



**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE BILL NO. 6430



**Introduced by Representative
ZIAUR-RAHMAN "ZIA" ALONTO ADIONG**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines continues to face overlapping natural and climate-induced hazards that threaten lives, livelihoods, and long-term development. Every year, the country endures destructive typhoons, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, droughts, and landslides. Over time, slower-onset impacts such as sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, and biodiversity loss have further compounded these risks. According to the World Risk Index 2023, the Philippines remains the most disaster-prone nation globally, underscoring the urgent need for stronger adaptive and preventive systems.

Republic Act No. 10121, which established the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), was an important milestone in building institutional capacity for disaster risk reduction and management. However, significant challenges remain. Fragmented mandates, weak coordination among government levels, and the limited use of science and technology in decision-making continue to hinder effective disaster and climate governance.

The University of the Philippines Resilience Institute (UP RI) was created to advance evidence-based policies and practices for disaster preparedness and climate adaptation. Despite its success in producing relevant research and tools for local and national use, its institutional potential remains constrained by the lack of direct national funding, plantilla positions, and statutory authority.

This bill seeks to transform the UP Resilience Institute into the University of the Philippines National Climate Resilience Institute (UP NCRI). The UP NCRI will serve as a permanent, government-funded national research institution dedicated to advancing climate resilience and disaster risk reduction through scientific innovation, policy development, and community engagement. By establishing a permanent and adequately supported institute, the State ensures the continuity, scale, and national integration of scientific efforts for resilience.

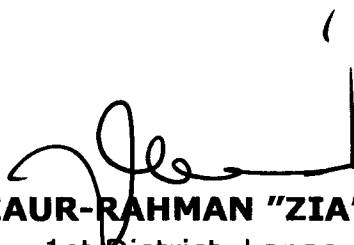
The bill further provides for the integration of Project Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards (Project NOAH) under the UP NCRI. Project NOAH will serve as the Institute's integrated disaster prevention and mitigation program, employing science and technology to produce accurate, reliable, and timely hazard and risk data. It will coordinate with national agencies, local governments, the private sector, and the academe to ensure that disaster risk reduction activities are based on evidence and supported by real-time data.

Through its web portal, mirror sites, and mobile applications, Project NOAH provides public access to near real-time weather information, flood and landslide hazard maps, and storm surge simulations. It also develops decision-support tools to aid resource allocation and emergency planning. The program's multidisciplinary approach combines meteorology, hydrology, geology, engineering, and information technology to strengthen the country's overall disaster readiness.

This measure reaffirms the State's commitment to establishing a strong and sustainable foundation for resilience governance. It strengthens coordination, promotes data-driven policymaking, and ensures that scientific knowledge directly supports public safety and development planning.

In light of the growing threats of climate change and the increasing frequency of disasters, the establishment of the University of the Philippines National Climate Resilience Institute, with Project NOAH under its mandate, is both urgent and essential to securing a safer and more resilient Philippines.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. ZIAUR-RAHMAN "ZIA" ALONTO ADIONG
1st District, Lanao del Sur



**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE BILL NO. 6430

**Introduced by Representative
ZIAUR-RAHMAN "ZIA" ALONTO ADIONG**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL CLIMATE RESILIENCE INSTITUTE, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "*University of the Philippines National Climate Resilience Institute Act.*"

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the State to:

(a) Uphold the right of all persons to life, safety, and human dignity by ensuring the protection of lives, livelihoods, infrastructure, cultural heritage, and ecosystems before, during, and after disasters;

(b) Recognize climate resilience as an integral component of national development, environmental sustainability, and human security, and mainstream it into all levels of governance and sectors of society;

(c) Promote a proactive, anticipatory, and risk-informed approach to disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), grounded in scientific evidence, multi-hazard assessments, and inclusive stakeholder engagement;

(d) Ensure the establishment of a strong institutional foundation through the creation of a permanent national institute with the requisite authority, capacity, and mandate to oversee and coordinate resilience programs and policies;

(e) Institutionalize integrated national and local systems for people centered early warning, emergency operations, recovery planning, data management, and public communication, including the use of digital governance, predictive analytics, and innovative technologies;

(f) Facilitate sustained investment in resilience-building measures, including but not limited to public budgeting, private sector participation, risk financing instruments, and climate-related investment mechanisms;

(g) Encourage innovation, localization, and community empowerment through research and development, resilience education, participatory governance, and indigenous and local knowledge systems; and

(h) Monitor and evaluate disaster risk governance outcomes through evidence-based performance metrics, transparency mechanisms, and a robust system of policy feedback, public accountability, and continuous improvement.

SECTION 3. Establishment of the University of the Philippines National Climate Resilience Institute.

The University of the Philippines Resilience Institute (UP RI) is hereby converted into a national institute to be known as the *UP National Climate Resilience Institute (UP NCRI)*.

SECTION 4. Mandate of the UP NCRI.

The UP NCRI shall continue the mandate of the UP RI as a proactive hub of benchmark innovative information vital to the nation's efforts in climate change mitigation and adaptation. It shall empower local communities through multidisciplinary actions toward resilience. Among others, it shall:

i. Undertake policy research, action research, and interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary research or creative work;

ii. Disseminate research findings, creative works, and innovations; iii. Establish non-degree educational programs and support degree programs;

iv. Establish and institutionalize a national system for resilience-oriented research, foresight, and knowledge integration to advance science-based, anticipatory, and adaptive resilience governance;

v. Facilitate collaborative projects with universities, LGUs, scientific institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector partners, and shall support the translation of research into actionable policies and local solutions;

vi. Develop and maintain a centralized and interoperable Resilience Knowledge Platform to serve as a public repository of resilience data, research findings, learning modules, analytics tools, and best practices;

vii. Ensure that resilience-related research outputs, innovations, and knowledge products are converted into practical guidance materials, toolkits, planning aids, and operational templates for use by LGUs, local communities, and institutions; and

viii. Improve the capability of relevant national agencies and offices as an agent of change for climate resilience in the Philippines and the Pacific Rim region.

SECTION 5. Integration of Project NOAH under the UP National Climate Resilience Institute.

Project Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards (Project NOAH) is hereby placed under the administrative and operational supervision of the University of the Philippines National Climate Resilience Institute (UP NCRI).

Project NOAH shall serve as the integrated disaster prevention and mitigation program of the UP NCRI. It shall employ science, research, and technology to generate accurate, reliable, and timely data to support informed decision-making for disaster risk reduction and management activities.

In line with its mission, Project NOAH shall:

- (a) Develop and maintain an integrated platform that provides open access to updated hazard and risk information, including but not limited to near real-time weather data, flood and landslide hazard maps, storm surge inundation maps, and the identification of local critical facilities;
- (b) Undertake research and innovation projects to advance the use of technology in disaster risk reduction, including the development of tools that enhance government and community capacity in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery;
- (c) Strengthen and expand its early warning systems and digital applications, such as the Project NOAH web portal, its mirror sites, and the NOAH and Arko mobile applications, to ensure that hazard information is accessible to all sectors of society;
- (d) Sustain the operation and continuous improvement of the WebSAFE application, which provides analytical support for the allocation of resources and emergency planning during severe weather events;
- (e) Promote an interdisciplinary approach in the design and implementation of disaster prevention and mitigation systems by integrating meteorology, hydrology, geology, engineering, information technology, social sciences, arts and the humanities; and
- (f) Support capacity-building initiatives, policy formulation, and community education programs that enable proactive and science based disaster governance at both the national and local levels.

The UP NCRI shall ensure that Project NOAH remains a dynamic platform for innovation and collaboration, continuously enhancing its systems, data analytics, and technologies in line with evolving climate and disaster risks.

SECTION 6. Appropriations.

The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's available appropriations of UP RI whose functions are herein absorbed, transferred, or realigned to the UP NCRI. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the University of the Philippines, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation. The IRR shall be developed through a consultative process involving LGUs, civil society organizations, the private sector, academic institutions, and other stakeholders, as may be applicable.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause.

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause.

All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity.

This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.