

Peers Ty: Monitoring Environmental Action Towards Paris Commitments

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Abstract

The study is a phenomenological qualitative paper that employed thematic analysis to examine the various ecological endeavors of government agencies in the Province of Ilocos Norte, Philippines. Participants were chosen through a purposive sampling technique. Their projects were evaluated to determine whether they align with the objectives and values inscribed in the *Peers Ty System* and whether they comply and are categorized as integral to the system's aims. As for the findings, the study found that all the agencies have their own environmental projects, but these do not meet the qualifications for managing CO2 emissions. The reason for the insufficiency was due to limited funding, which devalued the performance of the agencies. The agencies were highly motivated and committed, but were constrained by the case at hand due to the scarcity of budget. The call is within the purview of national administrators to provide funds for agencies to meet the requirement to protect resources as part of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the Paris Agreement. Ten (10) years from now, if we don't act and find ways to look for additional funding, it is expected that we will be in a situation of environmental struggle. It is a challenge to the national government on how to respond to the climate demands of the times.

Keywords: Climate Crisis, Environment, Government, Peers Ty, Mother Nature, Ecology, NDC

1. Introduction

Peers Ty System is an ecological project, a praxis application in approaching the climate crisis. The system progresses from a humanistic to an existentialist approach. The terms are derived from Pro- Environment Act, Earth- Friendly User, 5Rs and SB Way (*Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle, Recover, Re-think and Stop Burning*), Trees for Life, and You Forest (*author's concept*). This is grounded on the existential philosophy of Levinas that the *other* has the responsibility to take care of the *other* (Levinas, 1969) and capitulated in the thoughts of Martin Heidegger in his Poetry, Language and Thought, which established a critique of the modern technological worldview. Heidegger sees it as a form of "enframing" (Gestell) that challenges and dominates nature, treating it merely as a resource to be exploited. Instead, he invites a more primordial way of being with nature, one that listens to the "calling" of nature and allows nature to reveal itself authentically (Heidegger, 1971). Correspondingly, the concept, *the You is for the You*, where the *Peers Ty system* is embodied, representing the activities and programs that a person or entity must do, promote ecological projects that deserve humanity's gratitude, *thank you*. The concept reflexively mirrors humans' collective responsibility, connectivity, and interrelatedness with Mother Nature (Pola & Madarang, 2025). The Pro-Environment Act reflects the government's commitment to environmental policies that advance renewable resources. Earth-Friendly User is a personal mandate in prioritizing energy-saving products as well as locally produced commodities. The 5Rs and SB Way is a conviction to practice segregation and treat things not as waste but as a material for recovery. Trees for Life refers to the practice of tree planting on special occasions as a memorable contribution to humanity and to sequestering carbon in the atmosphere. Lastly, the You Forest is a challenge to vast property owners to embrace forest entrepreneurial programs by turning their properties into forests, and the practice of agroforestry, which is the integration of trees, shrubs, with crops and livestock on one piece of land. The goal is to achieve sustainable agricultural productivity, enhance ecological diversity, and provide social benefits. Indeed, *Peers Ty* leads the way towards embracing circular economy, a shift from the linear economy.

It is indisputable that we are now in an ecological predicament which we, human beings, have indirectly created due to our irresponsibility in caring for Mother Nature. Too much resource exploitation that precludes the occurrence of

climate crisis, driving us to rethink what to do anthropologically. Byrne et. al. (2025) affirmed that the global socio-ecological system is facing a poly-crisis. Impending catastrophic global warming is a crucial driver of the crisis. Continuing economic growth and high levels of personal consumption, where identities have become constructed around consumption rather than work, are not compatible with confronting the climate crisis. Thus, everyone is challenged, and the challenge is not only addressed to the present generation but also to the succeeding generations. Climate crisis has created havoc in nature and for mankind, leading to resource degradation that has led to the creation of a new epoch, the Anthropocene era. This particularly points to human beings who transformed a dominant force in shaping the Earth's system by attesting to human superiority over non-human life.

