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**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





# DENR targets full dredging of Cagayan River sandbar next year

November 1, 2021 | 7:03 pm



DRRMO

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it is aiming to complete the dredging of the 134.7-hectare sandbar of the Cagayan River by the first quarter of 2022.

In a news release on Monday, DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said 8.43% or 81,807 cubic meters of the targeted 970,962 cubic meters has so far been dredged since the start of operations in June.

Mr. Cimatu said materials dredged from the river have been placed at the Cagayan riverbanks and will be used to restore the ideal alignment of eroded parts. The restoration is also seen to speed up the flow of water to the river's mouth in Aparri, Cagayan.

He also said that the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Armed Forces of the Philippines will deploy additional equipment and workforce to help in the dredging operations.

The project is part of the department's efforts to rehabilitate areas devastated by flooding during typhoons, like Cagayan.

The province experienced its worst flooding in four decades in November last year during typhoon Ulysses (international name: Vamco), which affected 583,493 individuals and left 24 dead in the Cagayan Valley region. — **Bianca Angelica D. Añago**

Source: [https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-targets-full-dredging-of-cagayan-river-sandbar-next-year/?fbclid=IwAR0vQzDBpv7\\_wJJap2obvKEesGgfWajIaMfESHyXYibBP0ujL4iZLBwRcYc](https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-targets-full-dredging-of-cagayan-river-sandbar-next-year/?fbclid=IwAR0vQzDBpv7_wJJap2obvKEesGgfWajIaMfESHyXYibBP0ujL4iZLBwRcYc)

## DENR calls for protection of watersheds in Central Luzon



SAVE OUR WATERSHED CAMPAIGN. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources launched the “Save Our Watershed” campaign in Nueva Ecija. (DENR)

November 02, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) launched an advocacy campaign that seeks to intensify the protection and conservation of forests and watersheds in Central Luzon.

During the Provincial Launch of “Save Our Watershed” campaign in Nueva Ecija, DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr. said watershed is an important source of water for power generation including domestic and irrigation use.

It also provides numerous ecosystem services such as clean air and water, as well as protection to landslides and floods.

“We must sustain these important benefits and functions of our watershed to maintain ecological balance. Our collaborative efforts are much needed now to protect and conserve this ecosystem,” Moreno said.

“Save Our Watershed” campaign calls for the active collaboration and cooperation of various stakeholders to stop environmental crimes and abuses on forest and natural resources. We need to change the public perception and attitude that watershed is not only a source of resources to be extracted. It has also life that is crucial to our survival. More than reforestation, social behavioral change is crucial in this campaign to save watershed,” he added.

Moreno also expressed his gratitude to DENR’s partners in the region, including people’s organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

He also extended his appreciation to Japan International Cooperation Agency and Asian Development Bank, as well as local government units that have facilitated the organization of watershed management councils.

For her part, Carranglan Mayor Mary Abad vowed to support the advocacy campaign, including the Forestland Management Project of DENR, in the more than 44,000-hectare Pantabangan-Carranglan Watershed.

She also underscored the importance of strengthening the collaboration with different stakeholders and partners to ensure safer and more resilient communities through sustainable watershed management.



The launching in Nueva Ecija also witnessed the forging of a memorandum of agreement between DENR-Central Luzon and Prime Water Corporation for active collaboration on the campaign, maintenance and adoption of watershed, and alliance with people's organization and local communities to intensify watershed protection.

Several environmental organizations were likewise recognized for their valuable contributions in the protection and conservation of the environment and branded them as "Save Our Watershed" Champions.

These include the Philippine Taxonomic Initiative, Bambuhay, Binbin Igorot Association Inc., Barangay Salazar Tribal Planting Association Inc., Kadangdanglaan Farmers Association Inc., and Sitio Tubong Upland Farmers Association Inc. **(PIA)**



## Keeping people and environment safe! EcoWaste welcomes DENR policy on cadmium

NOV 2, 2021, 2:06 PM

James Veloso  
Writer

***The administrative order issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources last May seeks to reduce the risk of exposure to human health and the environment from cadmium and related compounds used in industrial processes.***

**TOXICS** watchdog group EcoWaste Coalition has welcomed a new policy issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) that seeks to protect human health and the environment from cadmium, a highly poisonous chemical and a known human carcinogen.

DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-08 (Chemical Control Order for Cadmium and Cadmium Compounds), signed by Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu last May 6 and published last month, seeks to reduce the risk of exposure to human health and the environment from cadmium and related compounds used in industrial processes.

*“We welcome this policy issuance by the DENR regulating industry use of cadmium as this can contribute to safeguarding the health of workers and the general public from the adverse effects of exposure to this highly toxic element,”* Thony Dizon, EcoWaste Chemical Safety Campaigner, said.

The EcoWaste Coalition has been lobbying since 2016 for the adoption of a CCO that will prohibit or restrict the use of cadmium and its compounds to reduce exposure, especially among workers and consumers, and to minimize, if not eliminate, cadmium emissions and discharges from human activities such as waste management and disposal.

Classified as one of the “10 chemicals of major public health concern” by the World Health Organization (WHO), “cadmium exerts toxic effects on the kidney, the skeletal system and the respiratory system and is classified as a human carcinogen,” according to WHO.

The CCO, which will take effect this November, requires any person or entity engaged in the importation, manufacture, distribution and industrial use of cadmium and cadmium compounds to register with and obtain importation clearance from the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB).

Applicants are further required to meet the specified requirements pertaining to importation, manufacturing, chemical management plan, emergency and contingency plan, labeling, workers’ training, handling, transport, treatment, storage and disposal.



The CCO further requires any person or entity involved in the transport, recycling, treatment, storage and disposal of cadmium-containing wastes to register and comply with all the applicable provisions of the rules and regulations on hazardous waste management under Republic Act 6969, or the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990.

*“The tightened regulation on the management of cadmium-containing wastes is essential to prevent and reduce cadmium releases into the environment from the recycling, open dumping, landfilling, open burning and incineration of such wastes,” noted Dizon.*

*“As the CCO does not cover cadmium and cadmium compounds in batteries, ceramics, cosmetics, electronics, jewelries, plastics, toys and others, we hope that other regulatory agencies will adopt and/or enforce health protective controls or restrictions on the cadmium content in products and materials under their jurisdiction to protect consumers and the environment,” he added.*





# PH showcasing Sustainable Finance Roadmap in COP26

November 2, 2021, 7:20 pm



Finance Secretary and Climate Change Commission (CCC) chairman-designate Carlos Dominguez III

**GLASGOW** – The Philippines will present its newly launched Sustainable Finance Roadmap before policymakers at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) being held here as a model for other emerging economies to incorporate climate and environmental factors in mobilizing funds to build a sustainable and resilient economy.

Finance Secretary and Climate Change Commission (CCC) chairman-designate Carlos Dominguez III said the Roadmap, along with its guiding principles, will serve as the Philippines' masterplan in formulating green and sustainable policies to raise the capital and investments needed in reducing the country's greenhouse gas emissions while still increasing its economic output.

"The Roadmap underscores our commitment to deliver on our carbon reduction pledges. We hope this roadmap will inspire other countries towards adopting the appropriate finance policies that will help in the reduction of carbon emissions," said Dominguez, who heads the Philippine delegation to the COP26.

As its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement, the Philippines has committed to a projected greenhouse gas emission reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030 for agriculture, wastes, industry, transport, and energy sectors.

Dominguez said the development of the comprehensive Roadmap launched last October 20 underscores the pivotal role that appropriate fiscal policies play in reversing the effects of the climate crisis and in enabling the shift to a low-carbon economy.

The Sustainable Finance Roadmap is the outcome of the Philippines' partnership with the government of the United Kingdom (UK) in helping the country implement the Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Low Carbon Energy Program.

The British government supported the establishment of the "Green Force," which is the Inter-Agency Technical Working Group for Sustainable Finance led by the Department of Finance (DOF) and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

"Finance policies will enable a shift from carbon-intensive to renewable power sources. They will enable greener habitat and transport systems as well as more resilient agricultural practices. This is the reason why we partnered with the Government of the United Kingdom to implement the Asean Low Carbon Energy Program in the Philippines," Dominguez said.



He said the Philippines' bold and ambitious NDC requires a whole-of-nation strategy that can only be achieved if the Philippine government starts spearheading the implementation of practical and achievable solutions on the ground.

The Sustainable Finance Roadmap incorporates this whole-of-nation approach in mobilizing finance to support the transition to a clean, sustainable, and climate-resilient economy.

It aims to address policy and regulatory gaps in promoting sustainable investments through finance, implementing sustainable government initiatives, facilitating investments in public infrastructure, and developing projects that promote sustainable financing in the Philippines.

Dominguez said farmers, fisherfolk, and those living in coastal communities bear the brunt of the consequences of climate change in the Philippines.

To help achieve its NDC, the Philippine government has been pushing the swift congressional passage of a bill that will ban single-use plastics, which will encourage every Filipino to do his or her part on a daily basis in reducing marine pollution and helping save the world's environment, he said.

The Philippine government will also launch here on the sidelines of COP26 a financing mechanism that will allow the Philippines to accelerate its transition from coal to clean energy in a just and affordable manner, Dominguez said.

To provide Filipino farmers adequate protection from crop losses while reinforcing risk mitigation and resilience efforts in the agriculture sector, he said the government is expanding the scope of the assets and crops covered by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC).

Another significant step that the Philippines has taken as part of its intensified efforts to fight climate change is the appointment of a new National Panel of Technical Experts of the Climate Change Commission (NPTE-CCC).

Dominguez said this new group of experts representing the country's different regions will provide the government with the practical advice it urgently needs to fight climate change and engage local communities in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

At the October 20 launch of the Sustainable Finance Roadmap, BSP Governor Benjamin Diokno said at least seven local Philippine banks have already issued a total of \$1.15 billion and PHP85.4 billion in green, social, and sustainability bonds since 2017.

He said the proceeds from these bonds are being used or will be used to fund and refinance renewable energy, energy efficiency projects, green buildings, green transportation, and sustainable water management, among others.

In October last year, the Philippines' Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Alfonso Cusi declared a moratorium on endorsements for greenfield coal power plants to be able to build a more flexible and sustainable power supply mix. **(PR)**



# Paglutas sa global warming, ipinanawagan si DFA Secretary Locsin sa mga world leaders at advocates ng United Nation

By [RadyoMaN Manila](#) -Nov. 2, 2021 at 5:29am



Umapela si Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary Teodoro Locsin, Jr. sa mga world leaders na tugunan ang global warming na nararanasan ng buong mundo.

Sa kanyang video message sa 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) Climate Summit sa Glasgow, Scotland, ipinanawagan ng kalihim ang pagpapatupad sa 2015 Paris accord upang malimitahan ang global warming at ang epekto ng climate change.

Binanggit din ni Locsin ang naging mensahe ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa 75th UN General Assembly tungkol sa “greatest injustice” kung saan ang mga taong nagdurusa nang husto mula sa climate change ay ang mga “least responsible” sa krisis.

Giit ni Locsin, trabaho ng mayayamang bansa na manguna sa pagresolba sa isyu dahil obligasyon ito na hindi dapat iwasan.

Una nang nangako ang Pilipinas na magbabawas ito ng greenhouse gases ng 75% pagsapit ng 2030 bilang bahagi ng kontribusyon nito.

Source: <https://rmn.ph/paglutas-sa-global-warming-ipinanawagan-si-dfa-secretary-locsin-sa-mga-world-leaders-at-advocates-ng-united-nation/?fbclid=IwAR0JaQDeooZWYks-fQF5wVerItidicCRJzx8NBy6GC0dJcgVlrx8KU17p84E>



# PH incurs \$10-B losses due to climate-related hazards over 10 yrs

November 2, 2021, 1:27 pm



**MANILA** – The Philippines has incurred losses and damages estimated to reach PHP506.1 billion (about US\$10 billion) from climate-related hazards over a decade, underscoring its extreme vulnerability to the climate crisis despite contributing only 0.3 percent of the planet's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Data gathered by the Department of Finance (DOF) show that this amount makes up 98.2 percent of the country's total estimated losses and damages from 2010 to 2020 of PHP515.51 billion (around US\$10.6 billion).

This staggering amount is equivalent to an annual average of PHP48.9 billion, which is about 0.33 percent of the annual average gross domestic product (GDP) of the Philippines.

Located in the typhoon belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines constantly experiences unavoidable losses and damage amounting to 0.5 percent of its annual GDP primarily from an increasingly unpredictable climate, the DOF said.

The Philippines is struck by around 20 tropical cyclones every year and an almost daily occurrence of seismic shocks.

Being a climate-vulnerable country, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said the Philippines has much at stake in reversing the devastating effects of global warming.

“As I have said on many occasions, I am determined to set the Philippines as an example for all nations in setting the standards for mitigating the impact of climate change. I want us to be a world leader in this area through our climate ambition,” Dominguez said.

Dominguez, who is chairman-designate of the Climate Change Commission (CCC), heads the Philippine delegation to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26).

