



The Manila Times





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EDITORIAL

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09-06-22

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Stop the climate disinformation

Ewrote in a recent column, there is an unspoken convention among columnists that we do not discuss each other's work. It is a convention that should be broken because it is frankly driven by ego more than any professional or social principle, and more importantly, because it discourages broader discussion and debate that could benefit the public.

And it should be broken because in some instances, fortunately, infrequent but nonetheless completely unforgivable ones, our silence on someone else's topic makes us complicit in the intentional, and perhaps even malicious spread of disinformation.

One of those instances, and it was far from being the first, was my fellow Manila Times columnist Yen Makabenta's entry for Saturday, August 26, "World climate declaration: 'There is no climate emergency.'" The column is only a column in the sense that it occupies the designated space; except for a few inconsequential introductory and concluding remarks, the entire thing is a republication of the so-called World Climate Declaration.

There is, in fact, a global climate emergency. Formal acknowledgment of the existence of anthropogenic climate change, and the need to act to lessen it is a core policy both at the international level in bodies such as the United Nations, the G20, Asean, the Organization of American States



and the African Union, and individually in every nation on earth; even North Korea has an official policy on climate change and has made emissions reduction commitments under the 2015 Paris Accords. Pope Francis has issued a papal encyclical letter calling on Catholics to join the fight against climate change; likewise, there has been an Islamic Declaration on Climate Change, a Buddhist Declaration on Climate Change and a Rabbinic Letter on the Climate Crisis, each signed by hundreds of leaders of those respective faiths.

There is not, in any sense whatsoever, "a currently intense debate on climate change between climate alarmists and climate skeptics." If there was, then the so-called World Climate Declaration would have been reported by the world's mainstream media when it was originally released, which over the past few years has diligently practiced "both sidesism" to a fault.

Telling the public that anthropogenic climate change is not happening and has not reached, or is not quickly approaching, crisis proportions is denying a basic fact. That is disinformation, and if it cannot be stopped before

it reaches the public — as it should be — then it cannot be left unchallenged, egos and reputations and writers' courtesies be damned.

I will address the actual content of the so-called World Climate Declaration in my next column; today, I'll expose the source of this disinformation. First, a point of clarification on its publication date. Contrary to what the August 26 column says, the offending document was not originally published on August 22. It was actually released, and promptly ignored by everyone, in March. 2020. Its recent republication, which actually happened on June 27 of this year, was timed to get ahead of the release of the 32nd annual Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society (BAMS) State of the Climate report (which was published last week), and the upcoming 6th Assessment Report of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The re-release of the so-called World Climate Declaration also provided an opportunity for its author, a group called the Climate Intelligence Foundation, or Clintel, to rebrand itself as the slightly more benign-sounding Global Climate Intelligence Group.

Clintel is a Netherlands-based climate science denial group founded in 2019 by retired professor of geophysics Guus Berkhout and journalist Marcel Crok, and, of course, its principal position is that "there is no climate emergency."

In the Netherlands, the orga-

nization is politically connected to the Forum voor Democratie, the main Dutch nationalist party. Many of its "800 scientists, scholars and professionals" that support Clintel are affiliated with organizations identified as part of Koch Industries' well-organized climate denial campaign, including the Heartland Institute, the Cato Institute and the Competitive Enterprise Institute, all of which are members of the Koch-funded Atlas Network.

According to investigations by the Dutch broadcaster KRO-NCRV Pointer and the DeSmog Network, the more than 1,000 signatories to the so-called World Climate Declaration have "conducted little to no climate research," and include "a commercial fisherman, a retired chemist, a cardiologist, and an airconditioning engineer, alongside a number of retired geologists."

If all of this was not a clear indication of Clintel's true motives, its sources of funding are. Most of its direct funding comes from two Dutch real estate magnates, Niek Sandmann and Cor Verkade, but its indirect funding comes from the oil and gas industry. Berkhout's main business is a company called Delphi Consortium (founded in 1982), which provides geoimaging services for the petroleum industry; companies such as Shell, BP and Chevron use Delphi's research data. Revenues from these subscriptions are funneled to Clintel; Berkhout and Crok have

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Stop the climate disinformation

denied this, but Delphi's contributions have been well-documented by a number of investigators, including KRO-NCRV and corporate watchdog Follow the Money.

