

13 JUNE 2021, SUNDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



The Pasig River dredging project is a major venture to rehabilitate one of the largest river systems connected to Manila Bay.

Michael Varcas, file

DENR, SMC join forces for Pasig River cleanup

[Rhodina Villanueva](#) (The Philippine Star) - June 13, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has partnered with San Miguel Corp. (SMC) to work in the dredging and cleanup of Pasig River, DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu said yesterday.

The Pasig River dredging project is a major venture to rehabilitate one of the largest river systems connected to Manila Bay.

Cimatu said the recent signing of a memorandum of agreement signifies the start of the project and the commitment of DENR and SMC to clean up the river.

“This project does not only directly complement our ongoing rehabilitation of Manila Bay, but one can just imagine the positive impacts the cleanup and rehabilitation of Pasig River could bring to the majority of our population and to the ecosystems that connect to it,” he said.

The dredging project, which is part of SMC’s commitment to the Adopt-a-River Program, aims to improve Pasig River’s water flow and mitigate flooding by deepening and widening its shallow and narrow portions.

The ongoing Tullahan-Tinajeros River rehabilitation project is SMC’s first Adopt-a-River partnership with the DENR.

In the agreement, DENR will provide the technical expertise for the project while SMC will provide manpower support and dredging equipment.

SMC has identified the Pandacan-Paco area, Estrella in Makati, and near C5 Road, Manila Bay and EDSA, as priority dredging sites.

SMC president Ramon Ang said SMC has invested in a cutter suction dredger—which can dredge 1,000 tons per hour, 10,000 tons per 10 hours a day, or three million tons a year—and a hopper barge for high-volume dredging and transfer of dredged materials to a designated site.

He said they are also looking into conducting percussion drilling for areas that are difficult to dredge due to heavy materials.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2021/06/13/2105090/denr-smc-join-forces-pasig-river-cleanup>



Reviving Pasig River

[HIDDEN AGENDA](#) - [Mary Ann LL. Reyes](#) (The Philippine Star) - June 13, 2021 - 12:00am

Business conglomerate San Miguel Corp. has just announced that it is increasing its budget to P2 billion, double the original amount, allotted for an ambitious five-year program to clean up Pasig River.

SMC, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), other national government agencies, and Metro Manila mayors, officially launched the project which is set to become the largest ever river rehabilitation project in the country.

For the Pasig River rehabilitation project, SMC will extract around 50,000 metric tons of silt and waste every month or a total of 600,000 metric tons per year from the river. The initiative is similar to another SMC project that started last year, which is the cleanup of the 27-kilometer Tullahan-Tinajeros River system.

According to SMC president and CEO Ramon Ang, the restoration of the Pasig River system would balance the needs of the economy and the environment, as the company begins this year what it describes as the boldest attempt at reviving the biologically inactive river.

We can't help but recall President Duterte's statement in late 2019, when he called for the abolition of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC), saying cleaning the famous river is a waste of time.

The President had said that nothing would happen unless every building is required to dispose their waste through a sewage or sewerage system.

But the President's call for the PRRC's abolition may also have stemmed from findings by the Commission on Audit that, while the commission spent 96 percent of its budget in 2018 or P107.6 million out of the P111 million allotted for the clearing of six waterways, it posted an accomplishment rate of just one percent to 27.65 percent.

In 2018, the PRRC was recognized by the International River Foundation for successfully bringing Pasig River back to life. The IRC lauded PRRC for removing almost 22 million kilos of solid waste from the river from 1999 to 2017 and for relocating over 18,000 families living along waterways.

Twenty two million kilos sounds a lot (anything that says millions sounds plenty), except that it is only equivalent to 22,000 tons or about 19,958 metric tons, and that was accomplished over a period of 18 years. SMC, on the other hand, is talking about removing 600,000 metric tons of waste every year.

PRRC, an agency attached to the DENR, has been trying to clean up the Pasig River since 1999. Last year, it was asking for a P261-million budget.

How much was actually spent by PRRC over almost two decades to remove about 20,000 metric tons of waste from the river? We are talking not only of the huge funds allocated by our government to the commission, but also any international aid and loans granted to the said office, including the \$100 million loan from the Asian Development Bank for the river cleanup program.

During the launch of SMC's Pasig River rehab program, Ang said that while there have been many cleanup efforts in the past, and government has successfully implemented a number of programs these past few years, decades of pollution and compounding problems have rendered the river biologically dead since the 1990s. Such problems, he said, are too significant



and complex to overcome, even for the best-intentioned advocates and organizations.

Among those present during the ceremony were DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, MMDA chairman Benhur Abalos, Manila Mayor Isko Moreno, Mandaluyong Mayor Menchie Abalos, and representatives from the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Public Works and Highways, and the Philippine Coast Guard.

Ang cited a study published by OurWorldinData.org last May, which said that Pasig River has emerged as the top plastics polluter of oceans in the world. Joining Pasig River in the top 10 list of rivers in the world that have the highest share of plastics emitted are six other rivers in the Philippines, namely Tullahan River – which is number four, Meycauayan River (top five), Pampanga River (no. six), Libmanan River (no. 7), Rio Grande de Mindanao (no. 9), and Agno River (no. 10).

The SMC top executive said that solid waste in our rivers is a serious issue, not only because it endangers our oceans, marine life, and traditional fishing grounds which are a source of food and livelihood for our countrymen, but also because it worsens our flooding situation.

He said that silt and accumulated garbage have made the Pasig River shallow and restricts the flow of water, worsening the flooding situation in Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati and Pasig.

Ang said that their 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.

He also pointed out that their experience in dredging Tullahan for a year has allowed SMC to determine the most effective approach and best equipment to use. In Tullahan, he said, they were able to extract over 260,000 metric tons of silt and solid waste, so far and the dredging has reduced the heavy flooding in Navotas, Malabon, and Valenzuela.

A depth survey has revealed that some parts of Pasig River have become shallower and measure only one to two meters in depth, while some parts will have to be widened. SMC is coordinating with the DPWH to draw up a dredging plan that will establish the target depth that will best handle heavy rainfall during extreme weather and minimize flooding.

Ang said that cleaning up the Pasig River bears historical significance for San Miguel. In 1890, La Fabrica de Cerveza de San Miguel was established along the banks of Pasig River on Malacanang Street in the San Miguel district of Manila. The original site is now part of Malacanang Palace grounds.

I don't know if it's true, but they say that there was a pipeline from that fabrica that can deliver beer directly to the Palace.

The most iconic view of Malacanang Palace is no doubt the so-called Pasig River, with the palace's façade as seen from the banks of the Pasig River. We could just imagine our long history of presidents and other dignitaries looking out from those windows and seeing how beautiful Pasig River was. The 23-kilometer Pasig River used to be an important transport route (it served the early interisland trade during the Spanish colonial period) and was a source of water for Spanish Manila, but due to negligence and industrial development, it became polluted and is now considered biologically dead by ecologists. It became a dumping ground for factory waste by-products and household sewage. Heavy metals from industrial waste resulted in extremely low amount of oxygen in the water, which is unhealthy for plants and animals.



No amount of waste extraction and dredging will bring the river back to life unless people and businesses stop dumping their wastes and do their share. Rehabilitating Pasig River will need extreme amounts of political will on the part of the DENR and the local government units. Is that too much to ask for? I hope not.

