

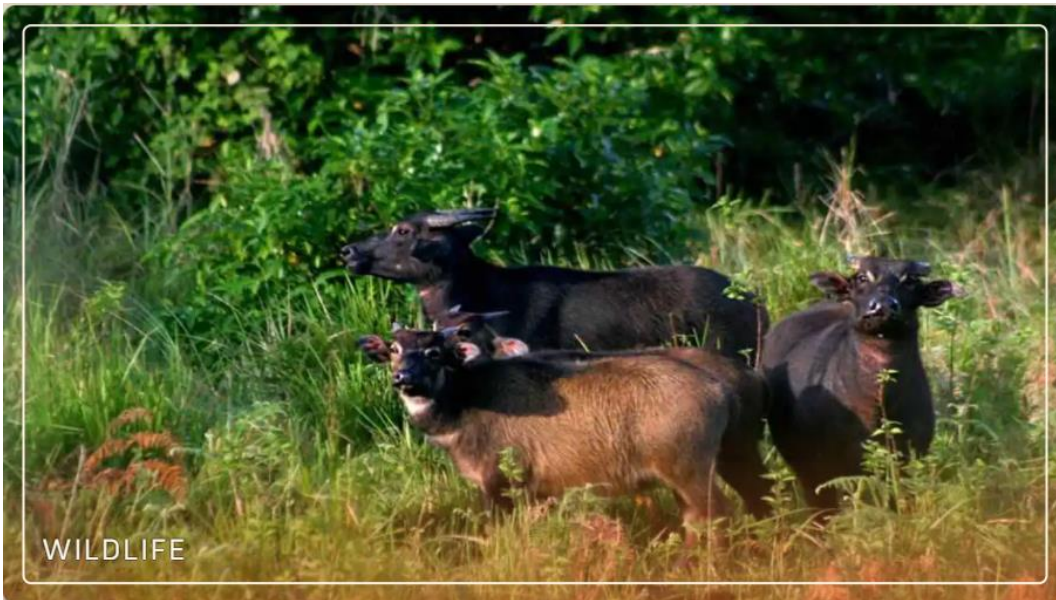
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Endangered biodiversity treasure: Cimatu backs tamaraw conservation

NOV 4, 2021, 8:13 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Roy A. Cimatu has expressed his strong support for a bill seeking to conserve the critically endangered tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*).

Cimatu issued the statement following calls for the passage of House Bill (HB) 8299 or the proposed Tamaraw Conservation Management Act.

Cimatu said the proposed measure is in response to the pressing need to conserve the remaining population of the Tamaraw, a dwarf buffalo that is endemic to Mindoro Island.

"We hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will keep this bill in mind in choosing priorities to ensure that one of our country's biodiversity treasures is conserved and protected," Cimatu said.

The DENR chief said he also "thoroughly supports the proposed crafting of a Department Administrative Order for the Tamaraw Conservation Program while the said bill is not yet a law."

Cimatu's call came as the country observed the National Tamaraw Month in October under the theme: "Tamaraw atin ito, Ipagmalaki mo bilang Pilipino!"

The DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), together with the DENR-Region 4B (MIMAROPA), conducted the "Tamaraw Talks" webinar to highlight the conservation and protection efforts and activities implemented by the DENR through the Tamaraw Conservation Program.

The activities were conducted with the assistance of various non-government organizations in Mindoro that help in the conservation, protection, and preservation of the remaining population of the tamaraw in their natural habitat.

DENR-BMB Director Datu Tungko M. Saikol call on the public "to pursue and enhance our advocacy for tamaraw conservation to allow future generations to appreciate and marvel at one of the country's treasures and pride."



Authored by Occidental Mindoro Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, HB 8299 calls for the creation of the Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council and the Technical Advisory Group, Tamaraw Conservation Program Office, and the Tamaraw Conservation and Research Center that will be in charge of coordination, research, and pertinent activities to ensure that the program's objectives are met.

The celebration of the National Tamaraw Month is under Presidential Proclamation No. 273, series of 2002, which declares the month of October of every year as a Special Month for the Conservation and Protection of the Tamaraw in Mindoro.

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/endangered-biodiversity-treasure-cimatu-backs-tamaraw-conservation?fbclid=IwAR23qvHOPfWIGwRn-O8YcIqhJD7H8g7Oa-rvSP7VTYwtEHR9tEEQ8VvHSUA>



Cimatu backs Tamaraw conservation bill

Published November 4, 2021, 2:37 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu is backing the proposal of a bill which seeks to conserve the critically endangered Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*) in the country.

The expression of support of Cimatu came following calls for the passage of House Bill 8299 or the proposed Tamaraw Conservation Management Act in response to the pressing need to conserve the remaining population of the said species, which is endemic in Mindoro Island.

“We hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will keep this bill in mind in choosing priorities to ensure that one of our country’s biodiversity treasures is conserved and protected,” Cimatu said as the country also observes the National Tamaraw Month in October.



DENR/MANILA BULLETIN

Cimatu added that he “thoroughly supports the proposed crafting of a Department Administrative Order for the Tamaraw Conservation Program while the said bill is not yet a law.”

Recently, the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the DENR conducted the “Tamaraw Talks” webinar to highlight the conservation and protection efforts and activities implemented by the agency through its Tamaraw Conservation Program.

In his speech, DENR-BMB Director Datu Tungko Saikol urged the public “to pursue and enhance our advocacy for Tamaraw conservation to allow future generations to appreciate and marvel at one of the country’s treasures and pride.”



Cimatu supports bill to preserve critically endangered Tamaraw

posted November 04, 2021 at 11:20 pm

by [Rio N. Araja](#)

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu on Thursday expressed support for a bill seeking to conserve the critically endangered Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*).

He called for the passage of House Bill 8299 or the proposed Tamaraw Conservation Management Act in response to the pressing need to conserve the remaining population of the Tamaraw, a dwarf buffalo that is endemic to Mindoro Island.

“We hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will keep this bill in mind in choosing priorities to ensure that one of our country’s biodiversity treasures is conserved and protected,” he said.

He said he also “thoroughly supports the proposed crafting of a department administrative order for the Tamaraw conservation program while the bill is not yet a law.”

The country observed the National Tamaraw Month in October under the theme: “Tamaraw atin ito, Ipagmalaki mo bilang Pilipino!”

Authored by Occidental Mindoro Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, HB 8299 calls for the creation of the Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council as well as a Technical Advisory Group, a Tamaraw Conservation Program Office, and a Tamaraw Conservation and Research Center that would be in charge of coordination, research, and pertinent activities to ensure that the program’s objectives are met.



DENR campaigns for passage of bill on conservation of tamaraws

November 4, 2021 | 8:45 pm



GREG YANN

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it hopes that Congress will prioritize the passage of the Tamaraw Conservation Bill to conserve the critically endangered Mindoro dwarf buffalos.

“We hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will keep this bill in mind in choosing priorities to ensure that one of our country’s biodiversity treasures are conserved and protected,” DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said in a news release on Thursday.

The Tamaraw Conservation Bill or House Bill 8299 authored by Occidental Mindoro Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato seeks to create a Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council and Technical Advisory Group, Tamaraw Conservation Program Office, and the Tamaraw Conservation and Research Center to take charge of research activities towards the conservation of the dwarf buffalos.

Mr. Cimatu added that while waiting for the bill to be passed into law, he “thoroughly supports the proposed crafting of a Department Administrative Order for the Tamaraw Conservation Program.”

The dwarf buffalo, endemic in Mindoro Island, was listed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature as critically endangered in the year 2000 with only 154 of them left then.

In 2012, the DENR-Tamaraw Conservation Project, Far Eastern University, and the World Wide Fund for Nature Philippines launched the Western Mindoro Integrated Conservation Program in an effort to increase the population of the dwarf buffalos.

October is declared National Tamaraw Month. — **Bianca Angelica D. Añago**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-campaigns-for-passage-of-bill-on-conservation-of-tamaraws/?fbclid=IwAR3BGFwuFDzjzVF7NF34Ov26Q940qafLeEJwhzrPSnadZpmzLYCshNqAwY0>



Tamaraw Conservation Bill suportado ni Cimatú



November 4, 2021 @ 6:28 PM 11 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Para mapangalagaan ang Tamaraw, nagpahayag ng pagsuporta si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatú sa panukalang batas na magkaroon ng konserbasyon sa critically endangered Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*).

Sa press release ang pahayag na ito ni Cimatú ay kasunod ng panawagan sa pagpasa ang House Bill (HB) 8299 o ang panukalang Tamaraw Conservation Management Act bilang tugon sa maigting na pangangailangan para sa konserbasyon sa natitirang populasyon ng Tamaraw, isang dwarf buffalo na matatagpuan lamang sa Isla ng Mindoro.

