



EMB orients EIA practitioners on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction

More than 100 individual preparers and experts from different consulting firms attended the recent “Orientation on the Registry System for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Practitioners” which also highlighted the significance of mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) to the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System.

The orientation, which was conducted by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), was held at the Sulo Hotel Riviera last December 8, 2015.

In his welcome remarks, DENR Assistant Secretary and concurrent EMB Director, Atty. Juan Miguel T. Cuna said it is “strategic that EIA covers natural hazards and related risks. This includes the anticipated rise in the frequency and intensity of climatological hazards associated with climate change”.

He added that the integration of DRR and CCA to the regulatory processes can serve as a “mechanism for ensuring that future projects are resilient and that their environmental impacts do not aggravate natural hazards or climate change’s effects on human or natural systems”.

The orientation likewise promoted common understanding and appreciation of the role/function of EIA Individual and Firm Preparers in the Philippine EIS System as well as provided updates on current policies and improvement initiatives.

Other significant topics included Environmental Compliance Certificate and Certificate of Non-Coverage Online, Technical Guidelines on DRR/CCA Integration in the Philippine EIS System, DRR and CCA enhanced EIS screening forms and Initial Environment Examination Checklist Report Form, Pre- ECC process and Post ECC Process.

Salient Features of the draft Memorandum Circular on Public Participation as well as the online Compliance Monitoring Report (which will be available to the public on the first quarter of 2016) were also taken up. ###