

11 NOVEMBER 2020, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

Pagbuo sa DENR Enforcement Bureau, pinasesertipikahang urgent sa Pangulo

By [RadyoMaN Manila](#) - Nov. 9, 2020 at 3:08pm



COURTESY: Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Igigiit ni Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu na sertipikahang urgent ng Malacañang ang panukalang batas na bubuo ng Enforcement Bureau sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Dalawang panukalang batas ang nakahain ngayon sa Kamara na nagsusulong na sa paglikha ng Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB).

Naniniwala ang DENR chief na sa pamamagitan ng permanent enforcement bureau ay maililigtas ang buhay ng mga frontliner na nasa lugar ng panganib sa pakikipaglaban na sugpuin ang environmental crimes.

Sinabi ni Cimatu, habang patuloy na naaantala ang pagpapatibay ng EPEB ay nalalagay lamang sa higit na banta at panganib ang buhay ng mga environmental frontliner.

Ikinukonsidera ng DENR na ilang environment workers ay pinatay dahil sa kanilang trabaho sa DENR law enforcement operation.

Source: https://rmn.ph/pagbuo-sa-denr-enforcement-bureau-pinasesertipikahang-urgent-sa-pangulo/?fbclid=IwAR04SI1OyyE-ynVDpF6dYcqNngg7jY_MhK5glVeDq-auwMlmziSBc-EeCxE

Celebs join DENR, PLDT-Smart in raising awareness on peatlands conservation

posted November 10, 2020 at 07:15 pm

by [Nickie Wang](#)

Hollywood actor Alec Baldwin, singer Pops Fernandez, and screen actor Derek Ramsay are among the stars who have joined the campaign to protect peatlands in the country.

In a video message, Baldwin explained why peatlands are crucial to fight climate change.

“They are large, often forested swamps that can be found all over the world. They matter for the planet because they actually store twice as much carbon as all the world’s forest together while covering less than three percent of the land surface,” said Baldwin during a virtual event on Nov. 6 where Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)—through its Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) and CARAGA Regional Office—in partnership with digital services provider PLDT Inc. (PLDT) and its wireless unit Smart Communications Inc. (Smart) presented its latest program - for the conservation of peatlands in the Caraga region.



Hollywood actor and political activist Alec Baldwin

“But peatlands are being degraded and lost at a dramatic pace to the logging, drainage, agriculture, and burning. And when they are destroyed they release a massive amount of greenhouse gases and the unique often endangered plants and animals that they housed are lost as well,” the Hollywood actor added.

The 62-year-old actor and political activist also underscored that peatlands matter for people because “smoke release from peatlands fires is toxic and has the worst impact on the most vulnerable groups – our children and the elderly.”

Held to kick off the Climate Change Consciousness Week in the latter part of the month, the web activity hosted representatives from PLDT and Smart at their Makati City headquarters along with hosts and Gabay Kalikasan volunteers Pops Fernandez and Derek Ramsay. DENR representatives from the Central Office, BMB, and Caraga Regional Office, as well as provincial government representatives of areas covered by the project, joined in via live video call.

A pioneering program for wetlands conservation in the Philippines, this DENR and the PLDT Group project aims to protect, conserve, and restore the Caimpugan Peatland in the Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary (AMWS). Located in Agusan del Sur, the Caimpugan Peatland holds the only recorded remaining intact peat swamp forest—the largest of its kind—in the Philippines.

During the virtual launch, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said that the DENR continues to fight climate change despite the ongoing novel coronavirus pandemic.

“Climate change is a reality that will continually grip us if we do not take action,” Cimatu said in his speech delivered by Undersecretary for Attached Agencies and Chief of Staff Rodolfo C. Garcia during the web event.



According to Cimatu, the DENR is “further committed to address climate change and reverse its impacts through the Program for Environment and Natural Resources for Restoration, Rehabilitation, and Development.”

“Protecting the country’s peatlands is a solid step that the Department is taking to help reverse the impacts of climate change,” Cimatu said.

Involving communities in protecting and managing the natural resources is a solid foundation not only in attaining the goals, but ensuring the sustainability of the efforts, according to the Environment Secretary.

In his speech, Cimatu also reiterated the calls for the private and public sectors to work together for the environment especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This landmark partnership with PLDT-Smart reinforces the call for the public and private sectors to work together to realize aspirations especially for the environment,” Cimatu said.

The DENR chief also emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic will not “hinder DENR in relentlessly pursuing its mandate and attaining one of the Ambisyon 2040 goals of having an efficiently managed natural resources and environment.”

Technology for biodiversity communities



From left: Broadcast journalist Cathy Yang, PLDT chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan, actor Derek Ramsay, PLDT-Smart Chief Sustainability Officer Chaye Cabal-Revilla, and singer Pops Fernandez at the PLDT-Smart headquarters for the virtual event that kicks off the Climate Change Consciousness Week.

While peatlands are not much known to many, peatlands act like a foam that absorbs water. Agusan del Sur’s Caimpugan peatland also serves as a reservoir for 22.9 million tons of carbon.

For his part, PLDT Inc. Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Manuel V. Pangilinan said that “the PLDT will be leveraging in digital technology and its networks to protect the mangroves and rainforests.” “It is our responsibility, as our business works to make our marketing and merchandising materials more eco-friendly, shirting away from plastics, moving to recyclable materials, and reducing our carbon footprint,” Pangilinan said.

The PLDT and Smart will also support peatlands conservation and management strategies by equipping the Bantay Danao volunteers with digital and communication tools such as radio devices, mobile phones, and drone equipment to support them in their enforcement activities.

The volunteers are under the Bantay Danao Conservation Group which was formed in 2017 deputized by DENR- CARAGA to protect the AMWS.

The DENR, on the other hand, will be providing technical assistance to the conservation of the peatlands in the area.

Source: <https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/339155>



Villar calls for improved sewerage system to save Manila Bay; lauds DENR for efforts to help clean Manila Bay

By [BMPlus](#)

November 10, 2020



Sen. Cynthia Villar

RECOGNIZING the importance that Manila Bay serves for Filipinos, Senator Cynthia A. Villar underscored the importance of a Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) to help clean and save the bay.

This was in response to the plan of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to build the solar-powered Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Baywalk area in Malate, Manila.

The STP, which is capable of catching and treating 500,000 liters of wastewater per day from the drainage outfalls of Padre Faura, Remedios, and Estero de San Antonio Abad, was inaugurated last July 30 by DENR Secretary Frank Cimatu and MMDA Chair Gen. Danilo Lim.

DENR plans to install additional solar-powered STPs to handle wastewater from Parañaque River, Tullahan-Tinajeros River, and Las Piñas-Zapote River.

Villar, chair of the Senate Committed on Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), said this is a “welcome development” to improve the waters of Manila Bay.

“We should all do our part, not just whenever we can, but as much as we can. All over the world, many things are happening due to environmental destruction, degradation and neglect,” said Villar.

Also as chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Food, Villar said that many fishermen depend on Manila Bay for their livelihood. This is the source of fish supply for the National Capital Region (NCR), Camanava (Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela) and some parts of Cavite and Bataan.

Manila Bay has 1.7 million hectares drainage area with 17 river systems draining into it. Villar made it her advocacy to work with local government units (LGUs) to maintain the cleanliness of rivers within their municipalities to contribute to Manila Bay’s protection and preservation

“Plastic wastes ang isa sa pinaka-malubhang nakakapinsala sa ating kapaligiran at pumapatay sa mga yamang dagat. Alam natin lahat iyan dahil sa lahat ng mga cleanups, puro plastic wastes ang nako-collect natin,” said the senator.



Villar noted that the Philippines is the third biggest source of plastic leaking into the oceans, after China at Indonesia.

Villar has been leading clean-up activities along the coastal areas of Manila Bay. Clean activities that the senator spearheaded include activities in Obando, Bulacan; Lubao, Pampanga; Orani, Bataan; Kawit, Cavite; Baseco and the Las Piñas Parañaque Wetland Park.

The senator also lauded the increasing number of Manila Bay protectors who have been vigilant. She said these are being led by the 13 so-called “mandamus agencies” directed by the Supreme Court through a writ of continuing mandamus to rehabilitate, restore and conserve Manila Bay.

The 13 Mandamus agencies are: DENR, DILG, DepEd, DOH, DA, DPWH, DBM, Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine National Police-Maritime Group (PNP-MG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), MMDA, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) and Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA). Almost all of which are also part of the Manila Bay Task Force.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2020/11/10/villar-calls-for-improved-sewerage-system-to-save-manila-bay-lauds-denr-for-efforts-to-help-clean-manila-bay/>



Sen. Villar cites importance of STPs in Manila Bay rehab

Published November 10, 2020, 1:22 PM

by [Vanne Elaine Terrazola](#)

Senator Cynthia Villar on Tuesday underscored the importance of sewage treatment plants (STPs) in cleaning and rehabilitating the Manila Bay.



