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DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Lingunan Creek sa Valenzuela, itinalagang ‘most improved estero’ sa MM



March 12, 2021 @ 6:15 PM 12 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Upang mapanatiling malinis ang mga estero at ibang daluyan ng tubig pinarangalan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources-National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) na “most improved estero” sa Metro Manila ang Lingunan Creek na matatagpuan sa Barangay Lingunan, Valenzuela City sa ginanap na kauna-unahang “Gawad Taga-Ilog” awarding ceremony na ginanap nitong Martes, Marso 9.

Ayon sa DENR ang “Gawad Taga-Ilog: Search for Most Improved Estero in Metro Manila” ay ang pagkilala sa mga lokal na pamahalaan – particular sa mga barangay – sa ginagawang hakbang ng mga ito upang mapanatiling malinis ang mga estero at iba’t-ibang daluyan ng tubig sa kanilang nasasakupan.

“We would like to extend our gratitude to all the local executives of Metro Manila, including the barangay officials, who made an extra mile in their clean-up drive despite the challenges we are currently facing due to the pandemic,” saad ni DENR-NCR Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caancan.

Kaugnay nito nakuha ng Park Creek 22 sa Barangay Marikina Heights, Marikina City ang Gawad Taga-Ilog 1st runner-up habang 2nd runner-up naman ang Bangkulasi River na matatagpuan sa mga barangay na Bangkulasi, NBBS-Dagat-dagatan at NBBS-Kaunlaran, Navotas City sa ginanap na awarding ceremony na idinaos sa DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau Amphitheater sa Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center sa Quezon City.

Bukod sa pagiging grand winner, iginawad din sa Lingunan Creek ang ‘People’s Choice Award’ dahil sa mahigit sa 10 libong likes at reaction na nakuha nito sa official Facebook page ng DENR-NCR.

Samantala, nakatanggap ang LGU na nangangasiwa sa Lingunan Creek ng trophy at P50,000 cash at karagdagang P20,000 dahil sa pagsungkit sa People’s Choice Award.

Tumanggap naman ang nangangasiwa ng Park Creek 22 ng P35,000 habang ang Bangkulasi River ay nakakuha ng P25,000.

Kasama naman sa mga nominado sa Gawad Taga-Ilog awards ang mga lungsod ng Makati, San Juan, Manila, Parañaque, Quezon, Muntinlupa, Mandaluyong, Pasig, Malabon, Caloocan, at Las Piñas.



Kabilang sa batayan ng mga hurado ang mga sumusunod: physical improvement (40%), social mobilization and transformation (30%), sustainability and replicability (20%) at partnerships (10%).

Dahil kinikilala din ng Gawad Taga-Ilog ang aktibong partisipasyon ng mga lokal na pamahalaan ng Metro Manila sa ginagawang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay, ang lahat ng lungsod na lumahok ay nakatanggap ng waste collector trike, air purifier, at certificate of recognition mula sa DENR-NCR.

“We will continue to provide assistance to all local government units in cleaning the rivers and other waterways,” pahayag ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu sa kanyang keynote message na binasa naman ni Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones. **(Santi Celario)**



DENR seizes illegally cut lumber



ZAMBOANGA. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) personnel seize last week illegally cut lumbers in Gutalac, Zamboanga del Norte. A photo handout shows the confiscated lumber now deposited at the DENR office in Liloy town in the same province. (SunStar Zamboanga)

March 12, 2021

PERSONNEL of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) together with policemen have recently seized illegally cut lumbers in Zamboanga del Norte, a DENR official announced Friday, March 12, 2021.

Rosevirico Tan, DENR regional information officer, said the illegally cut lumbers were seized last week in Upper Gutalac village, Gutalac, Zamboanga del Norte.

Tan said no one was arrested as the illegally cut 97 Guijo fitches were abandoned when the personnel of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) of Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte and police arrived in Upper Gutalac village.

He said the forest product has an equivalent volume of 586 board feet and an estimated value of P35,160.

The apprehension came after Cenro-Liloy received a tip from an anonymous informant about the illegally cut lumbers.

Tan said the confiscated lumbers were deposited at the Cenro-Liloy compound for safekeeping and further investigation. (SunStar Zamboanga)



Raptors returned to wild on World Wildlife Day

By The Manila Times

March 12, 2021



Lopez-led geothermal leader Energy Development Corporation, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Region V and the Provincial Government of Albay Parks and Wildlife, released 10 Brahminy Kites in its Bacon-Manito Geothermal Plant in Albay in celebration of World Wildlife Day 2021 on 3 March, with the theme, “Forest and Livelihood: Sustaining People and Planet.” EDC commits to elevate everything it touches including the environment thru collaborative partnerships for a decarbonized and regenerative future.

It was attended by Albay Provincial Veterinary Office OIC Dr. Pancho Mella, Penro Sorsogon Technical Services Division (TSD) Chief Ma. Fe Reganit, PENR Officer Tito Migo, EDC Corporate Social Responsibility Head for BMGP Eduardo Jimenez, DENR Asst Regional Director Atty. Ronnel Sopsop and BMGP Production Head Engr. Leon Bejer, Jr. during the release of the birds in the plant’s veranda.

EDC operates the 140-MW Bacon-Manito Geothermal Project that supplies clean and reliable power to the Luzon grid. It is a global pioneer in the geothermal energy industry and the country’s largest vertically-integrated geothermal developer, supplying 1,457.8MW of clean and renewable energy to the Philippines.



Creation of Boracay Island Dev't Authority nixed

Published March 12, 2021, 1:15 PM

by [Tara Yap](#)

ILOILO CITY – Tourism stakeholders at world-famous Boracay Island in Malay, Aklan have united to oppose the creation of the Boracay Island Development Authority (BIDA).



A couple wearing face masks takes a walk along the beach of Boracay Island. (Tara Yap/File/Manila Bulletin)

Dubbed as “One Boracay,” various organizations representing almost 20,000 members are decrying the proposal for BIDA as the government-owned and controlled corporation (GOCC) that will oversee the management of the country’s most famous beach destination.

“BIDA as a GOCC (will have) powers and functions that duplicate and overlap with those already vested upon by national government agencies,” they said in an open letter sent to President Duterte this week. “It is repugnant to the very essence of federalism advocated and espoused by President Duterte,” they added.

Instead of BIDA, they are calling for the extension of the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force (BIATF) Duterte created following the half-year closure of the resort island in April 2018.

BIATF has been mandated to ensure sustainability of the long-term rehabilitation of Boracay, which saw environmental damage due to decades of unregulated development.

BIATF is composed of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Tourism (DOT), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the local government of Malay, and the provincial government of Aklan.

