

14 December 2022, Wednesday



DENR

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PBIDA expected to help PHL grow share in global bamboo market

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

@jonlmayuga

BAMBOO industry players believe the passage of the proposed Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Act (Pbida) would boost the country's competitive edge in the natural bamboo market, particularly in transport, construction, furniture and fabric sectors, leading to industrial-manufacturing development using the lowly giant grass species as raw material.

Filed under House Bill 9576, the PBIDA was approved for third and final reading in August 2021. Advocates of the bill hope it could be certified as urgent by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

A statement issued by the Kilusang 5K Foundation quoted its chairman Deogracias Victor B. Savellano as saying he believes the Pbida "will substantially help advance our industrial development."

"We already have the clumps in our inventory. We just need the support for production, training, processing," Savellano said.

The bill envisions to seize part of a global market—with a value of \$8 billion in 2010—and institutionalize the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC).

Industry council

CREATED by Executive Order (EO) 879 in 2010, the PBIDC saw the prospect of bamboo replacing plastic, metal and other wood as manufac-

turing input.

While Savellano has earlier been appointed vice chairman of the PBIDC, the council has not yet been convened. A budget has neither been allocated for the council.

According to EO 879, the PBIDC should be composed of the heads of the following government departments: Trade and Industry; Environment and Natural Resources (DENR); Agriculture; and, Science and Technology.

Bamboo advocates are now petitioning government to allocate at least P100 million to jumpstart the development of bamboo as a manufacturing sector.

EO 879 mandates the DENR, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau and the Laguna Lake Development

Authority to use bamboo in at least 20 percent in their annual reforestation areas.

PBIDC Executive Director Rene E. Madarang earlier created three technical working groups for production and propagation, for industry and commerce and for training of workforce.

Economic potential

THE bamboo industry holds huge economic potential for contributing to industrialization, being a highly-durable and ecologically-friendly raw material.

Comparable to or even better than other hardwood, bamboo has already been technologically developed into engineered wood, composites, laminated wood, or strand woven bamboo

as sophisticated lumber or construction material.

Filipinos have extensively exhibited their creative genius in using bamboo.

For instance, the Cubo modular house designed by Earl Forlales is not only modern but one that is also a durable house made of indigenous materials. In 2017, designer Christopher Paris Lacson crafted the Banatti motorcycle whose body is made of highly durable, elegant-looking, light-weight bamboo.

Filipino Antonio de Leon designed a single-engine, light experimental aircraft that used a type of woven bamboo.

Bamboo also holds tremendous promise as green ethanol or fossil fuel substitute as a renewable energy,



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Pasture holders in Region 2 asked to help boost food production

TUGUEGARAO CITY: The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) has appealed to pasture holders to help increase food production in the country.

DENR Region 2 executive director Gwendolyn Bambalan appealed to the Forest Land Grazing Management Agreement (FLGMA) holders in Cagayan Valley to increase the number of livestock raised in their respective areas.

Under DENR Administrative Order (AO) 36, series of 1999, the FLGMA is a production sharing agreement between a qualified person, association

and/or corporation and the government to develop, manage and utilize grazing lands.

In a recent FLGMA holders' meeting in the region, Bambalan encouraged the pasture holders to meet the one livestock per hectare prescribed under the said AO, or up to a maximum of four cattle for every hectare by applying new technologies in cattle raising.

She explained that their economic gains would mean supporting the directives of the administration to help increase food production and decrease importation activities.

The region's five provinces — Cagayan, Isabela,

Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Batanes — has 73 active FLGMA holders.

Bambalan also informed the active pasture holders that next year, the DENR will be strict in monitoring and evaluating their compliance with the terms and conditions of the FLGMA.

She noted that there will also be an assessment of permittees' comprehensive development plan through an inventory to monitor that there is a yearly increase in their livestock.

"We understand your difficulties in raising livestock, but rest assured that we are here to help," Bambalan said.

She added that representatives of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and Land Bank of the Philippines have been tapped to assist the FLGMA holders in ruminant livestock education and funding or loan assistance.

Meanwhile, former San Mateo town mayor Roberto Agcaoili in Isabela has expressed their commitment to abide by the existing FLGMA rules and regulations.

Also the newly elected president of the Cagayan Valley Ranchers Association, Agcaoili said they are willing to undergo training to learn more about the livestock

industry to support the government's thrust to increase food production.

