

than 328% increase in the retail price of red onions.

And while inflation worldwide rose astronomically fast last year and are still peaking this year, a big reason for the spike in onion prices could be attributed to climate change.

Last year, several super typhoons and tropical storms left billions of pesos' worth of damages across Philippine agricultural land. Severe Tropical Storm Paeng (Nalgae) alone has wiped out at least P1.3 billion worth of agricultural goods, according to data from the Department of Agriculture.

While the country is no stranger to typhoons and bad weather, the frequency and severity of extreme weather has been noticeably growing.

In fact, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority, the damages incurred due to natural extreme events and disasters amounted to P463 billion from 2010 to 2019.

Agriculture posted the largest share with 62.7% or P290 billion, followed by infrastructure and private/communications with 23.0% or P106 billion and 14.3% or P66 billion, respectively.

"Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of the extreme weather and climate events that are affecting all countries. However, because of their geographical location, reliance on climate-sensitive natural resources and development gaps in general, developing countries, and low-income countries in particular, are at the greatest risk of climate hazards," the United Nations wrote in its Climate Change Resilience for Sustainable Development report.

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The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development acknowledged that one of the greatest challenges of our time is climate change, whose harmful effects make it harder for all nations to achieve sustainable development.

Sustainable Growth Goal 13 calls for measures to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity with respect to climate hazards, integrate climate change measures into national policies, and improve education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning. This goal emphasizes the urgency of taking action to combat climate change and its effects.

Other goals also do a good job of capturing the connections between climate change and other aspects of development. It will be more difficult for nations to reduce poverty and hunger,

