4th International Conference on Climate Resilience and Risk-Sensitive Sustainable Development (IC-CRRSSD)

Theme: *Integrating People, Planning, Partnerships, Rural and Urban Planning, and Finance for Resilient Communities*

Date: 28th & 29th November 2026

Hybrid Mode

Venue: Conference Room, New Building School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Climate change and disaster risks are increasingly reshaping the development trajectories of cities, rural areas, communities, and economies worldwide. Intensifying climate-related hazards, rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, population displacement, infrastructure vulnerabilities, and persistent socioeconomic inequalities are creating increasingly complex and interconnected risks. These challenges demonstrate that climate resilience can no longer be addressed exclusively as an environmental or disaster-management concern; rather, it must become an integral component of sustainable development, spatial planning, infrastructure investment, governance, financing, and social protection.

The impacts of climate change are also fundamentally human. Climate-related disasters and environmental stresses can influence migration and displacement, disrupt livelihoods and essential services, affect physical and psychosocial well-being, and disproportionately impact children and other vulnerable populations. Consequently, building resilience requires approaches that extend beyond physical infrastructure and technological interventions to address the social, institutional, economic, financial, and psychological dimensions of risk.

At the same time, significant opportunities are emerging through risk-sensitive urban and rural planning, circular economy, climate-responsive infrastructure, public–private partnerships (PPPs), innovative climate finance, community-based adaptation, disaster risk management, and inclusive governance. The challenge is to connect these approaches within an integrated framework capable of translating climate and disaster-risk knowledge into investments, policies, plans, institutions, and locally implementable actions.

Against this backdrop, the ***International Conference on Climate Resilience and Risk-Sensitive Sustainable Development (IC-CRRSSD)*** provides a multidisciplinary platform for governments, academia, development organizations, financing institutions, the private sector, civil society, practitioners, and communities to exchange knowledge, scientific evidence, policy innovations, technologies, financing approaches, and practical experiences.

Anchored on the theme ***"Integrating People, Planning, Partnerships, Rural and Urban Planning,***

and Finance for Resilient Communities," *the* Conference recognizes that sustainable resilience requires the convergence of four critical dimensions: people-centered development, risk-sensitive planning, institutional and private-sector partnerships, and accessible and sustainable financing.

CONFERENCE GOAL

The Conference aims to advance an integrated and people-centered approach to climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and risk-sensitive sustainable development by strengthening the interface among scientific knowledge, spatial and development planning, governance, partnerships, financing, and community action.

It will provide a forum for translating research and lessons from practice into actionable policies, investment strategies, planning approaches, partnerships, and scalable resilience solutions.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Specifically, the Conference seeks to:

1. Strengthen understanding of the interconnected relationships among climate change, disaster risk, migration, Circular economy, Inclusive, urbanization, rural development, vulnerability, and community resilience.
2. Promote the mainstreaming of climate and disaster-risk information into urban and rural land-use, infrastructure, sectoral, and development planning.
3. Examine innovative PPP models and institutional partnerships capable of mobilizing technology, expertise, infrastructure investment, and private capital for climate action.
4. Explore mechanisms for improving access to climate finance and resilience investment, particularly for vulnerable communities and developing economies.
5. Advance community-centered approaches to adaptation, preparedness, recovery, and transformative resilience.
6. Highlight the often-underrepresented dimensions of trauma, psychosocial recovery, child vulnerability, and social inclusion within climate and disaster resilience.
7. Facilitate international exchange of scientific evidence, good practices, technologies, governance innovations, and lessons from implementation.
8. Develop opportunities for sustained collaboration among governments, universities, development institutions, financing organizations, businesses, civil society, and communities.

THEMATIC TRACKS

Track 1: Climate–Migration Nexus

Mobility, Displacement, Adaptation and Inclusive Development

This track will examine the complex relationships among climate change, environmental stress, disasters, livelihoods, migration, and displacement. Discussions will explore planned and autonomous mobility, climate adaptation, displacement risk reduction, host-community resilience, livelihood transitions, social protection, and inclusive development approaches for populations affected by climate-related mobility.

Track 2: Risk-Sensitive Urban and Rural Planning

Integrating Climate and Disaster Risk into Spatial and Development Planning

This track will focus on embedding climate and disaster-risk considerations into land-use planning, urban and rural development, infrastructure investment, settlement planning, environmental management, and development decision-making. Particular attention will be given to spatial risk assessment, climate-risk information, nature-based solutions, resilient infrastructure, risk-sensitive zoning, and the translation of scientific evidence into implementable development controls and investments.

Track 3: Public–Private Partnerships in Climate Action

Mobilizing Innovation, Infrastructure and Private-Sector Participation

This track will examine how governments and the private sector can collaboratively develop and finance resilient and low-carbon infrastructure and services. Discussions will address risk allocation, enabling policy environments, innovative PPP structures, technology deployment, private-sector incentives, investment readiness, and mechanisms for ensuring that climate-related PPPs generate sustainable and inclusive public value.

Track 4: Climate Finance

Financing Adaptation, Resilience and Low-Carbon Development

This track will explore the critical financing requirements for translating climate commitments and resilience plans into implementation. Topics may include international and domestic climate-finance mechanisms, blended finance, resilience bonds, green financing, adaptation investment, local-government financing, private capital mobilization, project preparation, bankability, and approaches for directing financial resources toward highly vulnerable communities.