He is expected to be one of the leading voices from participating developing economies in asking Western countries that are largely responsible for the most GHG emissions to act now in significantly reducing their carbon footprints and to make good on their commitments to extend the financing needed by climate-vulnerable countries to transition to a clean energy future.

“This is the 26th time that the COP will be meeting. Yet, little action has been taken. Nothing would please us more than seeing the countries that emitted and continue to emit the most greenhouse gasses to accept the responsibility of financing the transition to carbon neutrality,” Dominguez said earlier at the October 27 opening of the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).



The Philippines has committed to a projected greenhouse gas emission reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030 for the sectors of agriculture, wastes, industry, transport, and energy, as its National Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement.

According to the DOF, the latest Fiscal Risk Statement (FRS) released this year by the Bureau of the Treasury “cites the country’s exposure to natural disasters as a major source of downside risks for the national government’s fiscal position.”

The FRS is drawn up annually to identify the fiscal risks to which the Philippines is exposed, and at the same time outlines the key programs and measures put up by the government to manage these risks. **(PR)**





# Climate-related losses reach P506 billion in last decade

[Elijah Felice Rosales](#) - The Philippine Star November 3, 2021 | 12:00am



The DOF said the country forfeits as much as 0.5 percent of GDP every year mostly to typhoons that destroy crops, infrastructure and property. Despite the damage from the climate crisis, the Philippines contributes only about 0.3 percent of the planet's greenhouse gas emissions.

Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines suffered more than P500 billion in damage from weather extremes over the past decade, the Department of Finance (DOF) said.

In a report, the DOF said economic losses due to climate hazards reached P506.1 billion, accounting for over 98 percent of the damage wreaked between 2010 and 2020.

In addition, the Philippines lost an average of P48.9 billion or around 0.33 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) yearly during the period to natural and man-made risks brought about by climate change.

The DOF said the country forfeits as much as 0.5 percent of GDP every year mostly to typhoons that destroy crops, infrastructure and property. Despite the damage from the climate crisis, the Philippines contributes only about 0.3 percent of the planet's greenhouse gas emissions.

Thus, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III earlier said leaders of developing economies have to comply with their commitments to cut their carbon footprint.

He also stressed the need to raise financing to countries most affected by climate change like the Philippines to fund their transition to renewable energy.

Dominguez heads the Philippine delegation to the 26th Conference of the Parties or COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, where the country will unveil its efforts to bring down its carbon emissions.

As a first, the country is committing to reduce its greenhouse gas emission by 75 percent until 2030, as well as improve Mindanao's hydropower plants to veer the region away from coal energy.

"As I have said on many occasions, I am determined to set the Philippines as an example for all nations in setting the standards for mitigating the impact of climate change," Dominguez said.

The Philippines released 1.33 tons of carbon per capita in 2019, according to Our World in Data. The emission falls below the average of 4.14 tons per capita in Asia, excluding China and India, and 4.72 tons per capita worldwide.



However, the country ranked as one of the countries most devastated by weather disturbances due to threats of natural hazards and lack of adaptive mechanisms, according to the 2020 World Risk Index.

It also placed fourth among 10 economies battered by climate extremes from 2000 to 2019, based on the Global Climate Risk Index.

According to the report, the Philippines experienced 317 natural disasters during the period and suffered \$3.17 billion worth of losses from them.



## Climate-tied damage hits Pts506.1 billion–DOF

BYBERNADETTE D. NICOLAS NOVEMBER 3, 2021



In this photo provided by the Philippine Coast Guard, houses are submerged in flooded areas in Cagayan Valley, northern Philippines, on November 14, 2020. Typhoon Ulysses caused extensive flooding that sent residents fleeing to their roofs and killing dozens of people.

CLIMATE-RELATED hazards resulted in an estimated P506.1 billion (about \$10 billion) in losses and damage for the Philippines in over a decade, the Department of Finance (DOF) said.

Based on DOF data, this already makes up 98.2 percent of the country's total estimated losses and damage of P515.1 billion (around \$10.6 billion) from 2010 to 2020. Annually, this is equivalent to an average of P48.9 billion, which is about 0.33 percent of the GDP. This, despite the Philippines contributing only 0.3 percent of the planet's total greenhouse gas emissions.

The DOF said this shows the country's "extreme vulnerability to the climate crisis," adding that the Philippines constantly experiences unavoidable losses and damage amounting to 0.5 percent of its annual GDP primarily from an increasingly unpredictable climate.

Every year, the Philippines is struck by around 20 tropical cyclones and an almost daily occurrence of seismic shocks.

Being a climate-vulnerable country, the Philippines has much at stake in reversing the devastating effects of global warming, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said.

"As I have said on many occasions, I am determined to set the Philippines as an example for all nations in setting the standards for mitigating the impact of climate change. I want us to be a world leader in this area through our climate ambition," said Dominguez.

Dominguez, who is chairman-designate of the Climate Change Commission (CCC), heads the Philippine delegation to the ongoing 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland.

At the opening of the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Dominguez earlier called on Western countries that are largely responsible for the most GHG emissions to act now in significantly reducing their carbon footprints, and to make good on their commitments to extend the financing needed by climate-vulnerable countries to transition to a clean energy future.

The finance chief said earlier the need for these countries to accept the responsibility of financing the transition to carbon neutrality.





The Philippines has committed to a projected greenhouse gas emission reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030 for the sectors of agriculture, wastes, industry, transport, and energy, as its National Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement.

### **Fiscal risk statement**

According to the DOF, the latest Fiscal Risk Statement (FRS) released this year by the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) “cites the country’s exposure to natural disasters as a major source of downside risks for the national government’s fiscal position.”

The FRS is drawn up annually to identify the fiscal risks to which the Philippines is exposed to, and at the same time, outlines the key programs and measures put up by the government to manage these risks.

In 2020 alone, based on the preliminary 2022 FRS, P74.75 billion worth (approximately \$1.49 billion) of damage was recorded—resulting from disasters, including three consecutive typhoons that collectively caused the largest damage of P69.02 billion (approximately \$1.38 billion). Economic losses were estimated at P35.74 billion (approximately \$714.8 million).

In 2019, a single tropical cyclone—Typhoon Tisoy (international code name Kammuri)—recorded the most damage at P6.6 billion (approximately \$132.0 million), of which P2.9 billion (approximately \$58 million) and P3.7 billion (approximately \$74 million) pertain to infrastructure and agriculture damage, respectively, the DOF said.

Losses and damage from extreme weather events reached 4 percent of GDP in 2013 as a result of Supertyphoon Yolanda (international code name Haiyan), which killed over 6,000 people, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

### **9th most weather-affected country**

Based on the 2020 World Risk Index, the Philippines ranked 9th out of 181 nations in the world as the most affected country from extreme weather events.

Meanwhile, the Philippines ranked 4th among 10 countries most severely hit by extreme weather events from 2000 to 2019.

Being an archipelago, the Philippines is also greatly threatened by rising sea levels as an offshoot of global warming.

Based on satellite observations, the level of the Philippines’s surrounding seas has increased at a rate of 5.7-7.0 mm/year from 1993 to 2015, twice the highest global average rate of 2.8-3.6 mm/year observed between 1993 and 2010.

Sea level rise, which has been identified by the CCC’s reconstituted National Panel of Technical Experts (NPTE) among the top 10 climate-induced risks in the country, is putting at extreme risk 64 coastal provinces, 822 coastal municipalities and 25 major coastal cities.

The country lost about 68 percent and 82 percent corals and seagrass cover, respectively, from 2009-2016, which was exacerbated by climate change impacts, such as coral bleaching and ocean acidification. This accelerated fish catch depletion as commercial fish move from warm to cooler and deep waters.

Image courtesy of Philippine Coast Guard via AP

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/11/03/climate-tied-damage-hits-%E2%82%A7506-1-billion-dof/>



# Losses from climate hazards reach P506B

By ... -November 3, 2021



*P2.3B losses. Naval forces in North Luzon conduct disaster response operations in Tagudin, Ilocos Sur, Oct. 13, 2021 in the aftermath Tropical Storm Maring, the latest weather disturbance that hit the country. (Philippine Navy photo)*

The Philippines incurred around P506.1 billion in losses and damages over a 10-year period from climate-related hazards, despite contributing only 0.3 percent of the planet's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, according to the Department of Finance (DOF).

The DOF said in a statement yesterday the staggering amount from 2010 to 2020 is equivalent to an annual average of P48.9 billion, which is about 0.33 percent of the annual average gross domestic product of the Philippines.

Being a climate-vulnerable country, the Philippines has much at stake in reversing the devastating effects of global warming, said Finance Secretary Carlos Domingue who heads the Philippine delegation to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26).

The Philippines will present its newly launched Sustainable Finance Roadmap before policymakers at the COP26 in Glasgow as a model for other emerging economies to incorporate climate and environmental factors in mobilizing funds to build a sustainable and resilient economy.

Dominguez said the roadmap, along with its guiding principles, will serve as the Philippines' masterplan in formulating green and sustainable policies to raise the capital and investments needed in reducing the country's GHG emissions while still increasing its economic output.

As its Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement, the Philippines has committed to a projected GHG emission reduction and avoidance of 75 percent from 2020 to 2030 for agriculture, wastes, industry, transport and energy sectors.

According to the DOF, the latest Fiscal Risk Statement (FRS) released this year by the Bureau of the Treasury "cites the country's exposure to natural disasters as a major source of downside risks for the National Government's fiscal position."

The FRS is drawn up annually to identify the fiscal risks to which the Philippines is exposed to, and at the same time, outlines the key programs and measures put up by the government to manage these risks.

In 2020 alone, based on the preliminary 2022 FRS, P74.75 billion-worth of damages have been recorded resulting from disasters, including three consecutive typhoons that have collectively caused the largest damages amounting to P69.02 billion. Economic losses were estimated at P35.74 billion. – **Angela Celis**

Source: [https://malayaph.com/news\\_business/losses-from-climate-hazards-reach-p506b/](https://malayaph.com/news_business/losses-from-climate-hazards-reach-p506b/)



# DOF: Philippines incurred \$10-billion losses, damages due to climate-related hazards in last 10 years

By TED CORDERO, GMA News

Published November 2, 2021 7:20pm



Landslide incident in Barangay Dominican-Mirador Hill, Baguio City, during the onslaught of Severe Tropical Storm Maring. IAN CRUZ

The Philippines has incurred losses and damage worth at least P506.1 billion or approximately \$10 billion from climate-related hazards over a decade, the Department of Finance (DOF) said Tuesday.

In a statement, the DOF emphasized the country's extreme vulnerability to the climate crisis despite contributing only 0.3% of the planet's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Citing data it gathered, the Finance department said the amount lost to climate-related hazard makes up 98.2% of the country's total estimated losses from 2010 to 2020 of P515.51 billion or around \$10.6 billion.

This staggering amount is equivalent to an annual average of P48.9 billion, which is about 0.33% of the annual average gross domestic product (GDP) of the Philippines, the DOF said.

Located in the typhoon belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines constantly experiences unavoidable losses and damage amounting to 0.5% of its annual GDP primarily from an increasingly unpredictable climate, the agency said.

The Philippines is struck by around 20 tropical cyclones every year and an almost daily occurrence of seismic shocks.

Being a climate-vulnerable country, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said the Philippines has much at stake in reversing the devastating effects of global warming.

"As I have said on many occasions, I am determined to set the Philippines as an example for all nations in setting the standards for mitigating the impact of climate change. I want us to be a world leader in this area through our climate ambition," Dominguez said.

Dominguez, who is chairman-designate of the Climate Change Commission (CCC), heads the Philippine delegation to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26).





“This is the 26th time that the COP will be meeting. Yet, little action has been taken. Nothing would please us more than seeing the countries that emitted and continue to emit the most greenhouse gasses to accept the responsibility of financing the transition to carbon neutrality,” Dominguez said.

The Philippines has committed to a projected greenhouse gas emission reduction and avoidance of 75% from 2020 to 2030 for the sectors of agriculture, wastes, industry, transport, and energy, as its National Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement.

According to the DOF, the latest Fiscal Risk Statement (FRS) released this year by the Bureau of the Treasury (BTR) “cites the country’s exposure to natural disasters as a major source of downside risks for the National Government’s fiscal position.”

The FRS is drawn up annually to identify the fiscal risks to which the Philippines is exposed to, and at the same time, outlines the key programs and measures put up by the government to manage these risks.

Being an archipelago, the Philippines is also greatly threatened by rising sea levels as an offshoot of global warming, according to the DOF.

Based on satellite observations, the level of the Philippines’ surrounding seas has increased at a rate of 5.7 to 7.0 millimeters per year (mm/year) from 1993 to 2015, which is twice the highest global average rate of 2.8 to 3.6 mm/year observed between 1993 and 2010.