If BIDA becomes reality, the stakeholders fear there would be no participation from them and violates the Local Government Code.

The open letter was also sent to Senate President Vicente Sotto III and House Speaker Lord Allan Velasco and is signed by presidents of organizations representing Boracay travel agencies, tour operators, watersport associations, boat owners, van owners, tricycle owners, photographers, vendors, local fishermen, the indigenous peoples (IPs), and the Muslim community. It was also signed by officials of the three barangays in the resort island.



COMMENTARY

Mangroves: Key is local

By: [Ordoñez](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:10 AM March 12, 2021

For the development of mangroves, the key is local formulation and implementation. Otherwise, like many praiseworthy national undertakings done from the top down, experience has shown that this development is likely to fail.

The first question is: Why pay attention to mangroves at this time? During this period of climate change, pandemic and poverty, we must remember that mangroves are the forests of the sea. Like forests, they produce both economic and ecological benefits that we need badly today. Since we have already lost half of them, we should be fully aware of the benefits they can provide us.

First, mangroves protect seaside communities from storm surges and sudden flooding. During the “Yolanda” tsunami, all that was seen in the affected area was debilitating devastation along the shoreline. There was one exception. A large community looked intact, protected by the mangroves that stopped the surging waters. Today, we need to replicate this experience because of the more frequent flooding and disasters brought about by increased climate change.

Second, mangroves provide livelihood to the poorest sector in our country. These are 1.6 million fisherfolk who rely on a rapidly dwindling fish supply. The mangroves are the breeding place for increasing the fish needed for them to survive. They also provide additional income opportunities. Examples are paying fisherfolk to build and maintain these mangroves at this time of little catch and employment, providing additional income from products like crabs and oysters, and enhancing the mangroves’ ecotourism potential.

Third, mangroves constitute an excellent response to climate change. They pull greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and store them in their soils up to four times as much the carbon of other tropical forests. They provide habitat for a wide variety of terrestrial, estuarine and marine species, as well as protect water quality by removing harmful pollutants.

We have already lost half of our mangroves. We must now restore and expand them. But doing this with a national formula-fits-all approach will fail miserably.

There are three sets of players who must participate, but all with a clearly local focus.

The first set is from the government’s executive branch. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (DENR-ERDB) has the required technology and experts to help lead in mangrove development formulation and implementation. The Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) has the ability to mobilize and harness the organization and resources needed to support this initiative.

The second is the local government units (LGUs). Since the mandate for agriculture and fisheries development is devolved to the LGUs who know their local situations and constituents best, they will be mainly responsible for managing this effort. They will also mobilize for and train the people involved on the most effective way this can be done.

The third set is composed of the fisherfolk themselves. Organized into groups, they will execute the details of mangrove development. They will be the ones who will most benefit from protection from storm and flood surges. The income from the increased supply of fish, the employment opportunity from building and maintaining the mangroves, and the added livelihood from crabs, oysters and other options such as ecotourism will be a significant boost to their well-being.



All these should have a local focus. In Central Luzon (Region 3), initiatives have already been undertaken by the Kapampangan Development Foundation with its chair, Manuel V. Pangilinan, and president, Benigno N. Ricafort. It is partnering with Alyansa Agrikultura, whose president, Arsenio N. Tanchuling, has 30 years of community-based coastal resource (including mangroves) management experience. They have started discussions with officials of the DENR-ERDB, the DA-BFAR, LGUs and fisherfolk organizations. Proposed sources of funding are the People's Survival Fund sponsored by then Sen. Loren Legarda, the Green Climate Fund originated by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and contributions from corporations doing business in Central Luzon. Since time is of the essence, similar large mangrove initiatives building on successful local models should be implemented immediately in other regions. But we must always keep in mind that to be successful in mangroves, the key is local. INQ

The author is Agriwatch chair, former secretary of presidential programs and projects and former undersecretary of the DA and the Department of Trade and Industry.

Contact is Agriwatch_phil@yahoo.com.



FCF boosts reforestation efforts

By Leander C. Domingo, TMT

March 13, 2021

QUEZON, Nueva Vizcaya: FCF Minerals Corp. is stepping up its reforestation efforts in the communities hosting its mining activities.

James Carmichael, FCF country manager, said the firm's nursery is now home to a big number of high-quality planting materials of different endemic species of trees including fruit trees.

"Our central nursery has been the key in attaining the mine's high survival rate on reforestation," Carmichael said.

He said the variety of endemic species at their nursery include white lauan, mayapis, guiyo, ranguike, kalantas, tuai, narra, among other species, that are found in the Philippines.

"We also have high-value crops like rambutan, lansones, durian, guyabano, coffee, cacao, duhat, kasoy, citrus and bamboo species," Carmichael said.

Their facility was designed to produce from 200,000 to 300,000 seedlings per year.

"We have established a water misting system for water conservation, uniform coverage and gentle precipitation, thus eliminating mortality of germinant and transplants because of uncontrolled watering that can cause injury to the plants," he added.

FCF has also been into cloning forest tree species to come up with quality planting materials for the company's rehabilitation and reforestation initiatives.

"Our clonal facility was established which uses macro-somatic clonal propagation technology," Carmichael said.

He said forest tree species such as guiyo, yakal and bagtikan from the Dipterocarpaceae family and other endemic species present challenges

in natural seed propagation because they have seed-off years.

Dipterocarpaceae is a family of largely South Asian and African timber trees comprising of more than 17 genera and 695 species.

Earlier this year, representatives from the Manila and Tuguegarao City offices of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) conducted an initial and offsite validation of FCF's reforestation efforts for the Best Mining Forest Contest 2020. The MGG is an agency under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Carmichael said the validators have seen and commended the company's best practices for nursery operations, progressive mine rehabilitation, mining forest program, and biodiversity conservation programs.

"With this, we are aiming for gold and hoping for a better future," he said.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/13/business/green-business/fcf-boosts-reforestation-efforts/850502/>



Dagupan residents up in arms vs dump

(The Philippine Star) - March 13, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Residents of Dagupan City in Pangasinan, including court employees, judges and prosecutors, are up in arms over a dump along the shore on Tondaligan beach in Barangay Bonuan Gueset.

Tondaligan beach has become an “ecological disaster zone” due to the dump, which spews noxious fumes, according to residents, noting that the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act prohibits the establishment and maintenance of dumps.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu had earlier ordered the Environmental Management Bureau to increase efforts to close all open dumps.

Cimatu said all dumps should be closed by the end of the month.

ACB kicks off webinar series on protected area effectiveness, financing

By ACB Published on March 12, 2021



Screengrab from the two-part virtual training on Monitoring Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) for protected area managers. Photo: ACB

LAGUNA, Mar 12 -- Kicking off its virtual series on sustainable financing and protected area effectiveness, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) held a two-part virtual training on the Monitoring Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) for protected area managers.

