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Climate study finds overheating world will add 57 superhot days a year
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By: Lito U. Gagni

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By: Michele T. Logarta

THE building industry is a significant contributor to global energy-related emissions, accounting for as much as 40 percent. Yet it can also be an important driver for climate resilience, said Mario Suelto, technical coordinator of the Philippine Green Building Council (PHILGBC), during his talk at the 2025 National Developers Convention on Oct. 10 in Makati City.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

'Corruption, weak disaster preparedness could stall Philippines growth'
By: christine Boton

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) has warned that the country's economic growth could be derailed by the combined effects of climate change, weak disaster preparedness and persistent corruption.

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Nueva Vizcaya embraces CCC 'Act Local'

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CCC proposal to strengthen climate finance transparency, accountability, openness gets global OGP support

The Climate Change Commission's (CCC) Project IMPACT, which aims to further strengthen climate finance transparency, accountability, and openness, secured the top award under the Climate and Environment theme at the 2025 Open Gov Challenge. The award was given during the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

Climate Change Commission, partners drive climate action in Nueva Vizcaya
By: Oliver T. Bacayy

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has expanded the reach of its Accelerated Climate Action and Transformation for Local Communities (ACT Local) Programme to Nueva Vizcaya, further integrating climate action with the academe and local institutions.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

CCC, NAMRIA boost collaboration for data-driven climate action

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) and the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) are strengthening inter-agency collaboration to advance data-driven and science-based climate adaptation planning nationwide.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

AL JAZEERA

Climate study finds overheating world will add 57 superhot days a year
By: Mariamne Everett

A new study by World Weather Attribution and United States-based Climate Central has calculated the increase in dangerous “superhot days” – defined as warmer than 90 percent of comparable days between 1991 and 2020 – due to climate change.

The report, which is not yet peer-reviewed but uses established techniques for climate attribution, was released on Thursday. It highlights the significant effect of the Paris Climate Agreement.

Before the 2015 accord, the world was on track for a catastrophic 4C (7.2F) of warming by the end of the century, which would have resulted in an additional 114 superhot days per year.

By fulfilling current commitments to curb emissions, the world is now heading towards 2.6C (4.7F) of warming. Under this scenario, the Earth will still add 57 superhot days annually by 2100 – nearly two months of dangerously high temperatures – but this is half the increase of the worst-case scenario. Since 2015, the world has already added 11 superhot days on average.

Potsdam Climate Institute Director Johan Rockstrom, who was not part of the research team, said people should not be relieved that we are no longer on the 4-degree warming pre-Paris trajectory because the current track “would still imply a disastrous future for billions of humans on Earth”.

The report does not say how many people will be affected by the additional dangerously hot days, but coauthor Friederike Otto of Imperial College London said “it will definitely be tens of thousands or millions, not less”. She noted that thousands die in heatwaves each year already.

The study also underscores the profound unfairness of the impact of climate change across the world, showing a massive disconnect between carbon pollution and expected heat exposure.

The 10 countries that will experience the biggest increase in dangerous heat days are almost all small, ocean-dependent nations like Panama, the Solomon Islands, and Samoa. These countries are expected to see the largest spikes, with Panama projected to face 149 extra superhot days a year. These 10 nations collectively produce only 1 percent of global heat-trapping gases.

In stark contrast, the top carbon-polluting countries – the United States, China, and India – are predicted to get only between 23 and 30 extra superhot days. Despite being responsible for 42 percent of the world’s carbon dioxide, they will face less than 1 percent of the additional superhot days.

University of Victoria climate scientist Andrew Weaver, who was not part of the study team, said this heat inequality drives “yet another wedge between have and have-not nations”, potentially sowing seeds of geopolitical instability.

BUSINESS MIRROR

[Opinion] An inconvenient truth of injustice: Climate change and PHL's disproportionate suffering

By: Lito U. Gagni

In the scheme of things in a global scale, there are inconvenient truths that small nations like us have to go through—a labyrinth of challenges, especially on the buzzwords today on climate change and RE or renewable energy and the need to raise the consciousness of citizens to the huge impact of carbon dioxide emissions.

