

02 APRIL 2021, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



# Bicol River Rehabilitation Solution to Perennial Flooding

by  **Village Connect** a day ago

## Bicol River Rehabilitation Solution to Perennial Flooding



The ceremonial sandbar dredging and bamboo planting along Bicol River on March 23 signaled the massive rehabilitation of the country's eighth largest waterway, under the Bicol River Restoration Project led by the Task Force Build Back Better (TF BBB).

The TF BBB, chaired by Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, was tasked by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to conduct post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery programs in areas struck by four successive destructive cyclones in 2020.



DENR Undersecretary Rodolfo Garcia, who represented Cimatu during the project launch on March 23, announced the approval of President Duterte to construct seven flood control projects and rehabilitate flood gates and pumping stations along the Bicol River system.

"To provide long-term protection to the people of Bicol region is the reason why we are pursuing the construction of flood control projects, a sustainable dredging program and river bank restoration in the Bicol River," Garcia said.

The event held in Camalig, Camarines Sur was also attended by TF BBB-Bicol Region ground commander and National Housing Authority General Manager Marcelino Escalada Jr., Camarines Sur Gov. Miguel Luis Villafuerte, and Camarines Sur 2nd District Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte Jr.



“Our short, medium, and long-term plans for these areas are already in place,” Garcia said, referring to TF BBB’s rehabilitation and recovery initiatives in Cagayan River and Marikina River since February, and now, the Bicol River.

Jerry Fano, head of the Project Office of the Flood Control Management Cluster of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), explained that the drainage capacity of Bicol River has been greatly reduced, especially in its downstream section.

Bicol River’s average width of 80 meters has narrowed to 55 meters, which significantly contributed to the widespread flooding in the region’s outlying areas.

The DPWH has identified 10 sites for immediate dredging of an estimated total volume of 1.63 million cubic meters of sandbars, Fano said.

“This dredged material is equivalent to 200 Olympic-sized swimming pools,” he said.

An Olympic-sized pool measures 50 meters long, 25 meters wide and has a minimum depth of two meters.

Fano said the DPWH will also dredge 9.4 million cubic meters of silt along Lake Bato, specifically at the junction of Naporog River and Quinale “A” River.

Bicol River is the eighth largest river in the country in terms of drainage basin size.

Ninety percent (90%) of Bicol River is in Camarines Sur and Albay, while the rest lies in Camarines Norte.



 Bombo Radyo Legazpi  
10h · 🌐

LOOK. Matagumpay na naibalik sa karagatan ang isang green sea turtle matapos na mamataan sa bahagi ng Sorsogon Bay sa Brgy. Abuyog, Sorsogon City.

May habang 92cm at kapal na 82cm ang carapace nito.

Sinuri at ginamot muna ang pawikan bago pinakawalan sa dalampasigan ng Bacon Beach, Bacon District sa tulong ng Coast Guard Station Sorsogon, Coast Guard Sub-Station Talisay, Sorsogon City Veterinary Office, DENR PENRO Sorsogon, at Sorsogon City Bantay Dagat.

#BomboRadyoLegazpi

#ipabombo

CGS Sorsogon



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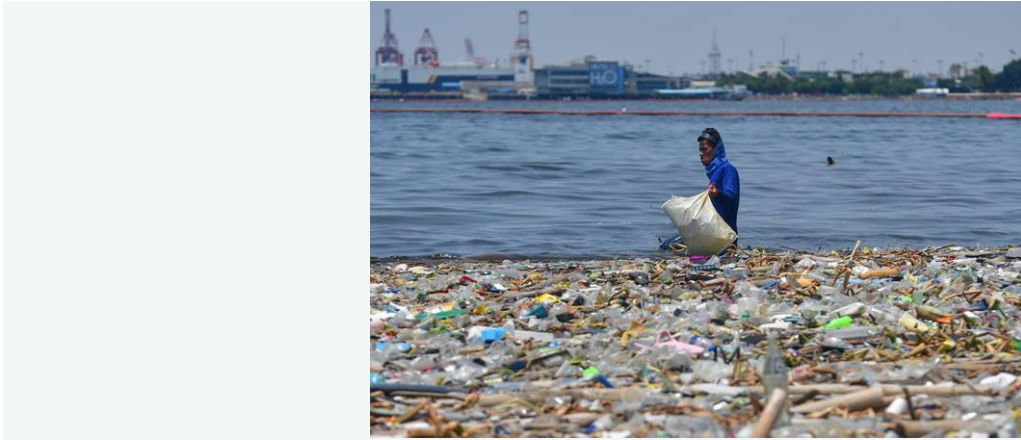
1 Share



