

# 2023 ARISE PHILIPPINES ANNUAL REPORT



“Driving Economic Growth and Enabling Disaster Resilience and Sustainability”



**arise**  
PHILIPPINES



Private Sector  
Alliance for  
Disaster Resilient  
Societies







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*Together, let's turn the tide and build a future where no one is left behind; where victims become victors, and tell their story; and where resilience is not just a goal but a way of life.*

*The 2023 ARISE-Philippines Theme:*

## “Driving Economic Growth and Enabling Disaster Resilience and Sustainability”

*This fourth annual publication from the ARISE Philippines National Network highlights both the individual and collective achievements and initiatives of ARISE-Philippines.*

*It serves as a comprehensive showcase of the network's activities, demonstrating their commitment and contributions to disaster risk reduction and resilience building over the past year.*

# MESSAGES

## HANS T. SY

Chairperson, ARISE Philippines

Chairman of the Executive Committee,  
SM Prime Holdings, Inc.



*As we conclude another remarkable year at ARISE Philippines, I am humbly filled with gratitude and pride for what we have achieved together. This year has been a journey of resilience, with each member of our network showing incredible commitment and effort. It has been a privilege to witness and be part of initiatives that have not just prepared us for unexpected challenges but have also built our shared strength to thrive amidst difficulties. As we move forward, I am hopeful and keen to witness the continued growth of our collective efforts and how it will help us manage and champion future challenges.*

*Looking ahead to 2024, we look forward for even greater accomplishments. Our focus remains steadfast on enhancing resilience across all sectors, and I call on all our members and partners to continue this important work, pushing the boundaries of what we can achieve to drive meaningful change, ensuring a safer, more sustainable future for all.*

## LIZA B. SILERIO

Co-Chairperson, ARISE Philippines

Vice President, Corporate Compliance Group,  
SM Prime Holdings, Inc.



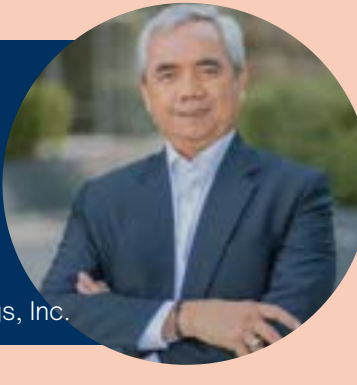
*Reflecting on 2023, our journey was one of significant achievement and growth, made possible by the dedication of our board members, leads, and the community of ARISE Philippines. The synergy within our network has been the driving force behind our successful initiatives that exemplify the true essence of resilience and dedication of everyone involved.*

*As we step into 2024, ARISE Philippines is set to soar to new heights with the theme "Aligning Resilience and Innovations for Sustainable Economic Growth." This theme highlights our ongoing commitment to building resilience while also focusing on new ideas that can lead to sustainable economic growth. Let us aspire to build upon our past achievements and embrace new opportunities that will amplify our mission and broaden our impact. Also, I would like to extend a warm invitation to all our network members to contribute their unique strengths and ideas, pushing us forward in this shared journey.*

## VADM. ALEXANDER PAMA (RET.)

Board Member, ARISE Global

Consultant for Disaster Risk Resilience, SM Prime Holdings, Inc.



*It has been a privilege to support ARISE Philippines and to see up close the significant impact our initiatives have made on a global scale. The dedication and exemplary efforts of everyone involved over the past year truly merit recognition.*

*Our shared endeavor under the 2023 theme "Driving Economic Growth and Enabling Disaster Resilience and Sustainability," has established a benchmark in our community. The progress we've made reflects our dedication to enhancing global resilience. As we move forward, I am committed to ensuring that the Philippines' efforts are recognized and integrated into our broader strategy.*

*The year 2024 provides opportunities for deeper engagements and I hope that together, we will leverage our achievements to further enhance our resilience and sustainability on the global stage.*



# ABOUT ARISE PHILIPPINES



ARISE-Philippines is a local Network of ARISE Global, the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies, which serves as the private sector arm of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in its pursuit to achieve the targets and goals of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).

To date, ARISE Philippines network has 127 volunteer business and other private sector organizations as members and partners that share a common vision and are committed to undertake actions to achieve a disaster-resilient and prosperous nation where fewer lives and livelihoods are lost to disasters, and investments are risk-informed.

ARISE-Philippines, launched during the 2015 Top Leaders' Forum organized by SM Prime Holdings Inc. in partnership with the UNDRR 60 private business organizations committed to being partners in ARISE-Philippines. SM Prime took on the role of national secretariat for ARISE-

## OUR MISSION

To create resilient societies by energizing the private sector in collaboration with the public sector and other stakeholders to achieve the outcomes and goals of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in a transparent and inclusive way that delivers local and measurable impact.