And somehow, along the way, as the country tries to play the role of "good citizen" on the matter of the need to curb our CO2 emissions, there is an apparent disconnect on what we are being asked to accomplish vis-a-vis other polluters of the planet, those countries that emit a sizeable chunk of CO2. It is a troubling paradox.
According to the Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR), the Philippines contributes less than 0.5 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Yet the inconvenient truth is this: despite such a negligible share, we rank among the most vulnerable to the brutal manifestations of climate change.

By global standards, our footprint is small. But the irony is that many small footprints combined leave a heavy mark on the planet. Every nation's effort counts—though strategies must also reckon with the disproportionately larger role of major emitters.

Here lies another inconvenient truth: smaller nations face the same global targets and timelines, even when their share of emissions is a mere fraction of the problem. For countries like ours, lowering or neutralizing this tiny contribution barely nudges the global scale. The arithmetic of justice, it seems, is skewed.

The World Inequality Database reveals that the wealthiest 10 percent of the global population is responsible for nearly half of all CO_2 emissions, averaging 31 tons per person yearly. In contrast, the bottom 50 percent produces only 12 percent—about 1.6 tons per person.

Meanwhile, data from the Global Carbon Project shows that China and the United States alone account for roughly 45 percent of global emissions, with India, Russia, and Japan following close behind. This imbalance has fueled global pressure to cut emissions and accelerate the shift to renewables. The 2015 Paris Agreement set the course: phase down coal, scale up renewables, achieve net zero.

But here's another sobering fact: even if the world reaches net-zero CO2 by 2050, the reduction in warming is estimated at only 0.07–0.28 °C. Of course, net-zero still delivers cleaner air, better health, energy security, and jobs—but its impact on global temperature depends on the scale of the reduction, not just the symbolism.

As the world races toward net-zero, one fact remains immutable: carbon footprints are not distributed equally. Individual actions are laudable, but the largest impact comes from the largest emitters. The Philippine government has long maintained that any net-zero commitment must be anchored on national priorities and backed by international support—financing, technology transfer, and capacity-building.

Ultimately, progress depends on resources, not rhetoric. For the Philippines, the journey to net zero will hinge on how fast and how affordably we can transition our energy systems.

Could it be that some of the champions of renewable energy—without malice but with market motives—are muting the fact of our near-zero contribution to global emissions? Could it be that acknowledging this truth might weaken their narrative —and, by extension, their sales pitch for solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, and other RE technologies?

Another inconvenient truth: renewable energy remains costly— to build, to operate, and to maintain. Take offshore wind turbines: clean in concept, but at present, staggeringly expensive and, in several global cases, environmentally and economically problematic. Yet despite the mounting evidence of financial distress among offshore wind projects abroad, the technology is still being proposed for our own energy mix.

Can we afford this gamble? Or would prudence dictate we wait— until the technology becomes truly viable for an economy like ours?

Let's be honest: our energy transition must match our means. Because the "business" of saving the planet does not always align with the rhetoric of fairness.

And until that contradiction is resolved, nations like the Philippines will continue to bear a burden far heavier than their share of the blame—an inconvenient truth of injustice. We are among those who contribute the least to climate change —yet we suffer among the most.

We are told to comply with immediate net-zero demands, even if our compliance would barely move the global needle. Worse, these demands come at a time when renewable alternatives remain financially out of reach for millions of Filipino families.

In plain terms, we're being asked to act like the world's biggest polluters—when in truth, we are among its smallest contributors.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

Better weather to aid in quake search, rescue ops – PAGASA

By: Ma. Cristina Arayata

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) on Monday urged authorities to take advantage of the improved weather this week to speed up ongoing search and rescue operations in areas affected by recent earthquakes.

"We're expecting better weather conditions in the coming days. It would be better to deploy people for search and rescue operations and maximize the better weather this week," Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) weather specialist Munir Baldomero said during the Bagong Pilipinas Ngayon briefing.

Tropical Storm Ramil left the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on Monday, and Baldomero said no other weather disturbance is expected to affect the country for the next few days.

"The country will experience generally good weather, with isolated rain showers in the afternoon or evening," he said.

Baldomero said PAGASA might declare the onset of amihan or northeast monsoon by the end of October or the first week of November. Cooler weather is expected.

Meanwhile, Baldomero said one more tropical cyclone could enter or develop inside PAR this month, and up to five before the year's end.