# Philippines can unlock up to \$1.1 billion from recycling plastic yearly: World Bank

Jessica Fenol, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Apr 01 2021 11:23 AM



Marine debris end up at the breakwater near the Manila Yacht Club while overlaying of dolomite continues on the other end of the shore as part of DENR's Manila Bay rehabilitation project. *Mark Demayo, ABS-CBN News/File*

MANILA - The Philippine government should work with the private sector and other stakeholders to unlock the potential of up to \$1.1 billion (P53.4 billion) per year in material value from recycling plastic, a World Bank report released this month showed.

To date, only \$246 million (P11.9 billion) per year is being tapped since the country only recycles a part of its single-use plastic wastes annually, the World Bank's [Market Study](#) for the Philippines: Plastics Circularity Opportunities and Barriers said.

The Philippines in 2019 recycled some 28 percent of key plastic resins, the study showed. At the same time, 78 percent of material value of plastics was lost to the Philippine economy every year, the World Bank said.

"Fully addressing this market opportunity will require public and private sector investments to improve waste collection/sorting, an enabling environment to improve recycling economics, and other systemic interventions," the report said.

Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand are losing an equivalent of \$6 billion per year, or 75 percent of material value, when single-use plastics are not recycled as new materials, the report said.

"These studies show that there is an untapped opportunity to reap environmental and economic benefits with clear and complementary interventions from the private and public sector," aid World Bank Country Director for Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand Ndiamé Diop.

Diop added that "mismanaged plastic waste" across the 3 countries also threatens economic sectors including tourism, fisheries, impacting livelihood and infrastructure.

Globally, 4.8 to 12.7 million tons of plastic ends up in the oceans every year with Asia contributing over 80 percent of this marine leak, the World Bank said. The Philippines is among the top contributors to marine plastic wastes, it said.

In addition, the coronavirus pandemic has proven to be a [headwind](#) in global plastic recycling efforts, a report showed.

Demand for plastic gloves, face shield as well as takeaway food packaging, among others, has intensified while syringes are also now in demand due to the global COVID-19 vaccine rollout on top of the usual plastic wastes consumed on a day to day basis.

About 64 million sachets are used in the Philippines daily, based on the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives. Retail or "tingi" is a way of life for poor Filipinos who only have funds for single-use quantities.



Coffee cups with discarded face masks and gloves are pictured in Berlin's Neukoelln district on March 22, 2021, amid the ongoing coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. *Photo: David Gannon/AFP*

About 64 million sachets are used in the Philippines daily, based on the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives. Retail or "tingi" is a way of life for poor Filipinos who only have funds for single-use quantities.

"This has led to an increased awareness towards plastic waste management, bringing the topic of plastic pollution to the forefront of consumer consciousness in the Philippines," the study said.

A National Plan of Action on Marine Litter by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) with the help of UNDP Philippines, is being developed.

It also has a national waste diversion rate plan of 80 percent by 2022, according to the National Economic and Development Authority, the group said.