Sea level rise, which has been identified by the CCC’s reconstituted National Panel of Technical Experts (NPTE) as among the top 10 climate-induced risks in the country, is putting 64 coastal provinces, 822 coastal municipalities, and 25 major coastal cities at extreme risk, according to the DOF.

It said that the country had lost about 68% and 82% corals and seagrass cover, respectively, from 2009 to 2016, which was exacerbated by climate change impacts, such as coral bleaching and ocean acidification.

This has contributed to the dwindling fish catch as commercial fish move from warm to cooler and deep waters, it said.—**AOL, GMA News**

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/809353/dof-philippines-incurred-10-b-losses-damage-due-climate-related-hazards-in-the-last-10-years/story/?fbclid=IwAR19d0Kxv6gs09fipdQH-VXWU\\_H4AM--FhX\\_wlNkBQb5m1FmvURewUTxmSg](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/809353/dof-philippines-incurred-10-b-losses-damage-due-climate-related-hazards-in-the-last-10-years/story/?fbclid=IwAR19d0Kxv6gs09fipdQH-VXWU_H4AM--FhX_wlNkBQb5m1FmvURewUTxmSg)



## PH team in COP26 told: Commitments insufficient, action is key

By: [Kurt Dela Peña](#) - Content Researcher Writer / [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 07:45 PM November 01, 2021



FILE PHOTO: Protesters attend a climate change march on a highway in Manila on November 28, 2015. Thousands turned out for climate change marches in Manila and Brisbane on November 28, part of a weekend of action across the globe to demand results from next week's historic Paris summit. NOEL CELIS / AFP

MANILA, Philippines—As the Philippine delegation joins the rest of the world in a key climate conference in Scotland, some important sets of numbers are tucked in its waist—157.6 million, the amount in metric tons of greenhouse gas that the country emitted in 2012 which was 0.33 percent of worldwide total and a 53 percent increase from levels in 1990.

The group Greenpeace Philippines said it hoped the Philippine team in the 26th Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP26) will aggressively push for the Philippine commitment to stop further global warming before the world reaches the point of no return.

COP26 started last Sunday (Oct. 31) and has been described as the world's deadline before the climate catastrophe, which is now wreaking havoc everywhere, becomes irreversible.

Virginia Llorin, Greenpeace Philippines campaigner, said while the group trusts that the Philippine delegation would highlight Filipinos' demands for "climate justice," it should take the initiative to hold companies responsible for the climate crisis "accountable."

The Philippines, one of the nations "highly at-risk" from the effects of the climate crisis, will have Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III as head of delegation to COP26, which will be held from Oct. 31 to Nov. 12 in Glasgow.

Amid criticisms, especially from teen climate activist Greta Thunberg, that conferences like COP26 result only in talk, it brings together leaders of the world to try to commit to common goals in stemming climate change through the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

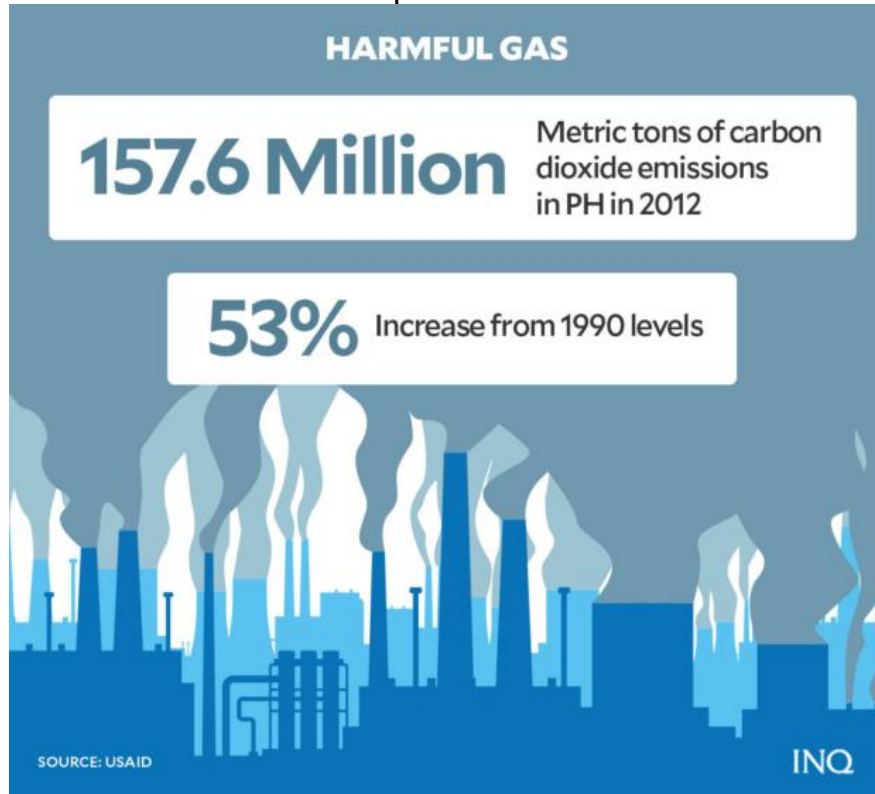
Dominguez, the Department of Finance (DOF) said, will highlight actions taken by the Philippines to fight climate change and demand "greater accountability" from Western nations which "contributed and continue to contribute" to climate destruction.

Greenpeace Philippines said quick action on climate change was imperative and calls for climate justice should go along the phaseout of fossil fuels, a major source of carbon and methane emissions.



### PH pledge

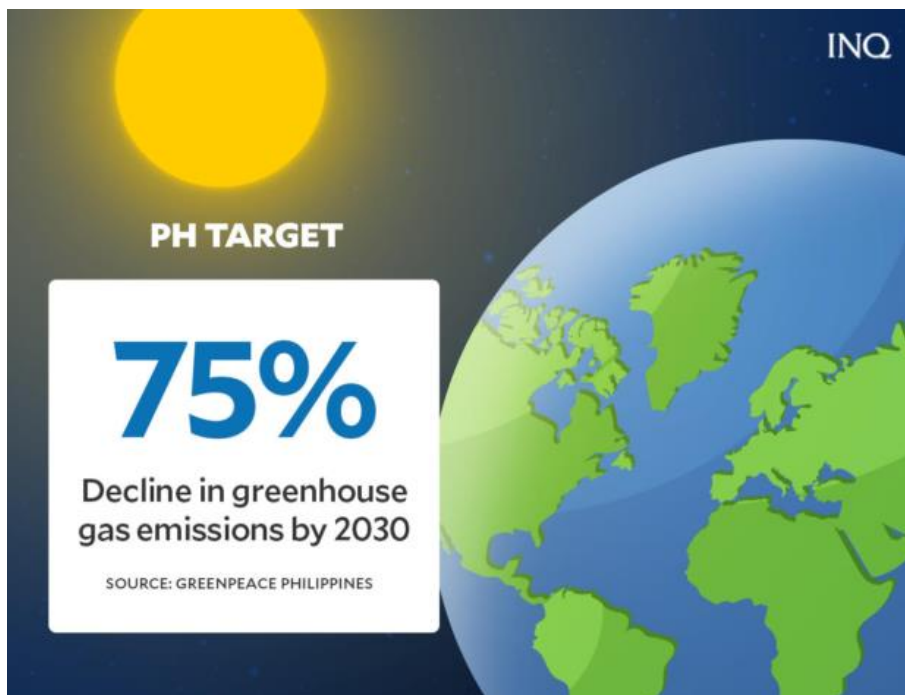
The United States Agency for International Development’s (USAID) ClimateLinks said that the Philippines, in 2012, contributed 157.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions—0.33 percent of global emissions. This was a 53 percent increase from 1990.



Graphic by Ed Lustan

The Philippine government, last April, laid out “extensive plans” to reduce emissions by 75 percent by 2030 by committing to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. This was higher than the 70 percent that the Philippine government committed in 2017.

The 75 percent commitment was part of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the Philippines, but Greenpeace Philippines said most of the “pledge” was conditional—through external assistance—while only 2.71 percent is not conditional – through local resources.



Graphic by Ed Lustan



When the NDC was presented, the group Power for People Coalition said the 2.71 percent of the target that does not hinge on any conditions was “negligible,” explaining that despite having “high mitigation potential,” Philippine officials still turn a blind eye on climate realities.

Greenpeace Philippines said that the government’s climate leadership “needs to be more than lip service,” believing that the Philippines has the potential to do more and to take the high ground in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.

### Commitments ‘not enough’

COP26, which Greenpeace Philippines described as the most significant global climate conference so far, is the “deadline” for governments to give their plans to lessen emissions that would help the world hit its target of keeping global warming below 1.5 degrees Centigrade. Commitments are not enough, though, said Greenpeace Philippines.

#### EARTH’S DEADLINE

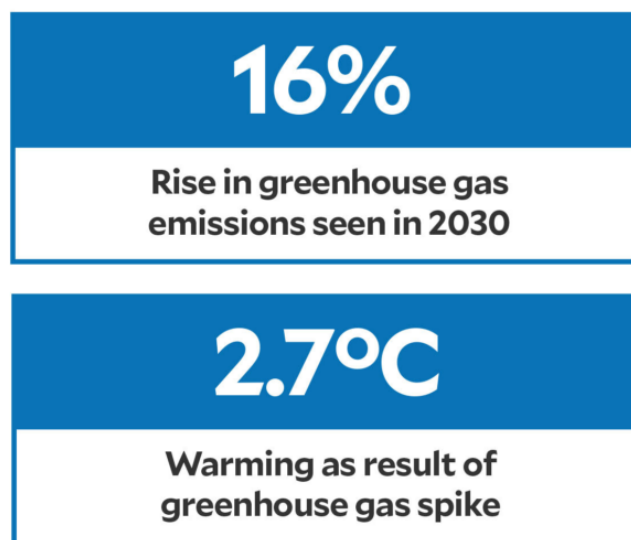


Graphic by Ed Lustan

The latest UN report which synthesized the pledges of nations revealed that with the current level of commitments, a 16 percent increase in emissions will happen by 2030 compared to 2010 and may lead to a 2.7°C rise in global warming “by the end of the century.”

The UN said that global warming “induced by humans” has already caused “multiple observed changes in the climate system” which included increases in both land and ocean temperatures, as well as more frequent heat waves in most land regions.

#### REALITIES



SOURCE: GREENPEACE PHILIPPINES



Graphic by Ed Lustan





With a 1.5°C increase, the Yale Climate Connections (YCC) explained, extreme hot days in the mid-latitudes will be 3°C warmer while with a 2°C increase in temperature readings, extreme hot days in the mid-latitudes will be 4°C warmer “compared to pre-industrial levels.”

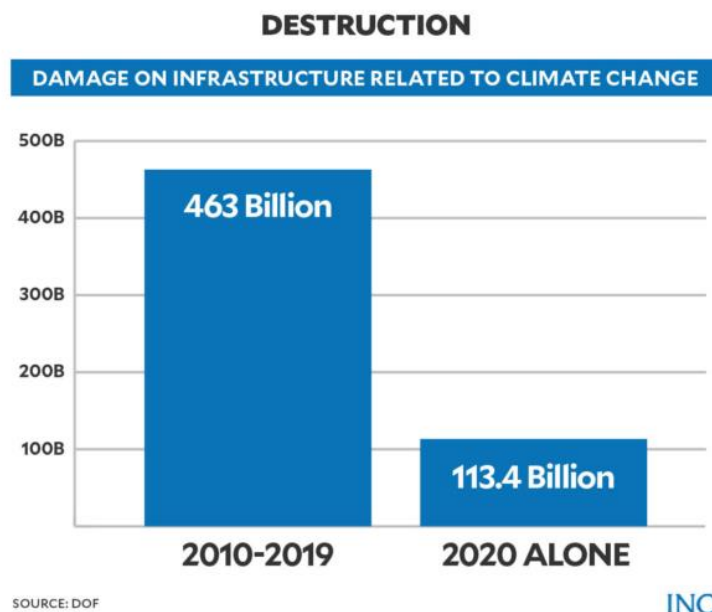
The YCC also said that with a 1.5°C increase, sea levels could rise by 0.26 to 0.77 meters by 2100 while with a 2°C increase, sea levels could rise by 0.36 to 0.87 meters. The increase in heat could also affect the already “declining biodiversity.”

With a 1.5°C increase, six percent of insects, eight percent of plants, and four percent of vertebrates could lose over half of their climatic geographic range. With a 2°C increase, those could intensify—18 percent of insects, 16 percent of plants, and eight percent of vertebrates.

### Significant to Filipinos

Greenpeace Philippines said that the COP26 is significant, especially for Filipinos who are one of the most vulnerable to the effects of the climate crisis, explaining that millions of Filipinos are already suffering losses and disruptions in lives, livelihood and dignity.

The DOF said that “climate-induced hazards” already cost the Philippines P463 billion in infrastructure alone from 2010 to 2019. In 2020, the damage reached P113.4 billion.



Graphic by Ed Lustan

“In the next 50 years, the country has a 40 percent chance of experiencing a loss exceeding P989 billion, and a 20 percent chance of experiencing a loss exceeding P1.53 trillion,” said the DOF.