Sen. Cynthia Villar

(Senate of the Philippines / FILE PHOTO / MANILA BULLETIN)

Villar, chairperson of the Senate committee on environment and natural resources, called for an improved sewerage system to address the pollution in Manila Bay.

She said that fishermen also depend on Manila Bay for their livelihood. It also acts as a source of fish supply for the National Capital Region and some parts of Cavite and Bataan, she added.

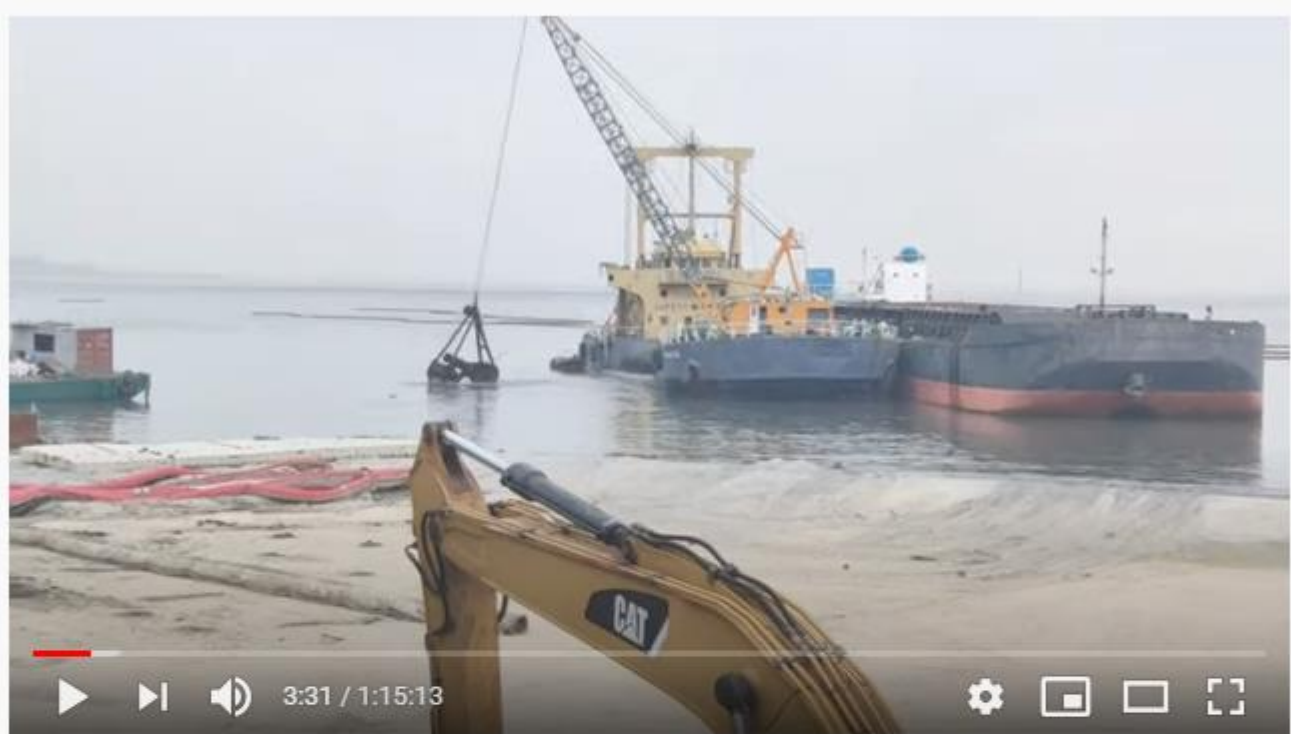
Last July 30, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) opened its first solar-powered STP which is capable of treating 500,000 liters of wastewater per day from the drainage outfalls of Padre Faura, Remedios, and Estero de San Antonio Abad.

The project will ensure that no untreated wastewater from the three major drainage outfalls is released into the Manila Bay, DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu had said.

The DENR plans to build more STPs to handle wastewater from Parañaque River, Tullahan-Tinajeros River, and Las Piñas-Zapote River. Villar said this is a “welcome development.”

Villar likewise appealed to local government units to maintain the cleanliness of rivers within their municipalities to contribute to Manila Bay’s preservation, especially in preventing plastic wastes from flowing into the waters. The Philippines was identified as the third biggest source of plastic leaking into the oceans, she said.

“We should all do our part, not just whenever we can, but as much as we can. All over the world, many things are happening due to environmental destruction, degradation, and neglect,” Villar said.



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Tha waste in Manila bay was observed from Pasig River, Early in the morning during low tide most water plants and other garbage was found stagnant around the ships anchor ing in the bay.

During high tide the floating waste and other materials flows to the shoreline of the Baywalk and Baseco Beach

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFA6xDoFtco&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=FrankieVlogPh2020



DENR Bataan allots land for ‘Balik Probinsiya’ program

Published 1 min ago on November 11, 2020 12:40 AM

By [Jonas Reyes](#)



Seventeen hectares will be allotted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Bataan for the Balik Probinsiya, Bagong Pag-Asa (BP2) program in the province.

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office chief Raul Mamac said the area in Barangay Binukawan will accommodate returning Bataan natives.

“Preparations are already being conducted by government agencies for the implementation of the program,” he said.

During a recent visit to Bataan, BP2 proponent Senator Christopher “Bong” Go urged concerned agencies to ensure that preparations are in order for the implementation of the program.

The area, Mamac said, is a strategic place for the relocation of returning Bataeños and can entice them to stay for good.

The program is currently on hold to give way to the Hatid Probinsya initiative for those stranded in Metro Manila due to COVID-19 restrictions.

BP2 is geared towards addressing Metro Manila’s congested urban areas by encouraging people, especially informal settlers, to return to their home provinces and assist them in the transition with support and incentives on transportation, family, livelihood, housing, subsistence and education.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed the Executive Order for its implementation on 6 May 2020.

Government agencies will ensure the continuous improvement of economies and quality of life in the provinces with long-term plans in infrastructure, agriculture, business, transportation and healthcare.

Local governments will be empowered to manage crises and build communities.

“In order to successfully implement the program, both the national agencies and the local government units should cooperate in this endeavor,” Go said.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2020/11/11/denr-bataan-allots-land-for-balik-probinsiya-program/>



DENR Bataan readies land for ‘Balik’ program

posted November 10, 2020 at 10:00 pm

by [Butch Gunio](#)

Pilar, Bataan—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Bataan has dedicated 17 hectares land here for the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program of Duterte administration.

“We immediately scout for an area for the program to accommodate returning Bataan natives in the province and also as response to the call of Gov. Abet Garcia,” said PENRO Raul Mamac.

“We set aside 17 hectares land in Barangay Binukawan, Bagac,” he said.

Preparations are already being conducted by concerned government agencies including DENR for the implementation of the program, he said.

Senator Bong Go said that to successfully implement the program, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration between the national agencies and local government units are important and it must be ensured that respective local government units are ready to accept returning program beneficiaries.

The national government said Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program aims to provide hope for a better future to Filipinos through equity in resources throughout the country that will boost countryside development. The program is geared towards addressing Metro Manila’s congested urban areas by encouraging people, especially informal settlers to return to their home provinces and assist them.



DENR turns over air quality monitoring station for use in Manila

Published November 10, 2020, 5:11 PM

by [Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz](#)

The recent establishment of a first-of-a-kind modern real-time monitoring station at the Mehan Garden in Manila could help fill data gaps on air quality monitoring.



(MANILA BULLETIN FILE PHOTO)

The Teledyne T640 PM Analyzer, which was turned over to the city government of Manila, is the first of its kind in the Philippines, according to Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region (EMB-NCR) Director Domingo Clemente.

It is an onsite air quality monitoring station (AQMS) that measures ambient particulate matter (PM) in real-time, providing concerned government agencies with much-needed data for planning and monitoring air pollution in the city.

The EMB-NCR implements and enforces the Republic Act 8749 otherwise known as the "Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999" while the city of Manila participates as one of the members of the NCR Airshed Governing Board Technical Working Group 2 on Advocacy to Create Public Awareness and Elicit Commitment and Participation.

Since air pollution has been identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as one of the leading environmental risks in the world, the installation and operation of PM analyzers will help us better understand and improve our air quality, the EMB-NCR said.

Improving air quality is important and should be among the top priorities of local governments, it added.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) said that the AQMS will help fill data gaps on air quality monitoring, allowing policymakers to prepare more responsive plans on air pollution interventions.

"The AQMS not only measures ambient air pollution; it also helps determine possible sources of air pollution, providing environment officials science-based insight on the issue," it added.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/10/denr-turns-over-air-quality-monitoring-station-for-use-in-manila/>



DENR, police collar serpent eagle seller

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 Gemi Formaran

TAYABAS CITY — Wildlife officers and police operatives seized an endangered serpent eagle resulting to the arrest of its seller in an entrapment operation in Bgy. Calumlang in this city.



Arrested suspect Mac Nester Valencia at the police station shortly after his arrest. Flanking him are wildlife officer Mark Adrian Mijares and a police operative. Photo by GEMI FORMARAN

Quezon Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Ramil Limpiada identified the arrested suspect as Mac Nester Valencia, 28, delivery rider, and resident of said village.