The so-called World Climate Declaration is simply another feeble shot fired in a long-running disinformation campaign waged by those who stand to suffer substantial commercial losses from the world effort to mitigate climate change and its impacts. What motivation

one might have for deliberately choosing to participate in that disinformation campaign I do not know, and I will not speculate. It simply has no place in the public discourse; it actively seeks to mislead and cause harm, and it is time for an open, aggressive, and resolute effort to stop it for the sake of those who will be hurt the most by it.

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09-06-22 DATE

Marcos asked to compel DepEd

to use bamboo school chairs

By BERNIE CAHILES-MAGKILAT

The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC) is urging government to restore Executive Order 879 mandating the Department of Education to use bamboo school chairs to spur demand for the crop that generates \$4.6 million largely privateled investments.

PBIDC, chaired by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) but has yet to convene since President Marcos assumed office also pressed Marcos to pick bamboo as the symbolic tree to plant.

The council made this plea in time for the President's birthday where he is expected to hold the customary tree planting ceremony.

PBIDC officer Deogracias Victor Savellano said PBIDC-hopes Marcos will use bamboo for the symbolic tree planting as this will stress bamboo's high valuation as an indigenous highly-marketable Philippine product.

"Bamboo is important. You can't have fishing boats without bamboo outriggers. You can't have fishpens without bamboo poles. Banana or export will yield to the ground without bamboo poles to prop it up," Savellano

said during a Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food (PCAFI) press briefing.

"Labong can only be harvested if there is enough bamboo. Maybe now that PBBM is the DA Secretary, bamboo can be given due focus and its large potential realized."

Investments in the bamboo industry has been largely private sector-led. The PBIDC hardly had any budget and "could not fully function because of lack of budget," according to PBIDC.

PCAFI President Danilo V. Fausto said government should support bamboo planting considering its versatility in use. Demand should also be encouraged as it is not only DepEd that's mandated to use it, but even government offices.

"Garlic (like other commodities) has been allocated with a budget of ₱100 million. But the budget went missing. With bamboo, there is no budget that was lost. Why? Because there is no budget at all," according to Fausto.

EO 879 which created PBIDC mandates that 25 percent of all desks and tables of the Department of Education (DepEd) schools shall be made of bamboo.

However, there is limited supply to meet the 25 percent threshold. Thus in 2021, the DepEd unilaterally removed bamboo as part of acceptable material in teacher and student chairs and tables. The industry has yet to take off and realize its full potential.

"This is the fastest growing tree that can be harvested in three to four years. Hopefully before PBBM steps down in 2028, it is already a huge industry," said Savellano.

Edgardo C. Manda, PBIDC president hopes PBIDC will soon convene in order to revive the industry. This is considering that Philippines is fifth largest bamboo and rattan product exporter in the world and faces even bigger export potential.

PBIDC's members include secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Science and Technology, and Labor. Bamboo is climate smart crop and useful in controlling erosion. It grows faster than hardwood trees and is considered a renewable resource as it is grown as a plantation crop.

"Bamboo propagation battles climate change and global warming by growing faster than hardwood trees and absorbing more carbon to support

agricultural productivity and sustainablity," said Manda.

It can be used as timber for major construction and building uses, along with its many uses for food and beverage

As food it is cooked as "labong," baked bamboo shoots, braised bamboo shoots, spicy pickled bamboo shoots. Bamboo culm is used to make wine and beer. Bamboo leaves are used as food for livestock.

The special flavor of a fresh culm is used for cooking rice and fish. Bamboo is used for vegetable fruit garden stakes and hangers, pole to support banana trees, and as tobacco curing barns

Bamboo is used for irrigation as poles carrying water. It is used as planter and container for rural food products, basket for crop harvesting, structure for animal cages, farm fence material, katig in boats, fish cages in fish ponds, and fish traps.

