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By: Aubrey Rose A. Inosante

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#### **GMA NEWS**

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By: Anna Felicia Bajo

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#### **MANILA BULLETIN**

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By: Betheena Unite

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#### PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## Farmers in the face of climate crisis

By: John Patrick P. Habacon

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By: Luisa Cabato

As the leader of a country frequently hit by typhoons and other calamities, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. expressed hope that the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) Board would find solutions to the adverse effects of climate change, sparing Filipinos from further suffering.

#### PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

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By: Darryl John Esguerra

The Philippines is pushing for the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) to hold a base in Manila, noting the country's extreme vulnerability to climate change and calamities.

#### **POLITIKO**

## Marcos Hopeful Climate Fund Can Improve PH Disaster Resilience

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#### **RAPPLER**

## 2 more Mindanao wetlands now on Ramsar global conservation list

Two wetlands in Mindanao, one in the Caraga region and another in the Zamboanga Peninsula, have been added to the Ramsar Convention's list of wetlands of international importance.

### What's the climate change case at the ICJ all about?

By: Iya Gozum

For the first two weeks of December, the World Court is holding public hearings to shed light on states' obligations to prevent the climate crisis.

#### CCC IN THE NEWS:

#### PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## Climate change adaptation plans must be localized, understandable: CCC By: Marita Moaje

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Thursday emphasized the importance of cascading the climate change adaptation plans to the local government units (LGUs) to ensure that these are easily understood by the public.

## PTV

# <u>Kahalagahan ng papel ng mga kabataan sa paglaban sa climate change,</u> binigyang-diin

Ito ang binigyang diin ng Climate Change Consciousness Week seminar na isinagawa sa University of the Philippines Los Baños at ayon kay Climate Change Commission Vice Chairperson at Executive Director Rober E.A. Borje bilang ang Pilipinas ay isa sa mga bansang madaling maapektuhan ng climate change, kaya importante ang partisipasyon ng kabataan bilang future stewards ng mundo.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division** 

#### **BUSINESS WORLD**

## ADB approves \$2.85-M package to support PHL energy transition

By: Aubrey Rose A. Inosante

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a combined \$2.85-million package for the Philippines to address climate change and expand access to renewable energy.

The package was approved on Nov. 28, the bank said on its website on Tuesday.

The Energy Transition Support Program package includes a \$1.85 million grant from the ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-other sources) and a \$1 million grant from the Clean Energy Fund under the Clean Energy Financing Partnership Facility.

"The technical assistance (TA) will prepare sovereign-financed energy projects and programs of ADB in the Philippines, conduct due diligence for proposed loans, and help enhance project and program management capacities of the executing and implementing agencies," the ADB said in a loan document.

It will help implement key priorities of the ADB's country partnership strategy for the Philippines, 2024-2029, and build up the energy project pipeline to help the ADB achieve its climate finance target of \$100 billion by 2030.

These include tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability.

In addition, the package will help establish the Geothermal Resource De-risking Facility to stimulate the second wave of geothermal investment in the Philippines.

The facility will supply contingent convertibles up to 50% of the total cost of drilling to reduce investment risk at the geothermal development chain exploration stage.

The Department of Energy will be implementing the geothermal funding set for an ADB loan commitment in 2025.

The package also supports the Offshore Wind Port Development Project, which aims to help the Philippines develop essential infrastructure for offshore wind farms.

The Wind Port project involves preparing feasibility studies and engineering plans to repurpose 10 ports to specialize in servicing offshore wind farms. The proposed project is set to receive an ADB loan commitment in 2027.

The package also supports the National Total Electrification Support Program, whose goal is universal access to electricity in the Philippines by 2028 through investments in distribution, transmission, and renewable energy systems in missionary areas.

Also supported is the Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings Program to facilitate the rollout of energy-efficient lighting, air conditioning, and rooftop solar photovoltaic systems in public buildings.

"The program may potentially be extended to smart metering and electric vehicle charging infrastructure," according to the loan document.

#### **GMA NEWS**

# Marcos wants board of Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage based in Manila

By: Anna Felicia Bajo

President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. is confident that the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) will aid the Philippines when it comes to addressing the adverse effects of climate change.

He wants the Board to be based in the country due to its vital role of helping the Philippines in mitigating climate change effects.

