

Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals towards a Greener, Livable Davao City

2018 Calendar



In 2015, the Philippines, along with 192 other member countries of the United Nations, pledged their commitment to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all through the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For Davao City, some of the SDGs are already mainstreamed in the local plans, including the city's comprehensive land use plan. Civil society groups, through the Sustainable Davao Movement (SDM), also developed a three-year advocacy plan on how its member organizations can contribute to meet the SDGs for a sustainable Davao City.

The SDM's initiative shows that for the SDGs to be reached, everyone needs to do their part, government and non-government alike. The SDM aims to create a movement beyond its current network of environment advocates, one where every Dabawenyo has a stake in the SDGs and will be involved in its implementation for Davao City. The group decided to focus on five environment themes, which when prioritized will also address other key issues such as hunger, poverty and health.

For Interface Development Interventions (IDIS) Inc., one of the convenors of the SDM, a sustainable city needs healthy watersheds. Hence, IDIS will work towards a sustainable Davao City since its mandate for the protection and management of watersheds is well aligned with the SDGs.



Zero Waste



In 2017, Davao City produced an average of 900 metric tons of garbage daily, spending about P15 million a month for garbage disposal. Majority of the garbage weight (62%) is actually biodegradable and should no longer have reached the city's only land fill, which is now overloaded. The problem on waste management may be attributed to the weak implementation of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 and lack of cooperation among communities.

In response, NGOs and schools continue campaigns in waste reduction. Best practices in pollution control of individuals and organizations are also recognized for replication through Lunhaw Awards.

For waste generated by companies, organizations and institutions, the LGU can strictly enforce regulations and ensure punishment for violations. However, the long-term key solution towards a sustainable Davao City is a lifestyle change towards zero waste, addressing the problem right at the root. Zero waste can be achieved through consumption reduction and comprehensive recycling at the individual level, complemented by the critical role of the BLGUs to ensure the implementation of the basic 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) in compliance with the Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance of 2009.

Waste threatens biodiversity and the resources that communities depend on. Zero waste for clean and healthy watersheds; zero waste for a sustainable city.

Students of Marilog High School of Agriculture, 2017 Lunhaw Award Finalist, turn food and animal waste into fertilizers for their organic vegetable farm. A well-maintained materials recovery facility, such as the one managed by 2013 Lunhaw Awardee Holy Cross of Calinan, is key to recycling and waste reduction at the community level.

01 JANUARY

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 <small>New Year's Day</small> | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
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02 FEBRUARY

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| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 <small>Chinese Lunar New Year's Day</small> | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <small>People Power Anniversary</small> |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |

2018

January
National Zero Waste Month

February 2
World Wetlands Day

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Strict Implementation of Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance
- ✓ Clean As You Go (CLAYGO)
- ✓ Ban Single Plastic Use
- ✓ Davao City Environment Code



Green Communities



Urbanization has changed the natural landscape of cities. Conservation initiatives should then go beyond the upland areas to include lowlands and urban centers, where majority of the population reside. One strategy in greening Davao's urban communities is to develop more public parks and improve accessible green open spaces.

Davao City only has 19 government-owned public parks covering 14.76 hectares for its growing number of 1.6 million residents. Green space based on international standards (UN, WHO, FAO) should be proportionate to the city's inhabitants. With only 500 square meters green space per 1,000 population, Davao City is far from the international standard of 9,000 square meters per 1,000 city inhabitants. Only 1.14% of the total land area (420 hectares) of the city has been allotted for development as open spaces and parks, when international standards require not less than 10% of the urbanized area. The full implementation of the additional 10% green space provision in the Amended Zoning Ordinance might cover this insufficiency.

Lunhaw Awards is another strategy to promote and replicate green initiatives in the city, recognizing establishments with sustainable architecture designs, permeable pavements, rainwater catchment systems, community green spaces or tree canopy shed parking areas. Residents can also create green patches in their backyard or have container gardens, if space is limited, to contribute in greening our communities.

People's Park, one of the major public parks in Davao City, provides open and green spaces for recreational and health benefits of Dabawenyos in the city's urban district (Photo by Patricia Borromeo). One of the commercial establishments using permeable pavements in their parking lot. About 500 bikers, professionals and enthusiasts alike, showcase sustainable transportation while raising funds for Davao's watersheds in the 14th Flight of the Eagle held last November 2017.

