

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED TRANSFORMATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY (2018-2030)

40th Annual Scientific Meeting, 11-12 July 2018
The Manila Hotel

RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in September 2015 with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets as a continuation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

WHEREAS, while the Philippines Progress Report on MDGs in 2014 shows that the country had been on track in most of its targets, the country needs to increase its efforts in some targets;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Development Plan (2017-2022) provides the blueprint for inclusive growth, a high-trust and resilient society and a globally competitive economy aimed at enabling Filipinos to achieve their aspiration of a “*matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay*,”

WHEREAS, the National Academy of Science and Technology Philippines (NAST PHL), recognizes the importance of transformation of science-based knowledge and research into goods and services for the Philippines’ path towards sustainability and resiliency as focused in the seven SDGs: (6) Clean Water Sanitation, (7) Affordable and clean energy, (11) Sustainable Cities and Communities, (12) Responsible consumption and production, (13) Climate action, (14) Life below Water, and (15) Life on Land, targeted for 2018-2030, which are interconnected with other SDGs but deemed vital in achieving the goals;

WHEREAS, the NAST PHL organized the 2018 Regional Scientific Meetings in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao to understand local concerns and needs in relation to the above-mentioned SDGs;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is rich in natural resources that have been significantly depleted due to resource overuse in the last few decades leading to loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services and environmental degradation;

WHEREAS, there is a need to protect and safeguard our rich cultural heritage and properly educate local communities to ensure sustainable and empowered regions, cities, and communities;

WHEREAS, there is insufficient coordination among government agencies in fulfilling our commitments to the attainment of the SDGs;

WHEREAS, the Philippines needs to invest more in S&T human resources, research and development, and physical infrastructure as indicated in the Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that the following measures be recommended:

KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES

1. To significantly scale-up programs to produce research scientists and engineers (RSEs) to reach the UNESCO benchmark by 2022 and provide a supportive policy environment to retain them;
 - a. Create and increase regular budgeted positions for scientists, engineers, and other S&T personnel in government;
 - b. Provide attractive remuneration packages and incentives for S&T personnel in government;
 - c. Provide incentives to public-private sector engagement in S&T activities and employ highly trained S&T professionals;
 - d. Provide fast and free support on Intellectual Property protection.
2. Strengthen and unify efforts to protect and safeguard indigenous and local knowledge systems (IKS).

ENVIRONMENT

1. Implement science-based, comprehensive, and collaborative initiatives toward water security and sanitation;
 - a. Expand local access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities;
 - b. Promote proper storage and use of rainwater for domestic purposes;
 - c. Improve enforcement of standards on quality of drinking water and monitoring procedures for all water suppliers and providers (WSPs), including water districts, bottled drinking water manufacturers, and refilling stations;
 - d. Develop alternatives to the use of single-use plastic and promote the use of environment-friendly containers made from local resources;
2. Accelerate the implementation of evidence-based highlands-to-oceans programs such as river basin and watershed management and rehabilitation of coral reefs, mangroves, beach forests, and freshwater bodies.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS

1. Reiterate the creation of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans;
2. Increase funding and policy support for value-adding programs such as agri-fishery tourism, agri-fishery industrialization and agri-waste utilization.

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Urgently increase public investment in reliable, fast and efficient information infrastructure;
2. Use the tools of ICT to promote collaborative innovation in planning, monitoring, and decision-making in government;
3. Design and implement mass-rapid transport systems, such as urban and intercity railways;
4. Support the local production of seacraft;
5. Increase investment in green technologies, such as energy harvesting, low energy electronics, and the efficient use of redundancy and large-scale intelligent environment.

GOVERNANCE

1. Implement and monitor science-based Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUP) and the Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans (LCCAP);
2. Review regulatory environment that hinder R&D activities (such as Commission on Audit (COA) rules, Customs, and chemical regulations);
3. Encourage the government to adopt a whole-of-nation approach in science and technology-based decision-making in fulfilling our commitments to the attainment of the SDGs.

Citation:

NAST PHL. 2018. NAST PHL Resolutions 2018. Science and technology-enhanced transformation for sustainability and resiliency (2018-2030). Attaining Sustainable Development Goals: Philippine fisheries and other aquatic resources 20/20. Transactions NAST PHL 40 (2): doi.org/10.57043/transnastphl.2018.1101