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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 115

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

RESOLUTION

URGING THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE USE OF THE GEORISKPH PLATFORMS, AND ADOPT THE POST-DISASTER SHELTER RECOVERY POLICY FRAMEWORK AND THE READY TO REBUILD: DISASTER REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY PLANNING GUIDE WORKBOOK AS TOOLS FOR DEVELOPING CLIMATE ACTION PLANS AND BUILDING A DISASTER RESILIENT AND EQUITABLE RECOVERY FROM THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTERS

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall "protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, Section 2 of the Republic Act No. 9729, as amended, otherwise known as the "*Climate Change Act of 2009*", declares that the State shall "adopt the principle of protecting the climate system for the benefit of humankind" in view of the country's vulnerability to the "dangerous consequences of climate change, such as rising seas, changing landscapes, increasing frequency and/or severity of droughts, fires, flood and storms, climate-related illness and diseases, damage to ecosystems, biodiversity loss that affect the country's environment, culture, and economy";

WHEREAS, Section 14 of the same law mandates all local government units (LGUs) to lead the formulation, planning, and implementation of their respective Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP), consistent with the provisions of the Local Government Code, the Framework, and the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP);

WHEREAS, Section 2 of the Republic Act No. 10121, also known as the "*Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010*", recognizes the importance of upholding the constitutional rights to life and property by strengthening the country's institutional capacity for disaster risk reduction and management and building the resilience of local communities to disasters including climate change impacts. It provides that the State shall "adopt a disaster risk reduction and management approach that is holistic, comprehensive, integrated, and proactive in lessening the socioeconomic and

environmental impacts of disasters, including climate change, and promote the involvement and participation of all sectors and all stakeholders concerned, at all levels, especially the local community”;

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the same Act mandates the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) to develop assessment tools on the existing and potential hazards and risks brought about by climate change to vulnerable areas and ecosystems, in coordination with the Climate Change Commission (CCC);

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the “*Local Government Code of 1991*,” provides that LGUs have the responsibility to undertake rescue operations, deliver immediate relief assistance, and set up and manage evacuation centers at the first instance of disaster occurrence;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11639 or the “*General Appropriations Act for FY 2022*” mandates all government agencies to “implement projects incorporating risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and where feasible, climate change mitigation”, and to ensure that all national government projects are subjected to multi-scenario, probabilistic analysis;

WHEREAS, the Philippines ranked 4th among the most affected countries in the world from extreme weather events for the period 2000 to 2019 according to the 2021 Global Climate Risk Index, with at least sixty percent (60%) of the country’s total land area exposed to multiple hazards, such as super typhoons, storm surges, tectonic plates, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, landslides, droughts, and tsunamis;

WHEREAS, the massive loss and damage suffered by the Philippines from typhoons, weather disturbances, and other extreme weather events that wreak havoc in the country, such as super typhoon Yolanda, typhoon Ulysses, and super typhoon Odette, among others, show that climate change is a clear and present threat to the country’s poverty reduction and sustainable development goals;

WHEREAS, according to the World Bank, super typhoon Odette affected 10.6 million people from the Regions of MIMAROPA, VI, VII, VIII, X, and CARAGA, or an estimated ten percent (10%) of the total population of the Philippines, and caused Php 211.6 million (approximately USD 4.1 billion) worth of direct damage to the infrastructure, housing, agriculture, and tourism sectors;

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2022, President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr., in his State of the Nation Address, emphasized the need to build the country’s capacity for natural disaster resiliency by investing in science and technology in order to enable citizens and communities to have accurate weather forecasts and on-time disaster alerts;

WHEREAS, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the CCC issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2015-01 encouraging LGUs to identify, prioritize, and tag climate change-related programs, activities, and projects in their Annual Investment Program (AIP);

WHEREAS, the DILG has issued Memorandum Circular No. 2015-77 providing the guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in local planning;

WHEREAS, the Office of Civil Defense, in partnership with the World Bank, has crafted the Ready to Rebuild: Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Planning Guide Workbook, a supplemental document to the Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Planning Guide developed by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), to provide the overall framework for national, regional, and local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils in their formulation of post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery programs and the implementation of pre-disaster activities;

WHEREAS, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) - Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), together with the other forecasting and mapping agencies of government, has developed the Geospatial Information Management and Analysis Project for Hazards and Risk Assessment in the Philippines (GeoRiskPH) to improve the country's understanding and management of hazards and risks by reducing data silos and providing protocols to share hazard, exposure, and risk information for accurate hazards and risk assessment;

WHEREAS, GeoRiskPH was developed for use by national government agencies, LGUs, private institutions, and individuals to better prepare for the effects of natural hazards, through the following platforms:

- HazardHunterPH for seismic, volcanic, and hydro-meteorological hazards assessment for specific locations;
- GeoAnalyticsPH for in-depth analysis and visualization of local potential exposure to natural hazards; and
- GeoMapperPH for the collection of hazards and exposure information to populate the national exposure database system;

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), in partnership with the World Bank, developed the Post-Disaster Shelter Recovery Policy Framework to establish a guide to ensure the full recovery of households affected by disasters and improve the results of shelter recovery programs and projects;

WHEREAS, in order to build climate-smart and disaster-resilient communities, it is incumbent upon the Senate to promote a science-based approach with the aid of cost-effective technologies that will guide the whole-of-nation approach to disaster risk reduction, response, recovery, logistics, and communication efforts following the occurrence of disasters;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines urges the Executive Department and LGUs to institutionalize the use of the GeoRiskPH platforms in the identification, analysis, and assessment of hazards and risks per location, and for the formulation and implementation of interventions to reduce impacts of climate change and disasters in the communities;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Executive Department and LGUs shall also adopt the following:

- The Post-Disaster Shelter Recovery Policy Framework, which will enable better coordination, optimize the use of financial and human resources, align various policies and administrative and funding initiatives, and empower those affected to recover and reduce the impact of future disasters; and
- The Ready to Rebuild: Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Planning Guide Workbook in order to serve as a guide in developing disaster rehabilitation and recovery systems, plans, and programs at the national and local levels;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the DILG, DOST, NEDA, DHSUD, and Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall facilitate further ground-level capacitation of LGUs by institutionalizing partnerships with Higher Education Institutions that have the expertise and are in close proximity to the LGUs concerned;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the CCC shall provide support to the installation of a multi-decadal planning and programming for resilience actions, especially in ensuring policy, program, and investment coherence as informed by the best available science, consistent with the flow of climate finance and technical support from bilateral and multilateral development partnerships for climate change adaptation and mitigation;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the funds allocated and disbursed for the foregoing shall be subjected to monitoring and evaluation and reporting through the CCC-DBM-DILG Climate Change Expenditure Tagging for continuous learning;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that these supplementary tools and documents shall serve as primary reference materials for national, regional, and local actors to rationalize risk-informed pre- and post-disaster planning and establish coordination mechanisms toward a resilient and equitable recovery from the impacts of climate change and disasters.

Adopted,



LOREN LEGARDA