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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Cleaner air and rivers: Cimatu cites reasons to celebrate DENR's anniversary amid Covid



[BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

JUNE 10, 2021

2 MINUTE READ



Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic that slowed down government operations and caused economic devastation, there are still a lot of reasons to celebrate the 34th Anniversary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

In his inspirational message during the agency's online celebration, Cimatu said the Philippines now has cleaner air and water, stronger partnership with communities, and environmental champions, as he reported the highlights of the agency's accomplishment over the past year.

The country's "cleaner air," Cimatu said, is well within the standards for PM10 and PM2.

Meanwhile of the 43 priority rivers monitored last year, close to 75 percent of the water quality standard for biological oxygen demand have been met.

He added that under the Duterte administration, all illegal dumpsites were shut down.

"These are no small accomplishments. The closure of the 335 illegal dumpsites is [by no means a] small matter," Cimatu said.

The DENR, through the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), facilitated the formation of the coalition of solid waste management providers.

"The first in the history of DENR to be able to gather all these sanitary landfill operations for a better solid waste management in the country," Cimatu, a former military general plucked by President Duterte from retirement to lead the DENR, said.



Cleaner air and rivers: Cimatú cites reasons to celebrate DENR's anniversary amid Covid

Cimatú continued by mentioning the improvements on Boracay Island.

"We moved heaven and earth to bring back the ecological integrity of the island by efforts that included the recovery of beach easement, demolition of structures that encroach on the easement, improvement of the circumferential road, construction of drainage to address flooding and improvement of seawater quality," he said.

According to Cimatú, the restoration of Manila Bay to its historic glory is progressing well.

"Water quality in the Manila Baywalk and Baseco Beach areas have significantly improved with the construction of a solar-powered sewage treatment plant. The continuous cleanup of waterways draining into the bay, such as the Tullahan-Tinajeros River System, where dredging continues and the installation of more than 20 trash traps in different areas," he said.

Currently, Cimatú said the DENR is relentless in pursuing activities for hard-hit areas during typhoons Rolly and Ulysses, namely, Marikina, Cagayan Valley, and Bicol, having been tasked by President Duterte to lead the Task Force Build Back Better.

"Dredging activities in the river systems and bamboo planting for river bank stabilization went full blast even amid the current pandemic," Cimatú said.

Despite these accomplishments, he said the DENR's work is far from over.

"We have a lot more to do and gains to sustain. We need more strengthen partnership and collaboration to make our work more meaningful," Cimatú said.



Cimatu tiniyak ang proteksyon sa kapaligiran kahit may pandemya



June 10, 2021 @ 7:09 PM 11 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Tiniyak ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu na sa ilalim ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte aabot sa 100% na illegal operating dumpsites sa buong bansa ang naipasara dahil sa paglabag sa ating batas sa kapaligiran.

Ginawa ni Cimatu ang pahayag sa 34th Anniversary ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at ipinagmalaki na sa tatlong (3) presidente bago ang administrasyon ni Pangulong Duterte ay nabigong makamit ang hinihinging kalidad ng ecological solid waste management act of 2000.

Sa inspirational speech ni Cimatu sa DENR 34th Anniversary celebration kanina June 10, 2021 (via zoom) sinabi nito sa 15 buwan ng Covid-19 pandemic na gumambala sa ating bansa patuloy ang pagtatrabaho ng mga tauhan at opisyal ng DENR upang protektahan ang ating kapaligiran at kalikasan.

Ipinagmalaki rin ng Environment Secretary na ang ating hangin nalalanghap ay malinis at nasa standard sa pm10 at pm2.5, habang ang 43 na priority rivers na sinusubaybayan ng ahensya noong 2020, ay malapit na sa 75 percent ng water quality standard para sa biological oxygen demand.

“Hindi biro ang accomplishment na ito! the closure of 335 illegal dumpsites in the Philippines is a victory for the environment and the DENR,” ayon pa kay Cimatu.

Idinagdag nito na ang DENR sa pamamagitan ng Environmental Management Bureau ay naisagawa ang pagtatayo ng coalition of solid waste management providers, ang kauna unahang sa kasaysayan ng DENR upang matipon ang lahat ng sanitary landfill operators, para sa isang mabuting solid waste management bansa.



Cimatu tiniyak ang proteksyon sa kapaligiran kahit may pandemya

Kaugnay nito sinabi pa ng DENR chief na salamat sa ating mga empleyado at opisyal na nagpursige upang matugunan ang solid waste problem ng bansa, laluna sa ating pambansang basurero na si Usec Benny Antiporda.

Idinagdag pa ni Cimatu na ang Boracay Island ay mas mabuti na ngayon matapos ang rehabilitasyon na nagdala dito tungo sa heaven and earth upang maibalik ang ecological integrity ng isla sa pagsisikap ng upang maibalik ang ganda ng dalampasigan. (Santi Celario)



Why is there delay on the ban of non-environmentally acceptable products? Antiporda answers

Published June 10, 2021, 3:29 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny Antiporda has acknowledged the delays in the banning of items on the non-environmentally acceptable products (NEAP) list, but insisted that authorities were “doing their best”.



DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda (Screengrab from Zoom meeting)

“We’re doing our best to come up with the result of this NEAP which is indicated in RA (Republic Act) No.9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000),” Antiporda said during a virtual press conference on the occasion of DENR’s 34th anniversary Thursday, June 10.

Antiporda, the alternate chairman of the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), mentioned a few reasons for the delays, specifically the difficulty in gathering signatures from agency heads on the NEAP and the “slow” pace of related research.

“We have already come up with the recommendation that softdrink straws and coffee stirrers be banned as non-environmentally acceptable products. It’s now under the process of [gathering] signatures of the members of the National Solid Waste Management Commission, wherein inter-agency po ito (this is an inter-agency activity),” the undersecretary said.

“Napirmahan na po ito ng ating kalihim Roy Cimatú at hinihintay na lang po yung pirma po ng iba pa hong kalihim (DENR Secretary Roy Cimatú has already signed this, and we’re just waiting for the signatures of the other secretaries),” he said.



Why is there delay on the ban of non-environmentally acceptable products? Antiporda answers



(Screengrab from Zoom meeting)

Other agencies that are involved with the NSWMC include the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Health (DOH), and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

"Please bear with us, because of this pandemic medyo nade-delay lang po ng konti yung mga signature (this pandemic has caused a delay with the signatures), but it's under process and it will be released as soon as possible para po ma implement na ito (so that this would finally be implemented)," Antiporda said.

Plastic straws and stirrers were the first two items to be included on the NEAP list as per a draft resolution of the NSWMC last February.

Green groups quickly pointed out that this wasn't enough, as there are a host of other single-use plastics that do more harm to the environment.

Antiporda said in the same presser that the NSWMC has already referred other single-use plastics to the DOST for proper research before they can be declared as NEAP.

"During the last NSWMC meeting, tinurnover po ito sa DOST para po sa immediate research on this. Actually nagkaroon na rin po naman ng mga research sila, but again, hindi ho ganun kabilis yung result (There were turned over to the DOST for the purpose of immediate research during the last NSWMC meeting. Actually they have carried researches, but again, the results haven't arrived as fast)," he noted.



Why is there delay on the ban of non-environmentally acceptable products? Antiporda answers

The DENR official explained why a “research” needs to be carried out in connection with NEAP.

“We need to refer it kasi its indicated in RA No.9003 that we need to conduct thorough research before coming up with the declaration of NEAP. Hindi ho pwedeng indiscriminately eh i-deklara po natin ito dahil marami rin pong tatamaan especially the Juan dela Cruz na nakikinabang po dito, especially mga plastic bags na yan (We can’t indiscriminately declare items as NEAP because many common people, the Juan dela Cruz, will be affected since they benefit from these items, especially plastic bags).

“Again, we are doing our best na mai-deklara na po yung mga tamang i-deklara dahil yan po yung sinasaad ng batas natin (We are doing our best to come up with correct declarations as provided for by the law),” Antiporda said.

Thin-film plastic, more commonly known as “plastik labo”, was among the single-use plastics that have recently been referred to the DOST, Antiporda bared. This type of plastic is primarily used to pack food.

“Yan yung una nating binigyan ng pansin. Kapag ganitong thin-film...(Thin-film plastic was among those that we initially focused on)..it only ends up in our sanitary landfills or waterways,” he said.

Once finalized, the NEAP list must appear on a major publication. The ban on the listed items will officially take effect one year after the publication, Antiporda said.



Pangangalaga sa Kapaligiran pangunahin tungkulin ng DENR – Antiporda



June 10, 2021 @ 7:00 PM 9 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Pinaalalahanan ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Usec. Benny Antiporda ang mga personnel at opisyal ng DENR na ang publiko ay nakadepende sa kanila hinggil sa pangangalaga sa kapaligiran at patuloy na pagtatrabaho kahit pa may kinakaharap na pandemya.

Sa 34th Anniversary ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), sinabi ni Antiporda na siya rin Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management (SWM) and Local Government Units Concerns na patuloy ang pagsisilbi ng mga DENR personnel at mga opisyal nito para protektahan ang kalikasan sa kabila ng pandemya.

“Magpatuloy lang tayo sa pagtatrabaho para protekhan ang kapaligiran at kalikasan sa kabila ng pandemya subalit kailangan din natin protektahan ang ating mga sarili” ayon kay Antiporda.

Sinabi pa ni Antiporda na isinusulong ng ahensya ang malinis at luntian environment para sa paggamit ng single plastic.

“We are advocating cleaner, greener environment for the single use of plastic,” ani Antiporda.

Iginiit din ni Antiporda na dapat mailinaw ang usapin hinggil sa single use plastic upang maipatupad ang wastong paggamit dito.

“Marami na rin kasing tatamaan dito sa single use plastic dapat maideklara na ang dapat ideklara sa paggamit nito” pagdidiin pa ni Antiporda. (Santi Celario)

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/pangangalaga-sa-kapaligiran-pangunahin-tungkulin-ng-denr-antiporda/>



ni **ANDY VERDE** DZRH anchorman

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MECO ALERTADO SA MGA TINATAMAAN NG COVID-19

PUSPUSAN ang pagsasagawa ng contact tracing ng Manila Economic and Cultural Office sa mga overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) sa Taiwan na sinasabing na-infect ng Covid-19 kasunod ng report na may daang OFWs umano ang bagong nainfect ng virus sa nasabing bansa.

Partikular na mahigpit na tinututukan ng Philippine Overseas Labor Office - Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (POLO-OWWA) at MECO ang 289 OFWs na naka-isolate ngayon sa Taichung.