“We hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will keep this bill in mind in choosing priorities to ensure that one of our country’s biodiversity treasures is conserved and protected,” saad ni Cimatú.

Kaugnay nito ayon sa DENR chief “thoroughly supports the proposed crafting of a Department Administrative Order for the Tamaraw Conservation Program while the said bill is not yet a law.”

Ang pahayag ni Cimatú ay inilabas sa pagdiriwang ng bansa sa National Tamaraw Month noong Oktubre na may temang: “Tamaraw atin ito, Ipagmalaki mo bilang Pilipino!”

Samantala nagsagawa din ang DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) at ang DENR-Region 4B (MIMAROPA) ng “Tamaraw Talks” webinar na tumatalakay sa gawain patungkol sa konserbasyon at proteksiyon ng DENR sa pamamagitan ng Tamaraw Conservation Program.

Ang mga aktibidad na ito ay ginawa sa pamamagitan na rin ng tulong ng iba’t-ibang non-government organizations sa Mindoro na nakatutulong sa conservation, protection, at preservation ng mga natitirang populasyon ng Tamaraw sa kanilang natural habitat.

Sa kanyang mensahe sa webinar, hinikayat ni DENR-BMB Director Datu Tungko M. Saikol ang publiko: “to pursue and enhance our advocacy for Tamaraw conservation to allow future generations to appreciate and marvel one of the country’s treasures and pride.”



Ang HB 8299 na iniakda ni Occidental Mindoro Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato ay nananawagan sa pagbuo ng Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council at ng Technical Advisory Group, Tamaraw Conservation Program Office, at ng Tamaraw Conservation and Research Center na siyang mangangasiwa ng koordinasyon, pag-aaral, at iba pang aktibidad upang matiyak na natutugunan ang bawat layunin ng programa.

Ang pagdiriwang ng National Tamaraw Month ay batay sa Presidential Proclamation No. 273, series of 2002 na nagdedeklara sa buwan ng Oktubre kada taon bilang Special Month for the Conservation and Protection of the Tamaraw in Mindoro. **Santi Celorio**



Coast Guard dismantles 32 illegal fish cages, traps off Cavite City

Published November 4, 2021 6:38pm



Photo: Philippine Coast Guard

Personnel of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) dismantled at least 32 illegally structured fish cages and stationary fish traps off Cavite City on Thursday.

The PCG, along with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Cavite local officials, [earlier warned owners of the illegal fish cages and traps to dismantle the structures last October 25.](#)

The Coast Guard conducted the follow-up operation after 10 days to ensure compliance with the released order.

Meanwhile, the authorities continued to deploy forces in monitoring and filing cases against the owners of the illegal fish cages.

They are also authorized to remove floating hazards to navigation, including illegal fish structures and vessels, at or close to sea lanes which may cause hazards to the marine environment.

The joint operation of the PCG and DENR was in line with the Supreme Court ruling to 13 government agencies regarding the Writ of Mandamus in the prevention of Manila Bay Pollution and Republic Act No. 9993 or the Philippine Coast Guard Law of 2009. — **Richa Noriega/BM, GMA News**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/809643/coast-guard-dismantles-32-illegal-fish-cages-traps-off-cavite-city/story/?utm_source=GMAnews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR1zqFQ8XQyxfPhJ7rCfdy-4RdLNsgbqWAWRDqez4zjlalquvGfVXfn09pM



Demolition

posted November 04, 2021 at 10:13 pm

by [JR Josue](#)



The Philippine Coast Guard, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Manila Bay Inter-Agency Task Force demolish 32 'sapra' or illegal fishing structures in the Cavite City area along Manila Bay on Thursday, after the deadline given by the DENR for fishermen to take down the structures from October 28 to November 4.



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
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Dolomite beach fit for swimming by December

By [Eireene Jairee Gomez](#) November 4, 2021

THE [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) said on Wednesday that it was working double time for the [Manila Bay](#) dolomite beach to be reopened to the public and be fit for swimming by December.

"It's within reach. Basically, we can see that we can beat the deadline earlier. The real objective is to finish it not by the end of administration but within the year," DENR Undersecretary for Solid [Waste Management](#) and Local Government Units Concerns [Benny Antiporda](#) said in a press briefing.



Fenced off People walk near the dolomite beach in Manila Bay on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021. The beach was closed to the public while rehabilitation work continues. PHOTO BY JOHN RYAN BALDEMOR

Antiporda said the DENR was completing all necessary nourishment and rehabilitation works in the dolomite beach, including making its waters fit for swimming.

Manila Bay's fecal coliform level was around 300 million most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpn/100ml) when the rehabilitation works started in 2018. The goal is to reduce the coliform level to about 200 mpn/100ml or below before 2021 ends.

"We'll do our best before the end of the year, before the [Christmas](#) season so [Juan Dela Cruz](#) (the people) can enjoy it. It's just that our situation is fragile because of the pandemic," he added.

The Manila Bay dolomite beach reopened to the public on October 16 following the implementation of the Alert Level 3 in the National Capital Region. It accepted visitors daily from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The [Manila Bay Inter-Agency Task Force](#) then closed it anew on Oct. 29, 2021 to Nov. 3, 2021 in observance of All [Saints'](#) Day and All Souls' Day.

In the latest development, DENR Undersecretary for Environment and [International Environment Affairs Jonas Leones](#) said the dolomite beach would remain closed until further notice due to rehabilitation works.

He said the decision to open the dolomite beach would be based on the advice of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases on the [Covid-19](#) pandemic situation.

"If the pandemic situation improves, we assure that we would open not only the dolomite area but the entire baywalk," Leones said.



He added that the DENR would also provide geo-engineering interventions and additional sewage treatment plants as part of the rehabilitation and nourishment initiatives in the area.

With an estimated cost of P398 million, the dolomite beach was created by covering the 500-meter stretch baywalk in the coast of Manila Bay with thousands of metric tons of dolomite from Alcoy, [Cebu](#).



DOST to strengthen efforts to reduce pollution in Manila Bay

Published November 4, 2021, 6:56 PM by [Charissa Luci-Atienza](#)

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) vowed Thursday, Nov. 4, to strengthen efforts to reduce pollution in Manila Bay.



Hundreds of people plunge into the cool water of Manila Bay at the breakwater in Macapagal Boulevard in Pasay City amidst the pandemic. (Photo by Ali Vicoy / MANILA BULLETIN)

DOST Secretary Fortunato “Boy” T. de la Peña laments that in terms of major environmental problems, Manila Bay faces the deterioration of water quality, coastal erosion and siltation, overexploitation of fishery resources, degradation of habitats, and loss of biodiversity.

“Most of the pollution was from land-based human activities, including the discharge of municipal, industrial, and agricultural wastes, land runoff and atmospheric deposition,” he said in a message during the “Project e-SMART Stakeholder Consultation: Updates and Discussions on the Hydrologic and Hydrodynamic Analysis of the Manila Bay Environment” on Thursday.

Project e-SMART or the Eco-system, Modeling and Material Transport Analysis for the Rehabilitation of Manila Bay is one of the four component projects of the two-year Integrated Mapping, Monitoring, Modeling and Management System for Manila Bay and Linked Systems or IM4ManilaBay program.

Launched in January 2020, IM4ManilaBay program is aimed at conserving Manila Bay.

De la Peña said he was looking forward to how the researchers from the University of the Philippines Diliman characterize Manila Bay and its watershed as well as linked environments to provide information for rehabilitation and management through water quality monitoring and mapping, hydrodynamic and hydrologic modeling, and dredge materials and solid waste management.

“True to our mission to bring science closer to Filipinos, we will further strengthen our efforts to reduce environmental pollution and provide greater access to clean and safe water by generating environmentally sound game-changing technologies and policies,” he said.

He urged concerned stakeholders to “continue collaborating with DOST and together let us bring a stronger nation.”

The DOST through the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) supported the IM4ManilaBay program with funding amounting to P65.9 million.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/11/04/dost-to-strengthen-efforts-to-reduce-pollution-in-manila-bay/>



ONE News November 3 at 10:55 AM ·

The Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources says the dolomite beach will remain closed for the second phase of the Manila Bay rehabilitation, which is expected to finish within this year. "Tututukan na linisin yung tubig para hindi na lamang pasyal ang pwedeng gawin, kundi pati ang pagligo at paglangoy," DENR Usec. Jonas Leones said. (via News5/Shyla Francisco)

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The so-called Dolomite Beach in Manila will remain off-limits to people while authorities in Metro Manila further ease pandemic restrictions.

