



Ms. Maria Antonia Yulo - Loyzaga, former President of National Resilience Council and Board Member of ARISE-Philippines appointed as DENR Secretary

Ms. Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, the erstwhile President of the National Resilience Council, a member organization of ARISE-Philippines was recently appointed as the new Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Ms. Loyzaga took her oath of office before President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. last July 19 and subsequently formally assumed office on July 21, 2022 in a simple ceremony at the DENR social hall attended by the department's officials and employees. Also in attendance at the assumption ceremony were VAdm. Alexander Pama AFP (ret.), ARISE-Philippines Co-Chair, Ms. Liza Silerio of SM Prime Inc. and ARISE Global board member and the officers of the National Resilience Council (NRC). ARISE-Philippines congratulates Secretary Loyzaga on her new appointment.



ARISE Japan and ARISE Philippines hold Knowledge Sharing Session (KSS) on Insurance for DRR

ARISE Japan and the Philippines successfully held the 3rd Session of the KSS last 22 July 2022 through a webinar. The session focused on the initiatives undertaken by both Networks in line with their respective efforts on DRR and in line with ARISE Priority Area 3, i.e., Insurance and Reinsurance.

Mr. Michael Rellosa, the Executive Director of the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA), as the ARISE-Philippines representative started the Session with his presentation entitled "Insurance industry's Response to Address DRR Issues." He highlighted the programs initiated in the Philippines to address the rising need of disaster victims whose properties are adversely affected by disasters and could hardly recover from said disasters. Mr. Rellosa showcased the Philippines Catastrophic Insurance Facility (PCIF) and the initial launch of a parametric insurance product for MSMEs. The PCIF is a multi-sectoral collaboration that acts as a risk-pooling mechanism that could cover the underserved populace. Parametric on the other hand are products bundled with other traditional insurance products that guarantee early post-disaster payouts to help SMEs bounce back.

On the side of ARISE Japan, Ms. Hiroko Urashima of Sustainability Section, Corporate Planning Department, AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc. made the presentation where she shared several initiatives that illustrated solid examples of how they translate their corporate mission into action. The first was the brochures that help educate the public on the importance of insurance, especially for their protection. Another is an online tool that provides a real-time assessment of the damage after a disaster which serves as a basis for quick payouts. Lastly, a smartphone app guides nearby shelters in case of flooding emergencies.

The event was also attended by other industry players from both countries and other ARISE and UNDRR personalities. [Read More](#)



OCD leads conduct of Local Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework



The Office of Civil Defense (OCD) conducted a National Consultation Workshop with representatives from Civic/Social Organizations (CSOs), Academe, Research, and the Private Sector last July 27, 2022. The workshop is part of the Mid-term Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030 (MTR SF) at the Novotel Manila Hotel in Araneta City in parallel with the Short-term Review (STR) of the National Disaster Risk Reduction. This is a joint effort of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), through the OCD, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)'s Strengthening Institutions and Empowering Localities against Disaster and Climate Change (SHIELD) Program.

The onsite workshop was participated in by Mr. Tejas Patnaik (DRR Officer of UNDRR-ROAP) and attended by representatives from various DRR related Government Agencies, NGOs and CSOs. ARISE Philippines was represented by VAdm. Alexander Pama and Ms. Laarni Salamat, while Ms. Simonette Lat participated for and in behalf of SM Prime Inc. The activities was undertaken under the lead of OCD to assess and consolidate the progress of the Philippines' implementation of the Sendai Framework.

ARISE-PH Conducts Pilot Run of Resilience Reporting Tool as part of National Disaster Resilience Month Commemoration

