

From Local Priorities to Project Concepts: KEI's Experience in the KOICA Philippines Urban Climate Resilience Project

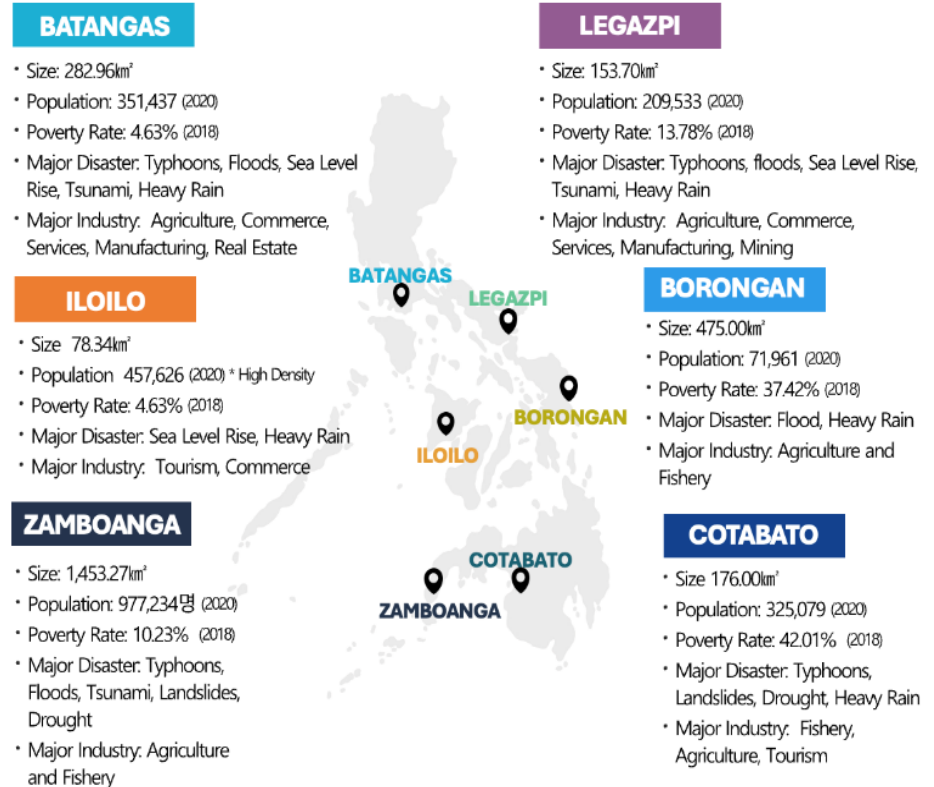
UN CTCN 2026 Joint Programme: NDE Forum Capacity Building on Integrating Energy Technologies, and NDE-NDA coordination in Asia

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Climate risks become real at the city level

- Philippine cities face recurring climate risks: flooding, water insecurity, sea-level rise, typhoons, droughts, waste and infrastructure challenges
- Medium-sized cities often have urgent adaptation needs but limited access to technical and financial support
- City-level adaptation requires both “hard” and “soft” technologies: infrastructure, data, planning, institutions, and capacity



ROK's Support for Strengthening Urban Climate Resilience in the Philippines

- Project: Philippine Climate Resilient Cities Technical Assistance (February 2024 – December 2026, Funded by KOICA, Executed KEI-SUSIF)
- Target cities: Batangas, Borongan, Cotabato, Iloilo, Legazpi, Zamboanga
- Key Components:

Adaptation Technology Case Study Book: introducing climate adaptation technologies relevant to the needs and conditions of Philippine cities

Guidelines for Adaptation Technology Project Identification: Preparation of practical guidelines to help LGUs identify priority adaptation technologies and explore potential support mechanisms

Local Workshops in the Philippines: Improve LGU understanding of climate technologies and identify local interests and needs

Training Program in Korea: Share Korean policy experience and adaptation technology practices, including lectures, field visits, workshops, and project concept development



- A government research institution under the Office of the Prime Minister established in 1992 / Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change established in 2009
- Policy research and advice/ Guidelines and Manuals/ Tools for Analysis/ Training and Education/ Customizing Climate Data and Information
- UN Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) member



- A consultancy firm led by women, established in 2022, dedicated to fostering climate resilience and sustainability in cities and communities, with expertise that spans diverse sectors including agriculture, forestry, water, and circular economy.
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The core challenge

LGUs need to move from climate risk awareness to implementable project ideas

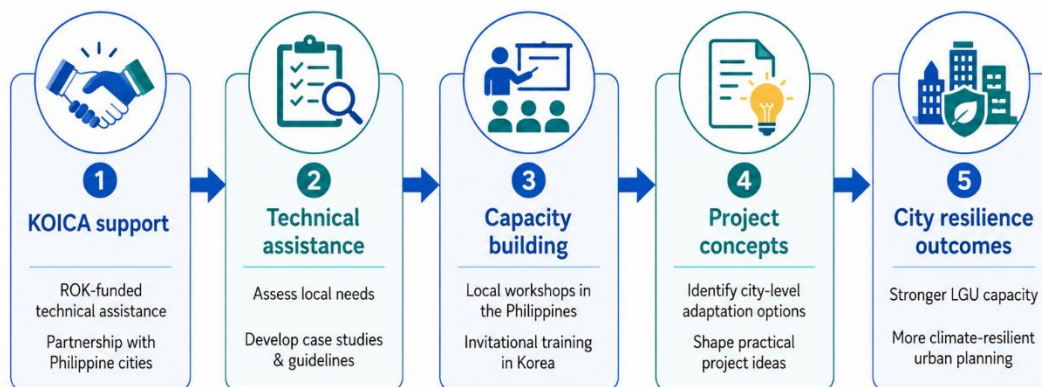
- LGUs already recognize climate risks but the challenge is translating local priorities into technically sound and finance-ready adaptation actions.
- KOICA's PCRC focused on strengthening LGUs' capacities to understand, select, and apply climate adaptation technologies.
- Theory of Change: limited understanding of climate technologies hinders effective climate policies and projects; TA aims to strengthen LGU capacity