"We're working very hard for the board to be based here in Manila because [of] its supreme importance for the Philippines, because of all of the risks that we are bracing [for], because of climate change," Marcos said as he welcomed members of the Board of the FRLD in a courtesy call in Malacañang on Monday afternoon.

During the meeting, Marcos mentioned the natural disasters that hit the Philippines in the past weeks, noting that the number of calamities did not happen since the middle of 1940s.

"The momentum since the industrial revolution is something that can't be easily be moved or stopped or at least redirected. In the meantime, I hope all of you can find solution so that, we in the Philippines, most of our people do not suffer," Marcos said.

"That's how urgent we consider the board's work and how it is important to us that you work here in Manila, in the Philippines," he added.

According to the Presidential Communications Office, the board of the FRLD will serve as the principal decision-making body that governs and supervises the Fund.

It is composed of 26 members from the Conference of the Parties (COP) and Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), with 12 members from developed country parties as well as 14 members from developing country parties.

To recall, the Philippines secured a seat on the board as permanent representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2024 and 2026 and as alternate representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2025.

The Fund's mandate includes a focus on addressing loss and damage to assist developing countries particularly vulnerable climate change's adverse effects.

#### **MANILA BULLETIN**

## Marcos cites urgency, significance of Loss and Damage Fund to PH

By: Betheena Unite

President Marcos emphasized how the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) will significantly assist the Philippines in addressing the adverse effects of climate change amid increasing disaster risks.

In his meeting with the members of the Board of the FRLD in a courtesy call in Malacañang, Marcos cited the series of typhoons that hit the country in the past weeks, saying such number of calamities did not happen since the mid-1940s.

"We're working very hard for the board to be based here in Manila because [of] its supreme importance for the Philippines, because of all of the risks that we are bracing [for], because of climate change," Marcos said during the meeting on Monday, Dec. 2.

"The momentum since the industrial revolution is something that can't be easily be moved or stopped or at least redirected. In the meantime, I hope all of you can find solution so that, we in the Philippines, most of our people do not suffer," he further said.

"That's how urgent we consider the board's work and how it is important to us that you work here in Manila, in the Philippines," he added.

The Board of the FRLD will serve as the principal decision-making body that governs and supervises the Fund. It's composed of 26 members from the Conference of the Parties (COP) and Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), with 12 members from developed country parties and 14 members from developing country parties.

The Philippines secured a seat on the Board as permanent representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2024 and 2026 and as alternate representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2025.

The Fund's mandate includes a focus on addressing loss and damage to assist developing countries particularly vulnerable climate change's adverse effects.

Richard Sherman and Jean-Christophe Donnellier co-chair the Loss and Damage Fund board while Ibrahima Cheikh Diong serves as the fund's executive director.

Due to the Philippines's location in the Pacific tropical cyclone belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, it is prone to loss and damage caused by the climate crisis. It has an estimated cumulative economic losses and damage from 2003 to 2022 ranging from a low end of \$12.3 billion to a high end of \$100.91 billion.

Part of the county's climate change mitigation and adaptation measures include the submission in May 2024 of its first National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the formulation of its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Plan.

The plans support the country's NDC commitment to greenhouse gas emissions reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030.

The Philippine government also increased its climate change expenditures by 149.66 percent or from P178.2 billion in 2021 to P444.9 billion in 2022. This year, P457.4 billion was allocated for climate change-related programs, activities, and projects.

It has also mobilized an estimated \$590.92 million or P34.13 billion to support the implementation of 54 projects and commitments, covering forestry, land management, biodiversity, environment protection, and climate change.

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

### Farmers in the face of climate crisis

By: John Patrick P. Habacon

Much have been said about the Philippines being a high-risk country for disasters. In fact, according to the latest World Risk Report, the Philippines scored highest on the disaster risk index. While this vulnerability is often attributed to the country's geographic location, social scientists argue that disasters are also shaped by social, economic, and political factors.

The recent consecutive catastrophic typhoons have once again highlighted the country's long-standing vulnerability to climate change, with the agriculture sector consistently bearing the biggest brunt. Despite an average of 20 typhoons a year, we seem to be regressing in mitigating their adverse effects. With economic losses already reaching record highs and affecting hundreds of thousands of hectares of farmland, our farmers find themselves once again at the receiving end of devastation.