Bamboo takes many forms as crafts and rural home utensils, material for bridges in rural communities, and bahay kubo and resthouses. Bamboo wagons are used to transport farm goods. It is even used as a musical instrument, textile, and Christmas decor-



TITLE











09-06-22

DLSU study shows Narra trees have anti-oxidant properties

THE bark and branch wood of the critically-endangered Narra trees have antioxidant properties that can help improve the lives of millions of Filipinos, a study conducted by the De La Salle University (DLSU) Dasmariñas College of Pharmacy indicated.

The research paper, disclosed during a recent media presentation at a hotel in Quezon City, was aimed at determining the different production processes that would be most efficient to the Narra sample without sacrificing the efficacy of the product in improving consumer health and wellness.

Using the Oxygen Radical Absorbance Capacity (ORAC), a method developed by scientists at the National Institute of Health and Aging to measure the antioxidant capacity of different foods, the research team decided to measure and compare the ORAC scores of each pro-

cess combination.

The ORAC score is also the unit of measure of antioxidants which is the body's natural defense versus harmful compounds that are linked to multiple illnesses, including weakened immunity, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer.

The study revealed that the ORAC scores of all methods tested displayed similarly high levels of antioxidant po-

"There is a list by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Narra extract, based on the ORAC score, ranks among the 10 percent foods that have antioxidant properties. That means to say that the Narra extract is number one in the Philippines when it comes to antioxidant properties if we look at the ORAC score," said Sigfredo Mata Professor Contributing Editor of the Narra







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09-08-22

DATE

SUPPLEMENTAL LEARNING MATERIAL

SCIENCE VIDEO FOR KIDS ON SIARGAO WILDLIFE LAUNCHED

By Erwin Mascariñas

@InqNational

DEL CARMEN, SIARGAO IS-LAND, SURIGAO DEL NORTE
—Scientists belonging to the
National Research Council of
the Philippines (NRCP) and local government officials have
released a science video package here that seeks to educate
schoolchildren on the importance of the different species
of wildlife found on Siargao
Island.

Dr. Cecilia Banag-Moran, member of the NRCP Division V that deals with biological sciences, helped launch the science video, titled "Worth More than Gold: Siargao's Biodiversity," at the town's Bayay Numancia on Thursday.

The video is intended to become a supplemental science learning material for students in Grades 4 to 10 to inculcate in the younger generation an appreciation for the beauty of Siargao.

Considered the first of its kind, the animated video package consists of a series of 21 videos featuring the seven groups of animals and three videos for each of the groups of amphibians, arthropods, birds, crustaceans, fish, mammals and reptiles.

Banag-Moran said during the launching that the video being played was the result of the first phase of the study conducted in the town of Del Carmen, one of the nine municipalities in Siargao and is where the airport is located.

'Story of truth'

She said the featured animals in the video could all be found on the island of Siargao, specifically in the vast mangrove forest of Del Carmen.

Mayor Alfredo Coro II, who spearheaded the now decadelong environmental conservation and protection campaign in Del Carmen, said the launching of the science videos would be the start of an intergenerational campaign to ensure that the children of Siargao would understand and appreciate what they have in their place.

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"We are finally telling the story of truth, the truth of what we have in our ecosystem, the truth that we tried to protect for the past few decades. We have 21 species [of animals featured in the science video] and we will have more because this is our way of ensuring that the next generation will appreciate what we are protecting and fighting for," Coro said.

Experts have considered the mangrove forest of Del Carmen as the largest contiguous mangrove forest in the Philippines covering an estimated 4,900 hectares. Scientists who were part of the research expressed optimism they would discover new species of flora and fauna within the inaccessible parts of the forest.

Tourism tool

Aside from linking up with the local government of Del Carmen, the NRCP said they also forged partnerships with the Caraga regional offices of the departments of education, tourism, and environment and natural resources to make these videos more visible among kids and tourists in schools and airports.

"The videos will not only attract more tourists but will also make them acknowledge the exquisiteness of Siargao with its biodiversity and the presence of various animals on the island," the NRCP said in a statement.