For comments, e-mail at mareyes@philstarmedia.com



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 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, Cimatú 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)**



DENR seeks extension of P5.87-B forest project

[By Eireene Jairee Gomez](#) June 13, 2021

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has asked the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for an extension of the P5.87-billion Forestland Management Project (FMP) that was halted due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

While the DENR successfully established 71,300 hectares of agroforestry plantation, the agency needs time to complete maintenance works for the protection of established plantations over the mandated three river basins of FMP, said project manager Marlon Atienza.

"We have a pending request for an extension on one year to complete activities on maintenance and protection of established plantations, construction of agroforestry support facilities, and implementation of the sustainability action plan," Atienza said.

"The request is made in view of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic starting the first quarter of Calendar Year 2020. The request was given approval by the ICC (Investment Coordination Committee) Cabinet Committee through ad referendum and endorsed to Department of Finance," she added.

Originally aimed to strengthen forest management in three critical river basins of the Philippines, FMP is about to end in 2022 after having helped the grassroots communities in the uplands.

Atienza noted the achievements of FMP over its almost 10-year duration, which includes the preparation of management plans, organization and strengthening of 149 peoples organizations (POs), establishment of 71,300 hectares of tree and agroforestry plantations, and organization of watershed management bodies.

"These deliverables are all indicators for measuring achievement of project objectives. However, we still have to make an assessment of the indicators (increase in forest cover, PO income and decrease in soil erosion)," she added.

According to Atienza, the FMP paved the way for POs to also become stronger protectors of watersheds in the three critical river basins: Upper Magat and Cagayan River Basin (Quirino, Cordillera Administrative Region, Ifugao); Upper Pampanga River Basin (Nueva Ecija); and Jalaur River Basin (Iloilo).

The DENR is still completing several road and bridge projects even as it is supposedly in the last year of FMP implementation. Contractors of the P72-million Reinforced Concrete Deck Girder bridge in the area of Alimit Langayan Banao (Ifugao) just held in the last week of May a "concrete pouring" ceremony for the bridge. It is a go-signal for its construction.

Another FMP project that will benefit the Peoples Organization of Alimit Langayan Banao Farmers Organization is the 3.867-kilometer Barangay Montabiong Access Road amounting to P48 million.

Atienza noted that the said project will strengthen the connectivity between the Alimit West and Lagawe subwatersheds. It is now undergoing construction and will take 270 days to complete the access road.



Apart from infrastructure benefits, FMP also allowed upland dwellers to become more intensive growers of agroforestry products like timber (gmelina, mahogany and narra) and fruit trees (guyabano, cacao, mango). They have expanded their farming and has reached new markets through FMP's marketing assistance and promotion.

JICA has been supporting key development sectors in the Philippines through volunteers since the 1960s. The early Japanese volunteers in the country were dispatched to support agriculture, introducing new technology and breeding techniques to support livestock development.



IPs back Philippine Eagle conservation in Zambo Norte

By Teofilo Garcia, Jr. June 12, 2021, 6:07 pm



ZAMBOANGA CITY – Members of a group of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) have vowed to support the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle within their ancestral domain in the province of Zamboanga del Norte.

Dionisio Rago, head of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte, said in a statement Saturday they earned the support of the IPs after an information drive in Barangay Sianan, Godod, in the same province in line with the Philippine Eagle Week celebration, which was from June 4 to 10.

Rago said Timuay Florencia Gaas, leader of the Sianan Subanen Tribal Association, assured them that they are ready to help in the wildlife conservation efforts of the DENR considering they are living in the area.

“We pledge our support to help in Philippine Eagle conservation in our area,” Rago quoted Gaas as saying.

Rago said Barangay Sianan has been known for sightings of Philippine Eagles in the area by the IPs.

He added that their information drive is important for them to know the importance and significance of the Philippine Eagle, which is an endangered species.

He said the information drive is to strengthen public awareness on the significant role of Philippine Eagle in the forest ecosystem as well as to generate unified and concerted efforts among the IPs to ensure the protection and perpetuation of the species within Barangay Sianan.

He noted that the bird is endemic in the country and is one of the largest eagles in the world but it is facing a critically endangered status according to the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Despite it being named as the country’s national bird, its species is threatened by the destruction of its natural habitat as well as illegal hunting, Rago said.

This year’s Philippine Eagle Week was anchored on the theme “The Philippine Eagle and Indigenous Peoples; Protecting our Forests, Protecting our Future.” **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1143499>



IPs back Philippine Eagle conservation in Zambo Norte

June 12, 2021 2 min read

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Members of a group of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) have vowed to support the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle within their ancestral domain in the province of Zamboanga del Norte.

Dionisio Rago, head of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte, said in a statement Saturday they earned the support of the IPs after an information drive in Barangay Sianan, Godod, in the same province in line with the Philippine Eagle Week celebration, which was from June 4 to 10.

Rago said Timuay Florencia Gaas, leader of the Sianan Subanen Tribal Association, assured them that they are ready to help in the wildlife conservation efforts of the DENR considering they are living in the area.

“We pledge our support to help in Philippine Eagle conservation in our area,” Rago quoted Gaas as saying.

Rago said Barangay Sianan has been known for sightings of Philippine Eagles in the area by the IPs.

He added that their information drive is important for them to know the importance and significance of the Philippine Eagle, which is an endangered species.

He said the information drive is to strengthen public awareness on the significant role of Philippine Eagle in the forest ecosystem as well as to generate unified and concerted efforts among the IPs to ensure the protection and perpetuation of the species within Barangay Sianan.

He noted that the bird is endemic in the country and is one of the largest eagles in the world but it is facing a critically endangered status according to the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Despite it being named as the country’s national bird, its species is threatened by the destruction of its natural habitat as well as illegal hunting, Rago said.

This year’s Philippine Eagle Week was anchored on the theme “The Philippine Eagle and Indigenous Peoples; Protecting our Forests, Protecting our Future.” **(PNA)**

Source: https://maharlika.tv/2021/06/12/ips-back-philippine-eagle-conservation-in-zambo-norte/?fbclid=IwAR0pjbgl0EhF6ni0h2Y1Wwui1xyRrWq3RejWvocYI3s5TvyjQP3C5_X1OFs



Illegal wildlife trade threatens PHL birds

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JUNE 13, 2021



The elegant tit is an endemic Philippine bird.

A single blue-naped parrot has a use value of up to P185, 981 over the course of its lifetime. Killing and keeping illegally acquired parrots is prohibited by RA [Republic Act] 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act,” the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) posted on its Facebook page on May 22.

Native parrots are not the only bird species under grave threat because of habitat loss and hunting for the live bird trade. Most birds in the Philippines are.

In a recent online lecture on the live bird trade in the country organized by the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines, Emerson Sy, a wildlife trade specialist, said that illegal wildlife trade is a multi-billion industry.

Globally, he said, illegal wildlife trade is a \$10 billion to \$25 billion industry.

The live bird trade, he said, worsened during the pandemic with the myna and parrot topping the list of birds being traded locally.

Big industry

“Apparently, the Philippines is losing \$1 billion a year due to illegal wildlife trade,” Sy said.