He also expressed hope that there will be sufficient funding from government agencies to boost the cattle industry in the region.

Charles Lim, president of the Isabela Cattle Raiser Multipurpose Cooperative, also encouraged his co-ranchers to innovate and focus on livestock management to produce high-value cattle.

Challenging other ranchers in Region 2, Lim said they all need to move to be more productive and aggressive like their counterparts in other regions.

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'False consent,' priest says of Kaliwa OK

Groups press Marcos, local gov'ts to stop dam project, consider well-being of Sierra Madre tribes

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
@dtmallarijrINQ

LUCENA CITY—Critics and leaders of groups opposing the construction of the P12.2-billion Kaliwa Dam in the Sierra Madre mountain ranges said they were dismayed over reports that the project had been granted consent by indigenous peoples (IPs), stressing that the process had been “manipulated.”

“They have manipulated false consent from the IPs,” Fr. Pete Montallana, chair of the Save Sierra Madre Network Alliance Inc. (SSMNA), told the Inquirer in on Monday.

Montallana, who is serving under the Prelature of Infanta, Quezon, said the “certificate of precondition” (CP) from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) “is based on the assumption that the three IP communities to be submerged [by dam water] agreed.”

“They did not,” Montallana stressed.

He called on the people to continue efforts in stopping the construction of Kaliwa Dam. Montallana also directed this appeal to President Marcos and to local governments.

“I call on the people to weigh in climate justice. [I also appeal to] local governments and [President Marcos] to protect the well-being of the people, not the [rich],” he said.

Montallana, addressing the President, said: “Don’t add more sufferings to us, who are now [dealing with the impact of the] economic crisis.”

In earlier reports, Leonor Cleofas, administrator of the Metropolitan Waterworks and



TRIBE’S VOICE In this photo taken in 2019, environmental activists and members of indigenous peoples groups picket in front of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources offices in Quezon City to ask for a dialogue with agency officials as they call for the rejection of Kaliwa Dam’s environmental compliance certificate. —GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE

Sewerage System (MWSS), said the agency had secured all the necessary permits to undertake the New Centennial Water Source-Kaliwa Dam Project in the Sierra Madre.

These include the CP from the NCIP, which means that the MWSS had secured the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of concerned IP communities.

The FPIC is a requirement under the Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997, which prevents, among others, the IPs from being relocated without their consent.

“In fact, we have signed a memorandum of agreement with the IPs of Rizal and Quezon. These are separate because they are separate ancestral domains,” Cleofas told reporters on Monday.

Under the law, the government can only start infrastructure projects on ancestral lands if it has secured the FPIC certifi-

cate from titleholders.

Barring any delays, the tunnel boring may start as early as next week as the equipment is already in place, MWSS Chair Elpidio Vegas said.

The MWSS has long been pushing for the construction of the Kaliwa Dam to address the projected water crisis in Metro Manila.

Protest looms

Dumagat tribe leader Marcelino Tena insisted that most members of IP communities in Sierra Madre did not approve of the FPIC.

In a separate online interview, Tena said the affected IPs were ready to hold another protest march from northern Quezon province to Metro Manila to voice their continued opposition to the dam project.

In 2009, tribesmen, farmers, and religious and environmentalist groups staged a 148-kilo-

meter protest march from General Nakar, Quezon, to Metro Manila to dramatize their opposition to the Laiban Dam project in the Sierra Madre.

The government was forced to abandon the project.

Tena also asked Mr. Marcos to stop the dam construction in the spirit of Christmas.

Gina Cambronero, program coordinator of Sandiwa, a network of advocates for national minorities, has expressed shock and fear over the prospect of boring holes in the Sierra Madre.

“The boring of tunnels into the mountains of Sierra Madre is a worrying and frightening vision. It is not enough reason to say that the machines of the MWSS are already in place for them to start making the tunnels,” she said.

Cambronero added: “In the realization of a development project, it is best to consider the welfare of the majority of residents and the future of coming generations.”

The Kaliwa Dam project would submerge parts of the Sierra Madre in Tanay town, Rizal province; and General Nakar and Infanta towns in Quezon.

The dam is expected to flood a watershed area of 9,700 hectares and displace 1,465 families, according to studies conducted by SSMNA. Groups opposing the project also fear that it will endanger more than 100,000 lives once the dam is built.