Patuloy din ang swab test ngayon sa 7,000 na mga manggagawa ng isang kumpanya doon kung saan nagtatrabaho ang Pinoy workers na naka-isolate ngayon na sa naturang bilang, 1,700 ang kabuuang mga Pinoy na nagtatrabaho sa nasabing kumpanya kung saan nagkaroon umano ng malawakang hawaan ng infection.

Nagpa-alala naman ang MECO officials sa mga Pinoy workers doon na mahigpit na sundin ang health protocols na pinaairal ng Taiwanese Government.

oOo
PARA matukoy kung su-

musunod ang mga ito sa environmental laws at bahagi ng pagdiriwang ng World Environment Day ay nagsagawa ng inspeksiyon ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) kasama ang Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) at Philippine National Police-Maritime Group (PNP-MG) sa marine vessels sa Manila Bay.

Pinangunahan ni Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda ang grupo sa inspeksiyon ng marine vessels na nakadaong sa Navotas Fish Port at bartil (wooden cargo vessels) sa Delpan, Port Area, Manila.

"We are strengthening the coordination and cooperation of the (Philippine) Coast Guard, (PNP) Mari-

time Group, and DENR to fully enforce the laws that will really protect our oceans," paliwanag ni Antiporda.

Binisita din ni Antiporda, na siya ring namumuno sa Manila Bay Anti-Pollution Task Force, ang shipyards sa Navotas Fish Port kung saan nakadaong ang malalaking marine vessels na dumadaan sa pagsasaayos.

Aniya, ang wastewater na nangagaling sa shipyard ay kinabibilangan ng toxic compounds at maaring magdulot ng masamang epekto sa karagatan at marine organisms.

Sinabi pa ng DENR official na tatawagan nito ang atensiyon ng mga may-ari ng marine vessels sa shipyard sa Navotas, kabilang na dito ang mga nag-o-operate sa Manila Bay region.

oOo

NANAWAGAN si Pasay City Mayor Emi Calixto-Rubiano sa mga indibidwal mula sa A4 category o essential workers na magpabakuna na sa Giga Vaccination Center sa Mall of Asia (MOA) Complex, Pasay City.

Kasabay ito ng pagbukas ng vaccination site kung saan target nitong mabakunahan ang 35-million A4 na mga miyembro na anya'y mahalagang mabakunahan ang A4 sector dahil sila ay kabilang sa itinuturing na backbone ng ekonomiya.

Kabilang dito ang mga mangagawa ng gobyero, pribadong sektor, informal at maging ang mga nasa household sector na ang kailangan lamang nilang gawin ay personal na magtungo sa Giga Vaccination Site.



San Miguel Corporation (SMC), in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), other national government agencies, and Metro Manila mayors, yesterday officially launched its ambitious, five-year plan to dredge and rehabilitate the Pasig River.

The project is set to become the largest ever river rehabilitation project in the country, with SMC president Ramon S. Ang announcing that the company's budget for the undertaking is being doubled to P2 billion (\$41.8 million).

"We hope that with the resources and technical know-how that we are bringing into the effort today – along with the continued support of our national government agencies and local government units – we can all make a bigger difference," he added.

"Silt and accumulated garbage have made the Pasig River shallow and restrict the flow of water, worsening the flooding situation in Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati, and Pasig. Our goal is to remove years' worth of wastes and increase Pasig River's carrying capacity to divert floodwaters to Manila Bay and make it more conducive to marine life over the coming years."

They are targeting to remove some 50,000 metric tons of waste from the Pasig River per month, or 600,000 metric tons of waste per year, using advanced and specialized equipment, which the company has already acquired.



Waterways clean-up at SM Mall of Asia



BYBMPLUS

JUNE 10, 2021

1 MINUTE READ



SM Prime Holdings recently held their regular desilting initiative at the SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City. The activity is part of the company's ongoing efforts in support of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation program, to ensure that all waterways within its business environments are clean and well-managed.

The desilting initiative coincided with the global celebration of World Oceans Day, June 8, and was witnessed by (L-R): Engr. Marivic Quides, Section Chief, Ambient Water Unit, Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Division, EMB NCR; Engr. Jean Borromeo, Division Chief of DENR NCR Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Division, and Engr. Arvin Jacob, DENR NCR Project Development Officer III, Manila Bay Site Coordinating and Management Office (right). They were joined by SM Prime's Senior Asst. Vice President for Estate Management Mr. Orliber D. Paule. (2nd from right).



DENR to help boost PH lumber production

By Catherine Teves June 10, 2021, 5:11 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) assured efforts on helping the country meet demand for lumber.

Tree-planting under DENR-led National Greening Program (NGP) won't just be to increase Philippine forest cover but also to grow species that will eventually be harvested for lumber, noted DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.

"We will be assisting private planters in planting their private lots," he assured Thursday during DENR's virtual celebration of its 34th anniversary.

Cimatu said the Philippines needs around 5 million cubic meters of lumber annually.

At present, the country produces about 1 million cubic meters of lumber -- mostly in private lands -- and must source the balance elsewhere, he noted.

"We need to plant to produce what we need," he said.

He said mahogany, gmelina and acacia mangium are the tree species for planting and harvesting.

Also for planting and harvesting is bamboo as he said this grass species is suitable lumber material.

He, however, clarified that indigenous tree species will still be used for planting to increase forest cover.

Such species can't be cut down but must be conserved and protected instead, he said.

Forest cover consists of natural and man-made forests including forests within wetlands and built-up areas, DENR noted.

In 2011, DENR launched NGP to reforest open and degraded forest land nationwide while helping alleviate poverty and address climate change.



DENR to help boost PH Lumber production

DENR said NGP already greened over 2 million hectares around the country.

EO 193 series of 2015 extended NGP's implementation period from 2016, when this program's initial run ended, to 2028.

Such extension aims to enable NGP to cover all remaining unproductive, denuded and degraded forest land in the country, noted EO 193.

Among DENR's NGP partners are people's organizations that help produce seedlings which the agency gives out for planting under the program.

"DENR @ 34: Celebrating a Greener and Safer Environment" is the agency's anniversary celebration theme this year.

During the celebration, Cimatu thanked DENR personnel for enabling the agency to accomplish much despite continuing onslaught of the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

Improvement in air and water quality, closure of all open dumps nationwide and successful rehabilitation of tourism gem Boracay Island are among DENR's accomplishments, he noted.

"After around 15 months of the Covid-19 pandemic, we still have many things to celebrate," he added. (PNA)



Algal bloom caused greenish water in Taal Lake, DENR says

By [Marlon Luistro](#)(Philstar.com)

- June 10, 2021 - 11:01am



BATANGAS CITY, Philippines ([The Filipino Connection](#)) — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Calabarzon identified on Wednesday a natural phenomenon called algal bloom as the reason behind the greenish color of water that was observed in the Taal Lake in the previous days.

An algal bloom is a rapid increase or accumulation in the population of algae in freshwater or marine water systems.

Acting PENRO and current Taal protected areas supervisor Noel Recillo said that the lake's greenish color has been observed since June 2 particularly in the areas of Balete, Mataas na Kahoy, Lipa, Cuenca, Talisay, Agoncillo, Laurel and Tanauan City.

Upload photos and videos of said greenish water in the lake went viral in social media the past days.

Recilo, however, said that the lake's changing colors was caused by a natural phenomenon characterized by the "growth of blue green algae," due to enrichment of nutrients.

"This does not mean nor does it indicate that the Taal Volcano ay erupt," Recilo said in a press statement quoting the findings of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – Inland Fisheries Technology Outreach Station (BFAR – IFTOS).

Meanwhile, DENR said that Taal Lake's dissolved oxygen, remains at normal levels between 5.0 to 7.0 parts per million.

Scientists say dissolved oxygen is one of the most important indicators of water quality as it is essential for the survival of fish and other aquatic organisms. When dissolved oxygen becomes too low, fish and other aquatic organisms cannot survive.

The DENR likewise advised the general public that swimming in the lake and other related activities are temporarily prohibited due to possible health hazards which include skin irritation that it may cause.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2021/06/10/2104484/algal-bloom-caused-greenish-water-taal-lake-denr-says/amp/>



Bridging science and policy to protect oceans, life, and livelihoods



BY DR. THERESA MUNDITA S. LIM

JUNE 10, 2021

3 MINUTE READ

Today, on World Oceans Day, the Asean Center for Biodiversity (ACB) joins the rest of the international community in celebrating oceans and recognizing their necessity to our everyday lives. This occasion with the theme *Life and Livelihoods* reminds us why these vast bodies of water must be protected and sustainably managed.

Humanity cannot exist without oceans. The Asean region has immensely rich and diverse marine resources, which comprise 30 percent of the world's coral reefs, 35 percent of mangroves, and at least 18 percent of seagrass meadows. The region's 173,000 kilometers of coastline serve as a vital resource base for key industries—fisheries, tourism, shipping—and for its population of 650 million people. Fish and marine products are among the most traded goods across the world.

While oceans are heavily affected by climate change, these natural systems are our frontlines against climate change. For example, healthy mangroves, tidal flats, seagrass beds, and coral reefs act as natural barriers against strong winds and storm surges and contribute to our resilience to rising temperatures.

There is no argument that oceans have gained much attention in recent years as the new frontier of sustainable development.

The blue economy, or the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, has improved livelihoods and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystems. However, oceans are continuously under threat due to a host of factors, many of which are human-driven.

The greater challenge rests on making this so-called blue economy “green” and ensuring that protecting marine biodiversity is a cross-sectoral endeavor supported by available science and technology.

The ACB has been working with partners to further improve the science-policy interface in safeguarding our marine ecosystems, including access to biodiversity data and sharing of information. Also, as the secretariat of the Asean Heritage Parks (AHP) that include nine marine protected areas, the Center supports species monitoring in AHPs, one of which in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park. An ongoing project at the TRNP is a study of sharks and other big sea predators using underwater visual census. From March 2021 to date, 23 sharks and rays have been recorded in TRNP.

With mandates on facilitating cooperation in mainstreaming biodiversity considerations across sectors, the ACB, with its partners, likewise continues to assist the Asean member-states to scale up our efforts in biodiversity conservation across sectors.

Today, coinciding with World Oceans Day, the ACB and the United Kingdom Mission to the Asean are hosting the *Asean-UK COP26: Framing the Future for Nature and Climate*, an online event in preparation for two global events—15th Conference of Parties (COP15) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change scheduled for this year.