In order to reap the economic benefits of plastic recycling, the World Bank recommended the following:

- Increase sorting efficiency of post-consumer collection of plastics
- Set recycled content targets across all major end-use applications
- Mandate "design for recycling" standards for plastics, especially for packaging
- Encourage increase in recycling capacities (mechanical and chemical)
- Implement industry-specific requirements to increase waste collection rates
- Restrict disposal of waste plastics in landfills and phase-out non-essential plastic items

"These studies serve a critical need for country-specific data on how plastics are produced, used and managed in Southeast Asia. They clearly highlight the importance of managing plastic waste as a valuable resource, and not solely as a waste management problem," said Asia Pacific Regional Industry Director Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services at the International Finance Corporation Rana Karadsheh.

The study highlighted the need to address marine debris and the promotion of "plastic circularity" or the ability to produce plastics that can be reused thus reducing wastes and preserving resources, it said.

The European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) also have an agreement to promote the [circular economy](#).

Several brands operating in the country have also committed to contribute in plastic recycling efforts and in promoting environmentally sustainable business growth.

-- with a report from Reuters

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/business/04/01/21/philippines-can-unlock-up-to-11-billion-from-recycling-plastic-yearly-world-bank?fbclid=IwAR1s6rNwQ7h8M9phOmY-ScoHjDR9mAW0jYi-cIZR2OLyRhZ6-h9xTfzt-hc>



## White Sand at Manila Bay Latest Aerial Update as of March 2021

Have you seen the white sand at Manila Baywalk project lately? Here's the latest March 2021 aerial update of the new Manila Bay white sand project.

The Manila Baywalk white sand beach phase 1 was opened to the public on September 20, 2020.

Drone pilot: Vincent Tabigue

Source: [https://www.projectlupad.com/white-sand-at-manila-bay-latest-aerial-update-as-of-march-2021/?fbclid=IwAR1pVqug-UErwNK\\_ZMTTYds6uP4Z7nqMBHyzqIvKLx-jjAecz0AuxeILFbE](https://www.projectlupad.com/white-sand-at-manila-bay-latest-aerial-update-as-of-march-2021/?fbclid=IwAR1pVqug-UErwNK_ZMTTYds6uP4Z7nqMBHyzqIvKLx-jjAecz0AuxeILFbE)



## Access to climate finance critical for development: ADB



Manila [The Philippines], April 1 (ANI): The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has called access to climate finance a key priority for Asia and the Pacific as governments design and implement a green and resilient recovery from the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.

ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa said expanding access to finance is critical if developing economies in Asia and the Pacific are to meet their Paris Agreement goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change.

"We can no longer take a business-as-usual approach to climate change. We need to put ambitious climate actions at the centre of development," he said.

"ADB is committed to supporting its developing member countries through finance, knowledge and collaboration with other development partners as they scale up climate actions and push for an ambitious outcome at COP 26 and beyond." ADB is using a three-pronged strategy to expand access to finance for its developing members as they step up their response to the impacts of climate change.

First, ADB has an ambitious corporate target to ensure 75 per cent of the total number of its committed operations support climate change mitigation and adaptation by the end of the decade with climate finance from ADB's own resources to reach 80 billion dollars cumulatively between 2019 and 2030.

ADB has also adopted explicit climate targets under its Asian Development Fund (ADF) which provides grant financing to its poorest members. ADF 13 which covers the period of 2021-24 will support climate mitigation and adaptation in 35 per cent of its operations by volume and 65 per cent of its total number of projects by 2024.

Second, ADB is enhancing support for adaptation and resilience that goes beyond climate proofing physical infrastructure to promote strong integration of ecological, social, institutional and financial aspects of resilience into ADB's investments.

Third, ADB is increasing focus on supporting the poorest and most vulnerable communities in its developing member countries by working with the United Kingdom, the Nordic Development Fund, and the Green Climate Fund on a community resilience programme to scale up the quantity and quality of climate adaptation finance in support of local climate adaptation actions. (ANI)

Source: <https://www.bignetwork.com/news/268358728/access-to-climate-finance-critical-for-development-adb>



# San Carlos City thrives as renewable hub

By Easter Anne DozaPublished on April 1, 2021

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, April 1 (PIA) -- San Carlos City, the renewable hub of the Philippines being host to more than 100 megawatt-renewable power generating companies, has earned the title "Soaring Green City of Opportunities."

Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar, during the and Network Briefing, March 31, spoke with San Carlos City mayor Renato Gustilo on the city's development plan amid the pandemic.



Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar banter with San Carlos City Mayor Renato Gustilo on the city's development plan amid the pandemic during the Network Briefing News episode. \*(EAD-PIA6 photo)

San Carlos City, an awardee of the ASEAN Environmental Sustainable City in 2014 and 2017 for its best practices on solid waste, waste water management, water greening program, coastal resource management program and regulation on the use of plastic, has positioned itself as an environment friendly city in the north, at the center of major cities of Bacolod, Dumaguete and Cebu.

"One advantage being at the center is that 'goods are coming in with cheaper transportation cost from Dumaguete and Cebu with shorter access to Bacolod City through the Ecotourism Highway.' This, aside from the city is considered low risk in terms of natural disaster," Gustilo explained to Andanar.

Although on its last phase of a 20-year Master Development Plan where most of the target projects have been completed, Gustilo is seeking the assistance of the national government through the Bayanihan Program.

"We would like to start building, with the help of the national government, a two to three-storey high rise condominium building for low income people," he added.

The local government has allocated land for the project with its Lupa Para Sa Mahirap program as a Galing Pook Awardee and will adopt the scheme of collecting small amounts per week for five years from the beneficiaries.\*(LTP/EAD-PIA6 Negros Occidental)

Source: <https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1071267>



Commuters queue for free bus rides from Philcoa to Cubao in Quezon City on March 30, 2021 due to limited public transportation amid the enhanced community quarantine.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

# Philippines enters April with 8,920 new COVID-19 cases, total at 756,199

(Philstar.com) - April 1, 2021 - 4:30pm

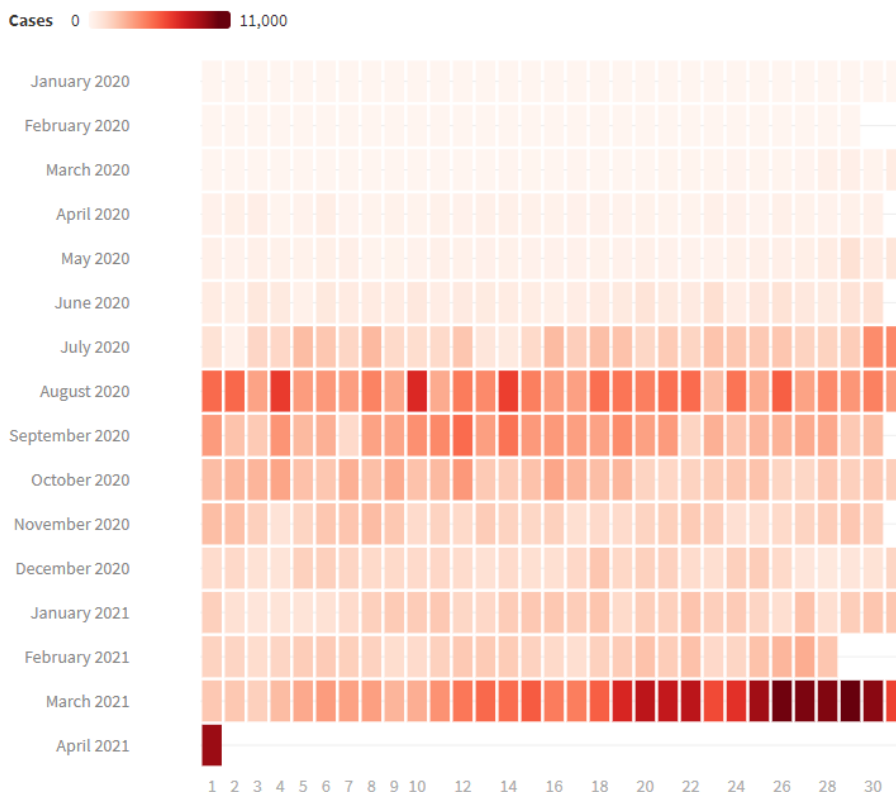
MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines saw 8,920 new coronavirus cases on the first day of April, after record-high increases under a surge that began last month.