03 MARCH

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| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 <small>Maundy Thursday</small> | 30 <small>Good Friday</small> | 31 | |

04 APRIL

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 <small>Easter Sunday</small> |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 <small>The Day of Valor</small> | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 <small>Lailatul Isra Wai Mi Raj</small> | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
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2018

March 3
World Wildlife Day

March 14
International Day of Action for Rivers

March 21
International Day of Forests

March 22
World Water Day

March
Lunhaw Awards/ Araw ng Davao

April 22
Earth Day

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Passage of Davao City Parks Code
- ✓ Passage of Green Building Ordinance
- ✓ Passage of Davao City Environment Code



Healthy Watersheds



IDIS has advocated for the protection and sustainable management of Davao's watersheds for nearly two decades. It is one thing though to initiate conservation efforts and another to ensure its sustainability. IDIS partners with local, national and international NGOs to secure funds to support its interventions in Panigan-Tamugan and Talomo-Lipadas watersheds. In 2017, the City Government of Davao partnered with IDIS & PEF to institutionalize support for the Bantay Bukid, providing them financial incentives and capacity building, as frontliners in the implementation of the City's Watershed Code.

IDIS, along with the Bantay Bukid and the Bantayo Aweg, have also petitioned to intervene in the environmental tax refund case filed by a banana exporting company against the City Government of Davao. The environmental tax is the city's sustainability mechanism for watershed management initiatives implemented by the Watershed Management Council (WMC). IDIS has already started community consultations to come up with recommendations on the environmental tax utilization guidelines (ETUG), to be finalized and approved by the WMC.

The need to look for additional potable water supply prompted the WMC and the LGU to approve Apo Agua's Bulk Water Project. While IDIS recognizes the need, it calls on the proponents to ensure that water will be clean and safe for drinking. Pesticide in air and water should be consistently monitored considering that there are presence of agricultural plantations, poultry and piggery in the upland areas. Hence, the WMC should also strictly enforce the Watershed Code by implementing the phase out provision for the plantations in the conservation and agricultural non-tillage areas.

Panigan Tamugan River is, the site of monthly community-based water monitoring conducted by Bantayo Aweg youth volunteers. Bantay Bukid prepare bigmay seeds for planting as part of their riparian reforestation efforts. Over 200 volunteers pledged their commitment to enforce the Watershed Code in the first Bantay Bukid Assembly held last November 2017.

05 MAY

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06 JUNE

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| 11 | 12 Independence Day | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Eidul-Fitar | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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2018

May 22
International Day of Biodiversity

June
Philippine Environment Month

June 4-10
Philippine Eagle Week

June 5
World Environment Day

June 8
World Ocean Day

June 25
National Arbor Day

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Guidelines for Environmental Tax Utilization (Watershed Code)
- ✓ Payment for Watershed Environmental Services
- ✓ Davao City Environment Code



Disaster-Resilient Communities



Shrine Hills' landscape is already prone to landslide but road expansion projects and development activities in 2017 further aggravated and caused a series of landslides. If protected, Shrine Hills can function as one of the city's disaster-resilient mechanisms, aimed to interrupt the urban island heat effect and help in flood control. IDIS and Save Davao Shrine Hills have been advocating that Shrine Hills be declared as POPOS (Privately-Owned Public Open Spaces), giving owners returns to their investments by making it accessible public spaces for recreation instead of developing it for commercial purposes.

As a disaster risk reduction response, the city can also invest more park reserves in flood-prone areas. These parks can adopt more sustainable and resilient designs such as detention ponds, trenches, and permeable pavements to act as urban reservoirs in flood control. IDIS has also advocated for the use of permeable paving designs to improve storm water management. It is lobbied to be included as a requirement in building permit application as part of the building's sustainable drainage system.

Sustainable cities recognize vulnerabilities and maximize permeable pavements and green spaces as investments for disaster risk reduction and management.

Unregulated activities in Shrine Hills result to landslides (DPWH Photo) but Shrine Hills, when preserved and properly managed, can become a major ecological park functioning as one of the city's disaster-resilient mechanisms (Photo by Jason Nierra).

