Food and Agriculture area, while Preinces Manuel, a civil engineering student at Far Eastern University Institute of Technology, won the Youth4Climate video challenge on Goodwall.

The Youth4Climate Initiative was born out of the Youth4Climate Summit that the Government of Italy hosted in Milan back in 2021 as an event ahead of COP 26 that allowed young people from more than 180 countries to put "forward ideas and concrete proposals on some of the most pressing issues on the climate agenda."

It is an especially empowering event that quells the very real climate anxiety that plenty of young people around the world are contending with, given the climate crisis.

Says Salaysay, feeling anxious about climate is valid. But "after a couple of self-care activities to regain our focus, let's use these intense emotions to drive climate action, not just in our lifestyle, but to call for systemic change for the government and businesses."

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

Mayors told to work to achieve SDGs

By: Christopher Lloyd Caliwán

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Benhur Abalos on Friday called on all city and municipal mayors to align their local initiatives with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In a speech during the Philippine Mayors Forum held at the Crowne Plaza Manila in Quezon City, Abalos underscored the pivotal role of local governments in achieving the SDGs as they are "well-positioned to drive change in their respective communities."

"The Mandanas-Garcia ruling providing greater resources to local government units (LGUs) presents better opportunities for localities to plan, finance, and implement more comprehensive and effective climate-sensitive SDG-aligned local development endeavors," he said.

"The time for decisive action is now."

Abalos added that these goals could be attained by implementing appropriate strategies to address the new challenges faced by their respective localities.

The 17 SDGs were established in 2015 as an urgent call to action by all countries to tackle global challenges, such as poverty and inequality, climate change, and environmental decline.

All countries have agreed to work toward achieving them by 2030.

Abalos expressed the DILG's full commitment to shepherding LGUs towards achieving the SDGs.

[‘Stop the madness,’ UN chief Guterres says, warns vs. climate crisis](#)

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Monday called on the world to “stop the madness” of climate change, as he visited the Himalayan regions in Nepal.

In a brief statement on X (formerly Twitter), Guterres said glaciers in the Himalayas are melting at a “record level.”

“We must make sure that we limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees. Glaciers are retreating, we cannot retreat. We must move forward with climate action,” he said.

“Today (Monday) from the base of Mt. Everest, I saw for myself the terrible impact of the climate crisis on the Himalayas.”

Guterres is in the landlocked South Asian nation on a four-day visit since Sunday at the invitation of Nepal’s Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal.

He met with Dahal, and other senior government officials, including foreign and defense ministers.

In a joint press conference with the Nepalese prime minister, Guterres urged developed countries to increase their support to Nepal and other countries suffering from the impacts of climate change.

“Nepal is also caught in a blizzard of global crises not of its making: the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, inflation, and the enormous threat posed by climate chaos,” the UN secretary general said.

This is Guterres’ first visit to Nepal after he assumed office on Jan. 1, 2017.

THE MANILA TIMES

[Climate activists get support in Albay](#)

By: Rhaydz Barcia

One of the climate walkers who left Manila on October 8 for a monthlong journey on foot to Tacloban City is Arseñito Colaba.

The 67-year-old retired professor is the oldest in the group and also one of the most motivated to complete the journey.

Colaba is a survivor of Super Typhoon "Yolanda" that made landfall in the country on Nov. 8, 2013, and left more than 7,000 people dead.

"As Yolanda survivor, this is the second time that I joined the climate walk for justice to ring a bell for us and for leaders to take action against climate change," said Colaba, who joined the climate walk for justice for the second time.

Colaba is with a group of hikers that include Yeb Saño, a Philippine climate justice activist and Greenpeace Southeast Asia executive director. They aim to travel a distance of about 800 kilometers to Tacloban City, Leyte, as part of the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of Yolanda.

They have been walking for more than two weeks now in their bid to raise awareness on climate justice on behalf of the Filipino communities that have been adversely affected by climate change.