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Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJH6IzrjXTk&ab_channel=CNNPhilippines



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Rescued PH Eagle to be released back into the wild: DENR-13

By Alexander Lopez November 4, 2021, 12:59 pm



DUE FOR RELEASE. The DENR in Caraga region announces the release of a Philippine Eagle named Rajah Cabungsu on November 17 in Lingig, Surigao del Sur. The eagle was rescued in March this year and had undergone treatment at the Philippine Eagle Center in Davao City for more than seven months. *(Photo grabbed from DENR-13 Facebook Page)*

BUTUAN CITY – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) 13 (Caraga) announced the scheduled release of a Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) that was rescued earlier this year in Surigao del Sur.

In a statement on Thursday, the DENR-13 said the rescued Philippine Eagle will be released back into the wild on November 17.

“Rajah Cabungsu is a male eagle over five years old. He is named after a barangay in Lingig, Surigao del Sur where he was rescued last March 23,” it said.

The eagle, it added, was handed over by the Bislig local environment office to the DENR-13 after the rescue for treatment.

"After over seven months at the Philippine Eagle Center in Davao City, he is healthy and fit and ready to be brought back to his forest home in Lingig," the DENR-13 said.

It also thanked the different support groups that provided help during the treatment of the rescued Philippine Eagle.

The DENR earlier urged the public to seek assistance from the police and military in rescuing Philippine Eagles and in arresting individuals who violate laws that protect the endangered bird.

Hunting Philippine Eagles is a violation of Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has listed the Philippine Eagle as being critically endangered.

According to IUCN's assessment, there is a decreasing trend in the Philippine Eagle's population, noting this species had only around 180 to 500 remaining mature individuals.

Agriculture and aquaculture, energy production and mining, pollution, as well as climate change, and severe weather threaten Philippine Eagle's existence, noted IUCN.



Biological resource use through logging, wood harvesting, hunting, and trapping is also a threat, IUCN said.

Non-profit organization Philippine Eagle Foundation reported that of the 89 eagles it rescued since the 1970s, around 26 percent had gunshot wounds while the rest were victims of trapping and poaching. **(PNA)**



Rescued male Philippine eagle to be freed in Surigao del Sur on Nov. 17

Published November 4, 2021, 4:36 PM

by [Zea Capistrano](#)

DAVAO CITY — A rescued Philippine Eagle named Rajah Cabungsuan will be released back to the wilderness on November 17, the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) announced.

According to the PEF, the male eagle is over five years old.

“Rajah was turned-over to us by the DENR in Bislig City for rehabilitation. After over seven months at the Philippine Eagle Center, he is healthy and fit and ready to be brought back to his forest home in Lingig,” the PEF said.

Rajah Cabungsuan was named after a barangay in Lingig, Surigao del Sur where he was rescued last March 23, the PEF added.



Environmental group bats for stronger Wildlife Law

Published November 4, 2021, 1:15 PM

by [Madelaine B. Mirafior](#)

Environmental group Tanggol Kalikasan has urged the 18th Congress to immediately amend the Republic Act (RA) 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001 for much effective and stronger implementation.

In a statement, Tanggol Kalikasan Executive Director Ma. Ronely Bisquera-Sheen said that it is high time to strengthen the 20-year-old law to address the increasingly sophisticated and organized illegal wildlife trade operations.



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“We call on the 18th Congress to use their power to pass this much-needed law. It will be a worthwhile legacy that will not only protect our wildlife resources, but also the lives and livelihoods of generations of Filipinos,” Bisquera-Sheen said.

“Crime syndicates are exploiting legal loopholes, low fines and penalties, digital technology, and limited enforcement capacity. RA 9147 must be urgently amended. Our law must keep up with the changing landscape of wildlife crimes and enforcement,” she added.

According to Tanggol Kalikaan, penalties in the current law do not correspond to the gravity of offenses, failing to serve as a deterrent. Most of the sentences under the law are below six years imprisonment, with first-time offenders usually applying for probation to skip detention and paying fines.

In 2019, foreign nationals were caught with P1.7 million worth of dried seahorses, considered endangered species, but the offenders ended up paying a measly fine of P15,000.

But Senate Bill 2078 and 2079, filed by Senator Cynthia Villar and Senate Majority Leader Juan Miguel Zubiri, respectively, seek the imposition of stronger and more specific penalties, the strengthening of enforcement capacity, and the removal of legal loopholes exploited by illegal wildlife traders. The counterpart measure, House Bill 9833, was approved in August on the third and final reading.

Under the proposed amendments, penalties for trading, possession, and transport of wildlife can be as high as eight years of imprisonment and/or fines of up to P1 million; while penalties for killing or destroying wildlife can reach up to 12 years imprisonment and/or fines of up to P2 million. Wildlife trafficking shall also be treated as a distinct and separate offense if the violation involves more than one species.

If the bills are passed into law, the offender shall also pay the wildlife economic value, or the amount proven to have been lost as a result of the crime.



Citing the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the group said the estimated value of illegal wildlife trade in the country is P50 billion or \$1 billion yearly, including the market value of wildlife and its resources, their ecological role and value, damage to habitats, and loss in potential ecotourism revenues.

The group, citing Glenn Maguad of DENR-Wildlife Rescue Center, said there is also a need for additional financial and technical assistance to the more than 20 Wildlife Rescue Centers nationwide.

“Rescue centers provide a sanctuary for confiscated wildlife, most of which are in critical condition, and play a crucial role in the law enforcement chain nationwide,” Maguad said.

With implementation challenges in the regions, Tanggol Kalikasan emphasized the critical role of local government units (LGUs) in wildlife law enforcement.

Under the bills, LGUs shall require businesses and wildlife-related activities to present permits from the DENR and the Department of Agriculture (DA) before they can obtain or renew business licenses and clearances.

“The LGUs’ knowledge, expertise and law enforcement efforts in the areas will help enforcers at the national level in combating illegal wildlife trade, especially in light of the Supreme Court’s Mandanas ruling, which transfers higher national tax revenue to local governments,” Bisquera-Sheen said.

“Furthermore, imposing rules that complement local ordinances will make it difficult for violators to commit crimes,” she added.

The Philippines, among the world’s most mega-diverse countries, has become an important source, transit, and destination point for illegal wildlife trade, which is now the fourth largest illicit trade worldwide behind illegal drugs, arms, and human trafficking.



DOT backs DENR safe measures for spring resorts ops

By Sarwell Meniano [November 4, 2021, 4:19 pm](#)



WATERFALLS. The Luliugayan Falls in Calbiga, Samar. The Department of Tourism (DOT) has expressed support to the requirements set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on the operations of spring resorts in Eastern Visayas. *(Photo courtesy of Lulugayan Falls and Ecovillage)*

TACLOBAN CITY - The Department of Tourism (DOT) is supporting the safety requirements set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on the operations of river and mountain resorts in Eastern Visayas, especially during a change in weather.

DOT concurs with that new requirement of DENR since safety for all tourists and tourism service providers in these areas should be a top priority, said DOT regional director Karina Rosa Tiopes in an interview Thursday.

"So far, DOT does not have any existing guidelines for the operation of river or mountain area tourism sites that require having lifeguards. What the department currently has are the guidelines for the operation of tourism enterprises that have swimming pool or are considered as beach resorts," she told the Philippine News Agency.

On October 25, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has issued a reminder to local government units and river resort operators to lay down measures to ensure the safety of their guests.

In a letter sent to town and city mayors, the DENR suggests that mountain and river resort owners should be required to hire at least two lifeguards and watchmen who will monitor the prevailing weather condition in the local area.

The personnel should be equipped with devices that will warn the visitors of impending danger and should be responsible for bringing them to safety.

The DENR pointed out that resort owners should be required to display safety reminders for their visitors in visible areas at all times.

The office also suggests considering other safety measures that may be identified by the local government as obligatory and part of the conditions in the issuance of business permits.

Strict monitoring of the resort's compliance with safety measures should be done regularly.

The DENR issued the call a month after the Sept. 25, 2021 incident at Tinubdan Falls in Catmon, Cebu when a flash flood swept away and killed three of its guests.



Meanwhile, the DOT is developing recreational guidelines for tourism sites and tourist activities.

The pilot project will focus on caving, mountaineering, trekking, kayaking, standing up paddling, canoeing, boating, river cruise, and rappelling.

"Safety considerations and tourism disaster risk reduction and management will be included as part of these recreational guidelines," Tiopes added.

In Burauen town, where some of the mountain resorts in Leyte are located, the local government unit has already ordered the provisions of lifeguards in all resorts operating in the municipality.

"It is also already a part of our Municipal Tourism Code which is currently being amended. All tourism establishments that have swimming pools hire a watchman or a lifeguard to ensure the safety of its visitors and avoid ill-fated incidents," the Burauen tourism office stated.

In Calbayog City, Samar, tourism officer Ronald Ricafort Jr., said that although lifeguards and watchmen are not part of the requirement in some of their destinations, locals trained as tour guides have ways of knowing the weather conditions in their areas. **(PNA)**



DOT backs DENR safe measures for spring resorts ops

Published November 4, 2021, 5:09 PM

by [Philippine News Agency](#)

TACLOBAN CITY — The Department of Tourism (DOT) is supporting the safety requirements set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on the operations of river and mountain resorts in Eastern Visayas, especially during a change in weather.

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WATERFALLS. The Lulugayan Falls in Calbiga, Samar. The Department of Tourism (DOT) has expressed support to the requirements set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on the operations of spring resorts in Eastern Visayas. (Photo courtesy of Lulugayan Falls and Ecovillage/Manila Bulletin)

“So far, DOT does not have any existing guidelines for the operation of river or mountain area tourism sites that require having lifeguards. What the department currently has are the guidelines for the operation of tourism enterprises that have swimming pool or are considered as beach resorts,” she told the Philippine News Agency.

On October 25, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has issued a reminder to local government units and river resort operators to lay down measures to ensure the safety of their guests.

In a letter sent to town and city mayors, the DENR suggests that mountain and river resort owners should be required to hire at least two lifeguards and watchmen who will monitor the prevailing weather condition in the local area.

The personnel should be equipped with devices that will warn the visitors of impending danger and should be responsible for bringing them to safety.

The DENR pointed out that resort owners should be required to display safety reminders for their visitors in visible areas at all times.

The office also suggests considering other safety measures that may be identified by the local government as obligatory and part of the conditions in the issuance of business permits.

Strict monitoring of the resort’s compliance with safety measures should be done regularly. The DENR issued the call a month after the Sept. 25, 2021 incident at Tinubdan Falls in Catmon, Cebu when a flash flood swept away and killed three of its guests.



Meanwhile, the DOT is developing recreational guidelines for tourism sites and tourist activities.

The pilot project will focus on caving, mountaineering, trekking, kayaking, standing up paddling, canoeing, boating, river cruise, and rappelling.

“Safety considerations and tourism disaster risk reduction and management will be included as part of these recreational guidelines,” Tiopes added.

In Burauen town, where some of the mountain resorts in Leyte are located, the local government unit has already ordered the provisions of lifeguards in all resorts operating in the municipality.



MAGTANIM NG PUNO LABAN SA CLIMATE CHANGE



November 4, 2021 @ 8:01 PM 11 hours ago

PAANO kaya tayo makatulong sa layunin ng Conference of the Parties 26 o COP26 na dinadaluhan ng nasa 100 lider ng bansa sa daigdig laban sa climate change o pag-iinit ng mundo sa Glasgow, United Kingdom?

Kabilang sa mga tinatalakay nila sa dalawang linggong miting ang programang paghinto ng pagkalbo sa mga kagubatan.

Simple lang, mga Bro, ang dahilan: Para makatulong sa paglamig ng mundo na sinasabing nag-iinit na dahil sa gawang tao at kalikasan.

Isa kasi sa mga ibinubunga ng pag-iinit ng mundo ang pagkatunaw ng mga yelo sa mga malalamig na lugar gaya ng arctic region sa norte, kasama na ang Greenland, Alaska at Northern Russia, at antartic region sa timog na nasa likod ng Australia, Africa at South America.

Habang natutunaw ang mga yelo, tumataas din ang katubigan sa buong mundo at nararanasan na ito ng bansang Palau at sinasabing maging ng Pilipinas.

Dail sa pag-iinit ng daigdig, naririyang din umano ang pagkakalikha ng napakalalakas na bagyo na kung tumama sa mga kalbong kagubatan, kasunod na nito ang mga grabeng pagbaha.

At nalilikha rin ang sobrang init ng panahon na dahilan ng matagalang tagtuyot at pagkasunog ng mga kagubatan malaking kasiraan sa pagkain at iba pang pangangailangan ng tao.

CARBON DIOXIDE AT MGA PANANIM

Ang lahat ng pananim, kasama na ang mga puno, ay sinasabing kumakain ng 30 porsyento ng kabuuang carbon dioxide na likha ng tao at kalikasan.

Carbon dioxide ang gas na mapolusyon at mainit at malaking bulto nito ang galing sa mga tambutso ng sasakyan, kasama na ang mga eroplano, usok ng mga pabrika, sigarilyo, hinga ng tao at hayop at iba pa.

May carbon dioxide din mismo na galing sa kalkasan gaya ng mga nabubulok na mga halaman, usok mula sa putok ng bulkan, dumi ng lahat ng hayop at iba pa.

Dahil sa rami ng carbon dioxide sa ibabaw ng mundo, gaya ng nakikita nating maitim na usok sa ibabaw ng Metro Manila lalo na sa umaga, nakukulang ang init at hindi makasingaw palabas ng daigdig.

Diyan nag-iinit ang mundo.



Ngunit pagkain ng lahat ng tanim ang carbon dioxide at dahil 30% nga ng nasabing gas ang nilalamin ng mga tanim, nakatutulong ang huli sa paglamig ng mundo.

LUGAR NG KAGUBATAN

Heto ang ilang lugar na may pinakamalalaking kagubatan.

Ang Amazon forest na matatagpuan sa Brazil ang pinakamalalaking kagubatan sa mundo at pumapangalawa rito ang matatagpuan sa Democratic Republic of Congo sa Africa.

Sa rekord, kumakain ng 1.6 bilyong tonelada ng carbon dioxide ang kagubatan sa Russia na kinatatagpuan ng panlimang may pinakakapal na kagubatan.

Kapag nakalbo umano ang mga ito, mababawasan pati ang oxygen na hinihinga natin na malaking banta sa ating buhay at papalitan ng carbon dioxide na isa sa mga inilalabas natin sa paghinga.

GRABENG KALBUHAN

Sa Brazil, halos kasinglaki na ng buong kalupaan ng Pilipinas ang kinalbo sa Amazon forest para lang may pagtaman ng mga soya at iba pang mga pananim na para sa pagkain naman ng mga baboy, manok, baka at iba pa na pagkain naman ng tao.

Ang Indonesia, malaki na rin ang mga kinalbong kagubatan upang mapagtamnan ng palm oil na kailangan din sa pagluluto ng pagkain, sabong, bread at iba pa.

At sa Pilipinas, sa ating pamamasyal sa iba't ibang panig ng bansa, anak ng tokwa, mula sa mga highway, lalo na kung tag-init, kalbo na rin talaga ang mga bundok.

At sinasabing $\frac{1}{4}$ na lang ang mga natitirang kagubatan.

Nadatnan natin ang mga kalbong kabundukan sa Pinas at gawa ito ng mga naunang mga logger, ligal at iligal, nagkakaingin, nagmimina, gumagawa ng mga subdibisyon at iba pa.

Sabi ng mga matatanda, maging ang mga kapatagan ay kagubatan noon ngunit sinira ang mga puno para pagtamnan din ng palay, mais, gulay at iba pa na pagkain, pastulan ng mga hayop at iba pa.

BALIK SA ATIN

Sa harap ng mga kalbuhan ng mga kagubatan kahit sa sarili nating bansa, ano-ano kaya ang mga pupwede nating gawin o maitulong para lumamin ang mundo?

Sapat ba ang mga nakapaso na halaman sa mga hardin natin na nauso sa pandemya o magtanim tayo, sa mga lugar na pupwedeng pagtamnan ng mga puno?

May ginagawa na ang mga pambansa at local government unit na pagtanim ng mga puno.

Sa parte nating mamamayan, ano-ano ang mga pupwede nating maitulong para mapalago ang mga pananim sa paligid at hindi sumama sa mga nagkakalbo ng kagubatan?



COP26 climate summit

November 4, 2021 | 8:11am



21 hours ago

Global CO2 emissions caused mainly by burning fossil fuels are set to rebound this year to pre-Covid levels, with China's carbon pollution increasing to nearly a third of the total, the Global Carbon Project consortium reports Thursday.

Emissions from gas and highly polluting coal will grow more in 2021 than they fell last year, according to the annual assessment, released as nearly 200 nations at the COP26 climate summit grapple for ways to decarbonise the global economy and beat back the threat of catastrophic warming. — **AFP**



World bounces back to '19 pollution level

By [Associated Press](#) November 5, 2021



Smoke and steam rise from towers at the coal-fired Urumqi Thermal Power Plant in Urumqi in western [China's](#) Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region on April 21, 2021. Global carbon pollution this year has bounced back to almost 2019 levels, after a drop during pandemic lockdowns. A new study by climate scientists at [Global Carbon Project](#) finds that the world is on track to put 36.4 billion metric tons of invisible carbon dioxide. AP Photo/[Mark Schiefelbein](#), File

GLASGOW: The dramatic drop in carbon dioxide emissions from the pandemic lockdown has pretty much disappeared in a puff of coal-fired smoke, much of it from China, a new scientific study found.