Drawing a hundred participants from the ASEAN Member States, the METT-4 training was conducted in cooperation with the European Union, German Development Bank (KfW), and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP) Project, Small Grants Programme (SGP), and the Institutional Strengthening of Biodiversity Sector in the ASEAN II (ISB II) Project, respectively. The training was designed to help develop capacities and improve the quality of ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs) and protected areas in the region in achieving their conservation outcomes.

METT-4 is the improved edition of the protected area management effectiveness monitoring tool first developed 20 years ago. The tool has been adopted widely by many protected areas globally, including some in ASEAN Member States. It allows protected area managers to monitor the progress and management effectiveness of their site.

Through METT-4, protected area managers and personnel may input the data electronically using a simple, accessible format (excel) with a step-by-step guide to application and training video.

The virtual training held via Zoom on 8 and 9 March was led by the experts involved in developing the tool – Prof. Marc Hockings, Ms. Sue Stolton, and Mr. Nigel Dudley.

“Protected and conserved areas play important roles in our recovery and resilience-building efforts against the backdrop of these ongoing public health and climate crises,” ACB Executive Director Theresa Mundita Lim said in her opening remarks.

She added that the ACB and the ASEAN Member States ensure that front liners and decision-makers are fully-equipped to monitor the progress and effectiveness of management, which are indicators of the quality of protected areas.



Stolton, a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), stressed that the METT is designed to complement the protected areas' planning and assessment cycle as it tracks progress over time.

In the second part of the training, Hockings, vice-chair (Science and Management of Protected Areas) of the IUCN WCPA and senior fellow of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, ran a demonstration of the METT-4 Excel workbook use.

Managers and officers of protected areas in the ASEAN likewise shared their experiences and reflections on METT's applicability.

For instance, the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines shared that in 2013, together with GIZ through a project, it has commissioned a study on the National Management Effectiveness and Capacity Assessment of 64 protected areas using METT.

Ryan Cuanan of the BMB said three years after the implementation of the project, an increase in the management effectiveness in the protected areas has been observed. Since 2018, all protected areas have been required by the DENR to undertake PA Management Effectiveness Assessment using the METT.

Dr. Victor Luna Amin, head of the Totally Protected Area (TPA) Management Division of Sarawak Forestry Corporation in Malaysia, meanwhile said protected areas in Sarawak had applied and modified other tools of assessment in the past across all the protected areas. These, he said, improved teamwork and encouraged positive reinforcements among the managers, personnel, and stakeholders. Incentives were also provided to the protected areas with good management.

Peeranuch Dulkul Kappelle of the National Park Office of Thailand's Department of Natural Parks noted the enhancements in the METT that made it user-friendly. In general, she stressed the value of having the tool translated into local languages and acknowledged that these tools enable protected areas to identify and quickly address management gaps by themselves. (ACB)



Antique legislative building to observe solid waste management

By Annabel Consuelo Petinglay **March 12, 2021, 10:38 am**



BID TO BE A GREEN BUILDING. Antique Vice Governor Edgar Denosta issues a memorandum on Thursday (March 11, 2021) directing the Provincial Board to observe solid waste management. He said this is to fulfill their commitment to make the new Legislative Building a model "green building". (PNA photo by Annabel Consuelo J Petinglay)

SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA, Antique – To serve as a "green building" model in the province, the Legislative Building has been encouraged to practice waste segregation and to recycle.

"I have already instructed our administrative personnel to buy trash bins for waste segregation," Vice Governor Edgar Denosta said in a press conference on Thursday as he issued a memorandum for the Provincial Board to implement Ecological Solid Waste Management (ESWM).

The memorandum also enjoined offices at the building to recycle bond papers and other office supplies, and segregate their food wastes to be converted into compost.

They should also place decorative plants inside offices for greening.

Denosta said the move complied with their commitment to Antique Lone District Rep. Loren Legarda who requested them during her virtual meeting with the Provincial Board members on March 4 to make their legislative building an ESWM model.

"We are realizing our commitment to Rep. Legarda to make the Legislative Building a 'green' building," he said.

Denosta noted that the congresswoman would like her home province, particularly the Legislative Building, to implement the ESWM Law.

He said they were complying with what Legarda had told them, considering that she was the one who lobbied for the funding of the new building that was inaugurated on January 28. (PNA)



Antique orders regular cleanup of coastal areas

By Annabel Consuelo Petinglay **March 12, 2021, 1:41 pm**



COASTAL CLEANUP. Antique Vice Governor Edgar Denosta (center) joins residents in cleaning a coastal area in Antique in this November 2020 photo. The Antique Provincial Board on Thursday (March 11, 2021) approved an ordinance directing households along coastal areas to carry out regular cleanups. (Photo courtesy Office of Vice Governor Denosta)

SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA, Antique – Residents of Antique’s coastal areas are required to conduct regular cleanups to prevent and mitigate marine pollution.

In an interview on Friday, Vice Governor Edgar Denosta said he was glad that the Provincial Board approved an ordinance requiring all households along the coastal areas in the province to conduct regular cleanup activities in compliance with Republic Act (RA) 9003 and RA 9275, during its session on Thursday.

Denosta authored the ordinance after he noticed loads of trash along the coastal areas, where 15 of Antique’s 18 municipalities are situated.

Some coastal barangays do not comply with RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management (ESWM) Act of 2000 and RA 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, he said.

“With the implementation of the new ordinance, I hope that there will already be uniformity in the implementation of the law by the barangays,” he added.

Under the ordinance, cleanup will be scheduled by all coastal barangays at a mutually agreed date and time.

“The households will have to regularly clean up the front yard of their houses facing the coastal area,” Denosta said, warning that penalties would be imposed on individuals, households, or establishments that fail to comply.

The first offense, he said, would entail a fine of PHP2,000 and reprimand; the second offense, PHP3,000 plus coastal cleanup service; and subsequent offenses, PHP5,000 plus coastal cleanup service.

The municipal or barangay treasurer is deputized to collect the penalties.

Denosta also said apart from the regular cleanups, a synchronized cleanup shall be done by all coastal barangays twice a year – every third week of March and third week of September during the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day.

The purpose of the (ICC) is to engage people around the world to remove trash and debris from beaches and waterways, identify the sources of litter, and change the behaviors that cause pollution, the same idea behind the provincial ordinance.

“There will also be the creation of the Barangay Solid Waste Management Committee with the barangay captain as chairperson,” he said.