Bridging science and policy to protect oceans, life, and livelihoods

This year is critical for oceans as leaders of nations are set to agree on a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, a landmark 10-year strategic plan to reverse the loss of marine and terrestrial biodiversity. The proposal of scientists and leaders to protect at least 30 percent of the planet, including oceans, by 2030, is backed by the best available science and can be an opportunity to empower countries to further advance their priorities for better ocean management. However, in order to achieve this, the support and involvement of everyone is paramount.

The Asean is committed to further exchange best practices, flesh out opportunities, and concretize plans in raising ambition on nature-based solutions, climate, and biodiversity.

As negotiations are underway, the ACB continues to pursue its mandate to support the member-states' efforts to access science and technology, develop their capacities to implement the target effectively, and mobilize resources to achieve regional and national goals toward healthy oceans.

Healthy oceans that teem with an abundance of life are critical to humanity's subsistence, livelihood, and well-being. Therefore, it is high time that we work together as we bridge science and policy to protect our marine ecosystems. I am optimistic that our collective efforts will make waves and benefit all, generations after generations.

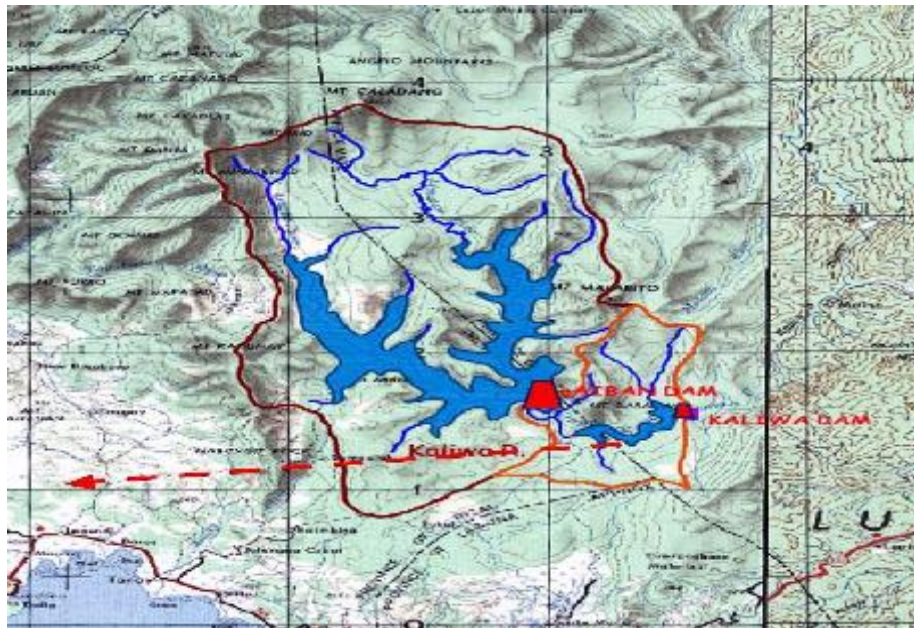
Happy World Oceans Day!

Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim is the Executive Director of the Asean Center for Biodiversity.



House panel wants construction work in Kaliwa Dam project to stop

By ANNA FELICIA BAJO, GMA News
Published June 10, 2021 3:06pm



The House committee on indigenous cultural communities and indigenous peoples has agreed to issue a resolution urging the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) and other agencies involved in the Kaliwa Dam project to stop any activities inside the affected ancestral domain of the indigenous peoples amid the absence of a free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).

The FPIC protects the right of IPs to self-determination and to freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development.

Kalinga Representative Allen Jesse Mangaoang said the committee is not anti-development but it "stands firm for responsible exploration and utilization of natural resources."

During the hearing, Bayan Muna Representative Eufemia Cullamat denounced the continuing activities for the Kaliwa Dam project.

"Marapat lamang na magkaroon ng cease and desist order sa proyektong ito lalo na at walang FPIC. Isang puna ng mga apektadong katutubong komunidad ay ang pagsisimula na ng mga konstruksyon ng access roads patungo sa Kaliwa dam project kahit wala pang FPIC," Cullamat said.

(There should be a cease and desist order for this project, especially that there is no FPIC yet. One concern of the affected IP communities is the construction of access roads going to the Kaliwa Dam project even in the absence of FPIC.)

More than 5,000 IPs will be affected if the said project pushes through, according to Cullamat.

Earlier, Bayan Muna party-list Representative Carlos Isagani Zarate said five out of the six IP communities consulted by the MWSS for the dam's construction did not provide their consent on the dam project.



House panel wants construction work in Kaliwa Dam project to stop

He revealed that the community that gave the free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) was the one that allegedly received P20 million from the MWSS.

The lawmaker, together with ACT Teachers party-list Representative France Castro, previously urged the Commission on Audit to look into the release of the [P20 million to the IP community](#).

The Kaliwa Dam project, a venture traversing the provinces of Rizal and Quezon, is expected to help meet the growing water demand in Metro Manila and Southern Luzon as well as to reduce total dependence on the Angat Dam.

This project is being opposed by some groups and individuals as this could adversely affect the environment and nearby communities.—AOL, GMA News



Church welcomes cease and desist order on Kaliwa Dam construction

By [CBCP News](#)

- June 10, 2021 - 5:46 PM



A "No to Kaliwa Dam" tarp posted outside the St. Mark and the Child Jesus Cathedral in Infanta, Quezon. (CBCP News/Released)

The Catholic Church's social justice arm welcomed a House panel order to stop the Kaliwa Dam construction in indigenous communities, pending their consent.

The bishops' Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace reaffirmed the stand of the Catholic hierarchy that the mega dam project "is against inclusive development".

Bishop Jose Colin Bagaroro, its chairman, said that the common good must not be sacrificed for the benefit of business interests.

"The indigenous people, the community, and the environment should not be sacrificed on the altar of development aggression that would only benefit the interest of big businesses," Bagaroro said.

"The State must respect the indigenous people as the guardians of the country's remaining biodiversity and who have all the right to protect their ancestral territories," he said.

The House Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples on Tuesday directed certain agencies involved in the project to cease activities inside the affected ancestral domain of the Agta-Dumagat-Remontado tribes.

The order remains until a free, prior, and informed consent is completed from the indigenous communities that are reportedly threatened to be displaced because of the project.

In 2020, the Catholic bishops' leadership added its voice against the P12.2 billion China-funded project, and called for its "proper review" in order "to correct its flawed procedures".



Church welcomes cease and desist order on Kaliwa Dam construction

The proposed dam is one of the several bulk water supply projects on the upper portion of the Kaliwa River watershed.

A part of the "New Centennial Water Source" program, the mega dam aims to ease persistent water shortage woes for Metro Manila's nearly 13 million residents.

But environmental activists warned the project threatens to displace at least 11,000 families living across the 28,000 hectares of land, not including those living in more established towns.

They said it will also submerge almost 300 hectares of forest ecosystems, threatening 126 endemics, and endangered species of plants and wildlife.



Philippine eagle undergoes training to be an airline ambassador

Published June 10, 2021 5:52pm



COURTESY: CEBU PACIFIC

Mindanao, a 19-year-old Philippine eagle, is undergoing training to become Cebu Pacific's conservation education ambassador.

According to a press statement, Mindanao is officially retired from breeding and "will pivot to his new role as soon as he is trained to fly on cue."

According to Cebu Pacific Vice President for Marketing and Customer Experience Candice Iyog, this is part of the company's way to care for the eagles that are going extinct.

"[This] partnership with the [Philippine Eagle Foundation] signifies our commitment to keep doing our part in taking care of our planet in line with our sustainability journey," she said.

The airline company has been supporting Mindanao since 2015 and will continue to provide him with food, shelter maintenance, and keeper and veterinary care for another year.

"We are happy to be keepers of our home through our continued adoption of Philippine Eagle Mindanao amidst the pandemic," she added.

They also had the theme "Helping the Eagles Survive the Pandemic is Helping Ourselves" during Philippine Eagle Week which ran from June 4 to June 10.

According to the Peregrine Fund, a non-profit organization that conserves threatened and endangered birds of prey worldwide, Philippine eagles are now "critically endangered." — Franchesca Viernes/LA, GMA News



Philippine native tree that resembles Japan's cherry blossoms grows in Rizal

Published June 10, 2021, 10:00 AM

by [Vina Medenilla](#)

Many Pinoys are fascinated by the famous cherry blossoms of Japan. Now, there is no need to travel far because there are native trees in the Philippines that are just as beautiful as the Sakura.

Among thousands of native flowering trees in the country is Salinggogon (*Cratoxylum formosum*). It is one of the tree species with pink blooms that are likened to cherry blossoms.



A closer look at the flowers of the Salinggogon tree. (Photo from Masungi Georeserve)

Salinggogon trees can grow up to 35 meters tall. It thrives in various forests around the country, specifically in Rizal, Bulacan, Polilio, Mindoro, Guimaras, Negros, and Mindanao.

Masungi Georeserve, a privately-led conservation area in Baras, Rizal, is home to numerous endemic and indigenous flora and fauna, including 50 Salinggogon trees.

Salinggogon trees are said to grow on hill slopes with clay soil. Since Masungi is found in the uplands of Rizal, this species naturally grows well in the area. They say that it is highly possible that there are more Salinggogon inside Masungi, too.

Salinggogon flowers usually last for two to three weeks during the dry season. It blooms before new leaves start to regrow. The tree flourishes in full sun and requires at least six hours of sunlight every day.



Philippine native tree that resembles Japan's cherry blossoms grows in Rizal



A Salinggogon tree stands out in the middle of the forest.

Masungi preserves this species through manual weed control, which allows the tree to acquire all the nutrients and other resources it needs.

"We implement enhanced and constant forest enforcement on the ground. This includes the patrolling and monitoring performed by our forest rangers in our reforestation site," said Masungi Georeserve.



Salinggogon tree's flowers grow on its branches. (Photo from Masungi Georeserve)



Philippine native tree that resembles Japan's cherry blossoms grows in Rizal

They also share photos and details about Salinggogon trees through social media in hopes of raising awareness on the importance of forests and encouraging the public to protect and act on them.

Salinggogon trees are at risk from activities like illegal logging, charcoal making, and timber poaching. This is why it is vital to promote and educate more individuals about native trees like Salinggogon.

"Our team is also in close contact with scientists and botanists, such as those from the UPLB Museum of Natural History, who provide research and technical support to our team." Masungi plans to continue consulting the experts in terms of the propagation of trees growing on their premises, including the Salinggogon.

