

# RAPID MULTIPLIER

Sharing information. Multiplying knowledge

## Project Board Approves 2016 PCTP-RAPID Budget

**08 February 2016 | Makati City, PH** – Climate Change Commission Secretary and Vice Chairperson Emmanuel M. De Guzman presided the 7th Project Board Meeting of Project Climate Twin Phoenix- Resilience and Preparedness toward Inclusive Development (PCTP-RAPID) Program as it approved the USD3M budget for 2016.

The 2016 workplan focused on completing risk assessments, the guidelines for risk sensitive comprehensive development planning and investment programming, and intensified assistance to target coastal communities. The Program also took advantage of opportunities for convergence with international frameworks adopted in 2015 the Sendai Framework for DRR, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Climate Change Agreement, with added focus on multi-hazard early warning systems, integrated risk information systems, and localized climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives.

Secretary de Guzman highlighted that “There is a need for more holistic approach in decision-making and taking action”, he said, and this can be done by “linking various information systems and databases and coming up with new ways to organize cross-disciplinary information.”

The Secretary introduced eight priority areas that will serve as platform in sharing the knowledge and strengthening the partnership among stakeholders. These eight pillars underscore to the need to establish and harmonize standards in data and information; strengthen the capacity in development planning, early warning, and risk financing; and promote education and awareness among the general public.

UNDP Country Director Titon Mitra expressed his support, saying that one of the challenges is to bring the available technologies, such as the App-based exposure data gathering tool into the communities, and making sure that communities adapt to them fast enough. Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Counsellor Robyn Biti agreed, as well, and reminded everyone about the importance of sustainability and advocating the outputs and achievements with policy-makers.



*CCC Secretary and Vice Chairperson Emmanuel M. De Guzman stressing the importance of the availability of knowledge products to its end-users.*

The program team clarified the status of available technologies including the ClimEx.db, and explained that it is now ready for upscaling and sharing. In fact, Compostela Province have plans of replicating the technology to other Project climate Twin Phoenix municipalities after the impressive implementation in one municipality. Eleven out of the 12 RAPID LGUs have entered into a memorandum of agreement toward its implementation. Furthermore, there have been indications and propositions from the local government units for cost-sharing scheme in the establishment of their exposure database in conjunction with DILG’s community-based monitoring system.

Recognizing that the community is one of the most important stakeholders in RAPID’s various interventions, Abuyog, Leyte Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (MPDC), Rodulfo Cabias, also suggested including DSWD in the planning process including family disaster preparedness efforts. Cabias also mentioned the LGU’s need for PAGASA to warn the communities about sudden weather changes that could bring unexpected storm surges, which according to Cabias, were experienced in some parts of their municipality last year.

As a response, however, UNDP Programme Manager Ms. Amelia Supetran explained that trans-boundary assessment leads to community-based and managed early warning system, which the warning agencies cannot do alone, and would require counterparting from the LGUs.

Finally, Secretary de Guzman recognized the need to meet with partners more frequently, so holding the PBM on a quarterly basis was settled, the next one to be held in May. The highlights of the 7th PBM are available online on: <http://projectclimatetwinphoenix.com>.