## ARISE-Philippines Operational Framework



### OUR WORK THEMES

ARISE-Philippines organized the Work Themes (WT) to help initialize Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and programs that could help in promoting resilience across communities through a perceived joint effort with the public sector and non-government organizations with recognition on the vital support of academic institutions.

- WT 1 - Disaster Risk Management Strategies
- WT 2 - Education and Training
- WT 3 - Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience

### OUR PRIORITY AREAS

The Priority Areas (PA) will help in the fulfillment of the ARISE Global goals set on the basis of the Key Performance Indicators. Each PA contributes and organize members' initiatives towards the target groups.

- PA 1 - Small and Medium Businesses
- PA 2 - Investors and Investments
- PA 3 - Insurance and Reinsurance
- PA 4 - Resilient Infrastructure

## SENDAI FRAMEWORK 7 GLOBAL TARGETS

### REDUCE

DISASTER MORTALITY BY 2030

NUMBER OF AFFECTED PEOPLE BY 2030

ECONOMIC LOSS BY 2030

INFRASTRUCTURE DAMAGE BY 2030



EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND DISASTER RISK INFORMATION BY 2030

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BY 2030

COUNTRIES WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES BY 2020

### INCREASE

Understanding the risk

Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

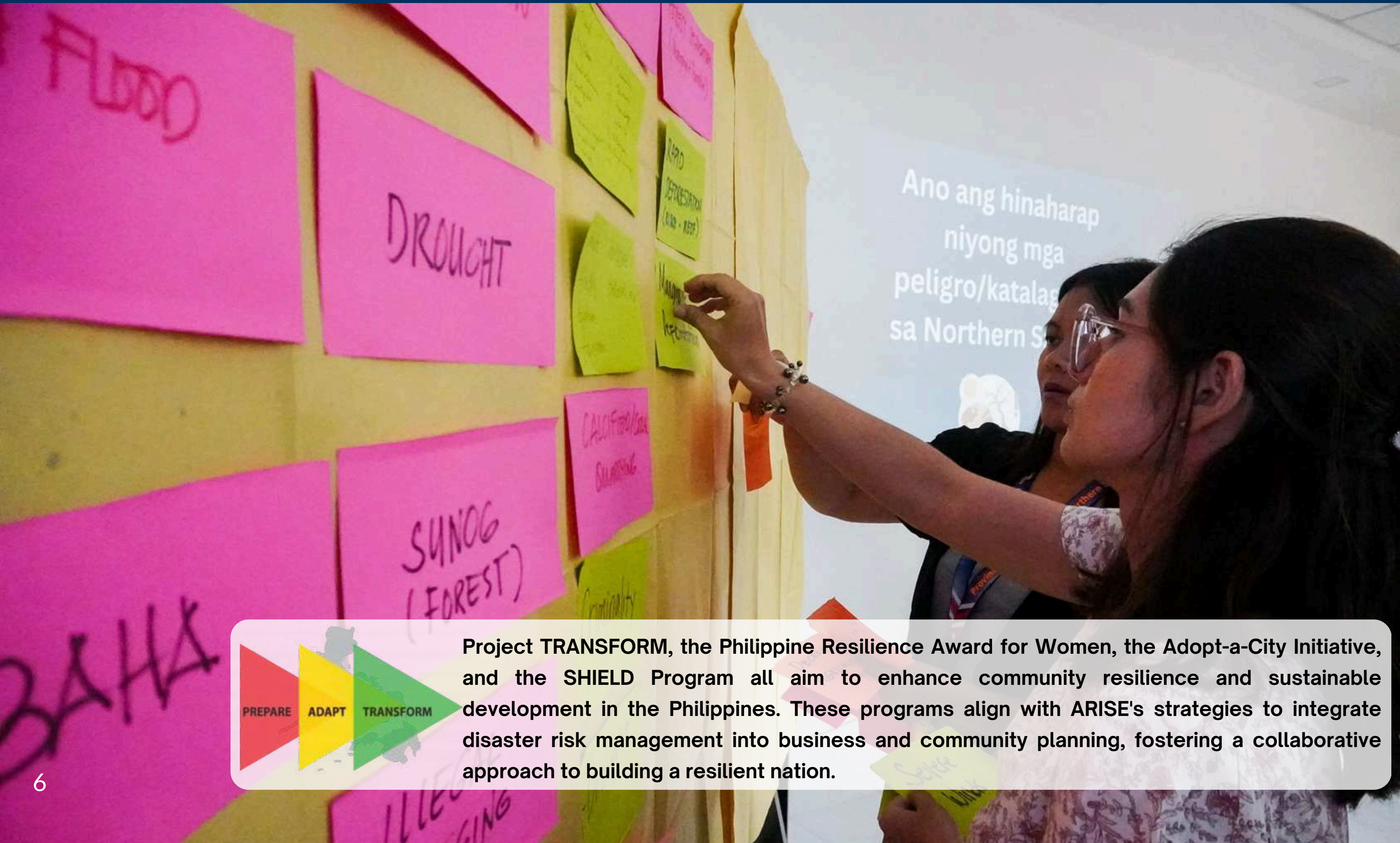
SENDAI FRAMEWORK  
PRIORITIES FOR ACTION