The dam’s construction was awarded to the Chinese company, China Energy, under an official development assistance agreement between the Philippine and Chinese governments. —WITH A REPORT FROM INQUIRER RESEARCH INQ



DENR, Rotary Club of Manila team up for Pasig River



■ Volunteers from the Philippine Coast Guard install floating trash barriers. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office (DENR-PRCMO) and the Rotary Club of Manila (RCM) have joined forces to clean up the Pasig River. As part of Rotary's supporting the environment initiative, what was one of RCM's seven areas of focus, the club has donated 395 floating trash barriers that would be used to prevent trash from flowing into the river.

The Pasig River cleanup was a flagship project of RCM, and the club was committed to help DENR-PRCMO clean up the Pasig River as part of its more significant effort to improve environmental conditions in the area. RCM's donation of 395 heavy-duty floating trash barriers would go a long way in preventing trash from flowing into the river and polluting it.

In addition to helping keep the

river clean, these same trash barriers also acted as a life-saving tool.

Cpt. Lomil Prado, operations head of DENR-PRCMO, reported that on November 21, an unidentified female was saved from drowning because of the trash barriers. He said the Philippine Coast Guard rescued the individual from drowning near the Intramuros-Binondo Bridge in Pasig River.

"She was spotted in the water with a strong current, and the floating trash barriers helped prevent her from drowning," Prado said.

"We share our deepest gratitude to Rotary Club of Manila President, Mr. Herminio S. Esguerra, for his generous donation of 395 trash barriers," said Dr. Joan Lagunda, DENR Assistant Secretary for Administration and Legislative Affairs and concurrent DENR-PRCMO executive director.



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The Manila Times



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IAPH calls for phase-out of CO2 emissions



■ IAPH declared that for the world to stay on a 1.5 C pathway, international shipping needs to decarbonize by 2050 at the latest. PHOTO FROM THE IMO WEBSITE

BY GENIVI VERDEJO

THE International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) called for the revision of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Strategy, setting a zero emission target by 2050.

IAPH Technical Director Antonis Michail said: "As climate science demonstrates, for the world to stay on a 1.5 degree Celsius pathway, international shipping needs to decarbonize by 2050 at the latest. IAPH supports all proposals calling for phasing out CO2 emissions from shipping by 2050, and the setting of

respective intermediate targets for 2030 and 2040 to define a predictable pathway."

IAPH supported the early adoption of a basket of midterm measures consisting of a technical regulatory instrument, such as the GHG Global Fuel Standard and a market-based measure (MBM).

IAPH said the early implementation of a global MBM is essential in bridging the price gap between conventional and low- and zero-carbon fuels. It will stimulate the very substantial investments needed in the supply and value chains of such fuels, making them commercially viable.

A global MBM provides opportunities through the earmarking of MBM-generated revenues.

IAPH said the strategic allocation of part of the revenues, toward port and land infrastructure-related investments for low- and zero-carbon fuels, in developing countries has the potential to drive decarbonization and contribute to an equitable energy transition of shipping.

IAPH welcomed European countries' proposals on earmarking MBM-generated revenues and management of those under an IMO Climate Transition Fund.

IAPH will continue stressing these points during the 79th session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee on December 12-16.

IAPH is a global alliance of 169 port authorities, including many of the world's largest port operators, as well as 134 port-related businesses. It is comprised of 87 different nationalities across the world's continents. The member ports handle approximately one-third of the world's sea-borne trade and well over 60 percent of the world's container traffic.



Why marine protected areas matter

WHILE working on my final paper for my environmental management course, I was pleased to share with my class that the Philippines pioneered a community-based approach to marine protected area management. I spent a whole season with Canadian classmates and a few others, like me, who were overseas. During this time, I represented real-life examples of climate change issues like Typhoon "Paeng" wreaking havoc on Luzon. The module on agroforestry, allowed me to share examples from my little farm where we got yields from cacao trees we planted five years ago between coconut and other native trees. Learning that we had a head start in marine protected areas management gave me a little sense of pride. We're not so bad, and we aren't always climate victims.

As early as 1974, the Philippines set a framework for coral reef management in Sumilon and Apo islands where a "no take zone" was estab-



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lished. This resulted in protecting the coral reef habitats, enhancing biodiversity, and increasing fish yields for traditional fishermen in the community. Not all countries with marine protected areas (MPAs) commit to strict no "take zone" declarations. In the Philippines, we do. And what we lack in monitoring resources, we make up for in community management and involvement.