It would be easy for some to put the blame on the farmers themselves. Some might say they should have heeded calls from the local government and weather bureau to prepare for the typhoons' onslaught much earlier. They could have moved their equipment and materials to safer ground, or harvested their mature crops before the typhoons come. It is tempting to view their predicament as a result of poor preparation, complacency, or both. However, sociologist C. Wright Mills cautions that what we often perceive as personal troubles are, in fact, rooted in broader social structures and processes, and should not be seen merely as individual issues.

In my conversations with smallholder rice farmers in Laguna, I realized that what they are facing is far more complex than it appears. Due to their repeated exposure to typhoons, they have actually come to accept and normalize their situation. As one farmer expressed, "Wala namang magagawa, kumbaga panahon na 'yun eh. Wala namang may gusto nun (There's nothing we can do; it's the weather, after all. Nobody wants this to happen)."

For them, it is a force of nature beyond their control. However, they spoke about problems that they directly attribute to systemic failures. How could they possibly harvest their crops, even mature ones, ahead of time when they lack basic equipment like drying machines? Even if they manage to salvage some crops, opportunistic middlemen often exploit the situation, buying at prices below market rates.

These farmers also have limited resources, often relying on loans to raise capital. When their farmlands are washed out or submerged, they are left empty-handed and further trapped in debt. Furthermore, how can they quickly transport equipment when accessible roads are limited, or leave their animals behind, knowing these are their only valuable assets? Indeed, it is not a lack of foresight on their part; rather, it is due to structural barriers that continue to hold them back and weigh them down.

In the face of the climate crisis, we must rethink and reevaluate the ways we treat our agricultural sector. Let us ask: what can be done for our farming communities to become more resilient to the impacts of climate change?

First, we have to listen to them. Our farmers have long called for institutional reforms, such as support for modernization. They appeal for assistance to acquire equipment such as harvesting machines that will make emergency harvest easier, drying machines so they can dry their palay indoors, and post-harvest storage facilities to ensure them an ample supply for a long period of time.

Moreover, they urge a more direct connection with consumers and the elimination of usurious intermediaries who exploit their vulnerable situations. The state should also provide them with a safety net—make crop insurance policies more accessible to as many farmers as possible. This can act as a fallback during crises to help them recover quickly and avoid falling into the vicious cycle of debt. Time and again, the one-size-fits-all, top-down approach has proven ineffective. A bottom-up approach, therefore, may be the way forward.

Finally, we must demand accountability. Our farmers have been made resilient by necessity, not by choice. Instead of shifting the risks onto the already burdened shoulders of our farmers, the state should be more proactive in supporting our agriculture sector. Many wonder why farmers are gradually abandoning their fields and why the youth in farming communities are no longer interested in agriculture. The answer is blatantly clear: farming in this country is full of risks, a gamble with no guaranteed returns.

Farmers do not need our pity—they need empowerment. And as long as those in positions of power deny them the means to uplift themselves, they will continue to be victims.

## Marcos urges climate action as PH hosts inaugural climate fund meet

By: Luisa Cabato

As the leader of a country frequently hit by typhoons and other calamities, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. expressed hope that the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) Board would find solutions to the adverse effects of climate change, sparing Filipinos from further suffering.

Marcos shared this sentiment during a courtesy call by the FRLD Board members at Malacañang on Monday, according to a statement by the Presidential Communications Office (PCO) on Tuesday.

The Philippines is currently hosting the inaugural meeting of the FRLD Board.

During the courtesy call, Marcos cited the consecutive typhoons that ravaged the Philippines in the past months, noting that the frequency of such calamities has not happened since the mid-1940s.

"I hope all of you can find a solution so that, we, in the Philippines, most of our people do not suffer," he told the FRLD Board members, as quoted in the PCO statement.

"That's how urgent we consider the board's work and how it is important to us that you work here in Manila, in the Philippines," he added.

The FRLD Board will serve as the main decision-making body that governs and supervises the Fund. One of its mandates is to address loss and damage caused by climate change's adverse effects.

It is composed of 26 members from the Conference of the Parties and Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, with 12 members from developed country parties and 14 members from developing country parties.

The Philippines secured a seat as the permanent representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2024 and 2026 and will serve as the alternate representative in 2025.

## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

## Marcos wants Loss and Damage Fund Board to hold base in PH

By: Darryl John Esguerra

The Philippines is pushing for the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) to hold a base in Manila, noting the country's extreme vulnerability to climate change and calamities.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. welcomed members of the Board of the FRLD in a courtesy call in Malacañang on Monday.

The FRLD is the body mandated to lead the management of funds to assist climatevulnerable developing countries. It is holding its fourth board meeting in Manila.

"We're working very hard for the board to be based here in Manila because (of) its supreme importance for the Philippines, because of all of the risks that we are bracing (for), because of climate change," Marcos told the board.

The President cited the record disasters that hit the Philippines in the past weeks.

He also acknowledged that addressing climate change needs every country's participation.

"The momentum since the Industrial Revolution is something that can't be easily moved or stopped or at least redirected. In the meantime, I hope all of you can find solution so that we, in the Philippines, most of our people do not suffer," he said.

"That's how urgent we consider the board's work and how it is important to us that you work here in Manila, in the Philippines."

The Board consists of 26 members from the Conference of the Parties (COP) and Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), with 12 members from developed country parties and 14 members from developing country parties.

The Philippines secured a seat on the Board as a permanent representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2024 and 2026 and as an alternate representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2025.

#### **POLITIKO**

## **Marcos Hopeful Climate Fund Can Improve PH Disaster Resilience**

"We're working very hard for the board to be based here in Manila because of its supreme importance for the Philippines, because of all of the risks that we are bracing for, because of climate change," Marcos said.

He cited the string of typhoons that hit the Philippines in less than a month, adding that the government is doing all it can to address the situation and mitigate its effects.

"The momentum since the industrial revolution is something that can't be easily be moved or stopped or at least redirected. In the meantime, I hope all of you can find solution so that, we in the Philippines, most of our people do not suffer," the President said.

He added: "That's how urgent we consider the board's work and how it is important to us that you work here in Manila, in the Philippines."

Marcos also took to Facebook and Instagram to tout his meeting with the board.

"The fund for Loss and Damage is a global effort to address the need of climate vulnerable countries like the Philippines to recover from climate disasters," he said.

The President said the Philippines is proud to have a seat on the board among the Asia-Pacific Group, and to have been selected as host of the board.

"This ensures our voice, and those of other vulnerable nations, are heard to urgently bring much needed help to those who need it most," Marcos said.

He added: "With this, we can rebuild faster and protect our kababayans from future risks for a safer Bagong Pilipinas."

The Board of the FRLD will serve as the principal decision-making body that governs and supervises the Loss and Damage Fund. It is composed of 26 members from the Conference of the Parties and the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, with 12 members from developed country parties and 14 members from developing country parties.

The Philippines secured a seat as permanent representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2024 and 2026 and as alternate representative of the Asia-Pacific Group for 2025.

The Loss and Damage Fund's mandate includes addressing loss and damage to assist developing countries, particularly vulnerable climate change's adverse effects.

Richard Sherman and Jean-Christophe Donnellier are co-chairs of the Loss and Damage Fund Board, while Ibrahima Cheikh Diong is its executive director.

Due to the Philippines' location in the Pacific tropical cyclone belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, it is prone to loss and damage caused by the climate crisis, with an estimated cumulative economic loss and damage from 2003 to 2022, ranging from a low end of \$ 12.3 billion to a high end of \$ 100.91 billion.

Part of the county's mitigation and adaptation measures include the submission of its first National Adaptation Plan to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the formulation of its first Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan.

The plans support the country's NDC commitment to greenhouse gas emissions reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030.

The government also increased its climate change expenditures by 149.66 percent or from P 178.2 billion in 2021 to P 444.9 billion in 2022. This year, P 457.4 billion was allocated for climate change-related programs, activities, and projects.

It also mobilized an estimated \$ 590.92 million or P 34.13 billion to support the implementation of 54 projects and commitments, covering forestry, land management, biodiversity, environment protection, and climate change.

#### **RAPPLER**

## 2 more Mindanao wetlands now on Ramsar global conservation list

Two wetlands in Mindanao, one in the Caraga region and another in the Zamboanga Peninsula, have been added to the Ramsar Convention's list of wetlands of international importance.