The group reached Albay on October 24 and two days later, they arrived in Sorsogon.

In Albay, Gov. Edcel Greco Lagman met with the group and discussed issues on global warming.

To show his support to the climate activists, Lagman promised to host the climate change summit in Albay early next year.

The Integrated Rural Development Foundation Inc. also joined with the walk that also pushes for a green economy and sustainable development in the country.

"We walk and march with you in this fight of humanity to stop the catastrophic warming of the earth. We join Governor Grex Lagman in his effort to lead the Bicol Region in transitioning to renewable energy as the primary source of electricity," said Arze Glipo, executive director of IRDFI.

Glipo said that the Philippines, like the rest of the world, is at the crossroads to do business as usual or to go sustainable.

Unfortunately, she said, there is so much backsliding even if government officials at the national level are full of rhetoric in favor of the environment.

"Take the case of the Department of Energy," Glipo said.

"The agency is promoting the development of renewable projects such as solar and wind. But at the same time, the agency is facilitating the entry of new investments on power projects using fossil fuel."

Saño, on the other hand, said that the walk from Manila to Tacloban is a tribute to the people suffering from the impact of the climate crisis.

"This is the second time we walked from Manila to Tacloban as a tribute to the people's suffering from the impact of the climate crisis. The first was in 2014," he said.

"This is a tribute to loved ones, friends and families who perished from devastation brought by Super Typhoon 'Haiyan' (Yolanda) 10 years ago. We want to continuously remind ourselves and the rest of the world that we have a climate emergency."

Saño, a former commissioner of the Climate Change Commission and the Philippines' chief negotiator in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), also led a 1,500 kilometer walk with other climate activists from Rome to Paris in 2015.

Saño's group also proceeded to Albay Cathedral for a dialogue with the people and clergy of the Diocese of Legazpi. The Diocese of Legazpi, led by Bishop Joel Baylon, also supported the advocacy in response to the encyclical letter of the Holy Father, *Laudato si'*.

The walk also supports the wave of climate litigation cases worldwide, including the Philippine Commission on Human Rights' landmark inquiry that found legal grounds to hold big fossil fuel companies and other corporate entities accountable for their climate-destroying business models that lead to human rights harm.

The Climate Justice Walk demands world governments intensify their ambition for the Global Stocktake, mobilize essential resources for the Loss and Damage Fund of the UNFCCC, and shift to renewable energy.

The group's journey for climate justice is expected to reach Tacloban on Nov. 8, 2023, exactly 10 years after the landfall of Super Typhoon Yolanda, considered as the earth's most powerful storm of 2013 and one of the strongest Pacific typhoons ever recorded.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

[SNAP commits to cut impact of climate change](#)

By: Richmond Mercurio

SN Aboitiz Power Group (SNAP), a joint venture between Aboitiz Power Corp. and Norwegian firm Scatec, said it continues to work on reducing the impacts of climate change through its sustainable practices and equitable solutions.

“We continue to leverage new technology such as improved weather and inflow forecasting to optimize the operations of our hydropower plants,” SNAP Group president and CEO Joseph Yu said.

“We are also developing other renewable sources such as solar and renewable energy-complementary technologies like battery energy storage systems,” Yu said.

He said addressing the challenges of climate change go hand-in-hand with the group’s commitment to the progress of its communities.

SNAP owns and operates the 112.5-megawatt (MW) Ambuklao and 140-MW Binga hydroelectric power plants in Benguet, the Magat hydroelectric power plant, which has a nameplate capacity of 360 MW and maximum capacity of 388 MW on the border of Isabela and Ifugao, and the 8.5-MW Maris hydro in Isabela.

SNAP-Magat, which owns and operates the Magat and Maris hydroelectric power plants, hosted recently community forums in Ifugao and Isabela to share the importance of hydropower as a renewable source of energy.

For the past 16 years, the company’s corporate social responsibility and community investment initiatives have supported 601 projects valued at around P337 million.