The jewel of our MPAs is Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park, 150 kilometers southeast of Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. It was declared a World Heritage Site by Unesco in 1993. For perspective, Canada did not establish its first MPA until 2003. However it had other legal frameworks for environmental

protection through its Parks departments. In terms of a pure objective to protect habitats and biodiversity, the Philippines was a pioneer. Examples are Apo, Sumilon and Tubbataha.

Tubbataha protects an area of almost 100,000 hectares of high quality marine habitats with two big coral atolls and a reef. It is a rare example of a diverse and almost pristine coral reef with a 100 meter perpendicular wall and lagoon. Over 360 species of coral and almost 700 species of fish are found here. The presence of apex predators such as the hammerhead shark is an indicator of good ecological balance. Tubbataha is an important natural habitat for in-situ conservation of biological diversity.

National policies helped strengthen the protection of marine resources. In 1988, Tubbataha was established by Presidential Proclamation 306 as the first marine national park by President Corazon Aquino. In 1995, President Fidel V. Ramos

established the Presidential Task Force on Tubbataha Reefs through Memorandum 128 composed of government agencies, private sector and civil society. In 2009, after almost 20 years of managing the site as a no-take zone, Tubbataha was declared a Protected Area under the Nipas Law through Republic Act 10067. This prohibited exploration, exploitation, or use of non-renewable resources, conducting of bioprospecting without a permit, introduction of exotic species, to hunt, catch, fish, kill, take resources.

Despite the laws and policies protecting Tubbataha, a US Navy warship, *USS Guardian*, ran aground on the northern tip of the southern atoll in 2013. It damaged over 2,300 square meters of reef and took 72 days for the ship to be extracted. Also in 2013, an illegal Chinese fishing vessel, *Min Ping Yu*, ran aground on Tubbataha's northern atoll. Only one somewhat good thing came out

of this incident. It allowed the International Maritime Organization's declaration in 2017 of Tubbataha as a sensitive area to be avoided by maritime routes, giving the area an extra layer of protection. This designation is a big breakthrough because it protects Tubbataha from the impact of noise, pollution and further potential shipping accidents.

According to a International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) report in 2020, Tubbataha is "excellent and effective at planning, outreach, enforcement, and implementation of conservation and regeneration efforts." Tubbataha addressed ecological issues early by declaring it a no-take reserve in 1988, and continued to support it by legislation and international declarations. There are still some threats that persist from local anthropogenic activity, which are minimized by resident ranger patrol and global impacts of climate change.

While the establishment of MPAs

had the initial objectives of protecting and restoring biodiversity within the specific area for a long-term period, it is now found to be an effective climate change mitigation and adaptation principle as well. When non-climate stressors are reduced in an MPA, such as prohibiting fishing, exploration and bottom-trawling, there is an added benefit of storing carbon within, therefore reducing impacts on climate. Blue carbon is carbon that is stored within marine and coastal ecosystems. Oceans store more blue carbon per unit area than terrestrial forests. Protected mangroves, marshes, seagrass beds also provide climate change adaptation benefits like protecting coastal communities and providing food security. When coastal areas are protected under MPAs, they continue to play their role as carbon sinks. MPAs with complex, intact ecosystems resist and recover better from climate disturbances compared to unprotected areas.



House approves 13 PBBM priority bills

By ELLSON A. QUISMORIO



In one of the busiest one-day sessions in recent memory, the House of Representatives approved on third and final reading on Monday, Dec. 12, 13 bills identified as priority measures by the Marcos administration.

The 13 priority measures were earlier included in the Common Legislative Agenda (CLA) of the Legislative-Executive Advisory Council (LEDAC), which President Marcos

first convened in October 2022.

The approval of the 13 bills brought to 15 the number of priority measures the House had already approved on final reading since it resumed session on Nov. 7.

The 13 approved measures were:

- National Disease Prevention Management Authority or Center for Disease Control and Prevention Act
- Health Emergency Auxiliary Reinforcement Team (HEART) Act

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House approves 13 PBBM priority bills 1◀

- Agrarian Reform Debts Condonation
- Philippine Passport Act
- Internet Transaction Act / E-Commerce Law
- Waste-to-Energy Bill
- Free Legal Assistance for Police and Soldiers
- Apprenticeship Act
- Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Act
- Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers
- Valuation Reform Bill (Package 3)
- Eastern Visayas Development Authority (EVDA)
- Leyte Ecological Industrial Zone

Last week, the lower chamber gave the final nod on two other measures included in the CLA of LEDAC—the Virology Institute of the Philippines, and the Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act (PIFITA), the fourth package under the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP).