The state research institution pointed out that the videos would also support Siargao's economic recovery and rehabilitation after Typhoon "Odette" (international name: Rai) devastated the island in December 2021. INQ



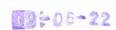






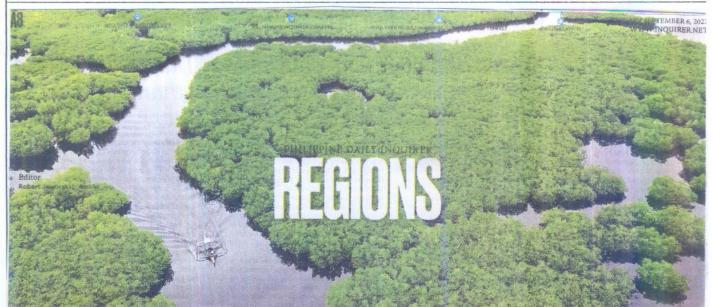






PH'S LARGEST MANGROVE FOREST

DATE



PH'S LARGEST MANGROVE FOREST A passenger boat on Thursday navigates a section of the 4,871-hectare nest contiguous mangrove stand in the Philippines.—ERWIN MASCARIÑAS

DATE

Dredging operations held in Bulacan rivers

THE provincial government of Bulacan conducted simultaneous dredging operations in rivers and creeks in the City of Malolos and the town of Hagonoy on Saturday.

Despite the rain, Gov.
Daniel Fernando visited the locations of the dredging operation along with First District Rep. Danny Domingo, Vice Gov. Alex Castro and personnel from the Provincial Engineering Office (PEO) led by engineer Glenn Reyes.

Fernando first inspected the creek at the Malolos Marine Fishery School and Laboratory in Barangay Balite, Malolos City. Here, the governor also discovered the pungent smell and polluted creek caused by toxic waste dumped by some establishments in the waterways.

Among the rivers and creeks being dredged were the Sapang Bangkal in San Isidro, Hagonoy; Hagonoy River in Barangay San Agustin and creeks in Bulihan, Barihan, Santissima Trinidad, Apulid Creek in Barangay Longos and Barangay Mojon, all in the City of Malolos.

Reyes said the PEO was using eight backhoes in the dredging projects, but they were scheduled to buy additional dredging equipment.

For his part, Castro said they would continue their collaboration with government agencies that could help solve the flood problem in the province, including the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Meanwhile, Fernando and Castro called on the people of Bulacan to be part of the government's program to preserve the environment.

"All our efforts here today will be useless if we continue to destroy our environment and natural resources," said Fernando.

FREDERICK SILVERIO



The Manila Times





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TMTCS holds environmen

THE Manila Times College of Subic (TMTCS) has joined the "Making Riverth Possible" environmental awareness campaign.

Through the Office of Student Affairs and Services headed by George Michael Sionzon, TMTCS coordinated with the local government of Olongapo City to conduct a forum for its high school to college students on the importance of taking care of the environment last Friday at the DAA Theater of TMTCS.

The speakers were Anthony Bayarong, chief

of public affairs and project coordinator of Making Riverth Possible; **Evelyn Rico of the Environmental Sanitation** and Management Office; and Leonila Jimenez, officer in charge of the Barangay Affairs Office.

Meanwhile, the **Making Riverth Possible** is organizing the Olongapo River Run on Sunday, September 11, at the Olongapo City Track Oval and the Recyclable Regatta 2022 on September 24 at Driftwood Beach in Barretto.

THE MANILA TIMES



HELPING SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT Students, faculty and speakers pose after the 'Making Riverth Possible' environmental awareness forum at the DAA Theater of The Manila Times College of Subic on Friday, Sept. 2, 2022. THE MAINILA TIMES





UPPER

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09-06-22

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Pabrika ng tokwa bumaho sa basura, ipis

PINALAGAN ng ilang establisimyento sa paligid ng isang pabrika ng tokwa sa Pasay City ang inilalabas umano nitong mabahong amoy na pinaniniwalaang mula sa mga iniipis na basurang nakatambak sa loob ng nasabing lugar.