This includes providing educational, health, and livelihood assistance, as well as investing in cultural and heritage protection, infrastructure and environmental initiatives.

In 2022, the company renewed its sustainability commitment by integrating it into core strategies.

It also embarked on an avifauna assessment along the upper Magat watershed to support conservation efforts.

To date, the company has planted 216,800 seedlings covering 195 hectares.

These initiatives demonstrate the company's dedication to renewable energy solutions and proactive measures to protect biodiversity.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

ABS CBN

[How mainstreaming climate change can spur action](#)

By: Raphael Bosano

Extreme climate conditions have pushed the term "climate change" in the mainstream. But while it is a term that many use to describe as the cause of the disasters they see, officials said it has yet to be fully grasped by most Filipinos.

According to the Climate Change Commission, climate change is no longer just a concept but a reality many people are living through.

"It's important for us to mainstream climate change. It's one thing to hear about it but it's another to fully understand the phenomenon but its impacts and most importantly what we need to solve it," said Climate Change Commission Executive Director Robert Borje.

He explains that because climate change is now being felt in different levels worldwide, efforts must be poured in by all sectors to ensure that its significance is imbibed at the individual level.

To ease and solve the effects of climate change, Borje stresses three important actions; pag-unawa (understanding), pagplano (planning) and pagsunod (following).

"If a person doesn't have a clear understanding of climate change then it will be very hard to understand that what is happening to you and me is a product of that."

But climate change is not just extreme weather per se.

Borje explains that there is a systemic nature behind climate change which must also be seen and understood. For instance, greenhouse gas emission is one of the driving factors to rising heat and extreme weather. While the Philippines contributes significantly less to the accumulation of greenhouse gasses compared to industrial countries, it is still the most vulnerable to hazards brought by extreme weather events.

"Klaro na kailangan tumulong (ng international community) sila sa climate finance and capacity building. Nagkukulang ang international community para dun. It's our country that suffers. CCC is working with different partner agencies to provide projects. it's important we have bilateral development partners."

“Gusto natin malaman ng tao ang iba-ibang programa, successes, lessons learned and best ways forward. Kasama na rin dito ang involvement ng private sector at kung paano sila makakatulong na magkaroon pa ng investments for a climate resilient Philippines.”

This is why the Commission is gearing up for the observance of Climate Change and Global Warming Awareness Week in November. It is during this period, designated by Proclamation No. 1667 in 2008, that awareness about global warming and climate change is heightened through comprehensive public information and educational campaigns.

The Commission also stressed the importance of capacity building in local governments. Being the first to respond and recover during times of disasters, Borje says it is important for LGUs to also be the first to prepare in order to avert disasters from natural hazards.

This is a similar view to that of the United Nation’s Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction Mami Mizutori who was recently in the country for the launch of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Mizutori said that a shift in paradigm, from response and recovery to preparedness, must happen not only to individuals but even more so to local leaders who have access to funds and power to make communities safer.

Borje says, it’s time for the Philippines to take a bolder stand from becoming just a "victim" to a "victor" of disasters.

Having a robust experience from different types of natural hazards, the Climate Change Commission says the country has what it takes to being a global thought leader in terms of disaster resilience.

BUSINESS MIRROR

National Adaptation Plan for climate resilience out soon

By: Samuel P. Medenilla

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) said the country's first ever National Adaptation Plan (NAP), which will help boost local resilience against the impact of extreme weather, will be out soon.

"Our NAPS or National Adaptation Plan is already 99 percent [complete] and is now for signature of the President," CCC Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz said during a press conference last week.

The NAP, the result of the comprehensive stakeholder consultation of CCC, contains the government's plan to address multiple aspects of climate change including "food security, agriculture, water resources, governance, stakeholder engagement, technology, financing and capacity building."

It also includes the priority programs of the government to address climate change-related issues.

CCC also noted the NAP will help mainstream climate change adaptation measures among local government units (LGU) through their Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP).

