

MARINEL SUMOOK UBALDO,

PHILIPPINES

SURVIVING CLIMATE CHANGE, DEMANDING DIGNITY

WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



MARINEL SUMOOK UBALDO

#W4R19

PHILIPPINES

Marinel Sumook Ubaldo was 16 when her life turned, literally, upside down. In November 2013, Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan), one of the deadliest typhoons on record, washed away her home in Matarinao, Eastern Samar province, and all her belongings. It destroyed her village. Over 6,000 people died in the Philippines alone and millions lost their homes.

Marinel resolved to find a way to protect herself and her community from the disastrous effects of climate change. "The sea can be cruel at times," she notes. "Because of our geographic location, we are vulnerable to so many types of climatic disasters."

Fast forward six years. In August 2019, Marinel graduated with a university degree in social work. The well-known youth activist now spends her time campaigning for her community's rights at both local and international levels.

Marinel, her family and thousands of others who lost their homes in the typhoon need enough food, water, housing, electricity and toilets to live with dignity. The government had provided limited material and financial assistance at first, but that dried up in weeks. Many lived in tents for 20 months, then found that their new homes were constructed of substandard materials. Some families were forced to return to their destroyed, and now precarious, homes.

Marinel remains dedicated to ensuring governments around the world confront climate change and tackle its effects on her community and others like them. "Climate change is not just an issue of adaptation and mitigation," she says, "but also an issue of human rights."

Demand support for climate change survivors.



WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT

Ask him to do all he can to make sure that the residents of Matarinao are provided with adequate conditions in which to live in dignity.

Encourage him to urge those countries most responsible for causing climate change to provide financial and technical support to developing countries to help protect their people from climate harms.

President Rodrigo Duterte

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Twitter: @pcoogov

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Salutation: Dear President

SEND MARINEL YOUR MESSAGE OF SUPPORT

Send a non-religious greeting card, letter, or artwork. Marinel organizes street-art actions for environmentalism, so share any similar experiences you may have

Marinel Ubaldo

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**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**

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