

Mr. Hans T. Sy talks resilience at the 1st DENR Multi-Stakeholders Forum



ARISE-Philippines Co-Chair Hans T. Sy, along with the other business leaders, presented for SM Prime Holdings, Inc. and ARISE-Philippines on their commitments toward more sustainable green business operations at the first-ever Department of Environment and Natural Resources Multi-stakeholders (DENR) Forum held last October 5, 2022 at Diamond Hotel.

Mr. Sy mentioned, "My vision for the environmentally resilient Philippines is simply a clean, green and disaster-resilient country. The priority is for all sectors to be in solidarity, engaging and working together with the survival of the planet, and ourselves, in mind. Having a strong tripartite structure, made up of the government, the corporate sector, and the

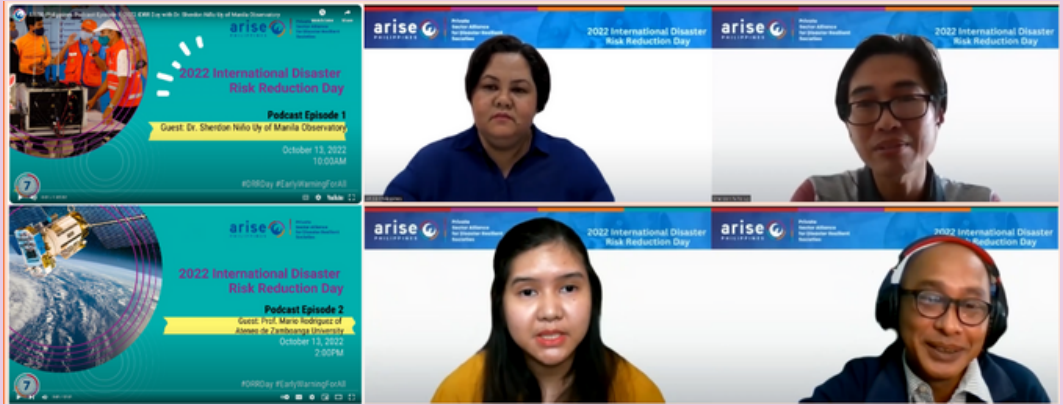
academic community, is essential for environmental resilience research and innovations, policy, education, budgeting, and taxation, among other things." He also shared that "the government is not alone in nation-building" emphasizing the private sector's role as a partner in providing a whole-of-society approach, toward an inclusive, prosperous, and sustainable Philippines.

During the question and answer session, Mr. Sy amplified the necessity of open communication between the public and private sectors, as well as the wisdom of involving business in the formulation and review of policies to ensure compliance towards sustainability. In addition to applauding the DENR for revising some of its rules, he suggested that the agency consider creating industry-specific regulations for firms, particularly SMEs, that might be broadly implemented and adopted.

The 3-day event was also graced by no less than Pres. Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. who delivered the Keynote speech. The event was also participated in by other business and industry leaders such as Ramon Ang, Lance Gokongwei, Federico Lopez, Manuel Paolo Villar, and Mariana Zobel de Ayala, who all provided their respective insights on how the Philippines can become more environmentally resilient and how they can foster partnership with DENR to spur further national development.

ARISE-Philippines launch 1st Podcast Series on the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction

On October 13 during the celebration of the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, ARISE-Philippines conducted its first-ever video podcast. The theme was "Target G of the Sendai Framework: Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030". The interview with the experts used Filipino as a medium for better understanding of the general public.



The first episode featured Dr. Sherdon Niño Uy, as he shared Manila Observatory's works on early warning systems and innovation on high-definition clean energy, climate and weather forecasts in the Philippines. [Watch Full Episode 1](#)

The 2nd episode was conducted with Prof. Mario Rodriguez of Ateneo de Zamboanga University where he talked about their project "ALERTO System" or Automated Water Level and Rain using near Real-Time Observation. It is a DOST-funded innovation that was included in the Top 50 shortlisted nominees of the UN Sasakawa Award in 2019. This awards recognizes good practices and initiatives undertaken by institutions, individuals and groups that have best contributed to increasing the participation of people who are disproportionately affected by disasters. ALERTO has been implemented in 10 pilot LGUs in Zamboanga and is now scaling up to Luzon and Visayas. [Watch Full Episode 2](#)

The video podcast was initiated as an information campaign for the general public on the availability of the tools, in order to understand, appreciate the importance and make use of the said early warning devices to prevent disasters from happening.