The inclusion of the two wetlands increased the number of Ramsar sites in Mindanao to 3 and the national total to 10.

The Ramsar Convention, a 1971 international treaty adopted in Ramsar, Iran, seeks to conserve and promote the sustainable use of wetlands worldwide. The treaty encourages countries to protect wetlands vital for biodiversity, climate regulation, and water resources.

The Sibugay Wetland Nature Reserve in Zamboanga Sibugay and the Del Carmen Mangrove Reserve in Siargao Island are now the country's 9th and 10th Ramsar sites, respectively, said the nongovernment organization Wetlands International in the Philippines in a statement on Tuesday, December 3.

The initial announcement was made during the just-held 10th Asian Wetland Symposium in Metro Manila from November 25 to 28, days after the Ramsar Convention officially added the Zamboanga Sibugay and Siargao reserves to the List of Wetlands of International Importance.

The symposium, organized by the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands, Ramsar Regional Center-East Asia, and other international groups, stressed the growing urgency of preserving wetland ecosystems as climate change intensifies.

The Zamboanga Sibugay wetland, designated Ramsar Site No. 2552, is a haven for migratory birds. During migration season, from September to March, it provides shelter to a variety of species, including the endangered Far Eastern curlew.

The wetland also hosts marine turtles such as the critically endangered Hawksbill turtle, as well as a significant colony of flying foxes, including the endangered Golden-crowned flying fox.

Meanwhile, the Siagao reserve, designated Ramsar Site No. 2553, spans 4,871 hectares of mangrove forest, covering more than half of Siargao Island's total mangrove area.

Home to unique species such as the Philippine duck and the Southern rufous hornbill, the mangrove ecosystem also plays a crucial role in protecting the island from coastal erosion and storm surges.

Annadel Cabanban, country manager of Wetlands International Philippines, said, "Wetlands are direly threatened in the Philippines, so this recognition is a step forward in the push to include wetlands at the forefront of our country's policies."

The nonprofit organization said the designation of the two wetlands brings the total number of Ramsar sites in the country to 10.

The eight other wetlands on the list are as follows:

- Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Cebu
- Naujan Lake National Park, Oriental Mindoro
- Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary, Agusan del Sur
- Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park, Palawan
- Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, Palawan
- Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Conservation Area
- Las Piñas-Parañaque Wetland Park
- Sasmuan Pampanga Coastal Wetlands

Amy Lecciones, executive director of the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands, celebrated the announcement "as it accelerates our advocacy to protect these wetlands from the threats surrounding these vulnerable ecosystems."

Lecciones added, "Wetlands serve both nature and communities, and thus need clear and science-driven policies for their wise use and conservation."

### What's the climate change case at the ICJ all about?

By: Iya Gozum

For the first two weeks of December, the World Court is holding public hearings to shed light on states' obligations to prevent the climate crisis.

Back in 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution asking for the International Court of Justice's answer to these two questions:

- 1. What are the obligations of states under international law to protect the climate system, environment from human-induced emissions?
- 2. What are the legal consequences for states that failed to fulfill these obligations and caused harm to the climate system and environment?

More than 100 countries and international organizations are set to speak at the ICJ in The Hague, Netherlands, including the United States, Russia, the European Union, and the World Health Organization.

This landmark case started with law students from Pacific island nations. In 2019, they brought the case to the government of Vanuatu, an archipelagic country in the South Pacific Ocean, which then proposed it to the UN General Assembly.

"As judges of the world court, you possess power...to help us course correct and renew hope for humanity to address the greatest challenge of our time," Cynthia Houniuhi, a climate activist from the Solomon Islands, said before the top court's judges on Monday, December 2.

In recent years, small island states and developing nations have been at the forefront of climate litigation, expanding the tools they can use to exact accountability from governments and corporations.

What the Court can do and cannot do

The World Court will have to clarify the obligations of countries under international law, but it will not create new rules.

Advisory opinions from the court are not binding. It also has no enforcement powers. What it can do is to settle legal disputes submitted to them by states and give advisory opinions on legal questions.

Despite some limitations, countries who supported the resolution argue that the court's opinion holds weight and may guide countries in becoming more ambitious in its climate targets.

"It is not legally binding; however, it does carry enormous legal weight and moral authority," said Alatoi Ishmael Kalsakau during the March 2023 UN General Assembly. Kalsakau was the prime minister of Vanuatu at that time.

