NEWS ROUNDUP
03 NOVEMBER 2026 | 08:00 am

- The high-tech efforts to restore ‘climate hero’ mangroves
- Climate change must be declared ‘global health emergency’
- Lanao del Sur farmers get climate-resilient rice farming training
- PCIC strengthens farmers’ protection against climate risks through agricultural insurance
- Global Talks on Nature End With Persistent Gaps on Action and Funding

CCC IN THE NEWS:

- CCC calls for sustainable urban housing
- PHL, Germany forge major climate deal
- Turning youth into island stewards
- Marcos urges public, private sectors to observe Climate Change Consciousness Week
- Science-based climate action pushed for LGUs

CNN

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By: Caitlin Rajar

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Marcos urges public, private sectors to observe Climate Change Consciousness Week
By: Jim Fernandez

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has tasked all government agencies, as well as Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), state universities, and colleges, to participate in the nationwide observance of the 19th Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week.

THE MANILA TIMES

Science-based climate action pushed for LGUs
By: Allen Limos

THE Climate Change Commission (CCC) stressed the need to make local climate plans better by using scientific data and creating practical solutions that fit each community's specific risks and goals.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

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Gangly, densely rooted, and waxy-leaved, mangrove trees may look strange but don't let their appearance fool you; these plants are nothing short of magical.

There are more than 50 "true" mangrove species of trees and shrubs known to grow in the intertidal zone of shorelines in tropical and subtropical climates. Their unique look is thanks to a variety of adaptations in their roots and leaves that make them able to survive conditions including the high salinity of seawater, low-oxygen mud, and constantly changing tides.

"Mangroves are beneficial in so many ways," Dr. Amna Almansoori, a marine scientist at the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD) told CNN. "I really love mangroves!"

Almansoori isn't alone in her affinity for these plants.

Mangroves support wildlife that lives in and around them — including at least 340 threatened species globally — acting as a habitat for everything from manatees to monkeys. They even act as a source of food as their leaves shed into the sediment around them, breaking down to form nutrient-rich organic matter to feed a variety of wildlife.

The tidal trees protect coastal communities from the impacts of storms and floods, by acting as buffers that slow the swell of waves and reducing the height of a storm surge before water reaches land. Their roots stabilize the sediment in the soil around them, building ground and counteracting coastal erosion.

Mangroves are also one of the most effective carbon sinks, able to absorb and store more than four times as much carbon dioxide as the average terrestrial forest. According to the Mangrove Alliance, the trees are responsible for storing 21 billion tons of carbon dioxide globally, something they can do for thousands of years.

"From a climate perspective," Almansoori said. "I would say that mangroves are heroes."

Sowing seeds of hope
Mangroves first became a priority in Abu Dhabi in the late 1960s, shortly before the era of its oil boom, which brought a period of rapid urbanization for the emirate. Coastal development resulted in a loss of mangrove cover across the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan initiated parallel restoration and plantation programs, making Abu Dhabi a pioneer of mangrove conservation.

The United Nations Environment Program estimated a 35% decline in global mangroves from 1980 to 2000, before the rate of loss fell by 44% between 2000 and 2020, according to the

Mangrove Alliance. In contrast, Abu Dhabi saw its mangrove cover increase by 92% between 1987 and 2022. These days, “You see a thriving forest. From 3,000 hectares, now we have 17,600 hectares,” Almansoori said.

The Abu Dhabi Mangrove Initiative (ADMI) describes its work as “science-based restoration,” using data, scientific mapping and monitoring to inform its conservation. It is working toward the UAE’s goal of planting 100 million mangrove trees by 2030; in 2023 alone, the ADMI distributed over 6 million mangrove seeds across Abu Dhabi using specially adapted drones.

While planting by hand involves sending large groups of people to sensitive natural areas and risking disruption to the ecosystem, the initiative’s custom-built drones reduce this impact. The drones can travel long distances and access more remote areas that ADMI research deems is most opportune for planting. Each drone can carry approximately 6,000 seeds, scattering them into tidal mud to germinate and bring new mangroves to life.

Turning the tide

While they might act as a force against climate change, mangroves too are at risk from the effects of a warming world. As protection efforts have strengthened, mangrove numbers have seen small gains over the past decade, according to Global Mangrove Watch. But some countries have continued to see a net decline since the start of the decade including Myanmar, Indonesia and Nigeria. For these nations, the loss of mangroves threatens the supply of food, shelter, and the lives of those living near the shore.

In Abu Dhabi, mangroves are still classified as endangered despite the overall increase in coverage, due to the threats posed by climate change — one of the most significant being rising sea levels.

“A lot of water can suffocate them, but less water won’t help them grow,” Almansoori explained. If the seas rise faster than the height of the sediment mangroves grow on, the plants may be submerged.

For the ADMI, protecting and restoring existing mangroves is a priority. A recently launched mangrove hydrological restoration project hopes to study the optimal water flow for mangrove health and hydrological conditions needed for long-term recovery of degraded mangroves.

To Almansoori, it’s vital that increasing mangrove coverage is done with their long-term health and conservation in mind.

“We do want areas to increase in terms of coverage, but we would like to see them increase in a healthy manner,” she said. “So that we can see them thrive [not just] for biodiversity, but also for mankind and for climate change.”

DAILY TRIBUNE

Climate change must be declared 'global health emergency'

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.

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.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Lanao del Sur farmers get climate-resilient rice farming training

By: Divina M. Suson

Around 200 rice farmers from Maguing and Poona Bayabao in Lanao del Sur received fertilizer assistance after participating in a training program on improving rice production and adapting to climate change, particularly the effects of El Niño.

The Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur, through its Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg), conducted the training on the PalayCheck System as part of its flagship agriculture and livelihood program.

In a post on its official Facebook page, the provincial government said the participants received either urea or complete fertilizer to support their rice production.

Last week's training covered farmer profiling, pre- and post-training assessments, and cost and return analysis to help farmers improve their knowledge and adopt more effective rice farming practices.

It also focused on climate-resilient agricultural techniques to prepare farmers for changing weather conditions and the potential impact of El Niño on their crops and livelihoods.

The provincial government acknowledged the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR), represented by Agriculturist I Baimona Ditual, and Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator Engr. Asral Barauntong, particularly in the fertilizer distribution.

In Poona Bayabao, MAFAR Agricultural Technologist Zenaida Daud and Municipal Information Officer Mojib Romero also underscored the importance of training in helping farmers deal with the effects of El Niño.

"Through this initiative, OPAg continues to promote improved rice production and climate-resilient farming practices to help sustain farmers' livelihoods," the provincial government said.

The program is part of the provincial government's efforts to strengthen agricultural productivity and support farmers through technical training and farm inputs.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

PCIC strengthens farmers' protection against climate risks through agricultural insurance

By: Aaron Josh A. Paragas

Farmers and fisherfolk play a vital role in sustaining the country's food supply, but increasingly unpredictable weather conditions continue to threaten their livelihoods, agricultural production, and household income.

With climate-related threats, including the looming Super El Niño, posing greater risks to the agricultural sector, access to financial protection has become increasingly important in helping food producers recover from losses and sustain their operations.

In Ilocos Sur, the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC)-Provincial Extension Office (PEO) continues to provide a financial safety net through government-subsidized insurance programs, encouraging farmers and fisherfolk to secure their livelihoods against potential agricultural losses.

During the "Ammuentayo" (Let Us Know) radio program of the Philippine Information Agency (PIA)-Ilocos Sur, Mercury Pascua, provincial extension office supervisor of PCIC-Ilocos Sur, assured agricultural workers that the agency continues to accept insurance applications, provided their crops have not yet sustained damage.

"With this Super El Niño, there is no difference in how our office operates. We are still accepting insurance applications as long as their crops are not yet damaged," Pascua said.