So far, three tropical cyclones—Paolo, Quedan, and Ramil—have entered or developed within the PAR this October.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

WATCH: Disaster preparedness should be second-nature to us — Marcos

By: Dexter Cabalza

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has urged Filipinos to be more prepared for disasters following the series of strong earthquakes that affected different parts of the country recently.

In his vlog titled “Handa sa Sakuna” (Ready for Disasters) on Sunday, the President noted that beyond disaster response and recovery, disaster preparedness should become second nature to Filipinos.

“Disasters are part of our country’s reality, that is why disaster preparedness should also be part of who we are,” he said.

“We should not only respond to disasters but also learn from the lessons each one brings. The new Filipino is wiser and more prepared,” Mr. Marcos added.

Plan, coordinate among family members

The President urged every household to create a disaster plan and ensure that all members, especially children, were aware of it.

This includes identifying evacuation areas, meeting points, and safe zones.

Prepare go-bags

Mr. Marcos also advised families to prepare a “go-bag” — an emergency kit containing essential documents, canned food, biscuits, water, first aid supplies, medicines, hygiene kits, flashlight, whistles, lighters, radios, and emergency cash.

“When disaster strikes and your family needs to evacuate, you won’t have to panic and scramble for what to bring, because everything is inside the go-bag,” he said.

Listen to authorities

The president stressed the importance of getting accurate information during emergencies.

He advised the public to listen only to official announcements from government agencies, local government units, law enforcement agencies and reputable news organizations.

“Beware of fake news. In the recent earthquakes in Davao and Cebu, many were misled by false information, and some were hurt because they panicked and fled unnecessarily,” the President warned.

President Marcos assured Filipinos that the national and local governments are continuously improving disaster response capabilities.

“The DSWD and even local government units have food packs and go-bags ready and prepositioned in our warehouses,” he said.

“The communication and information drive of government agencies has also been strengthened to further educate our citizens,” the President added.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

‘Corruption, weak disaster preparedness could stall Philippines growth’
By: christine Boton

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) has warned that the country’s economic growth could be derailed by the combined effects of climate change, weak disaster preparedness and persistent corruption.

The agency urged the government to shift from “reactive response” to proactive risk management and resilient infrastructure development.

PIDS senior research fellow John Paulo Rivera said that while the Philippine economy remains fundamentally strong, its growth prospects are “fragile” due to corruption and climate-related disruptions.

“Our economy has a strong foundation, but there is no guarantee of continuous growth due to issues of corruption and the effect of rapid climate change,” Rivera said. “We need to be prepared, not just reactive. Calamities should be prepared for even before they happen.”

Rivera noted that natural disasters repeatedly disrupt business operations, suspend classes and halt government services – clear signs the country remains unprepared for recurring calamities.

“Every time there’s heavy rain or strong winds, work and government services are suspended. This shows we lack preparedness because these events disturb normal economic activities,” he said.

He urged authorities to adopt a comprehensive “risk management” approach.

“When we say risk management, it means we act before the calamity strikes,” Rivera said. “If schools and houses are well-built and compliant with standards, we can prevent larger losses when disasters happen.”

He warned that failure to implement reforms could trap the country in a costly cycle of recovery, lost productivity and reduced investments.

Recommendations

PIDS recommended that the government invest more in disaster-resilient infrastructure and science-based forecasting technology to minimize climate-related economic disruptions.
Rivera warned that without stronger governance and infrastructure resilience, the Philippines could experience slower growth by 2026 as climate shocks, supply disruptions and investor uncertainty converge.

“The strength of the Philippine economy is not self-driving,” Rivera said. “It needs discipline, direction, and preparation – from our private sector, citizens, and the government.”

THE MANILA TIMES

Green building solutions: driving climate resilience and sustainability

By: Michele T. Logarta

THE building industry is a significant contributor to global energy-related emissions, accounting for as much as 40 percent. Yet it can also be an important driver for climate resilience, said Mario Suelto, technical coordinator of the Philippine Green Building Council (PHILGBC), during his talk at the 2025 National Developers Convention on Oct. 10 in Makati City.

“We have literally built the problem,” Suelto acknowledged. “Our industry is responsible for half of the extracted materials necessary for us to design and construct and operate our buildings... and our sector is not nearly close to our climate emission targets for the built environment.”

Speaking before members of the Subdivision and Housing Developers Association (SHDA), which hosted the event, Suelto discussed the need to include buildings in climate policies and measures. Two things can be achieved: emission targets as well as “a climate-safe, economically sound, and socially just future.”

“The building sector can become a pillar for sustainable and climate-resilient solutions,” Suelto said. “The good news is that buildings also offer over 40 percent of the solutions to our climate crisis. But we need bolder policies and increased investments to scale the solutions.”

He underscored the principle of “green building” as one of the most impactful measures of climate change mitigation. He defined it as “both a product as well as the action of conceptualizing, planning, designing, constructing and operating projects in the most resource-efficient manner with the least negative environmental impact.”

Citing the United Nations Environment Programme, Suelto said that buildings and resilience must be improved to protect people from heat waves, droughts, flooding, sea level rise, cyclones and strong winds. This means updating building codes and aligning national policies with net zero goals.

The Philippine Green Building Council, a member of the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC), is at the forefront of driving sustainability actions in the local construction sector. It is among the 70 national GBCs across the world and part of the Asia-Pacific Regional network.

Green building rating tools, Suelto said, are used to assess and recognize buildings that meet green requirements or standards. These tools are tailored to local country-level needs and priorities.

Suelto highlighted the PHILGBC’s core initiatives: Philippine Green Building Certification Program (Philcert) and Better Green Building Rating (Berde) system. These programs focus on

developing projects and tools to support green building plans, including capacity building and training advocacy programs, Suelto said.

PHILGBC developed the Berde program as the Philippines' own national voluntary green building rating system. It is recognized by the Philippine government under the Department of Energy.

Suelto encouraged builders to use Berde, which is available online for free, regardless of whether they are seeking formal certification or not. PHILGBC offers professional training for those who are interested to know more about the system.

Berde, he explained, focuses on nine targets, emphasizing stakeholder management, site selection, energy conservation, water management, material circularity, health and well-being, emissions management, resilience, and socio-economic opportunities.

Builders can use Berde not only for guidance in the design, construction and operations of their project but also for marketing, transparency and compliance, and policies.

"You can showcase your project's performance through a third party and impartial assessment process," Suelto said to the audience. "It's a credible marketing tool because it gives you the competitive edge and boosts your branding and commitment to sustainability. It helps you in the area of compliance and policy support for your projects and improves your performance standards."

Builders today need to build green, Suelto emphasized, to "create a positive impact to our quality of life, our communities, and our natural environment."

CCC IN THE NEWS:

DAILY TRIBUNE

Nueva Vizcaya embraces CCC 'Act Local'

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) expanded the reach of its Accelerated Climate Action and Transformation for Local Communities (ACT Local) program to Nueva Vizcaya, marking the initiative's deeper integration with the academe and local institutions.

ACT Local provides technical support to local government units (LGUs) in formulating and updating their Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs).

Underscoring the importance of local climate planning, Senator Loren Legarda, CCC's partner for the program's expansion, called on local government leaders and academic institutions in the province to ensure that their LCCAPs are updated and implemented in accordance with the Climate Change Act of 2009, as amended.

"All provinces and LGUs, municipalities, and cities must have LCCAPs, because how will we be able to withstand the challenges of natural hazards if we do not know our vulnerabilities and risks?" Legarda said.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

CCC proposal to strengthen climate finance transparency, accountability, openness gets global OGP support

The Climate Change Commission's (CCC) Project IMPACT, which aims to further strengthen climate finance transparency, accountability, and openness, secured the top award under the Climate and Environment theme at the 2025 Open Gov Challenge. The award was given during the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain.

Out of 20 global climate and environment commitments, the Philippines stood out for its innovative, citizen-centered approach, securing its place as a leading country in open and participatory climate governance.

The project, officially titled "Inclusive Monitoring and Participation for Accountability in Climate Transformation (IMPACT)" received the Thematic Award for Climate and Environment. It has been officially recognized for its distinctive approach, setting it apart from the other 19 climate-related commitments from national and local governments worldwide.

"Accessible climate finance data builds trust and strengthens accountability among government, civil society, and the public. We are dedicated to empowering citizens and communities to take part in shaping and tracking climate action, making every peso allocated for climate response traceable, effective, and responsive to their needs," Borje said.

The CCC submitted a challenge proposal to further strengthen the internal system of Climate Change Expenditure Tagging (CCET) and improve its design through participatory governance, consistent with good governance principles.