Limpiada said Valencia was collared by wildlife officers led by Mark Adrian Mijares and Tayabas City Police led by Major Romar Pacis.

Mijares in a phone interview, said the suspect posted on social media his intention to sell the serpent eagle.

"It was seen by one of our Deputized Wildlife who immediately coordinated with Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) regional office," said Mijares.

Mijares said the information was relayed by the regional office to Limpiada who immediately ordered an entrapment operation.

Valencia tried to sell the endangered eagle for P13,000. He is detained at the Tayabas City Lock-up Jail.



Adult Philippine serpent eagle confiscated from the suspect in Tayabas, Quezon on Nov. 8, 2020. Photos from DENR Quezon

Alleged illegal wildlife trader nabbed in entrapment operation in Quezon

Published November 10, 2020 8:43am

Updated November 10, 2020 8:51am

Authorities arrested an alleged illegal wildlife trader on Sunday in Tayabas, Quezon in an entrapment operation.

The suspect nabbed was identified as Mac Nester Valencia, 28, from Barangay Calumpang.

Found in his possession was an adult Philippine serpent eagle placed inside a chicken box.

A forester operative of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), acting on a tip, contacted the suspect and posed as a buyer.

The suspect allegedly asked for P13,000 for the transaction.

Upon verifying that Valencia had no permit for the said wildlife from the DENR, and that the animal was in the suspect's possession, the poseur buyer informed the suspect of his violation and rights. Police from the Tayabas Municipal Police Station then arrested him.

The suspect was brought to the Tayabas Police Station for processing and booking.

The DENR said the suspect will face charges for violation of Republic Act 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001).

The wildlife was brought to DENR Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) in Quezon pending turnover to the DENR Wildlife Rescue Center. **—With a report from Peewee Bacuño/KG, GMA News**

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/763460/alleged-illegal-wildlife-trader-nabbed-in-entrapment-operation-in-quezon/story/>



Eurasian skylarks spotted for the first time in PH

Published November 10, 2020, 11:50 AM

by [Jhon Dave Ablat](#)

BATANES – An environmental worker here has spotted, and photographed in the provincial capital of Basco here a pair of Eurasian skylarks (*Alauda arvensis*), which was the first appearance of the bird in the country, last Friday, November 6.



A pair of Eurasian skylarks spotted in the provincial capital of Basco, Batanes. (*Alauda arvensis*) (Photo courtesy of Charls Lee Ibañes / MANILA BULLETIN)

According to Charls Lee Ibanes, a local photographer and member of the Robert S. Kennedy Bird Conservancy, the Eurasian Skylark migrates from Western Europe and the northeast region of Siberia in the last months of the year as winter starts to prevail in the northern hemisphere.

The sighting of Eurasian Skylark in Basco was declared as the first in the country by the Philippine Bird Rarities Committee on Tuesday, November 10, after three days of review and validation.

“I believe that these birds have been visiting Batanes long before I got into bird photography, research and conservation,” said Ibañes.

“It is now a mission and a pleasure for me to record these birds for everyone to be aware of their ecological importance,” he added when interviewed by The Manila Bulletin.

Based on records, it was Ibañes’ sixth first country records as he also sighted and photographed the Common Myna, Verditer Flycatcher, Buff-bellied pipit, Light-vented Bulbul, and Black-faced bunting from 2019 until early 2020.



Solid waste on wheels sa Trece Martires, Cavite!

Monday, November 9, 2020 Marlon Purificacion

MALIIT na lungsod lamang ang Trece Martires, Cavite.

Katunayan, 4th class city lamang sila na may kabuuang populasyon na 155,713 base na rin sa census noong taong 2015 at may 13 barangay!

Pero kahit ganun, ang 'mission-vision' ng kanilang alkalde na si Mayor Gemma Buendia Lubigan ay sobrang lawak at talaga namang kahanga-hanga!

Sa regular flag-raising ceremony kahapon, iniharap ni mayora ang dalawang solid waste on wheels na gagamitin ng lungsod sa pagkolekta at pagproseso ng kanilang basura.

Ang solid waste on wheels ay bahagi ng P29 million project na magtatayo ng 'treatment facilities' para sa halip na itapon pa sa binabayarang dumpsite sa Sta. Cruz, Laguna, ito'y kanilang gagamutin, sasalain na maaaring maging 'fertilizer' at magamit sa paggawa ng bricks at hollow blocks.

Kauna-unahan ito, hindi lamang sa buong Cavite province kundi sa buong Region 4a o CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal at Quezon).

"Iyan po ang tinatawag natin na solid waste on wheels. Iyan po ay part ng project natin para sa binubuo natin na recycling facility sa ating old dumpsite. Malaki po ang ginagastos natin sa basura. Araw-araw po ay gumagastos tayo ng P300K and according to study every individual can produce half a kilo of garbage a day," ani mayora sa harap ng City Hall employees.

Kung susumahin, tumatagiting na P9.3 million a month o P111.6 million sa loob ng isang taon ang gastusin ng pamahalaang lokal para lamang sa koleksiyon ng basura.

Katiting na halaga ito mula sa P29 million na pondo naman para sa solid waste on wheels at treatment facilities.

Ang nasabing solid waste on wheels ay imbensiyon ni Jun Gumabon ng JFGR Trading at proyekto rin ng aktor na si Mike Lloren.

Isa itong brand new na Isuzu 6-wheeler elf truck na may rapid composting machine at liquid separator. Mayroon itong pulverizer at bottle crusher machine. May 'inoculant at water tank; pressurize washer; by product compartments at may generator set na 45KVA na isang silent type.

Kagila-gilalas ang nasabing imbensiyon dahil napagkasya sa isang truck ang makinang kayang magpulbos ng mga basurang non-biodegradable at kaya ring lumusaw sa mga biodegradable na basura na magagamit bilang fertilizer.

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"Iyon pala, magkakaroon tayo ng compost at in 25 mins, meron na tayong fertilizer. Ibig sabihin matutulungan natin ang local farmers. Nasa P150 lang per kg ang napoproduce kumpara po sa P500. According sa study, mas makaka-produce sila ng double, so malaki pong tulong sa ating farmers at yan ay ating magiging livelihood program makapagbenta rin tayo outside may LGU din na naghahanap ng fertilizer," dagdag pa ni Lubigan.

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Sa panayam, sinabi ng mayora na malaking tulong para sa kanilang lungsod ang makabagong teknolohiya. Makatitipid na sa gastos sa paghakot sa basura, mapapakinabangan pa nila ang mga ito na magbibigay din ng hanapbuhay sa kanyang mga kababayan.



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"Ang city government po ay 'di tumitigil sa pag-iisip ng programa. Sabi ko nga, pag may problema 'di pwedeng titigil ka lang sa problema. Walang solusyon yung ilalabas mo lang ibabayad mo, pero ano bang solution para dyan, yun ang nakikita namin, di lang pansarili ang iisipin natin, lagi iisipin natin para po sa kapakinabangan ng nakararami so ang hinihiling ko lang po sa Trece kung may policy kami na gustong ipatupad suportahan nyo po. Una mahirap kasi pinakamahirap dyan yung pagmamind shift sa kanila, ano ba nakaugalian pero in the long run pag nagiging pursigido tayo at istrikto susunod ang mga yan. So kami dito di namin susukuan ang proyektong gusto naming ipatupad tutukan po talaga naming," sabi pa ng magandang mayora.

Open secret na sa ating lahat na isa sa pinagkakakitaan ng ilang LGU officials ay ang komisyon o 'tongpats' sa basura. At dahil sa ginawang ito ni Lubigan, patunay lamang na malinis ang kanyang panunungkulan.

Ayon kay Atty. Kim Moral, City Legal Officer, sa ngayon ay dalawang solid waste on wheels pa lang ang kanilang binili pero naniniwala siyang kalaunan ay madaragdagan pa ito dahil sa napakagandang proyekto.

"If the demand will be high for each barangay namin na magrequest na meron din sila, then we can acquire more kasi 13 barangays ang Trece eh. But these barangays are composed of big areas. So right now two, but I know kung ganito ang processing natin at ganito ang turnaround baka sakali maka-acquire pa kami ng additional two," sabi pa ni Moral.

Para kay Architect Ronnie Javier, hepe ng Trece-CENRO, malaking tulong din ang nasabing proyekto para sa mga magsasaka ng pinya.

"Ang problema kasi namin dati farm waste. May parte kasi kami dito agri pa, tulad ng mga pinya, ang problema namin paano idispose ang puno ng pinya. Ang ginagawa nila sinisilaban sabi ko gagawa tayo paraan, gagawin compost, eksakto naman meron palang ganito, so sabi ko ito na ang sagot," sabi pa ni Javier.

Malaking tulong din aniya ito upang higit pang maging malinis ang kapaligiran sa lungsod, gayundin mananatiling ligtas at malusog ang kanilang kababayan.