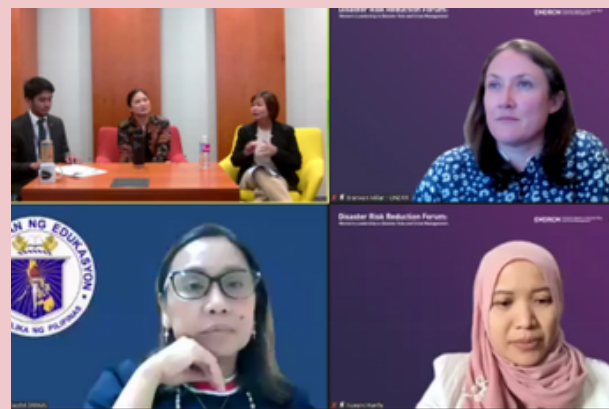
ARISE-Philippines, through its PA2-Investors and Investments, Lead Aboitiz Foundation and in partnership with Resilient.PH and the Asian Institute of Management led the pilot run of the Resilience Reporting Tool (RRT) as part of the National Resilience Month Commemoration. Mr. Josren Carpio of Resilience. Ph, an ARISE Member organization, the lead author and proponent of the RRT, spearheaded the webinar workshop last July 28, 2022, via Zoom to a diverse group of participants with experience in Sustainability Reporting.

The RRT, developed by The Resilient.PH team, is an upgraded tool for reporting that includes components from the Sendai Framework for DRR. It is a voluntary disclosure tool that outlines a standard set of guidelines for the private sector to disclose their journey towards resiliency in alignment with stakeholders' interests, such as investors and capital providers. In addition, the tool supplements the disclosures of the organization's

sustainability, annual, and integrated reports. During said Pilot run, all participants, primarily the sustainability officers, were requested to continue working as a group to fine tune the proposed tool.



A spotlight on women's leadership role in disaster risk and crisis management



The Women's International Network for DRR (WIN DRR) conducted a DRR forum last July 29, 2022 with a round table discussion led by the Asian Institute of Management (AIM). The online forum centered on women's leadership roles in disaster risk management and the significant impact on their respective communities and organizations.

The discussions included insights from renowned female champions from the field, such as Ms. Branwen Millar, Gender Advisor from UNDRR; Ms. Ronilda Co, Director for DRR at DepEd; Ms. Ezra Barboza, AVP for Environmental Management at Aboitiz Power Corp.; Dr. Rahma Hanifa, Director General of U-Spire; and Dr. Marquezeta Reyes, Asst. Professor, EMDRCM of AIM.

Making businesses climate resilient through the e-HANDA Course

In time for the celebration of National Disaster Resilience Month, the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) conducted the e-Honing Agents for National Disaster Awareness (HANDA) Course: Disaster Preparedness and Business Continuity Planning for MSMEs from July 26, 28, and 29, 2022 via the Zoom platform.

The resource speakers of the 3-day course came from the UP ISSI, UP Resilience Institute, Business Continuity Managers Association of the Philippines (BCMAP), Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA, Inc.), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) - Philippines.

The e-HANDA Course included workshop sessions to guide participants on developing their business continuity plan, MSME BCP-at-a-Glance, and their Commitment to Action.





NRC and UP ISSI conducts 2nd pilot testing of QRE Tool Filipino Version



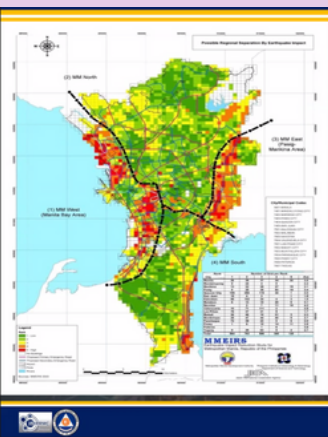
The National Resilience Council (NRC) and the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) in collaboration with ARISE-Philippines conducted the 2nd Pilot Testing of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)'s COVID-19 Quick Risk Estimation (QRE) Tool (Filipino Translation) for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) held on 2 August 2022 from 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM via Zoom.

The QRE Tool for COVID-19 was launched by the UNDRR to help MSMEs especially in the informal sector to equip them with a primary understanding of their risk level and build resilience. By using the tool, business owners will be able to identify possible internal (human resource, finance, operation and technology) and external risks (government regulations, change in market and exposure to hazards) to their businesses from COVID-19. It will provide them with a general estimation of individual business risk based on potential direct and indirect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, a part of the scope of the QRE Tool is to reinforce risk awareness and communication between business owners.

A second pilot test for QRE Tool was held in order to ensure that the proposed Tagalog version can easily be understood and answered by the target audience. During this session, the participants mostly micro, small and medium enterprises were able to express their evaluation of the existing tool as to the ease of usage, duration and limitations of the the questions provided.