The committee will assist in the implementation of the ordinance and conduct training on ESWM. (PNA)

Source:

https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1133377?fbclid=IwAR2HSOkf0qIzmgo_nqeUe_iCqSHlczMD_E5FTjM3ajl4CN5mT0oIn0mCDELs



Caraga ConsumerNet members tackle ways vs plastic pollution

By Jennifer P. Gaitano Published on March 12, 2021

BUTUAN CITY, Mar. 12 (PIA) -- Being the lead agency of the Consumer Network (ConsumerNet) in Caraga region, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has briefed its members from different government agencies and private sector on plastic pollution and how to prevent it.

Lorijane Sacote of DTI-Caraga shared how consumers could be wise enough in purchasing items with a limited budget. She also cited several ways on how to reduce wastes. "The best way to manage waste is not to produce it," she said.

"If we want to live with less plastic, let us practice the following: 1) Bring your own shopping bag; 2) Carry a reusable water bottle; 3) Bring your own cup; 4) Pick your lunch in reusable containers; 5) Say no to disposable straws and cutlery; 6) Skip the plastic produce bags; 7) Slow down and dine in; 8) Store leftovers in glass jars; and 9) Share these tips with your friends," added Sacote.

Sacote further encouraged consumers to recycle materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turn them into new products. "Look for the recycled option in all the products you buy," she bared.

Meanwhile, Leslie Cortes, representative from the Department of Health (DOH)-Caraga, also briefed from the members the COVID-19 vaccination program of the government that the public must know about. She bared that the DOH with the local government units in the region will implement an electronic immunization registry in sites following priority eligible groups.

"We could protect our families by getting ourselves vaccinated and getting our immediate families vaccinated too," Cortes said. (JPG/PIA-Caraga)

Globe, PLDT push for safer environment with e-waste disposal, idle cable cleanup drive

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Mar 12 2021 09:45 AM



Old mobile phones for disposal. *Globe Telecom*

MANILA - Telco giants Globe Telecom and PLDT Inc have launched separate programs to collect e-waste and idle cables to promote safe and environment-friendly services.

PLDT Inc recently signed a memorandum of agreement with the local government of San Juan to remove dead and idle wires and fix sagging cables and tilting poles.

Part of the clean-up drive is the recovery of copper cables, which are no longer needed as customers are being upgraded to fiber.

"We are implementing the programmed preventive maintenance on the barangay level, starting with those having high trouble index and poor line condition," PLDT-Smart Network Operations First Vice President Debbie M. Hu said.

At least 21 barangays in San Juan have been inspected, the telco said.

PLDT chief revenue officer and Smart president Alfredo Panlilio said the clean-up drive is being conducted along with its expansion programs to cater to the surge in demand for data and connectivity.

The telco earlier said it planned to invest P88 billion to P92 billion in capital expenditure this year.



E-waste collection in Caloocan. *Handout*

Globe Telecom, meanwhile, said it would help consumers discard old mobile phones, excess cables, chargers, broken TV sets, DVD players and other non-working electronics with its E-waste Zero program.

At least 100 bins are placed in different collection points nationwide such as Globe stores and malls, it said. The full list of drop off points is available on its [website](#).

Aside from old phones, the bins can also accept other old IT accessories such as mouse, earphones, and speakers, modems and routers, cable wires, batteries, circuit boards, CDs /DVDs and other small electronic devices.



Consumers can request for pickup for bigger items such as computer sets, IT servers and electronic network equipment (antennas, transmitters), and home appliances such as washing machine, oven, refrigerator, etc.

“Globe recognizes the importance of taking this extra step in ensuring e-wastes are disposed of properly and can't be harmful to the environment. We would like to enjoin our customers to help dispose of e-waste properly,” Globe Chief Sustainability Officer and SVP for Corporate Communications Yoly Crisanto said.

In 2020, the program collected and disposed of over 250,000 kg e-waste, bringing total collection to more than 1.4 million kg since 2014, Globe said.

Wastong pag-dispose sa face masks muling ipinaalala

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Mar 12 2021 06:41 PM



Anthony Wallace, AFP/File

MAYNILA — Muling hinikayat ng isang environmental group na itapon nang maayos ang mga ginagamit na face masks, na itinuturing na biowaste.

Sa harap ito ng mga nakitang medical waste tulad ng disposable face mask sa ilang diving site sa bansa gaya sa Batangas.

Sa panayam sa TeleRadyo, sinabi ni Oceana Philippines vice president Gloria Ramos na dapat i-segregate o ihiwalay mula sa ibang basura ang mga face mask.

Dapat itong ilagay sa isang plastic, i-seal, at lagyan ng label na "hazardous waste" ang laman nito para hindi kalkalin ng mga basurero.

"Dapat i-separate talaga, i-segregate kasi nakakahawa siya. Kawawa naman ang mga collector natin and then to make sure na hindi yan magli-leak sa mga karagatan natin," aniya.

Kung maaari, hinimok ni Ramos ang publikong magsuot na lang ng reusable face masks para makabawas sa medical waste.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/03/12/21/wastong-pag-dispose-sa-face-masks-muling-ipinaalala?fbclid=IwAR0TroWX6TtKDID6GUCSWwiQDBG6S7fbUC-Gnnq0RnjAeZkR3EcIePZ34bI>



Philippine artist fights waste by using recycled trash in paintings

March 12, 2021 10:14 PM by [DZRH News Online](#)



Filipino artist Gilbert Angeles incorporates expired paint and shredded plastic wrappers into a painting he is working on, at his studio in Plaridel, Bulacan province, Philippines, February 8, 2021. REUTERS/Eloisa Lopez

By Adrian Portugal

MANILA (Reuters) – When Filipino artist Gilbert Angeles found out that his country was one of the world’s biggest contributors of plastic trash in the ocean he felt compelled to take action.

Angeles decided the best way to show how discarded waste could be given a new life in a different medium was to incorporate materials ranging from shredded plastic to old paint and leftover construction wood in his paintings.

Since 2019, he has made over two dozen paintings of this kind.

“I make these artworks to raise awareness so we can fight against the trash in our area, to make us more responsible in how we dispose of our trash, and to make us aware of where our trash goes,” said the 49-year-old.

The artist sources the materials from around his Manila neighbourhood or through donations from contacts he has made since launching his environmental campaign.

Angeles remembers being spurred on to take up the project after seeing a news report about the Philippines being one of the top contributors of plastic waste.

The Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and China account for around 60% of the world’s marine plastic, or 8 million tonnes annually, according to a 2017 report from the Ocean Conservancy and the McKinsey Center for Business and Environment.

Angeles’ artwork has since been shown in galleries, with paintings selling for around \$600 to \$3,000, depending on the size. Part of the proceeds goes to his environmental group, Green Artz, which encourages artists to use recycled waste in their work.

