

28 February 2023, Tuesday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## Loyzaga pushes 'whole-of-society' approach to decarbonization

By CORY MARTINEZ

DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Antonia Loyzaga has called for a "whole-of-society" approach to accelerate the decarbonization of industries in the country.

Loyzaga made the call during the recently-held Nordic-Philippine Climate Executive Dialogue in Manila, wherein she pointed out that the country's commitments in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and the Paris Agreement can only be achieved if all stakeholders work together by using nature-based solutions for carbon reduction as the primary strategy in achieving net-zero targets.

The Philippines pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 73% by 2030 under the NDC, while it

committed to help limit global warming to less than 2°C under the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

"Every fraction of a degree counts. And so, we must all work together to achieve what we must envision as our common goal for a safe and sustainable planet," Loyzaga said.

"We need to prioritize

the opportunities identified in the Philippine Development Plan that has just recently been launched, including capacity development on sustainability; environmental, social and governance (ESG) reporting; conduct of capacity assessments; developing biodiversity-friendly enterprises and ecotourism sites; our investments in forestry; and an integration be-

tween sustainable land, coastal and marine planning," Loyzaga added.

During the dialogue, Loyzaga highlighted some of the DENR's current priorities in the sectors of energy, solid waste, transportation, mining, and urban resilience and invited everyone to collaborate with DENR in achieving the country's environmental goals.



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## IN BRIEF

### More support needed for PH carbon cut

DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Antonia Loyzaga on Monday called for a whole-of-society approach to accelerate the decarbonization of industries.

The country's commitments in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and the Paris Agreement can only be achieved if all stakeholders work together by using nature-based solutions for carbon reduction as the primary strategy in achieving net-zero targets, she said.

The Philippines pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent by 2030 under the NDC, while it committed to help limit global warming to less than 2°C under the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

"Every fraction of a degree counts. And so, we must all work together to achieve what we must envision as our common goal for a safe and sustainable planet," Loyzaga said. **Rio N. Araja**



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# Include sustainability in business practices, DENR urges industries

by Jel Santos

**E**nvironment Secretary Maria Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga has called on industries, such as those engaged in agriculture and manufacturing, to integrate sustainability in all aspects of their business as their contribution to environmental protection.

During her speech at the launching of the Philippine Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production (PAP4SCP) on Feb. 13, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) chief said that the country's inadequate solid waste management system has been challenged by the parallel effects of being an international hub for manufacturing and production, as well as increased consumption.

The Philippines' current production systems, according to Loyzaga, have become "not sustainable."

"We are consuming and disposing more quickly and far more than our environment can support, putting our future at risk," she said.

Loyzaga said companies must work together on integrating sustainability into all aspects of the supply chain, noting that "all have a stewardship role in terms of protecting our environment and natural resources, and this responsibility is not solely the DENR's."

"The sustainable production and consumption policies we design must therefore be trans-disciplinary, time-sensitive, and spatially targeted in order for them to be transformational," the DENR chief said.

Sustainable production entails creating commodities with a little environmental impact as well as goods and



DENR SECRETARY MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

services that cater to the requirements of the present without endangering the usage of future generations, she pointed out.

Loyzaga stated that the sustainable production model must strike a balance between economic growth, social equity and responsibility, and environmental protection.

Developed by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank, the PAP4SCP will serve as a "guiding framework at the national level to lead sustainable behaviors and practices across sectors and at all levels of government."



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REMATE OPINION

## ANGINYONG LINGKOD

NI DR. HILDA C. ONG

**BILANG** pangunahing ahensya na responsable sa konserbasyon, pamamahala, pagpapaunlad at epektibong paggamit ng kapaligiran at likas na yaman ng bansa, opisyal na sinalubong ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang bagong taon kasabay ng muling pagpapatibay ng pangako na tuparin ang mandato sa pamamagitan ng pagpapatuloy ng mga

nakaraang tagumpay at panatilihin ang pagiging matatag nito.

Sa ginanap na New Year Reception noong Enero 27, pinangunahan ni Secretary Antonia Loyzaga ang higit 90 opisyal ng DENR kasama na ang mga bagong talagang Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Bureau at Line Directors, Office Directors, at Regional Executive Directors sa pagdiriwang ng mga nakamit ng Departamento sa

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IPAPRAYORIDAD NG DENR

taong 2022 at mga layunin sa 2023.

Sa kanyang keynote address, hinamon ni Loyzaga ang DENR workforce na magkaroon ng mas mataas na pamantayan habang binigyang-diin nito ang mga makamit ng Departamento sa nakalipas na taon kasama na ang mga pangakong nakuha nito mula sa development partners na nagpalakas ng kooperasyon at nagpalawak ng oportunidad sa pakikipag-partner.

"The choices and decisions we make in the next few years will determine our country's future and our contribution to the shared goals of our country. We need to make this progress continue and make it resilient and sustainable," saad ni Loyzaga sa

pagdiriwang na ginanap sa Tagaytay City.