Salinggogon trees can be found on the Discovery and Legacy trails of Masungi Georeserve, but those in the latter are yet to mature.

Photos from Masungi Georeserve Foundation Inc.



19 Philippine rivers among top 50 ocean polluters in the world—study

The largest contributing country estimated by the model was the Philippines, with 466 out of 1,656 of the world's rivers dumping more than 356,371 metric tons of plastic waste annually. The world's most polluting river when it comes to plastic is the 27-kilometer Pasig River which runs through Metro Manila, accounting for 63,000 tons of plastic entering oceans from rivers per year.



[BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

JUNE 10, 2021

3 MINUTE READ



Work has begun on San Miguel Corp.'s P2-billion Pasig River rehabilitation initiative, which will extract 50,000 metric tons of silt and solid waste per month from the historic river, or 600,000 metric tons per year, using advanced and specialized equipment. The project is supported by the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, Public Works and Highways, Interior and Local Government, Philippine Coast Guard, and Metro Manila local governments, including Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati and Pasig.

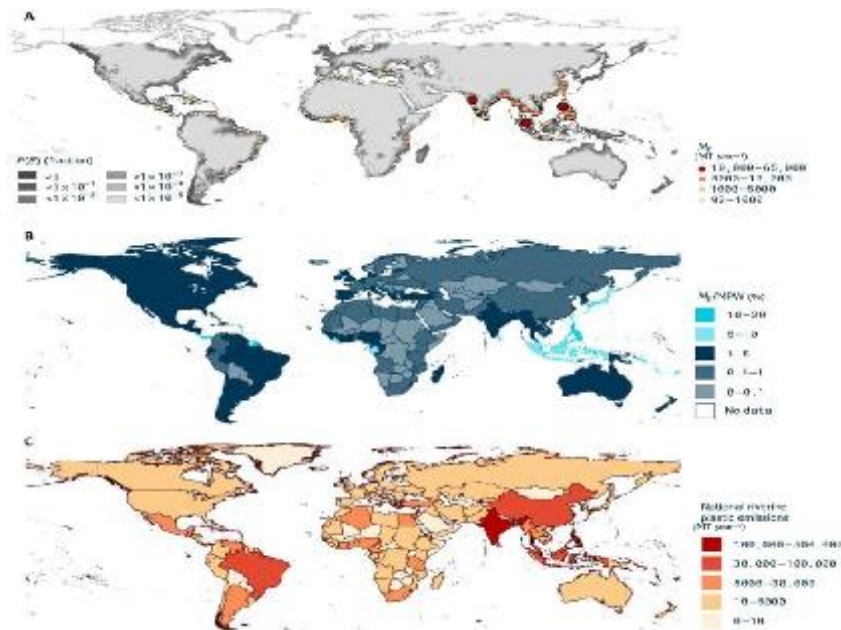
A [scientific study](#) released by [The Ocean Cleanup](#) in the journal [Science Advances](#) has identified Pasig River and 18 other Philippine rivers among the top 50 polluting rivers in the world.

These rivers in the Philippines, the study added, represent more than a quarter of rivers worldwide that are responsible for 80 percent of ocean plastic pollution.

The researchers designed a tool to track plastics flowing into the oceans, which calculated that 454 "very small" rivers contribute 25 percent of global annual emissions, while 360 "small rivers" make up 24 percent of emissions, 162 "medium rivers" are responsible for 22 percent of emissions, while 18 "large" and six "very large" rivers contribute to 2 percent and 1 percent of plastic emissions, respectively. Other rivers of varying sizes contribute to 26 percent of the pollution.



19 Philippine rivers among top 50 ocean polluters in the world—study



Global emissions of plastic into the ocean. (A) The geospatial distribution of plastic entering the ocean through rivers. The 1656 rivers accountable for 80% of the total influx are presented. The gray shading indicates the probability for plastic entering the ocean [$P(E)$] on a 10×10 -km resolution. (B) Total emitted plastic into the ocean M_E per country divided by the national generation of MPW, globally ranging between 0 and 20%. (C) Total emitted plastic into the ocean M_E (MT year⁻¹) per country. (Image: [Science Advances](#))

The largest contributing country estimated by the model was the Philippines, with 466 out of 1,656 of the world's rivers dumping more than 356,371 metric tons of plastic waste annually. The world's most polluting river when it comes to plastic is the 27-kilometer Pasig River which runs through Metro Manila, accounting for 63,000 tons of plastic entering oceans from rivers per year.

The study also suggested that coastal countries like the Philippines have a relatively high probability of plastic entering the ocean due to various factors, including short distances from land-based sources to rivers, and much shorter distances to oceans. Plastic also flows more easily into rivers from paved urban areas than it does in rivers from forests, and travels farther in rainy climates than dry ones. The researchers also considered for the study the proximity of landfills and dumpsites to riverbanks, finding out that those within 10 kilometers of rivers are likely to spill into them.

Aside from Pasig River, among the top 50 rivers that carry the most amount of trash and plastic into the ocean mentioned in the study are the following:



19 Philippine rivers among top 50 ocean polluters in the world–study

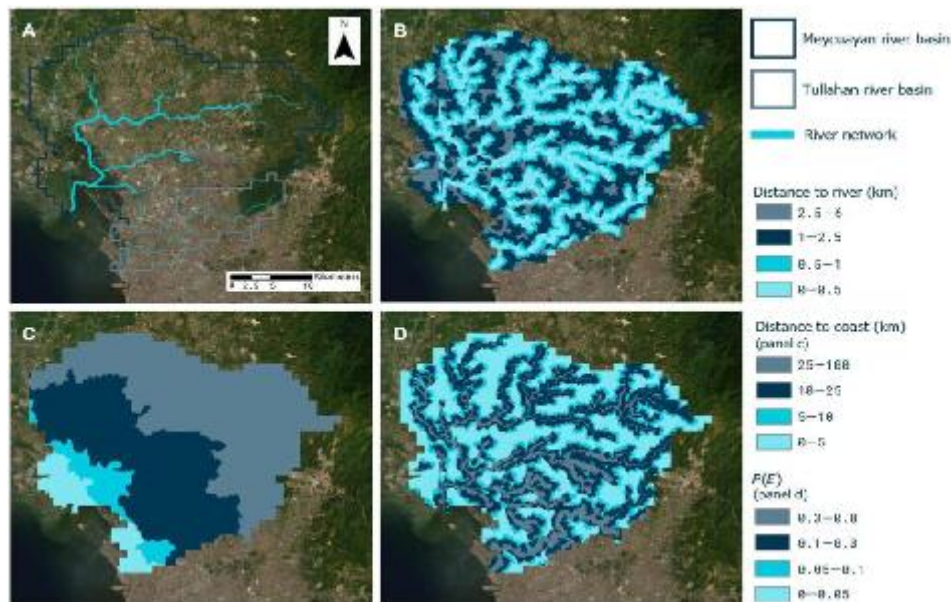


View of the Pasig River from Fort Santiago in Intramuros, Manila. ([Leonid Andronov](#) | [Dreamstime.com](#))

- Pampanga River
- Libmanan River
- Rio Grande de Mindanao River
- Agno River
- Agusan River
- Parañaque River
- Iloilo River
- Imus River
- Zapote River
- Cagayan de Oro River
- Davao River
- Malaking Tubig River
- Tambo, Pasay (Storm drain)
- Jalaur River
- Cagayan River
- Hamulauon River



19 Philippine rivers among top 50 ocean polluters in the world—study



Probability maps. (A) The Meycuayan and Tullahan river basins and river network in Manila, Philippines. (B) The distance (km) from a 3×3 -arc sec grid cell toward the nearest river. (C) The distance (km) from each grid cell to the ocean, through the river network. (D) The probability for a grid cell to emit plastic waste into the ocean $P(E)$, [Eq. 1](#), for a given year, ranging from 0 to 5% for areas further away from a river up to 0.8% for areas near a river and near the coast. (Image: [Science Advances](#))

The study suggested a targeted approach to drastically reduce the world's river plastic emissions.

For the Climate Change Commission, the study findings raise extreme concern on the issue of mismanaged plastic wastes in the country, and supports the call of urgent efforts to solve the plastic crisis by implementing measures to regulate and, in turn, halt the production of unnecessary plastics-made straws and stirrers, spoon and fork, and plastic labo, among others.

According to the CCC, House Bill 9147 or the Single-Use Plastics Products Regulation Act recently approved on second reading in the lower House, serves as a potential measure that will effectively address the country's high rate of plastic waste leakage and plastic impacts on the environment, public health, and climate change through a nationwide phase out of single-use plastics and implementation of producers' responsibility schemes.

"This ushers the start for producers to shift their dependence on throwaway packaging models to more sustainable reuse and refill systems," the CCC said in a news statement.

The agency strongly urged the public to use alternatives and adopt workable community-based solutions to shift away from the single-use, throwaway culture that currently dominates our market.

Pasig is world's most polluting river — study

June 10, 2021 | 12:31 am



HIVEMINER

PASIG RIVER is considered the world's most polluting river when it comes to plastic waste, according to research published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

At the same time, San Miguel Corp. (SMC) and International Container Terminal Services, Inc. Group (ICTSI) Foundation on Wednesday launched initiatives to help rehabilitate the polluted river.

An April study published by the AAAS' *Science Advances* journal showed the 28% of the rivers responsible for global plastic pollution are in the Philippines.

The Philippines had 466 rivers out of the 1,656 rivers that accounted for 80% of ocean plastic waste, followed by India with 211 and Malaysia with 105.

"The world's most polluting river when it comes to plastic is the 27-kilometer Pasig River which runs through Metro Manila, accounting for 63,000 tons of plastic entering oceans from rivers per year," a statement from the Climate Change Commission (CCC) read.

Aside from Pasig, the list of top 50 rivers that carry the most trash into the ocean included 18 more from the Philippines.

These rivers are Tullahan, Meycauyan, Pampanga, Libmanan, Rio Grande de Mindanao, Agno, Agusan, Parañaque, Iloilo, Imus, Zapote, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Malaking Tubig, Tambo in Pasay, Jalaur, Cagayan and Hamulauon.

The Philippines is also said to be the country with the highest averaged probability for a plastic particle to reach the ocean in a year, at 7.2%.



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June 11, 2021

Date

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Pasig is world's most polluting river — study

"The study findings raise extreme concern on the issue of mismanaged plastic wastes in the country, and supports the call..for urgent efforts to solve the plastic crisis by implementing measures to regulate and in turn, halt the production of unnecessary plastics-made straws and stirrers, spoon and fork, and plastic labo, among others," CCC said.