Ayon sa reklamo ni Dondon Andres, empleyado ng King and Queen International KTV Bar sa Pasay City Environmental Sanitation Service (ESS), bukod sa masakit sa ulo ay napeperwisyo umano ang kanilang operasyon dahil sa nakasusulasok na amoy na nagmumula sa katabi nilang Loli Bends Trading Factory na matatagpuan sa kahabaan ng Macapagal Boulevard.

Sa isinagawang inspeksyon sa lugar ni city health officer Dr. Ma. Lourdes San Juan, natuklasan na maraming paglabag ang pabrika na namumuro aniyang tuluyang ipasara ng pamahalaang-lokal kapag hindi naayos.

Namamaho aniya ang pabrika dahil











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Republic of the Philippion
Department of the Principles
Department of February Resources
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Regional Office No. IX
Pascarase Park, Pascarase, Zambounga City, 2000
Tel: 907-2144 Tell ex 907-3765 : Email: represhibitingh gov ph



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

OF

SUNTRIA CORPORATION

FOR EXPLORATION PERMIT

EXPLORATION PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 21 of DENR Administrative Order (DAO)
No. 2010-21, the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act (RA) No. 7942, otherwise known as the "Philippine Mining Act of 1995", SUNTRIA CORPORATION with registered office address at Unit 28, 2F, Facilities Center Bldg., 548 Shaw Blvd. Highway Hills, Mindalutyong City has filed an application/proposal for Exploration Permit (EP) for the exploration of gold, copper, lead, zinc, silver, and other associated metallic mineral resources particularly described as follows:

1. Registration No.:
1. Registration No.:
1. Registration Registration:
1. February 11, 2822
11. Area Location:
11. Technical Description of the area:
12. Technical Description of the area:
13. Technical Description of Latricus Longitude
14. CORNER LATTITUDE LONGITUDE

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
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2	7°10'30"	121°56'00"
3	7*10'30"	121°56'30"
4	7°11'30"	121°56'30"
5	7"11"30"	121°57'00"
6	7°12'00"	121°57'00"
7	7°12'00"	121°57'30"
8	7°12'30"	121°57'30"
9	7°12'30"	121°59'00"
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11	7°12'00"	122"02'00"
12	7°11'30"	122"02"00"
13	7011'30"	122*02'30"
14	7"11"00"	122"02"30"
15	7"11'00"	122003'00"
16	7°10'30"	122"03"00"
17	7°10'30"	122°03'30"
18	7°09'00"	122°03'30"
19	7909100"	122°02'00"
20	7"10"00"	122°02'00"
21	7°10'00"	122°01'00"
22	7000'00"	172901100"

ing seventy-nine (79) meridional blocks or 6,685.849 hectares more or less

Size of the Area: 6.685.849 Hectares
Duration of the Permit
The Exploration Permit shall have a term of two (2) years renewable for another
two (2) years each but in no case shall exceed a total term of six (4) years for nometallic mineral exploration or eight (6) years for metallic mineral exploration.

two (2) years each but in no case shall exceed a total term of six (4) years for non-metallic mineral exploration or eight (6) years for metallic mineral exploration.

VII. Relinquishment

The permittee shall relinquish at least 20% of the Permit Area during the first two years of exploration and at least 10% of the remaining permit area thereafter.

VIII. Extent of Operation to be Undertaken

Phase I — Recommissance Geological Mapping

III — Detailed Geological Mapping

III — Geophysical/Geochemical Exploration

IV — Drilling and Sub-surface Exploration

V — Preparation of Mining Peasibility Study

Any and all persons having adverse claims, protest and/or opposition to the above ioned application(s) are hereby notified that there adverse claims should be filed within thirty lays from the last date of publication/posting, directly either to the Regional Office concerned area of the concerned Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRC)

NR for filing in the Regional Office for purpose of its resolution by the Penel of Arbitrators or the concerned appellate body(es), pursuant to the provision of Republic Act 7942 and its menting Rules and Regulations. Adverse claims, protests or opposition should be emissible to the applicantocorractor by adverse claims.

For further particulars, apply or course your inquiries to the Regional Director, Mines and ciences Bureau, Regional Office No. IX at Pasonanca Park, Pasonanca, Zamboanga City.

















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