



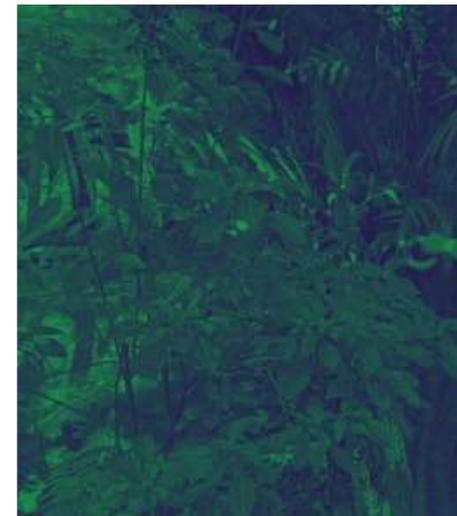
The Power of Participation

Shaping Sustainable and Resilient Communities in Quezon City

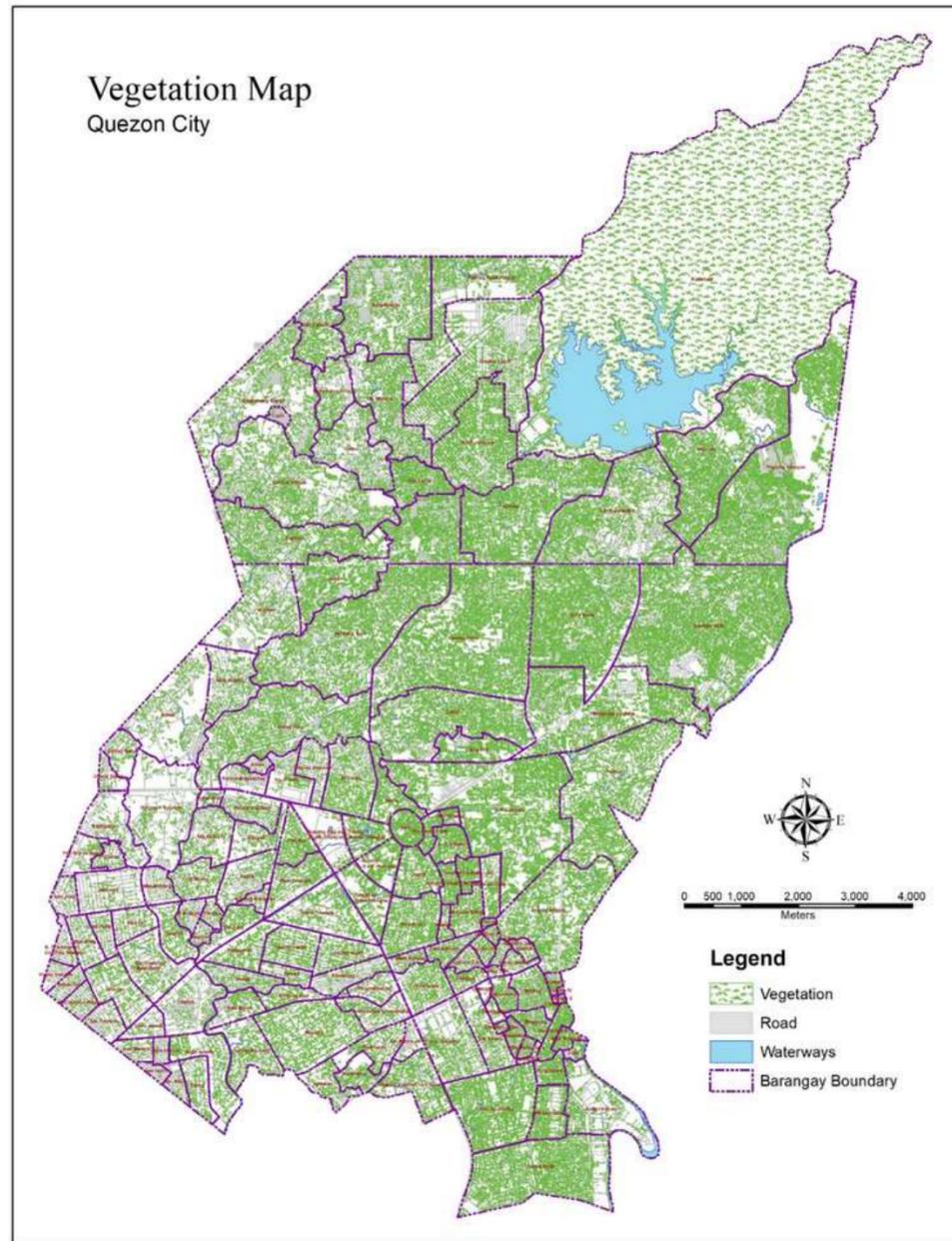


Andrea Valentine A. Villaroman

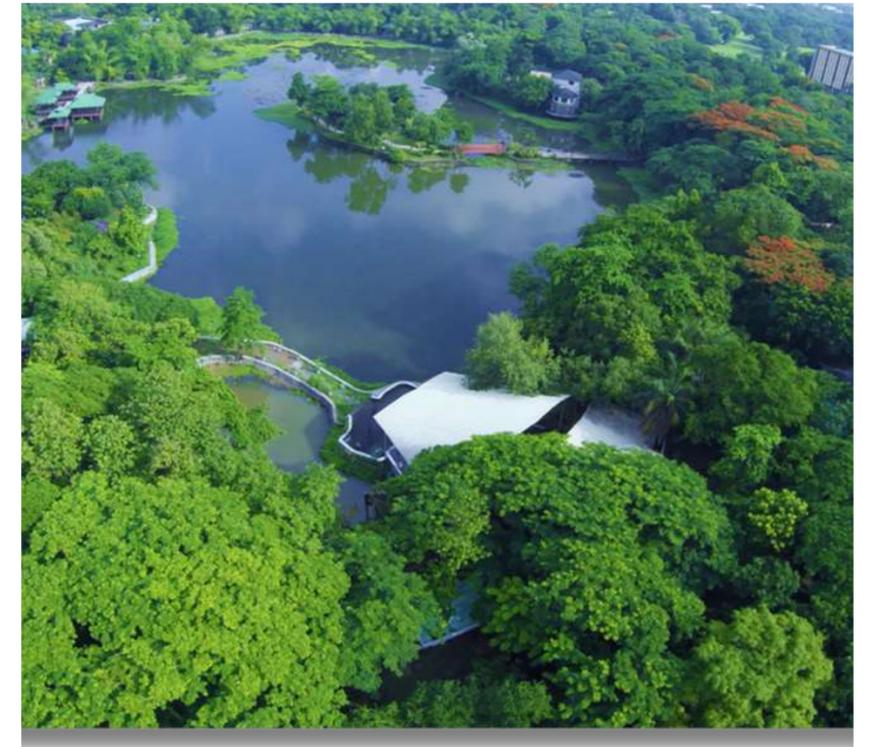
Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Department
Quezon City, Philippines



Quezon City: A dynamic city in the heart of Metro Manila

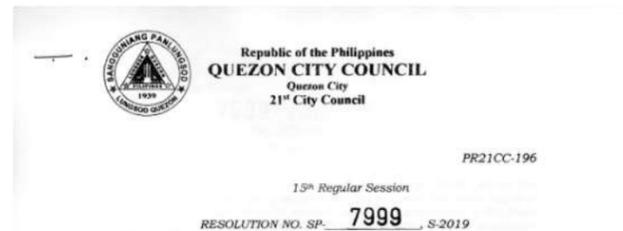


- **Land Area:** 161.12 sq. km
- **Population:** 3.1 million - the most populous city in the Philippines
- **A dynamic economic, political, and social hub** located in the country's National Capital Region



Delivering inclusive,
sustainable development at
QC's scale demands
collaboration across sectors.

Embedding climate priorities into local governance

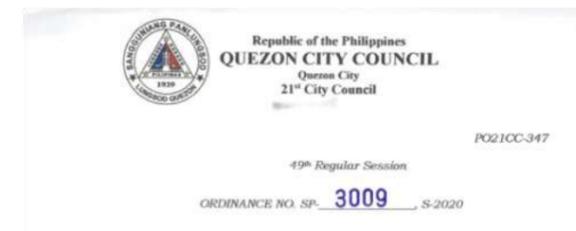


A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND PRIORITIZATION OF RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION PROGRAMS TO RESTORE SAFE CLIMATE AND ADDRESS THE CLIMATE VULNERABILITIES OF COMMUNITIES.

Matias John T. Defensor, Wenceron Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malangen, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina and Freddy S. Roxas.

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2015 in Paris, France parties to the United Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future. The Paris Agreement aims to limit the rise in average global temperatures below 2 °C and as close as possible to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;

Declaration of a
Climate Emergency in 2019



AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Matias John T. Defensor, Wenceron Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malangen, Joy L. Lagman, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Freddy S. Roxas Fuente.