The illegal wildlife trade has also given birth to another industry—the manufacture and sale of a variety of hunting tools, traps and snares developed to catch wild animals.

Like wildlife, these tools are now being traded through social media platforms.

This is not surprising, Sy said, because of the popularity of social media platforms. The number of Facebook users in the Philippines is expected to reach 88 million by 2025, according to Lu. Bird trade hotspots

Palawan and Mindoro in the Mimaropa region are among the illegal wildlife trade “hotspots” for the live bird trade.

Grace Diamante, executive director of the Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc., told the BusinessMirror through Messenger that she is aware of the rampant illegal wildlife trade that targets native birds in Mindoro.

“The DENR, PNP [Philippine National Police], DA [Department of Agriculture] and other relevant agencies should work hand in hand to strengthen legal framework to establish a law enforcement chain, strengthen port monitoring and increase awareness of the adverse effect of this illegal activity,” Diamante said.



Sought for comment, Indira Dayang Dayang Lacerna-Widdman, executive director of the Palawan-based Katala Foundation Inc. (KFI), confirmed to the BusinessMirror via Messenger that the population of the native parrot population is declining in Palawan.

“The main reasons are habitat destruction and poaching for the pet trade,” she said.

She said that Palawan has the global stronghold of the katala, or the red-vented cockatoo, and has the highest density also of the blue-naped parrots, the reason why it is targeted by poachers.

“Philippine cockatoo has been protected by KFI and local partners [wildlife wardens, LGUs [local government units], DENR and PCSDS [Palawan Council for Sustainable Development] in the past, and poaching has been prevented or much reduced in the various project sites,” she said.

Mostly poached in Palawan are blue-naped parrots which are still widespread in the province but threatened by habitat destruction and the illegal pet trade.

Global problem

Asean Centre of Biodiversity Executive Director Theresa Mundita S. Lim said the problem of live bird trade is not unique to the Philippines as it is happening in other parts of the world. In Southeast Asia, poaching or hunting of birds is also a serious problem.

“Most birds we confiscated before were for the pet trade. They would be the psittacins [parrots, cockatoos and macaws from South America]. There are also studies of demand for songbirds from Asia,” Lim told the BusinessMirror through Messenger on June 8.

“On August 2019, a man was caught smuggling 814 birds using a Malaysia-registered bus into Singapore through Woodlands Checkpoint. The smuggled birds were kept in 15 containers stored in modified compartments by the bus’ rear tires,” she said.

Popular pets

Lim, a former director of the DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau, said birds are popular pets because of their beauty. Their colorful feathers, their ability to mimic humans like the “talking” mynas and cockatoos, or their beautiful “singing” voice like the orioles and sparrows, make them very much in demand.

Occasionally these birds would be poached or hunted for food like tikling [buff-banded rail] and megapod, or as a trophy in the case of the Philippine eagle, according to Lim.

Even though there are laws against poaching birds, she said it persists mainly because of difficulty in enforcement.

The illegal wildlife trade is also prevalent, she said, because of poverty and the lack of livelihood opportunities for communities living in and around bird habitats. This, plus the lack of awareness on the long-lasting impact of the depleting bird population, make illegal wildlife trade a bigger problem.

Lim said the insufficient incentives for protection, and sometimes, the fees and penalties outweighing the potential revenue from the illegal wildlife trade, are not helping stop the impunity.

Bird watching

The Wild Bird Club of the Philippines, a group founded on July 14, 2003, continues to advocate the protection and conservation of birds.



From 14 bird enthusiasts who founded the group on Facebook, the club now has close to 200 members all of whom are avid bird watchers.

“We started as an e-group called Birdwatch Philippines, and eventually were ‘forced’ to formalize the group as we cannot approach government agencies or other organizations and identify ourselves as an e-group,” Mike Lu, the club’s president, told the BusinessMirror through e-mail on June 8.

Creating a database

Lu said that besides birdwatching, members play an important role in helping create a database of bird sightings.

He noted that while the club is mainly a recreational birdwatching group, members get to learn about habitats, the ecosystems and the importance of conserving such ecosystems.

“Club activities are for fun and nature appreciation. Education and conservation are natural outcomes of these activities,” he said.

According to Lu, it was in 2000 when he got hooked on birds after chancing upon the book, “Complete Guide to Birds of the Philippines,” at a bookstore.

“I started looking for green spaces in the metropolis where birds can be seen. I also started to look for other birdwatchers and found a few and we would go out and list what we saw and, thus, started the bird sightings records for Metro Manila. Eventually, we started birdwatching outside the city and also recording what we have seen,” he said

“It is exciting that we are building a database of bird sightings because no one else in the country is doing it, not even the DENR or the academe,” he said.

Benefits of bird watching

Lu said bird watching has many benefits. Members of the group get to enjoy bird watching in different places, help organize activities like bird festivals and are invited in talks.

“For me, it is a form of relaxation, a form of instilling discipline and patience. It fulfills my desire of traveling and discovering new places. It also provides an opportunity to make new friends not just in my country but all over the world,” he said.

He added: “I have always been fascinated with wildlife. Growing up, I was disappointed that there are no herds of antelopes or zebras when we go to the countryside. We do not even have rabbits or squirrels in our gardens. I thought the Philippines was so poor we do not even have any wildlife here.”

Unique bird-watching site

According to Lu, while the Philippines is a biodiversity hotspot, it still makes a unique bird-watching site.

“In terms of bird species, more than 30 percent of the over 700 species found in the Philippines are [endemic to the country],” he said.

He pointed out, however, that problems like habitat destruction through illegal logging, slash-and-burn farming and destructive development projects—such as mining, road construction, land reclamation, real estate development—and human activities like hunting and poaching, pose serious threats.



“While the laws are very strict, the implementation is very lax,” he pointed out.

He said there is a need to strictly implement the laws, which would solve more than half of the problems the country is facing in protecting wildlife.

Asked if the government is doing its best to protect our wildlife, he replied, “No, no, no, no. We can talk for hours on this topic alone.”

Image courtesy of Mike Lu/Wild Bird Club of the Philippines



PLDT, DENR team up for e-waste collection

June 11, 2021 | 6:26 pm



A #SmartPlanet phone recycling bin has electronic sensors that can send out Smart e-load in exchange for used phones, chargers, and tablets. -- Company handout

PLDT Inc. and its wireless subsidiary Smart Communications, Inc. said on Friday that they have signed a deal with the Environment department to launch an initiative to collect electronic waste from cell sites and offices.

The companies will work with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the Environment Management Bureau (EMB) Region 3 and its accredited provider JMR Trade and Transport Services to collect discarded phones, tablets, computers, chargers, and device accessories.

Hazardous waste like used lead acid batteries and fiber optic cables will also be collected.

The DENR-EMB Region 3 office will work with various regional offices to back the waste recovery project, and the agency will link PLDT to science researchers.

The partnership is part of PLDT and Smart's e-Waste Program to encourage recycling discarded electronic devices.

The program is rolling out what the company calls the #SmartPlanet phone recycling bin, which has electronic sensors that can send out Smart e-load in exchange for used phones, chargers, and tablets.

