

CLIMATE ACTION IN PHILIPPINES

Country context

The Philippines is located in a climate sensitive geographical location and frequently witnesses an average of eight to nine tropical storms every year. Therefore the government's efforts are understandably focused on climate adaptation. The government is also committed to carving out climate-resilient and climate-smart pathways that include low emission efforts.

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) was established through the Climate Change Act RA 9729 of 2009 as a national policy-making body responsible for formulating and coordinating the country's strategic framework on climate change, and for mainstreaming of climate change in national, local, and sectoral development plans. The Philippine National Framework Strategy on Climate Change (2010-2022) was developed by the CCC to address national commitments, climate change vulnerabilities, adaptation needs and mitigation potential.

Subsequently in 2011, the National Climate Change Action Plan was formulated to promote integration of climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Systematic accounting and reporting of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was recognized as a key strategy by the government towards achieving its sustainable development and mitigation goals.

With increasing awareness and resolve to address climate change within the country's public and private sectors, Philippines also sought to establish linkages for coordinated action.

Philippines policy initiatives and endeavours for climate action were further supported through the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project's activities.



LECB PHILIPPINES at a glance



Total financing
US \$1,334,500



Timeframe
6 years (2012-2018)



Sectors
Transport, agriculture, waste and industry



Counterpart
Climate Change Commission



Thematic areas

- Institutional frameworks
- GHG inventory systems
- NAMAs
- LEDS
- INDC support
- MRV systems
- Private sector involvement
- Climate finance

LECB ASIA

Institutionalized national GHG inventory system

LECB supported the creation of necessary institutional arrangements for the national GHG inventory system and undertook a comprehensive capacity building programme, thereby ensuring that sectoral public agencies are well placed to lead the national GHG inventory process. Presidential Executive Order 174 was issued to support formalizing these institutional arrangements, and was reinforced by the development of a guidance document and a reference manual which clearly outline institutional roles and structures, coordination mechanisms, technical methods and procedures, and reporting templates. The project effectively leveraged synergies with on-going initiatives of other developmental partners such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), especially in trainings conducted jointly to strengthen capacities of sectoral institutions on GHG inventory estimation, and use of the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines, tools and worksheets.

1 Presidential Executive Order

issued to institutionalize and streamline the national GHG inventory system

Developed a National Climate Change Database System

The [NICCDIES](#) - National Integrated Climate Change Database Information and Exchange System - a domestic national-level electronic database system to serve as a 'one-stop-shop' portal for consolidating climate change information was designed and developed by LECB. The NICCDIES will underpin the government's monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system for GHG inventory, mitigation actions and climate finance. The framework for this system was developed through extensive multi-sectoral stakeholder consultation while also ensuring compliance and harmonized data collection methods between the NICCDIES and REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries) programme. Agreements were sought with data providers to promote long-term system sustainability. LECB in the Philippines strategically partnered with USAID's Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies project (USAID EC-LEDS) and GIZ's Information Matters for support with the NICCDIES design.

450 Participants

from 45 public agencies engaged through 30 training workshops in collaboration with USAID's EC-LEDS programme

RESULTS

Identified and prioritized mitigation actions

LECB coordinated the identification and prioritization of mitigation actions in the agriculture, waste, transport, and energy sectors, with multi-party engagement. Multi-criteria decision analysis, developed by the project in cooperation with UNEP and its allied institutions such as UNEP-Southeast Asia Network of Climate Change Offices (SEAN-CC) and UNEP-DTU Partnership, was applied to evaluate and compare socio-economic benefits of mitigation actions. The prioritized mitigation options were included in the INDC. A National Climate Change Mitigation Framework Strategy and Mitigation Goal document was drafted by LECB to guide the development and implementation of mitigation actions in an efficient, cost-effective and harmonized manner. This strategy document encompasses guiding principles, a national mitigation action plan, institutional framework, MRV system, and a capacity building needs assessment and action plan.