It can also be a north star for domestic courts around the world considering the impacts of climate change.

"An advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice could become the leading authority to which those domestic courts would look in framing their own decisions," said Max Hufanen Rai, ambassador of Papua New Guinea, in the same meeting.

For more than a year, the World Court gathered documents relevant to the case and written statements from countries and regional economic bodies.

The public can watch the livestream of the hearings via UN Web TV from December 2 to 13.

#### What's the situation now?

The hearings come at the heels of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29), in a period where there's growing discontent among authorities and civil society on the effectiveness of international talks in addressing the climate emergency.

Currently, the world has the 2015 Paris Agreement. This treaty is binding and countries are suppose to set nationally determined contributions or NDCs (these are targets to reduce emissions).

However, countries are not legally bound to achieve their NDCs. There are no penalties if they fail to meet these targets.

Before the Paris accord there was the Kyoto Protocol, which prescribed emission reduction targets.

The negative experience with the Kyoto Protocol, petroleum exporting countries wrote to the World Court in preparation of the hearings, "should serve as a direct warning."

Just this year, the UN came out with a report saying the world is not on track to meet the 1.5°C warming limit target. Instead, greenhouse gas emissions across G20 members increased and accounted for 77% of global emissions, the UN said.

Another target that the world missed is the \$100 billion climate finance goal that is supposed to help vulnerable nations deal with adverse effects of the crisis. At COP29, countries set \$300 billion as the new target, met with disappointment by leaders and civil society alike.

#### **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

#### PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## Climate change adaptation plans must be localized, understandable: CCC By: Marita Moaje

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) on Thursday emphasized the importance of cascading the climate change adaptation plans to the local government units (LGUs) to ensure that these are easily understood by the public.

During the briefing on the latest science and policies on climate change in the Philippines organized by the CCC in Pasig City, participants discussed weather patterns and observed climate trends in the country.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Secretary Robert E.A. Borje said climate change adaptation plans must be translated into actions, especially at the local level.

"Importante na understandable na naiintindihan ang agham sa likod ng climate change. Pag hindi natin ginawa ito, we run the risk na magiging for compliance lang yung plano at dokumento (It is important to understand the science behind climate change. If we don't do this, we run the risk that the plan and document will only be for compliance)," Borje said in a media interview.

"Gusto natin ang plano ay hindi lang mananatiling papel, but ito'y buhay na dokumento na magbibigay ng giya para sa dapat gawin ng ating mga LGUs, dahil sa totoo lang, ang laban talaga ng (We want the plan to not just remain on paper, but to be a living document that will provide guidance for what our LGUs should do, because in reality, the battle of) climate change is really locally led," he added.

Borje said the government acknowledges that there has been an increase in public awareness, especially after a series of strong tropical cyclones recently hit the country.

He, however, said despite the increased public awareness, effective adaptation requires more than just understanding the issue.

He said it is important to empower the LGUs and ensure that they have the tools to combat the impacts of climate change.

Borje said the government has several national frameworks created to guide climate action, including the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023-2050 and the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Plan 2020-2030.

He said both plans must be tailored to meet the specific needs of local populations.

Borje said the Philippine Development Plan's dedicated section on climate and disaster risk resiliency also calls for localized implementation, with officials urging all sectors of society to work together for effective change.

## PTV

## <u>Kahalagahan ng papel ng mga kabataan sa paglaban sa climate change,</u> binigyang-din

Ito ang binigyang diin ng Climate Change Consciousness Week seminar na isinagawa sa University of the Philippines Los Baños at ayon kay Climate Change Commission Vice Chairperson at Executive Director Rober E.A. Borje bilang ang Pilipinas ay isa sa mga bansang madaling maapektuhan ng climate change, kaya importante ang partisipasyon ng kabataan bilang future stewards ng mundo.

Kasamang itinalakay sa seminar ang kolektibong aksyon ng mga Filipino youth tulad ng pagbabawas ng single-use plastics, pagtitipid ng enerhiya at ang pagtangkilik sa mga eco-friendly tasnportation options.

Hinikayat din ni Borje ang mga kabataang mag aaral na aktibong makilahok sa pagdidiskubre para sa mga aksyon sa climate challenges.

=END=