Track 5: Resilient Communities

Community-Based Adaptation, Preparedness and Transformative Resilience

Recognizing communities as active agents of resilience, this track will highlight locally led adaptation, indigenous and local knowledge, community-based disaster risk reduction, livelihood resilience, social networks, participatory governance, preparedness, and community-driven innovation. It will examine how resilience interventions can move beyond recovery toward long-term transformation.

Track 6 — Trauma and Psychosocial Resilience

Recovery, Well-Being and Resilience Following Disasters and Climate-Related Shocks

This track will bring greater attention to the human and psychosocial consequences of disasters and climate-related disruptions. It will explore trauma-informed disaster management, mental and psychosocial well-being, community support systems, social cohesion, recovery mechanisms, and institutional approaches for strengthening individual and collective resilience.

Track 7 — Child Vulnerability and Resilience

Protecting Children and Other Vulnerable Groups from Climate and Disaster Risks

Children experience distinctive vulnerabilities arising from displacement, disruption of education, food and water insecurity, health risks, family livelihood losses, and disaster-related trauma. This track will

examine child-sensitive climate adaptation, disaster preparedness, resilient schools and communities, social protection, safeguarding mechanisms, and meaningful participation of children and young people in resilience-building.

Track 8 — Disaster Risk Management

Risk Reduction, Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Climate–DRR Integration

This track will address the full disaster-risk-management continuum, emphasizing the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Discussions will encompass multi-hazard and systemic risk assessment, early warning systems, anticipatory action, emergency preparedness, resilient infrastructure, institutional coordination, disaster financing, recovery and reconstruction, and building back better.

CROSS-CUTTING CONFERENCE FRAMEWORK: PEOPLE–PLANNING–PARTNERSHIPS–FINANCE

The eight thematic tracks will be connected through the Conference's overarching **People–Planning–Partnerships–Finance framework**.

People places communities, vulnerable populations, children, displaced persons, and human well-being at the center of resilience. **Planning** translates climate and disaster-risk evidence into spatial, infrastructure, sectoral, and development decisions. **Partnerships** connect government, academia, communities, development organizations, civil society, and the private sector to mobilize knowledge, technology, capacity, and implementation mechanisms. **Finance** enables resilience strategies to move from policy commitments and plans toward investable, scalable, and sustainable action.

Together, these dimensions emphasize that resilience is not achieved through isolated interventions but through the **systematic integration of risk knowledge, inclusive governance, development planning, institutional collaboration, investment, and community action**.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The Conference will bring together national and local governments; policymakers and planners; disaster risk reduction and climate-change professionals; universities and research institutions; international and regional development organizations; multilateral and bilateral agencies; financial institutions and climate funds; infrastructure and engineering professionals; private-sector organizations and investors; civil society and humanitarian organizations; health and psychosocial professionals; youth and child-focused organizations; community representatives; and other stakeholders working across climate resilience and sustainable development.

PROPOSED CONFERENCE MODALITIES

The Conference may combine **high-level plenary sessions, keynote addresses, thematic technical sessions, scientific paper presentations, policy dialogues, panel discussions, case-study presentations, innovation showcases, roundtable discussions, and networking sessions**. Dedicated sessions may also facilitate dialogue among policymakers, researchers, financing institutions, communities, and the private sector to identify opportunities for translating research and policy recommendations into concrete programs and investments.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Conference is expected to generate a set of knowledge and action-oriented outputs, including a **Conference Declaration or Call for Action**, thematic policy recommendations, proceedings or selected scientific papers, documentation of good practices and innovative approaches, and recommendations for strengthening climate-resilience policies, planning systems, partnerships, and financing mechanisms.

It is also envisioned to facilitate new **research networks, institutional partnerships, knowledge exchanges, and potential collaborative projects** among participating organizations and countries.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND SIGNIFICANCE

Beyond knowledge exchange, the Conference seeks to strengthen the connection between **science, policy, planning, financing, and implementation**. It will encourage participating institutions to move from fragmented approaches toward integrated systems in which climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, spatial planning, infrastructure development, social resilience, and financing mutually reinforce one another.

The Conference will ultimately advance the principle that resilient communities are built not only through stronger infrastructure, but through informed people, risk-sensitive planning, effective partnerships, inclusive institutions, and sustained financing. By bringing these dimensions together, the **International Conference on Climate Resilience and Risk-Sensitive Sustainable Development** can provide a platform for transforming climate and disaster-risk knowledge into practical actions and investments that protect people, strengthen communities, and support sustainable and resilient development.

DATE AND VENUE:

28th & 29th November 2026 | Conference Room, New Building School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

ORGANIZERS:

Planning and Development Research Institute (PLANADES), Inc. and PLANADES AMERICA INC.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS:

School of Urban and Regional Planning University of the Philippines Diliman (UP SURP)
University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Lahore
Disaster Preparedness Mitigation and Management (DPMM), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand
Office of Civil Defense Regional Office National Capital Region (OCDRONCR)
Quezon City Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Department (CCESD)
Law Office of Manuel Quintal
UNDRR Voluntary Commitments

NOTES: