



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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January 03, 2012

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

NO. 2012-02

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, FIELD OFFICERS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : PROMOTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAINWATER COLLECTORS IN ALL BARANGAYS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO MITIGATE THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Republic Act No. 6716 of 1989, also known as the "Rainwater Collector and Springs Development Law", gives mandate to the Department of Public Work and Highways to construct water wells and rainwater collectors, develop springs and rehabilitate existing water wells in barangays nationwide.

The relevance of the law is made more prominent with the increasing felt impacts and awareness of the adverse impacts of Climate Change recognized and being felt by the populace. The unpredictable shifting of weather patterns resulting to sea level rise, flooding, water shortages, loss of bio-diversity, among others, brought to the fore the crisis on water supply marked by water pollution, over-extraction of groundwater, exploited watershed and inefficient water infrastructure.

Although the tri-agency collaborative programs for the construction of water systems were pursued by the DILG, DOH and DPWH, installation of rainwater collectors was not popularized. Rainwater Collection Systems (RWCS) provide a simple and cost-effective means to preserve water, reduce flooding, provide water buffer and recharge aquifers. The Act, through its promotion of RWCS, intended to serve as a mechanism to promote water conservation and control flooding.

As national agencies involved in the implementation of programs on water and sanitation, and as members of the Advisory Board to the Climate Change Commission, DPWH and the DILG forged a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to signify both agencies' commitment for the promotion, popularization and implementation of rainwater collection facilities consistent with the intent of RA 6716.

In fulfillment of its commitment, the DPWH is promoting rainwater harvesting for non-domestic use. It is also spearheading the construction of rainwater collection systems in public schools as part of its climate change adaptation program.

For its part, the DILG provided information on the prototype designs developed by the DPWH on rainwater collection systems that may be adopted by local governments.

Furthermore, it is pursuing efforts to reiterate and intensify promotion of RWCS as a disaster/ CCA mitigation intervention and to pursue our advocacy for LGU adoption of RWCS.

In this connection, all Provincial Governors, City and Municipal Mayors, Punong Barangays are hereby enjoined to include the promotion of RWCS technologies applicable at the community level and the construction of rainwater collectors in their respective development plans and/or Climate Change Action Plans. LGUs may adopt a proactive approach by installing RWCS in LGU public infrastructure, where appropriate. These shall serve as models to encourage households in constituent communities to adopt RWCS in a smaller scale.

All DILG Regional Directors are hereby directed to initiate implementation of showcase Rainwater Collection Systems in their respective Offices and cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular.

Likewise, all Local Chief Executives and DILG Regional Offices are advised to seek assistance from the DPWH District Offices for the construction of RWCS using DPWH prototype designs.

For guidance and compliance of all concerned.


JESSE M. ROBREDO
Secretary



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IN REPLYING, PLS CITE:

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