“I love the fact that it gives us hope,” said Linda Pecoraro, general manager of Conrad Hotel, where Angeles’ work is being exhibited.

“It’s got beautiful colours and recycled plastic, repurposing things that damage our environment and making them beautiful.”

(Reporting by Adrian Portugal; Writing by Ed Davies; Editing by Karishma Singh)

Source: <https://dzhnews.com.ph/philippine-artist-fights-waste-by-using-recycled-trash-in-paintings/>



RMP: Climate of persecution and fear persists even today

Published March 12, 2021, 6:01 PM

by [Leslie Ann Aquino](#)

The Rural Missionaries of the Philippines (RMP) said Thursday, March 11, that the climate of persecution and fear continued to persist.

“As we start to commemorate the life, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in this season of Lent, we also remember the climate of persecution Jesus experienced at the hands of the religious and political ruling elite of his time,” the group said in a statement released Thursday, March 11.

“The same climate of persecution and fear persists in our time today,” added RMP.

The group cited how over the past years, a number of their members were charged with various crimes including perjury, arson, kidnapping, robbery, and frustrated murder.

RMP also deplored the Philippine government’s freezing of their bank accounts.

“This persistent harassment sprang from continuous barrage of malicious allegations that there is ‘probable cause’ that RMP is involved in ‘terrorism financing,’” said the group citing the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) freeze order on RMP accounts with the Bank of Philippine Islands. RMP said in a resolution dated Dec. 26, 2019, the AMLC also ordered the bank to submit details of related bank accounts and proposed the filing of a petition before the Court of Appeals to extend the freeze order to six months.

The Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 37 on Oct. 7, 2020, the group said, also issued an Asset Preservation Order against several bank accounts of the RMP over case violation of the Terrorism and Financing Prevention and Suppression Act of 2012.

In the statement, the group denied any involvement in any form of financing terrorist persons or organizations.

RMP stressed that it has been at the forefront of serving rural poor communities in the country for 51 years.

“We have been living out our mission to collectively witness and act as Christ’s disciples with the rural poor, specifically with the poor farmers, agricultural workers, indigenous peoples and fisherfolks,” the group said.

“We reiterate our position that donations and funding received by RMP are used to implement projects and programs to help the poor by providing the rural communities the help and services they deserve and that the government refuses to provide,” RMP added.

The group believes the series of attacks against them and their members are connected to their work with the poor, marginalized, and oppressed sectors in society.

“What is evidently clear is that under the newly signed Anti-Terrorism Law (ATL), helping the poor and living out concretely our faith imperative and following the church mandate to build the Church of the Poor will put our liberty and life at risk,” RMP said.

“This is verified by the wave of harassment and threats RMP members have experienced over the past years. Relentless red-tagging of church workers by the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) has become a prelude to illegal arrests and sometimes murder,” added the group.



“Hence, we categorically proclaim that the ATL is inimical to democracy and in its most extreme can lead to warrantless arrests, detention without charges, torture, enforced disappearance and extra-judicial killings,”said RMP.

Still, RMP vowed to continue to fearlessly live out its commitment to be servant-leaders with the poor farmers, fisherfolk, agricultural workers, and Indigenous Peoples so that “all may truly experience God’s compassion and mercy in the here and now.”

RMP is a mission partner of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines (AMRSP).



Palakang inakalang extinct, lumitaw sa Mindanao



March 12, 2021 @ 11:50 AM 18 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Hindi lang isa, kundi dalawang palaka ang muling nadiskubre ng mga Filipino biologist sa Mindanao na inakalang extinct na dekada na ang nakararaan.

Kinilala ang mga specie ng palaka bilang Guttman's stream frog (*Pulchrana guttmani*), na naunang nakita noong 1993, ay muling nadiskubre nina Kier Mitchel Pitogo at Aljohn Jay Saavedra sa kagubata ng Mount Busa, ayon sa United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Ayon sa USAID na ang Guttman's stream frog ay “an amphibian so rare, it was thought to be extinct for decades since it was first recorded.”

Sa isang lathala sa Herpetological Notes, sinabi nina Pitogo at Saavedra na ang Guttman's stream frog ay ang posibleng pinaka-rare na amphibian sa Pilipinas.

“*Pulchrana guttmani* is known only from its type locality (Mount Busa, Kiamba, Sarangani Province, Mindanao), and it has eluded biologists for more than two decades,” ayon pa sa Pinoy biologists sa pahayagan.

“To date, *P. guttmani* has the most restricted geographic range of any Philippine ranid frogs and it is the only Philippine frog for which no known sightings of living individuals have been documented since its original discovery.”

Sa kaparehong post, sinabi ng USAID na sa Tawi-Tawi, nakatuklas naman ng bagong specie ng lipstick vine ang Filipino botanist, Shiella Mae Olimpos, sa kagubatan ng Panglima Sugala. *RNT*



USAID Philippines
22 hours ago

USAID supports Filipino scientists who are making discoveries in Philippine biodiversity.

Deep in the forests of Busa mountain range in southern Mindanao, Kier Mitchel Pitogo and Aljohn Jay Saavedra rediscovered Guttman's stream frog — an amphibian so rare, it was thought to be extinct for decades since it was first recorded.

In Tawi-Tawi, Shiella Mae Olimpos found a new species of lipstick vine in the forests of Panglima Sugala while doing a botanical survey as part of a field ... See More

90 1 117

Rare frog thought to be extinct rediscovered in Mindanao

Published March 12, 2021 11:18am

A pair of Filipino biologists has rediscovered in Mindanao a rare frog species that was thought to be extinct decades ago.

Guttman's stream frog (*Pulchrana guttmani*), first seen in 1993, was rediscovered by Kier Mitchel Pitogo and Aljohn Jay Saavedra in the forests of Mount Busa, according to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The Guttman's stream frog is "an amphibian so rare, it was thought to be extinct for decades since it was first recorded," USAID said in a Facebook post.

In a [paper](#) published in Herpetological Notes, Pitogo and Saavedra said the Guttman's stream frog is possibly the rarest amphibian in the Philippines.



"*Pulchrana guttmani* is known only from its type locality (Mount Busa, Kiamba, Sarangani Province, Mindanao), and it has eluded biologists for more than two decades," the say in their paper.

"To date, *P. guttmani* has the most restricted geographic range of any Philippine ranid frogs and it is the only Philippine frog for which no known sightings of living individuals have been documented since its original discovery."

In the same Facebook post, USAID also shared that in Tawi-Tawi, also in Mindanao, a Filipino botanist, Shiella Mae Olimpos, found a new species of lipstick vine in the forests of Panglima Sugala

USAID said the new lipstick vine species was found while a team of botanist was doing survey as part of a field expedition to study Sulu hornbills.