Through the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) of the Department of Agriculture (DA), qualified beneficiaries can access the Government Premium Subsidy, which covers their insurance premiums and helps reduce the financial burden of protecting their agricultural investments.

Pascua said funds remain available under the program until December 31, 2026, or until the allocated budget is fully utilized.

As of September 30, 2026, a total of 21,214 farmers in Ilocos Sur have been insured, benefiting from P33.940 million in government premium subsidies.

For September 2026 alone, PCIC allocated P75.136 million for the entire province.

Of this amount, around P60 million to P65 million had been utilized as of October, leaving funds available for qualified applicants.

The insurance program covers six major agricultural lines: rice, corn, high-value crops such as fruits and vegetables, livestock, fisheries, and non-crop agricultural assets, including fishing boats and machinery.

Optional regular life insurance plans are also available for farmers seeking additional personal protection.

To make enrollment more accessible, applicants must be registered farmers under the RSBSA and provide their reference number, a duly accomplished application form corresponding to the agricultural commodity to be insured, and a photocopy of a valid identification card.

Those awaiting official RSBSA registration may also submit temporary certifications issued by their respective municipal agriculture offices.

PCIC has likewise adopted digital tools to improve the efficiency of its field verification and claims assessment processes.

Inspectors now use tablet computers during farm visits to document and evaluate damaged agricultural areas.

This digital approach helps facilitate claims processing, with approved indemnity payments released through online banking applications or local remittance centers.

To ensure fair and transparent compensation, PCIC evaluates losses according to the extent of damage, crop growth stage, and applicable production costs.

“To be honest, we have three categories for loss. For zero to 10 percent loss, there is no payment, while 11 to 89 percent is paid as partial loss and 90 to 100 percent is considered a total loss,” Pascua explained.

The agency follows a Corporate Service Response Time benchmark of 20 days for the release of claims payments, helping affected agricultural workers receive financial assistance within the prescribed service period.

For farmers who are not yet registered under the RSBSA or those who cannot access government-subsidized coverage once funds are exhausted, PCIC also offers regular insurance programs with affordable premium rates.

“If the funds are exhausted, there is still another way. They can pay the premium rate, which is not that expensive,” Pascua said.

Under the regular insurance program, a one-hectare rice or corn crop valued at P25,000 requires a 10-percent premium amounting to P2,500.

High-value crops carry a five-percent premium based on a P50,000-per-hectare baseline, while livestock raisers may insure large animals, such as cows and carabaos, for up to P20,000 each.

Beyond financial protection, Pascua emphasized the importance of adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices to minimize potential losses, particularly amid the threat of El Niño.

“My advice to farmers, especially now with the threat of Super El Niño, is to visit their municipal agricultural office first for advice on planting drought-resilient rice varieties with better water-absorbing roots. After that, you can get insured at our office for better protection against disasters,” she advised.

The availability of agricultural insurance, alongside appropriate farming practices and government support, can help reduce the vulnerability of farmers and fisherfolk to climate-related hazards.

These interventions also contribute to sustaining agricultural production and protecting the country’s food supply.

Farmers and fisherfolk interested in applying for coverage or submitting advance claim documents may visit their nearest municipal agriculture offices or the PCIC-PEO in Vigan City.

They may also send a message to the official Facebook page, PCIC RO1 – PEO Ilocos Sur, or call 0905-3171240.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Global Talks on Nature End With Persistent Gaps on Action and Funding

By: Catrin Einhorn

Two weeks of global negotiations to protect the world's wildlife and ecosystems ended on Saturday in Yerevan, Armenia, with nations reaffirming their pledges to protect nature but still off track to meet an ambitious set of targets by a 2030 deadline.

Biodiversity, the variety of life on the planet, is declining at levels unprecedented in human history, scientists say.

In 2022, in a landmark agreement made under the United Nations biodiversity treaty, nations pledged to reverse those losses by taking action on 23 targets, including protecting 30 percent of the earth's land and water and reforming industries that drive declines in wildlife.