Tiniyak nito sa lahat na ang direksiyon ng DENR ay ayon sa kay Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. kung saan prayoridad ang katalogan at adaptation ng bansa sa climate change. Binigyang-diin pa nito na ang pahayag ng pangulo na "preservation of the environment is the preservation of life."

"We will continue to strive to ensure that the department's priorities, plans, programs, and policies are aligned with the President's pronouncement regarding the nexus between climate change, biodiversity, our natural resources, and resilient and inclusive development for our country," pahayag ni Loyzaga.

Nagsilbi ring daan ang programa para sa DENR's Reprogramming Workshop kung saan ay muling binuo ang Programs, Activities, and Projects (PAPs) ng 16 na rahiyon para sa 2023 upang matiyak na nasa direksiyon ito ng administrasyon ng Pangulo at ng Philippine Development Plan para sa 2023-2028.

Kabilang sa mga nagawa ng DENR noong 2022 ay ang pagtatatag ng national natural resource geospatial database at mobilisasyon ng P2 bilyong karagdagang pondo mula sa development partners para sa nature-based solutions, climate action, at preparasyon para sa carbon at biodiversity credit markets.

Inulit din ni Loyzaga na ang sa ilalim ng kanyang pamamahala, ang DENR ay magiging transparent at participatory kung saan ang mga stakeholders ay maaaring makipagdayalogo sa departamento tungkol sa kaniyang mga plano, programa at polisiya.

Sinabi pa nito na ang departamento ay magiging trans-disciplinary at magkakaroon ng holistic approach sa mga programa at istratahiya nito.

Idinagdag ni Loyzaga na ang DENR mantra na "co-ownership and common but differentiated responsibilities" para sa pagprotekta ng natural environment ay isasakatuparan sa departamento.

Ginanap din sa pagdiriwang ang oath taking ng bagong halal at talagang opisyal ng DENR Association of Career Executives (ACE) kabilang na ang bago nitong pangulo na si Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Ang mga third-level na empleyado ng DENR na Career Executive Service Officers at Career Executive Service Eligibles ang bumubuo sa korporasyon na DENR-ACE.

Mula nang manungkulan bilang kalihim, ipinahayag ni Loyzaga ang kanyang layunin na magkaroon ng ethical, collaborative, efficient at science-based management ng kapaligiran at likas na yaman ng bansa sa ilalim ng kanyang pamumuno.

Kung nais ninyo malaman ang TAMANG IMPORMASYON, TAMANG SERBISYO ni AGARANG SERBISYO LADY, i-search sa YOUTUBE CHANNEL, "HILDA ONG" at sa Facebook Fanpage "TV RADIO HILDA ONG", Huwag kalimutan i-click ang salitang "SUBSCRIBE", "LIKE" at "SHARE".



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IN BRIEF

### Masungi seeks PBBM intervention

THE Masungi Georeserve Foundation said it is seeking the intervention of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to address plans of the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) to put up a facility in the protected area.

Ann Dumaliang, Masungi Georeserve co-founder, quoted by ABS-CBN News, said "we hope for our president's intervention, (DENR) Secretary Yulo's intervention."

Their plea comes after the BuCor announced its plans to put up its headquarters, training centers and housing facility in the Masungi Georeserve, alarming environmentalists.

Department of Justice (DOJ) Secretary Jesus Crispin Remulla earlier clarified that the facility plan is not yet final.

But for Dumaliang, facing these issues is already affecting their work on the georeserve, particularly on their efforts in reforestation, putting up livelihood programs, and other projects, ABS-CBN News reported. She hoped that the DENR would help them in their efforts to conserve Masungi.



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## Gabay ng Buhay

### HUWAG SAKTAN ANG KALIKASAN

At inyong sasaktan ang bawa't bayang nakukutaan, at ang bawa't piling bayan, at inyong ibubuwal ang bawa't mabuting punong kahoy, at inyong patitigilin ang lahat na bukal ng tubig, at inyong sisirain ng mga bato ang bawa't mabuting bahagi ng lupain.

(MGA HARI 3:19)



## EDITORIAL

### MAPAGBIBIGYAN KAYA ANG HILING SA KALIKASAN?

HINDI lang ang mga Dumagat, na naninirahan sa bulu-bundukin ng Sierra Madre na nasasakupan ng Rizal at Quezon, na naglakad mula sa kanilang lugar patungo sa Maynila ang naninikluhod upang hilingin ang pakikialam ng Malakanyang sa usapin kaugnay sa kalikasan subalit maging ang mga namamahala ng Masungi Georeserve Foundation.

Aligaga ang mga Dumagat dahil sa pagtatayo ng Kaliwa Dam habang ang Masungi Georeserve ay dahil sa posibleng pagtatayo ng Bureau of Corrections ng pasilidad sa nasabing protected area. Kasi nga naman malaki ang magiging epekto ng mga itatayo sa kanilang lugar lalo na sa kanilang pamumuhay.

