



# CLIMATE ACTION

*A Newsletter on the Foreign-Assisted Projects partnered  
with the Climate Change Commission (CCC)*

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\*The projects on Climate Action that are featured are those implemented by various National Government Agencies and other sectoral organizations, and not solely by CCC.

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# Project: Financing and Integrating Renewable Energy in the City of Butuan (FInRE-BXU)

TWG conducts Renewable Energy Resource Assessment, sampling field work for the Hydropower potential of Bugsukan Falls in Butuan City



*Picture 1: Seen here are members of the TWG as they conclude their fieldwork and exposure trip with representatives from different departments of the city government of Butuan, the Agusan del Norte Electric Cooperative (ANECO), faculty members of Caraga State University (CSU) and Father Saturnino Urios University (FSUU), Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA), and the Department of Energy (DOE).*

Members of the Butuan City Power Development Advisory Council - Technical Working Group (TWG) constituted last February 2019 undergoes a series of capacity-building workshops to develop the Butuan City Energy Development Plan. Last October 10-11, 2019 the group conducted field work which gave them an appreciation to Renewable Energy Resource Assessment, sampling the Hydropower potential of Bugsukan Falls in Butuan City.

Participants included representatives from different departments of the city government of Butuan, the Agusan del Norte Electric Cooperative (ANECO), faculty members of Caraga State University (CSU) and Father Satur-

nino Urios University (FSUU), Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA), and the Department of Energy (DOE).

The TWG is grateful to the institutions supporting this project – i.e., the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety by a decision of the German Bundestag (BMU-IKI), Climate Change Commission, City Government of Butuan, and U.P. Electrical & Electronics Engineering Institute – Research and Development Foundation, Inc. (UP-EEEI-RDFI) team as technical consultants.

While it was Prof. Benjo Malquisto that gave the big picture of the different renewable energy resources and technologies (like solar and wind), it was Dr. Dan C. Peckley, Jr. that captivated the workshop participants as he shared his actual experience in the Kalinga area, northern Luzon, how Hydro energy resource assessment is done.

After the long walk (and

climbs) in the morning, participants returned to the seminar-workshop venue where they presented the different outputs from group work. Satisfied with the results, UPEEEI-RDFI Team is positive they are ready in developing Butuan City Energy Plan.

Activities are within the target work plan as agreed by the TWG members of Butuan City Power Dev-

elopment Council and the technical consultants from UPEEEI-RDFI team. Since the capacity – building entails a series of workshops and write shops involving the TWG with the guidance and lead of UP professors, the journey will just have to follow the agreed Work Plan and timelines.

## Butuan City conducts Energy Plan Seminar Workshop



*Picture 2: Participants are deep into the workshop conducted at Goat 2Geder Hotel and Restaurant, Butuan City. About 22 participants benefited from the lectures on Power Supply Planning and some RE Resource Assessment topics such as Solar and Biomass.*

The series of Capacity Building Workshops for the TWG members of Butuan City Power Development Advisory Council that started last August reached its 4th session last December 11-13, to finish the 2019 calendar of activities. This was held at Goat 2Geder Hotel and Restaurant, Butuan City. About 22 participants benefited from the lectures on Power

Supply Planning and some RE Resource Assessment topics such as Solar and Biomass.

Lessons were reinforced through hands-on computational exercises built into the lectures. Participants were expected to follow the examples in the notes using a spreadsheet program (such as MS Excel).

Overall, the TWG participants were receptive to the topics presented by the UPEEEI-RDFI Team as evidenced by their own version of the examples from the notes.

After the lecture session on the third day, commitments to collect the data were obtained from the TWG members as well as agreements on assignments regarding the forecast requirements and the organization assigned to produce the forecasts for review in the next session.

The future is looking good for Butuan City as they now chart for a cleaner and more sustainable energy sources to power the city's envisioned development.