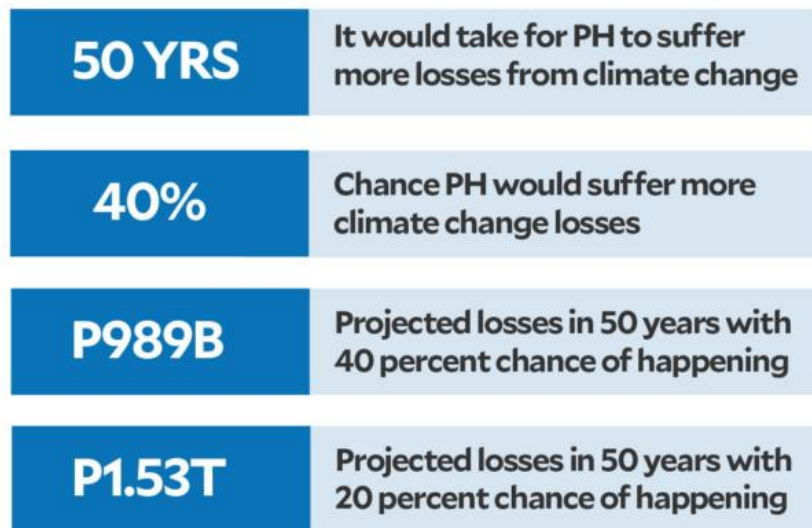
The Philippines currently has the Sustainable Finance Roadmap and its Guiding Principles as “primary blueprint” as the nation transitions to a low-carbon and climate-resilient society.

According to the DOF, the Sustainable Financial Roadmap program was crafted in partnership with the United Kingdom and in the implementation of the Low Carbon Energy Programme for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

It aims to “address policy and regulatory gaps in promoting sustainable investments through finance, implementing sustainable government initiatives, facilitating investments in public infrastructure and developing projects that promote sustainable financing in the Philippines,” according to the DOF.



### THE BLEAK FUTURE



SOURCE: DOF

INQ

Graphic by Ed Lustan

Last June, Dominguez said climate literacy would be the greatest defense against climate change, saying that there was an exigent need to spread public awareness over the need “to take immediate action in ending the worsening environmental crisis.”

Greenpeace Philippines said that while it hoped that the Philippine delegation would take a strong stance, “we also need this to be supported by genuine climate action back home.”

“The Duterte administration still has time to put in place green recovery measures from COVID 19, strengthen the coal moratorium announcement by actual cancellations of planned coal facilities, aim for 50 percent RE (renewable energy) by 2030, and protect and restore ecosystems to build resilience,” the group said.

TSB



# NGOs call for climate objectives to be hard-wired into project planning

October 31, 2021 | 7:03 pm

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS said the Philippines' climate objectives need to be considered at every stage of the planning process in order to maximize the resources available for climate-change mitigation, including foreign aid.

"Aid given to LGUs (local government units) for programs related to climate resilience is a good initiative, but we should consider that funding is just one intervention," Greenpeace Campaigner Rhea Jane Pescador-Mallari said in a mobile message Sunday.

She was responding to a recently-announced program by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to help vulnerable countries adapt to climate change.

"If we integrate climate adaptation and mitigations and other related concepts in every decision-making process... we can use the resources of our nation effectively."

USAID on Thursday launched the Climate Resilient Cities project, which helps vulnerable countries like the Philippines gain access to climate-mitigation financing and expertise.

In a statement issued by the US Embassy in Manila, USAID proposes to help local governments and other stakeholders to "better understand, use, and disseminate climate information to local communities."

Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities Executive Director Renato R. Constantino added that the Philippines needs "solid plans to maximize every peso for climate action."

"It is vital we increase ambition for adaptation as a matter of priority even as we contribute what we can to the larger decarbonization effort globally."

Mr. Constantino said the government must implement strategies with transparency and accountability to encourage the public to participate in the national effort against climate change.

In the 2020 World Risk Report, the Philippines ranked ninth out of 181 countries worldwide.

The most disaster-prone countries according to the report are Vanuatu, Tonga, Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, and the Solomon Islands.

Qatar, Malta, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, and Saudi Arabia were deemed least disaster-prone countries in the world, according to the report.

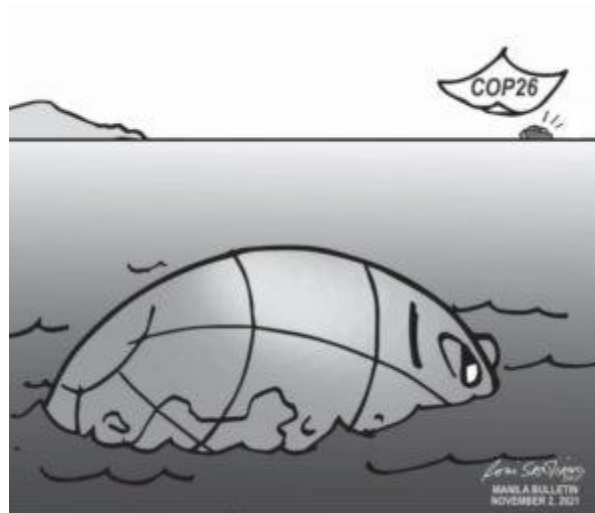
Mr. Constantino added that Southeast Asia "is facing losses of up to 37% of GDP by mid-century if countries such as the US fail to dramatically curb their emissions." — **Bianca Angelica D. Añago**

Source: [https://www.bworldonline.com/ngos-call-for-climate-objectives-to-be-hard-wired-into-project-planning/?fbclid=IwAR1ssJxPvxx0W4YnSfn-iyMLpYrzguy5PIWUiQ\\_i0pwxRtN5hQ5kwINBB0c](https://www.bworldonline.com/ngos-call-for-climate-objectives-to-be-hard-wired-into-project-planning/?fbclid=IwAR1ssJxPvxx0W4YnSfn-iyMLpYrzguy5PIWUiQ_i0pwxRtN5hQ5kwINBB0c)



# PH plays vital role in COP26 on mitigating climate change

Published November 2, 2021, 12:09 AM  
by [Manila Bulletin](#)



The 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change opened in Glasgow, Scotland last Oct. 31 for a two-week meeting that would hopefully address global concerns on the continuing threats posed by unabated global warming.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres reiterated that unless drastic action is taken, the world is heading toward a “calamitous” 2.7 degrees Celsius increase in global warming. This is based on the current Nationally Determined Contributions that parties to the COP21 Paris agreement made six years ago. The G20 nations that represent 80 percent of the emissions need to demonstrate concrete action to reduce global emissions by 45 percent by 2030. At the 2009 Copenhagen climate summit, the G20 nations committed to mobilize \$100 million annually to stem the tide of global warming – and this commitment remains unfulfilled.

After a long absence, the United States headed by President Joseph Biden is fielding a top-level delegation made up of more than a dozen Cabinet members in stark contrast to former President Donald Trump’s rejection of the Paris agreement.

Climate finance is the rallying point among the emerging economies like the Philippines that are minimal contributors to carbon emissions yet suffer the most from typhoons and other natural disasters triggered by global warming. Given the harsh economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the climate vulnerable countries, they are likely to exert greater pressure on the wealthier nations to deliver on their long-delayed commitments.

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III, who has been designated by President Duterte to lead the government’s climate change commission, is heading the Philippine delegation to COP26. He will likely team up with leaders of other delegations from the Climate Vulnerable Forum in asserting the need for the wealthier nations to allocate significant amounts toward adaptation and resilience programs that would mitigate the harmful consequences of global warming. Prior to leaving for Glasgow, he declared:

“We need the Western countries to take responsibility for having contributed and continue to contribute the most to greenhouse gas emissions. They must be given the greater burden of paying for the grants, investments, and subsidies needed for the most climate-vulnerable countries to mitigate the effects of global warming.”





Finance Roadmap, a blueprint that suggests concrete pathways for enabling the financial sector to mainstream climate change programs. This dovetails with the advocacy of environmental, social and good governance (ESG) programs by the country's banking and finance sector in support of business and industrial initiatives.

Earlier this year, the Asian Development Bank launched the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility (ACGF) Green Recovery Program to support \$4 billion worth of green infrastructure projects. The program will help Southeast Asian countries "design green stimulus packages and projects that will create climate-friendly jobs, boost economic growth, and help countries fulfill their pledges under the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Beyond COP26, sustained efforts are needed to ensure that the country is shielded from the disastrous effects of global warming and climate change.

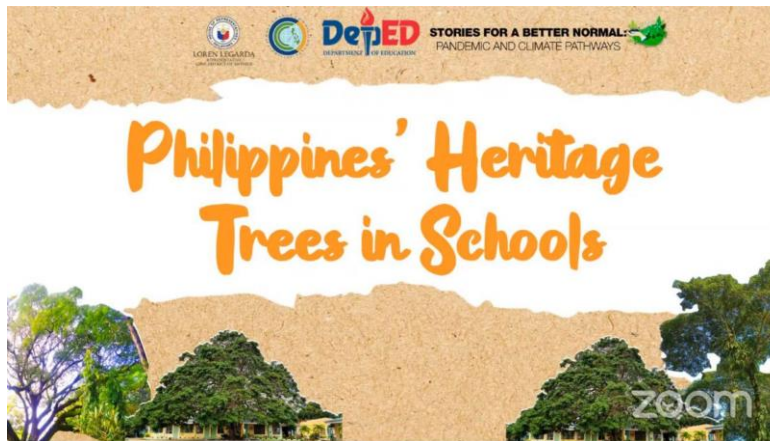


# DepEd pushes for protection, promotion of heritage trees in public schools

Published November 2, 2021, 1:39 PM

by [Merlina Hernando-Malipot](#)

The Department of Education (DepEd) urged schools and other stakeholders to protect heritage trees in public schools and further promote their importance especially among students.



(Photo from DepEd)

“It is always a good opportunity for DepEd and for us educators to bring environmental education to homes and communities,” said Education Secretary Leonor Briones in a statement issued Tuesday, Nov. 2.

“Our country has been blessed with enormous biodiversity, and our heritage trees are one of our national treasures,” she explained. “We must appreciate and teach our young generation on how to further protect it,” she added.

During the 64th episode of “Stories for a Better Normal: Philippines’ Heritage Trees in Schools,” DepEd also called for the protection of heritage trees in public schools and promotion of its educational and historical values.

Meanwhile, Bureau of Learner Support Services – Youth Formation Division (BLSS-YFD) Chief Adolf Aguilar also shared the importance of environmental education and the ways DepEd spreads the concept of biodiversity to the youth in times of pandemic.

Aguilar noted that through the YES-O, National Greening Program (NGP), and Gulayan sa Paaralan sa DepEd, the agency continues to advocate and create immediate actions for the environment.

“Ang YFD ay patuloy lamang sa pag-promote ng mga advocacies na ito para sa kalikasan (The YFD continues to promote its advocacies for the environment),” he added.

The online discussion was organized in partnership with the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda and the Climate Change Commission, with support from the Department of Education, Philippine Information Agency, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, The Climate Reality Project-Philippines and Mother Earth Foundation.

## Importance of heritage trees

The BLSS-YFD also presented the NGP and the recently conducted “Search for Heritage Trees in Public Schools,” which is a program that aims to revive the accounting and inventory of heritage trees in all public schools nationwide to intensify the preservation of the country’s biodiversity.



(Photo from DepEd)

Undersecretary for Administration Alain Del Pascua spearheaded the search to protect centennial trees that serve as landmarks of schools.

Guest teachers Jenelyn Alberto of Kaligayahan Elementary School, Nolito Roque Alvarez of Alabang Elementary School, Rodolfo Cardinez Jr. of Carcarmay Elementary School, and Freida Cawaling of Albasan Elementary School unveiled their schools' efforts in protecting and preserving their century-old native trees.

They also explained the significance of these trees in the lives of students, teachers, and themselves personally.

"Iba pa rin 'yung first-hand na nae-experience nila kasi mas magiging malalim ang appreciation nila (The first-hand they experience is still different because their appreciation will be deeper)," Alberto said, noting the value of letting the younger generation experience the benefits of having trees.

"Ipinapakita namin 'yung historical significance ng puno at kung gaano kaganda at kabuti na mayroon pa ring naiwan na mga ganitong puno sa paligid natin despite of the development and economic improvement natin (We're showing the historical significance of the tree and how beautiful and good it is that there are still such trees around us despite our development and economic improvement)," she added.

Alberto also expressed hope that the public will not neglect the environment despite economic growth.





# DepEd says heritage trees in public schools must be protected

Published November 2, 2021 8:01pm



**BASAHIN | DepEd, nanawagan para sa proteksyon ng heritage trees sa mga pampublikong paaralan**

Nobyembre 02, 2021 – Nanawagan ang Kagawaran ng Edukasyon (DepEd) kamakailan para sa proteksyon ng heritage trees sa mga pampublikong paaralan at pagtataguyod ng pang-edukasyon at makasaysayang halaga nito sa ika-64 na kabanata ng "Stories for a Better Normal: Philippines' Heritage Trees in Schools."