It was in the year 2023, the hottest period at 1.45 °C above pre-industrial levels—nearing the critical 1.5 °C threshold of the Paris Agreement. The rapid increase in greenhouse gases is the dominant force behind the observed temperature rise and extreme weather events. Ultimately, it calls for urgent, justice-oriented policy interventions and international cooperation to mitigate emissions, protect vulnerable populations, and reshape economic systems to confront the profound challenges of the climate crisis (Sylos, 2025). In the Philippines, as part of the entirety of nature, it is stipulated in the Constitution the protection of the environment. It is provided in Article II, Section 16 that the state shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balance and healthful ecology in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature (Constitution, 1987). The presence of supporting laws like the Climate Change Act of 2009, Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999, Ecological Solid Waste Management of 2000, Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, Waste Management Act of 2000, and the Presidential Decree 918 empowering government agencies to adapt watershed projects, and among other specific laws, provides a holistic treatment to the local condition of nature. It is, therefore, clear that the role of the state is to uphold and promote the right of the people to enjoy natural resources. The government is duty-bound to advance the full promotion of a balanced ecology. Further, the state is mandated to find means to face the climate crisis by providing sufficient budget for the implementation of these laws to ensure the protection of the people, preventing exposure to ecological destruction.

In the local realm, there is a need to examine the implementation of the national policies, whether they are being carried out, and to know the specific dilemmas being encountered to secure a better environment in fighting the cause of climate change. Henceforth, the context of the study is to evaluate the programs and projects of the local government agencies, whether their environmental projects are in line, connected, supportive, and promote the *Peers Ty system* approach in encountering and confronting the climate crisis towards the realization of NDC.

1.1 Research Questions

The following are the problems of the study;

1. How do the local government agencies demonstrate their commitment and motivation in the implementation of environmental projects, and in what ways do their perception of funding adequacy influence their capacity to fulfill their environmental responsibility? Why?
2. How do the stakeholders perceive and describe the key considerations underlying the environmental projects supportive of Peers Ty, and in what ways do they interpret the effectiveness of these initiatives as responses to the climate crisis? Why?

1.2 Research Design

The research is a qualitative phenomenological approach with the inclusion of thematic analysis. The rationale of the combination is permissive because both approaches are centered on understanding meanings embedded in lived experiences operating at complementary levels, capturing the depth of individual experience (phenomenology) and the patterned meanings across participants (thematic analysis). Further, while phenomenology seeks to describe and interpret the *essence* of lived experience, thematic analysis, on the other hand, sets the experience-focused method that identifies the patterned meanings compatible with phenomenological traditions. The gathering of data was done through interviews with the use of a semi-structured questionnaire and was coded, particularly open coding strategy, using John Creswell's (2018) approach, and was further examined and analyzed using thematic analysis. Purposive sampling was used to identify the participants.

The area of the study is in the Province of Ilocos Norte, Philippines, with the following offices as subject participants, namely, 1) Provincial Environment and Natural Resources (PENRO), 2) Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office I - Batac City (DARFO 1), 3) Ilocos Norte Water District (INWD), 4) Municipality of Pinili (LGU PINILI), and 5) Provincial Agriculture Office (PAO). The selection process of the participants was based on the following criteria: 1) the participants must hold an active role in leading ecological endeavors; 2) capacity to represent the community; and 3) sufficient knowledge about the objectives of the projects.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Since climate crisis is a sign of a breakdown of human relationships to nature, the objectives of the study are to reinvent practices, redefining identity, and the need to re-align the environmental projects of local government agencies within the specific needs of nature. The local government agencies must actively commit to and motivate the implementation of national and local policies, depending on the funding adequacy that influences their capacity to fulfill their environmental responsibilities. Also, the key considerations underlying the environmental projects must be supportive of the *Peers Ty* as responses to the climate crisis.

The output of the study contributes to the attainment of the following: 1) Gives guidance to local legislative bodies to adapt the *Peers TY system* as a practical approach in shifting to a circular economy. 2) Provides local government agencies with the opportunity to re-examine the coverage and importance of their respective roles in conducting environmental programs. 3) Creates a synergic impact on the everyday lives of employees that extends to their families, relatives, and friends. 4) Develop awareness of political leaders on the *Peers Ty* into the lives of citizens that transpire in the making of laws aligned and synchronized with the local development plan. 5) Creation of holistic public awareness on the importance of doing something as an anthropological approach, aiming to infuse public sensitivity in responding to the needs of nature.

2. Literature Review

The global emergency is seen from the viewpoint that humanity is on the brink of an irreversible climate disaster. Much of the very fabric of life on Earth is imperiled. We are stepping into a critical and unpredictable new phase of the climate crisis. Scientists have sounded the alarm about the impending dangers of climate change driven by increasing greenhouse gas emissions and ecosystem change (Ripple, et al. 2020). More than ever, the climate crisis is becoming a health crisis. An estimated 5 million people globally die each year, with a large proportion of heat-related mortality (37%) attributable to human-induced climate change. Urban heat islands that result from excessive asphalt and concrete in cities contribute to an increase in temperature and premature mortality. Over half of the world's population (56%) now lives in cities, and that percentage is expected to reach nearly 70% by 2050 (Nieuwenhuijsen, 2024).

The climate crisis has reached such immense levels of concern. The World Economic Forum has named three key climate risks as the top global challenges, namely, extreme weather conditions, critical change to Earth systems, and biodiversity loss. All three are interconnected and can have devastating consequences, including the collapse of ecosystems and the loss of biodiversity. The world is likely to breach the 1.5 °C threshold within the next year, with temperatures reaching 1.48 °C above pre-industrial averages (Pathak, S. 2024). The tone of the Conference of the Parties - COP 28, is set by the observation that the NDCs related to CO₂ emission reduction are not on track to curb the temperature rise. In order to hold the increase in global mean temperature to well below 2 °C above the pre-industrial level and to pursue efforts to limit the warming to 1.5 °C, there is a need for ratcheting up ambition for near-term climate action (Jiang & He, 2024). The Philippines is annually hit by ~20 typhoons, resulting in severe flooding. At the same time, Philippine cities face elevated levels of heat hazards and exposure. Global Risk Index ranked the Philippines as the country with the highest disaster risk from extreme natural events. The pivotal role of public health in shaping policies that address and prioritize long-term considerations is particularly crucial in ensuring equitable responses to the long-term health and social consequences of climate change, especially in highly vulnerable nations such as the Philippines (Alibudbud, R., 2024). As it was laid down by Berse et. al., (2024), the imperative for urgent action, drawing from the multi-disciplinary responses the need to treat the climate emergency as an ongoing crisis that requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society intervention at the policy and governance levels. The studied solutions to decarbonize our energy supply and economy at large include phasing out the use of fossil fuels, capturing and storing CO₂ before it reaches the atmosphere, capturing and storing CO₂ already in the atmosphere, improving energy efficiency, and avoiding wasting energy. Decarbonization also requires switching to low-carbon energy supplies such as renewable energy and nuclear power. Natural solutions such as planting trees and restoring ecosystems have a fundamental role to play. On the other hand, implementing the circular economy, promoting sufficiency, and adopting a new lifestyle have a critical role to play (Saouter & Gibon, 2024). But, in the Philippines, the circular economy is a difficult strategy for the government to observe and implement since climate change and variability pose significant challenges to global agriculture, particularly in vulnerable regions. Farmers face increasingly erratic weather patterns, extreme weather and climate events, and resource limitations that jeopardize their livelihoods and food and nutrition security. Addressing these challenges requires innovative, inclusive, and scalable solutions that bridge the gap between climate science and practical applications (Ouedraogo, et al, 2024). Aligning climate finance with long-term development plans and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ensures resilience is rooted within the broader development strategy. These steps aim to prepare the Philippines for climate-induced risks while fostering sustainable growth, mitigating fiscal shocks, and ensuring economic stability (Rivera & Miral, 2024). Several key demographic groups that are likely to be particularly exposed to climate-related security risks are moreover underrepresented within

Philippine policy discourse, including small-holder farmers in post-conflict areas.

Finally, we find limited evidence of cross-sectoral and cross-scalar integration amongst the policy sectors deemed critical for the coherent management of climate-related security risks (Schapendonk, et al., 2024). In the country's first NDC to the Paris Agreement, the Philippines committed to a GHG emissions reduction and avoidance of 75% for the period 2020 to 2030, referenced against a projected business-as-usual cumulative emission for the same period. However, the numbers do not add up; critical sectors such as forestry, which is central to the country's climate change response, are excluded, and the government is unconditionally committed to just 4 percent of that target. This begs the question of how the NDC squares with the country's high-level policy clarity and urgency on climate action, including the requirement to infuse all development plans and policies with it (Monsod, et al., 2021). Despite these warnings, we are still moving in the wrong direction; fossil fuel emissions have increased to an all-time high, the 3 hottest days ever occurred in July of 2024 (Guterres, 2024), and current policies have us on track for approximately 2.7 degrees Celsius (°C) peak warming by 2100 (UNEP, 2023). The above literature laid down the knowledge gap in the evaluation of the local government environmental projects in the domain of the *Peers Ty system* as a way to achieve the NDC commitment, which is towards the realization of the circular economy in resolving the ecological issue. The study is novel in providing an understanding of how the country's local counterparts are tackling the ecological dilemma, the climate crisis.

3. Analysis and Discussion

3.1 Coding and Thematic Analysis

1. Strong Commitment

Provided in Figure 1: Strong Commitment (*see below*), that *the pledge to uphold the interest of the public and serve the people by all means (3x)* depicts full dedication of the agencies in committing themselves to the service of the people, and this is truly carried on by the very nature of their respective objectives, missions, and goals. The government units exist for the purpose of attaining the full development of the basic needs of the community, including care for their material resources, especially the environment. Handoyo (2024) claims that well-functioning governments achieve better environmental outcomes by implementing strict environmental regulations and maintaining oversight. High regulatory quality is associated with clarity, coherence, and adaptability to emerging environmental challenges, positively influencing pollution control, natural resource protection, and corporate environmental responsibility.

Theme	Frequency	Assessment, Meaning & Findings	Evidence (Refer to the transcript)
Strong Commitment to Serve		Assessment: Strong and dedicated public service	
		Meaning: Work dedication focused unto the welfare and development of fellowmen in terms of social services, health, education, and environmental needs.	
	3	Pledged to uphold the interest of the public and serve the people by all means.	Q1-P1, Q1-P3, Q1-P4
	2	The community must participate in environmental projects since the government exists for them and with them.	Q1-P5, Q1-F-P1
	1	When the people need us, we go and serve them.	Q1-P3
	3	Community participation demands proper guidance of government leaders.	Q1-F-P2, Q1-P2, Q1-F-P4
	1	We reached out to the Brgys and provide them with their needs especially in waste segregation and tree planting	Q1-F-P5
	2	Every Brgy assembly, we discuss our projects that are designed to uplift their livelihood.	Q1-F-P3, Q1-F-P1
	1	We are always following the dictum public office is a public trust.	Q1-F-P3
	1	We are not here in this government institution if not for the people.	Q1-P3
	2	We are employees of the people; we work for them all the way.	Q1-P4, Q1P5

Figure 1. Strong Commitment

Thus, strong government commitment, through effectiveness and regulatory quality, is critical to advancing environmental sustainability.

Equally important to praise is the data that appeared, *community participation demands proper guidance from government leaders (3x)*, people cannot stand doing beneficial things for the environment without the proper approach and viable plan conceptualized by government authorities. The plan must be based on the approved budget. Individual

efforts may be considered essential, but the inclusiveness of people's participation should be defined according to the government's overall plan, especially the local government agency. This is affirmed from the data that evidently shows *we are employees of the people, and we work for them all the way (2x)*, and should be coupled with the constant practice of *public office is a public trust (1x)*.

Truly, the commitment to serving the public by the agency participants is undeniably solid, implying their obligation to the people is on remarkable grounds.

2. Insufficient Funds

It is a fact that the agencies do not have enough funds to support a holistic environmental project, ensuring continuity, as it appears in Figure 2: Insufficient Funds (*see below*), that *funds do not suffice to handle the voluminous projects we intend to do (4x)*. It is even contextually affirmed by the findings that *the agencies need funds for the various implementations of environmental projects (5x)*. It is by far a demonstration of the financial condition of the agencies that their share of the national budget, or of their locally resourced funds, is not at all conclusive to cover their projected plans. They are partially able to respond in rebuilding and preserving the local environmental conditions.

Theme	Frequency	Assessment, Meaning & Findings	Evidence (Refer to the transcript)
Insufficient Funds		Assessment: Weak financial support for ecological values and programs.	
		Meaning: The incapacity to perform a positive output as determined by the means to achieve it. Limitations of productivity due to monetary considerations.	
	5	The agency has needed funds for the various implementations of environmental projects that we plan based on the existing budget.	Q2-P2, Q2-P3, Q2-P4, Q2-P5, Q2-P1
	4	Funds do not suffice to handle the voluminous projects we intend to do.	Q2-F-P3, Q2-F-P4, Q3-F-P5, Q4-F-P2
	1	If there had been enough budget, then we could have accomplished many things.	Q2-F-P1
	2	Prioritization of projects is determined by the approved budget; the environment has not been appropriated enough.	Q2-P2, Q1-P5
	1	Fewer programs mean less budget.	Q2-F-P2, Q2-F-P1, Q3-F-P2, Q3-F-P4
	3	We desire to do more, but we are not capable of doing so because of funds.	Q2-F-P5
	1	Tree planting is there, but the number of seedlings does not suffice.	Q2-P4
	1	We are governed by policies, and policies dictate the percentages of funds to be distributed to each of the departments.	
	2	We launched projects based on the limited funds provided.	Q3-F-P4, Q3-F-P1

Figure 2. Insufficient Funds

Three (3) of the participants claim that *they desire to do more, but they are not capable of doing so because of limited funds*. It shows that even if the agencies are highly motivated to do projects, they are derailed and paralyzed because of the limited means to take action. Boulton (2024) relates the same findings, highlighting that funding scarcity is a major barrier, exacerbated by ineffective governance mechanisms that fail to prioritize or optimize available resources for sustainable outcomes. The market-oriented governance tools and community expectations recommend better alignment of governance approaches and innovative financing mechanisms to overcome funding constraints and improve environmental project delivery at the local level.

Although the situation is unacceptable, it is clear that their efforts in planting trees, participated in by the respective agencies, are remarkable. A total of approximately 5,500 seedlings have been planted in the years 2023 and 2024 by the agencies in their respective project areas. Waste segregation is likewise enforced by strictly monitoring at source before hauling to the sanitary landfill. One of the agencies is focused on conserving water, which has allocated a remarkable budget for the tree planting program in the watershed areas. Yet, there is much to be done in confronting the problem of the climate crisis, demanding huge financial consideration to be laid out by the agencies as part of the NDC commitment in sequestering carbon in the atmosphere.