# **Highlight of Accomplishments of Work Themes and Priority Areas**



# Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Strategies



Project TRANSFORM, the Philippine Resilience Award for Women, the Adopt-a-City Initiative, and the SHIELD Program all aim to enhance community resilience and sustainable development in the Philippines. These programs align with ARISE's strategies to integrate disaster risk management into business and community planning, fostering a collaborative approach to building a resilient nation.



# Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Strategies



The Oscar M. Lopez Center collaborates with Deaf organizations through the Signs for Inclusive Governance and Development (Project SIGND), supported by USAID, to develop a comprehensive Filipino Sign Language lexicon. This initiative aims to enhance the preparedness and adaptive capacities of Deaf communities to climate-related risks and disasters.



# Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Strategies



Komunidad hosted a fireside chat on "Empowering Resilient Communities with Early Warnings at Barangay Level," featuring experts from Build Change, Earth Shaker, League of Corporate Foundations, Marikina City Rescue 161, and Bike Scouts Philippines. The discussion focused on recognizing and addressing gaps and challenges in implementing early warning systems for disaster risk reduction at the community level.



# Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Strategies





# Education and Training



Students from APC and NU developed a smart aquaponics system to reduce labor, lower monitoring time, simplify regulation, and improve the quality of produce. This innovative project benefits local farmers by enhancing food production, supporting government farming programs, and potentially reducing the need for human intervention in Philippine agriculture.







The Asian Conference on Climate Change and Disaster Resilience (ACCCDR), held on August 10, 2023, by the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) in partnership with Aboitiz Power and the Climate Change Commission of the Philippines, focused on driving regional collaboration for climate action. Key discussions included public-private partnerships for resilient infrastructure, strategies for food and water security, and inclusive climate governance, with notable participants such as Senator Loren Legarda emphasizing the importance of collective action.





Build Change and Holcim Philippines have partnered to enhance access to climate-resilient housing renovations for Filipinos. They launched a pilot project offering microloans to low-income families for strengthening houses with low-carbon Holcim products, in collaboration with microfinance institution ASKI.





Airspeed organized and participated in coastal cleanups in contribution to the larger International Coastal Cleanup effort. These cleanups are crucial in addressing marine debris and plastic pollution in the country. Additionally, Airspeed's commitment to sustainability extends to their infrastructure, with plans to install solar panels at their GGB building in Paranaque City. This initiative aligns with the Philippine government's goals to increase the share of clean energy in the power mix and aims to reduce the company's carbon footprint while achieving long-term energy savings



# Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)



The Unilever Kabisig Summit 2023 focused on empowering sari-sari store owners in the Philippines by providing training on business management, financial literacy, and customer service. The program reached thousands of store owners, helping them enhance their business operations and improve their livelihoods through digital tools and access to capital.



# Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)



UP ISSI held a session on June 16, 2023, titled “Spilling the Tea in Entrep: Narratives of Queer-owned MSMEs,” focusing on the resilience and growth stories of queer-owned businesses. The session, which employed a HyFlex approach for broader reach, featured insights from Paul Sumayao of Barbiero Barbershop, with partnerships from UP Diliman Gender Office, Reckitt Philippines, WIN DRR, and SM CARES.



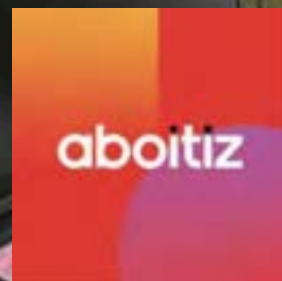




SM Prime Holdings Inc. (SMPH) implemented water conservation measures including efficient fixtures and sewage treatment plants, recycling 4 million cubic meters of water annually and benefiting surrounding communities. The Baguio Initiative at SM City Baguio features a Rainwater Treatment Facility that processes rainwater into potable water, providing 51 million liters annually and supporting water conservation and disaster resilience efforts.