The House, along with the Senate, had earlier ratified the ₱5.268-trillion General Appropriations Bill (GAB) or the proposed national budget.

President Marcos is expected to sign the GAB when he returns this week from his trip to Belgium for the European Union-Association of

Southeast Asian Nations (EU-ASEAN) Commemorative Summit.

"We will continue working on the passage of other LEDAC-priority bills," House Speaker Martin Romualdez said on Tuesday, Dec. 13. "We are on the first stage to full economic recovery, and we are marching on the right direction. Judging from interests shown by global businessmen in our international roadshow with the President, the Philippines may soon become the favorite investment destination in Asia."

"We, in Congress, are committed to bring this goal to reality. Stay the course with us, and share the benefits of progress and development. The best is yet to come," added Romualdez.

Deputy Speaker and Davao City 3rd District Rep. Isidro Ungab presided over Monday's session.

Congress (House and Senate) will hold this year's final session today, Dec. 14.

Valuation Reform Bill

Ungab said the Valuation Reform Bill (House Bill 6558) is a consolidation of several measures filed in the House meant to institute reforms in real property valuation and assessment in the country.

The measure seeks to promote a just, equitable, impartial, and nation-

ally consistent real property valuation based on internationally accepted valuation standards and principles.

The measure's authors noted the poor collection efficiency of local government units (LGUs) severely hampers their ability to raise revenues from real properties and correspondingly constrains their ability to provide the necessary services to their constituents.

HB 6558 tasks the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF) of the Department of Finance (DOF) to lead and manage the implementation of the law.

Under the bill, "The BLGF shall develop, adopt, maintain, and implement uniform valuation standards which shall be used by all appraisers and assessors in the LGUs and other concerned parties in the appraisal or valuation of lands, buildings, machinery and other real properties for taxation and other purposes."

Such valuation standards should comply with internationally accepted valuation standards and principles.

In coordination with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), the BGLF shall review and ensure that the Schedule of Market Values (SMVs) prepared by provincial, city, and municipal assessors is compliant with real property valuation policies and standards and

recommend its approval to the Secretary of Finance.

The bill provides that "for valuation purposes, all real properties, whether taxable or exempt, shall be valued or appraised based on prevailing market values in the locality where the property is situated, in conformity with the valuation standards adopted pursuant to this Act."

The DOF secretary shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the valuation of real property.

However, the responsibility of preparing the Schedule of Market Values (SMVs) for the different classes of real property was given to the local government assessors, subject to valuation standards, rules, regulations, and other specifications set by the DOF.

Preparation of the SMVs should be completed within six months following notice from the BLGF to all local assessors to submit their revised SMVs and then submitted to the BLGF regional office.

The approved SMVs shall be transmitted to the concerned LGU for the enactment of the appropriate ordinance setting the amended assessment levels and tax rates. On the other hand, the approved ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of local circulation for two consecutive weeks.

"This law shall not be construed to abridge the power of the LGUs (local government units) to lower and

adjust assessment levels and tax rates in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 7160, as amended, to provide it to residential property owners as deemed necessary," the bill pointed out.

Under the bill, BGLF also has the responsibility to "develop and maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date electronic database of real property transactions and prices of materials for buildings, machinery, and other structures" in the country.

"For this purpose, the BLGF shall require the mandatory submission of necessary documents from the concerned officials or employees of national government offices or instrumentalities, LGUs, and the private sector," the bill stated.

BLGF is also required to "formulate and provide for uniform procedures on the different transactions in the assessor's office, including the transfer, annotation, and issuance of tax declarations." To help achieve the objectives of the law, HB 6558 establishes the Real Property Valuation Service (RPVS) within the BLGF.

A Central Consultative Committee (CCC) is also created under the bill, which shall serve as the consultative forum on matters pertaining to the setting and adoption of internationally accepted valuation standards and other related concerns on real property valuation.



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Bamboo industry bill to establish PH edge in manufacturing

THE Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Act (PBIDA) is seen to establish the country's competitive edge in the natural bamboo market in transport, construction, furniture and fabric sectors that can lead to industrial-manufacturing development.