A group of scientists who track heat-trapping gases that cause climate change said the first nine months of this year put emissions a tad under 2019 levels.

They estimate that in 2021, the world will have spewed 36.4 billion metric tons (MT) of carbon dioxide compared to 36.7 billion MT two years ago.

At the height of the pandemic last year, emissions were down to 34.8 billion MT, so this year's jump is 4.9 percent, according to updated calculations by Global Carbon Project.

While most countries went back to pre-pandemic trends, China's pollution increase was mostly responsible for worldwide figures bouncing back to 2019 levels rather than dropping significantly below them, said study coauthor [Corinne LeQuere](#), a climate scientist at the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom.

With 2020's dramatically clean air in cities from India to Italy, some people may have hoped the world was on the right track in reducing carbon pollution, but scientists said that wasn't the case.

"It's not the pandemic that will make us turn the corner," LeQuere said in an interview at the climate talks in Glasgow, where she and colleagues are presenting their results. "It's the decisions that are being taken this week and next week.

That's what's going to make us turn the corner. The pandemic is not changing the nature of our economy."

If the world is going to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) since pre-industrial times, it has only 11 years left at current emission levels before it is too late, the paper said.

The world has warmed 1.1 C (2 F) since the late 1800s.



"What the carbon emissions number show is that emissions (correcting for the drop and recovery from Covid-19) have basically flattened now.

That's the good news," said Pennsylvania State University climate scientist [Michael Mann](#), who wasn't part of the report. "The bad news is that's not enough. We need to start bringing (emissions) down."

Emissions in China were 7 percent higher in 2021 when compared to 2019, the study said. By comparison, India's emissions were only 3 percent higher. In contrast, the United States, the European Union and the rest of the world polluted less this year than in 2019.

LeQuere said China's jump was mostly from burning coal and natural gas and was part of a massive economic stimulus to recover from the lockdown.

In addition, she said, China's lockdown ended far earlier than the rest of the world, so the country had longer to recover economically and pump more carbon into the air.

The "green recovery" that many nations have talked about in their stimulus packages take longer to show up in emission reductions because rebounding economies first use the energy mix they already had, LeQuere said.



Reality check: Global CO2 emissions near record levels

posted November 04, 2021 at 06:50 pm

by [AFP](#)

Global CO2 emissions caused mainly by burning fossil fuels are set to rebound in 2021 to pre-COVID levels, with China's share increasing to nearly a third of the total, according to an assessment published Thursday.

Overall, CO2 pollution this year will be just shy of the record set in 2019, according to the annual report from the Global Carbon Project consortium, released as nearly 200 nations at the COP26 climate summit confront the threat of catastrophic warming.

Emissions from gas and highly polluting coal will rise this year by more than they dropped in 2020 due to the pandemic-driven economic slowdown.

Capping the rise in global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels – as per the Paris Agreement – would limit mortality and damage, but requires slashing carbon emissions nearly in half by 2030 and to net zero by 2050, the UN's climate science authority has warned.

"This report is a reality check," co-author Corinne Le Querre, a professor of climate change science at Britain's University of East Anglia, told AFP.

"It shows what's happening in the real world while we are here in Glasgow talking about tackling climate change."

The new report will come as bad news at the 13-day COP26 meeting, where a diplomatic spat saw the United States accuse China and Russia of failing to step up their climate action ambitions.

China on its own will account for 31 percent of global emissions this year after its economy accelerated out of the economic lull ahead of others.

Carbon pollution from oil remains well below 2019 levels, but could surge as the transport and aviation sectors recover from pandemic disruption, said the study in the journal Earth System Science Data.

Taken together, the findings mean that future CO2 emissions could eclipse the 40-billion tonne record set in 2019, which some have predicted – and many hoped – would be a peak.

"We cannot rule out more overall growth of emissions in 2022 as the transport sector continues to recover," Le Quere said. "We are bound to have ups and downs over the next few years."

The latest figures are in line with a recent International Energy Agency (IEA) forecast that emissions from energy would hit an all-time high in 2023, "with no clear peak in sight."

"Perhaps we will start talking about peak emissions in 2023 or 2024?" said Glen Peters, research director at the Center for International Climate Research in Oslo and a co-author of the report.

Looking at the national level, the report found a return to pre-COVID patterns among the world top four carbon polluters, which account for 60 percent of global CO2 emissions.



In China – which has pledged to peak its emissions by 2030, and reach net-zero by 2060 – economic growth spurred by government incentives will see emissions grow 5.5 percent this year compared to 2019, the last year not affected by COVID.

“The rebound in China was robust,” said Peters. “It looks like China is in a phase of strong growth again.”

India, the world’s other emerging giant, is on track for a similar percentage increase in carbon pollution, and will account for seven percent of the total this year.

2021 emissions in the US and EU will drop 3.7 and 4.2 percent, respectively, and their share of global emissions will stand at 14 and 7 percent.

The wild card that could determine how quickly the world can finally bend the emissions downward is coal, the report made clear.

“Mostly it’s about coal now,” said Le Quere. “This is where the big uncertainties are.”



Investors bet big on climate

By [Associated Press](#) November 5, 2021

GLASGOW: Governments and big investors announced fresh plans on Wednesday to pour trillions of dollars into curbing global warming, reflecting the financial world's growing embrace of efforts to fight climate change as both a business necessity and opportunity.

But some social [justice](#) activists called for scrutiny of investors' motives, warning that the same financial institutions that profited from funding fossil fuel firms were now being presented as green champions.

There is a growing consensus that the private sector must be involved if the world is to avoid catastrophic global warming.

Speaking at the [United Nations](#) climate summit in the Scottish city of Glasgow, Britain's Treasury chief Rishi Sunak said that while countries, such as his, are stumping up more cash to fund the shift to low carbon economies around the world, "public investment alone isn't enough."

Speaking at the [United Nations](#) climate summit in the Scottish city of Glasgow, Britain's Treasury chief Rishi Sunak said that while countries, such as his, are stumping up more cash to fund the shift to low carbon economies around the world, "public investment alone isn't enough."

This is a historic wall of capital for the net-zero transition around the world," Sunak said at the conference known as [UN Climate Change Conference](#) of the Parties (COP26).

The Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero — launched this year by former [Bank of England](#) chief [Mark Carney](#) — promised to follow scientific guidelines for cutting carbon emissions to "net-zero" by 2050.

That goal — which means limiting greenhouse gas emissions to the amount that can be absorbed again through natural or artificial ways — is increasingly being embraced by companies and governments around the world.

Experts say fossil fuel use has to drop drastically over the coming decade to cap warming at 1.5 C, meaning investors would likely have to dramatically cut back money going to oil, gas and coal producers.

"It is huge that financial institutions managing \$130 trillion in assets are now leading the charge to a net-zero future," said [Helen Mountford](#), a senior climate expert at the [World Resources Institute](#) think tank.

She said that mobilizing massive public and private finance will be key to tackling global warming.

To that end, Sunak said UK financial institutions and publicly traded companies will be required to publish plans detailing how green their investments and their own businesses are — in order to ensure they're actually contributing to reductions in global warming.

As home to the City of London, one of the world's major financial centers, the [United Kingdom](#) "has a responsibility to lead the way" in financing efforts to fight global warming, said Sunak, potentially becoming "the world's first net-zero aligned financial center."



But [James Thornton](#), founder of the environmental law charity ClientEarth, questioned how effective the UK effort would be.

"The UK market is still hooked on fossil fuels," he said, calling for a task force to ensure companies don't "greenwash" their activities — that is, using high-profile announcements of so-called green initiatives to mask other "dirty" activities.

Experts also caution there are various ways to calculate net-zero — and deciding on one standard definition is one of the big challenges going forward. Some campaigners were distrustful of the motives of big investors in general.

"Many of the financial institutions meeting today have made a killing from the climate and ecological crisis, and we should be deeply suspicious of any attempt to spin them as the heroes," said [Dorothy Guerrero](#), head of policy at the nongovernmental group Global Justice Now. "Governments must regulate the process and lead the transition, instead of just handing it over to the corporations."

But [Alok Sharma](#), the British official chairing the talks in Glasgow, insisted the shift was genuine.

"What we have seen over the last few years is a big move in the private sector and the financial services sector to go green," he said, adding this was not the case when he became a financial advisor in the 1990s. "I do believe it is now mainstream."



Climate change: Why are disabled people so affected by the climate crisis?