3. Highly Motivated

It is indisputable that all the agencies are favorably measured as considerably motivated, and that they are readily geared up to meet and respond to the environmental demands of the local people. The reasons behind this are deduced from their strong commitment to public service, that they cannot see themselves as contented and accomplished agencies without a reflexive impact of their various community projects. As has been previously stated and appears in Figure 3: Highly Motivates (*see below*), one notable achievement is *tree planting as a means to neutralize carbon*

emissions, which must be done by all means to fight climate change (5x). It is indeed a part of the *Peers Ty*, which are Trees for Life and You Forest, that simplifies their project to fall into this category of approaching the environmental problem. It can also be deciphered that *the enforcement of rules and regulations should be strict to safeguard the environment, like waste disposal and single-use plastic (3x)*, which clearly fall under the 5Rs and SB Way. Whereas Earth Friendly User focused on something personal, it is presumed that their relative ways, like eating local food, riding a bike, and prioritizing public transportation, are personally endeavored, which could hardly be gauged if all of their employees are observing them. It can be assumed that within their respective offices, they are practicing Earth-Friendly User. The remaining sphere, the Pro-Environmental Act, is for government entities or agencies that must adhere to the initiation of national or local laws to be enacted, which must be configured to address the dilemma of the climate crisis. There is only one LGU participant, and it has not engaged in renewable sources like solar power and windmills as an endeavor that features the approach.

Theme	Frequency	Assessment, Meaning & Findings	Evidence (Refer to the transcript)
Highly Motivated		Assessment: Strong and reliable enthusiasm aspiring to achieve more.	
		Meaning: Very enthusiastic or determined to do something for the needs of the people and have a strong desire and drive to achieve a goal with energy and persistence despite the challenges	
	5	Tree planting is a means to neutralize carbon emissions and must be done by all means to fight the climate crisis.	Q3-P1, Q3-F-P2, Q3-F-P5, Q3-P4, Q3-F-P3, Q3-F-P1
	3	Committed to rendering environmental projects for the sake of saving the environment for future generations.	Q1-P3, Q1-P2, Q1-P5
	2	Effective community participation revitalizes the need for projects initiated by the agencies.	Q2-P4, Q4-P5
	2	Community participation is needed with the leadership of the heads of the government agencies.	Q4-F-P1, Q3-F-P2
	1	Personally convinced to do more projects for the environment.	Q3-F-P1
	3	Enforcement of rules and regulations should be strict to safeguard the environment, like waste disposal and single-use plastic.	Q3-P2, Q1-P4, Q3-F-P4
	1	Show the individual task of rendering services for others to follow.	Q3-P4, Q3-P5,
	3	Do not wait to suffer from a harsh climate; we must do something.	Q3-P2

Figure 3. Highly Motivated

The findings are related to Nyanghura, et al. (2024), that the effectiveness of conservation incentives depends on the intrinsic values, suggesting that governments should design policies that reinforce pro-environmental personal values alongside monetary incentives to improve environmental care and conservation outcomes. The claims of the participants are genuinely right; *do not wait to suffer from a harsh climate; we must do something (3x)* because humans are really the cause of the problem. There are no other means for the initiative of freeing the self from the very dangerous impact of the crisis, like the occurrence of a super typhoon, than to our own selves alone. The agencies are unmindfully observing the capacity of the *Peers Ty*, that whatever they do in instinctively acting to their duty to save *others*, is a realization of their condition of being highly motivated.

4. Environmental Concern

In Figure 4: Environmental Concern (*see next page*), placidly accepts the situation of the agencies by the mere fact of the acceptance of their small accomplishments, but contributing to the solution, *it seems that our projects speak for themselves, that we have done our share to fight the climate crisis (3x)*. All of the participants are confident and convinced of the impact of climate change, and they are likewise aware of human activities as the cause of the problem. The solution, however, is also within the realm of promoting resource management, waste recycling, and environmental protection. Similarly, Brož (2023) has pronounced that environmentally responsible resource and waste management is indispensable for environmental protection. It involves reducing the consumption of natural resources and hazardous waste production, along with responsible disposal. Environmentally responsible consumption includes careful consideration of resource use at purchase, minimizing waste during consumption, and conscious waste management after use.