SM Prime underscores ESG+R in the Disaster Risk and Resilience 101 Webinar

SM Prime in DRR: Partnerships with ARISE-Philippines



A webinar on Disaster Risk and Resilience 101: A Briefing for Corporate Foundations was hosted by the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) and the National Resilience Council last October 18, 2022.

During the forum, NRC and LCF shared cutting-edge ways for businesses to collaborate closely with local governments, academic partners, and communities in order to improve capacity, decrease exposure and vulnerability, and change the

local landscapes of climate and disaster risk through sustainable investments. The webinar also covered how corporate foundations might change their emphasis to transition from their conventional role as donors during catastrophe response to sustainable initiatives that foster resilience.

One of the highlights of the event is a talk by Ms. Liza Silerio, Vice President Corporate Compliance Group of SM Supermalls, about their different experiences in promoting DRR, resilience and sustainability initiatives from organizational to collaborative projects. She particularly mentioned their ESG+R commitment against the triple planetary crisis (climate change/pollution and biodiversity loss), projects on capacity building through the Business Continuity Program (BCP) and Knowledge Sharing Webinars as well as the collaboration of SM Prime with ARISE-Philippines in partnering with Galing Pook Awards and other post-disaster outreach programs. Likewise, Ms. Silerio added their prime partnership with the National Resilience Council in their Adopt-a-City program.

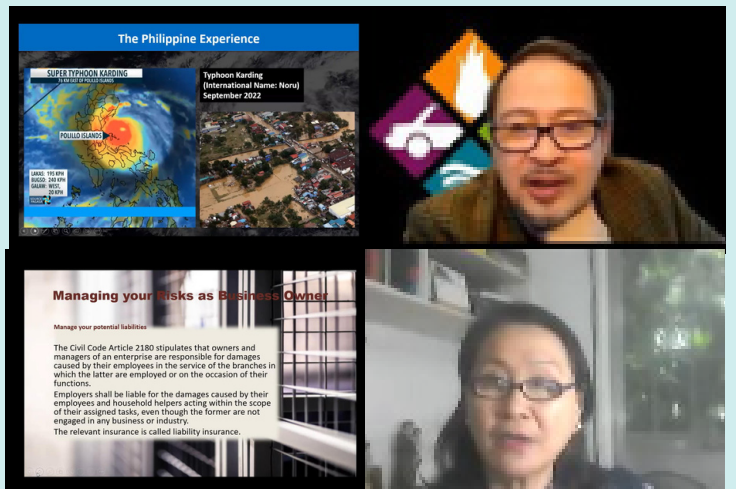
PIRA leads 2022 Insurance Consciousness Week Webinar

The Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA), Philippine Insurers Club (PIC), and Insurance Institute for Asia and the Pacific (IIAP) collaborated in mounting a webinar on October 20, 2022 as part of the week-long celebration of 2022 Insurance Consciousness Week. The webinar's theme was, "Importance of Insurance Vis-à-Vis Climate Change". The webinar was held with the support of ARISE-Philippines.

Targeting small and medium business owners, the presentations and discussions were led by PIRA Executive Director, Mr. Michael Rellosa and Ms. Melinda Natividad from PIRA Public Relations Committee which explored the impact of climate change on business operations in the Philippines. The speakers also expounded on how investing in insurance can reduce MSME's risk from climate-related disasters.

Mr. Rellosa discussed the obvious impacts of climate change to the environment and how it affects livelihood and businesses in the Philippines, especially in the case of super typhoons. He posed the challenge to everyone on how one could prepare for these environmental threats.