The firm plans to assign bins to its offices in Bacolod, Baguio, Batangas, Bulacan, Cagayan de Oro, Cavite, Cebu, Davao City, Iloilo, Laguna, Metro Manila, and Pampanga by next month.

"With the partnership, PLDT also commits to ramping up environmental awareness and proper disposal of e-waste among its staff, employees, partners and stakeholders," the company said in a statement Friday.

Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary MediaQuest Holdings, Inc., has a stake in BusinessWorld through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls.

— **Jenina P. Ibañez**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/pldt-denr-team-up-for-e-waste-collection/>



Invest in nature, government and private agencies told

BY BUSINESSMIRROR JUNE 13, 2021



A finance group has urged government and private agencies to invest in nature, saying such investment can generate globally \$350 billion per year in improved ecosystem services and contribute to the elimination of pandemics, a news release said.

As the country celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity this year, Biodiversity Finance Initiative (Biofin) Philippines, a financing strategist project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), prodded policy-makers to contribute to financing the country's 13-year biodiversity plan.

Biofin indicated in a news release that the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, which started in 2015 and will last until year 2028, will cost P24 billion annually. A budget deficit of P19 billion yearly exists.

"According to Campaign for Nature, Protecting the world's land and ocean resources outweighs financial costs at least five-to-one. Globally, this can lead to \$250 billion in increased yearly economic output, plus \$350 billion in improved ecosystem services annually," Biofin's Angelique Ogena said.

The other critical reason for investing in nature is human health itself. When watersheds and forests are destroyed, direct interaction between humans and wildlife happens, thus exposing mankind to unknown diseases.

"The International Day for Biological Diversity puts us at the center of conservation efforts in the fight to save biodiversity amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic," Ogena said.

"Seventy-five percent of emerging infectious diseases in humans originates from zoonotic pathogens. That is enough reason to revisit and reprioritize resources toward the improvement of natural resources management especially in protected areas to prevent future pandemics," she added.

Biofin, co-implemented by the United Nations Development Program in the Philippines, seeks to raise awareness on the economic and ecological values of protected areas.

The campaign aims to increase Biofin's revenue by establishing partnerships with the private sector and other agencies that can have common mission to support protected areas.

Biofin is lobbying with Malacañang to proclaim the period spanning June 2021 to May 2022 as the "Year of the Protected Areas," and June of each year as the "Month of Protected Areas."

Both are in support of Republic Act 11038, or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act.



“Nature is a reliable provider of our daily basic needs such as clean water for drinking, air for breathing and other resources such as medicine, jobs, and climate change mitigation to create a more resilient nation,” Ogena said.

“If we zoom in to the ecosystem and species levels, national parks are at the top tier when it comes to natural wealth and therefore the most in need of protection and sustainable management.”

According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, a global network of protected areas can store at least 15 percent of terrestrial carbon, boosting the value of conserving protected areas to new heights.

Nature-positive solutions follow a wholistic approach, Occidental Mindoro Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, biodiversity finance legislative advocate highlighted in an opinion piece.

Ramirez-Sato aims to “spur ideas to generate resources and jobs for conservation of nature.”

“This will help in the allocation and implementation of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases’ P1.3 trillion stimulus and recovery package,” she said.

Part of the stimulus package equivalent to P650 billion has been allotted for the Enhanced Build, Build, Build Program. This includes construction of climate-smart and resilient infrastructure where biodiversity and ecosystem enhancement can be mainstreamed.

“The stimulus package is heavy on economic provisions and budget appropriations to enable the country to recover faster, but with proper environmental considerations,” she said.

“Nature-positive solutions can create stable jobs and protect our planet,” she added.

Ramirez-Sato suggested a seven-step approach to build back the green environment during the pandemic.

These are 1) Include protected areas and key biodiversity areas (KBAs) as key elements of nature-based solutions; 2) Invest more in protected areas and KBAs; 3) Hasten the passage of biodiversity conservation-related policies; 4) Embrace agrobiodiversity; 5) Leverage partnerships and private sector engagement for PAs; 6) Strengthen human resources; and 7) maximize technology and citizen engagement.

“Our actions now to address the pandemic should not amplify the risks of future outbreaks and crises. The UN World Health Organization predicts that ‘reducing the environmental and social factors people are exposed to, nearly a quarter of the global health burden could be prevented.’”

Post-pandemic recovery plans must be inclusive and sustainable, taking into prime consideration biodiversity conservation and financing to prevent future pandemics. Moving forward to the “new normal,” business as usual is no longer an option.

Putting the environment at the core of what all agencies do should be the new paradigm of doing business so building back can be greener and better from this pandemic.

While the economic losses due to Covid-19 pandemic continue, both public and private sectors should also pay attention to long-term solutions, one of which is investing in nature.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/06/13/invest-in-nature-government-and-private-agencies-told/>



MGB declares Antique's village unsafe for dwelling

June 12, 2021 2 min read

SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA, Antique – The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) has declared Barangay Igmasandig in the town of Valderrama in Antique unsafe for dwelling as it is “very highly susceptible to landslide”.

Geologists from the regional office of the MGB in Western Visayas have recommended not to allow evacuated residents to return to their homes, Antique Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (PDRRMO) Broderick Train said in an interview on Saturday.

“Senior Geologist Adeline Grace Torreda who came with another geologist found the place as (very) highly susceptible to landslide being in a sloppy area,” Train said.

The monsoon rains softened the area that resulted in soil depression and has caused cracks and damages to the barangay hall, plaza, and houses of residents.

“The 4.8 magnitude earthquake with Valderrama as epicenter last June 7 also caused earth movement worsening the situation,” he added.

Valderrama Mayor Mary Joyce Roquero, in a separate interview, said evacuated families will have to remain in the center located at the town proper.

As of Saturday, 27 families are staying in the evacuation center while 13 additional families are in the Valderrama Central School.

Roquero added that the rest of the residents composed of 91 families are now staying with their relatives in other barangays.

Barangay Igmasandig has been declared under state of calamity as per the resolution passed by its village officials in a session that was held Saturday, the mayor said.

The declaration of the state of calamity is necessary so they could utilize their barangay fund for their emergency need, Roquero said.

The local government, she said, will also be looking for funds to purchase for the relocation site of displaced families since the MGB has already declared the place unsafe.



Roquero said they are appealing for assistance to be given to the displaced families because they do not know until when the barangay and municipal government could provide for their needs.

Antique Governor Rhodora Cadio through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) already sent food packs for the families on June 11. *(PNA)*



TUBIG SA LAWA NG TAAL NAGING BERDE AT DILAW

June 11, 2021 jake



Photo Courtesy of Pin En Cool

BATANGAS – Nagpalabas ng pahayag ang Department of Environment and Natural resources (DENR) ukol sa pagiging berde at dilaw ng kulay ng tubig sa Lawa ng Taal

Nangyari ito sa mga bayan ng Balete, Mataas na Kahoy, Lipa, Cuenca, Talisay, Agoncillo, Laurel at Tanauan na nasa paligid ng Bulkang Taal.

Ayon sa kagawaran, ito ay dulot ng natural phenomenon na kung tawagin ay “Algal Bloom,” isang indikasyon na muling sasabog ang Bulkang Taal.