# Investors and Investments



The Aboitiz Group is dedicated to co-creating Climate SMART A-Communities through innovative, sustainable projects that enhance disaster resilience, environmental stewardship, and community empowerment.



# Insurance and Re-Insurance



The 1st IDF-MiN Country Workshop for Inclusive Insurance in the Philippines, held on August 3-4, 2023, was organized by the Insurance Development Forum (IDF) and the Microinsurance Network (MiN). With nearly 100 in-person participants and 88 virtual attendees, the event emphasized the collaborative efforts of stakeholders, including the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA), to develop innovative solutions for the low-income sector, aiming to enhance resilience and economic stability through inclusive insurance.



# Insurance and Re-Insurance

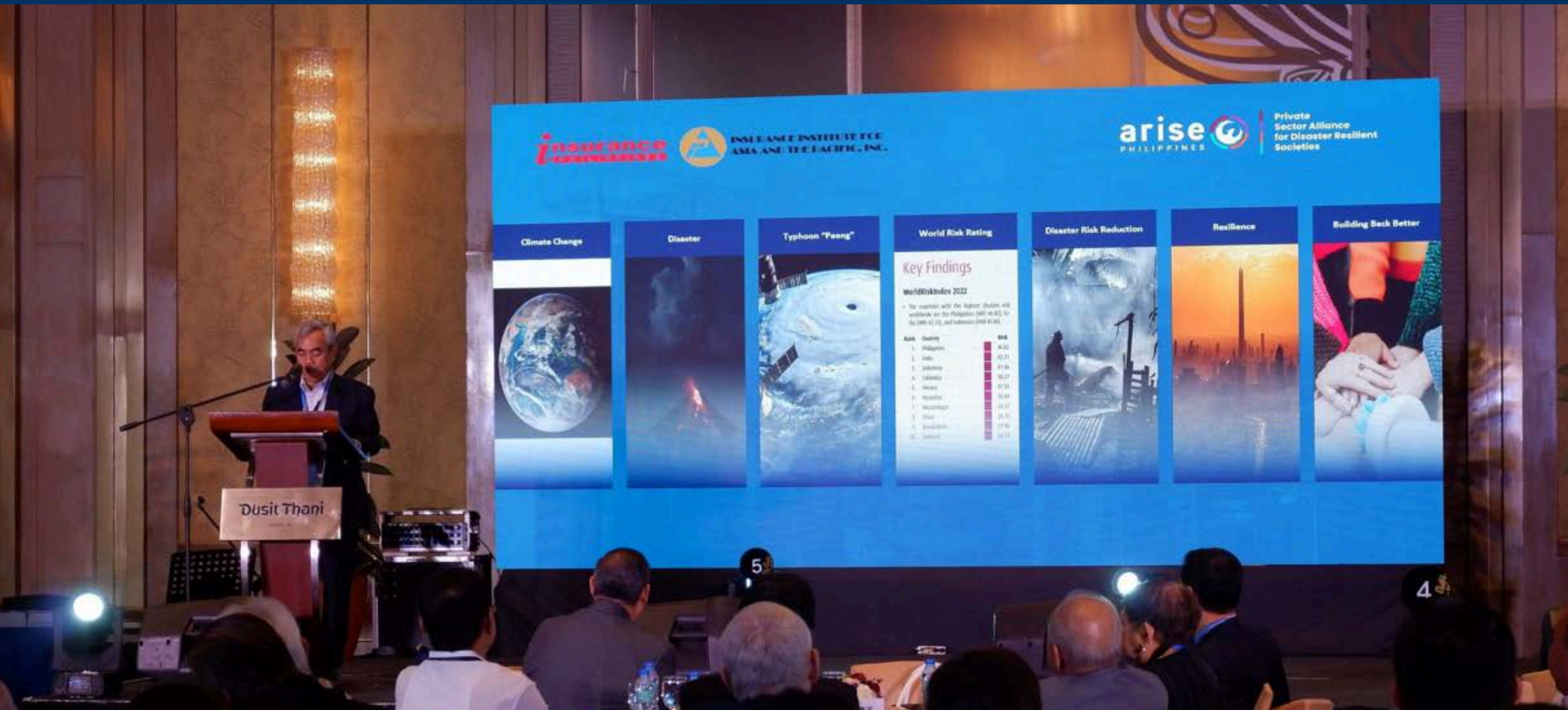


The Ecosystem-based Planning and Adaptation for Disaster Resilience (E4DR) initiative, held on August 16-17, 2023, in Tacloban City, aimed to build community resilience through ecosystem-based adaptation and climate insurance. Key stakeholders, including the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA), collaborated with national and regional actors to integrate climate and disaster risk planning.