"It is always a good opportunity for DepEd and for us educators to bring environmenta... See more

185 19 74

The Department of Education (DepEd) has called for protection of heritage trees in public schools and the preservation of their historical value to students.

“Our country has been blessed with enormous biodiversity, and our heritage trees are one of our national treasures. We must appreciate and teach our young generation on how to further protect it,” Education Secretary Leonor Briones said in a statement on Tuesday.

The DepEd defines a heritage tree as "any healthy native or endemic, exotic, rare, threatened and endangered tree with a minimum girth of five meters."

Bureau of Learner Support Services – Youth Formation Division (BLSS-YFD) chief Adolf Aguilar also underscored the importance of environmental education and the ways the department spreads the concept of biodiversity to the youth in times of pandemic.

“Kaya ang Youth for Environment in Schools-Organization (YES-O), National Greening Program (NGP) namin, Gulayan sa Paaralan sa DepEd, ay dito na namin dinadala ang advocacy at pag-create ng mga immediate actions for the environment. Ang YFD ay patuloy lamang sa pag-promote ng mga advocacies na ito para sa kalikasan,” Aguilar said.





(Our YES-O, NGP, and Gulayan sa Paaralan at DepEd are programs that advocate for and create immediate actions for the environment. The YFD will continue to promote these advocacies for nature.)

The BLSS-YFD earlier presented the NGP and conducted the “Search for Heritage Trees in Public Schools,” a program that aims to revive the accounting and inventory of heritage trees in all public schools nationwide to intensify the preservation of the country’s biodiversity.

Undersecretary for Administration Alain Del Pascua has spearheaded the search to protect centennial trees that serve as landmarks of schools.

Guest teachers including Jenelyn Alberto of Kaligayahan Elementary School, Nolito Roque Alvarez of Alabang Elementary School, Rodolfo Cardinez Jr. of Carcarmay Elementary School, and Freida Cawaling of Albasan Elementary School have shared their schools’ efforts in protecting and preserving their century-old native trees, as well as their significance in the lives of students, teachers, and themselves personally.

Alberto emphasized the value of letting the younger generation experience the benefits of having trees. “Iba pa rin ‘yung first-hand na nae-experience nila kasi mas magiging malalim ang appreciation nila,” she said.

(They must experience it first-hand, because it is different and they will have a deeper appreciation for it.)

“Ipinapakita namin ‘yung historical significance ng puno at kung gaano kaganda at kabuti na mayroon pa ring naiwan na mga ganitong puno sa paligid natin despite of the development and economic improvement natin,” she said.

(We show the historical significance of the tree and how beautiful and good it is that there are still such trees around us despite our development and economic improvement.)

Alberto has also called on the public not to neglect the environment amid the economic growth of the country. — **Richa Noriega/BM, GMA News**



# Prioritize water, sanitation projects, LGUs told

[Romina Cabrera](#) - The Philippine Star November 3, 2021 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Local government units (LGUs) should give priority to water supply and sanitation projects in their devolution plans.

Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said local chief executives should prioritize access to potable water supply in their development projects, especially in waterless communities and far-flung areas, with the implementation of the so-called Mandanas ruling starting next year.

Under Executive Order 138, LGUs were tasked to formulate plans in the assumption of devolved roles and responsibilities from the national government.

The Mandanas ruling increases the share of LGUs in national taxes and revenues.

“The Mandanas ruling challenges LGUs to step up their game in terms of the delivery of essential public services now that they have more resources at their disposal to take care of the needs of their constituents. Among such essentials is the provision of greater access to clean drinking water,” Año said.

The government is looking at bringing universal access to water and sanitation infrastructure and services to every Filipino by 2030 through partnerships with the private sector.



# Nanghihinang pawikan mula Malaysia napadpad sa dalampasigan ng Boracay

By **Bombo Radyo Kalibo** -November 2, 2021 | 11:57 PM

KALIBO, Aklan – Nailigtas ng mga mangingisda ang isang pawikan na napadpad sa baybaying sakop ng Isla ng Boracay.

Nakita umano ng mga mangingisda ang pawikan sa laot na mistulang nanghihina kaya't agad na isinakay sa bangka.

Dahil alam nilang bawal hulihin ang mga pawikan, ipinaalam nila sa mga awtoridad ang insidente.

Pansamantalang nasa pangangalaga ng Bantay Dagat at Philippine Coast Guard sa bayan ng Malay ang pawikan.

Nakitaan din ng tag ang pawikan bilang palatandaan na ito ay nagmula sa bansang Sabah, Malaysia partikular sa Sea Turtle Islands.

Sa ilalim ng Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang paghuli at pagkatay sa mga pawikan.

Nabatid na maliban sa pawikan, may ilang dolphin at butanding din ang napapadpad sa karagatan ng Boracay na senyales na bumubuti na ang marine biodiversity sa lugar.

Source: <https://www.bomboradyo.com/nanghihinang-pawikan-mula-malaysia-napadpad-sa-dalampasigan-ng-boracay/>



## Clean-up efforts

posted November 02, 2021 at 10:53 pm

by [Manny Palmero](#)



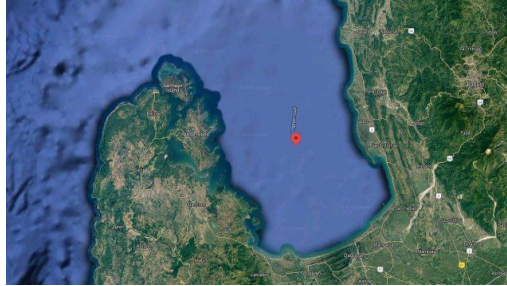
Members of the Quezon City Task Force on Solid Waste Management conducted clean-up operations in some rivers and creeks in the city to prevent clogging. Quezon City citizens were also reminded to be responsible in disposing of waste to maintain cleanliness and order in the environment.





# Lingayen Gulf black sand mining proposal flagged for possible impact on tourism

November 1, 2021 | 7:18 pm



A PROPOSED black sand mining project in the Lingayen Gulf is expected to negatively affect the area's tourism industry, a marine scientist said.

Fernando P. Siringan, a professor at the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute, said during a virtual briefing organized by food security advocacy group Tugon Kabuhayan Monday, said mining will cause the clarity of the water to deteriorate, likely discouraging tourism.

"Tourists want to see a clean beach and clear water... if a beach's water is not clear, it will drive them away," Mr. Siringan said.

Mr. Siringan said sand mining will cause the resuspension and dispersal of fine-grained material, thereby disturbing the habitat of marine organisms.

"The project site is covered in more than 10 meters of thick and muddy material, which will be first extracted, then sorted and dumped back into the ocean. The undesired materials will be carried onto the entire gulf, releasing harmful pollutants," Mr. Siringan said.

He said mining may also affect fish production, which could lead to higher prices.

"The high volume of suspended material in Lingayen Gulf due to the mining project will also lessen the fish catch. These fish products are also bought by tourists who wish to eat fresh seafood," Mr. Siringan said.

The mining project is the Iron Ore Pangasinan Offshore Magnetite Mining Project proposed by Iron Ore, Gold, and Vanadium Resources (Phils.), Inc. It covers an area of 9,252.45 hectares.

The communities on the shore of Lingayen Gulf, a major fishing area, include Dagupan City, Binmaley, Labrador Lingayen, and Sual.

Associations of fishermen such as the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas have expressed fears that the project will affect its members' livelihood.

"This proposed offshore mining would certainly spell doom to the livelihood of thousands of small fishers who subsist in Lingayen Gulf. Not to mention its adverse impact to the livelihood of other coastal residents involved in inland fisheries and salt farms," the group said. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/lingayen-gulf-black-sand-mining-proposal-flagged-for-possible-impact-on-tourism/?fbclid=IwAR1ESYjoVUTsBR9i9AF9Z8U2kSlEiNWktX1u2P-EHY2OLoJtf3AxOHX7Unew>



# G20 offers little new on climate, leaving uphill task for COP26

November 1, 2021 | 1:43 pm



*Shubert Ciencia/CC BY 2.0/Wikimedia Commons*

ROME — Leaders of the Group of 20 (G20) major economies agreed on a final statement on Sunday that urged “meaningful and effective” action to limit global warming, but angering climate activists by offering few concrete commitments.

The result of days of tough negotiation among diplomats leaves huge work to be done at the broader United Nations COP26 climate summit in Scotland, which starts this week.

US President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., said he was disappointed that more could not have been done and blamed China and Russia for not bringing proposals to the table.

“The disappointment relates to the fact that Russia and ... China basically didn’t show up in terms of any commitments to deal with climate change,” Mr. Biden told reporters.

Although the G20 pledged to stop financing coal power overseas, they set no timetable for phasing it out at home, and watered down the wording on a promise to reduce emissions of methane — another potent greenhouse gas.

However, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, who chaired the Rome gathering, hailed the final accord, saying that for the first time all G20 states had agreed on the importance of capping global warming at the 1.5 degrees Celsius level that scientists say is vital to avoid disaster.

“We made sure that our dreams are not only alive but they are progressing,” Mr. Draghi told a closing news conference, brushing off criticism from environmentalists that the G20 had not gone nearly far enough to resolve the crisis.

The G20, which includes Brazil, China, India, Germany and the United States, accounts for 60% of the world’s population and an estimated 80% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The 1.5°C threshold is what UN experts say must be met to avoid a dramatic acceleration of extreme climate events like droughts, storms and floods, and to reach it they recommend net zero emissions should be achieved by 2050.

The stakes are huge — among them the very survival of low-lying countries, the impact on economic livelihoods the world over and the stability of the global financial system.

“This was a moment for the G20 to act with the responsibility they have as the biggest emitters, yet we only see half-measures rather than concrete urgent action,” said Friederike Roder, vice president of sustainable development advocacy group Global Citizen.



The final summit document said current national plans on how to curb emissions will have to be strengthened “if necessary” and makes no specific reference to 2050 as a date to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

“We recognize that the impacts of climate change at 1.5°C are much lower than at 2°C. Keeping 1.5°C within reach will require meaningful and effective actions and commitment by all countries,” the communique said.

## CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION

The leaders only recognized “the key relevance” of halting net emissions “by or around mid-century.” This removed the 2050 date seen in previous versions of the final statement so as to make the target less specific.

China, the world’s biggest CO2 emitter, has set a target date of 2060, and other large polluters such as India and Russia have also not committed to the 2050 target date.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said the agreement was a good signal for COP26, but Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau signaled he would have liked to see more ambition.

“There’s no question that Canada, along with a number of other countries, would have liked stronger language and stronger commitments on the fight against climate change than others,” he told reporters.

UN experts say that even if current national plans are fully implemented, the world is headed for global warming of 2.7°C, with catastrophic consequences.

Mr. Draghi predicted that nations would keep on improving their plans to lower carbon emissions in the years ahead, adding that he was surprised by how far countries like China and Russia had shifted their stance in recent days.

“It is easy to suggest difficult things. It is very, very difficult to actually execute them,” he said. The final G20 statement includes a pledge to halt financing of overseas coal-fired power generation by the end of this year, but set no date for phasing out coal power, promising only to do so “as soon as possible.”

This replaced a goal set in a previous draft of the final statement to achieve this by the end of the 2030s, showing the strong resistance from some coal-dependent countries

The G20 also set no date for phasing out fossil fuel subsidies, saying they will aim to do so “over the medium term.”

## METHANE REDUCTION

On methane, which has a more potent but less lasting impact than carbon dioxide on global warming, they diluted their wording from a previous draft that pledged to “strive to reduce our collective methane emissions significantly.”

The final statement just recognizes that reducing methane emissions is “one of the quickest, most feasible and most cost-effective ways to limit climate change.”

G20 sources said negotiations were tough over so-called “climate financing,” which refers to a 2009 pledge by rich nations to provide \$100 billion per year by 2020 to help developing countries tackle climate change.



They have failed to meet the pledge, generating mistrust and a reluctance among some developing nations to accelerate their emissions reductions.

However, Mr. Draghi said the funding gap had narrowed to less than \$20 billion and predicted it could be closed further, with wealthy nations considering using financing from the International Monetary Fund to make up the shortfall.

World leaders will kick start COP26 on Monday with two days of speeches that could include some new emissions-cutting pledges, before technical negotiators lock horns over the rules of the 2015 Paris climate accord.