Ang “Algal Bloom” ay isang natural phenomena na kung saan dumarami ang bilang ng mga Blue-Green Algae (*Cylindrospermopsis* sp.) na sinisiyasat na ngayon ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources 4-A sa Batangas Inland Fisheries Technology Outreach Station (BFAR4-A-BIFTOS).

Nanatili sa normal na lebel ang konsentrasyon ng dissolved oxygen (naitalang resulta 5.0ppm hanggang 7.0ppm) sa lawa. Nakatutulong pa rin ito na balansehin ang ibang pang parametro sa tubig at paramihin ang planktons at algae na nagsisilbing natural na pagkain ng mga isda sa naturang lawa.

Pansamantalang ipinagbawal ng DENR sa mamamayan ng nasabing mga bayan ang mga aktibidad gaya ng paglangoy o anumang gawain katulad nito dahil may peligro umano ito sa kalusugan at maaaring makakuha ng sakit sa balat at iba pa.

Hinikayat din ng tanggapan ang mamamayan na maging mapagmatyag at ipagbigay-alam sa kinaukulan kung mayroong kakaibang napansin o nakita sa lugar. (CYRILL QUILO)

Source: http://saksingayon.com/probinsiya/tubig-sa-lawa-ng-taal-naging-berde-at-dilaw/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR03NK_PiaTo_4T2CifuaI6nXjklfEC9xy908AUbaLjRFL4yWRUHRsOKJwM

‘Quality of management,’ not only quantity, important for protected areas

BY BUSINESSMIRROR JUNE 13, 2021



Screenshot of the Asean Webinar on the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas.

The Asean Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, hosted a webinar on the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas in a bid to improve the effectiveness of the region’s protected areas.

“Now more than ever, ensuring the quality and the effectiveness of the management of protected areas, as well as integrating biodiversity concerns across other sectors, public health, and socioeconomic concerns, need our urgent attention,” ACB Executive Director Theresa Mundita Lim said in her message.

She said monitoring the effectiveness and conservation outcomes is an ongoing endeavor in the Asean, especially as the region gears towards building resilience from emerging diseases and climate change risks.

The webinar was supported by the European Union, German Development Bank and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in Asean Project, Small Grants Programme and the Institutional Strengthening of Biodiversity Sector in the Asean II Project, respectively.

IUCN Regional Director for Asia Dr. Dindo Campilan emphasized that many protected and conserved areas are not being effectively and equitably managed, citing the findings of the United Nations Environment Program-World Conservation Monitoring Centre’s Protected Planet report released in May.

“It is not just the quantity of protected and conserved areas that matters; it is also the quality of their management and their governance,” Campilan said.

The IUCN Green List, the first global standard of best practice for area-based conservation, is a program of certification for protected and conserved areas—national parks, community conserved areas, nature reserves, Asean Heritage Parks and other areas—that are delivering successful conservation outcomes through effective management and fair governance.



While the IUCN Red List highlights the world's species in danger of extinction, the IUCN Green List recognizes excellence in the management of protected and conserved areas around the world.

In Asia, interest in the IUCN Green List process is growing rapidly, according to Dr. Scott Perkin of the IUCN Asia Regional Office.

Green List processes are currently underway in Bhutan, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Viet Nam.

Asia already has 10 Green Listed sites and at least 25 more sites are formally engaged in the process.

The 240 participants, many of whom were protected area authorities, experts, and representatives from the Asean member states, were given a walkthrough of the Green List, including its indicators and procedures.

Representatives from Viet Nam and Malaysia also shared their experiences of Green Listing process.

In the case of Viet Nam's first Green List site, Van Long Nature Reserve, Nguyen DucTu of IUCN Vietnam said the Green List process had been very useful in identifying gaps and implementing action plans according to international standards.

Van Long Nature Reserve, a lowland inland wetland located in northern Viet Nam, supports the world's largest population of critically endangered delacour's langur (*Trachypithecusdelacouri*).

Dr. Madhu Rao, a member of the IUCN Green List Management Committee, pointed out that achieving the biodiversity targets in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework will require protected and conserved areas to be more ecologically representative and to cover areas important for biodiversity.

"Expansion is not enough. Existing and new areas need to be effectively managed and located in the right places," she said, explaining the quality elements of protected and conserved areas.

Lim also said the lessons and insights from the Green Listing process will significantly contribute toward efforts to achieve one of the proposed goals under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework—to enhance the connectivity and integrity of natural systems that will be made part of the protected areas system.

Image courtesy of ACB



CBCP: Kalikasan ipaglaban

By Abante News Online — Last updated Jun 12, 2021

NEWS



Photo courtesy of CBCPNews



1 0

Kasabay ng paggunita sa Araw ng Kalayaan nitong Sabado, hinamon ng isang opisyal ng Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) ang sambayanang Pilipino na palakasin ang pangangalaga sa kalikasan.

Umapela si CBCP-Permanent Committee on Public Affairs vice chairman at Bayombong Bishop Jose Elmer Mangalinao sa mamamayang Pilipino na paigtingin din ang pakikipaglaban upang makamit naman ng kalikasan ang kalayaan laban sa mapanirang paraan ng pag-unlad.

Iginiit ni Mangalinao na ang bawat nabubuhay sa mundo ay binigyan ng Diyos ng kalayaan, hindi upang sirain ang mga likas na yamang ipinagkaloob nito sa halip mapangalagaan laban sa lubusang pagkasira.

Source: <https://www.abante.com.ph/cbc-p-kalikasan-ipaglaban/>



Coca-Cola aims to collect 500MT of plastic waste in Muntinlupa

June 11, 2021 | 6:21 pm



A Coca-Cola Philippines initiative plans to collect 500 metric tons (MT) of plastic waste in Muntinlupa City over a one-year period.

The company partnered with the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) and social enterprise Plastic Flamingo to collect plastic from traditional collection points, junk shops, and communities in Muntinlupa.

PBSP will provide resources like tri-bikes and personal protective equipment for the collectors. The groups partnered with 27 junk shops and 20 waste collectors that have been trained to identify different plastic types.

“The problem of solid waste, particularly flexible plastic, has skyrocketed during the pandemic and threatens the environment more than ever. This project, while helping the environment, will help waste pickers in Muntinlupa earn income from the waste collected,” PBSP Executive Director Elvin Ivan Y. Uy said in a statement.

Collected plastic waste will be sold to designated junk shops that will then deliver the raw materials to Plastic Flamingo facilities for upcycling.

Coca-Cola is fast-tracking the launch of a new PET recycling facility in General Trias, Cavite.

A joint partnership between Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines and Bangkok-based Indorama Ventures, a global leader in packaging solutions and green technology, the facility is expected to be the biggest bottle-to-bottle recycling plant in the Philippines. It aims to process around 30,000MT of used PET bottles and produce around 16,000 MT of recycled PET resin annually.

— **Jenina P. Ibañez**



- Headline
- Editorial
- Column
- Opinion
- Feature Article



GMA News ✓
11h · 🌐

...

TINGNAN: Naglatag ng oil spill boom ang Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) para maiwasan ang oil spill matapos masunog ang MV Titan 8 sa Delpan Bridge ngayong Sabado.

Unti-unti namang nawawala na ang usok na dulot ng insidente sa kalapit na residential area.

