

22 March 2023

LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region IV-B (MIMAROPA)

Subject: TRANSCEND Kick-Off Workshop

Dear Director Claudio.

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) is part of the international climate finance commitments of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Through the IKI, it finances projects in partner countries that make an ambitious contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the adaptation to the impacts of climate change, the preservation and restoration of natural carbon sinks (REDD+) or the protection of biodiversity. The IKI is implemented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA).

Following the 2018 IKI Country Call, the Federal Government of Germany and Government of the Philippines jointly selected the project outline, "Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development (TRANSCEND)", which aims to support the Philippines in implementing their NDC and post-2020 Biodiversity Framework targets.

TRANSCEND project is being prepared and will be jointly implemented by a consortium comprising the Conservation International Philippines Foundation Inc., Rare Inc., UN-Habitat, UNIDO, ICCT, the Wuppertal Institut, Clean Air Asia, Climate Analytics, the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, the University of the Philippines, and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in close cooperation with Philippine national and local political partners. GIZ will act as the joint project coordinator.

The preparation phase of TRANSCEND has started 1 January 2023 and will run for six (6) months. The preparation phase will allow the consortium to shape the project outcomes, outputs, indicators, and activities in close cooperation with the government partners in both national and sub-national levels to ensure the needs and political priorities of the Philippine Government in the context of climate change and biodiversity are addressed.

German Development Cooperation GIZ Office Manila

9th Floor, Bank of Makati Building Ayala Avenue Extension near corner Metropolitan Avenue 1209 Makati City, Philippines T +63 2 8651 5100 E qiz-ohilipoinen@qiz.de

Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development (TRANSCEND)

10th Floor, Bank of Makati Building, Ayala Avenue
Extension near corner Metropolitan Avenue
1209 Makati City, Philippines

T +63 998 596 4562 E <u>bjoern.surborg@giz.de</u>

E justine.apolinario@giz.de

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36 53113 Bonn, Germany T +49 228 44 60-0 F +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5 65760 Eschborn, Germany T +49 61 96 79-0 F +49 61 96 79-11 15

E info@giz.de I www.giz.de

Registered at Local court (Amtsgericht) Bonn, Germany Registration no. HRB 18384 Local court (Amtsgericht) Frankfurt am Main, Germany Registration no. HRB 12394

Chairman of the Supervisory Board Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary

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As part of the preparation phase, the consortium will be conducting kick-off workshops with the local government stakeholders of the selected pilot landscapes to deepen the understanding about the local situation. An information note on the pilot areas selection is attached as Annex 1. These workshops will help re-align the project to the initiatives of the sub-national levels and the gaps and challenges surrounding climate change adaptation and mitigation and biodiversity.

In line with this, the consortium has planned a kick-off workshop with the Verde Island Passage (VIP) Network and the regional offices of NEDA, DTI, MARINA, LTFRB to discuss the situation of the provinces in-charge of the VIP on 29-30 March 2023 in Batangas City, specific venue to be announced.

We are inviting you and/or your representative to join the kick-off workshop on 29-30 March 2023 in Batangas City. For confirmation of attendance, you may send the following details to Ms. Pearl Caroline Valeros on or before 27 March 2023:

- Name of Participant:
- Designation:
- Office:
- Agency/LGU:
- **Email Address:**

We will send the details of the confirmed venue to the registered participants once finalized.

The draft agenda is included in this letter. For clarifications about the kick-off workshop, you may send them to Ms. Valeros at pvaleros@conservation.org (email), 0920 908 7431 (mobile).

Looking forward to cooperating with you soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bjoern Surborg

Cluster Coordinator

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

GIZ Philippines and Pacific Islands

M +63 998 596 4562

E bjoern.surborg@giz.de