Ms. Natividad on the other hand presented the different types of non-life insurance products and their respective coverage which could help in addressing potential losses in case of disasters. For more details, [please watch the full video.](#)



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ARISE-Philippines participates in the 2022 Annual Global General Membership Meeting

ARISE networks from different countries took part in the 2022 ARISE Global Annual General Meeting (AGM) from October 10-11 held in Geneva, Switzerland. The event was held in a hybrid format with the ARISE-Philippines delegation of officers attending onsite headed by Co-Chair Hans T. Sy and VAdm. Alexander P. Pama along with Board Member Dr. Ma. Teresita Medado and ARISE Global Board Member Liza B. Silerio.

As one of the meeting's distinguished guests, Co-Chair Hans T. Sy, delivered his speech in person during the afternoon session of Day 1 in Geneva. He spoke about his own experience as a businessman investing in disaster risk reduction and asked the private sector to help build a society that is robust to climate change.

During the same session, VAdm Alexander P. Pama shared to the members processes and methodologies as well as the initiatives and actions undertaken by the ARISE-Philippines network to inspire the rest of ARISE global networks in exploring possible ways of scaling impact.

Ms. Liza B. Silerio, ARISE Global Board Member, presented the ARISE Good Practices template as part of the Board update. The template was finalized in coordination with ARISE-Philippines, Dr. Yoshiko Abe of ARISE Japan and UNDRR Headquarters. On the same day, a forum on inspiring actions showcasing good practices from ARISE Americas and the Caribbean was likewise presented. Reporting by members focused on Sendai Framework implementation particularly on the four ARISE priority areas, i.e., Infrastructure, Insurance, Investments, and SMEs. The said forum was moderated by Mr. Wally Panganiban of Resilient.PH, a member of the ARISE-Philippines network.

On day 2 of ARISE AGM, Ms. Veronica Gabaldon, the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation's (PDRF) Executive Director and the lead for ARISE-Philippines' Priority Area 1 (Small and Medium Businesses) discussed their contributions and continuing projects for SMEs. Some network members participated online like Ms. Joanna Laddaran of UP ISSI who moderated the session on how to get SMEs to a higher level of resilience during economic downturns.

During the Break-out session, ARISE Leaders presented their insights on partner engagement, membership growth, means of communication, commitment & cooperation, and opportunities for DRR integration into other private sector Initiatives and other stakeholder groups.



ARISE-Philippines rolls out its 1st UNDRR GETI Training Workshop

As part of the ARISE Global network, the Board and members of ARISE-Philippines are required by the UNDRR to advocate for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030 in our local areas. It's crucial that each member organization understands how we fit into this alliance and what it can do for them. To roll out this campaign, ARISE-Philippines requested the assistance of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training (GETI) in creating a special training program for the private sector to better understand and appreciate the underlying mandate of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR). The online training workshop entitled, "Understanding the Sendai Framework: An Option to Reduce Cost" was held last November 3, 2022 and attended by more than 100 participants.

The 4-hour online session covered three topics about DRR and business and was facilitated by Mr. Sanjaya Bhatia, the Head of Office of Northeast Asia (ONEA) and GETI for DRR along with Mr. Alf Ivar Blikberg, Programme Management Officer. The lecture concluded with a risk assessment workshop wherein the participating individual companies came up with a short presentation of the selected case from a randomly selected group after a breakout session.

The event was supported by ARISE Global Board Member, Ms. Liza B. Silerio, and United Nations Program Manager for ARISE, Mr. Erick Gonzales Rocha.



Co-Chair Pama keynotes in Komunidad's Adapt Asia 2022 forum

ARISE-Philippines Co-Chair VAdm. Alexander Pama (Ret.) delivered the keynote address for the Adapt Asia forum of Komunidad where he shared ARISE Philippines' experience in harmonizing and synergizing the efforts of the private sector for disaster risk reduction and resilience. Komunidad is a climate data and analytics software company providing digital transformation and decision support tools for climate resilience sustainability. The organization is one of the newest members of ARISE-Philippines.