The Project IMPACT, submitted to OGP on May 23, 2025, builds on the CCET system institutionalized under Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2015-01 of the CCC, Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to integrate climate adaptation and mitigation into agency budgets and local investment programs. Developed with support from DBM, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), Project IMPACT will be piloted from 2026 to 2028 in four provinces identified as highly vulnerable under the National Adaptation Plan.

The Philippines' recognition reflects the nation's strong and sustained commitment to open governance under the leadership of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., advancing a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to strengthen public trust, broaden civic participation, and institutionalize transparent, data-driven decision-making.

This commitment is reinforced by Executive Order No. 31, signed on June 20, 2023, which institutionalized the Philippine Open Government Partnership (PH-OGP) as a multi-stakeholder

platform overseeing national OGP commitments. The EO mandates that transparency, accountability, and citizen participation be embedded across all levels of governance.

The CCC emphasized that recognition under the Open Gov Challenge serves as both validation and motivation to strengthen climate finance systems, beyond data tagging, through active engagement of civil society and citizens in monitoring and evaluating climate programs and investments, and closing the feedback loop through timely and effective government response/action. More than a distinction, this establishes a social contract for continuous improvement and a baseline for enhancing climate action through participatory governance.

The CCC, together with government and non-government partners, is committed to continue reinforcing collaboration to ensure that climate finance systems remain open, inclusive, and results-oriented—anchored on the shared goal of a resilient, sustainable, and empowered Philippines.

The Open Gov Challenge, launched in 2023, is a global OGP initiative that invites governments to take ambitious, citizen-centered actions across 10 reform themes, including Climate and Environment. This year's awards celebrated countries demonstrating measurable progress, innovation, and inclusive collaboration, with a total of 163 commitments submitted globally.

The Philippines' recognition under the OGP platform reflects its progress in embedding open government principles in climate governance, positioning the country among global leaders in climate transparency, citizen participation, and environmental accountability. It marks a commitment to a social contract for continuous improvement and sets a baseline for how climate governance can be made more effective and inclusive.

PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

Climate Change Commission, partners drive climate action in Nueva Vizcaya
By: Oliver T. Bacayy

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has expanded the reach of its Accelerated Climate Action and Transformation for Local Communities (ACT Local) Programme to Nueva Vizcaya, further integrating climate action with the academe and local institutions.

The initiative aims to provide technical support to local government units (LGUs) in formulating and updating their Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs).

Held in partnership with the Office of Senator Loren Legarda, this second leg of ACT Local focused on strengthening LGU capacities for risk-informed climate planning, with particular emphasis on the link between climate action, education, and cultural heritage.

Legarda underscored the importance of local climate planning and urged LGUs and academic institutions in the province to ensure their LCCAPs are updated and aligned with the Climate Change Act of 2009, as amended.

“All provinces, municipalities, and cities must have LCCAPs. How can we withstand the challenges of natural hazards if we don’t understand our vulnerabilities and risks?” Legarda said, stressing that climate adaptation must be grounded in science and local realities.
She also emphasized the critical role of the CCC in building LGU capacities through initiatives like ACT Local.

“The CCC’s role is vital in mainstreaming national and local climate change adaptation plans in every LGU. Empowering local leaders to understand and act on their risks is key to building resilient and sustainable communities,” she added.

CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje reiterated that effective climate action starts with foresight and evidence-based planning.

“Disaster response is one thing; preparedness is another,” he said, emphasizing that climate plans must be based on reliable data and scientific research.

“Ang plano ay hindi pwedeng kung ano lang ang maisip. Kailangan ito ay batay sa datos—science-based at data-driven,” Borje said, highlighting the need to localize frameworks like the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to truly protect communities.

Borje also advocated for nature-based solutions to help sustain Nueva Vizcaya’s ecosystems and livelihoods, and called on participants to take ownership of their roles in local climate governance.

“This gathering is a call to action for local chief executives to decide and act. Let us remember that meaningful climate action begins with a conscious decision, followed by sustained commitment and collaboration,” he said.

The two-day training, held from October 2 to 3, 2025, engaged 11 LGUs from across the province. It equipped technical staff with science-based tools and knowledge in LCCAP formulation, climate projections, Climate and Disaster Risk Assessment (CDRA), Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory, Local Climate Change Expenditure Tagging (CCET), and access to the People’s Survival Fund (PSF).