Thursday's development pushed the country's overall count to 756,199. It is not clear yet if the additional infections already include results from antigen tests within 'NCR Plus,' which the Department of Health said would now be counted but has yet to say officially when.

Active cases: 138,948 or 18.4% of the total  
 Recoveries: 205, bringing the number to 603,948  
 Deaths: 6, or now 13,303 in total

## COVID-19 cases in the Philippines

The Philippines recorded the most number of COVID-19 cases in a single day on March 29, 2021.



Source: Department of Health • As of April 1, 2021, 4 p.m.



## What's new today?

- In March, the Philippines saw an increase of over 171,000 in its tally of COVID-19 cases. From the new cases on April 1, it appears that the surge has yet to slow down.
- A total of 738,913 Filipinos were vaccinated as of [March 30](#), with 1,344 health workers who already got their second dose.
- Vice President Leni Robredo urged the DOH and the coronavirus task force to look into the [shortage](#) of hospital beds for COVID-19 patients. — **Christian Deiparine**



# Illegal structures spotted in PH feature in WPS: AFP

By Priam Nepomuceno April 1, 2021, 1:16 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)'s maritime patrol off Pagkakaisa Banks last March 30 have resulted in the discovery of illegal man-made structures constructed in some of its features.

"During this patrol, we were able to document man-made structures that were built on some of the features. These structures are illegal," said AFP chief-of-staff Lt. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, in a statement Thursday.

Pagkakaisa Banks is under the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Kalayaan, Palawan while Julian Felipe Reef is a large boomerang-shaped shallow coral reef at the northeast of Pagkakaisa Banks and Reefs (Union Reefs), located approximately 175 nautical miles west of Bataraza, Palawan.

Earlier, the National Task Force West Philippine Sea (NTF WPS) expressed concern about a Philippine Coast Guard sighting report where around 220 Chinese fishing vessels, believed to be manned by Chinese maritime militia personnel, were sighted in line formation at the Julian Felipe Reef last March 7.

"The Laws of the Sea gives the Philippines indisputable and exclusive rights over the area. These constructions and other activities, economic or otherwise, are prejudicial to peace, good order, and security of our territorial waters," Sobejana said.

He added that the AFP, through the Western Command, regularly conducts maritime patrols in the West Philippine Sea as part of its constitutional mandate to protect the country's sovereignty and sovereign rights.

"We have already updated our higher civilian authorities such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Department of National Defense about these offenses to our sovereignty," Sobejana said.

He also assured every Filipino that AFP efforts continue to dutifully perform its mandate to protect and advance our national interests in the area. (PNA)

Source:

[https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1135583?fbclid=IwAR2PeFTu5wBRJ6\\_DSnf6v0wpwpcwPDzGuMr7\\_iPB5lIHl66JhZP7GPDsYRj8](https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1135583?fbclid=IwAR2PeFTu5wBRJ6_DSnf6v0wpwpcwPDzGuMr7_iPB5lIHl66JhZP7GPDsYRj8)



# Forging a green social contract: A must-do for Asia's labor movements

By [RENE E. OFRENEO](#)

APRIL 1, 2021



“Green-minded” politicians in the world have been spouting about the importance of a “green new deal” (GND), or a blueprint to stop the catastrophic global warming of Planet Earth. They are joined by CEOs who have embraced a green CSR framework in corporate operations.

The discourse on GND is loudest in Europe and North America. Recently, Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, and Werner Hoyer, president of the European Investment Bank, reiterated the call of the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) for a “global green deal” on the de-carbonization of the world in order to limit the rise in global temperature to 1.5-degree Celsius. The two are proposing investments in green energy solutions, breakthrough green technologies (such as clean hydrogen and green energy storage), and circular energy (with focus on the re-use or recycling of materials).