Hinihingi ng mga Dumagat at namamahala ng Masungi Georeserve ang pakikialam ng Pangulong Bongbong Marcos dahil batid nila na malaki ang magiging epekto nito sa Inang Kalikasan na malaki ang ginagampanan papel kapag may dumarating na bagyo at iba pang kalamidad.

Batid naman natin na kapag naapektuhan ang kalikasan dahil sa mga maling gawa ng tao ay bumabalik din naman sa tao ang ginawa nilang kamalian. Halimbawa ay sa pagpuputol ng maraming punong kahoy. Hindi ba't ang ugat nito ang sumisipsip sa tubig baha at pumipigil din sa pagguho ng mga lupa?

Kung magtutuloy-tuloy ang pagtatayo ng Kaliwa Dam, maraming mga punong kahoy ang tiyak na puputulin kaya't tiyak na malaki ang magiging epekto nito sa kalikasan. Maaaring may tulong sa mamamayan ang dam na gagawin, subalit mas malaki naman ang perwisyong magagawa nito lalo na kapag nagkaroon ng bagyo dahil wala na ang mga punong kahoy na dapat ay sasalag sa malalakas na hangin at mga ugat na sisipsip ng tubig.

Gayundin naman sa Masungi dahil kapag nagtayo ng headquarters, training center at housing facility ay tiyak ang pagputol ng mga kahoy at maging ang mga hayop na naninirahan doon ay unti-unting maglalaho dahil nawalan sila ng silungan.

Huwag na sanang hintayin pa ng Pangulo na mawasak si Inang Kalikasan dahil tiyak na siya rin naman ang mamumrublema kapag unit-unting bumalik na sa tao ang ganti ng kalikasan o karma.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Brooke's Point mining opposed

Several congregations from the Catholic Church in the Philippines expressed support for the fight against a planned open-pit mining project by a private mining firm in Brooke's Point, Palawan.

Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines' charity arm Caritas Philippines revealed recently that mining activities in the province would pose a threat on the daily living of locals and the environment, urging the government to particularly probe the permits of Ipilan Nickel Corporation.

Alyansa Tigil Mina previously said that the company does not have permits to cut trees and construct a causeway and port in the concerned area.

"We are also calling the provincial government (of Palawan) to declare Palawan as a 'no-mining zone' to protect

the natural resources of the so-called 'last frontier of the Philippines,' Caritas Philippines president Bishop Colin Bagaforo said.

Caritas Philippines joined other Catholic groups in backing residents and environmental activists in their struggle to prevent mining projects in the province.

Puerto Princesa Bishop Socrates Mesiona previously said in a pastoral letter that he supported the residents in the anti-mining protest and that their calls and their rights should be heard and respected.

"We are acknowledging the basis of their protest. They know more and are directly affected by anything that is happening in their surroundings," Mesiona said.

DAN NAVARRO





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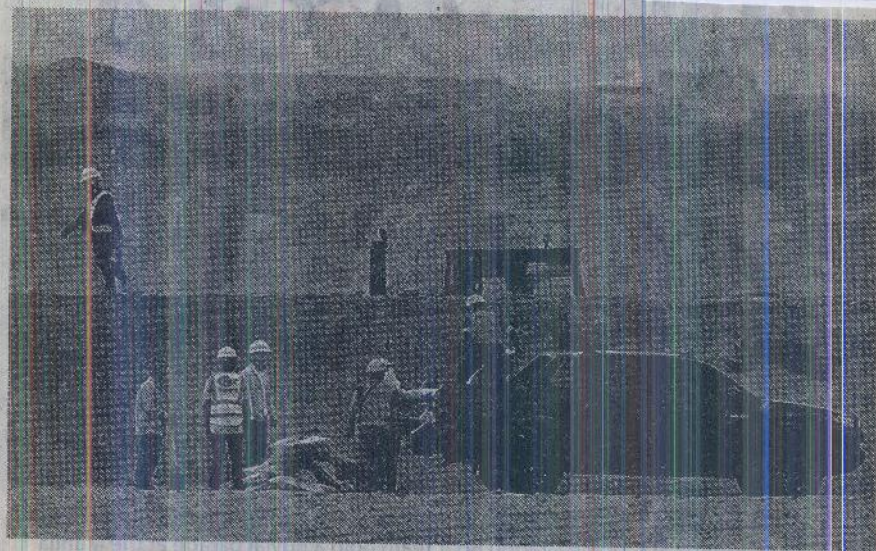
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**RECLAMATION PROJECTS.** Photo shows workers at a reclamation area in Manila Bay in Pasay City. The Philippine Reclamation Authority has at least 22 approved reclamation projects of reclamation along Manila Bay's coastline. **Danny Pata**



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ANG ilang miyembro ng Alyansa Tigil Mina (ATM) at Partido Lakas ng Masa (PLM) na naglunsad ng kilos-protesta sa harap ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Quezon City para ipanawagan ang paghinto sa quarrying sa dagat na sakop ng reclamation site sa Manila Bay. (Jeff Tumbado)



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# Legarda, Villar cite need to manage sustainable development of PH's coastal, marine environment

By Mario B Casayuran

Despite the tremendous benefits that coastal and marine regions have brought to the daily lives of Filipinos, development planning in the Philippines is still predominantly land-focused.