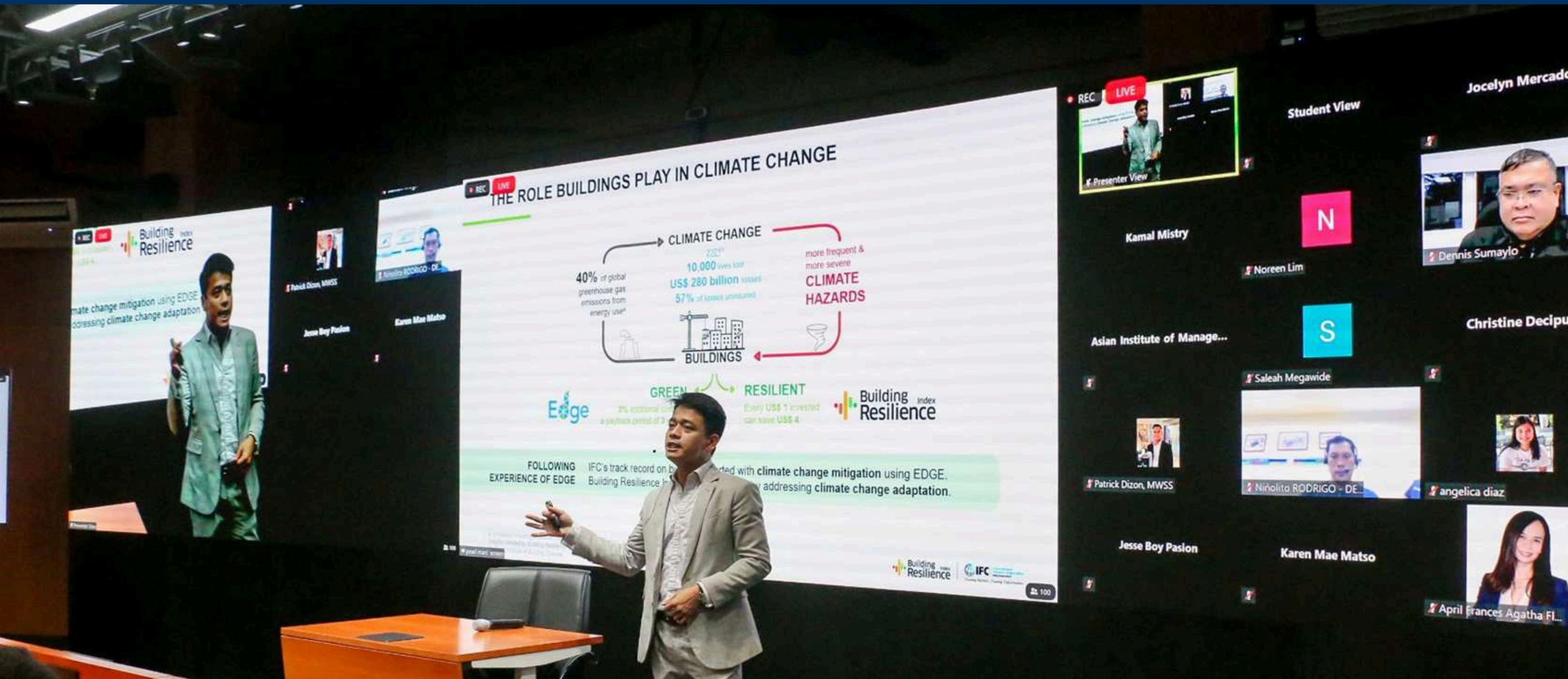
# Insurance and Re-Insurance



The 16th Philippine Insurance Summit brought together industry leaders, policy makers, and experts to discuss the theme of Climate Change: A Deadly Threat to Mankind - Taking the Lead Towards Sustainability and Resilience. It is hosted by the Insurance Institute for Asia and the Pacific. The topics ranged from climate change concerns and its impact on insurance, alternative risk transfer solutions including updates on the Non-Life, Life and Reinsurance markets.



# Resilient Infrastructure



The Building Resilience Index (BRI) by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) is a tool designed to assess and enhance the resilience of buildings to climate-related hazards, such as floods and earthquakes, among others.

