

## DENR-EMB Applies Integrated Area Management and Convergence Using EbA to Address Climate Change



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) recently commenced its series of regional cluster orientation-writeshops in mainstreaming Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in support to the DENR's Program on promoting the development of **model communities** on area management and convergence highlighting green and resilient communities showcasing best practices in climate change adaptation and mitigation.



The first orientation-writeshop was held in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan last September 6-8, 2016 which covered MMAROPA and the second was held in Iloilo City last September 14-16, 2016 which covered Regions 6 and Negros Island Region. In October, the writeshop series will be conducted in Regions 9, 10 and 11.

This current undertaking which generally aims to contribute to the country's achievement of ecosystem-resilience and ecological integrity is in response to the DENR Secretary's directive and proposed agenda initiatives for the first 100 days on pursuing convergence among national government agencies and relevant stakeholders such as the local government planners, academe/ research institutions and civil society groups in addressing issues on climate change.



DENR envisions the promotion and establishment of model communities/LGUs which have demonstrated enhanced adaptive capacities particularly for vulnerable communities while at the same time pursue low carbon development through the use of renewable energy sources.

As stressed by Mr. Albert Magalang, Chief of the EMB-Climate Change Division, *“strategic mainstreaming of EbA into the Department’s programs, projects and activities intends to ensure that ecosystems-based options are highly considered by local governments and communities which would be taking the lead in instituting the adaptive management of their natural resources. The early stages of this mainstreaming initiative shall be provided with technical support from the DENR.”*



The EbA Orientation series for regional clusters serve as an opportunity for DENR regional staff to have updated and working knowledge on climate change adaptation guided by the EbA Mainstreaming Cycle and practice their updated knowledge and facilitation skills in assisting vulnerable communities to come up with specific adaptation action

agenda in the form of project proposals that are doable with community initiatives and mobilization. **Such proposals shall be presented/submitted for possible support of either the People’s Survival Fund (PSF) or DENR funds.**

The People’s Survival Fund (PSF) was created pursuant to Section 18 of Republic Act 9729 (Climate Change Act of 2009), as amended by Republic Act No. 10174 in 2012 which is a special fund in the National Treasury for the financing of adaptation program and

projects based on the National Strategic Framework. Having an annual appropriation of 1 billion pesos, the PSF will fund climate change projects as proposed by LGUs or local communities/organizations (LCOs).



So far, the following proposals have been formulated during the writeshops, namely:

1. Romblon - Accounting for Enhancing Climate- Resilient Communities in Tablas Island (BANCA) Program
2. Palawan – Forest, Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Resource Management in the Province of Palawan
3. Marinduque - Participatory Vulnerability Assessment into Spatial Development Planning in the Province of Marinduque
4. Aklan - Vulnerability Assessment of Nabaoy River Watershed
5. Antique – Climate Resilient Initiatives for Small Islands Project (CRISP)
6. Guimaras – Water Sufficiency Project for the Province of Guimaras
7. Negros Island - Project “Ayupon”: Negros Occidental Adaptation Program Towards Food Sufficiency and Resiliency
8. Iloilo – Nurturing the Climate Frontier: Establishing a Nursery to Life



The EMB Regional Offices shall continue the coordination with the respective LGU/civil society organization project proponents and monitor progress of these proposals to ensure that they successfully avail support from the PSF.

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