Earthquake Resiliency Committee of the NDRRMC-DPP launched by the OCD

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) Preparedness Cluster, headed by DILG Secretary, Atty. Benjamin C. Abalos (Vice-Chairperson for Disaster Preparedness) created Earthquake Resiliency Committee under the Disaster Preparedness Pillar to better address the needs and other requirements to better prepare for earthquake events the so-called “Big one” that may hit the Greater Metro Manila area, and parts of Central Luzon and CALABARZON.



To this end, a hybrid meeting was called on August 26, 2022 to discuss the background of the newly formed committee and provided updates on the Greater Metro Manila earthquake impact reduction study and Oplan Metro Yakal Plus. This was participated in by the Disaster Preparedness Pillar agency members along with selected private sector representatives that included ARISE-Philippines. In the meeting, a proposal was made for the conduct of a cabinet-level tabletop exercise among other matters.

Moving forward, the Committee will regularly convene to discuss the progress on each pending deliverable from where they left off in the previous discussion with the target to finalize the plan in preparation for the Big One soonest possible time.

SMIC forms group-wide Climate Change Steering Committee



SM Investments Corporation (SMIC) President and CEO Frederic C. DyBuncio will chair SMIC's newly formed Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC). It will serve as a corporate umbrella for the advocacy, learning and support initiatives on climate resilience of the SM Group.

The CCSC will be providing the leadership, strategic direction, and guidance on the overall climate initiatives of the SM Group. It shall help identify key themes, policies, and requirements to be addressed by the group of companies relative to matters due to climate change. It will also provide governance oversight in line with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

TCFD is an international body established by the Financial Stability Board to monitor and make recommendations on the global financial system relative to climate change. It is committed to market transparency, providing climate-related disclosure guidance to companies. This will ensure that investors, lenders and insurance underwriters can appropriately assess the value and risks of assets and effectively allocate capital.

A quarterly meeting will be conducted by the Climate Change Steering Committee to align all key communications on climate efforts for the SM Group. SM Green Movement, under SMIC's Communication team, will serve as the unified communications platform for SM Group's climate efforts.



FEATURED: Some of the resilience programs/projects of ARISE-Philippines member, Habitat For Humanity Philippines as seen in their monthly publications, shared by their Chief Executive Officer Ms. Mardi Suplido.

Bangued, Abra



An assessment of the structural damage on homes of families affected by the magnitude 7 earthquake in Bangued, Abra was conducted by Habitat for Humanity, an ARISE Philippines member, in partnership with the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines, Build Change, and the local government.. Habitat for Humanity led a team of 9 volunteers composed of engineers and an architect to assess 343 houses in five barangays. Temporary shelter and awareness-raising to build back safer, stronger structures were identified to be the urgent needs of the communities.