Ang nakatutuwa, mahigit din ang utos ni Mayora Lubigan na ang sinumang kabahayan na hindi nagse-segregate ng basura ay hahakutan ng basura.

"Hindi (talaga) sila hahakutan ng basura kasi mag-20 years na ang RA 9003 at 'di naiimplement, so siguro kailangan ng willpower ng namumuno," dagdag pa ng first termer mayor na dati ring naging SK chairwoman!

Sa ipinakitang dedikasyon sa trabaho at malasakit sa kanyang kababayan, isa lang po ang masasabi ko.

Kung ang Maynila ay may Mayor Isko Moreno at sa Pasig ay may Vico Sotto, sa Trece Martirez, Cavite ay may Mayor Gemma Lubigan na dapat lang ipagmalaki ng kanyang mga kababayan.

Naniniwala tayong dahil sa ginawa ng Trece ngayon na solid waste on wheels, marami pang katabing bayan at lungsod sa Cavite ang gagaya sa kanyang napakagandang proyekto!



KAPALIGIRAN PROTEKTAHAN – SOLON

12 hours ago jake



KAILANGAN protektahan ng bawat Pilipino ang kapaligiran na siyang magliligtas sa bawat mamamayan laban sa sakuna at kalamidad, ayon kay Senador Cynthia Villar sa pakikiisa sa pagdiriwang ng “National Environmental Awareness and National Clean Air Month ngayong Nobyembre.

Sa pahayag, sinabi ni Villar na dagdag pasanin sa atin ang kalamidad na nagpapahirap nang husto sa mahihirap dahil nasasayang ang ating pagkilos upang gumawa ng bagay na ikagaganda ng ating pamumuhay, pero sinisira ng kalamidad.

Si Villar ang chairperson ng Senate committee on environment, natural resources and climate change na palaging tumututol sa mga proyektong makasisira sa kapaligiran tulad ng reclamation sa Manila Bay.

“Better results would be achieved through more people and groups’ collective efforts geared towards environmental protection,” diin pa ng senadora na mariing tinutulan ang mga proyektong maaaring makasira sa kalikasan.

Partikular na tinutulan ni Villar ang planong reklamasyon sa kahabaan ng baybayin ng Manila Bay na ayon sa kanya’y makasisira sa Paranaque Wetland Park, isang deklaradong protected area sa ilalim ng batas. Makukompromiso rin aniya ang kabuhayan ng mahigit 300,000 fisherfolk sa kalapit na mga komunidad.

Tungkol naman sa problema sa plastic waste, isinusulong ni Villar ang pagpapatupad ng extended producer responsibility (EPR), isang measure na ginagawa ng mga bansa sa Europa para limitahan ang paggamit ng plastic waste at ang pagtatayo ng recycling facility para dito.

Para makatulong na mabawasan ang plastic waste, nagpatayo ang Villar Sipag Foundation ng tatlong pasilidad para i-convert ang plastic waste sa silya na ipinamamahagi ngayon sa mga pampublikong paaralan at mga farm school sa buong bansa. Maging ang Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines, ayon kay Villar ay nagpatayo na rin ng recycling facility sa General Trias, Cavite na magko-convert sa plastic bottle waste sa bagong botelya.

“We have a lot of plastic wastes here in Metro Manila. When disposed improperly, they could clog our drainage systems and eventually cause flooding, which in turn spreads diseases,” babala ni Villar.

Sa paggunita ng National Clean Air Month, sinabi ni Villar na ang pagpapanatili ng malinis na hangin ay dapat maging bahagi ng “new normal” kasunod ng coronavirus pandemic na nararanasan sa buong mundo.

Binanggit nito ang ulat kung saan gumanda ang kalidad ng hangin sa Pilipinas sapul nang ipatupad ang community quarantine para mapigilan ang pagkalat ng COVID-19.

“We should keep this positive momentum going. It should be part of the new normal we are talking about,” ani Villar kasabay ng pagsasabing plano niyang rebyuhin ang implementasyon ng 21-taong Republic Act 8749 o Clean Air Act na naglalayong i-improve ang air quality sa bansa.



Bilang mambabatas, nakapaghain si Villar ng mga panukalang batas na magsisilbing solusyon at magpapatupad ng istratehiya para matugunan ang patuloy na problema sa kalikasan.

Noong 2018, pinangunahan din Villar ang pagpasa ng RA No. 11038 o Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act na nagdedeklara sa 94 lugar sa bansa bilang protected area. (ESTONG REYES)

Source: http://saksingayon.com/news-break/kapaligiran-protektahan-solon/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR1PSsMUwmRnAQm_A7n8wWDCcoyUXB7rL0y4pJl-k1kPEUzvHYMP-FrD7oo



Reducing food waste, embracing slow food movement in 'Stories for a Better Normal' series

By Jerome Carlo R. Paunan Published on November 11, 2020

CALOOCAN CITY, Nov. 11 (PIA) -- Slow food enthusiasts underscored the importance of food waste reduction and management during the 25th episode of "Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Pathways," with the topic "Waste Not, Want Not: A Food Waste Episode with Slow Food Manila."

The online conversation hosted by Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda featured restaurateurs including Chef Kalel Demetrio, co-owner of Agimat Foraging Bar and Kitchen; Chef Waya Wijangco, owner of Gourmet Gypsy Art Café; and Chef Robby Goco, owner of Cyma Restaurants, who shared how they implement sustainable consumption and production in their restaurants and highlighted the importance of managing food waste.

Chef Demetrio, known as a "Liquid Maestro", introduced the basics of foraging, as a way of processing indigenous ingredients into food, drinks, or condiments. He works with the local farmers, and uses low-technology and indigenous knowledge to make products from the unusual and rare fruits and vegetables so it will not be wasted.

"Back in the days kasi, everything is foraging. There are no groceries and fast food chains, so we tend to create everything on our own. In the modern times, we see the beauty of foraging kasi nakikita natin na it is unadulterated and all ingredients can be found in nature. Alam mo 'yong quality kasi ikaw mismo ang nagtanim... unlike getting something from the grocery, it is an endgame na kaagad kasi it is already a by-product," said Demetrio.

Chef Wijangco, a staunch advocate for inclusive employment, small enterprise, and support for local farmers, environmental conservation, tourism development, and education, shared how Gourmet Gypsy Art Café applied the rules of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle into the daily food preparation and other processes in their restaurant.

"Sustainability is a way of life. It requires mindfulness, consideration for others, the environment we live in, and the communities we interact with. It takes a lot of work and commitment, but it is the kind of effort that truly makes our world a better place to live in," said Wijangco.

Chef Goco, fascinated by creating something out of nothing, has been innovating by using the entire animal kingdom, or ingredients from nose to tail and from roots to seeds, to make dishes for his restaurants. He explained the basics of menu costing and their back of house control points. He showed some dishes made from unused parts of meat and vegetables. He also demonstrated how to make tomato paste from overripe tomatoes, which are usually thrown away.

"As a chef owning 12 restaurants, ang pinaka importante sa lahat is when I go to the restaurant, I check the garbage kung ano ang laman, kasi pag may nakita akong produkto na hindi dapat nasa basurahan, I call the manager and tell them, "why are you not efficiently using your ingredients?" Because my secret is, if I know at the end of the evening na malinis ang basurahan ko, then I know my business is profitable dahil hindi ako naqatapon," said Goco.



Legarda, as an advocate of slow food and circular economy, showed several photos of the foods she prepared from the ingredients taken from her own home garden.

“We promote the concept of sustainability in our lives so that we can use our natural resources in a way that it is not wasted, or depleted. In this way, we teach ourselves to live properly and with respect for our nature,” said Legarda.

As an online discussion to promote health, environmental consciousness, and climate-adaptive practices, "Stories for a Better Normal" aims to change the mindset of individuals, families, and communities by demonstrating ways in which a 'better normal' can be realized within our communities.

This online discussion is organized in partnership between the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda and the Climate Change Commission, with support from the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, The Climate Reality Project-Philippines and Mother Earth Foundation.

To recall, the Climate Change Commission is the lead policy-making body of the government tasked to coordinate, monitor and evaluate government programs and ensure mainstreaming of climate change in national, local, and sectoral development plans towards a climate-resilient and climate-smart Philippines. (PIA NCR)



Biden-Harris win, a victory for women and climate —Legarda

Published November 10, 2020, 10:14 AM

by [Charissa Luci-Atienza](#)

Deputy Speaker and Antique lone District Rep. Loren Legarda has described as a “victory for women and climate” the win of President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris in the United States 2020 presidential polls.



Rep. Loren Legarda
(FACEBOOK / FILE PHOTO / MANILA BULLETIN)

Legarda, a United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Champion for Resilience, expressed hope that the US under the Biden presidency will step up its efforts to avert global climate crisis.

“President-elect Joe Biden’s promise to rejoin the Paris Agreement and to invest in low-carbon technologies is pivotal in our collective goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. This is a climate goal that vulnerable developing countries such as the Philippines have long fought for in the name of climate justice,” Legarda said in a statement.