USAID said it supported both field researchers through its program of assistance for graduate students, local experts, and conservation groups. —**KBK, GMA News**



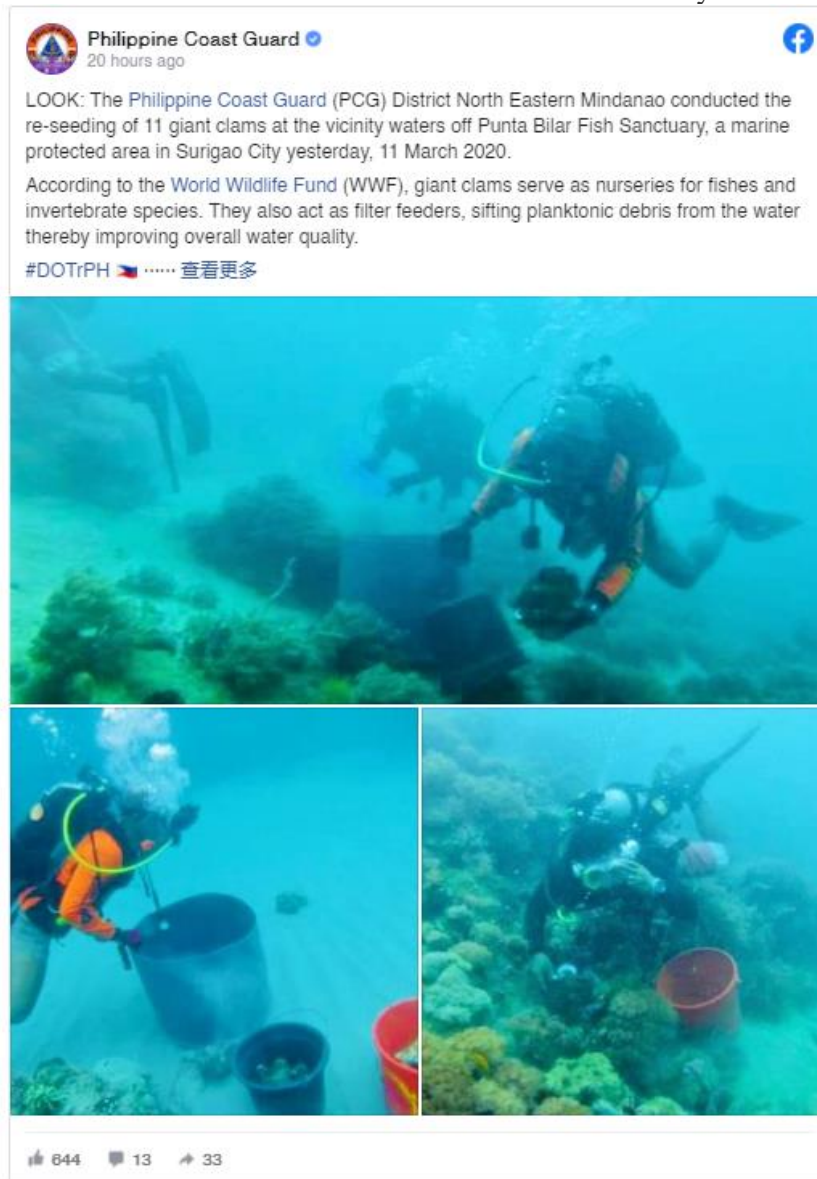
LOOK: This is how re-seeding of giant clams is done

Published March 12, 2021, 12:41 PM

by [Richa Noriega](#)

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) carried out the re-seeding of 11 giant clams in Surigao City on Thursday, March 11.

In a statement, the PCG said its personnel from District North Eastern Mindanao conducted the re-seeding of the giant clams in the waters off of Punta Bilar Fish Sanctuary.



The Punta Bilar Fish Sanctuary is a marine protected area that is home to a large variety of corals and exotic fishes in Surigao City, Surigao del Norte.

According to environmental organization World Wildlife Fund (WWF), giant clams serve as nurseries for fishes and invertebrate species.

Moreover, giant clams also act as a filter feeder, sifting planktonic debris from the water and thereby improving overall water quality.

Giant clam re-seeding is thought to be an efficient way of rehabilitating a reef.



For fishes' sake: PCG plants 400 mangrove seedlings in Sorsogon

Published March 12, 2021, 12:20 PM

by [Richa Noriega](#)

Some 400 mangrove seedlings were planted by Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) members in Sorsogon City as a way to sustain local fishery and help stabilize the coastline.

Through the marine environmental protection initiative of the PCG Auxiliary 904th Squadron, the mangrove seedlings were planted in Sorsogon Rompeolas, Sorsogon City on Wednesday, March 10.



Representatives from the Universal Peace Federation, Women's Federation for World Peace, Youth and Students for Peace, Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation Sorsogon Chapter also joined the activity.

According to the environmental organization World Wildlife Fund (WWF), mangrove forests are home to a large variety of fish, which is an essential source of food for thousands of coastal communities around the world.

The WWF added that planting mangroves helps prevent coastal damage from hurricanes and typhoons.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/12/for-fishes-sake-pcg-plants-400-mangrove-seedlings-in-sorsogon/>

CDN Digital 
20h · 

LOOK: A dolphin was found dead along the shores near the Liberty Shrine in Barangay Mactan, Lapu-Lapu City. | screencap from live video of Lapu-Lapu City Mayor [Junard "Ahong" Chan](#)
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The figure brought to 611,618 the total number of cases, based on the case bulletin of the Department of Health (DOH) for COVID-19.

The STAR/Walter Bollozos

Philippines logs 4,578 new COVID-19 infections

[Sheila Crisostomo](#) (The Philippine Star) - March 13, 2021 - 12:00am

Highest in 6 months

MANILA, Philippines — New COVID-19 cases in the country posted their biggest single day surge in six months yesterday at 4,578, fueling fears of a new wave of infections that could derail the ongoing vaccine rollout as well as efforts to resuscitate the economy.

The figure brought to 611,618 the total number of cases, based on the case bulletin of the Department of Health (DOH) for COVID-19.

It was on Sept. 14 last year when the DOH reported a record 4,699 new cases of COVID-19.

While the national government has ruled out tightening quarantine restrictions in order to enable the economy to breathe, local government units (LGUs) have sought authority to impose granular lockdowns to stem the spread of the disease.

The Metro Manila Council, for instance, has approved the implementation of uniform curfew hours for two weeks starting Monday, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Data show 52,012 active cases, representing 8.5 percent of the overall number. They are the cases that have not recovered from the virus.