In the United States, Washington’s commitment to the Paris Agreement of 2015 on climate change has been revived with the election of Joe Biden. He appointed John Kerry, a strong advocate of clean energy, as America’s climate ambassador. Further, Biden declared his administration’s goal of pushing for a \$2 trillion investment package for clean energy to make America’s electricity carbon-free by 2035 and for the country to achieve net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2050.

But within the Democratic Party of Biden, there are voices calling for even much bolder measures. One of them is Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who has been articulating the message of the young visionary leaders of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA): climate change is a labor issue. Ocasio-Cortez, a waitress-turned-congresswoman in New York, has a resolution seeking a “10-year national mobilization” to reduce carbon emissions. The mobilization program envisions the following critical components:

- Sourcing of electricity only from renewable and zero-emissions power plants,
- Building or upgrading “smart” power grids,
- Building resiliency against climate-change risks and disasters,
- Restoring forests to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere,
- Working with farmers to cut emissions from the agricultural sector, and
- Creation of millions of high-wage jobs in a green economy.

The rationale for the DSA’s GND is well-articulated in the book *A Planet to Win: Why We Need a Green New Deal*, written by Kate Aronoff, Alyssa Battistoni, Daniel Cohen and Thea Riofrancos.

The existential climate change threat is a labor issue and requires solutions in support of the working people. In short, a GND is meaningless if the social and labor dimensions are not spelled out. A GND is inextricably linked to finding solutions to other societal problems such as poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The GND, as advanced by Ocasio-Cortez and the DSA, has received the support of the International Trade Union Council and workers’ movements in a number of countries. The ITUC itself has a long-running campaign enlisting workers and other segments of society to join the global campaign against global warming. The ITUC explained that there are “no jobs on a dead planet.” It summarized beautifully the critical importance of the battle against climate change as follows:



“WE know the science is unequivocal—The world’s temperature is rising, current trends will lead us to a 4 degrees celsius average increase or more in this century and without urgent, ambitious action we will face irreversible changes in our climate.

“WE have policy—The ITUC wants the world’s governments to agree on climate action and give us a fighting chance to limit the temperature rise to 2 degrees or less.

“WE are out of time—Climate-related catastrophes such as cyclones, floods, drought, fires, melting glaciers, season changes and more are increasing and hurting working people now. Their impacts will only become stronger within 15 years—this will destroy more communities and jobs.

“WE demand industrial transformation—Science tells us we need to urgently stabilize carbon emissions at 44 Gigatonnes. Business as usual gets us to 59 Gigatonnes by 2020. It doesn’t add up. All our economic sectors must change. We demand to be part of the industrial transformation with universal access to breakthrough technologies that will make our industries and our jobs sustainable for workers everywhere.

“WE demand a just transition—We have played our role in UN negotiations and fought and won commitments to ‘Just Transition.’ Now we want to see the transition happen on the ground, including through investment in new green jobs, skills, income protection and other necessary measures implemented everywhere, with adequate funding for the poorest and most vulnerable of nations.”

Fine. The problem is that the workers’ movements in the Philippines and other Asian countries are not making the same level of noise being created by the GND labor advocates in America and Europe. GND is often seen as the advocacy of the do-gooders among the conscience-stricken business people, middle-class environmentalists, Church activists, concerned academics, investigative journalists and environmental conservationists. Governments readily call for tripartite conferences on minimum wage and employment issues, and yet, there are hardly any on climate change.

Fleshing out the GND is also problematic. In Asia, the call of UNEP for a global GND is interpreted to be mainly a plea to governments to reduce the GHG emissions issue on a country by country basis. Hence, the numerous discussions, seminars and conferences are on energy transition and exclude representatives of the trade and peasant unions, informal sector associations, transport workers’ organizations, urban poor and indigenous people movements and other organized groups at the grassroots.