WHEREAS, Section 6, Article II of the Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

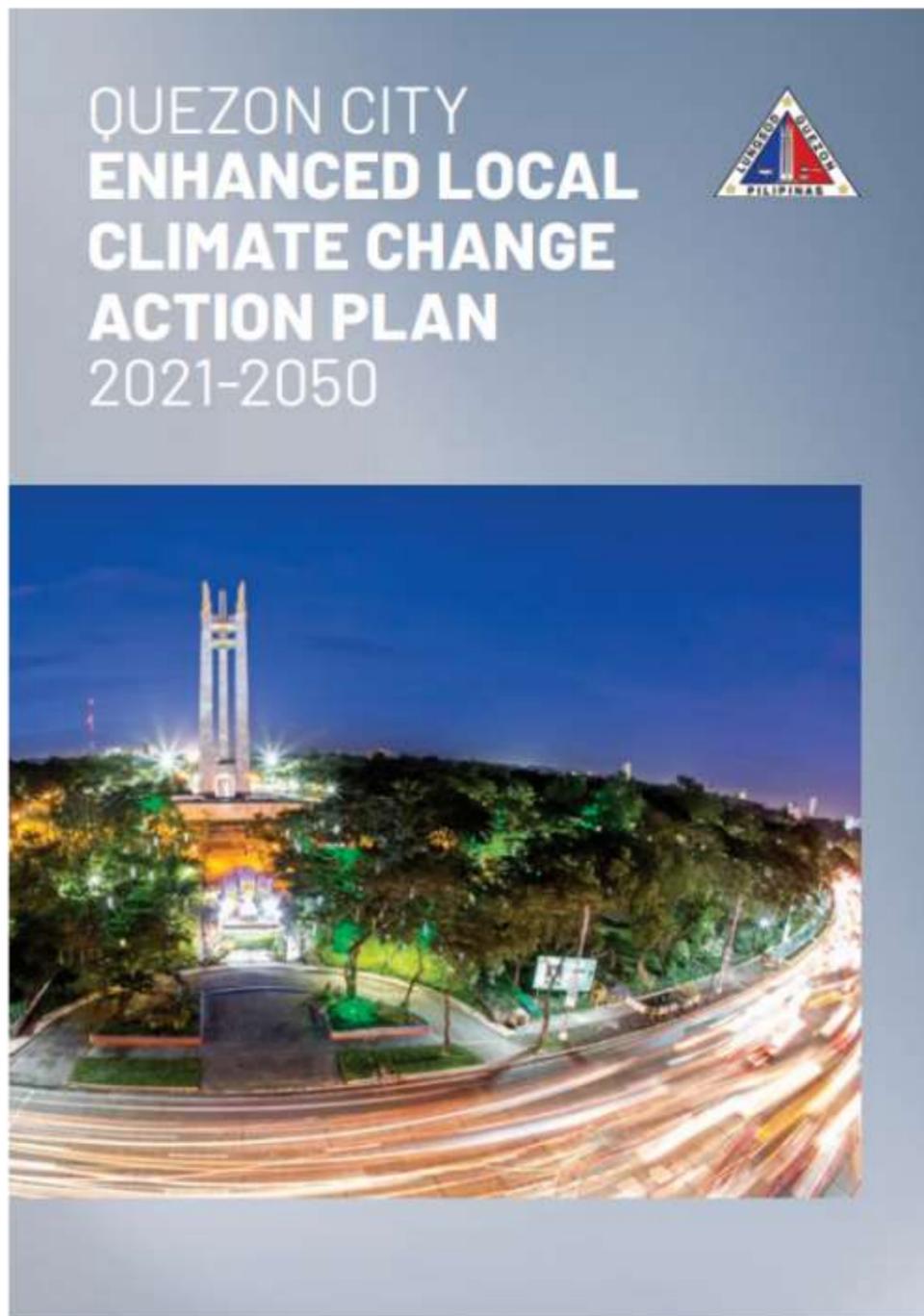
WHEREAS, Section 3 (f) of R.A. No. 7160, Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, provides that the Local Government Units shall share with the National Government the responsibility for the management and maintenance of ecological resources;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9729, Climate Change Act of 2009, provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;



Creation of the Climate Change
and Environmental
Sustainability Department

Quezon City Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plan



Mitigation Goal

Reduce GHG emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to the projected BAU scenario, and commit to pursue net-zero emissions by 2050

Adaptation Goal

Increase the adaptive capacity of the community and the resilience of natural ecosystems against the impacts of climate change

LCCAP Formulation Process



Institutionalizing platforms for participatory governance

Quezon City has over a dozen councils and local special bodies with civil society and sectoral representatives, such as:



Quezon City People's Council



Local Housing Board



Local Youth
Development Council

Promoting stakeholder participation in policymaking

Ordinances such as the **Green Building Code** are developed through close consultation with stakeholders.