Although the country's maritime territory is seven times as large as its land area, there is no comprehensive strategy in place that fully utilizes its vast marine resources.

As such, the current trends in coastal migration and human activities on land, coasts, and seas put pressure on the ability of marine areas to sustain themselves.

These were the sentiments echoed by Senate President Loren Legarda, an environmentalist, and Senator Cynthia A. Villar, chairperson of the Senate Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Committee, who filed Senate Bill 1342 and Senate Bill 126, respectively.

Their measures seek to adopt integrated coastal management as a national strategy to ensure the sustainable development of the country's coastal and marine environment and resources, as well as the connectivity of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, social and ecological systems, and the different human activities that take place there.

Legarda said her measure seeks to encourage the most effective use of resources and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas.

She emphasized that the management and protection of our coastal environment should be of utmost concern.



SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA



SENATOR CYNTHIA VILLAR

As an archipelago of more than 7,100 islands, the Philippines contains enormous coastal and marine areas and is recognized as a global hub for marine species.

The country's coastline spans more than 18,000 kilometers, and its coastal waters have an area of 266,000 square kilometers, with most major cities located within ten to twenty kilometers of the coastline.

Coastal environments are among the most productive and biologically diverse landscapes known to man.

Firstly, ecosystems such as mangrove forests, beach forests, and sea-grass beds are crucial for managing disaster risk and mitigating the effects of climate change. They operate as a natural barrier against storm surges and coastal erosion, hence reducing the adverse effects of natural coastal hazards on property damage and human life.

Additionally, they act as carbon

sinks to lessen climate change and as homes for fish with significant economic value.

Secondly, these coastal areas significantly contribute to our economy. Not only are they important sources of food, minerals, and raw materials, but they also help boost leisure, sports, and other social, cultural, and tourism-related activities.

Fishing, maritime transportation, tourism, coastal mining, and offshore oil and gas development are examples of marine-related economic activities that considerably boost our country's gross domestic product and sustain livelihoods and job options for coastal residents.

Despite the tremendous benefits that the coastal and marine regions have on the daily lives of Filipinos, development planning in the country is still predominantly land-focused.

The Philippines' maritime territory is seven times as large as its land

area, yet there is no comprehensive strategy in place to utilize our vast marine resources sustainably.

Villar said the current trends in coastal migration and increasing human activities on land, coasts and seas exert pressure on the sustaining capacity of marine areas as well as amplify the risks of environmental degradation, destruction of vital coastal habitats, loss of marine biological diversity, and deterioration of near shore water quality.

"The bill promotes the formulation of mechanisms to address the connectivity of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, social and ecological systems and the different human activities taking place therein," she explained.

Apart from its goal of sustainable development, the bill aims to achieve food security, poverty alleviation, gender equality, respect for sustainable traditional resource rights of

Indigenous peoples, and to reduce vulnerability to climate change, and human induced and natural hazards.

Villar said the salient provisions of her bill include, among others: the creation of a National Coordinating Committee on Integrated Coastal Management (ICM), composed of able representatives of relevant government agencies and stakeholders, primarily mandated to formulate, institute and implement a National ICM Framework; the coordination on ICM matters at the regional, provincial and city/municipal levels; the promotion of ICM best practices that may be emulated by LGUs; the grant of incentives for LGUs that exhibit exemplary performance in the development and implementation of their respective local ICM plans; the consistency of Local ICM Plans and National Programs and Plans with the National ICM Framework; and the delineation of the roles of LGUs, the civil society and the private sector in the implementation of ICM programs.

"The adoption of an ICM is within the objectives, provisions, scoping and principles of the Philippine Strategy for Sustainable Development (PSSD), as well as of the actions and agreements adopted by the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) related to the pursuit of the objectives of the Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development (UNCED) and of such other protocols and treaties to which the Philippines has committed to abide," she emphasized.



## PBIDC prods government to replicate Marikina bamboo reforestation project

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA  
@jonlmayuga

**T**HE Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC) is urging the government to replicate nationwide the successful bamboo reforestation projects at the Marikina Watershed, which provided livelihood to indigenous communities and help prevent Metro Manila flooding.

The 20-hectare Karugo and 10-hectare Puray bamboo projects in Montalban, Rizal are "ideal multi-agency collaboration that involves minimal budget" according to PBIDC vice chairman Deogracias Victor B. Savellano.