REHABILITATION

PLAN

Meanwhile, SMC on Wednesday said it is allocating P2 billion for its five-year plan to clean up the Pasig River.

Described as the "largest-ever river rehabilitation project in the country," it will involve extracting 50,000 metric tons of silt and solid waste per month from the river, or 600,000 metric tons a year using advanced and specialized equipment.

The project is supported by the departments of Environment, Public Works, Interior and Local Government, Philippine Coast Guard, and local government units, including Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati, and Pasig.

"There have been many cleanup efforts in the past, and government has successfully implemented a number of programs these past few years. But decades of pollution and compounding problems that have rendered the river biologically dead since the 1990s are too significant and complex to overcome — even for the best-intentioned advocates and organizations," SMC President Ramon S. Ang said in a statement.

"We hope that with the resources and technical know-how that we are bringing into the effort today — along with the continued support of our National Government agencies and local government units — we can all make a bigger difference," Mr. Ang added.

Also, the ICTSI Foundation said it has partnered up with Finnish nongovernmental organization RiverRecycle to introduce a sustainable river waste collection system along Pasig River.

ICTSI Foundation said it will allot \$1 million for the implementation of Rivercycle, adding that this will complement existing efforts in restoring the 27-kilometer river.

The project will involve collecting plastic waste using a device to capture between 70 to 200 tons of waste per day, as well as raising awareness of waste management practices in the communities.

"The collected plastic waste will be converted into oil before being converted back into plastic," ICTSI Foundation said. — A.Y. Yang



Pasig, other Philippine rivers among biggest contributors to ocean plastic pollution

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) (Philstar.com)
- June 10, 2021 - 5:12pm



Undated file photos shows Pasig River.
The STAR/Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines was the largest contributing country to the plastic waste that reaches the ocean, with the Pasig River ranked as the most polluting river in the world, a study by a Dutch nonprofit showed.

According to a study of The Ocean Cleanup published in [Sciences Advances](#) last April, the Philippines is home to 28% of the rivers responsible for ocean plastic pollution.

The Philippines had 466 rivers out of the 1,656 rivers that accounted for nearly 80% of plastic inputs to the ocean.

The 27-kilometer Pasig River, which flows through the capital region, was identified as the most polluted by plastics.

In 2019, President Rodrigo Duterte abolished the [Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission](#), which was tasked to ensure the rehabilitation of Pasig River to its “historically pristine condition conducive to transport, recreation, and tourism.”

Previous studies found the Yangtze River in China—the third longest in the world—as the highest plastic emitting river but it only ranked 64th in the recent study.

Other rivers in the Philippines that dumped the most amount trash and plastic into the ocean were the following:

- Tullahan
- Meycauayan



Pasig, other Philippine rivers among biggest contributors to ocean plastic pollution

- Pampanga
- Libmanan
- Rio de Grande de Mindanao
- Agno
- Agusan
- Parañaque
- Iloilo
- Imus
- Zapote
- Cagayan de Oro
- Davao
- Malaking Tubig
- Tambo, Pasay
- Jalaur
- Cagayan
- Hamulauon





Pasig, other Philippine rivers among biggest contributors to ocean plastic pollution

Smaller rivers

Earlier studies ranked the largest rivers in the world as the top contributors to marine plastic pollution.

But The Ocean Clean study identified small and medium-sized rivers that flow through coastal cities in emerging economies as the most polluting.

“Coastal cities associated with urban drainage and paved surfaces presented the highest emission probabilities, particularly in regions with high precipitation rates,” the study read.

Plastic pollution

The Philippines, an archipelagic nation, was frequently listed among the top contributors to marine plastic pollution along with China, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Malacañang called the ranking of Pasig River a “badge of dishonor” that could prompt “radical” actions from the government to rehabilitate Pasig River.

The Climate Change Commission said the findings of the study raised “extreme concern” on the issue of mismanaged plastic waste in the country.

“[The study] supports the call of the commission for urgent efforts to solve the plastic crisis by implementing measures to regulate and in turn, halt the production of unnecessary plastics-made straws and stirrers, spoon and fork, and plastic labo, among others,” CCC said in a statement Wednesday.

The House of Representatives recently approved on second reading a bill which seeks to regulate the production, importation, sale, use and disposal of single-use plastic products. At the Senate, counterpart measures are still pending at the committee level.

In February, after 20 years, the National Solid Waste Management Commission included plastic soft drink straws and coffee stirrers in the list of non-environmentally acceptable products.



Gov't mulls 'radical' steps vs Pasig River pollution

Published June 10, 2021, 4:26 PM

by [Genalyn Kabiling](#)

The government is looking into possible “radical” moves to clean up and rehabilitate Pasig River after expressing dismay that it emerged as the world’s top plastic polluter.



San Miguel Corporation formally launched its P2-billion Pasig River rehabilitation initiative, which will extract 50,000 metric tons of silt and solid waste per month from the historic river, or 600,000 metric tons per year, using advanced and specialized equipment. The project is supported by the DENR, DPWH, DILG, the Philippine Coast Guard, and Metro Manila local governments, including Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati, and Pasig.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque admitted that Pasig River’s latest description was a “badge of dishonor” that indicated the need to step up the enforcement of laws related to proper waste disposal and pollution.

Pasig River’s dismal situation should be “a test of our law enforcement capability,” he added.

“I to po ay problema nga (This is a problem) that has existed for many, many years now ‘no. Pero I’m hoping that with this badge of dishonor eh baka po maging radikal din ang mga hakbang na gagawin ng ating gobyerno para malinis na once and for all, iyang Pasig River na iyan (the government might resort to radical steps to clean up Pasig River once and for all),” he said during a televised press briefing Thursday, June 10.

A study released by the Ocean Cleanup showed Pasig River as the top plastic-emitting river in the world. The 27-kilometer river, traversing Metro Manila, reportedly accounted for 63,000 tons of plastic entering oceans from rivers every year.

Roque expressed sadness over the polluted state of Pasig River, saying this was not something to be proud of.

“Nakakalungkot po iyan (It is saddening), that is not something na we should be proud of. Dati nga po ay mayroon pa tayong komisyon just on Pasig River, pero wala ring nangyari (Before we had a Pasig River rehabilitation commission but nothing happened),” he said.



Gov't mulls 'radical' steps vs Pasig River pollution

“Sa akin po, talagang kinakailangan ipatupad ang ating existing laws, ipatupad iyong obligasyon ng mga water concession agreements na magkaroon talaga ng wastewater treatment at ipatupad talaga iyong pagbabawal ng pag-discharge ng kahit anong nakakasira sa kalikasan diyan po sa Pasig River (For me, we really must enforce our existing laws, enforce the obligation of the water concession agreements to install wastewater treatment and enforce the prohibition against the discharge of any waste into Pasig River),” he added.

San Miguel Corporation (SMC) earlier pledged [P2 billion to implement a five-year project to clean up and rehabilitate Pasig River](#) in partnership with several government agencies and local government units.



Palace calls for enforcement of environmental laws after Pasig River tops list of plastic polluters

Aileen Cerrudo • June 10, 2021



MANILA, Philippines— Malacañang on Thursday (June 10) reiterated the need to implement environmental laws after Pasig River and 18 other rivers in the country made it to the world's top 50 polluting rivers.

Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said the report is a test of the country's law enforcement capability.

The Palace official lamented that the sad state of Pasig River has been a perennial problem and past attempts to rehabilitate Pasig River have fallen through.

"Kailangan pong ipatupad ang ating existing laws, ipatupad ang mga obligasyon ng mga water concessionaire agreements na magakroon talaga ng waste water treatment at ipatupad ang pagbabawal ng water discharge na nakakasira ng kalikasan diyan sa Pasig River," he said.

Rotterdam-based Ocean Cleanup has released a scientific study which estimates that 1000 rivers are accountable for nearly 80% of global annual riverine plastic emissions. It also listed Pasig River as the world's most polluting river when it comes to plastic waste. Pasig River accounts for 63,000 tons of plastic entering oceans from rivers per year.

Roque hopes that this "badge of dishonor", will push the government to make radical changes in addressing the cleanup of Pasig River. AAC



LOG-PASIG PASOK SA WORLD'S TOP PLASTIC POLLUTER

[10 hours ago jake](#)



LABIS na ikinalungkot ng Malakanyang ang pagkakasama ng Ilog Pasig at 18 iba pang ilog sa bansa sa listahan ng 'World's Top Plastic Polluter'.

Sinabi ni Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque, ang ganitong usapin ay hindi aniya dapat ipagmalaki.

"Well, nakakalungkot po iyan, that is not something na we should be proud of. Dati nga po ay mayroon pa tayong komisyon just on Pasig River, pero wala ring nangyari," ani Sec. Roque.

Para sa kanya, talagang kinakailangan na ipatupad ang existing laws, ipatupad ang obligasyon ng mga water concession agreements na magkaroon talaga ng wastewater treatment at ipatupad ang pagbabawal sa pagtatapon ng kahit anong nakasisira sa kalikasan sa Pasig River.

"It is a test of our law enforcement capability 'no, pero ito po ay problema nga that has existed for many, many years now 'no. Pero I'm hoping that with this badge of dishonor eh baka po maging radikal din ang mga hakbang na gagawin ng ating gobyerno para malinis na once and for all, iyang Pasig River na iyan," ayon kay Sec. Roque.

Batay kasi sa pag-aaral na isinagawa ng Ocean Cleanup, isang non-profit organization, na tumututok sa paglilinis ng mga karagatan sa pamamagitan ng pag-develop ng teknolohiya upang maalis ang mga polusyong plastic sa mga anyong tubig na kabilang ang Ilog Pasig at 18 iba pang ilog sa bansa sa listahan ng 'World's Top Plastic Polluter'.

Sa pag-aaral na isinagawa ng Ocean Cleanup, nabatid na 20% ng 80% na plastic pollution sa buong mundo ay mula sa Pilipinas.

Mula sa 1,656 na ilog na minomonitor na itinuturing din na plastic waste contributor, 466 ay mula sa bansa.

Ayon sa grupo, aabot sa 356,371 metriko toneladang plastic ang nakokolekta sa mga ilog sa buong mundo, kada taon.