Among the confirmed cases, 87 more patients succumbed to COVID-19, raising the death toll to 12,694.

On the other hand, 272 patients have recovered, bringing the total number of recoveries to 546,912.

The United Kingdom (UK) variant of COVID-19 was detected in 11 cities in the National Capital Region (NCR), one of the regions troubled by rising cases.

Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said the South African variant was found in seven cities in NCR or Metro Manila.

Nevertheless, Vergeire noted there is no evidence that the new variants are the sole driver of the upswing in COVID-19 cases in NCR.

“We cannot assume that all of the cases turning positive in NCR would be UK or South African variant. We need evidence for us to definitely say that all of these variants that we have in the country are already UK and South African,” she said.

Vergeire reiterated that there are other factors that can contribute to the increase in cases.



She cited poor public compliance with minimum health standards such as wearing of mask and face shield as well as physical distancing.

The official added that those undergoing home quarantine could also contribute to the rise in cases.

Based on data of the DOH, NCR topped the regions in terms of the number of cases at 1,546 as of March 10.

It was followed by Calabarzon with 352, Central Visayas with 334, Central Luzon 163 and Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR) with 141.

NCR also has the most number of active cases at 19,130, followed by Central Visayas (7,182), Calabarzon (4,863), Central Luzon (2,922) and CAR (1,804).

While attention has been focused on Metro Manila in recent weeks, some areas in nearby provinces have also recorded an increase in COVID-19 cases, according to the OCTA Research Group.

Outside NCR

In its latest monitoring report, OCTA noted spikes in Antipolo and Cainta in Rizal, Bacoor and Imus in Cavite and Santa Maria in Bulacan over the past week.

Based on data from the DOH, the average number of new cases per day in Bacoor was 37 on the week of March 5 to 11, up from 18 in the previous week.

It increased from 17 to 34 in Antipolo, 14 to 25 in Imus and 11 to 23 in Cainta and Santa Maria.

Baguio City also recorded a spike from 38 to 48 new cases per day, while Cebu City, Lapu Lapu City and Davao City have all shown a downtrend.

In Metro Manila, the average number of new cases continues to increase, with OCTA updating its projections due to a higher reproduction number, which indicates the number of individuals that a positive person can infect.

Last Feb. 17, OCTA projected that Metro Manila may reach an average of 2,000 new cases per day by March 22 based on reproduction number of 1.6 at the time.

“It appears that the current trend is faster, as the region tallied 2,000 cases on March 11, 11 days earlier than projected,” said the group, citing the current reproduction number of 1.86.

Based on this new figure, OCTA warned that the number of new cases may exceed 4,000 in Metro Manila and 6,500 in the entire country by the end of the month if the spread is not contained.

“It is important that the increase in cases in NCR be curbed in order to avoid a high number of new cases and to prevent overwhelming the hospitals and regions surrounding it,” read the report.

“Localized lockdowns have been shown to be effective in slowing down increasing trends in new cases. Additional restrictions such as curfews, border controls, reduced capacity in certain establishments, limitations in social gatherings and continued compliance with health protocols by residents... will hopefully slow down the rate of infection,” it added.



OCTA noted that hospital occupancy has already exceeded the critical threshold of 70 percent in Quezon City, Makati and Taguig, while intensive care unit capacity is at critical levels in Taguig, Pasig, Mandaluyong, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa and San Juan.

OCTA fellow Guido David said the implementation of uniform curfew in Metro Manila is a major first step toward slowing down the pandemic in the region.

“It should help, of course. How much it will help, we will see,” he said. “I believe other restrictions will also be put in place.”

Meanwhile, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chairman Benhur Abalos said at a press briefing Thursday night that 17 Metro Manila mayors agreed to impose uniform curfew hours for two weeks in response to rising COVID-19 cases in the metropolis.

“If the number of new COVID-19 cases goes down, the curfew would be lifted,” he said in Filipino. Essential workers would be exempted from the curfew, he added.

A resolution on the matter is expected to be signed on Monday. “What we are preventing here is the cluster of groups in the streets. We would be stricter with this,” he said.

Some cities with different curfew hours would have to adjust to the new schedule.

Abalos called on the public to strictly follow health protocols, and for authorities to strictly enforce them.

There would be more contact tracers in the metropolis to effectively pinpoint the possible carriers of the virus.

At yesterday’s Laging Handa briefing, MMC chairman and Parañaque City Mayor Edwin Olivarez said police officers would be deployed across the region to implement the curfew.

“We have coordinated with our police, our chiefs of police, so the community officials would not be alone in manning the borders. We would have policemen to make it a point that this curfew would be implemented in the region,” he added.

During the two-week period, Olivarez said they would perform data analysis.

“Like what President Duterte said, the economy still needs to reopen. In two weeks, we can learn if there was an increase in the number of cases (despite the curfew),” the mayor said.

Abalos admitted that people may have become more relaxed possibly due to “COVID-19 fatigue.” The emergence of new variants of the virus may have also led to the spike in cases, he said. – **Janvic Mateo, Ralph Villanueva**



AANHIN MO PA ANG BAKUNA KUNG TAYO'Y PATAY NA?



March 12, 2021 @ 3:44 PM 14 hours ago

MAGANDANG lagi nating subaybayan ang mga nagaganap sa ibang bansa ukol sa mga bakunang ginagamit laban sa coronavirus disease o COVID-19 at tingnan kung ano ang mabuting gawin sa mahal kong Pinas.

Batay sa mga nagaganap sa ating bansa na mabilis na parami nang parami ang mga nagkaka-COVID-19, magandang agapan natin ang lahat bago tayo kapitan ng pandemya.

Magandang alalahanin natin ang kasabihan ng ating mga ninuno na “aanhin pa ang damo kung patay na ang kalabaw?”

Aanhin pa nga natin ang bakuna kung tayo'y patay na o nagkasakit ng malubha at hindi na makarekober pa?

NAKAMAMATAY NA BLOOD CLOT NG ASTRAZENECA

Kabilang sa mga dapat nating subaybayan ang mga masasamang epekto o adverse effect kung tawagin ng mga Inglisero.

Sa mga araw na ito, biglang sinuspinde ng anim na bansa sa Europa ang paggamit ng AstraZeneca.

Kabilang sa mga nagsuspinde makaraang umaksyon ang Austria ang mga bansang Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Latvia.

Biglang pinatigil ng Austria ang pagbabakuna ng AstraZeneca makaraang mamamatay ang isang nars at maospital ang kasama nitong nars nang magkaroon ang mga ito ng pagbabara ng kanilang ugat o blood clot.

Hindi nakalista sa mga masasamang epekto ng bakuna ang pagkakaroon ng blood clot at kaya iniimbestigahan na ito ng mga awtoridad sa Europa.