To repeat, climate change is a labor issue. To tame the climate change risks, we can only agree with Ocasio-Cortez, national mobilization involving the working people is a must.

*Dr. Rene E. Ofreneo is a Professor Emeritus of University of the Philippines.*

*For comments, please write to [reneofreneo@gmail.com](mailto:reneofreneo@gmail.com).*

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/04/01/forging-a-green-social-contract-a-must-do-for-asias-labor-movements/>

# Snakes, rats and cats: The trillion dollar invasive species problem

Amélie Bottollier-Depois, Agence France-Presse

Posted at Apr 01 2021 10:50 AM | Updated as of Apr 01 2021 10:51 AM



Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, beginning its blood-meal. *Image by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Image Library*

PARIS, France - Disease-carrying mosquitoes, crop-ravaging rodents, forest-eating insects and even the domestic cat are all "exotic" intruders whose cost to humanity and the environment is vast and growing, according to a sweeping study published Wednesday.

Researchers in France estimate that invasive species have cost nearly \$1.3 trillion dollars to the global economy since 1970, an average of \$26.8 billion per year.

And they warn that this is likely an underestimate.

In a study published in the journal *Nature*, scientists totted up the dizzying array of harmful effects from species carried between habitats, whether plants, insects, reptiles, birds, fish, mollusks, micro-organisms or mammals.

Beyond the "phenomenal magnitude" of these costs, there is also sign of a steady upward trend since 1970, said lead author Christophe Diagne, of the Ecology, Systematics and Evolution laboratory at the University of Paris-Saclay.

Most of the price tag is associated with the damage to ecosystems, crops or fisheries, although pest-control measures were also included in the research, an analysis of hundreds of studies that are part of a new invasive species database.

A preliminary roundup of the top ten invasive pests includes crop-eating rats and the Asian gypsy moth, which is attacking trees throughout the northern hemisphere.

It also included the tiger mosquito, native to Southeast Asia, which has become one of the worst invasive species in the world, carrying diseases like chikungunya, dengue and zika.

Average annual costs triple every decade, researchers said, in part because of an increase in scientific studies on this subject.

But there is also evidence of an "exponential increase in introduced species, due to growing international trade," said Franck Courchamp, director of the same Paris-Saclay laboratory.

"We import lots of species, voluntarily or involuntarily," he said.

## MUSSELING IN

It is a problem with a long history, linked to human trade, travel and colonialism.

In Australia, feral European rabbit populations were first reported in the early 1800s and their population exploded, reaching such proportions that they ravaged native species and caused billions of dollars of damage to crops.



Photo by Sergey Zolkin on Unsplash

In 1950, the government released the disease myxomatosis, which only affects rabbits, killing over 90 percent of the wild bunnies. But some have since built up immunity.

The brown tree snake has eaten nearly all of the native birds and lizards of Guam since it was accidentally introduced in the mid-twentieth century from its South Pacific habitat, as well as causing power outages by infiltrating electrical installations and menacing people in their homes.

In the 1980s and 90s the zebra mussel, which originated in the waterways of the former Soviet Union, invaded North America's Great Lakes, blocking pipes, threatening native species and causing billions in damages.

On land, American forests -- and more recently those in Europe -- have been devastated by the Asian long-horned beetle.



Asian long-horned beetle

While in Hawaii, the Puerto Rican coqui frog has found a new home with no natural predators -- except local homeowners whose property values have tumbled thanks to its ear-splitting croak, which can reach 100 decibels.



Puerto Rican coqui frog. Image by United States Department of Agriculture

## 'INCALCULABLE'

Researchers hope that by putting a number on the cost of invasive species they can raise awareness of the enormity of the problem and push it higher on humanity's daunting list of environmental challenges.

But beyond the monetary estimate, the study said the "ecological and health impacts of invasions are at least as significant, yet often incalculable".