Participants also gained deeper insights into the NAP, the Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan (NDCIP) and its Gender Action Plan (GAP)—all key frameworks for local climate action. Sessions introduced the Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG) to promote gender-responsive and inclusive local climate governance.

The event featured contributions from key agencies and academic partners including the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU), and Isabela State University (ISU). Discussions focused on integrating adaptation and mitigation strategies into broader local development frameworks.
The program also highlighted the role of first responders in building climate resilience. Ms. Daisy Cabauatan, Provincial Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) in Nueva Vizcaya and recipient of the Philippine Resilience Awards 2024, shared her insights on how ACT Local empowers frontliners and LGUs alike in safeguarding communities from climate impacts.

In her welcome remarks, CCC Commissioner Rachel Anne Herrera emphasized that ACT Local is a national response to the growing need for localized, science-based climate action.

“Health, well-being, income, livelihood, and education—lahat ng iyan ay parte ng ating LCCAP. These are all essential components of climate action that must be addressed,” Herrera said, stressing the importance of ensuring that every local climate plan reflects community realities and priorities.

Meanwhile, CCC Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz, Sr. discussed the significance of GHG monitoring as a cornerstone of effective climate action. He introduced the GHG calculator as a valuable tool for individuals and communities to measure their carbon footprint.

“This is the beginning of climate action that is personal, tangible, and empowering—for every Filipino, and for every fellow ASEAN,” he said.

In line with the CCC’s commitment to inclusive governance, the event featured Filipino Sign Language (FSL) interpreters during the livestream, ensuring accessibility of discussions on climate science and policy to persons with disabilities.

Through ACT Local, the CCC and its partners reaffirm their commitment to strengthening local capacities, preserving cultural heritage, and promoting a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to climate resilience—aligned with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s call for a climate-resilient and sustainable future.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

CCC, NAMRIA boost collaboration for data-driven climate action

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) and the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) are strengthening inter-agency collaboration to advance data-driven and science-based climate adaptation planning nationwide.

In a recent meeting held at NAMRIA headquarters, both agencies discussed how accurate mapping and geospatial data can effectively help the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023–2050. NAMRIA presented its mandates and highlighted the Geoportal PH, the agency's national platform that provides accessible and validated maps and geographic information.

The CCC said the partnership with NAMRIA is essential to ensure the best available, accurate data guide policies and programs.

"We want to inform not with fear, but with facts. When we use science and evidence, we enable Filipinos to understand risks and act with confidence," CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A Borje said in a news release on Monday.

"With NAMRIA's technical expertise and accurate data, we can better support adaptation actions, especially in the 18 most vulnerable provinces identified in the NAP."

Both agencies identified several areas for collaboration, including mainstreaming climate adaptation in planning processes, scaling up localized climate analytics, and equipping LGUs with tools to assess risks and prioritize actions, helping them translate these ideas into fundable adaptation projects.

The partnerships of both agencies are also expanded to collaborating with the academic institutions to build capacity in climate and spatial literacy.

NAMRIA Deputy Administrator Efren Carandang underscored the importance of consistent and validated data in climate planning.

"Kailangan natin ay (What we need is) measured data and most importantly validated," he said. "Minsan, hindi tugma ang data ng mga ahensya at ng LGUs, kaya kailangan nating upuan ito kasama ng mga resource mapping analysts (Sometimes, the data of the agencies and local government units do not match, so we need to address this together with resource mapping analysts)."

Carandang also shared that NAMRIA is updating the country's land and forest cover data for release in 2025, and will designate focal points to strengthen coordination with the CCC.

As part of the engagement, the CCC delegation had a learning site visit in NAMRIA's facilities, viewing maps and historical materials that trace the country's development through its geographic records.

The team also paid a courtesy call on NAMRIA Administrator Dr. Peter Tiangco, who expressed his full support for the initiative.

"With this partnership, hopefully we can push further, bridging data and action for a more climate-resilient Philippines," Tiangco said.

Through this strengthened collaboration, the CCC and NAMRIA aim to advance the country's climate agenda by integrating accurate, science-based data into planning and decision-making to help reduce loss and damage while promoting sustainable and resilient development.

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