



The Philippines

Philippine cities require inclusive multilevel collaboration to achieve adaptation goals and reduce fossil fuel dependence

The Philippines is significantly vulnerable to climate impacts and is among the countries least prepared to address hazards, ranking 115th out of 181 countries according to the ND-GAIN climate risk index.

Rising sea levels and extreme weather have caused floods, landslides, and erosion, potentially impacting more than 60% of the population. In late 2024, unprecedented numbers of clustered typhoons displaced over 200,000 people. These dangers are reflected in local governments' 2024 CDP disclosures, where cities identified urban flooding, extreme heat, hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons as leading climate hazards.

The Philippines has developed a set of ambitious targets, including a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030, and Southeast Asia's first moratorium on new coal; however, it ranks in the top 25% of emitters among low- and middle-income countries and is expected to add additional coal power projects by 2028. In order to achieve sustainable development

goals, the Philippines requires appropriate technical and financial assistance to accelerate its transition from coal dependence, implement green industrial policies, and develop more climate-resilient infrastructure. This is particularly crucial as urbanization increases, with projections indicating that the urban population will surge from 48% to 84% by 2050.

The Philippines, like many developing and island nations, faces significant hurdles in implementing climate adaptation and risk reduction measures. Despite leadership by the country's Department of Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (DHSUD) on urban climate initiatives, the country's NDC has limited urban content. Programs and initiatives like CHAMP offer opportunities for the Philippines to enhance coordination across government levels to strengthen urban climate action and reduce fossil fuel dependence. Meaningful progress will also require global support across multiple areas, including financial assistance, capacity-building, institutional development, stakeholder engagement, and technology transfer.



Insights from CDP-ICLEI Track

Eight Philippine cities participated in CDP reporting in 2024, representing 4.9M urban residents, or 8.6% of the country's total urban population (Municipality of Del Carmen, Baguio City, City Government of Makati, City of Muntinlupa, City of Ormoc, City of Puerto Princesa, Dipolog City, and the Local Government of Quezon City).

These municipalities have robust climate policies, with each city having established both Climate Action Plans (CAPs) and adaptation goals. Their commitment to climate action is evident, with seven cities setting emissions reduction targets, five of which have targets that match or exceed the nation's NDC. These municipalities also emphasized inclusive and participatory policy processes. For example, Baguio City holds organized consultations and planning sessions at the barangay¹ level on its climate action plan, climate risk and vulnerability assessments, GHG inventory, and climate targets. These initiatives disseminate vital information and updates related to public policy, ensuring that community members are well-informed and engaged.

Seven out of eight cities report relying on national funding sources for their CAPs, alongside a mix of other funding sources. CDP disclosure shows moderate levels of multilevel cooperation, with four cities reporting active engagement with the national government. These collaborative efforts span climate action planning, risk assessments, adaptation goals, emission targets, and progress tracking. A notable example of this partnership can be found in the Local Government of Quezon City, where the national Biodiversity Management Bureau works closely with the local government on urban biodiversity initiatives and planning, including regular educational visits to a natural cave system in Metro Manila. While these partnerships show promise, there is significant potential to strengthen coordination between different levels of government.

Spotlight on city climate projects

Seven Philippine cities disclosed 24 climate projects seeking US\$63.7M in investment in 2024.

Waste management is the leading sector (6 projects seeking US\$20.1M) followed by nature-based solutions, biodiversity, and urban green spaces (5 projects seeking US\$9.3M), water management (3 projects seeking US\$24.8M), and renewable energy (3 projects seeking US\$3.3M).