This year's meeting marked the halfway point for countries to meet their deadline for those pledges. The United States is the only country, with the exception of the Vatican, that is not party to the treaty, though it attends the meeting and participates from the sidelines.

Just before the talks began, the United Nations issued a review of progress that found that countries were lagging far behind. A major theme was how to get on track with a "Yerevan Pathway" that would help unlock progress.

In the end, delegates reaffirmed their commitments and set priorities, creating pressure for domestic action, but tense questions over how to pay for nature protection, especially in countries that are poor financially but rich in biodiversity, remained unresolved.

Countries pledged almost $2 billion in new financing, conference officials said.

"Within the inevitable limits of the U.N. system, I think that we've made some significant progress," said Steven Guilbeault, a former environment minister of Canada who helped shepherd through the 2022 global biodiversity agreement. He was heartened to see more finance ministers in Yerevan, he said, because action on biodiversity requires their involvement.

A major highlight, he and others said, was a focus on tackling one of the thorniest issues: about $2.4 trillion in public money that flows toward environmentally damaging activities, according to the United Nations.

"Armenia deserves credit for touching the 'third rail' of biodiversity negotiations: the agricultural, fisheries and other subsidies that prop up a system leaving biodiversity in global decline," said Alfred DeGemmis, the director of international policy at the nonprofit Wildlife Conservation Society.

Those harmful subsidies are seen as critical to plugging the yawning gap in funding needed for conservation, estimated at about $1.3 trillion a year by the Paulson Institute, a research organization, and others. Going into the talks, of all the pledges nations made in 2022, subsidy reform has proved one of the most difficult for countries to address.

During the talks in Yerevan, three initiatives were started to help countries make progress on reforming subsidies. One is a coalition led by Colombia and Finland that aims to bring ministerial teams together to share knowledge, experience and strategies.

“We don’t need to spend more to close the biodiversity funding gap, we need to spend better,” Marina Von Weissenberg, a Finnish senior ministerial adviser and co-chair of that effort, said in a news release. “Governments have a real opportunity here to reshape public spending with future generations in mind, but they can’t do it alone. International coordination is key to giving governments the confidence to lead change.”

Another topic of negotiations was one of the major accomplishments from the last global biodiversity talks, in Cali, Colombia, in 2024: a fund through which the pharmaceutical and other industries that rely on biodiversity would contribute to conservation efforts. Since its beginning in 2025, the effort has struggled, raising only about $10,000. Delegates in Yerevan reaffirmed the suggested rate of contribution for large companies: 1 percent of profit. But contributing to the fund is voluntary, and it remains to be seen what will happen.

Throughout the talks, some activists expressed bitter disappointment, raising concerns that the 2022 global agreement would go the way of its predecessor, which failed to fully meet a single global target.

The next such gathering will be held in 2028 in Ecuador.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

BUSINESS MIRROR

CCC calls for sustainable urban housing
By: Jonathan L. Mayuga

In observance of World Cities Day 2026, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) called on local governments (LGU) and urban stakeholders to integrate climate resilience into housing and urban development strategies.

Highlighting this year's theme, "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All," the CCC underscored the critical role of cities in fighting global warming.

With urban areas driving a significant share of global carbon dioxide emissions, transforming towns into low-carbon economies remains vital to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goal 11.

"Urban regeneration is not just about building new structures; it is about rethinking how our cities function in a changing climate," said CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje. "Every housing unit, every drainage system, and every transport network must be designed with climate risk in mind."

To drive localized action, the Commission is accelerating efforts to integrate the long-term National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023–2050 into local planning, prioritizing sustainable land use and urban management.

Collaborative initiatives are already underway across the country. Earlier this year, the CCC partnered with the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to align Metro Manila's infrastructure programs with national climate policies, tackling severe risks like extreme flooding, sea-level rise, and urban heat.

The agency also highlighted Quezon City's leadership as the sole Philippine member of the international C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, describing it as a benchmark for leveraging global support for local adaptation.

