

DENR leads multi-stakeholder dialogue to finalize list of GEF-8 proposed projects

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The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) will hold a multi-stakeholder dialogue on January 18 and 19 in Taguig City to come up with the final list of proposed projects under GEF-8.

Dubbed GEF National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, the two-day event will gather around 200 representatives from the national government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations, the private sector, GEF Secretariat and implementing agencies to come up with a refined National Portfolio Formulation Document (NPDF) consisting of the final list of proposed projects for the Philippines.

In the Philippines, the proposed projects for GEF-8 are divided based on five different focal areas, namely, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, Chemical Waste and International Waters.

The DENR hopes to address identified gaps such as lack of policy coherence and integration between effective climate change adaptation and biodiversity actions, weak science-policy linkage and data generation in the environment and natural resource management, limited knowledge development and management and inadequate innovative financing mechanism to support sustainable resource management.

In implementing the projects, the DENR hopes to advance the country's efforts to address environmental issues by tackling the drivers of ecological degradation and strengthening the country's commitments to multilateral environmental agreements and contributing to global environmental benefits, supporting integrated approaches and ensuring that programs are inclusive and prioritizes the most vulnerable.

The projects are being eyed to help realign private sector capital to achieve wider scale and impact, empower local communities to harness their contributions, strengthen their capacities, protect their livelihoods, uplift their socioeconomic conditions and enhance resilience.

DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga and GEF CEO Carlos Manuel Rodriguez will deliver the welcome and keynote messages, respectively during the kickoff ceremony on Wednesday, January 18.

This will be followed by the opening of an exhibit showcasing the various projects and accomplishments of the DENR-GEF partnership in the same venue.

The dialogue will also pave the way for discussions on National Priorities and Strategies and GEF 8 Strategic Positioning and Programming Directions.

DENR Undersecretary Analiza Rebueta-Teh, GEF-Philippine Operational Focal Point, will be sharing the climate lens and the geospatial approach to portfolio programming and discuss the way forward to conclude the event.