# Project: Promotion of Low Carbon Urban Transport Systems in the Philippines (LCUTSP) Implementing Partner: Department of Transportation

Low Carbon Transport Forum 2020 Held



*Picture 3: Speakers, panelist and delegates pose for a group photo at the end of the event.*

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) launched the Promotion of Low Carbon Urban Transport Systems (LCT) in the Philippines project in a forum titled “Low Carbon Transport Forum” held on 07 January 2020 at Novotel Manila in Quezon City.

In partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the event serves as part of the LCT project’s approach to engage key stakeholders from both public and private sectors to help address key barriers in their participation in the said campaign.

More than 150 delegates from academic institutions, national government agencies, local government units, and private sector joined the forum to discuss ideas and challenges, and share learnings and good practices on the promotion of reduction of carbon emission through a more sustainable transport system.

UNDP Philippines Deputy Resident Representative Enrico Gaveglia delivered a message of support during the opening of the event. DOTr Undersecretary for Road Transport and Infrastructure and National Project Director Mark Richmond de Leon as well as DOTr Assistant Secretary for Planning and Project Development Sheilah Napalang also graced the event and spoke about the advocacy of the DOTr to the campaign for a clean environment.

# Project: Mainstreaming Sustainable Climate Action within Financial Institutions in the Philippines



Picture 4-1:(Left) Mr. Cedric Rimaud of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), presented the roadmap at the Climate Action Summit.

ADFIAP attended the Philippine Climate Change Commission’s (CCC) 2nd Annual National Business Climate Action Summit with the theme, “Transforming the Philippine Economy through Green Investments”, held at One Esplanade in Pasay City, Metro Manila on November 21, 2019. Mr. Cedric Rimaud, International Consultant for Climate Finance at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), presented the roadmap for sustainable finance in the Philippines.

ADFIAP is the partner and implementing entity of UNESCAP for the project, “Main-

ADFIAP participates in CCC’s National Business Climate Action Summit, presents Roadmap for Sustainable Finance in the Philippines

streaming Sustainable Climate Action within Financial Institutions in the Philippines”. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of financial institutions to develop an enabling policy environment that promotes private investments in climate change mitigation and adaptation projects.

The CCC has been engaging the private sector on climate change adaptation and mitigation through annual business summits since 2013. The Summit aims to promote and enhance the business sector’s contribution to the Philippines’ low carbon and climate-resilient development.



Picture 4-2: (Right) ) Secretary Emmanuel De Guzman of CCC, BSP Governor Benjamin Diokno in a huddle after Mr. Rimauds’ speech.

## UNESCAP HQ, WWF visits ADFIAP, discusses future plans for the Philippines



*Picture 5: Leaders from UNESCAP, WWF and ADFIAP pose in this photo taken last 22 November 2019.*

Ms. Quynh Huong Nguyen who is with the green finance team at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), visited the ADFIAP headquarters on November 22, 2019 in relation to the project, “Mainstreaming Sustainable Climate Action within the Financial Institutions in the Philippines”. ADFIAP is partner and implementing entity of UNESCAP for the project.

The agenda of the visit was to discuss the remaining project activities and timetable. ADFIAP Secretary General, Octavio B. Peralta met with Ms. Nguyen together with members of the ADFIAP Consulting team, namely, Atty. Alberto B. Reyno, Managing Director, Ms. Cecile M. Ibarra, Training and Advocacy Head, Ms. Cristy Aquino, Bus. Dev. Head. Also present were Mr. Enrique Florencio, ADFIAP Group Head, Operations and Sustainability and Mr. Ed Tongson, Chief of Party, Sustainable Finance at WWF Philippines.