Sto. Tomas, Batangas

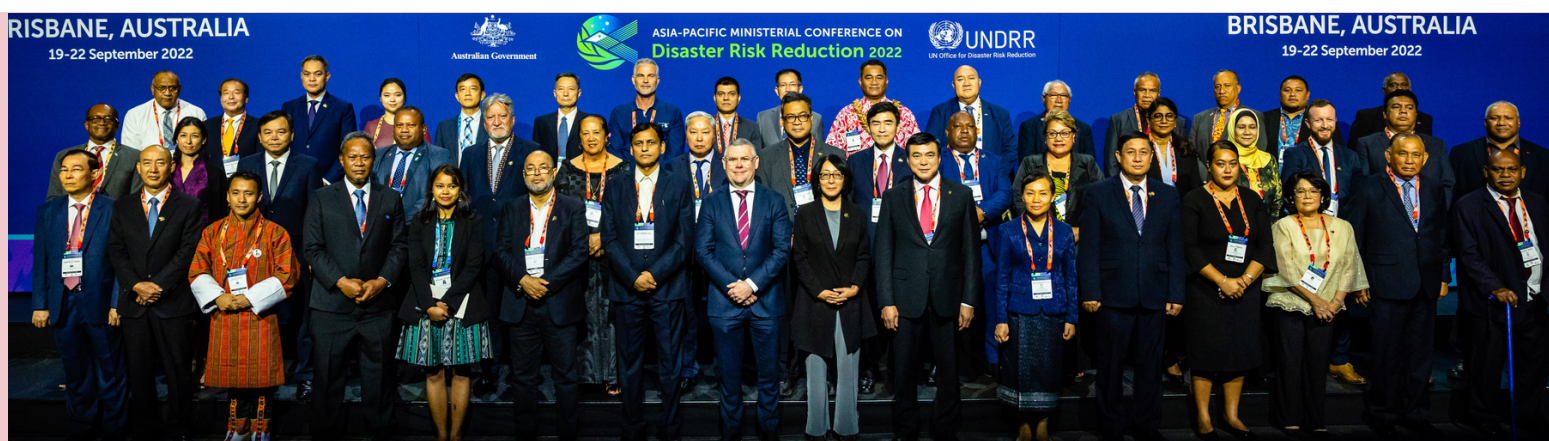


In another activity undertaken during said assessment was to engage 31 teachers, students, and parents at Sta. Teresita Elementary School to design a Digital Classroom and Library. The program was designed in collaboration with the community to ensure their inclusivity in addressing their needs, requirements, and aspirations. Results of the activity were incorporated in the development of Habitat for Humanity's proposal to build a conducive learning facility for the students with the ultimate goal of improving their education.

Silay City, Negros Occidental



A community development action-planning workshop under the NOI25 Project was conducted among the organization's Homeowners' Association to further strengthen their capacity through the creation of their community development plan. Fifteen representatives from Katuwang, Malipayon, and Mainuswagon communities joined the activity. They were guided to identify their accomplishments, needs, and challenges. Mayor Joedith Gallego lauded the efforts of the communities and expressed the local government's commitment to continuously support their projects. [Read more](#)



9th Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2022 successfully held in Brisbane Australia

The UNDRR, in collaboration with the Australian government (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) convened for the APMCDRR in Brisbane, Australia from September 19 to 2022. Delegates and virtual attendees from more than 40 countries attended the conference. With the theme "From Crisis to Resilience: Transforming the Asia-Pacific Region's future through disaster risk reduction." The event was an important opportunity to assess efforts in preventing and reducing the risks of disasters in APAC being the most disaster-prone region in the world.

The conference had various simultaneous events in the form of plenary forums, partner and private events as well as working sessions and learning labs which served as avenues for discussions on various topics like "Risk-Informed Investments and Scaling Up Financing in Disaster Risk Reduction". Ms. Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, the current DENR Secretary and head of Philippine delegation was one of the distinguished panelists in one of the plenary sessions.

The urgency to scale up the implementation of integrated and comprehensive DRR and climate risk management was underscored by participants conscious of the fact that it is now on the midpoint of the timeline in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Action.

The conference was regarded as a successful event where in the Co-Chair's statement, the participants' reaffirmation of commitment to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk-Reduction 2015-2030 was cited and emphasized. The statement also highlighted the delegates' sentiments stressing the necessity to ramp up the implementation of integrated and comprehensive disaster and climate risk management at the national and local levels. The issue of food security being a critical element of disaster and climate resilience was likewise highlighted in the conference. [Read more](#)



ARISE India, Japan and the Philippines host Private Sector Stakeholder Meeting in 2022 APMCDRR



Among the various activities held was the Private Sector Stakeholder Meeting organized and hosted by ARISE networks in ASIA namely Japan, India and the Philippines where representatives from said national networks presented the status of their respective activities and accomplishments for the year. It was also an opportunity for said ARISE national networks to share their progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Action.



The Private Sector Stakeholder Meeting was a hybrid event held on the first day of the 2022 APMCDRR to learn about the APAC ARISE networks' strategies and different activities in implementing the Sendai Framework. It is an effort to continuously create a shared meaning of DRR in the region.