20 Trainings and workshops

conducted to build public sector capacities on GHG inventory system collection and reporting

Advanced private sector engagement on climate action

A number of activities and collaborations to strengthen private sector participation and foster public-private sector dialogue on climate mitigation action resulted in coordinated climate action and the formulation and implementation of LEDS activities. Business summits were initiated in 2013 that became well-established platforms to promote private sector action and investment on climate change. LECB in Philippines in collaboration with USAID's Low Emission Asian Development Program prepared a GHG Inventory Reporting Protocol and Management Plan document to support reporting of corporate-wide GHG inventories and planning and implementation of mitigation actions. In addition, through the project a National Recognition and Rating Programme was designed to recognize and encourage private sector initiatives on climate mitigation and adaptation, and a Private Sector LEDS Roadmap was drafted to stimulate public-private partnerships.

5 Annual Climate Change Business Summits

held to advance private sector participation in climate

& IMPACTS



Empowered line ministries and strengthened institutional structures to streamline GHG inventory reporting activities.

Capacity building, and the establishment of a strategic framework, created a basis to successfully institutionalize the collection of GHG inventory data at the national and subnational levels.



Improved understanding, action, commitment and enhancement of capabilities amongst stakeholders for climate change mitigation was instilled

The second phase of the Project will focus on supporting NDC implementation and enable building on the results and outcomes of the first phase.



Enhanced cooperation and synergetic efforts among public-private actors to address climate change collectively resulted in a proliferation of positive outcomes

LECB supported these efforts by acting as an effective liaison between the public and private sectors and a host and driver of partnership initiatives.



General overview of the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme

Since its inception, the UNDP LECB programme has paved the way for effective and lasting climate action by building capacities of government staff to develop policies, strategies and tools that help implement their climate change goals. Focusing specifically on essential building blocks such as strengthening GHG inventory data and systems; formalization of institutional arrangement for climate actions; development and alignment of low emission development strategies (LEDS); and the creation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), LECB provided much of the enabling environment necessary for countries to respond quickly to emerging needs, such as the submission of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and socialization of the Paris Agreement. Given its flexible nature and strong country ownership, often the originally-envisaged and measurable LECB outputs have been exceeded, leading to some unplanned but highly welcomed additional impacts.

CASE STUDY

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINES GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Philippines was keen to establish a sustainable process for conducting its GHG inventory compliance activities, given the requirements for frequent reporting to international bodies and the need for more comprehensive mitigation analysis to undertake climate-responsive planning. LECB Philippines, in collaboration with USAID's EC-LEDS project, was instrumental in assisting the Climate Change Commission in setting up and institutionalizing the national GHG inventory system.

Government agencies in the agriculture, waste, industry, transport, forestry, and energy sectors

were actively engaged in this endeavour. Technical Working Groups (TWGs) were established for these six inventory sectors. LECB Philippines urged that from the outset emphasis be placed on building capacities of nodal agencies involved in generating and managing information for the sectoral GHG inventories. Public agencies from these sectors were engaged through a series of trainings, workshops, and focus group discussions on GHG inventory estimation and reporting using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

The capacity building efforts underscored for the TWG members the importance of

institutionalizing and systematizing the tasks related to conducting the national GHG inventory. The outcome of this was that the Climate Change Commission and the TWGs drafted Executive Order 174 to facilitate the establishment of the national GHG inventory system, designate the roles and responsibilities of sectoral agencies, and provide for the establishment of the NICCDIES database to underpin the system. Executive Order 174, institutionalizing the 'Philippine Greenhouse Gas Inventory Management System', was signed and issued by the country's President on November 24, 2014.

To support implementation of the Executive Order, a guidance document and a procedure

manual were drafted to establish clear systems and procedures, and to enable documentation of the inventory process. The technical trainings on GHG inventory preparation helped participants acquire the knowledge, skills and confidence to contribute effectively to their respective agency's compliance with Executive Order 174. LECB Philippines adopted a well-rounded approach to ensure that the knowledge and capacity to carry out the GHG inventory is retained by individuals as well as by the relevant institutions. The extensive engagement and capacity building undertaken across sectors also led to stronger inter-sectoral relationships, thereby enabling the

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. It is a global programme that helps countries build the public and private sector capacities needed to scale up country-driven mitigation actions.

LECB Philippines made possible by:



Supported by:



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Australian Government