Dela Cruz said currently, 86 percent of LGUs have submitted their LCCAP.

However, he noted such plans should be "dynamic" especially since LGUs are at the forefront in facing the rapidly changing impact of climate change.

Aside from the NAP, CCC also said the creation of the standards needed for the implementation of Republic Act (RA) No. 107741, or the Green Jobs Act, is also in its "final stages."

The legislation gives qualified firms special deduction from taxable income equivalent to 50 percent for skills training and research and development expenses, as well as tax and duty free importation of capital equipment.

"This will spur development and transition towards a low carbon economy and it will incentivize investments by our private sector in greener processes," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said.

[PHL CCC to push for global fund for climate adaptation at COP28](#)

By: Samuel P. Medenilla

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) said it will push for the creation of global funding for climate adaptation during the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) next month.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said the measure will be on top of the Loss and Damage Fund (LDF), which was discussed during the COP last year.

He noted LDF was a “reactive” approach for countries, which have already suffered from the effects of climate change such as rising sea levels, prolonged droughts and super typhoons.

“Basically, it is for rehabilitation and construction. What we want is preventive adaptation,” Borje said in a recent press conference.

This will help shift the perception of low-emission states from being just mere victims to victors, when it comes to adapting to the effects of climate change, he added.

Adaptation measures

The CCC official said the strategy is currently being used by the government through its People’s Survival Fund (PSF).

Established under Republic Act No. 10174, the fund, with an initial P1-billion capitalization, aims to help local government units (LGU) and accredited local and community organizations implement measures to help boost the resilience of communities and ecosystems from the impact of climate change.

The PSF Board led by the Department of Finance has approved P887.63 million worth of adaptation projects.

Of the around 50 pending PSF applications, five are in the final stages of processing, according to CCC Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz.

He stressed the importance of such projects since LGUs are at the forefront of the impact of climate change.

CCC is now working with the PSF board on how to make its funds more accessible.

Funding mechanism

Borje said a similar global mechanism will help accelerate similar initiatives.

During COP28, participating countries are expected to discuss the form of the fund, as well as which countries should fund it and benefit from it.

“We believe there is still more work that needs to be done [for the creation of the fund]. It is a question of funding, making sure it is easily accessible. We say that because there have been serious issues on the global funding mechanism for climate change,” Borje said.

But while the mechanisms are still under discussion, Borje said they also engaged in bilateral talks with partner agencies and development partners for the said adaptation measures.

“We have a list of bilateral partners, but we can’t give it out yet since it contains those [projects] in the pipeline, including those which are committed and implemented. These are being vetted by the DOF and the Neda [National Economic and Development Authority],” Borje said.

Presidential participation

When asked if President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. will participate in COP28, Borje said they will let Malacañang make the announcement on the matter.

He said the chief executive’s participation in the event will strengthen the country’s position on climate change in the international event.

A of press time, the Palace has yet to issue a statement if Marcos will attend the event or not.

MAHARLIKA

[CCC urges Filipinos to embrace responsible living, foster climate change-resilient PH](#)

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has urged Filipinos to embrace responsible living as a means to foster a climate change-resilient Philippines.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje emphasized the need for individual and community-level solutions to address climate change issues, emphasizing the importance of shedding a culture of waste and irresponsibility.

During the media launch of the 16th Annual Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week at Cabel Restaurant in Manila, he urged everyone to conserve water and energy, lead sustainable lives, and take responsibility.

Borje also highlighted the significance of engaging the youth in understanding climate change and taking appropriate action. Additionally, he emphasized the essential role of inter-faith organizations in responding to climate change, especially in times of disasters.

CCC Commissioner Albert dela Cruz stressed the importance of Filipinos understanding the impact of their actions at home, in the workplace, and in the community on climate change. He advocated for a holistic societal approach, invoking the spirit of “bayanihan” (cooperation) to address climate change and promote natural-based solutions.