Sa nabanggit na bilang, 63,000 tonelada ang mula sa Ilog Pasig. (CHRISTIAN DALE)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/107427980954216/posts/333257868371225/?app=fbl>



ICTSI allots \$1M for waste collection project



BY LORENZ S. MARASIGAN

JUNE 10, 2021



Aerial view of Manila with the Pasig River

The foundation arm of International Container Terminal Services Inc. (ICTSI) is providing \$1 million to RiverRecycle Oy, a Finnish nongovernment organization, that aims to pioneer a “financially-sustainable river waste collection system for the Pasig River.”

The initiative, according to ICTSI Foundation President Christian R. Gonzales, involves the collection of plastic waste from the river using a device designed by RiverRecycle to capture between 70 and 200 tons of waste daily.

The collected plastic waste will be converted into oil before being converted back into plastic.

“As a good corporate citizen, supporting this project with RiverRecycle is part of our commitment to environmental conservation and the welfare of our host communities along the Pasig River and the port area. We are very optimistic about the potential environmental impact of this endeavor,” he said.

The partners will also launch an awareness campaign “to empower local communities to adopt more responsible waste management behaviors – a key step to reduce and eventually eliminate plastic pollution.”

RiverRecycle Founder and CEO Anssi Mikola said the initiative complements existing efforts to revive the Pasig River, known as one of the country’s main waterways.

“Our solution not only removes the plastic already in the rivers, but also provides sustainable waste management where it’s needed most. The project will take us one step closer to converting the plastic ‘waste’ problem into a circular economy model that keeps plastic in the economy and out of the environment,” he said.

Aside from removing waste debris from the Pasig River, the project is also expected to reduce the number of water hyacinths, which impede the flow of water, resulting in increased sedimentation.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/06/10/ictsi-allots-1m-for-waste-collection-project/>



Food for recyclable trash: MMDA launches new scheme to end Metro garbage woes



BY [CLAUDETH MOCON-CIRIACO](#)

JUNE 10, 2021

3 MINUTE READ



File photo: A man collects recyclable materials from the pile of garbage that was washed ashore on Manila Bay by strong waves brought by Tropical Depression Henry on July 16, 2018.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has dished out a creative scheme in a bid to stop the indiscriminate disposal of garbage: Trade recyclable trash for commodities such as canned goods, instant noodles, and rice, among others.

MMDA Chairman Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos Jr. said the new scheme will be implemented following the launch of the agency's Mobile Materials Recovery Facility (MMRF) and Community Based Takakura Composting, two waste diversion initiatives designed to minimize waste for a greener and healthier Metropolis while promoting segregation and composting in communities.

"Through these initiatives, we hope to teach barangay leaders and residents how they can reduce their waste instead of indiscriminately dumping or throwing their trash along the streets and waterways," the MMDA chief said at the project's launch on Thursday dubbed as Balik Kalinga sa Kalikasan Para sa Kaunlaran in Barangay Sto. Rosario Kaunlaran in the municipality of Pateros.

Abalos said that the MMRF, dubbed as "Recyclable Mo, Palit Grocery Ko," allows residents of a certain barangay to trade their wastes for commodities.

Residents shall surrender recyclable materials such as cartons, glass bottles, papers, and tin cans, etc. to their barangays for the MMRF collection. For every submission of the collected recyclables, residents will earn points that they can use in exchange for certain commodities or grocery items during the scheduled MMRF Market Day.

The earned and redeemed points of each participating resident are all duly recorded in their own Ecosavers Passbook. "Residents are encouraged to collect their recyclable materials in exchange for goods," said Abalos.



Food for recyclable trash: MMDA launches new scheme to end Metro garbage woes

He added that “to ensure compliance to the established safety and health protocols of the IATF [Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases] and each locality, the MMDA will coordinate with the local government units and the barangays prior to the scheduling and operation of the MMRF in their areas.”

Pateros Mayor Miguel Ponce III, who joined the launch, thanked Abalos for choosing one of their barangays as the project’s pilot area.

“This is an added motivation to encourage households to segregate and recycle their waste. We are grateful to the MMDA for introducing their project to us,” said Ponce.

The MMDA is also eyeing partnership with accredited junk shops to buy the recovered recyclable materials from the barangays and in return, the money will be used to buy the commodities/goods being distributed during MMRF market day.

Abalos also said that the project would increase waste diversion rate, reduce generation of single-use plastics, showcase alternative ways for the local government unit to comply with the material recovery facility and address lack of space and funds for the MRF establishment.

Meanwhile, the MMDA, through the Solid Waste Management Office (SWMO), recommended the use of Takakura Method to introduce community-based composting using fermentation solutions made from a Japanese urban-based technology.

“We will teach the barangay composting using the Takakura method and how it would benefit the community,” said Abalos.

The MMDA’s SWMO will conduct orientation seminars for barangay officials, eco-aides, and residents to highlight the importance and process of segregation and collection of biodegradables and the process of Takakura composting.

The MMRF and Community-Based Takakura Composting are part of the Metro Manila Flood Management Project funded by the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank.

The MMDA is tasked to implement the project’s Component 2, Minimizing Solid Waste in Waterways.

This component aims to improve the solid waste management system in barangays located near the pumping station, aligned with the MMDA’s mandate to implement alternative programs and activities intended to reduce, re-use and recycle solid waste.



Mga taga-Metro Manila puwede nang ipagpalit ang basura para sa grocery

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jun 10 2021 04:14 PM | Updated as of Jun 10 2021 09:52 PM

MAYNILA (UPDATE) — Inilunsad ngayong Huwebes ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority ang isang proyekto kung saan maaaring ipagpalit ng mga residente ang kanilang mga basura para sa grocery items.

Layon ng Mobile Materials Recovery Facility na matugunan ang problema sa basura sa Metro Manila, na maaari umanong maging sanhi ng pagbaha ngayong panahon ng tag-ulan.

Sa ilalim ng proyekto, puwedeng ipalit ng mga taga-Metro Manila ang kanilang mga basura, tulad ng bote at dyaryo, para sa essential goods gaya ng mga de-lata, bigas at noodles.

Ang mga tauhan ng barangay umano mismo ang pupunta sa mga bahay-bahay at iko-convert ang basurang ibibigay nila sa points, na siyang ipambibili ng mga produkto.

Magtatakda umano ang barangay ng schedule para sa pagpapalit ng basura at may passbook din ng grocery points na ibibigay sa mga residente.

Ayon kay MMDA Chairman Benhur Abalos, napapanahon ang proyekto lalo't napakalaking banta ng baha tuwing tag-ulan.

Nakikipag-usap umano ang MMDA sa mga junk shop owner sa buong Kamaynilaan para puwedeng dumeretso doon ang mga barangay na magdi-dispose ng mga recyclable material.

Ang perang makakalap sa mga junk shop ang gagamitin ng barangay pambili ng grocery items.

Ayon kay Abalos, 3 malalaking privately-owned landfill sa Metro Manila ang kinakausap ng kaniyang ahensiya para pag-aralan ang sistema ng waste-to-energy.

Magsasagawa rin ng mga seminar ang MMDA para ituro ang tamang composting na makatutulong din sa waste management ng mga lokal na pamahalaan.



Top biofuel maker eyes garbage in widening hunt for feedstock



[BYBLOOMBERG NEWS](#)

JUNE 10, 2021



A Caterpillar Inc. 836G Landfill Compactor and D9T Dozer drive through garbage at the Waste Management Inc. Skyline Landfill in Ferris, Texas.

The world's biggest renewable-diesel producer is looking to convert everything from tree limbs to landfill garbage into fuel for motor vehicles and planes as demand surges for low-carbon fuel sources.

In Canada's Quebec province, Neste Oyj is part of a consortium looking at the possibility of building a refinery that would use forestry waste such as treetops and branches to produce renewable diesel, Jeremy Baines, president of the Finnish company's North American operations, said in an interview.

The search for additional feedstocks comes as demand strains availability of traditional biofuel ingredients like soy oil, contributing to food inflation and destruction of forests to plant crops. More fossil-fuel companies are entering the market, and United States production capacity for renewable diesel is expected to jump almost sixfold by the end of 2024, according to JPMorgan Chase & Co. Neste said it isn't worried about heightened competition for raw materials.

"It's fun to see the petroleum companies starting to do what we worked at 15 years ago," Baines said. "It's also a demonstration that the oil industry has got the skills and assets to convert from petroleum to renewable."

Neste, which works with low-carbon-intensity sources like used cooking oil and animal fats, also is studying potential raw materials including crops used to enrich soil to solid landfill waste. The company currently doesn't use soy oil or other edible oils to make renewable diesel in North America.



Top biofuel maker eyes garbage in widening hunt for feedstock

Green jet fuel

The push for new feedstocks comes as Neste is also looking to expand into the markets for “green” jet fuel and bioplastics. It has a head start as the world’s biggest maker of sustainable aviation fuel. “There are no electric cables long enough to power a plane,” Baines said.

In the US, more states are adopting low-carbon fuel markets similar to California’s, while Canada is rolling out subsidies to curb emissions from crude-based motor fuels.

“You really have this green corridor of states and provinces that are looking to decarbonize their transportation,” Baines said.

Tradable biomass-based diesel credits, used to track compliance with US biofuel blending rules, have more than doubled since November, when the election of President Joe Biden raised the outlook for stronger environmental market policies.

As far as the threat of electric vehicles to the biofuels industry, Baines said he’s not concerned and also personally owns an EV.

“There’s no one magic bullet to decarbonize,” he said. “We will need electrification. We will need hydrogen. We will need liquid renewable fuels. There is space for everyone in this.”

Neste has also experimented for years with some potential biofuel feedstocks such as algae, and these new ingredients are now very close to becoming viable, he said.

“I think with most of these we are pretty close. This is not something that is 10 years out. This is less than 10 years out. This is probably more in the three to five year” range, he said.



Global plastics production falls for first time since 2008

Agence France-Presse
Posted at Jun 10 2021 05:40 PM



A municipality worker walks among garbage, most of it plastics and domestic waste, during World Oceans Day, along the shore of Jakarta, Indonesia, June 8, 2021. *Willy Kurniawan, Reuters*

PARIS - Global plastics production declined in 2020 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, only the third time since World War II that output has fallen, an industry body said Thursday.

Output has fallen only twice previously, as a result of the oil crisis in 1973 and during the financial crisis in 2008.

Worldwide output slipped to 367 million tons last year from 368 million in 2019, a 0.3 percent decline, according to the industry federation PlasticsEurope.

The drop was due to "the impact of COVID-19 on the global economy", PlasticsEurope said in a statement.