Courtesy: PCG



👍👎 1.1K

47 Comments 55 Shares



Protecting the planet

[By Fr. Shay Cullen](#) June 13, 2021

Have you ever seen the sun set upon the sea, the migrating birds fly in formation proud?

Have you ever seen the mighty forest and heard the birds sing clear and loud?

Have you seen the flowers in the meadows and the fields that provide the nectar for the bee, that gives the honey in the hive hanging from the tree?

Have you ever seen the dolphins race across the ocean waves?

The mighty whales that swim in the oceans strong and brave?

A breathless sight of beauty you will ever see if we will just allow them to live and to be.

We inhabit a most amazing planet filled with life forms and hundreds of thousands of amazing creatures, animals, birds, insects and fish.

In the natural world, the living forests and plants and oceans make up a living, evolving integrated planet with us humans. We the creatures that have a developed brain, conscientious, knowing and with awareness of self and all that is around us in the environment, have the responsibility to preserve it.

We are the ones that can admire, appreciate and wonder at the beauty of the environment and the universe. We are the thinking consciousness of the universe. We can know good and bad, and we have unique free will to choose one or the other. That is what makes us human and different from other creatures we share life with on this climate-sensitive planet.

We humans are changing it dramatically by the lifestyles that we have chosen and the industrial machines and methods we have created to maintain that lifestyle. Our way of living together, traveling, warming and cooling ourselves, producing our food, and disposing off the materials we manufacture are affecting the environment and the planet itself.

We humans are industrious, inventive, creative, intelligent, kindly and loving creatures to each other and the ecology and environment, but many of us are also something else. Many of our species have chosen to act on their lower, thoughtless basic instincts - to possess, control, dominate and subjugate others to achieve and satisfy desires and appetites. They impact the human environment. They act with violence and other negative impulses born perhaps from childhood neglect, abuse, deprivation or the evil example of other influencers. They act in anger with violence against the human environment, the human community, inflicting hurt and pain on others.

Some become intoxicated with power and destructive tendencies over their communities. They persecute and kill those who refuse to be subjugated, dominated and abused. These are the tyrants and dictators, and not only do they kill and maim and destroy those who do not approve of them, they attack the environment. Their self-serving policies expand industrial exploitation of the environment and exploit the natural resources. Their goal is to increase their personal wealth and political power and so all creatures, the environment and the planet greatly suffer. They are the humans that allow big and small corporations to destroy the forests and the oceans and create a destructive industrial juggernaut that leaves disorganized citizens divided and powerless.



We must not be silenced or intimidated. We must stand for the Earth - act to stop the destruction on a political scale, on a community level and in our personal capacity. When people unite and speak with one voice, they have the power to change the world and corrupt politicians unless they are shot and massacred. The environmental destruction by industries that is causing climate change by high levels of carbon dioxide emissions has to be challenged. These emissions cause climate fluctuations that damage sustainable food production and the natural world. Politicians, in conspiracy with the industrial leaders, driven by greed - these mighty money moguls, are foremost in destroying the planet.

Australia is an example of government policy supporting the coal extraction industry. It is the biggest exporter of coal in the world. The emissions of the coal they export are equal to 3.3 percent of global emissions. Added to domestically produced emissions of carbon dioxide, Australia contributes 4.8 percent of world emissions and is a major contributor to dangerous climate change. If we add the emissions from natural gas exports, it is even a bigger footprint and a bigger responsibility. The super cold snap in Australia of late was a direct result of climate change, it seems.

The Australian political industrial complex has to be held accountable and drastically change direction to protect the environment. That is a decision that only the Australian people can make by voting into power a green, environment-friendly government. Australia is now the sixth biggest polluter of the environment after China, the United States, Russia, India and Indonesia. Australia and all the high carbon dioxide emission-producing countries should choose to obey the principle, "Do no harm." Since basic instincts of greed, money and power, however, are dominating the ruling elites and political establishments of these countries, there is no place for principles of caring and compassion for the people and the planet.

But there is good news. Global awareness on the damage and negative effects of climate change has business and industry concerned and committed to change. A survey by Deloitte in recent months showed that 80 percent of business and corporate executives have expressed serious concern about the impact of climate change and are planning to take mitigating action to address it. But will they?

The "Climate Check Report surveyed 750 executives last January and February 2021 and found that 30 percent of them said climate change was affecting their businesses and causing a scarcity of resources and supply-chain problems. Self-interest may bring concern for the environment. Political awareness-building and peaceful social activism are having a positive effect. Schoolchildren in Australia have taken to the streets to protest against coal production. Greta Thunberg is leading a global movement to stop industries from burning fossil fuels and to build renewable-energy sources. Now 18 years old, she blasts the empty promises of world leaders who promise much but do nothing positive but allow the destruction of the Amazon rainforests.

If we want to continue to admire the forests, the dolphins, the birds and other creatures of the planet, we have to preserve and protect it with all our strength.

www.preda.org



Plastic pollution: take-out food is littering the oceans

By Helen Briggs BBC Environment correspondent

Published 1 day ago



Plastic bags and food containers are washed on to beaches

Plastic from take-out and convenience food is littering rivers and oceans - but straws are not the worst offenders, according to a new study.

Scientists analysed global inventories cataloguing more than 12 million pieces of litter found in and around rivers, oceans, shorelines and the seafloor.

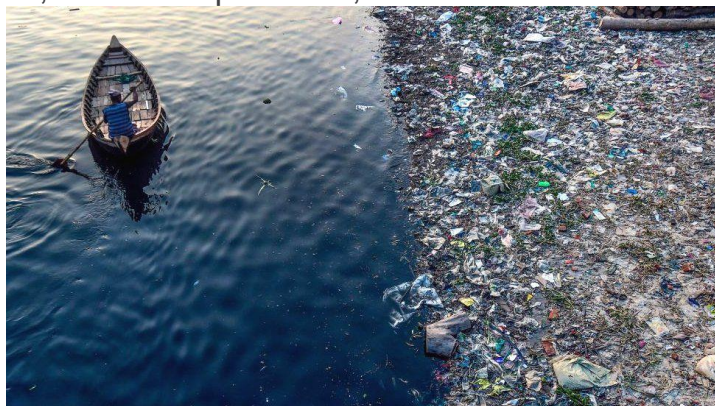
They found eight out of 10 items listed were made of plastic.

And 44% of this plastic litter related to take-out food and drinks.

Single-use bottles, food containers and wrappers, and plastic bags made up the biggest share.

"It was shocking to find out that bags, bottles, food containers and cutlery together with wrappers account for almost half of the human-made objects on a global scale," said study leader Dr Carmen Morales of the University of Cadiz, Spain.

"We found them in rivers, on the deep seabed, on shorelines and floating off our coasts."



Plastic from food containers and cutlery dominates litter in rivers

Measures to cut plastic pollution have focused on the likes of straws, cotton buds and drink stirrers, which are relatively easy to replace.

The researchers say these actions are welcome, but they recommend also tackling plastic from take-out food and drink.



They say this type of plastic is often discarded outdoors after being used for only a very short time and should be prioritised.

Writing in the journal Nature Sustainability, they suggest three possible strategies for tackling the problem:

- Replace plastic in take-out food and drink with more-easily degradable materials
- Bring in regulatory bans on plastic that can be avoided, such as bags
- Consider deposit-refund schemes to encourage shoppers to return take-out products.