Filed under House Bill (HB) 9576, which was approved for the third and final reading in August 2021, PBIDA is hoped to be certified as urgent by the administration of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. (BBM)

"House Bill 9576 should be approved under the administra-

tion of BBM. It will substantially help advance our industrial development. We already have the clumps in our inventory. We just need the support for production, training [and] processing," says Deogracias Victor "DV" Savellano.

Savellano leads private sector advocates of bamboo as nature-friendly and climate smart industrial material through the 5K (Kawayan: Kalikasan, Kabuhayan, Kaunlaran, Kinabukasan) Foundation Inc.

HB 9576 will be refiled by Bohol Rep. Edgardo Chatto. It will

be endorsed to the Senate by the House of Representatives.

The bill — which envisions to seize part of a global market, placed in 2010 at \$8 billion — will institutionalize the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC).

Created by Executive Order 879 in 2010, PBIDC has seen the prospect of bamboo, replacing plastic, metal and other wood as manufacturing input.

While Savellano has been appointed vice chairman of PBIDC earlier, the council has not yet been convened since the Marcos adminis-



■ Christopher Paris Lacson's Banatti bamboo motorcycle

tration stepped in, and a budget has not been allocated for the council.

The bamboo industry holds huge economic potential for contributing to industrialization, being a highly durable and ecologically friendly raw material.



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Pambihirang unggoy natagpuan sa Davao



INCREDIBLE STORY

BY: XENON B.

NAKUHANAN ng larawan sa Mt. Apo, Sta. Cruz Trail sa Davao del Sur ang isang Alpha Male Philippine Long-tailed Macaque.

Sobrang dalang umano na makakita ng ganitong uri ng unggoy lalo na't endangered na pala ang ganitong

uri ng unggoy.

Makikita sa larawan ang magandang tindig ng unggoy at tila may mahabang balbas.

"This fauna is endemic in the Philippines and is considered as an endangered species." saad sa caption ng Sta. Cruz Tourism.



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Taal Volcano remains 'unstable,' 40 quakes recorded in 24 hours

THE Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) on Monday recorded 40 volcanic earthquakes in Taal Volcano in the past 24 hours.

According to Phivolcs, of the recorded earthquakes, two were volcanic tremors that lasted three to four minutes.

A 1,500-meter "moderate" emission of steam-laden plume was also observed from the volcano.

There was also an "upwelling" of hot volcanic fluids in the Taal main crater lake.

An average of 2,318 tons per day of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) was measured in Taal Volcano on December 8.

Phivolcs said Taal Volcano remains under Alert Level 1, which means it is still in an abnormal condition.

Sudden steam-driven or phreatic explosions, volcanic earthquakes, minor ashfall and lethal accumulations or expulsions of volcanic gas can occur and threaten areas within the Taal Volcano Island (TVI), according to Phivolcs.

Entry into Taal Volcano Island, particularly in the vicinities of the main crater and the Daang Kastila fissure is strictly prohibited.

Jane Eleda



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY
www.namria.gov.ph

INVITATION TO BID

The National Mapping And Resource Information Authority, Bids and Awards Committee (NAMRIA BAC) invites interested bidders for the following project:

1. UPGRADE OF NAMRIA PAGENet: ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO (2) ACTIVE GEODETIC STATIONS (ROOF-BASED)

Approved Budget for the Contract - PhP 12,000,000.00

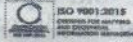
The bidding schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Issuance of Bidding Documents: | Starting December 7, 2022 |
| 2. Pre-Bid Conference: | 10:30AM December 15, 2022
NAMRIA Boardroom/Lecture Hall
Fort A. Bonifacio, Taguig City |
| 3. Deadline of Submission and Opening of Bids: | 10:30AM, December 27, 2022
NAMRIA Boardroom/Lecture Hall
Fort A. Bonifacio, Taguig City |

The NAMRIA BAC reserves the right to cancel the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid most advantageous to the government.


Dir. RUEL D. BELEN
Chairman, B.A.C

NAMRIA OFFICES:
Lawton Avenue, Fort Bonifacio, 1634 Taguig City, PH | (632) 8810-4831 to 41
471 Maraca St., San Nicolas, 1010 Manila, PH | (632) 8341-3434 to 38



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P.S. December 7 & 14, 2022