Theme	Frequency	Assessment, Meaning & Findings	Evidence (Refer to the transcript)
Environment Concern		Assessment: Confident and convinced of the impact of the climate crisis, yet restricted and weak performance due to limited funds.	
		Meaning: Awareness and recognition of human activities' impact to ecosystem and ecological degradation with the aim in view of promoting resource management and environmental protection.	
	1	Our unit has been endowed with the function of focusing on environmental projects; however, we are limited by the given budget.	Q4-P1
	1	This government institution vowed to implement environmental laws, which is what we have committed to do.	Q4-P2
	2	Although the primary function is to provide potable water to the community, we are likewise endeavoring to protect the source of water.	Q4-P5, Q4-P3
	1	We have embraced protecting the environment and doing the little things we can to implement, like garbage sorting.	Q4-P3
	3	It seems that our projects speak for themselves, that we have done our share to fight the climate crisis.	Q4-F-P2, Q4-F-P1, Q4-F-P3
	1	If we don't do anything at all, then everybody suffers. But if everybody works for nature, then we can make the impossible possible.	Q4-F-P5
	1	Waste segregation is a problem, yet we have already introduced the strategy on how to do it. The compost pit is the first, then non-biodegradable items should be hauled and placed in a sanitary landfill for recycling.	Q4-F-P3
	1	Zero waste is our goal.	Q4-F-P1
	1	A cyclical economy is hard to achieve in our country, but we can slowly achieve it by starting it in our homes.	Q4-F-P2
	1	The primary product that we produce here is tobacco, and we consume trees for the curing barn. We replace the trees with continuous planting.	Q4-F-P4

Figure 4. Environmental Concern

Zero waste is our goal(1x) is difficult to realize given the financial condition of the agencies. Yet, it surfaces as a goal. *A circular economy is hard to achieve in our country, but we can slowly achieve it by starting it in our homes(1x)*. Government institutions vowed to implement the environmental laws. It is firm that the functions of the agencies are to look after the welfare of the community, which extends even to the livelihood of people. One of the participants admitted that *the primary product that we produce is tobacco, and we consume trees for the curing barn. We replace the trees with continuous planting(1x)*. The local government receives a significant tax share from RA 7171, the tobacco excise, which is derived from the sales income annually. Hence, the triple benefit is extended in caring for the environment, through the take-use-replenish cycle, on which the reality of human life is dependent on the resources of nature. Green & Patel (2024) admit that the shift toward adaptive livelihood strategies includes diversification of income sources, migration, and the adoption of new agricultural practices. However, it revealed that the poorest and most marginalized groups, particularly women and indigenous communities, continue to face significant barriers in accessing resources, technology, and support networks. A comprehensive approach to climate adaptation prioritizes equitable access to resources, enhances local capacities, and fosters community-led resilience.

There is then an urgent need for policy interventions that promote sustainable development while addressing social inequalities exacerbated by the climate crisis.

3.2 Thematic Linear Paradigm

Figure 5: Thematic Linear Paradigm (*see below*) provides the visual interplay of the singularities in the local area of the Province of Ilocos Norte, on the efforts and status of the agencies' vital functions. As has been found out, the agencies are highly motivated and strongly committed to the level of achieving *climate justice*; the status of those who contribute the least often suffers the worst. From that level, the low implementation of projects was affected by the insufficiency of funds, which made their output weak, and correspondingly equal to a partial fulfillment of the *Peers Ty* and the NDC of the Paris Agreement. The same is linked in the findings of Guerrero, et al (2025), that the Paris Agreement established a series of procedural obligations and due diligence obligations in relation to progression and ambition, which aim to drive emissions reduction commitments up and keep the temperature goal of the Agreement within reach. In which case, the Philippines is way below in its commitment.