By Keiligh Baker

BBC OuchPublished 20 hours ago

Israeli minister Karine Elharrar made headlines around the world when it emerged she couldn't attend the COP26 summit on Monday because it wasn't wheelchair-accessible.

For many disabled people, it was a reflection of the way they often feel ignored or left out of conversations about climate change.

Yet disabled people are among those most "adversely affected in an emergency", according to the United Nations Human Rights Council. And those emergencies - from wildfires to flooding - are likely to become more frequent because of the climate crisis.

So why are disabled people so affected by climate change and what can we do about it?

Heatstroke and dehydration

In July 2018, a heatwave hit Montreal, Canada. Temperatures soared to 35.5C (95.9F) for days. Hospitals became busy with those experiencing the effects of heat and 61 people died. A quarter of those had schizophrenia.

"That's 500 times their share of the population," says Prof Sébastien Jodoin, a climate change specialist from McGill University, who has multiple sclerosis and studies the relationship between human rights, disability and the climate crisis.

Many people with schizophrenia take anti-psychotic medication to treat their symptoms. It can make patients less tolerant to heat, increasing the risk of heatstroke and severe dehydration, which can prove fatal.



People who live with schizophrenia tend to have less of a social network, they tend to be more poor

Prof Sébastien Jodoin

McGill University

Professor Jodoin says it's the lack of communication between authorities and at-risk communities that exacerbates these situations.

"People who live with schizophrenia tend to have less of a social network, they tend to be more poor," he says. "These are the underlying effects of how disability will increase vulnerability or engender vulnerability, to climate change."

Climate change increases the risk of the hot, dry weather, which is likely to lead to more heatwaves and fuel wildfires. A warming atmosphere also makes extreme rainfall and flooding more likely.

Professor Jodoin says what happened in Montreal is a snapshot of what is to come.

- **Heatwaves, hurricanes and sea levels - what's climate change got to do with disability?** Listen to the [BBC Ouch podcast](#) presented by Keiligh Baker

In 2019, California was hit with a series of outages as companies shut down power to prevent wildfires spreading. [Gerald Niimi, from Santa Rosa in North California](#), had managed a chronic lung disease for years and relied on an oxygen ventilator to help him breathe.

But when the power-outage hit, his ventilator stopped. He and his wife fled their home and desperately searched for a working vent, but failed. Gerald died two days later.

Energy supplier Pacific Gas & Electric later admitted it had failed to notify thousands of customers, including hundreds with medical conditions, before shutting off their power.

During the wildfires, some disabled Californians had difficulty fleeing their homes. Those who were able to escape found many of the emergency centres providing water, bathrooms and a safe space, were not accessible.

Floods and rubber dinghies

This summer, 12 disabled care home residents in the town of Sinzig, in Germany, died when sudden flooding hit - they had been unable to evacuate. The floods have been linked to climate change by scientists and politicians.

Dr Charles Williams, a climate scientist and research fellow at the University of Bristol, has spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). "As a wheelchair-user, I would not be able to get into a rubber dinghy to be evacuated," he says.



Flowers were left at this assisted living facility in Sinzig, Germany, after 12 residents died

Similar stories emerged after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, causing serious flooding. A report, by the US-based National Council on Disabilities, found disabled people struggled to access support.

Most evacuation busses did not have wheelchair lifts, many of the emergency shelters were inaccessible and people with visual and hearing impairments were unable to obtain local safety information.

Weather-related disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, have **increased five-fold over the past 50 years**. So what needs to happen to better support disabled people?



Andy Greene, from Disabled People Against Cuts (DPAC), believes disabled people need to be more involved in climate change discussions - particularly when new laws are brought in. He says governments often overlook the impact of legislation on those who are disabled, pointing to the crackdown on plastic straws as one example.



Some disabled people were adversely affected by a ban on single-use plastic straws

After a Sir David Attenborough documentary highlighted how take-away containers were littering the seas, a public outcry led to legislation banning single-use plastic straws.

The new law included an exemption for those who need to use plastic straws for medical reasons, but Mr Greene says many disabled people were still adversely affected as they rely on the availability of plastic straws to drink independently.

Replacements like metal or pasta straws are hard and can cause damage if, for instance, the person using them were to slip or spasm while drinking. And paper straws tend to collapse. That's why bendable plastic is important for those who can't pick up a cup.

"Disabled people [who use straws] are a very small group, but this ban has a real impact on them - while having a minimal actual real impact on the structural effects of climate change and global warming," he says.

He believes it's another example of disabled people being forgotten and left behind.

The term "eco-ableism" is now being used to describe this sort of discrimination. It refers to the failure of decision-makers and activists to consider that some environmental actions make life more difficult for disabled people - such as removing disabled parking bays to make way for cycle lanes.

What next?

At COP26, some side events will specifically explore disability and climate change. One event will look at inclusive designs for climate resilient cities, while another will highlight the impact of climate change on the health of disabled people.

Prof Jodoin says governments often do not think of the "specific requirements of people with disabilities". But he sees COP26 as "an opportunity to push disability rights".

Dr Williams says "there are reasons to be hopeful" about tackling climate change. He says the problem so far has been the "apparent lack of motivation and willpower" to make changes on an individual and political level.

"Only time will tell if these attitudes will change. There has been a dramatic shift in the last 10 years, but this needs to continue."

For more disability news, follow BBC Ouch on Twitter, Facebook and listen to our podcasts, which also have transcripts

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/disability-59042087>



COP26: Indonesia criticises 'unfair' deal to end deforestation

Published 4 hours ago



Indonesia's environment minister cited the need to to cut down forests to make way for roads

Indonesia has criticised the terms of a global deal to end deforestation by 2030, signalling that the country may not abide by it.

Environment Minister Siti Nurbaya Bakar said the authorities could not "promise what we can't do".

She said forcing Indonesia to commit to zero deforestation by 2030 was "clearly inappropriate and unfair".

Despite President Joko Widodo signing the forest deal, she said development remained Indonesia's top priority.

The deal, agreed between more than 100 world leaders, was announced on Monday at the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow. It was the event's first major announcement.

It promises to end and reverse deforestation by 2030, and includes almost £14bn (\$19.2bn) of public and private funds.

In a Facebook post (in Indonesian), Ms Nurbaya argued that the country's vast natural resources must be used for the benefit of its people.

She cited the need to to cut down forests to make way for new roads.

"The massive development of President Jokowi's era must not stop in the name of carbon emissions or in the name of deforestation," she said, referring to Mr Widodo by his nickname. "Indonesia's natural wealth, including forests, must be managed for its use according to sustainable principles, besides being fair," she said.

Experts welcomed the agreement, but they warned a previous deal in 2014 had "failed to slow deforestation at all" and said commitments needed to be delivered on.

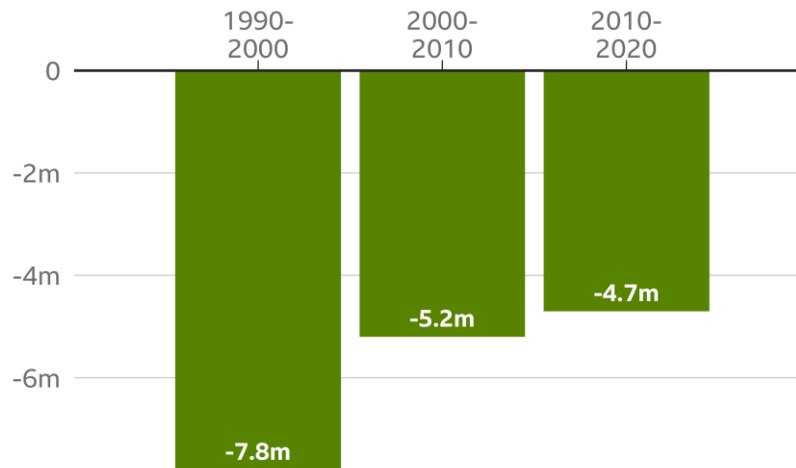
Felling trees contributes to climate change because it depletes forests that absorb vast amounts of the warming gas CO2.

Meanwhile, Indonesia's Deputy Foreign Minister Mahendra Siregar said that describing the deal as a zero-deforestation pledge was "false and misleading".



The world's forests are still decreasing in size

Average area of forest lost each year by decade (hectares)



Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, 2020



Indonesia's vast forests are still shrinking, despite a marked slow down in the deforestation rate in recent years.

According to the Global Forest Watch monitoring website, in 2001 the country had nearly 94 million hectares of primary forest - defined as tropical forest that has not been completely cleared and regrown in recent history.

That area had decreased by at least 10% by 2020.



Global carbon emissions rebound to near pre-pandemic levels

November 4, 2021 | 4:52 pm



REUTERS

Carbon emissions have rebounded to near pre-pandemic levels, according to a study released on Thursday, with coal and natural gas emissions surging in the power and industry sectors even as transportation emissions remain low.