Adapt Asia 2022, was organized by Komunidad to equip Asian business and community leaders and other stakeholders with the resources, insights, and tools needed to prepare for and respond to the risks brought about by climate change through collaboration and knowledge sharing. The theme focused on innovative actions and use of technology for climate mitigation and adaptation towards disaster resilience.

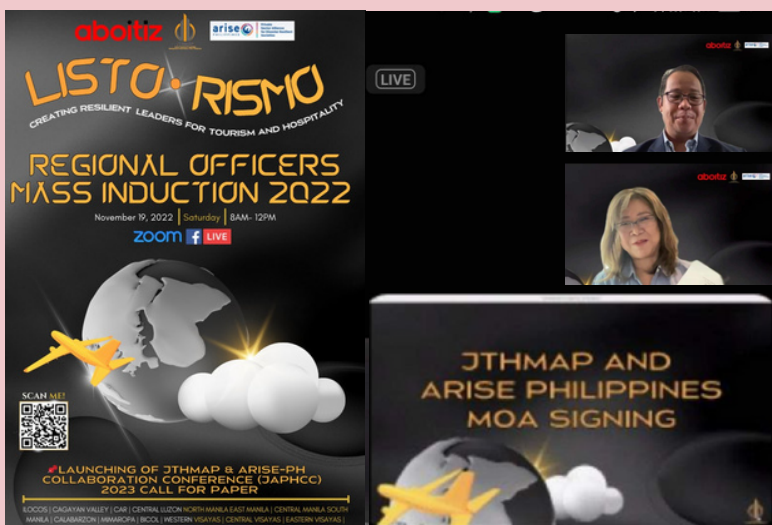
ARISE Asia networks initiate tripartite collaborations for 2023

ARISE national networks in Asia undertook the first-ever meeting to initiate an inter-network trilateral cooperative engagements. Mr. Masato Takamatsu (Japan); Mr. Bhagat Khanna (India); and VAdm Alexander Pama (Philippines) met via Zoom last November 11, 2022 to explore the possible collaborative programs and activities for the three ARISE national networks.

The initiative come in the heels of the current Japan - Philippines bilateral cooperative engagements particularly the Knowledge Sharing Series on the four targets areas in SFDRR, i.e., SMEs, Resilient Infrastructure, Investors and Investments and Insurance where both networks shared and learned each other's best practices.



Aboitiz Foundation and JTHMAP launches the Call for Paper on Disaster Risk Informed Investment for Tourism & Hospitality Industry



ARISE-Philippines, recently initiated the promotion of disaster risk information campaign among the younger generation and future entrepreneurs and professionals. This is being undertaken being through the launching of a call for paper on Disaster Risk Informed Investment (DRII) for the Tourism and Hospitality industry. The project is spearheaded by the Priority Area 4 (Investors and Investments) lead, Aboitiz Foundation in partnership with the Junior Tourism and Hospitality Management Association of the Philippines.

The ceremonial MOU signing between collaborators as well as the launch for the Call for Paper were held during the online JTHMAP Regional Officers Mass Induction last November 19, 2022. This was participated in by student delegations from the different provinces from all over the Philippines.

To jumpstart the joint program, ARISE-Philippines provided a webinar that was aligned on the theme of the new partnership

and event entitled, "Listo-Rismo - Creating Resilient Leaders for Tourism and Hospitality." The first speaker, Mr. Norbie Casabal, Managing Director of The Noble Minds, talked about "Leadership in the Midst of Tourism and Hospitality Crisis" followed by Mr. Robert Padillo, LPT, from the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) who provided the Disaster Risk 101 concepts.

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Philippine Air Force (PAF) partners with NRC and ARISE-Philippines for nationwide resilience initiatives



The National Resilience Council spearheaded the meeting with The Philippine Air Force and ARISE-Philippines to discuss the possible collaboration on resilience programs which can be implemented nationwide. The meeting which was held on 5th of November 2022. The parties agreed to work together assist the PAF to better understand disaster risk reduction focusing on the use of science and technology-based risk assessments and to improve PAF's humanitarian response efforts through risk-based prepositioning of assets and other capabilities for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).