"Our best examples for bamboo propagation are those in Puray and Karugo. It's something that's not difficult to do. It is a joint effort among government, Rotary International, Indigenous People, and the community. It's a beautiful model that should

be replicated all over the Philippines," Savellano said in a statement.

Rotary raised a minimal P1.5 million in district grants for the Karugo project.

Meanwhile, the Kilusang 5K or Kawayan: Kalikasan, Kaunlaran, Kabuhayan, Kinabukasan Foundation, founded by Savellano, has supported the organization of Puray and Karugo projects.

The bamboo propagules, planted in 2022 in Karugo, are estimated to multiply to 142,000 bamboo culms in five years and 228,000 culms in eight years.

Now that Trade Secretary Alfredo Pascual has reconvened PBIDC, Savellano said the council is now coordinating all bamboo projects and agencies. Thus, such replication can be implemented in every town in the country as what has been done by Savellano's former constituents in Ilocos Sur.

PBIDC has adopted the Montalban projects for its own col-

laborative, cost-effective model. "We tapped the two community-based projects to establish nurseries and do plantation development," said PBIDC Executive Director Butch Madarang. "Using the convergence formula through consultation with different agencies, we're able to engage everybody. We have an inclusive perspective. Our formula is to tap different agencies' resources."

The lead collaborator is the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, which identified the project site. Kilusang 5K tapped the Philippine Bamboo Foundation and Bamboo Professionals Inc. to train on bamboo propagation the IPs belonging to the Samahan ng Kawayan sa Karugo Agri-Farmers Association and Tribal Council Assn. of Puray Inc.

Instead of planting hardwood, which takes 10 to 20 years to harvest, bamboo was chosen, as it is harvestable in three years, generating income for the community.



## Maynilad's one million trees and more

### EVERYMAN

By Melandrew T. Velasco

WHEN a group of environmentalists founded the Million Trees Foundation, Inc. (MTFI) in 2021, their primary objective was to ensure the sustainability of the Annual Million Trees Challenge initiated by the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System to rehabilitate six critical watersheds.

Beyond this, however, is MFTI's commitment to support the government's Enhanced National Greening Program to arrest a major environmental concern in the country—deforestation.

Simply defined as the clearing of forests by humans, deforestation destroys the habitats of important species, disrupts weather patterns and the water cycle, and contributes to climate change.

An average of 20 typhoons enter the Philippine area of responsibility annually and the country has witnessed flooding, mudslide, destruction of property, and even loss of lives because of these tropical cyclones.

Tree-planting has become more urgent to address deforestation.

When tropical storm Paeng (international name Nalgae) battered the country in November last year, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. pushed for tree-planting to prevent future flooding.

He added it is not just to save the environment but also to save lives.

Aside from its environmental benefits such

as decreasing air pollution, improving soil and water conservation capacity, increasing forest coverage and enhancing forest ecosystems, reforestation also has economic and health benefits.

From 2015 to 2020, forest cover increased by 3.03 percent.

For a successful reforestation program, collaborative effort between the government and private sector is essential.

And, being an environmentalist, I am happy that many from the private sector are committed to help re-green the country.

MTFI has forged ties with different agencies including the concessionaires of MWSS to reforest denuded watersheds essential to the water supply of the metropolis and neighboring provinces.

In 2007, West Zone concessionaire Maynilad Water Services, Inc. was re-privatized.

Its concession area consists of the cities of Manila (certain portions), Quezon City (certain portions), Makati (west of South Super Highway), Caloocan, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, Navotas and Malabon all in Metro Manila; the cities of Cavite, Bacoor and Imus, and the towns of Kawit, Noveleta and Rosario, all in Cavite Province.

In the same year, it launched its Plant for Life watershed reforestation program.

Plant for Life is Maynilad's environment stewardship program originally aimed to reforest the watersheds in Angat, Ipo and

**Maynilad's watershed monitoring activities were also intensified, thereby boosting the survival rate of the planted trees**

La Mesa.

When AMTC was launched in 2017, Maynilad actively supported the program.

Today, it has evolved into a multi-site reforestation and afforestation program whose coverage includes the areas along the coastlines of Laguna Lake and Manila Bay in Cavite and Muntinlupa.

"One of the best steps we can take to protect our water sources is to plant trees on denuded lands. Trees help with the soil's water retention, thus preventing the soil erosion that causes high turbidity levels in our raw water supply," Maynilad President and CEO Ramoncito S. Fernandez said.

Maynilad's watershed monitoring activities were also intensified, thereby boosting the survival rate of the planted trees.

Recently, Maynilad planted its one millionth tree at the La Mesa Watershed in Quezon City.

The activity was witnessed by MWSS Administrator Engr. Leonor Cleofas and Maynilad President Ramoncito Fernandez along with Department of Environment and Natural Resources NCR Assistant Regional Director for Technical Engr. Ignacio Almira, Jr.