The United Nations said last week greenhouse gas concentrations hit a record in 2020 and the world was “way off track” in capping rising temperatures. — **Gavin Jones, Crispian Balmer, and Jeff Mason/Reuters**

Source: [https://www.bworldonline.com/g20-offers-little-new-on-climate-leaving-uphill-task-for-cop26/?fbclid=IwAR0KFbAVALwn4bXbzGIC1uzjFxwt1XM-tDNu2\\_sKIvOe4C4tlrx1b7NXchM](https://www.bworldonline.com/g20-offers-little-new-on-climate-leaving-uphill-task-for-cop26/?fbclid=IwAR0KFbAVALwn4bXbzGIC1uzjFxwt1XM-tDNu2_sKIvOe4C4tlrx1b7NXchM)





## COP26 leaders vow new drive to save forests

posted November 02, 2021 at 12:00 pm

by [AFP and Patrick Galey, Jitendra Joshi](#)

World leaders meeting at the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow will on Tuesday issue a multibillion-dollar pledge to end deforestation by 2030 but that date is too distant for campaigners who want action sooner to save the planet's lungs.

According to summit hosts the British government, the pledge is backed by almost \$20 billion in public and private funding and is endorsed by more than 100 leaders representing over 85 percent of the world's forests, including the Amazon rainforest, Canada's northern boreal forest, and the Congo Basin rainforest.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said the agreement on deforestation was pivotal to the overarching ambition of limiting temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

"These great teeming ecosystems -- these cathedrals of nature -- are the lungs of our planet," he was expected to say in Glasgow, according to Downing Street.

"Forests support communities, livelihoods, and food supply, and absorb the carbon we pump into the atmosphere. They are essential to our very survival," said Johnson, who is chairing the summit.

"With today's (Tuesday's) unprecedented pledges, we will have a chance to end humanity's long history as nature's conqueror, and instead become its custodian."

The signatories include Brazil and Russia, which have been singled out for accelerating deforestation in their territories, as well as the United States, China, Australia and France.

The government of Brazil, much criticised for its environmental policies, announced Monday at the summit that it would cut 2005-level greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 -- up from a previous pledge of 43 percent.

"We are presenting a new, more ambitious climate goal," Environment Minister Joaquim Leite announced in a message transmitted from Brasilia to Glasgow.

Leite also said Brazil would aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

- India targets net-zero 2070 -

For his part, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a target of net-zero emissions by 2070.

India's commitment was eagerly awaited, as the South Asian giant is the fourth biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, behind China, the United States and the European Union.

Swedish activist Greta Thunberg urged the leaders gathered for COP26 to act and stop their "blah blah blah" during a demonstration in Glasgow.

Almost a quarter of all man-made emissions of carbon dioxide can be attributed to land use activity such as logging, deforestation and farming.

President Joko Widodo of resource-rich Indonesia said his own archipelago's rainforests, mangroves, seas and peatlands were key to restricting climate change.



"We are committed to protecting these critical carbon sinks and our natural capital for future generations," he said in a UK government statement.

10 more years

The summit pledge to "halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030" encompasses promises to secure the rights of indigenous peoples, and recognise "their role as forest guardians".

While Johnson described the pledge as "unprecedented", a UN climate gathering in New York in 2014 issued a similar declaration to halve the rate of deforestation by 2020, and end it by 2030.

However, trees continue to be cut down on an industrial scale, not least in the Amazon under the far-right government of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro.

Humans have already cut down half of Earth's forests, a practice doubly harmful for the climate when CO<sub>2</sub>-sucking trees are replaced with livestock or monoculture crops.

Greenpeace criticised the Glasgow initiative for effectively giving the green light to "another decade of deforestation".

"Indigenous peoples are calling for 80 percent of the Amazon to be protected by 2025, and they're right, that's what's needed," said Greenpeace Brazil executive director Carolina Pasquali.

"The climate and the natural world can't afford this deal," she said.

Many studies have shown that the best way of protecting forests worldwide is to keep them under the management of locals with generations of preservation knowledge.

The commitment comes a day after UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres harangued the gathered leaders to act to save humanity.

"It's time to say: enough," he said.

"Enough of brutalising biodiversity. Enough of killing ourselves with carbon. Enough of burning and drilling and mining our way deeper. We are digging our own graves."

Summit host Johnson warned of the "uncontainable" anger of the younger generations if the leaders failed to act decisively on climate change.

The UN COP26 conference will continue for another two weeks to try to craft national plans to forestall the most devastating impacts of global warming.



# Over 100 global leaders pledge to end deforestation by 2030

Jake Spring and Simon Jessop, Reuters

Posted at Nov 02 2021 07:27 PM



Burnt woodland is pictured next to a palm oil plantation following fires near Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan province, Indonesia, September 29, 2019. *Willy Kurniawan, Reuters/File Photo*

GLASGOW - More than 100 global leaders late on Monday pledged to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by the end of the decade, underpinned by \$19 billion in public and private funds to invest in protecting and restoring forests.

The joint statement at the COP26 climate talks in Glasgow was backed by the leaders of countries including Brazil, Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, which collectively account for 85% of the world's forests.

The Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use will cover forests totaling more than 13 million square miles, according to a statement from the UK prime minister's office on behalf of the leaders.

"We will have a chance to end humanity's long history as nature's conqueror, and instead become its custodian," said British leader Boris Johnson, calling it an unprecedented agreement.

A slew of additional government and private initiatives were launched on Tuesday to help reach that goal, including billions in pledges for indigenous guardians of the forest and sustainable agriculture.

Forests absorb roughly 30% of carbon dioxide emissions, according to the nonprofit World Resources Institute. The forests take the emissions out of the atmosphere and prevent them from warming the climate.

Yet this natural climate buffer is rapidly disappearing. The world lost 258,000 square kilometers of forest in 2020, according to WRI's deforestation tracking initiative Global Forest Watch. That is an area larger than the United Kingdom.

Monday's agreement vastly expands a similar commitment made by 40 countries as part of the 2014 New York Declaration of Forests and goes further than ever before in laying out the resources to reach that goal.

Under the agreement, 12 countries including Britain have pledged to provide 8.75 billion pounds (\$12 billion) of public funding between 2021 and 2025 to help developing countries, including in efforts to restore degraded land and tackle wildfires.



At least a further 5.3 billion pounds would be provided by private sector investors.

Separately, investors representing \$8.7 trillion in assets under management, also pledged to stop investing in activities linked to deforestation by 2025.

Five countries, including the Britain and United States, and a group of global charities on Tuesday also pledged to provide \$1.7 billion in financing to support indigenous people's conservation of forests and to strengthen their land rights.

Environmentalists say that indigenous communities are the best protectors of the forest, often against violent encroachment of loggers and land grabbers.

More than 30 financial institutions with more than \$8.7 trillion in assets under management also said they would make "best efforts" to eliminate deforestation related to cattle, palm oil, soy and pulp production by 2025.

COP26 aims to keep alive a target of capping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels. Scientists say forests and so-called nature-based solutions will be vital to reaching that goal.

Woodlands have removed about 760 million tonnes of carbon every year since 2011, offsetting about 8% of carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels and cement, according to the Biomass Carbon Monitor project backed by data analytics firm Kayrros and French research institutions.

"Our biosphere is really helping bail us out for the time being, but there is no guarantee those processes will continue," said Oliver Phillips, an ecologist at the United Kingdom's University of Leeds.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/overseas/11/02/21/over-100-global-leaders-pledge-to-end-deforestation?fbclid=IwAR1VwO7OgNsFES5d7SeIUEVFL88YUVj6g4MGMi9wKpLqPDYZgayqXnt-o2Q>





# CLIMATE CRISIS | Deliver on promises, developing world tells rich at climate change summit

November 2, 2021 , 02:28 PM

By Elizabeth Piper and William James

GLASGOW, Nov 1 (Reuters) – A [crucial U.N. conference](#) heard calls on its first day for the world's major economies to keep their promises of financial help to address the climate crisis, while big polluters India and Brazil made new commitments to cut emissions.

World leaders, environmental experts and activists all pleaded for decisive action to halt the global warming which threatens the future of the planet at the start of the two-week COP26 summit in the Scottish city of Glasgow on Monday.

The task facing negotiators was made even more daunting by the failure of the Group of 20 major industrial nations to agree ambitious new commitments at the weekend.

The G20 is responsible for around 80% of global greenhouse gases and a similar proportion of [carbon dioxide](#), the gas produced by burning fossil fuels that is the main cause of the rise in global temperatures which are triggering an increasing intensity of heatwaves, droughts, floods and storms.

“The animals are disappearing, the rivers are dying and our plants don't flower like they did before. The Earth is speaking. She tells us that we have no more time,” Txai Surui, a 24-year-old indigenous youth leader from the Amazon rain forest, told the opening ceremony in Glasgow.

Delayed by a year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, COP26 aims to keep alive a target of capping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) [above pre-industrial levels](#).

To do that, it needs to secure [more ambitious pledges](#) to reduce emissions, lock in billions in [climate financing](#) for developing countries, and finish the rules for implementing the 2015 Paris Agreement, which was signed by nearly 200 countries.

The pledges made so far would allow the planet's average surface temperature to rise 2.7C this century, which the United Nations says would supercharge the destruction that climate change is already causing.

More than 100 global leaders late on Monday pledged to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by the end of the decade, underpinned by \$19 billion in public and private funds to invest in protecting and restoring forests.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reminded delegates that the six hottest years on record have occurred since 2015.

Other speakers, including activists from the poorer countries hardest hit by climate change, had a defiant message.

“Pacific youth have rallied behind the cry ‘We are not drowning, we are fighting’,” said Brianna Fruean from the Polynesian island state of Samoa, which is at risk from rising sea levels. “This is our warrior cry to the world.”



In 2009, the developed countries most responsible for global warming pledged to provide \$100 billion per year by 2020 to help developing nations deal with its consequences.

The commitment has still not been met, generating mistrust and a reluctance among some developing nations to accelerate their emissions reductions.

Leaders of countries such as Kenya, Bangladesh, Barbados and Malawi called rich nations to task for failing to deliver.

“The money pledge to least developed nations by developed nations ... is not a donation, but a cleaning fee,” Malawi’s President Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera said.

“Neither Africa in general, nor Malawi in particular, will take ‘no’ for an answer. Not any more.”

President Xi Jinping of China, by far the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, said in a written statement that developed countries should not only do more but also support developing countries to do better.

## **BIG HITTERS STAY HOME**

Xi’s absence, along with that of Russia’s Vladimir Putin, president of one of the world’s top three oil producers together with the United States and Saudi Arabia, may hinder progress.

Activist Greta Thunberg appealed to her millions of supporters to sign an open letter accusing leaders of betrayal.

“This is not a drill. It’s code red for the Earth,” it read.

“Millions will suffer as our planet is devastated — a terrifying future that will be created, or avoided, by the decisions you make. You have the power to decide.”

Meanwhile, India and Brazil, two of the largest polluters, both used the platform to provide new emission cutting pledges.

“We will act responsibly and search for real solutions for an urgent transition,” Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, who has presided over more than two years of deforestation, said.

Brazil said it would cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030, compared with a previous pledge of 43% in that period.

However, the cuts are calculated against emissions levels in 2005, a baseline which was retroactively revised last year, making it easier for Brazil’s targets to be met.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi set 2070 as a target for India to reach net-zero carbon emissions, much later than those set by other polluters and twenty years beyond the U.N.’s global recommendation.

The G20 failed to commit to the 2050 target to halt net carbon emissions, undermining one of COP26’s main aims, at a weekend meeting in Rome.

Instead, they only recognised “the key relevance” of doing so “by or around mid-century”, and set no timetable for phasing out domestic coal power, a major cause of carbon emissions.

The commitment to phase out fossil fuel subsidies “over the medium term” echoed wording they used as long ago as 2009.



## 'CALAMITOUS THREATS'

Discord among some of the world's biggest emitters about how to cut back on coal, oil and gas will make progress difficult in Glasgow, as will the rich world's failure to stick to promises.

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley compared the vast sums pumped into the global economy by rich countries' central banks in recent years with those spent on climate help.

"Can there be peace and prosperity if one-third of the world lives in prosperity and two-thirds lives under seas and face calamitous threats to our wellbeing?" she said.

Developed nations confirmed last week they would be three years late in meeting the \$100 billion climate finance pledge – which many poor countries and activists say is insufficient anyway.

U.S. President Joe Biden said the rich must do more, admitting that "right now we're falling short," while French President Emmanuel Macron also called on all developed countries to deliver their fair share of funding.

Biden announced in September that the U.S. would double its climate finance to \$11.4 billion per year, but several climate thinktanks and activists say this still falls far short of what its contribution should be.

World leaders wrapped up the first day of COP26 at a reception hosted by Prince Charles and other members of the British royal family. Queen Elizabeth, who has been advised by her doctors to rest, sent a video message.

*(Additional reporting by Jeff Mason, Katy Daigle and Mark John; Writing by Gavin Jones and Kevin Liffey; Editing by Barbara Lewis and Alexander Smith)*



# World leaders urged to 'save humanity' at climate summit

Published November 2, 2021, 6:37 AM

by [Agence-France-Presse](#)

GLASGOW, United Kingdom — Queen Elizabeth II on Monday called on world leaders to act together to tackle climate change at the end of the first day of the COP26 summit in Glasgow.



AFP/ MANILA BULLETIN

In a video message sent to the conference, she added her voice to a succession of world leaders stressing the urgency of the crisis.