In 2023, NEO, ARISE Philippines Priority Area Lead for Resilient Infrastructure and a prominent real estate developer in the Philippines, integrated BRI assessments into their building designs to improve disaster preparedness and resilience. This collaboration aims to set a new standard for resilient building practices in the Philippines.



STEPHEN ZUELLIG  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF DEVELOPMENT M





In celebration of Women's Month 2023, IFC held a hybrid event titled the Building Resilience Index (BRI) Forum: Women's Role in Creating a Resilient Building Environment on March 23, 2023. The event showcased the significant contributions of Filipino women leaders across various fields in enhancing resilience within the building environment.







# SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES



# HANS SY HONORED BY THE OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN ADVANCING DISASTER RESILIENCE ADVOCACY



Mr. Hans Sy has been honored with the prestigious national award, "Dangal ng Pilipino sa Pag-Aagapay sa Ligtas na Sambayanan," by the Office of Civil Defense and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). As the first private sector leader to receive this recognition, Mr. Sy is celebrated for his exemplary leadership in disaster resilience. His efforts underscore a whole-of-society approach, integrating science and technology to enhance disaster risk reduction. This recognition by the Office of Civil Defense and NDRRMC establishes Mr. Sy as a benchmark for private sector leadership in disaster resilience, inspiring other leaders to commit to similar initiatives.



# WEBINAR ON SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Private  
Sector Alliance  
for Disaster Resilient  
Societies



## UNRAVELING THE SYNERGY OF SPACE SCIENCE IN DISASTER RESILIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATIONS

During National Disaster Resilience Month, ARISE Philippines hosted a webinar on space science and disaster resilience, featuring representatives from both the public and private sectors, including NDRRMC, DOST, the Philippine Space Agency, and international experts. The event emphasized the integration of space technologies in disaster resilience, with key insights from notable speakers, and fostered interest in PHILSA's PINAS Project among ARISE network members, highlighting its potential to enhance disaster risk management and community resilience.

### PRESENTERS



Director Ariel C. Blanco  
Director, Space Information  
Infrastructure Bureau



Ms. Emeline Paat-Dahlstrom  
Founder and CEO  
SpaceBase



Mr. Eric Dahlstrom  
Co-Founder  
SpaceBase

### MESSAGES FROM:



Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr.  
Department of Science and Technology  
Vice Chair, Disaster Prevention and  
Mitigation, NDRRMC



Undersecretary Ariel F. Nepomuceno  
Executive Director  
National Disaster Risk Reduction and  
Management Council



Dr. Igel Joseph Marciano Jr.  
Director General  
Philippine Space Agency



VADM Alexander Pardo  
Co-Chair  
ARISE-Philippines



Ms. Lisa B. Silero  
Sponsor-Member  
ARISE Global





# ARISE PHILIPPINES ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGM 2023)



During the AGM 2023, ARISE Philippines highlighted achievements from 2020-2023 and inducted new board members and priority leads for 2023-2026, led by Chairperson Mr. Hans Sy. The event included gratitude sessions with outgoing members and inspiring messages from key figures like Ms. Mami Mizutori and Undersecretary Ariel F. Nepomuceno, emphasizing collaborative disaster resilience efforts.



# ARISE PHILIPPINES ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGM 2023)





# TOP LEADERS FORUM 2023



The 2023 Top Leaders Forum took place on 13 October 2023, at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City, in celebration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. Organized by ARISE Philippines, SM Prime Holdings Inc., National Resilience Council, and its partner agencies, the Top Leaders Forum centered around the theme of “Transforming Victims to Victors: A Multi-Sectoral Approach to Inclusive Resilience” emphasizing collaborative efforts for disaster resilience. One of the event's highlights was the panel sessions, which brought together experts and leaders to discuss critical topics related to resilience. These topics included Environmental, Social, and Governance, Food-Water-Energy Nexus and DRR, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Resilience Framework, Synergy for Inclusive Resilience, and Innovative Technologies and Resilience.



# TOP LEADERS FORUM 2023





# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS



## **ARISE Philippines Participates in UN High-Level Meeting for the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction held in New York City on May 17-19, 2023.**

The High-Level Meeting and Risk Reduction Hub for the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 took place at the UN Headquarters in New York from May 17-19, 2023. The Philippine delegation, led by Secretary Antonia Yulo Loyzaga of the DENR and including ARISE Philippines Chairperson Hans T. Sy and Co-Chair VAdm Alexander Pama, represented the private sector. Key discussions focused on investment and financing for climate and disaster risk management, with contributions from key figures like Jessica Sy from SM Prime Holdings.

