

## 2023 Greenpeace Philippines Climate Reparations Ship Tour

November 2023

## Big polluters must pay communities for climate damages!

**Communities who are least responsible for climate change are in the frontlines of the crisis, losing their lives, homes and livelihoods** from floods, storm surges, landslides, destructive winds, and intense rains brought regularly by super typhoons. Meanwhile, many coastal communities are also experiencing the threat of rising sea levels and ocean warming and acidification also brought about by climate change.

Aside from coping with death and destruction, countries like the Philippines are losing hundreds of billions of dollars from addressing multiple and compounding climate impacts that ravage communities yearly, further straining the country's limited capacity to respond to other pressing development challenges.

Meanwhile, the world's biggest and richest fossil fuel companies, who are largely responsible for climate emissions, continue to expand operations, bringing in record-breaking profits as they drill for more oil, gas, and coal—even while communities continue to experience ever-worsening climate impacts.

But communities are not taking this injustice sitting down. Many of them are standing up for climate justice to reclaim their future, holding fossil fuel companies to account, and calling on governments to make polluters pay.

## Let's stand with Filipino communities calling for an end to fossil fuels and payment for climate damages!

This November, the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior will be campaigning in the Philippines, joining communities to amplify their call to make polluters pay.

#### **Tacloban City and Eastern Samar Province**

The Rainbow Warrior will join Super Typhoon (STY) Haiyan survivors in Tacloban City and Eastern Samar Province as they mark ten years since the most devastating tropical cyclone ever to make landfall devastated communities in the Philippines. STY Haiyan (locally known as Yolanda), affected 16 million Filipinos and killed at least 6,300 people and cost the Philippines an estimated PHP 89.5 billion.

Ten years on, while on the surface normalcy seems to have returned, full recovery has not yet been attained as communities continue to be assailed by repeating extreme weather and climate disasters. We will join communities as they make their move to demand payment for loss and damage.

#### **Bohol Province**

In Bohol Province, the Rainbow Warrior will visit and bear witness to island and coastal communities experiencing subsidence as well as current and imminent sea level rise. For many of these communities,

the choice is just between relocating to higher ground and taking provisional adaptation measures for as long as they can, even as climate impacts escalate every year. People are not only coping with the loss of their homes, livelihoods and way of life; they are living with constant anxiety and carrying the burden of adaptation and constant recovery—all while fossil fuel corporations continue to destroy the climate.

With current scientific projections on the impacts of sea level rise on coastal areas, these islands present a snapshot of long-term impacts island communities and archipelagic countries need to be prepared for—and why urgent climate action is necessary.

#### Metro Manila

In 2022, a landmark inquiry in the Philippines found grounds to hold climate-destroying corporations liable for the climate-damaging impacts of their business activities. In Manila, Greenpeace together with communities will gather stakeholders from around the world to discuss concrete ways forward and options for communities to make polluters pay for losses and damages from climate impacts.

# Communities are leading the way and showing big polluters and governments what needs to be done.

#### **People's Museum of Climate Justice**

Throughout the tour, Greenpeace, together with communities, will be exhibiting the **People's Museum of Climate Justice**. The museum is a living, growing physical and virtual museum co-created and co-curated with climate impacted communities in the Philippines and other countries. It is intended to memorialize community experiences of climate impact and injustice, evoke our shared human experiences in a world assailed by climate crisis, and amplify community demands to right what is wrong.

## Why must big polluters pay?

The climate crisis we are experiencing right now was brought about by the world's biggest and richest fossil fuel companies. For too long, these companies have profited from climate destruction and immense human suffering.

While they count their billions, people across the globe count the damage from the record-breaking typhoons, floods, droughts, and heatwaves that these companies are fueling. This is the stark reality of climate injustice, and we must end it!

#### What kind of payment should it be?

Fossil fuel companies must pay their climate debt: give money to climate impacted communities to compensate for the losses and damages—both economic and non-economic—experienced by people. They must also stop fossil fuel expansion AND phase out fossil fuels by committing to a just transition.

#### Greenpeace calls

- A. Fossil fuel companies must
  - a. acknowledge their disproportionate role in historical carbon emissions and commit to a just transition away from fossil fuels;
  - b. stop all fossil fuel expansion; and
  - c. pay up for the economic and non-economic losses and damages caused by climate impacts.
- B. The Philippine government must
  - a. demand payment for loss and damages from fossil fuel companies and rich nations alike
  - b. call for and commit to a just transition away from fossil fuels

## What YOU can do

- A. Climate impact survivors and communities can join together in solidarity and support the calls to make polluters pay so that the governments around the world and big polluters hear these demands loudly
- B. LGUs (local government units) can issue resolutions, ordinances or pursue other legal means to hold big polluters to account and demand payment for losses and damages
- C. Individuals can sign up and participate in this ship tour, visit the People's Museum of Climate Justice online or offline, and join the call to demand action from the Philippine government to make polluters pay.

### **About Greenpeace Philippines**

Greenpeace Philippines is a local environmental NGO established in 2000. We are part of a global network of independent national and regional organizations present in 55 countries across the globe. We campaign to promote solutions by working directly with communities on the frontlines as they protect the environments they call home.

Our work in the Philippines in the past two decades has focused on helping enable systemic changes in society to ensure a green, just, and peaceful future. A large part of this work has been to campaign for solutions to the climate crisis. Our climate campaign focuses on holding corporations and governments accountable for their role in the climate crisis, working with communities and local governments on responding to climate disasters, and enabling a just energy transition in the Philippines to stop reliance on fossil fuel energy generation and to catalyze a shift to 100% renewable energy.

### **Our climate campaign**

**Vision:** Our campaign vision is a world without fossil fuels, where Filipinos are empowered to respond to the climate emergency and carve their own climate-resilient future.

**Background:** The climate crisis has cost people and communities their lives, livelihoods, health, security, and dignity. Studies have shown that major fossil fuel and cement companies are the ones most responsible for this climate crisis. However, no one is holding these companies accountable for their role in the climate emergency. Greenpeace believes these companies must be held responsible, and they should stop any further exploration and expansion, phase out fossil fuels—and pay communities for losses and damages.

What we do: We work with communities at the frontlines of the climate crisis to amplify their demands for justice and the protection of their rights and to help reclaim their dignity.

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