The former senator also welcomed Biden’s earlier pronouncement of making US carbon neutral by 2050 and to invest US\$2 trillion over the next four years to accelerate clean energy in critical sectors. “This is a step up from his earlier pledge of \$1.7 trillion over 10 years, with a goal of achieving net-zero emissions before 2050,” the House leader said.

She noted that the US has historical accountability of contributing the most to greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere, which has caused global warming and the climate crisis.

“Economic recovery that is resilient, climate-proof, and sustainable is going mainstream. It is high time that we forge an even stronger partnership on climate action that will not only benefit our countries, but the entire world population as well,” Legarda said.

“I am very hopeful that the Biden presidency will soon start making a difference in our mission to avert this global climate crisis. We must, however, continue to be vigilant and exact accountability from all heads of State on their promises.”

Legarda also expressed deep delight over the historic win of Harris as the first woman to serve as Vice President in the US.

“She has broken a global glass ceiling for all women, which will certainly have a tremendous ripple effect in inspiring women and young girls alike, most of whom are marginalized and oppressed, to speak up, lead, and take action. It’s a great day for America and the world,” Legarda said.

“The environment and climate cause and the women sector have much more allies now than at any time in history. Working for 30 years in these advocacies has been extremely challenging, but recent events give me so much more hope and determination to persevere and aspire for better conditions for my fellow women, vulnerable populations, and the future of our planet.”

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/10/biden-harris-win-a-victory-for-women-and-climate-legarda/>



Biden's plan to rejoin Paris climate deal will benefit PH, says solon

Published November 10, 2020, 8:58 PM

by [Ben Rosario](#)

President-elect Joe Biden's plan for the US to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement will benefit the Philippines in the long run, Muntinlupa Rep. Ruffy Biazon has disclosed.



Muntinlupa lone District Rep. Rozzano Rufino "Ruffy" Biazon (Facebook / MANILA BULLETIN)

Biazon, senior member of the House Committees on Ecology and on Sustainable Development Goals, said US return to the PCA is a welcome development for the Philippines that has been absorbing the impact of typhoons and weather disasters triggered by climate change.

"The Philippines, which now bears the brunt of stronger typhoons and unusual weather patterns brought about by climate change, will be impacted by the Agreement's failure to achieve its goals," the veteran administration solon said.

He explained that the US, through its aid to the Green Climate Fund, is a major factor in achieving the global objectives of the Agreement, and the termination of the \$3 billion US funding will have a severe impact, particularly in the area of climate change research.

"Therefore, President-elect Biden's intention to take the United States back into the Paris Climate Agreement gives me a sigh of relief in the wake of President Trump's withdrawal taking effect just after the elections," Biazon said.

The Paris Agreement is a deal within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with signatories agreeing to voluntarily cut down on greenhouse gas emissions causing the climate crisis.

The agreement's official goal is to keep the world from becoming 2°C hotter than before industrialization.

When the US formally left the Paris Agreement on November 4, Biden tweeted that "in exactly 77 days, a Biden Administration will rejoin it."

Incumbent President Donald Trump decided to withdraw from the Paris pact, insisting that its huge contribution has imposed an unfair economic burden imon American workers, businesses, and taxpayers.

Following the American's decision to withdraw from the agreement, Iran and Turkey made the same decision.

The Philippines ratified the Paris Agreement in 2019, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of French-Philippine diplomatic relations.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/10/bidens-plan-to-rejoin-paris-climate-deal-will-benefit-ph-says-solon/>



SMC, LGUs to build bike lanes out of recycled plastic

November 9, 2020, 4:08 pm



File photo

MANILA – Almost a year after it first built and started testing the country’s first asphalt road made with post-consumer plastic waste, San Miguel Corporation (SMC) is eyeing the next phase of its plan to widen the application of the environment-friendly material by building bicycle lanes made of recycled plastics in partner cities and provinces.

SMC president and chief operating officer Ramon S. Ang said the company is looking to work with technology partners and local governments willing to put up dedicated bike lanes to accommodate cyclists whose numbers have risen due to quarantine and transportation restrictions brought about by the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) global pandemic starting with its home base in Mandaluyong.

“It has almost been a year since we started our plastic road initiative and so far, our pilot site has held up very well. It’s in our logistics facility -- used heavily every day by large vehicles with heavy loads. Very soon, I think we can graduate it for light public use, specifically, for bicycle lanes,” Ang said in a news release on Monday.

Ang said the company hopes to apply the technology more widely someday, particularly for public use on roads, but development is still considered to be in the early stages, considering the need for continuous testing to determine its long-term viability.

SMC, which itself recently launched a program to help provide bicycles for employees and extended workforce across its facilities, said that while biking to work has now become a more viable alternative mode of transportation for many Filipinos, there is a need to make road conditions safer for people on bicycles.

“Because of social distancing and restrictions on transportation, more of our countrymen are now biking to work. It promotes health and fitness, lessens pollution and provides a cost-free way to get to one’s destination, and has also been embraced by many LGUs who have set special bike lanes on roads,” Ang said. “Our roads are not designed with cyclists in mind. What we hope to do is work with LGUs and technology partners to come up with solutions for people on bikes that are safe and cost-efficient.”

Since 2017, SMC has been known to initiate high-impact sustainability initiatives, including in helping address plastic waste. That year, it announced the discontinuation of its plastic bottled water business in favor of its sustainability goals.

In November 2019, the company, together with project partner Dow Philippines announced its first recycled plastics road initiative, built on a 1,500 square meter pilot test area at its logistics center in Gen. Trias, Cavite. Some 900 kilos of plastic waste were used as a binder, together with bitumen, in producing the asphalt.

Recently, SMC also announced that it would be buying up plastic wastes from assemblers and LGUs to process and use as fuels at its cement facilities, in a bid to lessen dependence on fossil fuels. **(PR)**

Source: https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1121226?fbclid=IwAR2lGpH2n7lu-Krt_-8lG91fQhqdXHxaUT-ZE0T0N0EamUEzhxDjJ6BtSHk



San Miguel plans plastic-made bike lane projects with local governments

November 10, 2020 | 12:01 am

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**SAN MIGUEL
CORPORATION**

SAN MIGUEL Corp. (SMC) is hoping to work with local governments and its so-called “technology partners” to build bicycle lanes made of recycled plastics, it said in a statement on Monday.

SMC is also hoping to use recycled plastics for road projects “someday.”

“But development is still considered to be in the early stages, considering the need for continuous testing to determine its long-term viability,” it noted.

SMC President and Chief Operating Officer Ramon S. Ang said: “It has almost been a year since we started our plastic road initiative and so far, our pilot site has held up very well. It’s in our logistics facility—used heavily everyday by large vehicles with heavy loads. Very soon, I think we can graduate it for light public use, specifically, for bicycle lanes.”

The Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan II), which was signed by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on Sept. 11, set aside P1.3 billion for the development of accessible sidewalks, protected bicycle lanes, and promotion of active transport, according to the Department of Finance.

The Department of Transportation partnered with Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Department of Health, and Department of Public Works and Highways to construct protected bike lanes “to connect major roads, residential areas, and high-volume commuter areas to major medical facilities.” — **Arjay L. Balinbin**

Source: https://www.bworldonline.com/san-miguel-plans-plastic-made-bike-lane-projects-with-local-governments/?fbclid=IwAR1Ow4F4ViMwMwX96_G5-njsV1_nEKf0TgaxdqWbtAuoiefOLw3N1fNjIE



SMC To Partner With LGUS To Build Recycled Plastics Bike Lanes



By [Featuresdesk \(MD\)](#) November 10, 2020

Almost a year after it first built and started testing the country's first asphalt road made with post-consumer plastic waste, San Miguel Corporation (SMC) is eyeing the next phase of its plan to widen the application of the environment-friendly material — by building bicycle lanes made of recycled plastics in partner cities and provinces.

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“Our roads are not designed with cyclists in mind. What we hope to do is work with LGUs and technology partners to come up with solutions for people on bikes that are safe and cost-efficient,” Ang described.



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Pagudpud school churning out eco-bricks from plastic waste

Published November 10, 2020, 6:11 AM

by [Philippine News Agency](#)

LAOAG CITY (PNA) – A school in the province of Ilocos Norte may be devoid of students due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, but it never runs out of “green ideas” to contribute to the preservation of the environment.



A worker paints eco-tile bricks made of plastic waste materials in this undated photo. (Photo courtesy of Thelma Ruiz-Sacsac/ PNA/ MANILA BULLETIN)

At the Luzong National High School (LNHS) in Pagudpud town, for example, the school has declared war on solid waste by slowly converting laminated packaging and other plastic waste materials into something sturdy and pleasing to the eyes.

Known as eco-bricks, these have become a source of livelihood for some of the locals as the school has found use for them to beautify the school pavement, or sold to “plantitos” and “plantitas” who have grown so much interest in plants since the COVID-19 lockdown started.