From Local Risks to Investment Pathways



Simplified Theory of Change

KOICA Support Pathway for Climate-Resilient Cities in the Philippines



KOICA support helps turn local climate priorities into practical resilience actions.

Our Approach: Design with cities

Starting from local priorities, not from pre-selected technologies

- Reviewed Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans
- Conducted needs assessment, site visits, surveys, focus group interviews, and group discussions
- Identified city-specific priorities with LGU focal points and sector experts

Priority Matrix of 6 Target Cities

Priority sectors identified through local consultations under the KOICA Philippine Climate Resilient Cities (PCRC) Technical Assistance

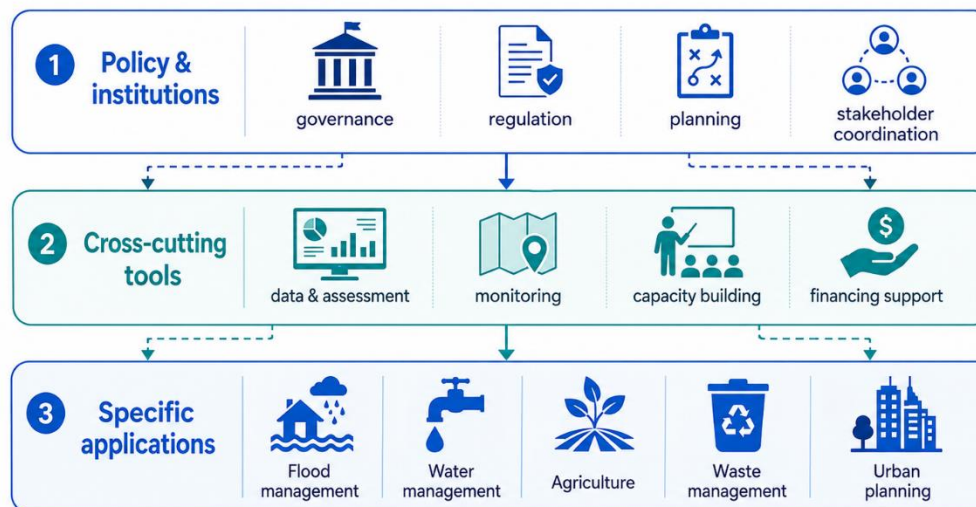
	 Agriculture	 Urban Planning	 Flood Management	 Waste Management	 Water Management
Batangas	✓	✓	—	—	—
Borongan	✓	✓	—	—	—
Cotabato	—	—	✓	✓	✓
Iloilo	—	—	✓	✓	✓
Legazpi	✓	✓	—	—	—
Zamboanga	—	—	—	✓	✓

KEI 한국환경연구원
Korea Environment Institute

- Developed a case study book on climate adaptation technologies.
- Organized technologies by sector: Flood Management, Water Management, Agriculture, Waste Management, Urban Planning, Forestry, Energy, Monitoring and Assessment
- Technology alone is not sufficient. Policy, institutions, stakeholder engagement, and enabling conditions are necessary

Case Study on Climate Adaptation Technologies

Philippine Climate Resilient Cities (PCRC) Technical Assistance (TA)



- ✓ Effective adaptation technologies require enabling policies, shared tools, and sector-specific applications.

Training as a bridge between knowledge and project preparation

- Invitational training in Korea aimed to transfer practical theories and methodologies for urban climate resilience, including strategy, policy development, assessment, and project implementation
- Program combined lectures, workshops, field visits, peer learning, and expert review
- Participants practiced Problem Tree, Solution Tree, and Project Design Matrix approaches to develop climate adaptation project concepts.

From capacity building to technical assistance requests

- PCRC guideline was designed as a practical roadmap for climate adaptation technology support
- The guideline helps stakeholders identify priority technologies, formulate project rationales, align with national adaptation goals, and structure partnerships and co-financing
- Creates entry point for linking city priorities with CTCN, GCF, ODA, and MDB support



Lessons Learned



- Start with locally identified climate priorities rather than pre-selected technologies.
- Combine technology with policy, governance, institutional capacity and finance.
- Practical learning (field visits, Problem Tree, Solution Tree and PDM) helps LGUs develop bankable concepts.
- Peer learning and expert review significantly improved project quality.
- Linking adaptation technologies to financing pathways (CTCN, GCF, ODA) is essential.

Relevance to CTCN and NDEs



- Provides a pipeline of locally-owned climate technology requests.
- Strengthens NDE role in identifying and endorsing high-quality TA requests.
- Aligns local priorities with national adaptation and technology priorities.
- Demonstrates a replicable model for translating capacity building into CTCN technical assistance.

Way Forward for Philippine LGUs

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- Peer learning and expert review significantly improved project quality.
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Thank you