07 JULY

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08 AUGUST

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| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

2018

July
National Disaster Consciousness Month
July 11
World Population Day

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Declaration of Shrine Hills as POPOS
- ✓ Comprehensive Development and Management Plan for Shrine Hills
- ✓ Strict Implementation of the Amended Zoning Ordinance
- ✓ Strict Implementation of Rainwater Harvesting Ordinance
- ✓ Passage of Davao Parks Code
- ✓ Permeable Paving System
- ✓ Davao City Environment Code



Renewable Energy



Clean and renewable sources of energy must be explored in light of the city's increasing energy requirements. The Renewable Energy Ordinance should include provisions to invest in renewable energy technologies and not rely on dirty energy sources such as coal or diesel fired power-plants.

NGOs and schools are continuously campaigning for small but efficient and reliable renewal energy projects. Lunhaw Awards also help promote energy efficient initiatives of individuals and commercial establishments.

Dabawenyos must remain critical of technologies that offer a quick-fix solution such as the Waste-to-Energy facility. While offering to address waste problems and energy needs, waste incineration violates the Clean Air Act, will hurt recycling enterprises and take jobs away from the informal waste sector (IWS). Technologies that burn discard, destroy resources, and create extremely toxic emissions should not be employed if Davao City wants a greener and sustainable future.

Sustainable cities have clean and renewable energy sources. Renewable energy sources do not harm the city's valuable resources, including its watersheds.

09 SEPTEMBER

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| 10 | 11 | 12 <small>Amun Jadid</small> | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
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| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

10 OCTOBER

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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

2018

- September 16**
International Day of Preservation of Ozone Layer
- September 18**
World Water Monitoring Day
- September**
World Parks Day

- October 16**
World Food Day
- October 24**
International Day of Climate Action
- October 20-26**
International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Renewal Energy Ordinance
- ✓ Davao City Environment Code

Engineer Geraldo Suello of Gem's Farm, 2015 Lunhaw Awardee, uses 100% solar energy to produce power and water in his farm operations. 2017 Lunhaw Awardee Pamulaan Center for Indigenous People's Education features green building architecture, maximizing natural ventilation in classrooms, to conserve energy.



Resilient Land Use and Organic Agriculture



Poverty, hunger and food security have a lot to do with sustainable agriculture, which is affected by climate change now more than ever. In Davao city, the need to secure and expand existing organic agricultural areas to meet the city's increasing demand for safe and healthy food has become a priority advocacy. The declaration of Barangay Sibulan in Toril District as an organic agriculture zone is being pushed to make it a protected area, free from contamination of chemical-based farm inputs. This will guarantee that pesticide- and GMO-free food will remain affordable and accessible to Davao city residents.

Special events such as World Food Day and Organic Agriculture month celebration and the city's Lunhaw Awards are conducted to continue awareness-building and promote discussions to address hunger, poverty and malnutrition. The goal is to make organic products as the staple food for all Dabawenyos. This entails ensuring that there are organic trading outlets in every district, encouraging and supporting local farmers to become PGS-certified, and continuously promoting setting up of organic markets and urban container gardening.

Organic agriculture not only contributes to food security and good health of communities, it also mitigate the negative impacts of climate change and prevent further contamination of watershed resources.

11 NOVEMBER

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
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| | | | 1 <small>All Saint's Day</small> | 2 <small>All Souf's Day</small> | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 <small>Maulid un-Nabi</small> | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 <small>Bonifacio Day</small> | | |

12 DECEMBER

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
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| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 <small>Fest der unbefleckten Empfängnis</small> | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 <small>Christmas Eve</small> | 25 <small>Christmas Day</small> | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 <small>Bonifacio Day</small> |
| 31 <small>New Year's Eve</small> | | | | | | |

2018

November
Organic Agriculture Month
November
Philippine Clean Air Month

December 3
Davao City Organic Agriculture Day
December 3
International Day of No Pesticides Use
December 10
International Mountain Day

Policies for Advocacy:

- ✓ Full Implementation of Organic Agriculture Ordinance
- ✓ Declaration of Organic Agriculture Zones
- ✓ Ban Aerial Spraying of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals
- ✓ Ordinance Banning Production of Genetically Modified Crops in the City

PGS-certified organic practitioners including Kenaniah Farm and Sibulan Bagobo Organic Farmer Association contribute to ensuring stable supply of healthy but affordable food for Davao City.