Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2025 Understanding the macroeconomic implications of climate change

John Paolo R. Rivera, Ph.D.

Senior Research Fellow, Philippine Institute for Development Studies

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Estimating the Impacts of Climate Change on Fiscal Health in the Philippines: Designing a Policy toward a Climate-Resilient Fiscal Sector

John Paolo R. Rivera, Ramona Maria L. Miral, and Mark Gerald C. Ruiz



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CONTACT US:

RESEARCH INFORMATION DEPARTMENT Philippine Institute for Development Studies

18th Floor, Three Cyberpod Centris - North Tower EDSA comer Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines

(+632) 8877-4000

https://www

Macroeconomic Prospects of the Philippines in 2024–2025: Toward Upper Middle-Income Status

John Paolo R. Rivera, Mark Gerald C. Ruiz, and Ramona Maria L. Miral

Philippine Intelligible I

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publications@pids.gov.ph (+632) 8877-4000

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Where am I coming from?



Value of the 2025 survey

Climate health is no longer an externality to macroeconomics. It is now intrinsic to it.

Resilience is operating under rising structural fragility:

- Higher-for-longer interest rates
- Rising global trade fragmentation
- Increasing frequency of climate disasters

The steady GDP numbers we see mask deeper vulnerabilities.



Reviving growth in a different context: Sectoral upgrading and the climate challenge

Double transformation challenge:

- Escaping the middle-income trap
- Conducting a green economic transformation

Pertinent questions for the Philippines:

- Are we building green manufacturing capacities, not just BPO hubs and remittance-led growth?
- Are our MSMEs being equipped to participate in green value chains, such as renewable energy, sustainable construction, or digital agriculture?

Philippines capitalizing on Asia-Pacific's unparalleled position in green manufacturing

- Investing aggressively in renewable energy value chains
- Developing climate-resilient agribusiness
- Leveraging our strategic minerals like nickel for the green economy

Without strategic upgrading, our resilience today could become tomorrow's stagnation



Macroeconomic-climate nexus: A rallying call for smarter policymaking

We need forward-looking, climate-integrated fiscal and monetary (policy mix) strategies:

- Disaster-contingent debt instruments
- Climate-risk stress testing of banks
- Strategic sovereign green bond issuances, not ad-hoc borrowings

Managing climate risks must be mainstreamed into macroeconomic management – not treated as a special project.



Asia-Pacific readiness: A mirror for the Philippines

Philippine strengths:

- A dynamic services sector, particularly tourism, hospitality, BPO/KPO
- A relatively developed banking system

Philippine weaknesses:

- Low domestic resource mobilization
- Gaps in climate-resilient infrastructure financing
- Underdeveloped sustainable finance markets

Key implications:

- Strengthen fiscal resilience
- Develop climate-resilient financial systems

Prioritize green economic development over short-term populist measures.

Building forward smarter: What we must do next?

Climate change requires a permanent systems- and future-thinking capability in economic management.



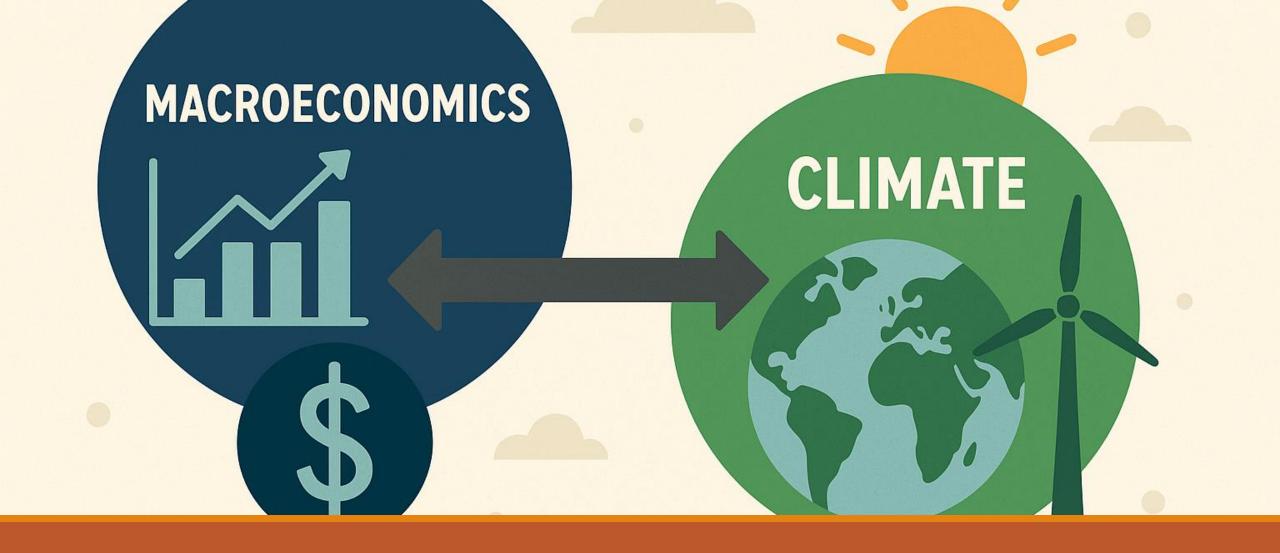
Climate-integrated public investment planning



Regional risk pooling and financing platforms



Strategic foresight institutionalization



Conclusion: A strategic moment

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE
ARE NOW ONE AND THE SAME.

THANK YOU

SALAMAT

TERIMA KASIH

ขอขอบคุณ

谢谢

고맙습니다

ありがとう

Ngā mihi nui

Спасибо

धन्यवाद

شكرا

Merci

¡Gracias!