Through Maynilad's Plant for Life program around 755.3 hectares have been planted with indigenous trees to include narra, cupang, acacia, alibangbang, apitong, and mangroves.

Likewise, it enabled Maynilad to reduce its carbon emissions by around 25,000 tons per year.

Maynilad and the other companies in the MVP Group are ramping up their reforestation initiatives to attain 'net-zero carbon' by 2040.

Maynilad is also an institutional partner of MTFI. It supported the construction of the Million Trees Nursery and Eco Learning Center.

Information about environment protection programs are featured in a kiosk dedicated for Maynilad inside the nursery compound.

Maynilad has been steadfast in its support to MTFI, the most recent was a Pph1-million institutional support.

*(The author is a book author who has at least 40 titles to his credit. He is also the president of the Million Trees Foundation Inc., a non-government outfit championing tree planting in mostly denuded watershed areas).*



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## Kakulangan ng tubig, krisis sa kalusugan

MAS tumitindi ang bagyo sa Pilipinas. Pero kulang sa inuming tubig. Walang koneksyong-tubig ang mga maralitang taga-lungsod. At lalong walang tubo ang mga layu-layong bahay sa kanayunan. Umiigib pa sa malayong poso o balon ang mga ina at bata. Naaabala ang pag-alaga sa anak; nagugulo ang pag-aaral at paglalaro.

Sakit ang idinudulot ng maruming tubig. Isang bata sa mundo ang namamatay kada dalawang minuto dahil dito. Bukod pa ang dengue at malaria na dala ng mga lamok mula sa pusali at tubig-tigang.

Nasa batas na dapat maghukay ng water impoundment sa pinaka-mabababang lugar ng bawat barangay. Gamit ang bagong teknolohiya, mapi-filter ang naipong tubig para panlinis man lang. Tungkulin ng gobyerno na kabitan ng tubo bawat bahay, tindahan at opisina. Kaya nga may Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System at Local Water Utilities Administration. Dapat protektahan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources at mga lokal na gobyerno ang watersheds.

## Sapol

NI JARIUS BONDOC



Kasing halaga ng inuming tubig ang tubig pangkubeta. Tularan sana ng gobyerno ang ginawa sa India. Isang dekada noon namahagi ang pamunuan ng India ng inidoro sa bawat bahay. Itinuro sa mga ina ng tahanan kung saan ito ikakabit, gaano kalaki at kalalim ang imburnal, at kalapit na gripo. Bekit ang ina? Siya kasi ang nag-aasikaso sa kalusugan ng tahanan, kasama ang pagkain, tubig at gamot.

Nasugpo ng India ang mga sakit na dysentery at cholera. Napasigla ang mga bata (kasabay ng pamumudmod ng gatas). Napahaba ang buhay ng mamamayan.

Taon 1902 pa sinabi na ng Philippine Commission ni Governor General Howard Taft na kapos sa inuming tubig at pangkubeta. Panahon nang lutasin ang krisis.

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Makinig sa Sapol, Sabado, 8-10 ng umaga, DWIZ (882-AM).



### **MBC backs creation of water office**

The Makati Business Club supports the Marcos administration's establishment of a Water Resources Management Office and the concurrence of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

The MBC said the creation of the WRMO would help the government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of providing better access to clean water and sanitation for all Filipinos.

It said the status quo has hampered in attracting investments in the water sector because of too much bureaucracy.

It noted that there are 30 water-related agencies at present which processes permits that can be streamlined by establishing the WRMO.

"We believe the WRMO will help address urgent issues even as we encourage Congress to pass a law creating an even more effective Department of Water," the business group said.

Citing data from the National Economic and Development Authority, MBC said that in 2021, 45.2 percent of the population does not have access to safe waters supply. It means they source their water from springs, rivers, streams, wells, peddlers and other sources.



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SINCE 1900  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



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EDITORIAL



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## Hold industrialized nations accountable for global warming, Sen. Imee urges gov't

By MARIO B. CASAYURAN

Senator Imee Marcos on Monday, Feb. 27, said the climate change problem does not recognize national boundaries.

Thus, the government has to take a more aggressive stance in the next Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention to Climate Change to hold the industrialized nations accountable for their previous contribution to global warming, given that the contribution of the Philippines is very minuscule, she said.

Marcos noted that there have been too many pledges and too little action.

"But there are at least two new grounds for optimism: the COP27 discussion, at last, of their debt to the vulnerable developing

world's "loss and damage" as well as US President Joe Biden's climate catch-up law, the Inflation Reduction Act," she said.

Sen. Marcos emphasized that it has long been established that island nations like the Philippines suffer the most from associated damages from climate change such as rising sea levels, prolonged droughts, and stronger typhoons.

"On our part, the national government can continue to promote efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of the Philippines through a shift to renewables and other low-carbon technologies, promoting energy conservation, and promoting mass transportation through railways," she said.