“It all started with a contest on solid waste management last year sponsored by the North Luzon Renewable Corporation (NLREC). We joined the contest and we won the P10,000 prize. We then used the amount as seed money to buy molder and cement,” said Thelma Ruiz-Sacsac, Master Teacher II of LNHS in an interview Monday. She proposed the project with the support of her principal, Dr. Gladys A. Acoba.

NLREC is the owner and operator of the 81-megawatt wind farm in Caparispisan village, Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, which provides incentives to green initiative projects, and programs on a sustainable environment as part of its corporate social responsibility to host communities.

For every 50 to 100 pieces of plastics, one eco tile brick is produced, which is about five to six times stronger than a regular brick made of sand and cement.

While the students have been busy working on their self-learning modules at home, some parents and teachers have been also using their spare time in school to lay the eco tile bricks that they have produced.

Pegged at P80-P100 per eco brick measuring 15 x 15 inches, Sacsac said they have also been selling eco-bricks to interested buyers from the community.

“We are selling some of the eco-bricks to the community for sustainability,” she added.

In a draft provincial resolution certified as urgent by Governor Matthew Joseph Manotoc on Monday, the province of Ilocos Norte, in partnership with the NLREC and Green Antz Builders, laid out plans to construct and develop an eco hub in the province.



The eco hub facility aims to collect and reuse discarded plastic materials and transform them into valuable resources like eco-bricks for construction.

According to Board Member Donald Nicolas, Green Antz Builders, represented by its President and Chief Executive Officer Rommel Benig, has the technology in the manufacture of eco-bricks which could be adopted in the entire province.

The facility is also expected to benefit local communities not only on job generation but also to inspire more people to segregate their wastes properly, and eventually improve reduction at source.



More lands up for distribution

Published 5 hours ago on November 11, 2020 12:05 AM

By [Vernon Velasco](#)



The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) is intensifying Certificate of Land Ownership Awards (CLOA) distribution in the country to support the government's thrust to emancipate farmers from the bondage of soil.

In an exclusive with *Daily Tribune's* live though-leadership webcast "Straight Talk," DAR Secretary Brother John R. Castricones said the department has — to date — distributed around 130,000 privately acquired lands and 330,000 CLOA to the government's agrarian reform beneficiaries.

"We have been competently distributing lands to our farmers because that is the main mandate of the department: Address the social injustice of our land acquisition and distribution, considering that many of the lands here in our country are actually owned by a very few people... landed people," Castricones said.

The CLOA distribution marks the culmination of the decade-long anticipation by the rightful beneficiaries to own the lands they till. But there's a caveat in the law: These CLOA cannot be alienated or sold to any other person.

"Within the restricted 10-year period, the beneficiaries cannot dispose of these lands, which actually were titled under CLOA. Selling them to any developer or any private citizen without the permission of DAR is definitely unlawful and illegal," Castricones emphasized.

He, however, said that there have been some circumventions being made by a lot of land developers and businessmen to acquire these lands.

"What we are doing right now is we are in the process of trying to validate all these lands that's already been alienated allegedly, and once we are able to (confirm) that these lands were actually formerly agricultural lands, which have been titled under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), then we have the right to get (them) back. And whatever transactions that have been entered into by the parties are not effective," Castricones said.

For privately occupied lands, which is the main bulk of the lands distributed under CARP, DAR acquires these properties from landowners, those which are five hectares and above, and, thereafter, distributed to farmers who have the obligation to pay the amortizations with LandBank.

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2020/11/11/more-lands-up-for-distribution/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=more-lands-up-for-distribution

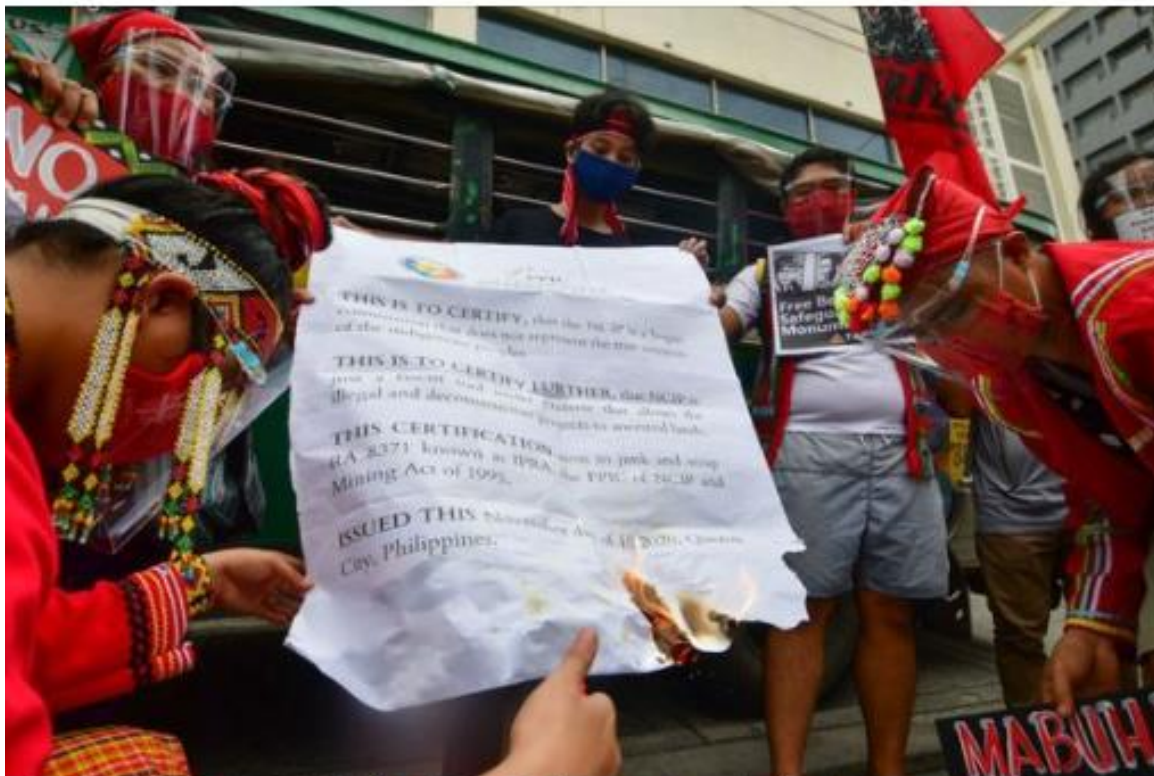


ABS-CBN News

16h

Members of different indigenous peoples groups and advocates picket in front of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples office in Quezon City on Tuesday.

The group criticized the government agency for its alleged complicity in human rights violations against IPs and displacement of IP villages from their ancestral lands. Mark Demayo, ABS-CBN News



277

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According to the latest data uploaded on the DBM's website, allotment releases under Republic Act 11494 or the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act has amounted to P82.49 billion as of Nov. 3.

STAR/ File

DBM releases P82.5 billion in Bayanihan 2 funds

[Mary Grace Padin](#) (The Philippine Star) - November 11, 2020 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has so far released P82.5 billion in funds to support the coronavirus response efforts of various government agencies.

According to the latest data uploaded on the DBM's website, allotment releases under Republic Act 11494 or the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act has amounted to P82.49 billion as of Nov. 3.

This brought to P476.21 billion the total amount of funds released for the Philippines' COVID-19 response since March, or the enactment of the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act.

Of the total Bayanihan 2 releases, the DBM said P80.47 billion corresponded releases charged from the P140 billion stimulus package under the law.

Another P2.01 billion came from regular funds under the 2020 General Appropriations Act.

The highest allocation amounting to P21.57 billion was given to the Department of Health, followed by the Department of Agriculture with P15.28 billion and Department of Labor and Employment with P13.1 billion.

The Department of Finance also received P10.54 billion in funds, while the Department of Transportation and the Department Social Welfare and Development received P9.5 billion and P6 billion, respectively.

Other recipients also include the Department of the Interior and Local Government (P2.52 billion), Department of National Defense (P855.19 million), the Department of Foreign Affairs (P820 million), Department of Trade and Industry (P1.1 billion), Department of Public Works and Highways (P994.75 million), Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (P28.37 million), and the Philippine Sports Commission (P180 million).

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/business/2020/11/11/2055947/dbm-releases-p825-billion-bayanihan-2-funds>



WHO chief hails Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine news as 'encouraging'

posted November 10, 2020 at 10:30 am

by [AFP](#)

The World Health Organization chief hailed as "encouraging" Pfizer and BioNTech's announcement Monday that their vaccine has in trials proved 90-percent effective in preventing COVID-19 infections.



WHO director Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

The two pharmaceutical companies said the vaccine they have jointly developed had during Phase 3 trials provided protection to nearly all patients seven days after the second of two vaccine doses.

"We welcome the encouraging vaccine news from @pfizer & @BioNTech_Group & salute all scientists & partners around the who are developing new safe, efficacious tools to beat #COVID19," WHO director Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a tweet.