“We were expecting to see some rebound. What surprised us was the intensity and rapidity of the rebound,” said the study’s lead author Pierre Friedlingstein, a climate modeling researcher at the University of Exeter.

In 2020, CO₂ emissions fell by a record 1.9 billion tons — a 5.4% drop — as countries locked down and economies ground to a halt. The new report, produced by the Global Carbon Project, forecasts emissions to rise by 4.9% this year.

Among major emitters, China and India are expected to post higher emissions in 2021 than in 2019, while the United States and Europe are expected to have slightly slower emissions.

China was an outlier in 2020 because investments to spur pandemic recovery led to large increases in coal use, even as emissions in other countries dropped.

The study projected total global emissions this year to reach 36.4 billion tons of CO₂.

The report comes as global leaders meet at a UN climate conference in Glasgow, Scotland, to try to limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change. In order to do so, scientists say, CO₂ emissions must reach net zero by 2050.

Total global commitments to reduce emissions fall far short of meeting this goal. Already, deadly wildfires, hurricanes, and floods have become more frequent and more intense because of climate change, and sea level rises are locked in for centuries to come.

To reach net zero in the next three decades, drastic CO₂ reductions are needed, said Mr. Friedlingstein. “What needs to be done every year between now and 2050 is — broadly speaking — about the same [reduction] as we had during the COVID crisis,” he said.

At the current level of emissions, the researchers found, it will take only 11 years before the odds of staying within the Paris Agreement’s goal of 1.5 degrees of warming will be no better than a coin toss. — **Andrea Januta/Reuters**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/global-carbon-emissions-rebound-to-near-pre-pandemic-levels/?fbclid=IwAR24XbYXKde0gVNVwabVjs3hXjRq8yhm-fGyfUT63Bu7-ScRI95DzQF893s>



Politics helps shape climate change mitigation

November 5, 2021

US PRESIDENT [Joe Biden](#) has called out the leaders of [Russia](#) and [China](#) for skipping the opening of the United Nations climate change conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

Presidents [Vladimir Putin](#) and Xi Jinping did send delegations to the conference, but Biden feels that their absence belittles efforts to draw up a plan to save the planet from the ravages of global warming.

The two-week summit has hardly begun and already politics has crept into it, further complicating the task of setting targets.

The degree of involvement of the US, China and Russia in that task is crucial. China is the world's biggest emitter of greenhouse gases. The US ranks second, and Russia eighth.

They also happen to be fierce rivals in the geopolitical arena, so getting them to work as a team will be a challenge. Having them sign an accord will be a monumental accomplishment.

It is not the first time that politics has encumbered climate action. The US had not always been a big fan of global warming mitigation. [President George W. Bush](#) turned his back on the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, the first serious international attempt to reduce greenhouse emissions. The accord was ratified by 120 countries, including the [Philippines](#).

It was brokered by Vice President Al Gore, an environmental advocate, and signed by President [Bill Clinton](#), who was a Democrat.

In rejecting the pact, Bush, a Republican, reasoned it would hurt the US economy and trigger higher energy prices.

"We do not know how much our climate could or will change in the future. We do not know how fast change will occur, or even how some of our actions could impact it," Bush said.

Practically the same argument was presented by another Republican, President Donald Trump, in snubbing the 2020 Paris climate talks, only with a more populist tone. He described climate policy as a "job-killing regulation" that would impact on the working class.

China has for decades buried climate change under its pile of nonessential issues. The country was and still is heavily dependent on coal to fuel its leap toward industrial prominence, and it is not about to be sidetracked by petty concerns like global warming.

As it rose to world-power status, China has become more sensitive to international pressure to reduce its emission levels. As a result, Beijing has pledged to reach net zero carbon emission by 2060.

Russia has long refused to join the climate bandwagon, but has been prompted to recalibrate its position now that the US is trying to rally its Western allies behind its climate agenda.

In his video address to the G20 summit in Rome on Sunday, Putin boasted that Russia was cutting its greenhouse emissions faster than the G7 bloc.

He acknowledged that rising temperatures in the past decade have threatened his country with desertification, soil erosion and permafrost melt.



"Naturally, our country is taking an active and decisive part in international efforts to preserve the climate," Putin said.

It is hard not to doubt the motivation for Putin's belated charge against climate change.

Politics influences the decision-making of world leaders in confronting climate change, perhaps more than the genuine concern to improve the state of the planet. We hope the Glasgow summit corrects this perception.

We must always keep in mind that the world's richest countries are among the biggest carbon emitters, and the world's poorest nations are the biggest victims of climate change. The [United States](#), China and Russia, therefore, bear a bigger responsibility to make the climate conference succeed.

That doesn't mean that the vulnerable nations would just sit and wait for assistance to arrive. The Philippines, for one, is already feeling the effects of a warming planet. For instance, rainfall patterns and distribution have become erratic, with storms becoming more ferocious and frequent and flooding more intense.

The Philippines had a [National Strategy](#) on Climate Change Adaptation, which called for granular projects to climate-proof communities. The project ended in 2010, but it's worth looking into if the government wants a blueprint for climate resiliency and conserving biodiversity.



Climate change blah blah blah

posted November 05, 2021 at 12:15 am

by [Tony Lopez](#)

"A much hotter world is going to be brutal."

The most important climate change summit in the last quarter century will end, to use Swedish climate change activist Greta Thunberg's words, in "blah blah blah." Blah blah is slang for saliva. NATO has come to mean "no action, talk only."

So far, two things have been agreed upon at the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26), the summit of over 150 nations in Glasgow, Scotland, seeking to arrest irreversible global warming, where the Earth's temperature would rise by 3 degrees Celsius during 2100 over the average temperature in 1900.

The first is to control methane—the gas produced when cows fart or when you dig for coal. But methane contributes only 10 percent of total global pollution. About 80 percent is accounted for by carbon dioxide. COP26 got its focus wrong.

The second decision is the pledge by some 100 nations, including the Philippines, to end deforestation by 2030 or within ten years.

Not much, however, can be expected from that agreement. The signatories did not specify by just how much they should stop deforestation each year until 2030. Obviously, you cannot say that by 2030, all deforestation must stop. Only God can do that.

Deforestation is the unbridled cutting of trees, so forests disappear. In the past 100 years, the world lost at least 30 percent of its forests. The Philippines, in particular, has lost 90 percent of its forests. Converting forests into furniture, farms and subdivisions results in a hotter climate, loss of biodiversity, and loss of livelihood. Floods become devastating.

Meanwhile, a globe hotter by 3 degrees Celsius is going to be brutal. Says the buzzfeednews: "Deadly heat waves, massive wildfires, and damaging downpours will come far more often and hit much harder than they do today. The ocean will be hotter too and more acidic, causing fish declines and likely the end of coral reefs. In fact, a quarter or so of the Earth's species may go extinct in such conditions or be headed that way. Our coastlines would be reshaped, a consequence of sea levels rising foot after foot, century after century..."

About a third of the Philippines' coastal towns would sink.

Warming of 3 degrees, concludes scientists Daniel Swain of the University of California, Los Angeles, is "bad for humans. Bad for ecosystems. Bad for the stability of the Earth systems that we humans depend on for everything."

The ideal then is to control global warming to only half the 3 degrees Celsius—or 1.5 Celsius.. Based on present trends, the 1.5 obviously cannot be achieved. So world leaders are settling for the next best thing—a 2-degrees Celsius warming.

According to the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), "limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius is expected to significantly reduce the probability of drought and risks related to water availability in some regions, particularly in the Mediterranean (including Southern Europe, Northern Africa and the Near-East), and in Southern Africa, South America and Australia. About 61 million more people in Earth's urban areas would be exposed to severe drought in a 2-degree Celsius warmer world than at 1.5 degrees warming."



And “between 184 and 270 million fewer people are projected to be exposed to increases in water scarcity in 2050 at about 1.5 degrees Celsius warming than at 2 degrees warming. Risks for groundwater depletion are projected to be greater at the higher temperature threshold as well.”

Meanwhile, the Philippines has pledged to cut its emissions by 75 percent by 2030. The pledge has two conditions: one, if the Philippines goes solo with the cutbacks, it will reduce only by 2.7 percent; two, if it gets the cash from donor countries, it can deliver the remaining 72.3 percent.

Obviously, the Philippines won't get all the money it needs to reduce 72 percent of its emissions. Removing the 72 percent will cost easily \$130 billion, or \$13 billion per year, money the Philippines cannot afford to spare, especially with the current pandemic, economic crisis, and massive joblessness (half of voters are jobless). Most of the \$130 billion will be shouldered by the private sector.