But as the summit got under way, several observers said that so far, there had been more talk than action.

“If the world pollution situation is not critical at the moment, it is as certain as anything can be that the situation will become increasingly intolerable within a very short time...,” said the queen.

“If we fail to cope with this challenge, all the other problems will pale into insignificance.”

The 95-year-old monarch, who last month briefly visited a private hospital in London, skipped the event on doctor’s advice.

But more than 120 heads of state and government gathered in Glasgow for the two-day event at the start of the UN’s COP26 conference, which organisers say is crucial for charting humanity’s path away from catastrophic global warming.

“It’s one minute to midnight... and we need to act now,” British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said at the start of an occasionally chaotic opening day.

## – ‘Digging our own graves’ –

Monday’s most anticipated address, from India’s Narendra Modi, tempered the hype somewhat: the third largest emitter will only achieve net-zero by 2070.

COP26 is being billed as vital for the continued viability of the Paris Agreement, which countries signed in 2015 by promising to limit global temperature rises to “well below” two degrees Celsius, and to work for a safer 1.5C cap.

With a little over 1C of warming since the Industrial Revolution, Earth is being battered by ever more extreme heatwaves, flooding and tropical storms supercharged by rising seas.

US President Joe Biden, addressing delegates, described the current age of climate disaster as “an inflection point in world history”.





Governments are under pressure to redouble their emissions-cutting commitments to bring them in line with the Paris goals, and to hand over long-promised cash to help developing nations green their grids and protect themselves against future disasters.

“It’s time to say: enough,” UN chief Antonio Guterres said.

“Enough of brutalising biodiversity. Enough of killing ourselves with carbon. Enough of burning and drilling and mining our way deeper. We are digging our own graves.”

### – ‘We are watching’ –

Thousands of delegates queued around the block to get into the summit on Monday, negotiating airport-style security in the locked-down city centre.

On nearby streets, protesters began lively demonstrations to keep up the pressure.

Swedish activist Greta Thunberg was among dozens of protesters who gathered in a nearby park, carrying banners with slogans like “We are watching”.

They marched across the river to directly opposite the venue chanting “We are unstoppable, another world is possible!”

Johnson warned of the “uncontainable” public anger if the conference fell flat.

If the leaders “fluff our lines or miss our cue”, generations as-yet unborn “will not forgive us”, the prime minister said.

Biden apologised for his predecessor Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw the US from the Paris deal.

Observers, however, were unimpressed with Monday’s announcements.

“More is needed to turn words into action,” said Thomas Damassa, Oxfam America’s associate director for Climate Change.

“The US must work with other countries to secure a strong outcome that ratchets up emission reductions by major economies.”

### – No Xi, Putin –

The G20 including China, India and Western nations committed on Sunday to the Paris goal of limiting global warming to 1.5C.

They also agreed to end funding for new coal plants abroad without carbon capturing technology by the end of 2021.

But the precise pathway to 1.5C was left largely undefined.

Campaigners have expressed disappointment with the group, which collectively emits nearly 80 percent of global carbon emissions.

And there were a number of high-profile no-shows to the summit.

Neither Chinese President Xi Jinping — who has not left his country during the Covid-19 pandemic — nor Russia’s Vladimir Putin will be in Glasgow.



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, condemned by campaigners last week for his country's "net-zero" plan, doubled down on a decarbonisation vision heavily reliant on future innovation.

"Technology will have the answers to a decarbonised economy, particularly over time," he said.

#### – Net-zero 2070 –

Most nations submitted their renewed emissions cutting plans — known as "nationally determined contributions", or NDCs — ahead of COP26.

But even these current commitments — if met — would still lead to a "catastrophic" warming of 2.7C, says the UN.

China, by far the world's biggest carbon polluter, has just submitted its revised climate plan, repeating a long-standing goal of peaking emissions by 2030.

Biden's national security adviser Jake Sullivan labelled Beijing among the "significant outliers".

China "will not be represented at leader level at COP26 and... has an obligation to step up to greater ambition as we go forward", he added.

India meanwhile has yet to submit a revised NDC, a requirement under the Paris deal.

Modi said his country would achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, and that 50 percent of its energy would come from renewable sources by 2030.

Rich countries have so far failed to provide the promised \$100 billion annually to help climate-vulnerable nations adapt to climate change.

The goal — meant to be delivered last year — has been postponed to 2023, exacerbating tensions between richer nations, responsible for global warming, and those poorer countries suffering most from its effects.



## COP26 climate summit natitirang pag-asa vs matinding epekto ng climate change



November 2, 2021 @ 3:12 PM 15 hours ago

GLASGOW- Iginiit ni summit president Alok Sharma na ang COP26 climate negotiations ang huli at pinakamainam na pag-asa upang panatilihin buhay ang layuning limitahan ang global warming sa 1.5C.

Tatakbo ang pagpupulong sa Glasgow hanggang Nobyembre 12, na isinagawa dahil sa matinding kaganapan sa panahon na nagdudulot ng matinding epekto sa climate change mula sa 150 taong pagsusunog ng fossil fuels.

“We know that our shared planet is changing for the worse,” pahayag ni Sharma sa pagsisimula ng seremonya.

Nagbabala na ang mga eksperto na transformative action sa susunod na 10 taon lamang ang makakatulong upang maiwasan ang mas malalang epekto sa panahon.

Base sa isang ulat ng United Nations nito lamang nakaraang linggo, magdudulot pa rin ng “catastrophic” warming na aabot sa 2.7C kahit pa ang pinakabago at pinaka-ambisyoso na pangakong carbon-cutting

Ayon kay Sharma, ang COP26 na lamang ang “last, best hope to keep 1.5C in reach.”

“If we act now and we act together we can protect our precious planet,” dagdag pa niya. RNT/SA



# Climate change main cause of fires in US west – study

By [Agence France-Presse](#) November 3, 2021



In this file photo taken on August 19, 2020 a home continues to burn as flames from the LNU Lightning Complex fire spread in Vacaville, California. AFP PHOTO

LOS ANGELES: Climate change caused overwhelmingly by human activity is the primary source of the unprecedented forest fires regularly ravaging the [Western United States](#), according to a study published on Monday (Tuesday in Manila).

Fires destroyed an average of 13,500 square kilometers (sqkm) (5,200 square miles or [sqm](#)) per year in the American west between 2001 and 2018 — twice as much as between 1984 and 2000.

"It's happened so much faster than we previously anticipated," Rong Fu, who led the study published by the [US National Academy of Sciences](#), told the Los Angeles Times.

In order to understand what contributed to such a significant deterioration of conditions in such a short time, a team of American researchers led by Fu analyzed various factors at work in the "vapor pressure deficit" (VPD), which indicates how dry the air is.

The VPD represents the difference between the amount of water actually present in the atmosphere and the maximum that the atmosphere could hold.

The greater the deficit, the more water is drawn into the air from soil and plants, drying them out and creating conditions that are increasingly conducive to fires.

Scientists have determined that the increase in wildfires in the western United States is closely linked to this deficit during the warm season.

Between May and September, the number of days with a high VPD increased 94 percent between 2001 and 2008 compared to the previous period, the study said.

According to Fu and her colleagues' calculations, "natural" atmospheric variations were only responsible for an average 32-percent increase in VPD.

The remaining 68 percent of the increase in atmospheric water deficit over the past 20 years is due to global warming, which is largely caused by human activities.





"Prior to 2000, we can explain this fire weather pretty well just using weather patterns," said Fu, a climatologist at the [University of California UCLA](#).

"But now, we can only explain 30 percent of what we see with fire weather."

Some models show anthropogenic, or human-originated, warming could explain up to 88 percent of the anomalies seen in the VPD, the study found.

In August 2020, when [California](#) suffered the largest fire ever recorded in the region — the [August Complex Fire](#), which alone burned nearly 4,200 sqkm (1,600 sqm) — so-called anthropogenic warming was responsible for about 50 percent of the "unprecedented high" moisture deficit, the study said.

According to climate experts, due to greenhouse gases generated by human activity, primarily fossil fuel use, the planet has already warmed about 1.1 degrees Celsius since the pre-industrial era.

Most of the warming has occurred in the last 50 years.



## Firm climate change commitments still missing

[BIZLINKS](#) - [Rey Gamboa](#) - The Philippine Star November 2, 2021 | 12:00am

The issue of climate change had been pushed to the fore of concerns in the recently concluded Group of 20 (G20) meeting, although as expected, no firm details were committed by the attending heads of the world's most powerful economies on how to respond to the issue.

The final communiqué issued at the end of the two-day weekend meeting held in Rome were still general pledges, such as to “accelerate actions” on achieving net-zero emissions by or around the mid-century by “firming up” emission reduction plans or Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) within this decade.

There was also little to offer by way of fulfilling a pledge to transfer \$100 billion a year from wealthy nations to the imperiled Global South, countries that suffered the most from climate changes brought about by heightened use of fossil fuels in developed economies.

These tenuous pledges from the G20 casts a grim pall on the COP26 meeting, the first day of which comes at the heels of the closing day of the G20, but will run for a longer period of 12 days, mainly in closed door sessions in Glasgow, Scotland.

COP26 or the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is on its crucial fifth year when an assessment is needed to gauge progress on agreements made during the historic 2015 Paris Agreement climate treaty. (The year 2020 is not counted because of the pandemic.)

As per the Paris climate pact, countries agreed to revisit and reassess their commitments every five years, and if needed, to accelerate action on the agreed goal to curb global warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius (1.5 C) benchmarked on pre-industrial levels of the 1800s, mainly by halving global emissions by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2050.

### **NDC review**

Reports earlier released by scientists in preparation for the COP26 have placed global warming already at one degree centigrade, which means that countries have to do more in the coming years to keep temperatures rising beyond the agreed 1.5 C goal.

Already, the world cannot turn a blind eye on the physical manifestations of rising temperatures: extreme floods, super strong typhoons, heat waves, prolonged droughts, faster melting of ice caps, and unprecedented and prolonged wildfires.

Individual countries' NDCs, which will be up for review and collation during the COP26, will need to be more explicit about plans on how to achieve the pledges.

Eyes are on the world's top carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emitters (the US, the European Union, and China), whose plans of action will be instrumental in keeping the world's temperature from rising faster than necessary to avoid even more drastic weather disturbances.

An assessment by the Climate Action Tracker (CAT), a consortium dedicated to measuring climate change mitigation targets, policies, and action during the last five years, gives the world's largest emitters of harmful gases a thumbs-down.

Russia tops the notoriety list with a “critically insufficient” rating, as its emissions will continue to rise higher over the next decade with increased use of fossil fuel for the domestic economy and the ramped up production of oil for export.



China and India's efforts are rated "highly insufficient," as both countries continue to depend on coal for power generation. China last year commissioned 76 percent of all the new coal plants in the world, while India accounts for the second biggest number of coal plants currently under construction.

An "insufficient" rating goes to the US, Japan, Australia, Brazil, and Saudi Arabia. The US suffers from environment policy setbacks generated by the previous government; while Japan still lacks a firm plan to eliminate coal use by 2030. Australia is hemming and hawing about finite fuel use; Saudi Arabia is holding ransom a reduction of its oil production to maintaining stable petro-dollar earnings; and Brazil is being criticized for turning a blind eye on increasing deforestation.

### **Highly conditional**

Where is the Philippines in all of these?

For starters, the Philippines was among the last of the 197 countries of the UNFCCC that submitted its NDC – in fact only last April 15 past the extended Dec. 31, 2020 deadline.

In the document penned by the country's Climate Change Commission, the Philippines pledged to cut harmful gas emissions by 75 percent by 2030, a seemingly valiant stance by an aspiring middle-income economy within the decade.

A closer look at the Philippine NDC, however, reveals its highly conditional nature dependent on the availability of funds from the pledged annual \$100 billion contribution of wealthy nations. In short, without foreign funding assistance, the country will continue to depend on coal use.

The Department of Energy's energy plan over the long term has expressly supported a shift to renewable sources and a gradual tapering of new coal-fired thermal plants – but this is all premised on a robust entry of investments in non-fossil fuel electricity generating plants.

Currently, the country's private power sector prefers coal over renewables, the technology of the former being tried and tested in a business operating environment. The DOE has been setting caps on new fossil fuel power plants, but may be constrained in future as power use ramps up with the economic growth regaining momentum once again when the pandemic is over.

The presence of Finance Secretary Dominguez in the COP26 portends of some intense negotiations to bag financing for solar, wind, and other renewable energy power generating projects, thus sealing our ability to accomplish the submitted NDC.

However, if no moolah is forthcoming, it's as good as saying don't expect any positive climate action from the Philippines.

### **Facebook and Twitter**

We are actively using two social networking websites to reach out more often and even interact with and engage our readers, friends and colleagues in the various areas of interest that I tackle in my column. Please like us on [www.facebook.com/ReyGamboa](http://www.facebook.com/ReyGamboa) and follow us on [www.twitter.com/ReyGamboa](http://www.twitter.com/ReyGamboa).