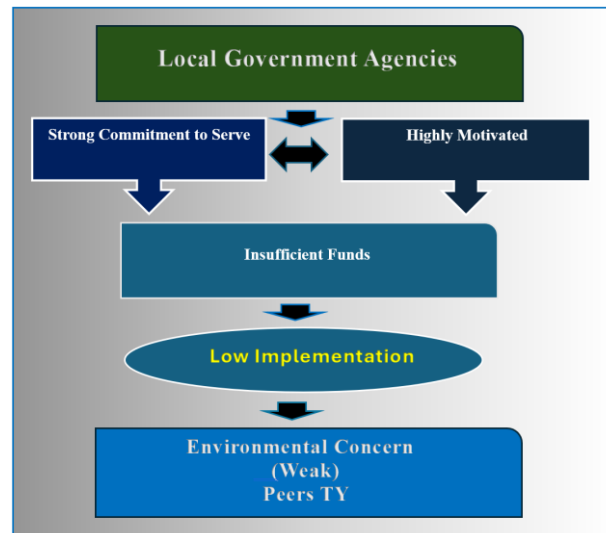


Figure 5. Thematic Linear Paradigm

All of the agency participants are convinced of the grim impact of the climate crisis people are confronted with, and the government is grappling with the proper way to deal with the problem, as depicted by the situation of insufficient funds to mitigate or control. Issues on the lack of local finances came out as the primordial predicament that has an indubitable offshoot of the environmental concern evaluated as weak. All the projects were within the bounds of *Peers Ty*, but cannot be configured to be a comprehensive response to the ecological condition. The reality is, they are passionate and committed themselves to nature, but are restricted in showing concrete action because of insufficient capital. The philosophy of *Peers Ty* is simply connected to the status of reciprocity, that giving back to nature must be greater than what we take from nature, and yet, the agencies have hardly returned to nature what belongs to nature. Because of *system failure in governance*, the obstacle is clear: it is in the persons handling the implementation of an *efficient system*.

4. Conclusion

The findings established that the financial status of the agencies is indeed in a situation of securing funds to support their environmental projects. This points to the partial inability of the agencies in fulfilling the NDC targets. It thus presupposes more stringent policies with sufficient funding. Further, it was seen that all the endeavors of the agencies are within the bounds of the environmental approach *Peers Ty*, which is within the concept of '*the You is for the You*'. It was determined that the agencies are highly motivated and highly committed to serve and protect the public interest, only that their output towards securing the NDC is limited due to the same situation of insufficient funding. The agencies performed their *greening efforts* counterparts, despite the absence of support in providing subsidies. The duties of the local agencies are affirmed and are constantly put into practice. It must be kept in mind that everybody is in danger when the earth is placed at a threat caused by us humans, for it is only we humans who can ever solve the problem, with the condition that government authorities must render full support to all environmental enterprises. The result of the study, thus, confirmed the lack of financial support behind the existing laws that were passed, which makes the NDC to the Paris Agreement unattainable, necessitating the passage of rigid and stricter laws, especially focused on public funds. It is likewise confirmed that all the projects done are entirely part and parcel of the *Peers Ty* intended to contribute to the Paris Agreement that aims to limit global warming to below 2 °C, with efforts to keep it below 1.5 °C. The agency's condition implies that we must practice the '*all for one, one for all*' virtue, which we must do in facing the climate crisis.

5. Recommendation

The financial difficulties of the local agencies, intended for the acceleration of environmental projects, resonate a particular focus on research behind the causes of their financial conditions. The findings will give value to augment the budget, which will particularly trigger the national government to supplement and increase the action as part of the fulfillment of the country's NDC to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 75% by 2030. Moreover, a study on applicable policies to be crafted to answer the dilemma the agencies are facing will be a significant contribution to developing a well-rounded approach to the weak points of the study.

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Not Applicable

Informed consent

Obtained.

Ethics approval

The Publication Ethics Committee of the Redfame Publishing.

The journal's policies adhere to the Core Practices established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

Provenance and peer review

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Data availability statement

The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. The data are not publicly available due to privacy or ethical restrictions.

Data sharing statement

No additional data are available.

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