"For the locals government units (LGUs), investment for resiliency programs would be critical," she added.





# Carbon credits: A contested tool to fight deforestation

By MATHILDE DUMAZET

**P**ARIS, France (AFP) – Planting trees or safeguarding tropical rainforests have become popular tools for companies seeking to offset their carbon emissions and proclaim their commitment to the environment.

However, recent scandals have cast a shadow over the carbon credit industry, revealing a landscape rife with opportunities for greenwashing.

Walt Disney, JP Morgan Bank and other major corporations have been accused of purchasing carbon credits from forest protection projects in areas that were not actually at risk of deforestation.

Separately, a company responsible for managing 600,000 hectares of land in the United States has reportedly earned \$53 million over the past two years from carbon credits that did not significantly alter its forest management practices.

None of these projects sequestered carbon beyond that which would have been absorbed by trees through photosynthesis in a business-as-usual scenario.

Still, companies counted the resulting carbon credits towards their own reduction targets, allowing them to offset emissions in the carbon accounting of their operations.

Leaders and experts from around the world will gather in the Gabonese capital Libreville on March 1 and 2 for the One Forest Summit.

Co-presided by France and Gabon, the meeting will focus on improving financial instruments aimed at protecting the world's forests.

Carbon credits are already widely used. According to various estimates, the number of tons of CO2 they represent (with one credit equivalent to one ton) could increase tenfold by 2030, to around two billion tons.

"The risky aspect of the carbon credit market is that it is not self-regulating," said Cesar Dugast from French environmental consultancy Carbone 4, in an interview with AFP.

"Everyone has an interest in maximizing the quantity of carbon credits. It enables the project devel-



AFP

opers to spread the total cost over a maximum number of credits, offering a lower cost to buyers."

"Even the certifiers have an interest in the proliferation of projects," he added.

In mid-January, The Guardian, Die Zeit and an NGO revealed that more than 90 percent of projects certified by leading verifier Verra for forest conservation under the UN program to reduce deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) were likely "ghost credits" that did not represent "real emissions reductions."

Verra's CEO, David Antonioli, rejected these findings, arguing that "REDD projects are not some abstract concept on a piece of paper; they represent real projects on the ground that deliver life-affirming benefits."

## Carbon credits under debate

After the story came out, the price of nature-related carbon credits has dropped, according to Paula Van Laningham, global head of carbon at S&P Global.

The revelations about REDD+ projects have sparked a wider debate about the entire carbon credit system.

"Are the projects themselves a good vehicle for carbon finance in a way that actually leads to a just transition? Probably both yes and

no," she told AFP.

Several independent rating agencies have since defended their methodologies, stressing the crucial need for financing projects protecting nature.

"The first issue we look at is additionality: would the project have happened in absence of the carbon markets?" Donna Lee, co-founder of Calyx Global, an independent rating agency for carbon projects, told AFP.

"We then look at how the baseline was set and what would have happened in the absence of the project."

The core issue with initiatives aimed at halting deforestation is the challenge of proving that deforestation would have occurred without the funding.

"We look at patterns of deforestation in the region... a lot of scientific studies show that there are certain things like roads, population, distance to the forest edge, that are often associated with deforestation," Lee said.

Above all, the companies that buy these credits should be "more transparent" by clearly indicating where credits are sourced and how they reduce their own emissions, she said.

"We need to move from a mentality of compensating to a mindset of contributing," said Dugast from Carbone 4.



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## Far-reaching UN treaty a must to cut global plastic use - experts

**PARIS:** Only a bold and ambitious UN treaty with sweeping reforms of the entire plastic life cycle can stem the world's waste crisis, experts said Monday.

Even if measures thought to have the greatest potential for reducing plastic consumption are implemented, they would still fail to prevent a substantial rise in plastics production and use, they warned in a report.

A year ago 175 nations agreed to end plastic pollution by crafting a binding UN treaty, which could come into being as soon as the end of 2024.

Among the key actions under negotiation are a global ban on single-use plastic items, a "polluter pays" scheme, and a tax on new plastic production.

But even with these policies, there is a "considerable" possibility the treaty "will be too weak to bend the consumption curve downward," the authors said in a statement.

On current trends, plastic use will nearly double from 2019 across G20 countries by 2050, reaching 451 million tons each year, according to the report, jointly produced by Economist Impact and The Nippon Foundation.

In 1950, only two million tons of plastic were produced worldwide.

"The findings highlight the level of ambition and the sense of urgency needed at the negotiation table," co-author Gillian Parker told Agence France-Press (AFP).

### 'Not an impossible problem'

The report modeled the three policy approaches — all under discussion at the UN talks — covering the entire life cycle of plastic, from production to disposal.

A global ban on unnecessary single-use plastics, including plastic sachets, cotton buds and balloon sticks, would by 2050 slow the growth in plastics consumption by only 14 percent.