"The world is experiencing unprecedented scientific innovation & collaboration to end the pandemic," he said. As of mid-October, the WHO has identified 42 "candidate vaccines" at the stage of clinical trials, up from 11 in mid-June.

Ten of them were at the most advanced phase 3 stage, in which a vaccine's effectiveness is tested on a large scale, generally tens of thousands of people across several continents.

WHO chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan said in a tweet Monday that the news from Pfizer and BioNTech should "encourage all developers of #COVID19 vaccines to continue with clinical trials."

"The world needs several safe, effective & affordable vaccines to end this pandemic," she said.



Senate proposes allocating govt's 3% annual revenue collection for additional calamity funds

November 11, 2020 12:19 AM by [Rita Salonga](#)



Senator Grace Poe (Photo Credits: senate.gov.ph)

Senate proposes allocating govt's 3% annual revenue collection for additional calamity funds

Sen. Grace Poe is pushing for the three percent annual government revenue collection to be allocated instead as additional funds for rehabilitation, preparedness and aid of calamity victims.

Based on Senate Bill 124, or the proposed Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act, Poe said that because the country is continuously being hammered by natural calamities, the government needs to have a regular allocation for it.

The bill will create a department of disaster resilience and emergency wherein three percent of the annual government's revenue collection will be allocated for it.

According to Poe, she is pushing for the said bill because every year, the allocation of the government on its calamity funds seem to dwindle down.

In 2019, the calamity fund of the government was Php20 billion, relatively higher than what 2020 received which is Php16 billion only.

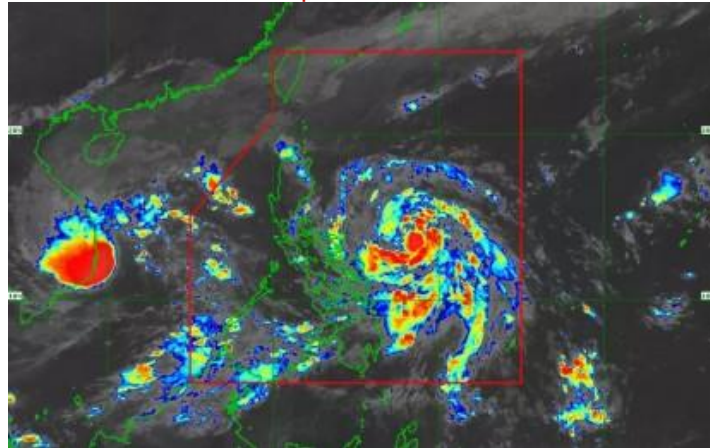
The Senate as they will start with the interpellation of the 2021 national budget, is hoping to bring back the Php20 million budget for calamity funds.

Source: <https://dzhnews.com.ph/senate-proposes-allocating-govts-3-annual-revenue-collection-for-additional-calamity-funds/>



Residents in coastal, low-lying areas warned vs. 'Ulysses'

By Priam Nepomuceno November 10, 2020, 4:19 pm



MANILA – The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) on Tuesday warned residents in coastal and low-lying areas of Metro Manila, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Mimaropa, the Bicol Region, and the entire Visayas against the impact of the approaching Tropical Storm Ulysses.

"Ang bagyong Ulysses ay inaasahang tatahakin ang katimugang Luzon sa pagitan ng Bicol at probinsya ng Quezon. Ito ay tinatayang magdudulot ng malakas na pag-ulan at pabugso-bugsong hangin na maaring maging sanhi ng pagbaha, storm surge o daluyong at pagguho ng lupa (Tropical Storm Ulysses is expected to cross the Southern Luzon-Bicol area, as well as the province of Quezon. It is expected to bring heavy rains and gusty winds that might result in floods, storm surge and landslides)," NDRRMC spokesperson Mark Cashean Timbal said.

Timbal also urged owners and operators of small boats and fishermen to refrain from venturing out, especially if their areas are under a gale warning.

Timbal also urged all residents of areas that might be affected to comply with the preemptive evacuation plan that will be implemented by their barangays, towns, or cities if needed.

He added that residents can communicate with their local government officials to determine the safe areas for evacuation.

"Sa mga ahensya ng gobyerno at lokal na pamahalaan: Siguraduhing ang mga abiso ay makakarating sa buong pamayanan lalo na sa mga nakaranas ng sunod-sunod na pag-ulan. Gumamit ng nararapat na mga babala tulad ng bandilyo at pagbabahay-bahay para sa agad na kaalaman ng buong pamayanan. Isagawa ang maagap at angkop na kahandaan kaakibat ang mga tinakdang pag-iingat laban sa Covid-19 (To all government agencies and local government units, make sure that advisories reach the whole community, especially in areas where intermittent rains occur. Use appropriate warning systems, such as public addresses and house-to-house announcements, for the information of the whole community. Conduct immediate and appropriate measures while undertaking precautions against the coronavirus disease 2019)," he added.

The weather bureau said "Ulysses" is likely to make a close approach to Catanduanes and Camarines Sur on Wednesday and may make landfall in Quezon on Thursday. **(PNA)**



Bicol signal no. 3 kay 'Ulysses', storm surge binabala sa Luzon

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Nov 10, 2020

METRO

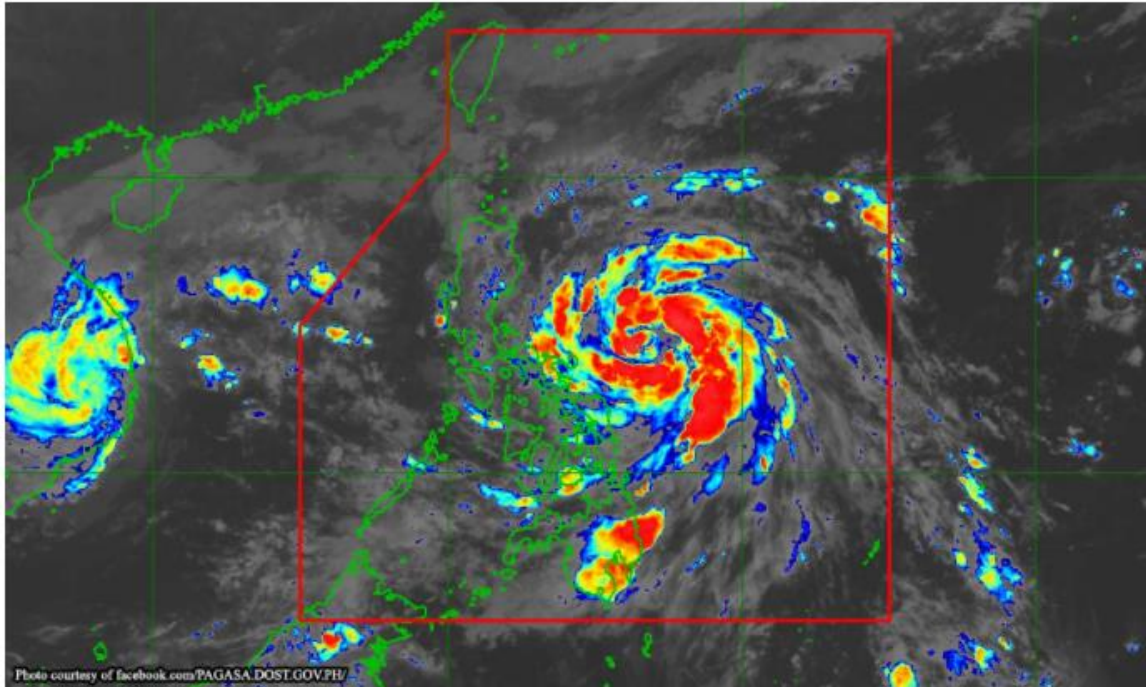


Photo courtesy of facebook.com/PAGASA.DOST.GOV.PH/



Nagbabala ang National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) sa posibilidad na magkaroon ng storm surge sa baybaying dagat sa Maynila at iba pang bahagi ng Luzon dahil sa bagyong 'Ulysses'.

Posible umanong umabot ng dalawang metro ang taas ng alon sa baybayin sa Manila, Cavite, Batangas, Quezon province, Bulacan, Pampanga, Aurora, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Romblon, Marinduque, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Catanduanes, Masbate at sa Albay.

"Ang bagyong Ulysses ay inaasahang tatahakin ang katimugang Luzon sa pagitan ng Bicol at probinsya ng Quezon. Ito ay tinatayang magdudulot ng malakas na pag-ulan, at pabugso-bugsong hangin na maaaring maging sanhi ng pagbaha, storm surge o daluyong o pagguho ng lupa," sinabi ng NDRRMC.

Ayon sa Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa), ang storm surge ay maituturing na hindi normal na pagtaas ng lebel tubig sa gitna ng isang bagyo. Mas delikado umano ito sa panahon ng high tide.