# Project: Facilitating private sector engagement for the financing of ecosystem-based adaptation in support of the Climate Change Action Plan of the Philippines by Earth Security Group (ESG)

## Mobilizing the private sector for climate adaptation in the Philippines

Earth Security Group (ESG) has been working for the past two years to mobilise large companies and the finance sector to support and scale ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). ESG is working with partners in the Philippines to develop a series of collaboration platforms, which have been outlined in its latest report: ‘Private Sector Collaboration for Climate Resilience: Catalysing partnerships for Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Philippines’. These include:

- An Insurance Task Force for EbA seeks to mobilise the country’s insurance sector to support and scale existing pilot projects for EbA insurance solutions being developed by civil society and other actors. ESG is collaborating with the Philippine Insurance and Reinsurance Association (PIRA) to develop a task force that will bring together leading insurance and reinsurance companies, government decision-makers and a series of leading climate resilience NGO initiatives in the Philippines to mobilize insurance companies to support these efforts, to integrate the protection value of natural ecosystems into the definition of risk models, and to create new product portfolios based on EbA in collaboration with stakeholders.
- A series of market mechanisms are being discussed to help scale results-based Payment for Ecosystem Services: ESG and Philippine Business for Environment are facilitating a working group to increase dialogue and collaboration between the private sector and policy-makers to establish such mechanisms.
- Integrating EbA into business education and executive management in the private sector. ESG is working with the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) to increase academic and research output that supports the private sector’s development of EbA solutions. A Climate Resilience Lab at AIM is incubating EbA projects generated by MBA students and implemented with Local Government Units (LGUs).
- society and government agencies to work together to align their resources to scale results-based Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes in line with the government’s natural conservation management priorities.

Participants include First Philippine Holdings, the Biodiversity Finance Initiative BIOFIN Philippines, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. (The group is identifying the market mechanisms that can enable companies, investment funds, civil

A series of business teaching cases on HIJO Resources Corporation, an agro-industrial, commercial and tourism conglomerate in the Davao Gulf, have been developed by AIM to integrate EbA into executive management training courses at AIM. In addition, the AIM-ESG partnership will actively work together with 10-15 Local Government Executives that are most exposed to the risks of climate change. An executive programme will foster private-public partnerships for EbA between participating companies and LGUs to build the resilience of cities and local populations through infrastructure and value chain investments that support ecosystem regeneration.

# Project: NDC Support Project for the Philippines (NSPP)

## CCC Leads 2nd Annual National Business Climate Action Summit



Picture 6: Some of the panels, speakers, and important guests during the 2nd Annual National Business Climate Action Summit.

(L-R) Mr. Jess Reyes (Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Mr. Bonar Laureto (Executive Director of Business for Sustainable Development), Mr. Ignacio Sison (COO of Del Monte Philippines), Ms. Joan Eala (Vice President of Bank of the Philippines Islands), Mr. Jamal Ahmad (Chief Risk Officer of the Rizal Banking Corporation), Mr. Tim Daniels (SM Investments Corp.'s Investor Relations Head), Commissioner Rachel Herrera (Climate Change Commission), Ms. Ma. Alegria Limjoco (President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Secretary Emmanuel de Guzman (Climate Change Commission), Dr. Benjamin Diokno (Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas), Mr. Roberto de Ocampo (Chairman and CEO of the Philippine Veterans Bank), Ms. Julia Boughton (President and CEO of SURE Global W2W Inc.), Atty. Dulce Punzalan (Director of Kawayan 7), Mr. Titon Mitra (Resident Representative of UNDP Philippines).

November 21, 2019 – Metro Manila. As part of the annual observance of the Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) led the conduct of the 2nd Annual Business Climate Action Summit which brought together innovation leaders, advocates, practitioners, investors, and other climate action stakeholders from the private sector. This year’s summit theme - Transforming the Philippine Economy through Green Investments highlighted private sector initiatives and challenges in private sector participation in climate action.

In his keynote message, CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director, Secretary Emmanuel de Guzman recognized business groups and enterprises as key partners in resilience-building. He emphasized that, “to fulfill the promise of the Paris Agreement, and for the country to deliver more ambitious climate targets, climate action from the private sector is urgently needed. (You) have the resources and capacity to deliver solutions to the prevailing climate emergency”.