The event featured a roundtable discussion on resilient infrastructures and private investment in disaster risk reduction. The roundtable allowed participants to engage in critical conversations on disaster risk reduction strategies in vulnerable environments. Recommendations and findings from the Midterm Review were also extensively reviewed.



# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS





# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS



## Tripartite Collaboration: Knowledge Session on SFDRR with ARISE Japan, India, and The Philippines, in partnership with UNDRR-GETI

The Tripartite Collaboration between Japan, India, and the Philippines through the ARISE networks and UNDRR-GETI has significantly strengthened multinational cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Asia and Pacific region. The initiative promoted strategic implementation of the Sendai Framework principles, enhanced business continuity planning, and set the stage for future collaborative efforts, emphasizing the importance of a unified approach to reducing operational costs and mitigating disaster-related losses.





# WINDRR PHILIPPINE NETWORK LAUNCH



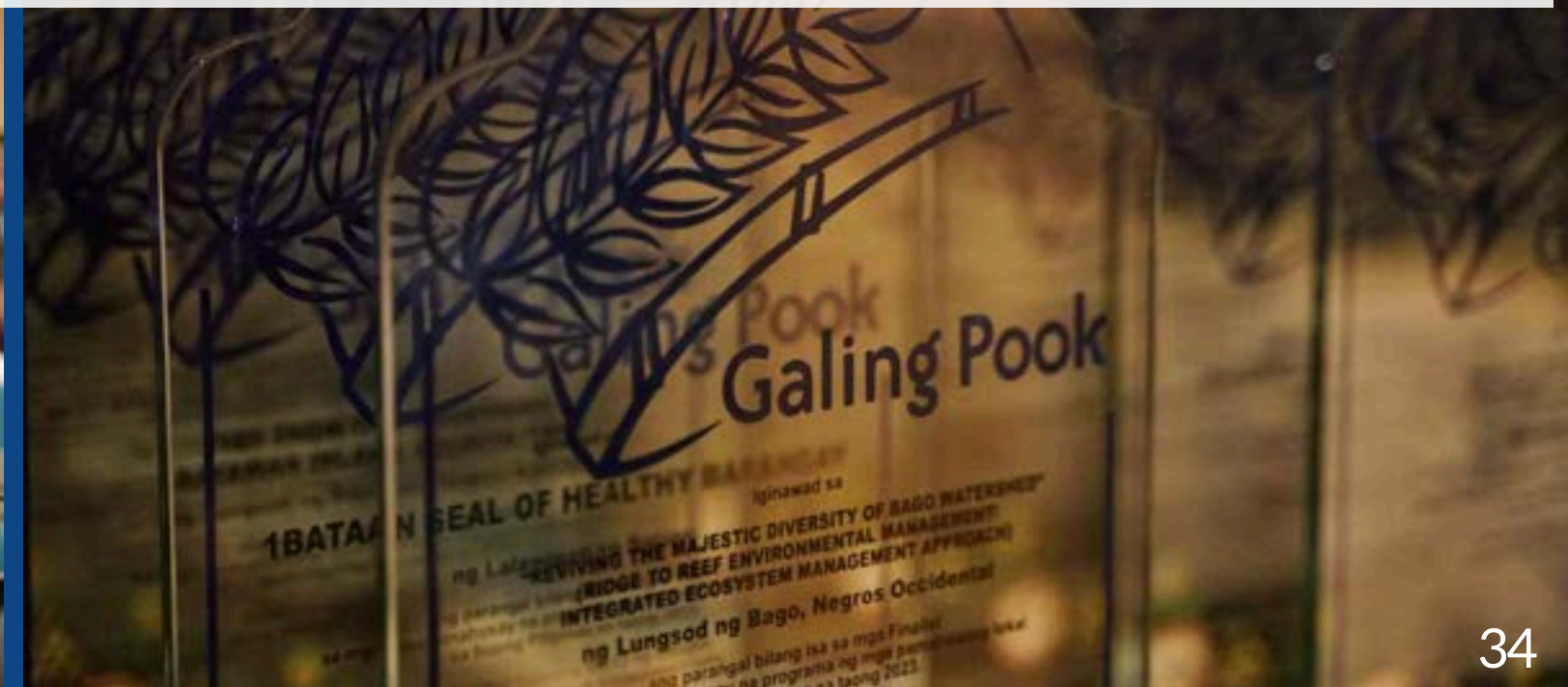
Women's International Network on Disaster Risk Reduction (WINDRR)- Philippines Chapter had a network launch event and discussion on the role of women in disaster risk reduction. WINDRR is a professional network to support women working in disaster risk reduction, in all their diversity. The overall goal of WIN DRR is to empower women to attain leadership and enhance their role in decision-making in disaster risk reduction in Asia-Pacific. WIN DRR is the flagship women's leadership initiative of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and is supported by the Government of Australia. The Philippines Network is powered by SM Prime and Asia Pacific College. Launching the network and the website serves the initial goal of awareness and increased membership.



