



## RESEARCH PROPOSAL

### I. BASIC INFORMATION

**Program/Project/Study Title:** Colonial Urban Planning: The retreat and return cycle of coastal slums dwellers in the Philippines

**Program/Project/Study Leader(s):** Merry Jean A. Caparas

**Implementing Unit:** Institute for Strategic Research and Development Studies

**Cooperating/ Collaborating Agency(ies):**

**Location:** City of Manila, Philippines

**Duration:** January 2023 - December 2023

**Proposed Budget:** 341,000.00 Php

**Discipline:** Anthropology of Climate Change and Environmental Justice

**Classification:** Socioeconomics and Development

### II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

#### A. Rationale

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations acknowledges the crucial threat of climate change in the region. Southeast Asia faces a high risk of sea-level rise and other climate change-related hazards because of its geophysical characteristics coupled with its densely populated coastal cities, high poverty rate, and extensive reliance on coastal livelihoods (Anschell & Tran, 2020). The Asian Development Bank estimated that if no serious action is taken to address climate change, the region will lose up to 11% of its gross domestic product by 2100 (Eco-Business Research, 2017).

While problems of the sinking Indonesian capital, Jakarta, have been an interest of many research and international organizations, little attention was given to other Southeast Asian countries with higher climate risk – such as the Philippines. Although Jakarta's maximum subsidence is at an estimated 25 cm per year, dubbed the fastest sinking city in the world, its problems are concentrated at Jakarta's North shore. Only 17% of the city's area will be flooded by 2030, as opposed to large areas of various cities in the Philippines. In Metro Manila alone, Greenpeace projected around 1.5 million people at risk of climate change and economic risk of \$39.2 billion by 2030 (Buchholz, 2021).

Across the Philippines, Filipinos are facing the impact of the climate crisis as seasonal storms turn into frequent super typhoons, extended droughts, and an accelerating rise in sea levels (Enano, 2021). Compounded by poverty and rapid urbanization, massive movements of rural dwellers to urban centers were observed to have increased over time. The