Dagdag pa ng weather bureau, posibleng itaas ang Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal No. 3 bago mag-landfall ang bagyo sa Bicol. Unang tinaya na sa Quezon ito lalapag sa Huwebes ng umaga, pero dahil sa pagbabago ng galaw nito ay posibleng sa Camarines Norte ito mag-landfall ng Miyerkoles ng hapon o gabi. (Kiko Cueto)



Nueva Vizcaya, nagtala ng landslide at pagbaha dahil sa patuloy na pag-ulan

By **Bombo Radyo Cauayan**

-November 11, 2020 | 12:46 AM

CAUAYAN CITY- Halos 30 pamilya ang inilikas dahil sa serye ng landslide na dulot ng paglambot ng lupa at pagbaha dahil sa patuloy na pag-ulan.

Sa nakuhang impormasyon ng Bombo Radyo Cauayan mula sa Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, isinailalim sa force evacuation ang nasa 26 na pamilya sa bayan ng Aritao mula sa mga barangay ng Tabueng, Common, Kalit-litan, Banganan at Darapidap.

Inilikas naman ang isang pamilya sa bayan ng Kasibu ngunit pinauwi rin matapos matiyak ang kanilang kaligtasan.

Pinag-iingat pa rin ang mga residente dahil sa patuloy na pag-ulan pangunahin na sa mga landslide at flashflood prone areas.

Sa ngayon ay tanging ang Lublob Bridge sa Alfonso Castañeda, Nueva Vizcaya na lamang ang hindi madaanan ng anumang uri ng sasakyan dahil sa pagtaas ng antas ng tubig.



Scientists watch as China remote glaciers melt at 'shocking' pace

November 11, 2020 1:02 AM by [DZRH News Online](#)



Meltwater flows over the Laohugou No. 12 glacier in the Qilian mountains, Subei Mongol Autonomous County in Gansu province, China, September 27, 2020. REUTERS/Carlos Garcia Rawlins

By Martin Quin Pollard

QILIAN MOUNTAINS, China (Reuters) – Glaciers in China's bleak Qilian mountains are disappearing at a shocking rate as global warming brings unpredictable change and raises the prospect of crippling, long-term water shortages, scientists say.

The largest glacier in the 800-km (500-mile) mountain chain on the arid northeastern edge of the Tibetan plateau has retreated about 450 metres since the 1950s, when researchers set up China's first monitoring station to study it.

The 20-square kilometre glacier, known as Laohugou No. 12, is criss-crossed by rivulets of water down its craggy, grit-blown surface. It has shrunk by about 7% since measurements began, with melting accelerating in recent years, scientists say.

Equally alarming is the loss of thickness, with about 13 metres (42 feet) of ice disappearing as temperatures have risen, said Qin Xiang, the director at the monitoring station.

"The speed that this glacier has been shrinking is really shocking," Qin told Reuters on a recent visit to the spartan station in a frozen, treeless world, where he and a small team of researchers track the changes.

The Tibetan plateau is known as the world's Third Pole for the amount of ice long locked in the high-altitude wilderness.

But since the 1950s, average temperatures in the area have risen about 1.5 Celsius, Qin said, and with no sign of an end to warming, the outlook is grim for the 2,684 glaciers in the Qilian range.

Across the mountains, glacier retreat was 50% faster in 1990-2010 than it was from 1956 to 1990, data from the China Academy of Sciences shows.

"When I first came here in 2005, the glacier was around that point there where the river bends," Qin said, pointing to where the rock-strewn slopes of the Laohugou valley channel the winding river to lower ground.

The flow of water in a stream near the terminus of the Laohugou No. 12 runoff is about double what it was 60 years ago, Qin said.

Further downstream, near Dunhuang, once a major junction on the ancient Silk Road, water flowing out of the mountains has formed a lake in the desert for the first time in 300 years, state media reported.

For interactive graphic, click: <https://tmsnrt.rs/2UdIH0q>



DANGEROUS CHANGE

Global warming is also blamed for changes in the weather that have brought other unpredictable conditions.

Snowfall and rain has at times been much less than normal, so even though the melting glaciers have brought more runoff, farmers downstream can still face water shortages for their crops of onions and corn and for their animals.

Large sections of the Shule river, on the outskirts of Dunhuang, were either dry or reduced to murky patches of pool, isolated in desert scrub when Reuters visited in September.

The new fluctuations also bring danger.

“Across the region, glacial melt water is pooling into lakes and causing devastating floods,” said Greenpeace East Asia climate and energy campaigner Liu Junyan.

“In spring, we’re seeing increased flooding, and then when water is needed most for irrigation later in the summer, we’re seeing shortages.”

For Gu Jianwei, 35, a vegetable farmer on the outskirts of the small city of Jiuquan, the changes in the weather have meant meagre water for his cauliflowers this year.

Gu said he had been able to water his crop just twice over two crucial summer months, holding up a small cauliflower head that he said was just a fraction of the normal weight.

The melting in the mountains could peak within a decade, after which snow melt would sharply decrease due to the smaller, fewer glaciers, China Academy of Sciences expert Shen Yongping said. That could bring water crises, he warned.

The changes in Qilian reflect melting trends in other parts of the Tibetan plateau, the source of the Yangtze and other great Asian rivers, scientists say.

“Those glaciers are monitoring atmospheric warming trends that apply to nearby glaciated mountain chains that contribute runoff to the upper Yellow and Yangtze Rivers,” said Aaron Putnam, associate professor of earth sciences at the University of Maine.

The evidence of the withering ice is all too clear for student researcher Jin Zizhen, out under a deep-blue sky checking his instruments in the glare of Laohugou No. 12.

“It’s something I’ve been able to see with my own eyes.”

(Reporting by Martin Quin Pollard, additional reporting by Ryan Woo in Jiuquan and Yumen; Editing by Robert Birsell)



China's business environment largely improved in past five years

Published November 10, 2020, 8:07 AM

by [Du Haitao & Luo Shanshan](#)

China has largely improved its business environment during the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) period with enhanced innovation to better service efficiency.

It has continuously advanced reforms to streamline administration and delegate power, improve regulation, and upgrade services, faithfully implemented tax and fee reduction policies, greatly shortened negative lists for foreign investment market access, and made remarkable progress in building a "single-window system" for foreign trade.



A participant plays ping-pong with a ping-pong-playing robot from Japanese technology company Omron at the technical equipment exhibition area of the third China International Import Expo in east China's Shanghai, November 5, 2020. (Photo by Weng Qiyu/People's Daily Online)

These efforts further brought down the operational cost of enterprises and stimulated the energy of the market, which offered strong support for high-quality economic development.

South Korea-funded enterprise LG Display based in Yantai, east China's Shandong province, was one of the beneficiaries of these measures. The company encountered an urgent problem after COVID-19 broke out this year, which had to be solved by technicians from South Korea. Wang Fengbin, deputy director of the company's management department, resorted to a platform established by Shandong province to stabilize foreign trade and investment for help, and in less than two weeks, South Korean technicians successfully entered China amid the pandemic, and the problem was smoothly tackled.

In the last five years, China has constantly pressed ahead with reforms of systems and mechanisms to comprehensively expand opening-up, lower access threshold and improve service quality. According to World Bank's Doing Business report, China advanced to a global ranking of 46 this year regarding business environment, up from 78 last year. It has been included among the top 10 fastest global reformers for two years in a row.

Last year, China received 941.52 billion yuan (\$140.64 billion) in foreign investment, ranking the first among developing countries and the second of the world. The figure stood at 619.78 billion yuan in the first 8 months this year despite of the impacts of COVID-19, growing 2.6 percent from a year ago.

According to the Report on the Latest Development in IPR Protection and Business Environment in China (2019), 59,800 foreign-funded companies were newly established in China in 2019, making the total number to 627,000. Besides, the number of foreign-funded projects with investment of at least \$100 million reached 834. Statistics from China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) also indicated that 22,602 foreign-funded firms started operation in China during the January-August period this year. At present, relevant departments are accelerating the revision of the industry catalogue encouraging foreign investment, so as to make the country's business environment more market-oriented, and improve its rule of law and internationalization.



“It usually took one or two working days for customs officials to check our products at our plant, but now the procedure has been moved online and only needs half an hour,” said Xie Yicai, head of a high precision thermoregulation enterprise in Guangzhou, south China’s Guangdong province.

Quan Yongliang, the finance supervisor of an agricultural machinery leasing firm in Wuhan, central China’s Hubei province, said he finished company registration in just two hours.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan period, China has largely reduced administrative approvals, comprehensively reformed business system, and optimized administrative services. As a result, the time needed for administrative affairs was shortened, and market vitality enhanced.

According to statistics, China had 87.05 million market entities as of the end of 2016, and the figure reached 123 million last year. By the end of July, the number of registered market entities in China had hit 132 million, with 64,000 being newly added each day in the first seven months this year.

Informatization and intellectualization have offered strong support for China to improve its business environment. Twenty-five port administrations are now connected with each other and share information under the “single-window system” for foreign trade, covering all ports around the country. In July this year, the country’s import clearance time reached 38.5 hours, and export clearance time 2.2 hours, 60.4 percent and 82.2 percent lower than those in 2017, respectively.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/10/chinas-business-environment-largely-improved-in-past-five-years/>