So-called extended producer responsibility schemes, which put the onus on the industry, would barely dent the projected increase in plastic use, reducing it from 451 to 433 million tons.

And even a substantial tax on "virgin" plastic

resin, the raw material for making plastics, would only shave 10 percent off the baseline projection out to 2050.

Combined implementation of all three measures would still allow plastic consumption to grow by a quarter.

Even these inadequate measures face stiff headwinds: producers, retailers, industry bodies and consumer groups are likely to oppose some or all of them, according to the report.

"Industry has been very clear in saying they do not think taxes are productive," said Parker.

Manufacturers are even less enthusiastic about production cuts.

Recycling, the report showed, has not lived up to

expectations, even if it remains part of the solution. It's like "closing the door after the horses bolted," said Parker.

It is more efficient to intervene at the beginning of the plastics pipeline than at the end, when we're throwing everything away, she suggested.

Many countries lack the infrastructure to handle the scale of plastic waste generated and it remains cheaper to produce virgin plastic than recycle it.

Parker and her team, however, are still optimistic.

"This is not an impossible problem," she said. With the right binding and enforceable interventions and economic incentives, plastic pollution is "solvable."

AFP



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**  
8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

**PANGI MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE**  
Applicant. Case No. 23-3549

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Barangays Lambusan, Tacup, Kinawahan, Victoria, Luyang, Tambongon, Dapdap, Anapog, Bancusan, To-ong, Busogan and Batad, municipality of San Remigio, province of Cebu, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

**PROPOSED TARIFF**

Public Tap						
Pipe Size	0-5 m <sup>3</sup> (min)	6-10 m <sup>3</sup>	11-20 m <sup>3</sup>	21-30 m <sup>3</sup>	31-40 m <sup>3</sup>	Over 40 m <sup>3</sup>
3"	P 105.00	21.10	23.40	25.90	27.60	30.10

Residential and Institutional						
Pipe Size	0-5 m <sup>3</sup> (min)	6-10 m <sup>3</sup>	11-20 m <sup>3</sup>	21-30 m <sup>3</sup>	31-40 m <sup>3</sup>	Over 40 m <sup>3</sup>
3"	P 105.00	21.10	23.40	25.90	27.60	30.10

Commercial and Industrial						
Pipe Size	0-15 m <sup>3</sup> (min)	16-30 m <sup>3</sup>	31-500 m <sup>3</sup>	501-1000 m <sup>3</sup>	Over 1000 m <sup>3</sup>	
3"	P 810.00	48.20	50.40	54.70	58.90	

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **27 March 2023**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

**At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing**, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of Cebu and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 14th day of February 2023.

By Authority of the Board:  
**Dr. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III**  
Executive Director

**Affected Parties:**  
**The Secretary**  
Sangguniang Bayan, San Remigio, Cebu  
**The Barangay Chairman**  
Barangays Lambusan, Tacup, Kinawahan, Victoria, Luyang, Tambongon, Dapdap, Anapog, Bancusan, To-ong, Busogan & Batad  
San Remigio, Province of Cebu (REMATE: Feb. 28, 2023)

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**  
8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

**CEBU MAHARLIKA DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION**  
Applicant. Case No. 23-3537

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Palmas Verdes Subdivision, Barangay Tabok, Mandaue City, province of Cebu, with the following proposed rates:

**PROPOSED TARIFF**

Residential and Institutional						
Pipe Size	0-5 m <sup>3</sup> (min)	6-10 m <sup>3</sup>	11-20 m <sup>3</sup>	21-30 m <sup>3</sup>	31-40 m <sup>3</sup>	Over 40 m <sup>3</sup>
3"	P 250.00	55.00	60.00	65.00	70.00	75.00

Commercial and Industrial						
Pipe Size	0-15 m <sup>3</sup> (min)	16-30 m <sup>3</sup>	31-100 m <sup>3</sup>	101-1000 m <sup>3</sup>	Over 1000 m <sup>3</sup>	
3"	P 1,400.00	110.10	120.00	130.10	140.10	
4"	P 2,400.00	170.10	180.10	190.10	200.10	
5"	P 4,400.00	250.10	260.10	270.10	280.10	

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **20 March 2023**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

**At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing**, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of Cebu and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 25th day of January 2023.

By Authority of the Board:  
**Dr. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III**  
Executive Director

**Affected Parties:**  
**The Secretary**  
Sangguniang Panlungsod, Mandaue City, Cebu  
**The Barangay Chairman**  
Barangay Tabok, Mandaue City, Cebu  
**The Homeowners Association President**  
Palmas Verdes Subdivision, Barangay Tabok, Mandaue City, Cebu  
**The General Manager**  
Metro Cebu Water District, Magallanes -  
Lapu-Lapu Sts., Cebu City 6000 (REMATE: Feb. 28, 2023)