Emphasizing that urban development and climate defense must go hand in hand, the CCC urged multi-sectoral cooperation across national agencies, local governments, private stakeholders, and communities.

"The cities we regenerate today will determine the resilience of our communities for decades to come," Borje noted. "We must build forward better, ensuring that adequate housing and urban development go hand in hand with climate adaptation and mitigation."

PHL, Germany forge major climate deal

The Philippines and Germany have forged a major partnership to advance climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and low-carbon development across the country under the Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development (Transcend) Project.

The agreement was signed by Climate Change Commission (CCC) Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje, Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, German Development Cooperation (GIZ) Country Director Immanuel Gebhardt, and Transcend Program Manager Johanna Sibbert, alongside other key officials and partners.

Borje emphasized the project's strategic value in connecting ground-level activities with the country's broader climate commitments. He stressed that climate considerations must be fully integrated into decisions involving public investment, infrastructure, enterprise, local planning, and livelihoods rather than treated as a separate concern.

"Transcend does not carry these national commitments on its own. Its contribution is focused: work in selected landscapes and sectors that connects local activity with national priorities," Borje said. "The point is not to add a climate label to work already under way. It is to make climate risk, ecosystem condition, and emissions part of how development choices are made."

Sibbert highlighted Transcend's integrated approach to climate action, emphasizing how the project brings together adaptation, emissions mitigation, and biodiversity conservation while supporting government efforts at both the national and local levels. She also underscored the importance of working with development partners to advance the Philippines' climate and biodiversity goals.

"The unique selling point of Transcend is that it works across adaptation, mitigation, and biodiversity conservation," Sibbert said. "It also supports the government at the national and subnational levels, working with development partners to advance the country's climate and biodiversity commitments."

Transcend operates across three key Philippine landscapes—Luzon, Panay, and Northern Mindanao. Its targeted interventions include ecosystem conservation and restoration, urban ecosystem-based adaptation, energy efficiency for selected micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), transport, and climate governance.

These interventions aim to embed climate and environmental factors directly into development planning and implementation while strengthening coordination among sectors and partners working toward sustainable development.

Gebhardt underscored the significance of the initiative to bilateral relations, describing it as a landmark undertaking. He noted that the project's broad scope reflects the need for coordinated, multi-sectoral action to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss.

"That is the most important project for Filipino-German cooperation and for GIZ. Transcend is the biggest program of its kind, bringing together multiple sectors and partners to address climate change and biodiversity loss," Gebhardt said.

The initiative supports the Philippines' overarching climate frameworks, including the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023–2050, and the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Under its 2026 NDC, the Philippines aims to reduce or avoid 75 percent of projected greenhouse gas emissions from 2025 to 2035.

Supported by €32.702 million in funding from Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI), the project is implemented through GIZ in close collaboration with Philippine government agencies and a consortium of implementing partners.

DAILY TRIBUNE

Turning youth into island stewards

The small island of Anajawan lies just over an hour by boat from Siargao's main island and is part of General Luna, Surigao del Norte. It is a quiet, sea-bound village of roughly 477 to 600 residents, known for clear waters and squid fishing. There are no cars or motorbikes. Households relied on generators or solar power rather than a continuous electricity supply.

Local teacher Ervie Ann C. Conte started a youth-led initiative called Project Paglajag that teaches children to take care of the island. An initial activity was the weekly shoreline cleanup to tackle plastic pollution, coastal erosion and environmental degradation.

She also conducted storytelling, workshops on recycling and art, and leadership training. Discarded plastics were turned into reusable materials, giving young people a tangible way to see waste become a resource.

Conte gradually expanded the project to address limited electricity, malnutrition and uneven access to quality education. Anajawan became part of the Solar Community-Based Island Tourism and Livelihood Energizer Platform (SMILE), a project led by WWF-Philippines with support from the European Union. SMILE aimed to provide 24-hour renewable-energy access to four remote island communities, including Anajawan, while creating livelihood and eco-tourism opportunities.