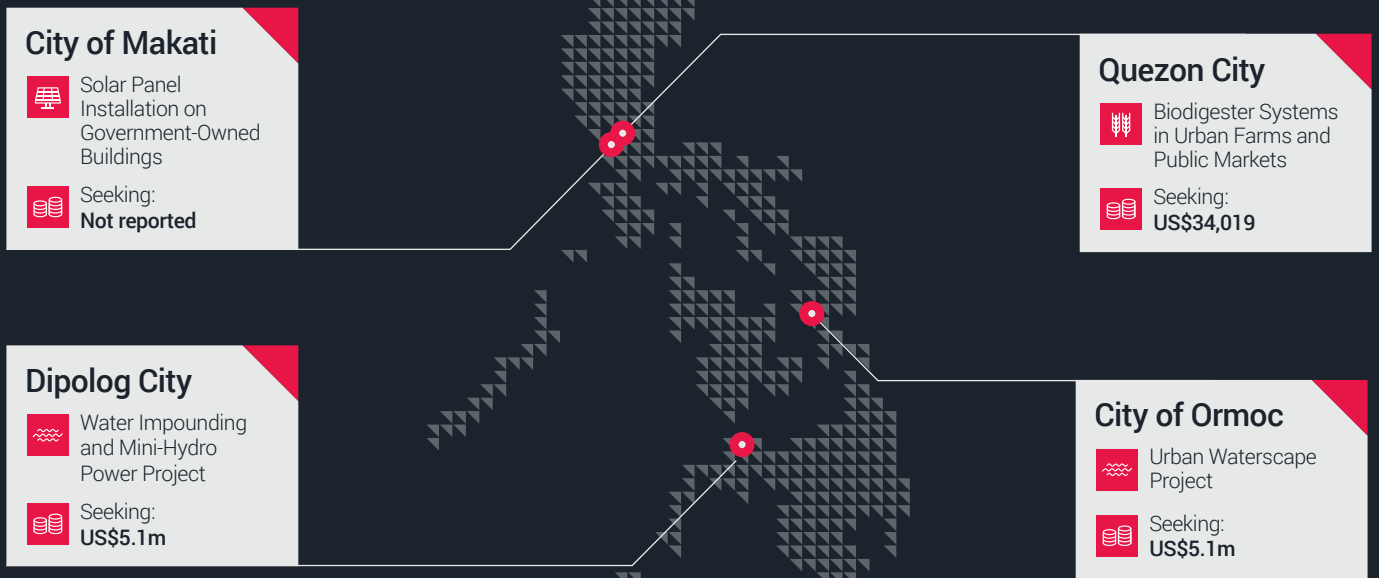
75% of projects are in the early stages of development. While mitigation projects are slightly more common (12 projects seeking US\$29.3M), adaptation projects require more funding (8 projects seeking US\$34.3M).

Key takeaways

Philippine cities demonstrate commitment to climate action through universal adoption of Climate Action Plans and adaptation goals among CDP disclosers. However, additional national coordination is needed, as only half of cities reported on their engagement with the national government. The high proportion of early-stage projects and significant investment needs for adaptation highlight the necessity of project preparation support and access to adaptation finance. By endorsing the CHAMP initiative, the Philippines can work more closely with subnational governments to turn local ambitions into tangible results.


¹ Barangay is the smallest administrative division in the Philippines and is equivalent to a village, district, or ward.

Project Examples



City of Makati

 Solar Panel Installation on Government-Owned Buildings


 Seeking: **Not reported**

Quezon City

 Biodigester Systems in Urban Farms and Public Markets

 Seeking: **US\$34,019**

Dipolog City

 Water Impounding and Mini-Hydro Power Project

 Seeking: **US\$5.1m**

City of Ormoc

 Urban Waterscape Project

 Seeking: **US\$5.1m**

City Government of Makati



Solar Panel Installation on Government-Owned Buildings

Sector: Renewable Energy

Summary description: The city is seeking to install solar PV on government owned buildings and facilities. The project is expected to produce co-benefits for job creation.

Seeking: Not reported

Stage of development: Scoping

Financing status: Project partially funded and seeking additional funding

Identified financing model: Grants

Local Government of Quezon City



Biodigester Systems in Urban Farms and Public Markets

Sector: Waste Management

Summary description: The city is planning to invest in additional biodigesters for urban farms and public markets that will convert organic waste into methane gas that can be used for household cooking. The project is expected to produce co-benefits for air quality.

Seeking: US\$34,019

Stage of development: Implementation

Financing status: Project not funded and seeking partial funding

Financing model identified: Public finance - own budget

Dipolog City



Water Impounding and Mini-Hydro Power Project

Sector: Water Management

Summary description: The project aims to contain the water from the Layawan River that causes flooding during heavy rains in the city's low-lying areas. The contained water will be utilized for agricultural irrigation as well as to generate hydropower.

Seeking: US\$5.1 million

Stage of development: Pre-feasibility / impact assessment

Financing status: Project not funded and seeking full funding

Identified financing model: No financing model identified

City of Ormoc



Urban Waterscape Project

Sector: Nature-based solutions, biodiversity, and urban green space

Summary description: This project aims to develop a network of linear parks and open spaces, sustainable drainage systems, seawalls, and socialized housing to reduce the risk of flooding in a particularly vulnerable coastal barangay.

Seeking: US\$5.1 million

Stage of development: Pre-feasibility / impact assessment

Financing status: Project not funded and seeking full funding

Identified financing model: Grants, public finance - own budget, private investment, loans from international financial Institutions, public finance - national government

This case study illustrates how CDP data can support national governments in the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP) for climate action. It is a part of CDP's 2024 Global Snapshot and based on self-disclosed responses to CDP-ICLEI Track in 2024, where local governments report climate projects that are currently seeking funding or financing. Close to 1,000 cities, states, and regions reported their environmental data through CDP in 2024.

**To access the full CDP 2024
Global Snapshot of city climate
projects - scan or click the QR code.**



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