The study also highlighted the problem of litter from fishing gear, such as plastic nets and ropes, which was the biggest problem in the open ocean. Dumped and discarded nets and lines can be deadly for marine wildlife.

A second study by the University of Cadiz looked at litter released into the ocean from rivers in Europe alone.



Larger rivers such as The Danube contained the most floating plastic

Its estimates suggest between 307 and 925 million items of floating litter travel along European rivers to the sea each year.

Plastic made up about 80% of this, dominated by bits of plastic as well as single-use plastics such as bottles, food packaging and bags.

Turkey produced the most litter (16%), followed by Italy (11%), the UK (8%), Spain (8%) and Greece (7%).

Lead researcher Dr Daniel Gonzalez said action was needed to encourage consumers to reduce their plastic consumption.

"We need to act from a citizen's point of view and also from the policy side," he said.

13 JUNE 2021, SUNDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DOH lists 8,027 new COVID-19 cases, 145 deaths

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#) Published Jun 12, 2021 4:17:16 PM



The country again tallied over 8,000 new COVID-19 cases on Saturday, raising the nationwide tally to 1,308,352, according to the Department of Health. (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 12) — The country again tallied over 8,000 new COVID-19 cases on Saturday, raising the nationwide tally to 1,308,352, according to the Department of Health.

The DOH case bulletin showed 8,027 new cases - the highest since May 28, when there were 8,748 infections. Of the total number of cases, 4.6% or 60,341 are active or people currently ill. At least 90.7% of the active cases have mild symptoms, 5% have no symptoms, 1.7% have severe symptoms, 1.3% are in critical condition, and 1.24% are in moderate condition.

The death toll rose to 22,652 or 1.73% of the COVID-19 total, after 145 more people lost their lives to the disease. The DOH said 59 of the new fatalities were previously tagged as survivors and reclassified after validation while 24 duplicate cases were removed, including 19 recoveries.

The survivor count is now 1,225,359 or 93.7% of the cases, after 8,940 more people recovered.

The DOH said all laboratories submitted their reports on time.

The daily positivity rate or percentage of individuals who tested positive is 13.1% based on 52,959 tests done as of June 10. The figure remains far from the World Health Organization's recommended percentage of below 5%. Experts have said high rates may mean high transmission, and more cases that have yet to be detected.

The OCTA research team said the country's average number of new cases fell by 3% to 6,430.

But OCTA's latest report on Saturday flagged Iloilo, Cagayan, Misamis Oriental, Negros Oriental, and Agusan del Norte over their high healthcare utilization rates of over 70%. Seven other local government units - Cagayan de Oro City, Iloilo City, Butuan, Dumaguete, Tuguegarao, Tacloban, and Cotabato City - also had bed occupancy rates above 70%.

On Friday, [Cagayan De Oro's city health officer](#) sounded the alarm over the influx of COVID-19 patients in its hospitals.

The Palace earlier said it is considering [easing restrictions](#) in Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal - or NCR Plus - since the healthcare utilization rate remains low. Cases in Metro Manila are also on a downward trend, OCTA previously reported.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/6/12/COVID-19-8-000-cases.html>



Metro Manila mayors mull placing NCR under normal GCQ

Published June 12, 2021 11:20pm

Metro Manila's Mayors are looking into the possibility of placing the National Capital Region under a normal general community quarantine (GCQ) starting June 16, according to JP Soriano's report on "24 Oras Weekend."

"Magbobotohan ho kami pero ako, I am in favor of gradual easing of restrictions. Gusto every month dahan-dahan, pagaan na ng pagaan 'yung restrictions," Taguig Mayor Lino Cayetano said.

(We're going to vote on it, but as for me, I am in favor of the gradual easing of restrictions. I want restrictions to get less strict every month.)

NCR and nearby provinces Bulacan, Rizal, Cavite, and Laguna were [placed under a GCQ with restrictions from June 1 to 15, 2021](#).

For his part, testing czar Secretary Vince Dizon said they would follow the suggestions of experts.

"Pero, ang masasabi ko lang, kailangang-kailangan na talaga magbalik sa trabaho ng mga kababayan," he said.

(All I can say is the public needs to return to work soon.)

Mandaluyong Mayor Menchie Abalos also expressed support over placing NCR under a less stringent GCQ as long as the vaccination program continued.

"Ito na open na ang A4, diba? Magpabakuna na sila para talagang makapag trabaho na sila ng maayos. And, of course, wag pa rin silang makakalimot doon sa kanilang social, health protocol," she said.

(The A4 has been opened, right? So they should get vaccinated so they can work well. Of course, they shouldn't forget our health protocols.)

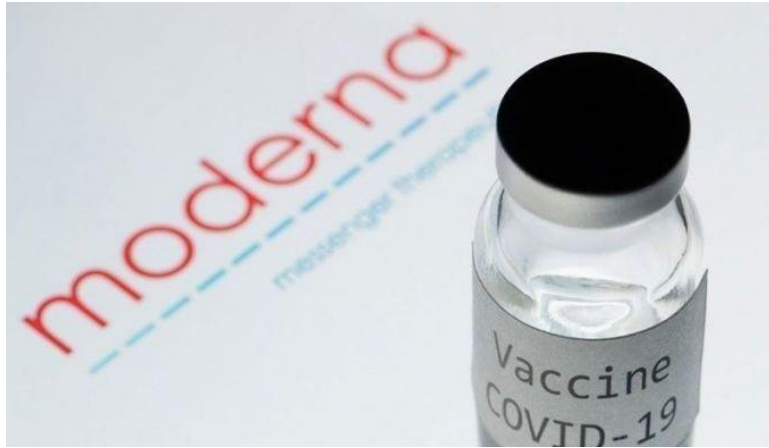
The Inter-Agency Task Force said the government aims to inoculate 70% of the population in NCR before the end of the year. — **Joahna Lei Casilao/DVM, GMA News**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/metro/791324/metro-manila-mayors-mull-placing-ncr-under-normal-gcq/story/?just_in



Pfizer, Moderna vaccines posibleng ipagbili na sa publiko sa Setyembre

(Pilipino Star Ngayon) - June 13, 2021 - 12:00am



Sinabi ni Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr., ang manufacturers ng mga American vaccines na Moderna, Inc. at Pfizer-BioNTech ay nag-aplay na ng “full authorization” status mula sa World Health Organization (WHO).

AFP/Joel Saget

MANILA, Philippines — Posible nang ipagbili sa publiko ang COVID-19 vaccines na gawa ng Pfizer at Moderna, ayon kay Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr.

Sinabi ni Galvez, ang manufacturers ng mga American vaccines na Moderna, Inc. at Pfizer-BioNTech ay nag-aplay na ng “full authorization” status mula sa World Health Organization (WHO).

Ang mga bakuna na nabibigyan ng full authorization status ng WHO ay puwedeng bilhin ng mga pribadong kompanya at direktang ibenta sa mga consumers.

“Moderna and Pfizer are now applying for full authorization. They might be open commercially by September or October,” ani Galvez.