Before the project, electricity on the islands was constrained by fossil-fuel generators, often limited to a few hours daily. SMILE's solar electrification was designed to replace the noise, smoke, and expense of diesel generators with cleaner, more reliable power for around 500 households across the participating communities. It also helped her make learning, environmental work, and youth activities more sustainable on an island that had long been off-grid.

Resilience award

Paglajag's most important achievement may be its people. Former young participants have gone on to become instructors, local entrepreneurs, and role models for the next generation in northern Siargao.

On 29 October, Conte and Paglajag were honored at the 4th Philippine Resilience Awards (PRA) for promoting environmental conservation, literacy, nutrition and sustainable livelihood in Siargao's last-mile island communities. For Conte, the lesson is simple: when young islanders are trusted to protect their home, they do not merely inherit their community's future — they help build it.

Aside from Conte, the 4th PRA 2026 awarded other women and youth climate leaders for their exceptional work in strengthening community climate resilience.

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.

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.

“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,” CCC vce chairperson and executive director Robert E.A. Borje said.

The resilience champions, CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne S. 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 said.

Initiated by Senator Loren Legarda, the PRA is a multi-stakeholder program of the CCC 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.

DZRH

Marcos urges public, private sectors to observe Climate Change Consciousness Week
By: Jim Fernandez

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has tasked all government agencies, as well as Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), state universities, and colleges, to participate in the nationwide observance of the 19th Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week.

In a Monday report by RH 14 Leth Narciso, this week is observed from November 19 to 25, 2026, with the theme, “Komunidad, Kooperasyon, at Koordinasyon Para sa Klima” this year.

Through Memorandum Circular No. 140, s. 2026, Marcos ordered active participation from government agencies in activities led by the Climate Change Commission.

President Marcos also urged all local government units (LGUs) and the private sector to support the week’s activities, which promote climate change awareness and action, to ensure their success.

He also directed the Presidential Communications Office (PCO) to disseminate news of the Palace’s programs and projects in connection with the Climate Change Consciousness Week.

The memorandum strengthens the administration’s commitment to protecting the environment, promoting sustainable economic development, preserving natural resources for present and future generations, and upholding citizens’ right to a balanced and healthful ecology.

THE MANILA TIMES

Science-based climate action pushed for LGUs
By: Allen Limos

THE Climate Change Commission (CCC) stressed the need to make local climate plans better by using scientific data and creating practical solutions that fit each community's specific risks and goals.

The agency said there is a need to strengthen the Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plans (eLCCAPs) of local government units (LGUs) to ensure that their climate actions are scientifically sound and inclusive by conducting a workshop with officials from Iloilo, Misamis Oriental, and Oriental Mindoro.

"It is through a science-driven eLCCAP that a provincial government can determine with mathematical precision which barangay requires an early warning system first, which critical watershed demands immediate ecological restoration, and which agricultural assistance programs must be restructured to withstand rising heat index levels," said CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne Herrera during the workshop, stressing that the initiative aims to cater to the local needs of each community to fortify their climate resilience.

Puno backs Marquez's bid for chief justice post
As of October 2026, 91 percent of LGUs nationwide submitted their climate plans. However, only 68 percent relied on science, highlighting the need to improve LGUs' technical skills so their plans are based on actual evidence and local vulnerabilities. Allen Limos

The two-day Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development was held to review climate data, share best practices, and improve their eLCCAPs.

During the workshop, the provinces reviewed climate hazards, impacts, and adaptive capacity, refined impact chain analyses, and created priority recommendations. Their feedback will help improve the eLCCAP Quality Assurance Tool and guide the creation of an eLCCAP Quality Assurance Guide. "The eLCCAP turns our highest national commitments — our National Adaptation Plan and our Nationally Determined Contribution — from high-level policy declarations into concrete, life-saving local actions," Herrera added.

The workshop also highlighted the need for climate action plans to be gender-responsive and socially inclusive. Herrera stressed the importance of including women in climate consultations and planning, noting that climate change disproportionately burdens women due to their household and caregiving roles.

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