In response, business and climate leaders confirmed their ambitious commitment to step up when it comes to tackling climate change as they see the economic opportunity presented by taking bold climate action. In his leadership message, Dr. Benjamin E. Diokno, Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, said that they “subscribe to the idea that financial regulation can be a useful tool to contribute to the achievement of national and international

environmental and social objectives” hence they “[aim] to shift perspective from a myopic compliance exercise to a forward looking stance that puts greater weight on the long-term financial interest and sustainability of the organization”.

The plenary and panel discussions focused on Green Banking for Low Carbon Development, Exploring Waste-to-Energy Options in Low Carbon Development Pathway, Creating Climate-Smart Cities and Sustainable Mobility Solutions, and Private Sector Initiatives on Sustainability Reporting.

The event was attended by a total number of 252 participants from more than 83 private corporations, 10 national government agencies, 3 local government units, 11 development partners and civil society organizations, 2 delegates from the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), and the CCC. The event was organized in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the NDC Support Project for the Philippines (NSPP), the Business for Sustainable Development (BSD), and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI).

# Project: Establish Low Carbon Consumption and Production in Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines (SCP TIP) also known as Sustainable Diner Project

The Sustainable Diner at the 12th Annual Global Warming & Climate Change Consciousness Week



Picture 7: Gemma Cunanan, Head of the CCC's FAPMS Division, shares her thoughts on the correlation between the climate crisis and our eating habits during the panel discussion.



Picture 8: Representatives from the Climate Change Commission Philippines, WWF-Philippines, and the Quezon City Local Government Unit, through Councilors Lala Sotto and Candy Medina, gathered for a group photo with food industry professionals, chefs, restaurateurs, and members of the media.

The Sustainable Diner: A Key Ingredient for Sustainable Tourism project implemented by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines participated in the Climate Change Consciousness Week 2019 celebration with the theme, “Adapting For A Sustainable Future”. According to the Climate Change Commission (CCC), this aims to highlight the importance of scaling up adaptation and taking proactive actions to plan, build, and support a sustainable future. “Transforming our food sector to a low-carbon industry will not only reduce the carbon footprint but will also help ensure food security and less food wastage in the country.” says Hon. Emmanuel De Guzman, Secretary and Commissioner of the CCC.

On November 18, 2019, WWF together with the CCC facilitated The Climate Plate: Experiencing Sustainable Dining forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the foodservice sector at the Earth Kitchen in Quezon City. The forum highlights sustainable dining as the forefront of SCP implementation in the Philippines which also serves as a platform to bring all sectors together to contribute to the nation’s sustainability efforts.

Alexa Jeanne Lasch, Sustainable Business Specialist of WWF, shared some facts about the food industry as one of the biggest contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions and climate crisis. Guillermo “Ige” Ramos, a food historian and writer, discussed sustainability with food heritage whereas traditional food is founded on the ideas of sustainability, culture, and heritage. Three chefs then presented their experiences in implementing sustainable practices in their respective restaurants.

Jess Pascual of Earth Kitchen imparted the guiding principles at the core of every decision-making process that goes into their business -- Healthy, Local, Sustainable. This includes using cornstarch wares and paper bags for takeouts, avoiding single-use plastics, using metal straws for our dine-in drinks, omitting plastic bottled drinks in our menus, and sourcing of local ingredients.

# Project: Transforming tourism value chains in developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to accelerate more resource efficient, low carbon development by PCEPSDI

PCEPSDI conducts briefing, organizes foras for Sustainable Tourism

As part of its efforts towards making the tourism sector more resource efficient, the Transforming Tourism Value Chains project has once again collaborated with the Philippine Energy Efficiency Alliance (PE2) to conduct a third seminar on Energy Efficiency & Conservation for the Hospitality Industry last Friday, October 18, 2019 at the Department of Tourism Office. Topics covered were Opportunities for Energy Efficiency, Implementing Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Energy Efficiency Policy and Financing. Participants of this training were given a brief introduction to the most recent energy law passed, Republic Act 11285, otherwise known as Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, where PE2 served as active stakeholders in its successful passing. Participants were also given a glimpse of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the law which is to be published end of November 2019.