But output in China -- which currently accounts for a third of global plastics production -- continued to grow by 1.0 percent.

In Europe, production of new plastics was down 5.1 percent at 55 million tons last year, PlasticsEurope said.

- [Philippines can unlock up to \\$1.1 billion from recycling plastic yearly: World Bank](#)

The automobile sector, one of the biggest customers for the industry, saw its plastics consumption plunge by 18 percent in Europe in 2020, the federation calculated.

The 27-nation EU now accounts for just 15 percent of worldwide plastics production, down from 21 percent in 2010.

The United States produces around 19 percent of the world's plastics, compared with 20 percent 10 years ago.



Asean must step up to protect 30 percent of Earth's land and ocean



By [Gab Mejia](#)

June 11, 2021

AS unprecedented changes and pressing issues continue to impact both nature and the biodiversity of the planet, a growing global effort is under way to protect 30 percent of the Earth's land and oceans - the 30x30 Wyss Campaign for Nature championed by the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC), an intergovernmental coalition of more than 60 countries around the world co-chaired by Costa Rica, France and the UK. It calls on other nations, especially the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), to commit to this definite target for the benefit of the environment, climate, economy and society.

Evidence and research have shown that Southeast Asia has one of the highest deforestation rates and one of the most severe cases of biodiversity loss despite harboring 15 percent of the world's tropical forests and 70 percent of the global biodiversity. Asean is home to about 18 percent of the world's most endangered species, such as the Philippine eagle, the helmeted hornbill in Thailand and the saola (Asian unicorn) in Malaysia, among many diverse and rare species found only within the region. Notwithstanding the fact that Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines in Asean are deemed as three of the world's 18 megadiverse countries, high expectations and consistent commitments are demanded of Asean to meet the 30x30 target, which unfortunately is not the case now.

As of this moment, only Cambodia has committed to this target as the first HAC member from the Asean region. The Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Brunei and Singapore should all follow suit and other neighboring Asian members such as Japan, Pakistan and the Maldives. Dr. Tony Laviña, a former environment undersecretary, explains that such hesitation to commit to the 30x30 target is based more on the fear of unknown, of what committing to this target might mean for economies and livelihoods as well as how it will impact specific sectors like logging, mining and palm oil industries. Such fraught discussions are not new to Southeast Asia in terms of balancing economic development and nature conservation, given the fact that countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand are the top oil palm- producing countries in the world, and the Philippines, Vietnam and Laos have their own vested interests in the mining industry. The possibility of lobbying against the 30x30 target out of fear of the impact on such operations cannot be ruled out. However, in consideration of the terms of these operations and economies, an independent study prepared by more than 100 economists and experts have found that meeting the 30 percent target will generate financial and ecosystem services benefits at least five times the cost.

The overwhelming scientific evidence and economic data of conserving and protecting 30 percent of the Earth's land and oceans are already there - even providing added urgent benefits as means to mitigate climate change and carbon emissions, preventing future pandemics, increasing fisheries production, and advancing indigenous rights. "The targets are achievable. There are nine years left until 2030. We do know what to do and the interventions are not rocket science," says Laviña.



Asean must step up to protect 30 percent of Earth's land and ocean

The negative impacts and effects of biodiversity loss and climate change are already past the doorstep of Asean as shown by the devastating typhoons and disasters that claim the hundreds of lives and livelihoods of Southeast Asians. All the more reason that Asean must hasten its pace and step up as progress in committing to these targets have been utterly slow. Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid, the ambassador and science advisor to the Campaign for Nature says, "Protecting at least 30 percent of the planet by 2030 is a timely and important action to defend and improve the health of our planet, our economies, and ourselves."



Climate crisis driving Filipinos to relocate — UN migration report

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#)(Philstar.com)

- June 10, 2021 - 10:03am



An aerial view shows destroyed and flooded houses after super Typhoon Goni hit the town of Malinao, Albay province, south of Manila on November 1, 2020.

AFP/Charism Sayat

MANILA, Philippines — Migration is one of strategies employed by Filipinos to cope with the impacts of the climate crisis, a report of the United Nations migration agency found.

A report from the International Organization for Migration Philippines identified farmers and fisherfolk, women, elderly, and the urban poor as the most vulnerable to and severely impacted by the effects of the climate crisis such as extreme weather events, increase in temperatures, sea level rise, heavy rainfall and drought.

In response to the increasing climate risks, Filipinos rely on voluntary adaptive strategies such as permanent and circular migration as well as involuntary strategies such as distress migration and systemic relocation.

"The relationship between the climate emergency and migration is mediated by the quality of one's livelihood as well as access to security, peace and stability," the report read.

"Specifically, the more that the climate emergency affects the quality of livelihood and the quality of peace and stability in a certain place, the more that people are driven to undertake migration as an adaptive strategy," it added.

In a release, the Climate Change Commission said it is committed to integrate migration as a key theme in policy discourse, and to develop policies and programs centered on migrants.



Climate crisis driving Filipinos to relocate — UN migration report

Adaptive strategies

The report reviewed existing evidence on migration and climate change in the Philippines.

It also explored the state of migration in the context of climate crisis in the cities of Manila, Malabon, Iloilo and Davao as well as Samar province through interviews with community members and local government officials. The areas were selected due to their high exposure and vulnerability to climate impacts.

The study found that permanent and circular migrants or those who undertake migration as a voluntary adaptive strategy “are assumed to have high adaptive capacities, and have a high propensity to extend support to communities they left.”

Permanent migrants refer to those who move to another place within the country or abroad with the intention of starting a new life in their destinations, while circular migrants are those who move temporarily to another place to seek employment. Often, circular migrants come from the countryside where crop yield or fish catch is low because of changing weather patterns.

On the other hand, informal settlers, coastal dwellers, and those who come from low-income households—or distress and relocated migrants—“have limited power in making decisions and undertaking actions to address the negative impacts of the climate emergency.”

The report also highlighted that while relocation intends to remove people from danger zones, relocation projects tend to overlook the need for access to livelihood and basic services. As a result, some people refuse to relocate.

“When done in a contextually grounded manner, and with strong community engagement, planned relocation projects can be a pathway towards managing climate vulnerabilities, and can also evolve to become voluntary adaptive strategy,” it read.

As an archipelagic nation in the Pacific, the Philippines ranked fourth in the list of countries most impacted by climate-related catastrophes in the past 20 years, according to the Global Climate Risk Index.

The Philippines is particularly exposed to the threats of tropical cyclones, averaging 20 annually.

The climate crisis is exacerbating the country's exposure to more frequent and extreme weather changes, rising temperatures, heavier rainfall and sea level rise.

11 June 2021, FRIDAY



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PH lists 7,485 new COVID-19 infections; active cases almost 57,000

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jun 10, 2021 4:31:34 PM



Another 7,485 people in the country fell ill with COVID-19, while 122 more died due to the disease, including 65 previously reported to be recovered cases, according to the Department of Health.

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 10) — Another 7,485 people in the country fell ill with COVID-19, as the official case count reached 1,293,687, the Department of Health announced on Thursday.

Of the total, the DOH said 56,921 or 4.4% are active cases, including 92.6% tagged as mild, 3.2% as asymptomatic, 1.18% as moderate, 1.7% as severe, and 1.3% as critical.

The viral disease also killed 122 more individuals, bringing the death toll to 22,312, the DOH said. The latest addition to fatalities include 65 cases previously tagged as recovered before final validation, it also said.

Meanwhile, the number of survivors reached 1,214,454 with 4,504 more recoveries.

The figures translate to a case fatality rate of 1.72% and a recovery rate of 93.9%.

The department clarified the updated tally does not include results from four testing laboratories which have yet to submit their reports. Its data in the past two weeks show the four labs contribute around 0.52% of all samples tested and 0.43% of positive cases.

The DOH added that it removed from its data 15 duplicate entries, including 12 recoveries.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/6/10/covid-cases-update.html>



Global death toll bunsod ng COVID-19, higit 3.77 milyon na

By Angellic Jordan June 10, 2021 - 01:59 PM



AFP photo

Lagpas 3.77 milyon na ang bilang ng mga nasawing COVID-19 patient sa buong mundo.

Batay sa huling tala, umakyat na sa kabuuang 3,777,189 ang nasawi sa iba't ibang bansa bunsod ng nakakahawang sakit.

Nangunguna pa rin sa may pinakamaraming naitalang nasawi dahil sa COVID-19 ang Estados Unidos na may 613,494.

Sumunod na rito ang Brazil na may 479,791 na pumanaw bunsod ng pandemiya.

Nasa 359,695 naman ang death toll sa India habang 229,353 ang napaulat na nasawi sa Mexico.

Narito naman ang naitalang COVID-19 death toll sa iba pang bansa at teritoryo:

- Peru - 187,479
- United Kingdom - 127,860
- Italy - 126,767
- Russia - 124,895
- France - 110,202
- Colombia - 93,473
- Germany - 90,187
- Argentina - 83,272
- Iran - 81,519
- Spain - 80,332

Samantala, lumabas din sa pinakahuling datos na umakyat na sa kabuuang 175,182,180 ang tinamaan ng nakakahawang saki t sa iba't ibang bansa.

Nasa 158,996,356 naman ang total recoveries ng COVID-19 pandemic sa buong mundo.

Read more: <https://radyo.inquirer.net/294331/global-death-toll-bunsod-ng-covid-19-higit-3-77-milyon-na#ixzz6xOXpVgvV>

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#PINNED: Dengue and COVID-19: How to tell them apart?

By Aimee Lontok

Published June 10, 2021 4:56pm



Artwork by Christopher Ramos

#Pinned makes it easier for young Filipinos to discover meaningful and enriching content and stories that will help them separate music from the noise, wheat from the chaff, and flowers from the weeds.

All our stories are written by young creatives who made it their life mission to know everything there is to know about how fellow young adults can make the most out of their limited down time every day, every week.

The pandemic has taken a toll on everyone globally. Lives have been changed by the loss of loved ones, and a sudden shift of how to go about your routine. You can say that you won't be going back to your old ways for quite some time.

Despite the [number of vaccines](#) pouring into the country, the stress of catching COVID-19 still lingers in our subconscious. As you worried about Covid during the blazing heat of summer, that now fades into just one of your problems as the pitter patter of the rain has signaled the [beginning of mosquito season](#).

To know more about what you should be on the lookout for, here's a guide on how to tell Dengue and COVID-19 apart, and what you'll be needing for prevention and management.

Is there a difference between the transmission of Dengue and COVID-19?