Enhancing trust, transparency, and engagement in governance

As part of Quezon City's commitment in the **Open Government Partnership**, we recently consulted our budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2026 to stakeholders from development agencies and civil society organizations.



Revitalizing urban spaces through community engagement



Local Example: Alleys 22 and 44

- Links inner residential areas to **Maghinawa Street**, a popular art and food hub in Quezon City
- Previously **encroached-upon** and **map-invisible** backstreets
- With the **support of community members**, these were transformed into **safe, pleasant, and green corridors**, featuring disability-inclusive infrastructure, permeable paths, and wayfinding, safety, and landscape elements
- More pedestrian alleys have been identified for redevelopment

Before and after of Alley 22

Piloting 15-minute neighborhoods in Quezon City

Inspired by Paris, Quezon City is exploring to pilot the **15-minute city concept** in select barangays to improve access to essential services within a short walk or bike ride.



Transforming underutilized spaces into parks and urban farms

- Quezon City as the **Green Lung of Metro Manila**
- Growing network of **243 parks** and **over 1,400 urban farms**



Enhancing urban mobility with infrastructure and participation

Providing **free bus rides** to QCitizens, with one of eight routes already electric



Building the **most extensive bike lane network** in the country



Engaging with **advocates and vulnerable road users**

Co-designing climate resilient spaces with communities

Local Example: OASIS Schoolyards

- In partnership with Resilient Cities Network and Temasek Foundation
- Aims to cultivate **green and open spaces in schools** to enhance resilience against heatwaves and flooding
- Involved **collaborative workshops** with school communities and City officials, and **participatory placemaking activities** with parents, teachers, and students to design the schoolyard transformations
- Schoolyard transformations are currently underway in three pilot public schools



Co-designing climate resilient spaces with communities

Local Example: Quezon City Generation Restoration Project

- Quezon City as one of the eight pilot cities of the **United Nations Environmental Programme's Generation Restoration** program
- The City is **working with local communities and students** to identify urban spaces that can be transformed into **restoration areas**
- **Payatas Controlled Disposal Facility** as the pilot site: an old dumpsite that can be a potential **ecological corridor**



Recognizing grassroots excellence in climate action

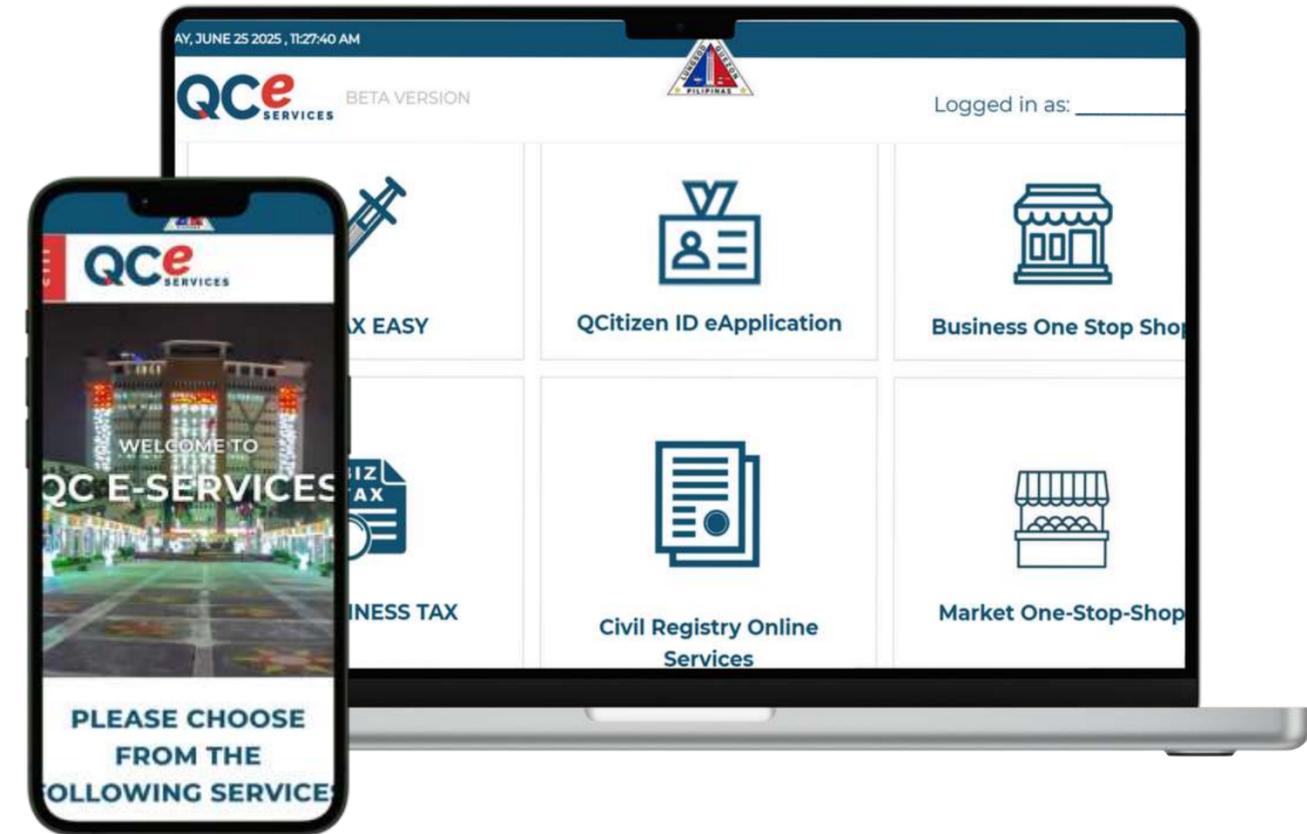
Recognizing youth groups, barangays, businesses, schools, and organizations leading the way in environmental sustainability and disaster resilience through the **Quezon City Green Awards**