Should you wish to share any insights, write me at Link Edge, 25th Floor, 139 Corporate Center, Valero Street, Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City. Or e-mail me at [reydgamboa@yahoo.com](mailto:reydgamboa@yahoo.com). For a compilation of previous articles, visit [www.BizlinksPhilippines.net](http://www.BizlinksPhilippines.net).

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/business/2021/11/02/2138271/firm-climate-change-commitments-still-missing>



# Portugal bans single-use plastic

By Xinhua - November 3, 2021

LISBON: A government decree-law came into force on Monday (Tuesday in Manila) in [Portugal](#), prohibiting the sale of single-use plastic products such as cotton swabs and utensils for food or decoration. It also sets the goal of gradually reducing the consumption of cups for beverages and packaging for ready-to-eat foods by 80 percent by Dec. 31, 2026 and by 90 percent by Dec. 31, 2030. Approved two months ago by the [Portuguese Council of Ministers](#), the decree-law complies with a [European Union](#) directive of June 5, 2019 that determines the "reduction of the impact of products made from oxo-degradable plastic" such as expanded polystyrene.



03 NOVEMBER 2021, WEDNESDAY



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# 2,303 COVID cases, 128 deaths seen on All Souls' Day

Philstar.com November 2, 2021 | 4:01pm



Residents light candles and offer a short prayer in front of their homes to honor their departed with cemeteries closed in Metro Manila.

The STAR / Miguel de Guzman

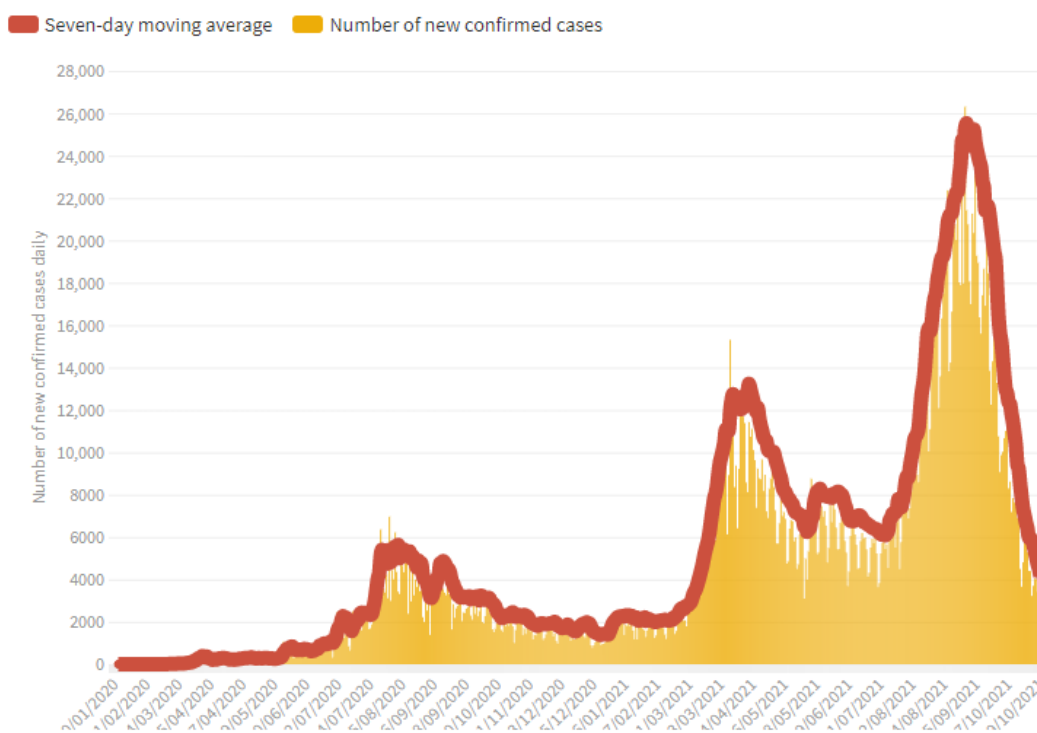
MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines saw 128 more coronavirus-related deaths on All Souls' Day, a figure that authorities reported along with 2,303 new infections.

This pushed the country's overall count of COVID-19 cases to 2,792,656. The Department of Health said 1.5% of those remain as active cases.

Some eight laboratories, meanwhile, failed to submit screening results according to the agency.

- **Active cases:** 40,786 or 1.5% of the total
- **Deaths:** 128, pushing the count to 43,404
- **Recoveries:** 4,677 bringing the number to 2,708,466

## COVID-19 cases in the Philippines



Source: Department of Health • As of November 02, 2021, 4 p.m.



### Vaccines damaged from fire

- Authorities are investigating the incident in Pagadian City where nearly [150,000 doses](#) of COVID-19 vaccines were damaged from a fire that broke out at the Zamboanga del Sur provincial health office last week.
- DOH said the country has 520 more cases of the hyper contagious [Delta variant](#) of COVID-19.
- Vice President Leni Robredo said she will release her COVID-19 response plan drawing from consultation with health experts on Wednesday should she win the presidency next year.
- The Philippine National Police urged event organizers of flea markets and bazaars to [cooperate](#) with local governments to ensure health protocols are followed by their patrons or customers.
- There are now 27.44 million Filipinos complete with their COVID-19 vaccine, while 32.03 million have received a first dose. The figures are out of the government's goal of inoculating 77.13 million this year.



# COVID-19 infections sa Pilipinas sumampa na sa 2,792,656

(Philstar.com) - November 2, 2021 - 4:00pm



Local health officials in Biñan, Laguna wear their Halloween costumes during the inoculation of Moderna vaccines on Nov. 1, 2021

MANILA, Philippines — Nakapagtala ang Department of Health ng 2,303 bagong infection ng coronavirus disease, Martes, kung kaya't nasa 2,792,656 na sumatutal ang nahahawaan nito sa bansa.

Batay sa mga bagong nakalap na datos ng Kagawaran ng Kalusugan, narito ang bagong mga pasok na datos para araw na ito:

- **lahat ng kaso:** 2,792,656
- **nagpapagaling pa:** 40,786, o 1.5% ng total infections
- **bagong recover:** 4,677, dahilan para maging 2,708,466 na lahat ng gumagaling
- **kamamatay lang:** 128, na siyang nag-aakyat sa total local death toll sa 43,404

## 2,100 active cases sa Disyembre?

- Lumalabas sa projections na ibinalita ng DOH na posibleng bumulusok pababa patungong 2,113 ang bilang ng COVID-19 active cases sa kalagitnaan ng Disyembre 2021 sa Pilipinas. Gayunpaman, [posible pa rin daw umabot ito ng 52,394](#) kung lumala ang healthcare system at tumaas ang mobility ng taumbayan sa parehong panahon.
- Aabot sa 148,678 doses ng COVID-19 vaccines ang nadamay sa isang sunog sa Zamboanga del Sur nitong ika-31 ng Oktubre, [dahilan para tuluyan nang hindi mapakinabangan ang mga nabanggit na gamot](#).
- Nadagdagan naman ng [520 pang kaso ng mas nakahahawang COVID-19 Delta variant sa Pilipinas](#), ayon sa pinakabagong datos ng DOH.
- Nakakuha naman na ng kumpletong COVID-19 doses ang nasa [27.44 milyong katao sa Pilipinas](#) simula nang umarangkada ito nitong Marso. Bahagi lang 'yan ng kabuuang 59.47 bakunang naiturok sa bansa ngayon.
- Umabot na sa 244.38 milyon ang tinatamaan ng COVID-19 sa buong daigdig, [ayon sa huling datos ng World Health Organization](#). Sa bilang na 'yan, patay na ang 4.96 milyong katao.

— James Relativo

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/11/02/2138467/covid-19-infections-sa-pilipinas-sumampa-na-sa-2792656/amp/>





# Pagbaba ng kaso ng COVID-19, bumagal

By [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - November 3, 2021 - 12:00am



Sinabi ni DOH Epidemiology Bureau Director Dr. Alethea De Guzman na may average 4,183 arawang kaso ang bansa mula Oktubre 26-Nobyembre 1. Mas mababa pa rin naman ito ng 14 porsyento kumpara sa mga naitalang averages ng sinundang linggo.

MANILA, Philippines — Bumagal ang pagbaba ng mga bagong kaso ng COVID-19 na naitatala sa bansa kasunod ng pagiging aktibo at paglabas ng mga tao sa kanilang mga tahanan dahil sa pinababang Alert Level classification.

Sinabi ni DOH Epidemiology Bureau Director Dr. Alethea De Guzman na may average 4,183 arawang kaso ang bansa mula Oktubre 26-Nobyembre 1. Mas mababa pa rin naman ito ng 14 porsyento kumpara sa mga naitalang averages ng sinundang linggo.

Ngunit mas mababa ang bahagdan ng pagbaba nito kumpara sa 26% sa naunang linggo ng Oktubre at sinundan ng 35% sa katapusan ng Oktubre.

Habang bumababa ang kaso, mas hinikayat ni De Guzman ang mga lokal na pamahalaan na palakasin ang pagtukoy nila ng mga aktibong kaso sa kanilang nasasakupan para mapatunayan na mababa na talaga ang mga kaso.

Sa kabila nito, pinaalalahanan muli ng opisyal ang publiko na patuloy na mag-ingat at sumunod sa health protocols dahil may pangamba na maaaring umakyat sa 52,000 ang aktibong mga kaso pagsapit ng Disyembre.



# IATF-EID eyes total lifting of face shield use

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos November 2, 2021, 4:06 pm



**MANILA** – The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) is studying the possibility of lifting the current policy on the use of face shields in the country, Malacañang said on Tuesday.

In an online press briefing, Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said the significant drop in the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases might persuade the IATF-EID to withdraw the requirement of wearing a face shield on top of a face mask.

“I can confirm *po na habang bumababa ang mga numero, eh pinag-uusapan na rin po kung ipagpapatuloy pa ang pagsusuot ng face shields* (I can confirm that while the number [of Covid-19] infections continue to decline, we are discussing whether it is still necessary to wear face shields),” Roque, also acting as IATF-EID spokesperson, said.

On Monday, the Philippines logged just 3,117 new Covid-19 infections, bringing the total case count in the country to 2,790,375.

There are 43,185 active Covid-19 cases, 2,703,914 recoveries, and 43,276 fatalities.

Roque, however, clarified that despite the decline in Covid-19 cases, the IATF-EID has yet to decide on the use of face shields.

“So, *tama po kayo. Dahil bumababa ang numero, marami na ang nagsasabi sa IATF na na baka dapat itigil na rin ang pagsusuot ng face shields. Pero wala pa pong desisyon. So, suot pa rin po tayo ng face shield* (So, you’re right. While the number is going down, many IATF members are saying that perhaps, we could stop the wearing of face shields),” he said.

Roque also reminded the public to continue wearing face shields in enclosed and crowded spaces.

On Dec. 14, 2020, the IATF-EID issued Resolution 88, mandating all persons to wear full-coverage face shields on top of face masks in all public places to reduce Covid-19 transmission.

Duterte in June this year ordered the public to wear face shields only in hospitals but immediately decided to keep the IATF-EID’s original policy following the presence of the more infectious Delta variant.

He, however, decided in September this year to just limit the use of face shields in the so-called “3Cs,” which refers to “closed and crowded spaces, and close contact.” (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1158509>





**#OneDENR**

**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**





# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 598

## NOBYEMBRE 2, 2021

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon, bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site: <https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 1.5%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
40,786

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 97.0%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
2,708,466

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.55%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
43,404

MGA BAGONG KASO **2,303**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **4,677**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **128**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,792,656**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING OKTUBRE 31

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 2  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG OKTUBRE 31

# 6.8%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 29,679

BILANG NG  
TINEST

HALOS

# 76.3%

ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**B**AWAL  
WALANG MASK  
AT FACE SHIELD

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA  
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (4.1K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **46%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.6K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **34%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.4K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **30%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
 **32%** Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.4K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **40%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **27%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.1K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **30%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
 **30%** Utilized

Mild 71.2%

5.1% Asymptomatic

3.2% Critical

7.5% Severe

13.02% Moderate



## UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Upang tiyak na ligtas ang ating mga pamilya ngayong Undas, lubos na paigtingin ang pagsunod sa ating **Minimum Public Health Standards**. Kasabay nito, huwag tayong mag-atubiling makipag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS o One COVID Command Center** sa oras na makaranas ng anumang sintomas ng COVID-19. Maaabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, puntahan ang <http://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine> upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating **Telemedicine Service Providers**, at ang <http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines> para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod:

SMART: 0919 977 3333  
GLOBE: 0915 777 7777  
TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: [kontracovid.ph](http://kontracovid.ph)



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP  
at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](http://Staysafe.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

[doh.gov.ph](http://doh.gov.ph)

(02) 894-COVID / 1555



03 NOVEMBER 2021, WEDNESDAY



**DENR**

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#manilabay

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


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[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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


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