# GALING POOK AWARDS 2023



The Galing Pook Foundation, in partnership with the Department of the Interior and Local Government - Local Government Academy and SM Prime Holdings, Inc. recognized ten outstanding local governance programs of 2023. Galing Pook Foundation is celebrating 30 years of the Galing Pook Awards this year. They launched the 2023 Galing Pook Awards with the theme: Galing Pook @ 30: Leveling Up Local Governance Innovations towards Building Resilient Communities. This captures the profound journey of progress have undertaken, showcasing the enduring dedication of the many individuals and institutions who are committed to improving the way we serve the communities.





# APMCDRR PRE-LAUNCH



## APMCDRR Philippine Business Leaders Meeting | August 31, 2023

The Government of the Philippines, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), will host the 2024 Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) on October 14-18, 2024. As the largest regional platform for disaster risk reduction, the event will convene global leaders to explore innovative solutions and accelerate action. At the forefront of these efforts is the private sector who plays a crucial role in reducing vulnerabilities, driving resilient investments, and advancing public-private partnerships. Through deeper collaboration, the private sector will be instrumental in shaping resilient infrastructure, promoting sustainable solutions, and safeguarding communities.



“

***“You should be proud of the leadership status that ARISE Philippines has attained. Leadership in promoting disaster risk reduction in the private sector across many crucial areas, from supporting businesses of all sizes to engaging investors and insurers and in advancing resilient infrastructure, capacity development, and urban resilience”***

***Mami Mizutori***

***ARISE Philippines Annual General Meeting  
2023***

”





# ARISE PHILIPPINES BOARD MEMBERS WITH WORK THEME AND PRIORITY AREA LEADS

2023 - 2026

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND LEADS

1. HANS T. SY - CHAIRPERSON
2. ENGR. LIZA B. SILERIO - CO-CHAIRPERSON
3. VADM. ALEXANDER P. PAMA (RET) - ARISE GLOBAL BOARD MEMBER
4. ATTY. ALEXANDER B. CABRERA - VICE-CHAIRPERSON
5. ROSEMARIE P. RAFAEL - TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HEAD
6. JESSICA BIANCA T. SY - BOARD DIRECTOR
7. AUSTERE A. PANADERO - BOARD DIRECTOR
8. MARY ARLYNNE T. ALIGGAYU - BOARD DIRECTOR
9. SILVESTRE Z. BARRAMEDA JR. - BOARD DIRECTOR AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES LEAD
10. DR. MA. TERESITA P. MEDADO - BOARD DIRECTOR AND EDUCATION AND TRAINING LEAD
11. GIRLIE C. LOPEZ - URBAN RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE LEAD
12. ATTY. JOSEPH R. FABUL - SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES LEAD
13. ANA MARGARITA N. HONTIVEROS-MALVAR - BOARD DIRECTOR AND INVESTORS AND INVESTMENTS LEAD
14. MICHAEL F. RELLOSA - BOARD DIRECTOR AND INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE LEAD
15. RAYMOND D. RUFINO - RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE LEAD

		
ENGR. LIZA B. SILERIO Co Chairperson, SM Prime Holdings	HANS T. SY Chairperson SM Prime Holdings	VADM ALEXANDER P. PAMA (RET) ARISE Global Board Member, SM Prime Holdings
		
ATTY. ALEXANDER B. CABRERA PwC Philippines	ROSEMARIE P. RAFAEL Airspeed Group	JESSICA BIANCA T. SY SM Development Corp.
		
MARY ARLYNNE T. ALIGGAYU Habitat for Humanity Philippines	SILVESTRE Z. BARRAMEDA JR. National Resilience Council	DR. MA. TERESITA P. MEDADO Asia Pacific College
		
ATTY. JOSEPH R. FABUL Unilever Philippines	ANA MARGARITA N. HONTIVEROS-MALVAR Aboitiz Foundation, Inc.	MICHAEL F. RELLOSA Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association
		
		RAYMOND D. RUFINO NEO





# 2023 NEW MEMBERS



**Seven Bus  
Plus Inc.**

**Lucky F Inter  
Trade Corp**

**Sibul Coconut Products  
Manufacturing**





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Mall of Asia Complex, Pasay  
City, Philippines