He encouraged practical actions like opening windows and turning off air conditioning when it’s hot, emphasizing that individual efforts contribute to a collective “bayani” (heroic) endeavor.

The government, under President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s leadership, has made it a priority for the Philippines to be climate change-resilient and fulfill its international obligations as a responsible member of the global community.

Climate Consciousness Week, scheduled from November 19 to 25, not only seeks to raise public awareness of critical issues but also aims to educate people on policies and best practices for empowering local government units to become disaster-resilient and eco-friendly cities. It also explores ways in which the private sector can invest in policies that will make the country more resilient to climate change.

RAPPLER

PH's greenhouse gas inventory that can track emissions now in the works

By: Iya Gozum

A greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory being developed by the Climate Change Commission (CCC), which will help the Philippines track carbon emissions and avail of climate financing, is already in the works.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said the inventory would establish how much less the Philippines contributes to the climate crisis compared to more developed nations.

“It situates us already na, ‘Uy, talagang ganito lang kami.’ Talagang makikita na ito lang ang aming greenhouse gas emissions,” Borje told reporters on Friday, October 27.

(It situates us already, ‘Hey, our emissions are minimal.’ We would see that we only emitted a small amount of greenhouse gas emissions.)

A GHG inventory would provide a comprehensive accounting of a country’s total emissions in a given period of time. With such inventory in place, a country would have the necessary data to help plan out and tailor fit its own climate mitigation actions.

The CCC is set to release the inventory to the public next year. It computes the emissions the Philippines released in 2015 and 2020.

“Importante talaga ‘yung inventory ng 2015, 2020. Mata-track mo kung umaakyat, bumababa, anong mga sectors ‘yon,” said Borje.

(The inventory for 2015 and 2020 is important. You can track if emissions rose, decreased, and which sectors contributed.)

According to Borje, some of the sectors surveyed in the inventory were agriculture, waste, and forestry.

Why is this important?

The data from the inventory would be crucial in the country’s bid to avail of climate finance from richer nations who pollute and emit large amounts of carbon emissions.

Already, the Philippines and other developing nations are having a hard time making morally responsible countries pay. Climate finance is paid by industrialized nations to

less endowed parties to help them reduce emissions. Large investments are needed to decarbonize sectors like energy and transport.

But why is climate finance especially important for the Philippines?

First, disasters experienced by the country would require more resources, funds to recover from. Because of the worsening crisis, the world is expecting more frequent and stronger typhoons in the years to come.

Second, the Philippine pledge to reduce emissions largely relies on aid.

Despite its measly contribution to the total global emissions released, the country had promised to cut down emissions by 75% by 2030. This target is the country's Nationally Determined Contribution submitted to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2021.

But only 2.71% of this target is unconditional. The rest will only be fulfilled if developed countries cooperate.

The rise in global temperatures is attributed to heat trapped by record-high greenhouse gases, among them carbon dioxide.

This phenomenon, called the climate crisis, results to extreme weather events, destruction of natural habitats, and rising seas.

The crisis had left the Philippines and other vulnerable countries grappling with the impacts while wealthier countries refuse to drastically cut down their emissions and deliver aid.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

'Honoring climate deals is rich countries' moral obligations' – PH

By: Nestor Corrales

The Philippines made a call ahead of the 2023 United Nations climate change conference in Dubai this December where President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is expected to attend that it is a “moral obligation” of rich countries to honor climate deals like the Paris Agreement.

Robert Borje, executive director of the Climate Change Commission (CCC), told reporters on Friday the topics they would raise during the climate summit in Dubai would center “on what developing countries, like the Philippines, continue to experience” due to the worsening effects of climate change.

“We are working very hard at the preparations and we hope to get there with all our bags filled with everything that we need so that we will make the strongest case possible for our nation all those we’ve lost over the last few decades because of climate change and its impacts,” Borje said.

He added the Philippines would also present during the summit “what we are doing to make sure that we are responsible members of the international community and what the international community needs to continue doing.”