Sa ngayon ay wala pang bakuna laban sa COVID-19 na pinapayagan sa bansa na ibenta sa publiko dahil emergency use authorization (EUA) lamang ang ibinibigay sa kanila ng Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Nangangahulugan na lahat ng bakuna laban sa COVID-19 na dumarating sa Pilipinas ay ibinibigay ng libre sa publiko.

Samantala, sinabi rin ni Galvez na maaari nang magsimula sa huling bahagi ng buwan ang pagbabakuna sa mga mahihirap na Filipino na kabilang sa A5 priority group na may kabuuang populasyon na 8.5 milyon.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/06/13/2105130/pfizer-moderna-vaccines-posibleng-ipagbili-na-sa-publiko-sa-setyembre/amp/>

13 JUNE 2021, SUNDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aenIaKwSZM8>

#BeachNourishment #DolomiteWhiteSand #Savemanilabay

NAKU PO! NAVOTAS FISH PORT DIREKTA SA DAGAT ANG DUMI DENR AT COAST GUARD
NAPASUGOD TULOY MANILA BAY

1,780 views • Jun 12, 2021

 33  1  SHARE  SAVE ...



JANICE LLANDER Vlog

7.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#BeachNourishment
#DolomiteWhiteSand
#Savemanilabay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-frNJqv2s4c>

#Savemanilabay #Battleformanilabay #Manilabayupdate

SAKO SAKONG TAHONG! NAKUHA SA MANILA BAY! BINUHOS NA ANG BIYAYA! RESULTA NG TUNAY NA PAGBABAGO!

4,370 views • Jun 12, 2021

224 4 SHARE SAVE ...



Vincent Tabigue
141K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#Savemanilabay #Battleformanilabay #Manilabayupdate #DENR #DPWH #MMDA
#Savepasigriver #Tatakduterte #Dutertelangmalakas #Buildbuildbuildprogram



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sI5zWJ9Judk>

MANILA BAY

WOW! MANILA BAY UPDATE TODAY JUNE 12, 2021! ARAW NG KALAYAAN

29 views • Jun 13, 2021

2 0 SHARE SAVE ...



locent 14

1.5K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabayupdate #manilabaytoday #savemanilabay #battleformanilabay







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoFIRzxQuss>

MANILA BAY WHITE BEACH

MANILA BAY UPDATE TODAY: PDO PINA POGI ANG MGA DAMO SA MANILA BAY

161 views • Jun 12, 2021

 8  0  SHARE  SAVE ...



MR. ED

14.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

MANILA BAY UPDATE TODAY: PDO PINA POGI ANG MGA DAMO SA MANILA BAY


#ManilaBay #ManilaBayUpdate #SaveManilaBay

SHOW MORE







Please click this link:


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmJJyL1i0j4>

 PASIG

LAGOT! Bahay ng mga Informal settlers Nilamon ng Apoy sa Araw ng kalayaan Delpan Bridge Pasig River

12,138 views • Jun 12, 2021

 277  8  SHARE  SAVE ...

 **JUNRIEL LLANDER** ✓
177K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

10-70 UPDATE: Fire Incident at Muelle De La Industria Port Area. Manila. Fire under control. As of 1:54 pm by leopard 6.

SHOW MORE







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zihwqPVn6Mk>

 PASIG RIVER

COAST GUARD NAGLATAG NG TRAP BOOM IWAS OIL SPILL SA MANILA BAY!

9,816 views • Jun 12, 2021

 161  6  SHARE  SAVE ...



KHOPARS VLOG ✓
118K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBayUpdate
#ManilaNews
#M/vTitan

SHOW MORE







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imXp0vqWObg>

#ManilaBayUpdate #BeachNourishment #BattleForManilaBay

SUMIKLAB NA SUNOG ABOT TANAW SA MANILA BAY!

5,341 views • Jun 12, 2021

 212  4  SHARE  SAVE ...



engr. berto

160K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE


#ManilaBayUpdate #BeachNourishment
#BattleForManilaBay

SHOW MORE







Please click this link:


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gE9zkd2VD1o>


 MANILA BAYWALK

MANILA BAY UPDATE NGAYON PATULOY NA UMAAPAW !SA BIYAYA ANG BAYWALK ! Miz July

913 views • Jun 12, 2021

 76  4  SHARE  SAVE ...

 **Miz July**
54.7K subscribers

 SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay Update June 12,2021
ManilaBay
[#SaveManilaBay](#)
SHOW MORE







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgpTXFrBmR8>

#BeachNourishment #DolomiteWhiteSand #Savemanilabay

MANILA BAY UPDATE JUNE 12,2021 INDEPENDENCE DAY PINAGKAGULUHAN ANG MANILA BAY SA LINAW NG DAGAT

3,321 views • Jun 12, 2021

 106  1  SHARE  SAVE ...



JANICE LLANDER Vlog

7.69K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#BeachNourishment

#DolomiteWhiteSand

#Savemanilabay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dAqsQfaMN8>

#BeachNourishment #DolomiteWhiteSand #Savemanilabay

ARAW NG KALAYAAN SA MANILA BAY JUNE 12,2021 NAPUNO NG SASAKYAN ANG REMEDIOS PULIS AT SWAT RUMESPONDE

2,931 views • Jun 12, 2021

👍 90 💬 3 ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ⋮



JANICE LLANDER Vlog

7.69K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#BeachNourishment
#DolomiteWhiteSand
#Savemanilabay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QovdricCyFk>

MANILA BAY

Live ARAW NG KALAYAAN sa MANILA BAY

6,083 views • Streamed live 23 hours ago

271 2 SHARE SAVE ...



KUYA BOK Vlogs

108K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

Music - Epidemic Sound

Like the music in our vlogs? 30 day free trial Epidemic Sound

<https://www.epidemicsound.com>

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-ySpKHOG3E>

MANILA BAYWALK

Manila Bay update HALA ANO YUN!malayang NILUSOB!Miz July

1,119 views • Streamed live 15 hours ago

110 7 SHARE SAVE ...



Miz July

54.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geaGzhdEKyQ>

MANILA BAYWALK

MANILA BAY UPDATE BULAGAAN PAG HAPON! MGA VENDORS KANYA KANYANG TULAKAN! Miz July

396 views • Jun 13, 2021

46 0 SHARE SAVE ...



Miz July
54.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay Update June 12,2021
ManilaBay
[#SaveManilaBay](#)
SHOW MORE




Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mueaa6i9GkM>

Manila Bay Live Update: June 12, 2021

2,275 views • Streamed live 21 hours ago

 93  9  SHARE  SAVE ...



PINOY BLOGGER PH
14.3K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8bxZ5RW3RA>

Manila Bay Update: June 12, 2021

5,607 views • Jun 12, 2021

159 2 SHARE SAVE ...



PINOY BLOGGER PH
14.3K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project Ongoing.



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K13iF_goB3A

#BeachNourishment #DolomiteWhiteSand #Savemanilabay

SANDAMAKMAK NA BASURA SA TANZA CAVITE PINAGTULUNGAN NA NG RESIDENTE AT COAST GUARD MANILA BAY UPDATE

542 views • Jun 12, 2021

👍 22 💬 0 ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ...



JANICE LLANDER Vlog

7.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#BeachNourishment
#DolomiteWhiteSand
#Savemanilabay

SHOW MORE