Yuki Matsuoka, Head of the UNDRR Office in Japan, reiterated utilizing the Sendai Framework (SFDRR) to shift the focus on the private sector's role from being victims of disasters but agents of change with the capability for empowerment and inclusion. Among the speakers who imparted their status in achieving the goals of the Sendai Framework are Dr. Bhagat Khanna (CEO, ARISE India), Vice Admiral Alexander Pama (ret.) (Co-Chair of ARISE-Philippines) and Masato Takamatsu (Lead, ARISE Japan). ARISE India shared the focus of its activities on innovation and capacity development which helped minimize the economic losses due to natural hazards including the COVID-19 pandemic. VAdm. Pama narrated how ARISE-Philippines championed inclusivity in DRR and mainstreamed its initiatives with the help of its member network. Knowledge sharing and tourism are the keys to the concentration of ARISE Japan's progress in reaching the targets of SFDRR. Takamatsu also shared its action plan for 2019-2022 to put more emphasis on the tourism sector to create synergy with the Japanese growth strategy, with tourism as one of its pillars.

The meeting also featured Fantasia Lockington of Fiji Hotels and Tourism Association and Rod Crowder of Disaster Recovery Institute (DRI) Australia and New Zealand. Lockington discussed their organization's engagement with the private sector through resilience in tourism while Crowder highlighted DRI's focus on training on disaster preparation and recovery. [Read more](#)

Partner event at APMCDRR underscore role of technology and innovation for disaster resilience

ARISE-Philippines hosted a partner event on Day 3 of APMCDRR in collaboration with the National Resilience Council (NRC), Asian Institute of Management (AIM), SM Development Corp. (SMDC), UNICEF and International Finance Corporation (IFC). It was moderated by Mr. Silvestre Barrameda, Jr., the Executive Director of NRC.



The event objectives were laid out by Dr. Marqueza Reyes, Assistant Professor - AIM and Board Member of ARISE-Philippines presented the event objectives and cited the part of the private sector as the technological fountainhead through Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

The panel discussions started with Vice Admiral Alexander Pama (ret.), Co-Chair of ARISE-Philippines, who emphasized a whole of society's approach to developing shared responsibility and commitment to resilience. Mr. Ommid Saberi, Global Lead and Product Manager of Building Resilience Index (BRI) presented a closer look at BRI, an innovation of IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, developed together with the private sector. Ms. Cynthia Diaz, Crisis Resiliency Head of ePLDT, presented the Padayon App, a shared donation-matching application that bridges donations of individuals and corporations to areas in times of disaster which was created by her group of students in the Masters in Disaster Risk and Crisis Management graduate students at AIM in the Philippines. Ms. Rana Flowers, representing UNICEF Vietnam, pressed on the necessity of working with and for children and young people in DRR and innovation. Ms. Jessica Sy, Assistant Vice President/Project Director of SM Development Corporation (SMDC), presented SM's inclusive and sustainable urban development through adopting technological applications. [Read more](#)



Women's leadership in DRR Awarding Ceremonies held in the 2022 APMCDRR



The Women's International Network on Disaster Risk Reduction (WIN DRR) Awards honoring the thriving contribution and leadership of women in reducing disaster risk in their respective communities was held on the third day of the APMCDRR.



The awarding ceremonies was graced with the presence of Ms. Mami Mizutori as the Guest of Honor Speaker together with Ms. Christine Clark, Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls.

Ms. Jessica T. Sy, Assistant Vice President/Project Director of SM Development Corporation, delivered the inspirational remarks as the representative of SM Prime Holdings Inc., the private sector sponsor of the UN WINDRR. The award recognizes women leaders from every level of society to actively participate in decision-making activities for DRR. Ms. Sy shared how SM Prime has always advocated women empowerment, gender equality, and inclusivity, especially in its leadership.

Ms. Trina Aspuria, Development Programs and Innovations Head of the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation was one among the 15 finalists for this award. She was recognized as a local champion of disaster resilience. In her speech, Aspuria underlined working with the communities at the grassroots level to further develop solutions and disruptive ideas for DRR.

The 15 finalists came from the 420 nominations received from 24 countries across the Asia Pacific. Their stories are a reflection of the diverse solutions required to meet the challenges of climate change and natural disasters.

SEPTEMBER 2022 NETWORK UPDATE

For comments, questions, clarifications, or other concerns, please email us at secretariat@arise.ph. You may also follow us at www.facebook.com/UNDRRARISEPH/ and www.twitter.com/ARISE_PH for updates.