“Climate change is the global governance challenge of our generation and it takes the entire world to address the problems and root causes,” he said.

In June this year, Marcos said he wanted to attend the summit because “climate change is a primordial issue” for the Philippines.

He added his presence at the conference would also be an opportunity for him to renew the ties between the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates.

Borje said the President’s attendance at the conference would be important because Marcos placed climate change as a priority of his administration during his inaugural address on June 30 last year.

‘Low-carbon economy’

“There is nothing that prevents us from working with development partners to increase investments in key sectors of our nation to transition toward a low carbon economy and

to strengthen local governments when it comes to adaptation to the effects of climate change,” he said.

He added climate change deals were more than just about financing.

“For those of us who are experiencing loss and damage that is over and above what other countries are suffering, it becomes a moral obligation,” Borje said.

“Our United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, our Paris Agreement are moral obligations of other countries because it affects the life, livelihood, and future of the Philippines,” he added.

Data from the CCC showed that the Philippines suffered a \$12-billion loss and damage due to the impact of climate change in the past decade.

The CCC said the Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Thailand emerged as four of 10 most vulnerable countries to climate change and disasters in the Southeast Asian region.

THE MANILA TIMES

[PH to present case in Dubai climate summit](#)

By: Catherine S. Valente

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has announced that the Philippines is ready to present a "strongest case" at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), from Nov. 30 to Dec. 12, 2023.

"We would like to prepare as hard as we can because the messages that the Philippines wants to convey and impart to this important global meeting will really center on what developing countries, like the Philippines, continue to experience, what we are doing to make sure that we are responsible members of the international community and what the international community needs to continue doing because for countries, like the Philippines and other vulnerable nations, it is a question of lives, livelihood and our shared future," CCC Vice Chairman and Executive Director Robert Borje told the media on Friday.

He added that while climate change is a global governance challenge, solutions must be formulated at the community and the personal level.

"It is important for us to mainstream climate change. It is one thing to hear about it, but it is another thing to fully understand not just the phenomenon but its impact and, most importantly, what we can do to solve it," Borje said.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, also known as the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, was first held in 1995 in Berlin.

In its most recent edition held in Egypt last November, participating countries agreed to create a "loss and damage" program, wherein richer countries pay compensations to poorer countries affected by climate change.

In June, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. said he was keen to attend the conference, adding climate change is "a primordial issue."

"Of course, everybody knows that the President, since his inaugural address, has placed climate change as a priority of the administration. But that being said, there are also pragmatic realities that we have to attend to. It's one thing, of course, to plan for the event, but it's another thing when it comes closer because there may be other

developments that will happen," Borje said when asked to confirm the President's participation in the summit.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

Philippines to benefit from COP28 attendance

By: Bella Cariaso

The Philippines will benefit from the attendance of President Marcos at the 28th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in December, where he was personally invited by COP28 president Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Climate Change Commission Secretary Robert E.A. Borje said yesterday.

At a press conference, Borje said it is an opportunity for Marcos to reiterate his message during his inaugural address on the commitment of developed countries to support developing countries like the Philippines affected by climate change.

He added that the President's attendance at COP28 is important, as any opportunity for him to be in the UAE will be seen as the highest expression of partnership between the two countries.

According to Borje, there was an obligation for developed countries to come up with \$100 billion in terms of assistance but it never materialized.

"What is important for the Philippines is to be as smart as it can be when it comes to climate change negotiations, when it comes to climate finance. There is nothing that prevents us from working with development partners to increase investments in key sectors of our nation to transition towards a low carbon economy and to strengthen local government units when it comes to adaptation to the effects of climate change," he said.

Borje has said that the climate crisis is alarming not just in the Philippines but in the entire world.

"The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has identified this as an existential threat. When it is an existential threat, it means lives are at stake here, but it becomes more alarming for developing countries like the Philippines because we are a developing country, we are an archipelago and we are situated where we are," he noted.

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