

GOAL

To assess the vulnerability and adaptive capacities of local communities (selected barangays) to the impact of climate change in the BLISTT area (2011-2014).

Specific Objectives

1. To undertake vulnerability assessment in the BLISTT area.
2. To build a database on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in the BLISTT area.
3. To integrate climate change and sustainable development concepts, perspectives and issues in the curriculum and instruction of UP Baguio.
4. To enhance the capacity of BLISTT Local Government Units (LGUs) and communities towards resilience in adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change.



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Program for
**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

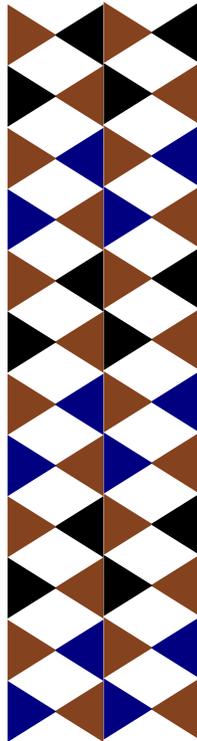


Cordillera Studies Center
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES BAGUIO

Background and Rationale

The Program for Climate Change was formed in a UP Baguio Faculty Conference held in June 2009, where a resolution was passed to develop inter-college, inter-disciplinary action research on climate change in Baguio City and its environs. This resolution came in the midst of increasing concern over the vulnerability of the Baguio, La Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba and Tublay (BLISTT) area to disasters, shaped both by natural and man-made elements.

Baguio City, along with the rest of Northern Luzon, is a consistently high-risk area for landslides, floods and earthquakes yet there is a lack of scientific data that would aid in addressing these vulnerabilities. During the inception of the program, there had been no other university-based research programs that would initiate, coordinate and consolidate data on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in the city of Baguio and its environs. There was a need, then, to develop such a program that would be able to tap the academic/intellectual resources of local institutions of higher education towards the goal of enhancing local communities' resilience to climate change.



The BLISTT Area

Composed of the cities of Baguio and La Trinidad as well as municipalities of Itogon, Sablan, Tuba and Tublay, this zone has been identified as the locus of the studies because of the actual and potential areas for cooperation with regard to urban planning and development and climate change adaptation, within the framework of the Climate Change Act (Republic Act 9729) of the Philippine national and local governments.

Program Components

Research

Interdisciplinary/multi-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary research is needed to understand the dynamics of climate change in the BLISTT areas. The three colleges at UP Baguio shall be involved in inter-disciplinary team studies on the different dimensions of climate change adaptation. The general concern of the program is to study the interaction between climate change and ecosystems in the BLISTT. The aim is to enhance our understanding of how climate change impacts on our ecosystem (and vice versa), and to develop our capacity to predict possible impacts of climate change in the city and its environs.

Curriculum/Instruction

This component shall consist of a review of the existing curriculum of the three (3) colleges of UP Baguio, in order to determine the extent to which climate and environmental issues are actually and may potentially be taught and discussed in the curriculum.

University-Community Partnerships

The University, through the Cordillera Studies Center (CSC), shall work closely with local communities and the government units of the BLISTT area throughout the whole research cycle. Through this approach, local communities are co-producers of knowledge as well as consumers of the knowledge-products for their own use and empowerment.

Program Head

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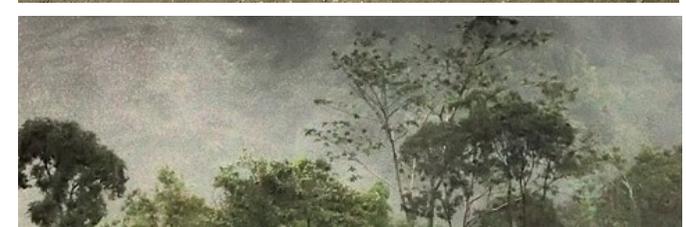
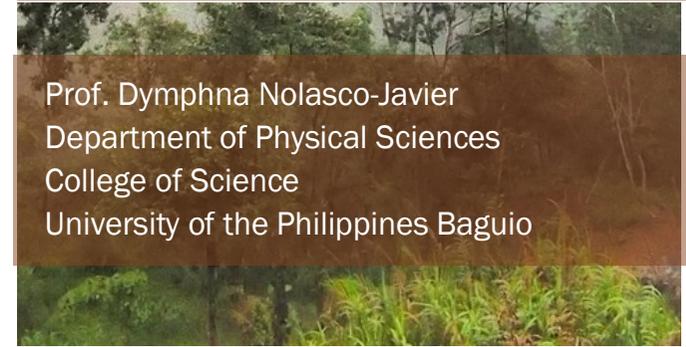


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