The UN's science advisory panel for biodiversity, called IPBES, has said invasive species are among the top five culprits -- all human-driven -- of environmental destruction worldwide, along with changes to land use, resource exploitation, pollution and climate change.





In 2019, IPBES estimated there had been a 70 percent increase in invasive species since 1970, in the 21 countries studied.

And the worst could be to come, said Courchamp, who is taking part in upcoming IPBES research.

"International trade will cause more and more species to be introduced, while climate change will cause more and more of these introduced species to survive and become established," he said.

Early detection, better data and preventative measures could reduce costs considerably, the study said.

Courchamp said the domestic cat also has a lot to answer for -- among the worst, in fact, in the researchers' top ten.

The animal, which has been taken across the world for hundreds of years, is now "invasive in almost all the islands of the world", he said.

Domestic cats have been responsible for "the most killings in the world of birds, reptiles and amphibians, which are not prepared for this type of predator", he added.

**abd/klm/mh/mjs**

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Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/overseas/04/01/21/snakes-rats-and-cats-the-trillion-dollar-invasive-species-problem?fbclid=IwAR3rGq3VmFZO-Rg28NM9L8p6RKYeTp3edGLpt4T7goFpYZoiMaZxCmATXCo>



## Past ice melts may have caused seas to rise 10 times faster than today: study

posted April 01, 2021 at 11:00 pm

by [AFP](#)

Ice sheet melting at the end of the last ice age may have caused sea levels to rise at 10 times the current rate, a study published Thursday by a team led by scientists from Britain's Durham University said.

Based on geological records, the researchers estimate that oceans worldwide rose 3.6 metres per century over a 500-year period some 14,600 years ago.

The findings raise a red flag about the potential today for rapid sea level rise that could swamp coastal cities and densely populated deltas around the world.

The team found that the approximately 18-metre sea level rising event may have originated primarily from melting ice sheets in the northern hemisphere and not Antarctica as previously thought.

The scientists say their work could offer "vital clues" about future ice sheet melting and sea level rises due to climate change.

"We found that most of the rapid sea-level rise was due to ice sheet melt across North America and Scandinavia, with a surprisingly small contribution from Antarctica," said the study's co-author Pippa Whitehouse, of Durham University's geography department.

"The next big question is to work out what triggered the ice melt, and what impact the massive influx of meltwater had on ocean currents in the North Atlantic.

"This is very much on our minds today -- any disruption to the Gulf Stream, for example due to melting of the Greenland Ice Sheet, will have significant consequences for the UK climate."

Current models used by many climate scientists estimate global sea levels could rise by between 1 and 2 metres by the end of this century.

The Durham researchers used detailed geological sea-level data and state-of-the-art modelling techniques to reveal the sources of the dramatic five-century sea level rising event.

Comparable to melting an ice sheet twice the size of Greenland, it resulted in the flooding of vast areas of low-lying land and disrupted ocean circulation, with knock-on effects for global climate, they said.

"Our study includes novel information from lakes around the coast of Scotland that were isolated from the ocean due to land uplift following the retreat of the British Ice Sheet, allowing us to confidently identify the meltwater sources," added co-author Yucheng Lin, also of Durham's geography department.

Identifying the source of the meltwater will help improve the accuracy of climate models that are used to replicate the past and predict changes in the future, the team added.

They noted the findings were particularly timely with the Greenland ice sheet rapidly melting and contributing to a rise in sea levels and changes to global ocean circulation.

In 2019, Greenland cast off more than half-a-trillion tonnes of ice and meltwater, accounting for 40 percent of total sea level rise that year.

02 APRIL 2021, FRIDAY



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# **VLOGS**

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxIO0vMM5ik&feature=youtu.be&ab\\_channel=VincentTabigue](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxIO0vMM5ik&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=VincentTabigue)

#Basecobeach #Savemanilabay #Battleformanilabay

BAKIT GANITO? BASECO BEACH! TUBIG DAGAT! MALA LAGOON ANG KULAY! DILAWANG TUBIG NOON! GANDA NA NGAYON

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