Both Dengue and SARS-CoV-2 are viral illnesses. Some of their symptoms overlap, so it's understandable that there tends to be an initial confusion with diagnosis, Dr. Ria Abesamis-Abaya, a licensed pediatrician of 24 years said. However, she stressed that despite both being viral diseases, their causes are very different.

It's astonishing how doctors picked up facts on Covid so quickly and over a short period of time.



#PINNED: Dengue and COVID-19: How to tell them apart?

The Dengue virus requires a vector, a biting insect that transmits a disease. In this case, Dengue is carried by a mosquito. If a mosquito bites an infected patient, it sucks its blood with the virus, it then exits its body and enters the body of the second patient. That's how the virus is transmitted, and the biggest comparison you can give, Dr. Abesamis-Abaya said.

COVID-19 is an entirely different scenario. It does not require a vector, but is caused by a more direct transmission through aerosol and droplets. This is the reason behind wearing a mask, so that the virus does not enter your nasal passages.

What are the common signs and symptoms of Dengue and COVID-19?

Looking at their characteristics, they can both present the following flu-like symptoms:

- Fever
- Tiredness
- Muscle pain
- Headache

Dengue and COVID-19 are generally subclinical. Patients can experience mild symptoms, and think they're not sick. However, in a small group of people it can be fatal if not cared for.

When Dengue progresses, the most obvious manifestation for transitioning into a severe case is bleeding. Minor kinds of bleeding can occur from the nasal area (nose bleed), or from the gums, for example when brushing your teeth. You may also notice red spots on your skin, thinking it might be rashes, but is actually a minor case of bleeding under the skin, the pediatrician said. For severe cases, patients can experience massive internal bleeding in areas like the abdomen.

There are no signs of bleeding for COVID-19. Covid deals with the respiratory system of the affected patient. A person infected with the virus can experience persistent, unexplained, dry cough. There is also difficulty in breathing. These symptoms are not very common in Dengue, but can also happen. What's prominent in Covid is the loss of taste and smell, which you will notice immediately.

How long does it take until you get Dengue or COVID-19 symptoms?

Both illnesses have the same timeline of when you begin encountering symptoms. What differs is the type of isolation. After a Dengue bite, you can count two to five days before you feel really sick. There are rare cases that take up to a week or more before symptoms appear.

This also applies to Covid. You can be exposed to a Covid positive patient, then after two to five days that's when you'll feel ill. Some patients experience symptoms on the eighth day or eleventh day, so it really varies per case.

Since Dengue is not contagious, there's no need to worry about infecting the people around you or the one who is taking care of you. With Covid, there is a need to cover up and isolate, because of its nature of person to person transmission.



#PINNED: Dengue and COVID-19: How to tell them apart?

What kind of Dengue and COVID-19 tests are available?

Due to the circumstances of the pandemic, if you feel unwell and opt to go to the emergency room, doctors will automatically test you for Dengue aside from the Covid protocol of an RT-PCR swab test.

Testing for Dengue will require you to take a blood and antibody test. This is to detect if your Dengue is [Immunoglobulin M \(IgM\) for recent infection](#), [Immunoglobulin G \(IgG\) for past infection](#), or to test the presence of [Non-Structural Protein \(NS1\)](#), which is secreted by infected mosquitoes.

The Covid test requires an RT-PCR or Antigen swab, or a saliva test, as the virus thrives in your nasal passages leading all the way down to your lungs. Viral protein and antibody tests are also available to check the presence of the Covid strain, and if you have developed some protection after infection.

What are the best practices to avoid catching Dengue this rainy season?

Dengue is dependent on the mosquito and its habitat. Therefore, the goal of dengue control is to destroy the mosquito's habitat.

They thrive in dirty places where they can lay their eggs. Places where water is found like trash, receptacles, or even in between throw away tires. Swamps and urban areas also have more mosquitoes, because of the amount of trash present, making it a dirtier environment.

Avoiding Dengue is quite simple. If you clean your surroundings, there's no trash, there's no place for water to accumulate, therefore there's no place for mosquitoes to lay their eggs.

Dr. Abesamis-Abaya said that because people have been cleaner, they're indoors, especially during the pandemic, there has been a drop in Dengue cases.

You can't control Covid that way. Covid is dependent on isolation to stop the spread of the virus. She said that the past few months have been difficult with the surge of cases, as [the virus has been affecting thousands of people per day](#). Even much so, because the variants present now are even more transmissible.

So don't forget, aside from covering up, always bring with you your [new normal essentials](#) to keep you safe and clean at all times.

How do you manage Dengue and COVID-19 patients?

It's all about support. Like all viral illnesses, if you have fever, make sure to manage the fever. There are instances of dehydration so make sure to hydrate well, take your supplements, and eat and rest well. The same goes for Covid, the only difference is isolation, then eventually you'll get better once your body is able to recover.

Managing severe cases is a different story. With Dengue, even before bleeding, there are signs that tell you to be admitted to the hospital. Doctors will know. They see that the patient does not look good, there's tiredness, then opt to conduct a [Complete Blood Count \(CBC\)](#). This is to check patterns if the patient's platelets are going down, the [Hemoglobin Hematocrit](#) is going up, and [White Blood Cells \(WBC\)](#) are going down— IV support will be advised as soon as possible.



#PINNED: Dengue and COVID-19: How to tell them apart?

Covid patients can do a CBC, but its diagnosis cannot foretell whether the patient is running a bad course or not. The patient profile always matters for Covid admission—if the patient is an elderly, with comorbidities, or is pregnant. There are also special cases where a patient only discovers severe infection after getting a chest x-ray.

What age groups are more likely to get affected by Dengue and COVID-19?

Unfortunately, you can get Dengue and COVID-19 at the same time, and it can target any age due to its unpredictable nature. Even the healthiest get hit by these viruses, and you can't predict who will recover well and those who won't.

As senior citizens stay indoors, it's the population who leave the home that are affected by Dengue more. Children get it from school, while workers get it from the workplace.

Adults, on the other hand, are more likely to catch Covid. But as Filipinos, it's in our culture to live in multi-generational households, therefore you have to protect your bubble no matter what age.

With [positive cases growing daily](#), and the rainy season now in full swing, make sure to be more cautious with your surroundings, the people you come in contact with, and how you take care of yourself and your family.

You can always go back to this guide for help and early diagnosis, or even share it to someone close to you that needs it.

Stay safe and remember that we'll get through this together.

11 June 2021, FRIDAY



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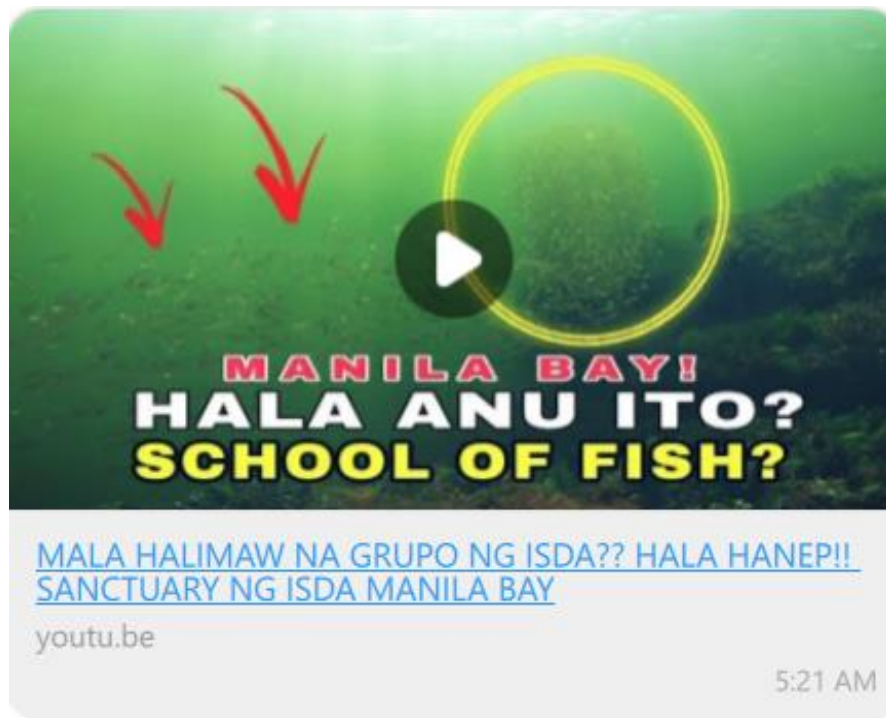
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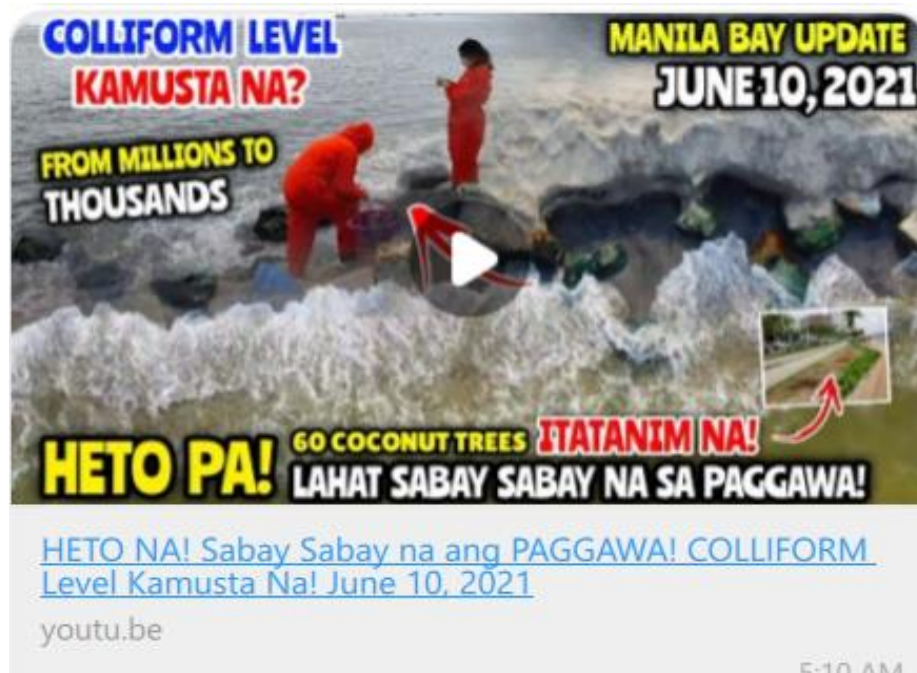
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