Scaling up participation in the digital space



QCitizen ID



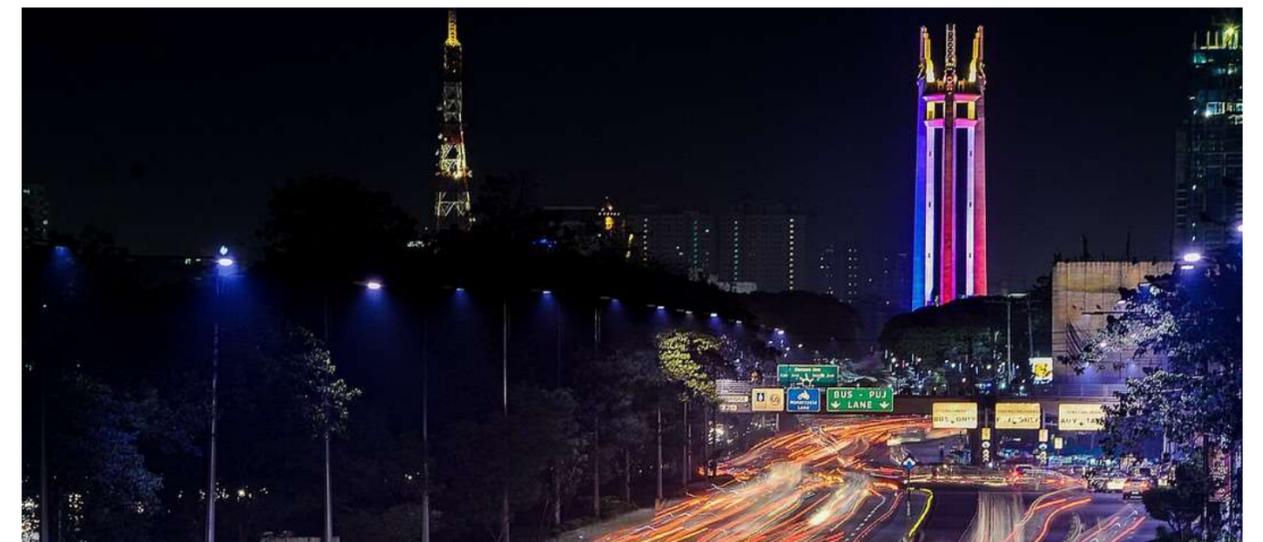
QC E-Services Platform

Streamlining access to services, reducing administrative barriers, and enhancing efficiency through digital transformation

Maximizing impact amid challenges



- Confronting **complex and ever-evolving challenges**, including the climate crisis
- Diverse and **competing stakeholder priorities**
- **Resource limitations**: capacity, manpower, and financial resources
- **Scale and size** of Quezon City





As cities confront complex challenges, we must invest in the power of community leadership because that is where lasting transformation begins.

Maraming salamat po!