The Philippines emits only 0.3 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Obviously, Filipinos should now worry about pollution. However, the Philippines is Top 3 in countries at highest risk to climate-related disasters.

Climate-induced hazards caused a loss of P463 billion in infrastructure alone from 2010 to 2019; P113.4 billion in 2020, according to government data.

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—due to hazards caused by climate change.

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05 NOVEMBER 2021, FRIDAY



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COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines records 1,766 more COVID-19 cases

Philstar.com November 4, 2021 | 4:02pm



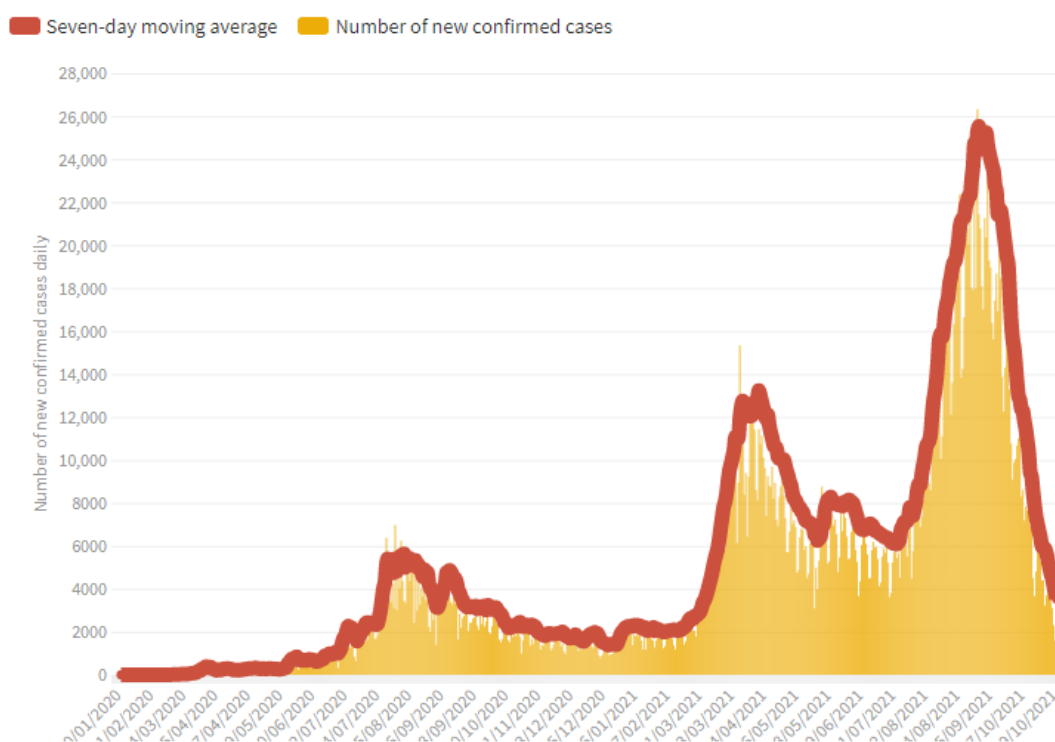
Commuters queue for the carousel bus in Monumento, Caloocan on November 2, 2021
The STAR / Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — Health authorities on Thursday reported 1,766 more coronavirus cases in the Philippines, pushing the total to 2,795,642.

Today's figures saw active cases down by 855 from the 38,014 on November 3. DOH said two laboratories did not submit testing results.

- **Active cases:** 37,159 or 1.3% of the total
- **Deaths:** 239, pushing the count to 43,825
- **Recoveries:** 2,591 bringing the number to 2,714,658

COVID-19 cases in the Philippines



Source: [Department of Health](#) • As of November 04, 2021, 4 p.m.



More Filipinos unemployed in September

- Unemployment rate in the country jumped to 8.9% last month. This meant [4.25 million Filipinos](#) were jobless in September, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority.
- Vaccine czar Carlito Galvez Jr. said six million doses of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine will be deployed to the [Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao](#) to address vaccine hesitancy there.
- Vice President Leni Robredo unveiled her [pandemic response plan](#) seeking to focus on improving health care as well as addressing hunger and education problems.
- Police personnel in Metro Manila were told to coordinate with their local governments on [curfew rules for minors](#).
- There are now 28.19 million Filipinos fully vaccinated for COVID-19, latest data showed out of the government's target of 77.13 million this year. Some 33.15 million have received a first dose.



Metro Manila under lower Alert Level 2

By Azer Parrocha **November 4, 2021, 10:55 pm**



(File photo)

MANILA – Metro Manila will be under a more relaxed Alert Level 2 quarantine classification starting Nov. 5 until Nov. 21, Malacañang announced on Thursday night.

“The Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on Thursday, November 4, 2021, approved the de-escalation of the National Capital Region to Alert Level 2. This shall take effect beginning tomorrow, November 5, 2021 until November 21, 2021,” Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said in a press statement.

The IATF also approved the recommendation of the sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics to base the alert level assignments on data that is nearest to the implementation date.

“Starting December 1, 2021, alert level assignments shall be determined at every 15th and 30th of the month. Escalations, on the other hand, may be done at any time in the middle of the implementation period as warranted while de-escalations can only be done at the end of the 2-week assessment period,” he added.

Roque said the National Task Force Against Covid-19 (NTF), together with the Regional Task Forces and Regional IATFs, were directed to provide weekly feedback on the progress and implementation on all areas identified for Alert Level System roll-out to the IATF.

The IATF, he said, also amended the guidelines on the implementation of Alert Levels System for Covid-19 Response in pilot areas to clarify the allowed movement of persons under varying alert levels.

Meanwhile, Roque said the NTF also approved the fourth phase of the National Action Plan Against Covid-19 (NAP Phase IV) using indices to measure the success of the implementation.

For Infection Management, the indices are the number of severe and critical cases per month, time gap from detection to isolation, and tests per case;

Vaccine Roll-out will rely on the total vaccines administered per capita, new vaccine doses administered per capita, and fully vaccinated individuals; and

For Socio-Economic Recovery, the indices are the Purchasing Managers’ Index by IHS Markit, google mobility to retail and recreation, and number of commercial airline passengers.

Under Alert Level 2, the following are allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 50 percent indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals and those below 18 years of age, even if unvaccinated, and 70 percent outdoor venue capacity provided that workers of the said establishments are fully vaccinated against Covid-19:



- Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE)
- Permitted venues for social events (parties, wedding receptions, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers)
- Visitor or tourist attractions (libraries, museums, galleries, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints)
- Amusement parks or theme parks
- Recreational venues (internet cafes, billiard halls, arcades, bowling alleys, swimming pools, and similar venues)
- Cinemas and movie houses
- Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for basic education subject to prior approval of the Office of the President
- Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training
- In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, and funerals for Covid-19 cremains and non-Covid-19 deaths
- Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations and authorized specialty examinations
- Dine-in services of food preparation establishments
- Personal care establishments such as barbershops, spas, salons, and other similar procedures, including home service options
- Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for individual non-contact exercise and sports
- Film, music, and television production
- Contact sports approved by the LGU
- Funfairs/peryas or kid amusement industries (playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides)
- Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences (karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters)
- Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household

Roque earlier said there is a "big possibility" that Metro Manila will be eased to Alert Level 2 before the forthcoming holidays.

He, however, reminded the public not to be complacent and continue observing minimum public health standards as holiday parties and other gatherings could lead to another surge in cases. **(PNA)**



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 600

NOBYEMBRE 4, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

1.3%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
37,159

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

97.1%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,714,658

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.57%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
43,825

MGA BAGONG KASO **1,766**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **2,591**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **239**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,795,642**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING NOBYEMBRE 2

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 4
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG NOBYEMBRE 2

6.6%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

34,190

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
74.2%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

**SANITIZE ANG
KAMAY AT IWASAN
ANG KULOB NA LUGAR**

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS)
43% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.8K TOTAL BEDS)
34% Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.1K TOTAL BEDS)
28% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
28% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.4K TOTAL BEDS)
37% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.9K TOTAL BEDS)
28% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS)
28% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
28% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

Mild 68.9%

5.3% Asymptomatic

3.5% Critical

8.2% Severe

14.11% Moderate



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ang maayos na pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards** at pagbabakuna ay nagbubunga ng unti-unting pagbaba ng bilang ng mga nahahawaan ng COVID-19. Kaya naman, marapat lang na ating ipagpatuloy ang mga ito para sa ating kaligtasan. Kasabay nito, agad na makipag-ugnayan sa **BHERTS** o sa **One COVID Referral Center** sa oras na makaramdam ng anumang sintomas. Maabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o 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



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

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

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

doh.gov.ph

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

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


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


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