This initiative is likewise intended to augment the disaster response capacity of the PAF to support the different local government units where PAF units are located as well as other LGU's DRR and resilience efforts .

ARISE-Philippines participates in the Climate Change Consciousness Week activities and forum

ARISE-Philippines participated in the Climate Change Commission's 15th Annual Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week (CCC Week 2022) which kicked off last November 19, 2022, with the planting of 200 Narra, Dao, and Sablot seedlings at the La Mesa Nature Reserve together with partner agencies and organizations, including indigenous peoples and the youth.



It was followed by ARISE-Philippines' participation in the Climate Investment Forum 2022 on November 21, 2022, held at Novotel Manila, entitled "Turning Climate Investment Forum 2022" where ARISE-Philippines presented an audio-visual presentation (AVP) of its members' climate action initiatives. The presentation was part of the event's featuring of activities of alliances and movements for climate action such as the Manila Observatory, Oscar M. Lopez Center, Chinabank, Unilever-Philippines, NEO and Aboitiz Foundation.



The forum aimed to enjoin stakeholders to be one in pursuing efforts to mobilize private sector investment towards achieving country priorities to address the climate emergency.

SM Prime Holdings, Inc. supports the 2022 Galing Pook Awards



The 2022 Galing Pook Awards was recently announced with the awarding ceremonies held in Malacañang Palace last 22 November 2022.

The winners of the 2022 Galing Pook Awards were: The Green Wall of Alcala (Alcala, Cagayan), Advancing and Sustaining Good Governance and Community Actions towards Resiliency and Empowerment (Basilan Province); Bataan Public-Private Partnership Programs (Bataan Province); Balik-Biñan Project: Tourism Development through Heritage Conservation (Biñan City, Laguna); From Black to Green: Fishponds, Eco-Tourism and Full Employment (Brgy. Cayabu, Tanay, Rizal); Trekking to Unlock Community Ailments and Difficulties (Tucad) (Goa, Camarines Sur); "I-BIKE" A Program Promoting the Development of the Iloilo City Bike Culture (Iloilo City); Yaru: A Whole-of-Community Approach Towards Disaster Management (Itbayat, Batanes); Libertad Fish Forever Savings Club (Libertad, Antique); and Basta Piddigueño, AgriHenyo: Consolidated Farm Production System (Piddig, Ilocos Norte).

This year's Galing Pook Awards marks the second year of SM Prime's partnership with the Galing Pook Foundation (GPF) and DILG-Local Government Academy (DILG-LGA) in supporting the Galing Pook Awards. This year is a breakthrough milestone for the awards as it is the first time that resilience was included as part of the criteria for choosing the winning LGUs through the initiative of SM Prime.

During the awarding ceremony, GPF was praised by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. for identifying and rewarding top-performing LGUs. He emphasized the importance of good public-private sector collaboration in creating successful programs that are beneficial to the Filipino people. Pres. Marcos said, "The recognition that you give to cities and municipalities inspires them to accelerate their drive towards improvement and it encourages LGUs to adopt practices that make us paragons of excellence in public service. It is necessary for us to underscore the importance of strengthening partnerships between the government and private organizations, such as the Galing Pook Foundation, especially as we bring about meaningful progress in the country." [Read more](#)

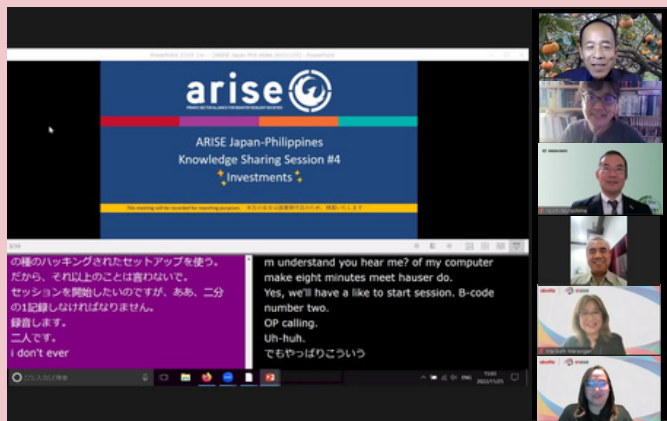
Aboitiz Foundation leads the 4th Knowledge Sharing Session for PA4 - Investors and Investments for ARISE-Philippines

