



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Finance  
**INSURANCE COMMISSION**  
1071 United Nations Avenue  
Manila



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **INSURANCE COMMISSION SUPPORTS HAZARD APP OF DOST AND PHIVOLCS**

Through Circular Letter No. 2020-83 dated 5 August 2020 on the “*Dissemination of Information on the Georisk Philippines Initiative as an Underwriting Tool for Non-Life Insurance Companies*”, Insurance Commissioner Dennis Funa encouraged all non-life insurance companies doing business in the Philippines to adopt and use the Georisk Philippines Initiative and its features relative to the assessment of risks of earthquake, flood, and other natural calamity-related non-life insurance products.

The Georisk Philippines Initiative is a government-led multi-agency initiative that serves as the central resource of information on natural hazards and risk assessment. It is led by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) and supported by other various agencies, particularly the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), DOST - Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DOST-ASTI), Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB), DENR - National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (DENR-NAMRIA), Department of National Defense - Office of Civil Defense (DND-OCD), and the Department of Education (DepEd).

The Georisk Philippines Initiative was approved by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte during the thirty-ninth (39<sup>th</sup>) Cabinet meeting held on 1 July 2019, and was thereafter launched on 16 July 2019.

“The Insurance Commission fully supports the Georisk Philippines Initiative spearheaded by DOST and PHIVOLCS, which may be considered a breakthrough for Philippine InsurTech. Our non-life insurance companies will greatly benefit from this Initiative as it makes natural hazard-related information readily accessible and available to support said companies’ initial underwriting assessments,” said Commissioner Funa.

“The Initiative also benefits the general insuring public because it will allow them to plan and prepare for such natural hazards and enable them to locate said hazards and assess the strength of its threat,” Commissioner Funa added.

To serve as the platform of the Georisk Philippines Initiative, an app or software application called “*Hazard Hunter Philippines*” was developed and launched, which is a tool that can be used to generate indicative hazard assessment reports (Official Hazard Assessment Reports) on specific geographical locations and available online at [hazardhunter.georisk.gov.ph](http://hazardhunter.georisk.gov.ph). The same is also available as a mobile app.

Moreover, another web application called “*GeoAnalytics PH: Tsunami Analytics*” was recently released for local government units (LGUs) and decision-makers, which application is able to give summary reports on population, schools, and health facilities exposed to tsunami hazards nationwide and can likewise calculate the total area exposed to tsunami hazards.



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