The Kalikasan Green Productivity, Green Purchasing, towards a Green Philippines (KGP3) Conference aimed to increase awareness and engagement in initiatives linked



*Picture 9: Kiko Velhagen, Project Officer, giving a brief introduction of the Transforming Tourism Value Chains Project*

sustainable business management, sustainable tourism, and sustainable forest management. As a biennial event hosted by The Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, this year's theme was "Doing More with Less for a Climate Smart Economy: An Inclusive Growth for Tourism Industry and Upland Community." The KGP3 conference was attended by heads and representatives of government, academics, civil sector organizations, and businesses in the fields of trade and industry, tourism, forestry and environment.



*Picture: 10 Group photo with attendees during the dedicated session on Sustainable Tourism.*

The Transforming Tourism Value Chains Project was presented, along with other tourism best practices and initiatives by government and private businesses, during the dedicated parallel session on Sustainable Tourism on the second day of the conference.

At the 1st SMHCC Engineering Forum last November 28, 2019 at Pico de Loro Beach and Country Club, PCEPSDI Transforming Tourism Value Chain Project Team led by Project Officer Kiko Velhagen and Research Assistant Ezekiel Dimagiba presented at the 1st SM Hotels and Conventions Corp. (SMHCC) Engineering Forum the Transforming Tourism Value Chains Project with its tools to measure and monitor greenhouse gas and resource efficiency: Greenhouse gas Abatement Cost Model (GACMO) and the Resource Efficiency (RE) Tool. The RE tool is the primary tool for data collection, monitoring, and reporting.

This engagement is in line with the signed MOU between PCEPSDI and SMHCC to promote sustainable tourism aimed at encouraging greater involvement on greener consumption.

# GIZ - Regulatory Framework Promotion of Pro-poor Insurance Markets in Asia

## RFPI Asia III Finalizes Concept Paper on Climate Risk Insurance



*Picture 11: The CRI National Task Force chaired by National Treasurer Rosalia de Leon, approves the 2020 Workplan of CRI Philippines during its meeting on 19 November 2019. Also present are members of the Technical Working Groups.*

A national Concept Paper on Climate Risk Insurance that aims to orient the various public and private stakeholders to agree on key concepts and questions, and envisage a coordinated road map for promoting CRI in the country while ensuring that it is aligned with existing policy principles and planning priorities of the government, is now being finalized by the project. The Paper will be presented to the National Task Force on CRI for approval during its meeting in March 2020.

Additionally, a risk modelling platform that will help insurance companies develop high quality Climate Risk Insurance products will soon be established through the support of the project. Called VIP Engine, with reference to the three countries where RFPI is implemented, namely :

Vietnam, Indonesia and Philippines, the Engine will be able to: (a) define probabilities of named hazards occurring, (b) calculate loss projections based on probabilities and certain scenario, and (c) calculate risk premium/price of insurance according to scenarios. The project engaged the services of a global risk modeler, Willis Towers Watson, which conducted a study and presented recommendations for a suitable design of the modelling Engine in the Philippines and the options to operationalize it.

For the Philippines, the project has already agreed with the Department of Science and Technology – PHIVOLCS (plus PAGASA) and the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA) to develop a modelling engine.

A Memorandum of Understanding detailing the roles of parties is on final stage of negotiation.

The first quarter of 2020 will see the development of a concept for a Monitoring and Evaluation System for CRI. The project will also conduct the 8th MEFIN Public-Private Dialogue and Industry Workshop with the theme “Building resilience through Climate Risk Insurance for MSMEs”. This regional event, which will be held in Makati on 24-25 Mar 2020, will be co-organized by the project with the Mutual Exchange Forum on Inclusive Insurance (MEFIN) Network, the Microinsurance Network (MiN) in partnership with Pioneer Insurance.



*Picture 12: Members of the TWGs on Business Model and Use of Technology are consulted on the structure and content of the National Concept Paper on CRI during their meeting on 19 November 2019.*