ARISE Japan and Philippines' last KSS session on the four priority areas covered the Investors and Investments best practices sharing which were led by each representative respectively: Mr. Yoichi Murashima, Executive Officer and Director - DRR & Environment Unit, Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd. with a presentation entitled, "Encouraging businesses to invest in DRR: An example from Kokusai Kogyo"; and Ms. Christine Kempeneers, AVP for Risk Management, Aboitiz Equity Ventures for "Knowledge Sharing: Business Continuity Management."

The presentation for the Philippines was arranged and led by PA4 lead representative of Aboitiz Foundation, their President and CEO, Ms. Maribeth Marasigan who provided the introduction of the Aboitiz Group.

Held via Zoom last November 25, 2022, the event was also graced by

Yuki Matsuoka, Head of UNDRR Japan provided additional insights from UNDRR and Ms. Liza Silerio from ARISE Global Board. Both country's leads also gave their messages, Mr. Masato Takamatsu during the opening part while VAdm Alexander Pama on the other hand closed the session by highlighting the admirable initiatives undertaken by both companies.



ARISE Global Network Leaders Call

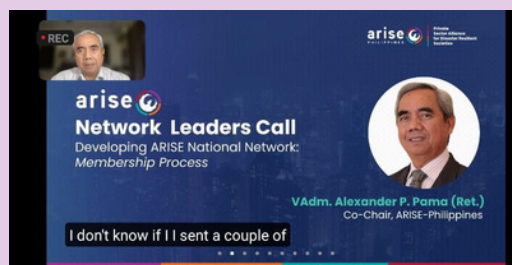
The Network Leaders of the different ARISE National Networks and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) convened last Dec 12, 2022 via hybrid session following the successful execution of the 2022 Annual General Assembly.

Key discussions focused on the progress made since the last call for the meeting as well as the proposals adopted by the Board for strategic directions in connection with the outcome of ARISE AGM. The gathering also provided a venue to remind the commitment to reporting and monitoring the 2022-2025 ARISE Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

VAdm. Alexander Pama (Ret.) presented on behalf of the ARISE-Philippines the network's system and process in its recruitment and retention of network membership. The presentation was made in line with the agenda of the forum which is to prioritize the enhancement of the membership sign-up mechanisms.

Other matters and topics highlighted in the discussions were on how to increase the engagement and recruitment of more mid- and high-cap companies, and encouraging advancement in all areas of ARISE's strategic focus (SMEs, infrastructure, investment, and insurance).

Network priorities and strategic orientation were tackled through sharing of experiences on how the networks strategize on developing and enhancing membership engagement and strengthening work across the four ARISE priority areas.



Congratulations! Mr. Hans T. Sy

Co-Chair, ARISE-Philippines

2022 TOFIL Awardee for Business and Resilience



ARISE-Philippines Co-Chair Hans T. Sy is 2022 TOFIL Awardee for Business and Resilience

ARISE-Philippines' Co-Chair and SM Prime Holdings' Executive Committee Chairman, Mr. Hans T. Sy, was awarded as one of the 2022 TOFIL (The Outstanding Filipino) Awardees. In particular, he was awarded the TOFIL award for Business and Resilience.

The award was given on December 12, 2022 by the JCI Senate. The 2022 awarding ceremonies had the theme "Resiliency in Rebuilding Our Nation".

Mr. Hans T. Sy was recognized as a champion for his advocacies and activities in integrating sustainability, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience for SM Group as well as his leadership in harmonizing public-private synergy towards DRR and resilience. [Read more](#)

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