

BIODIVERSITY

THE VARIETY OF LIFE ON EARTH



WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY?

Biodiversity refers to the variety of all living organisms on Earth—plants, animals, fungi, microorganisms, and the ecosystems they form. It includes:

- **Species Diversity** – different kinds of living organisms
- **Genetic Diversity** – variations within species
- **Ecosystem Diversity** – different habitats like forests, reefs, wetlands

WHY IS BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANT?

- Supports clean air and clean water
- Supports agriculture and fisheries
- Helps ecosystems stay healthy and balanced
- Provides food, medicine, and raw materials
- Reduces the impact of climate change
- Protects communities from disasters

BIODIVERSITY IN THE PHILIPPINES



The Philippines is one of the world's 17 mega-diverse countries.

- Home to **52,177** species
- About **half of these species are endemic** (*found only in the Philippines*)
 - Rich ecosystems:



FORESTS



CORAL REEFS



MANGROVES



MOUNTAINS



WETLANDS

ROLE IN THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Environmental Protection

Biodiversity helps maintain healthy ecosystems essential for climate resilience.

2. Food Security & Agriculture

Strong biodiversity supports crops, fisheries, and sustainable food production.

3. Health & Medicine

Many native plants and animals are used for traditional medicine and biotechnology research.

4. Disaster Risk Reduction

Mangroves, coral reefs, and forests act as natural shields against strong waves, storms, and floods.

EXAMPLE SPECIES

Philippine Eagle

- **Critically endangered**
- **Largest eagle in the world**
- **Found only in the Philippines**
- **Symbol of conservation and national pride**



Protecting biodiversity means protecting our people, resources, and future.

A healthy environment supports the Philippines' science, technology, and national development goals.