May lumabas nang pahayag ang European Medicines Agency ngunit may pagdududa pa rin ang nasabing mga bansa sa AstraZeneca.

Matatandang may ulat na lima ang namatay sa South Korea at mahigit 20 sa India makaraang silang mabakunahan ng nasabing bakuna subalit inihayag ng kani-kanilang mga gobyerno na hindi umano direktang may kaugnayan ang nasabing bakuna sa nasabing mga kamatayan.

Ayon naman sa Arutz Sheva online news, may mga namatay rin sa heart attack at iba pang adverse effect o masamang epekto ng Pfizer sa Israel.



Kabilang dito si Eddie Avitan, 67 at iba pang nagkakaedad ng 60 pataas at mayroon ding mahigit 20-anyos lamang.

NAKAMAMATAY NA WALANG BLOOD CLOT SA MODERNA, PFIZER

Kabaligtaran naman sa nagaganap sa AstraZeneca ang sa Pfizer at Moderna.

Nitong mga unang araw ng Pebrero 2021, iniulat ang pagkamatay ni Dr. Gregory Michael at pagkakaospital ng 36 iba pa, kasama ang isang Luz Legaspi, 72.

Naganap ang mga kamatayan at pagkakaospital ng mga biktima makaraan silang maturukan ng bakunang Pfizer at Moderna.

Si Legazpi ang namatay sa Pfizer may namatay naman at sunod-sunod ang mga naospital sa pagkasira ng kakayahan ng katawan nilang magkaroon ng blood clot makaraan silang maturukan ng Pfizer at Moderna.

Si Baseball Legend at Hall of Famer Hank Aaron, 86, ang namatay noong Enero 22, 2021 o dalawang linggo makaraang mabakunahan ng Moderna, ayon sa Atlanta Black Star news.

Namatay si Dr. Michael sa pagtagas ng dugo sa kanyang utak ngunit hindi walang balita sa kung paano namatay naman si Aaron.

Ngunit napag-alamang nawalan ang mga biktima ng Pfizer at Moderna ng platelet o kakayanan ng katawan tao na gumawa ng blood clot para pigilin ang paglabas ng dugo mula sa mga daluyan nito sa loob at labas ng katawan ng tao.

Higit na maraming namatay sa Pfizer kaysa Moderna, batay sa mga ulat mula sa iba't ibang bansa gaya ng Norway, Germany, Israel at iba pa na unang gumamit ng Pfizer.

MAY PATAY RIN SA SINOVAC

Isa naman ang namatay sa Coronavac na gawa ng Sinovac makaraang maturukan sa Hong Kong.

Ngunit sa dinami-rami o milyon-milyon nang natuturukan sa bakunang ito, ito pa lamang ang naiulat.

Wala pa namang naiulat na namamatay sa Sputnik V na gawa ng Russia.

“WALANG KAUGNAYAN SA BAKUNA”

Lahat ng mga gumagawa ng bakuna, sinasabing walang kaugnayan sa bakuna ang mga namatay sa nasabing mga brand ng bakuna.

Sinesegundahan naman ito ng mga pamahalaan na gumagamit ng mga nasabing bakuna.

May ilang awtoridad sa mga bansang namatayan ang nagsasabi namang kung may kaugnayan man sa bakuna ang mga kamatayan, nagkataon lang umano ang mga ito at namamatay ang mga pasyente dahil may sakit na ang mga ito.

O kaya'y lumalala lang ang sakit ng mga ito matapos silang mabakunahan hanggang sa sila'y mamatay.

Katwiran pa nila, dapat na higit intindihin na mahigit nang 300 milyon ang nabakunahan gamit ang mga nasabing bakuna, kasama ang mga gawang Russia na Sputnik 5, Coronavac, Sinopham at tatlong iba pang gawang bakuna at Covishield o AstraZeneca at Covaxin na gawang India.



DA BES ANG HAWAK NATING BAKUNA

Nagkakaisa ang lahat ng eksperto sa bakuna, mula sa pamahalaan, pribadong sektor at Simbahang Katolika na ang pinaka-best vaccine o da bes na bakuna ang hawak na natin.

‘Yun bang === mga dumating mula sa China na Sinovac at World Health Organization na AstraZeneca.

Bukod sa pagtanggap ng mga ospital ng pamahalaan gaya ng Philippine General Hospital, ng mga pribadong ospital na Cardinal Santos Medical Center, St. Luke’s Medical Center sa Quezon City at Bonifacio Global City (BGC), Asian Hospital and Medical Center, sinabi mismo ni CBCP President Archbishop Romulo Valles at CBCP vice president, Caloocan Bishop Pablo Virgilio David na handa silang magpabakuna para lang makumbinse ang lahat na magpabakuna.

Inialok na rin nila ang mga simbahan bilang vaccination center kung kinakailangan.

Tama sila.

Muli, aanhin mo pa kasi ang damo kung patay na ang kalabaw?

Basta inokeyan na ang isang bakuna na ligtas at epektibo ng mga kaukulang awtoridad gaya ng Food and Drugs Administration at Department of Health, pwede na.

Hindi tayo dapat magdepende sa sasabihin ng Health Technology Assessment Center o HTAC gaya ng sinasabi ng mga kritiko ng pamahalaan dahil advisory at recommendatory lang ang hangganan ng kapangyarihan nito.

Maaaring balewalain o aprubahan ang anomang advice o rekomendasyon ng HTAC ng FDA at DOH.

Sa ibang mga bansa, gaya ng Hungary, katwiran nila na basta nagamit na at ginagamit na ang mga bakuna ng milyon-milyong mamamayan gaya ng Sinopharm ng China at Sputnik V ng Russia, pwede na rin kahit hindi aprubado mismo ng European Medicines Agency ng European Union na kinapapalooban ng Hungary.

Mahalaga ang pahayag ng Hungary dahil sa paggamit ng China ng sarili nilang mga bakuna simula pa noong Hulyo 2020 na ikinatigil nang maaga ng matinding atake ng COVID-19 sa kanila.

HUWAG MAGHINTAY NG IBA

Huwag na tayong maghintay ng pagdating ng ibang mga bakuna na darating pa sa mga susunod na buwan, lalo’t hinaharang ang mga ito ng mayayamang bansa para lang unahing mabakunahan ang sarili nilang mga mamamayan.

Ang United States, halimbawa, ay hinaharang ang mga Pfizer at Moderna na papuntang Mexico na kapitbahay lang nito kaya naman sa China na ito umorder ng mga Sinovac at Sinopharm at ang Canada naman, pinipilit na ring gumawa ng sarili nitong bakuna.

Hinarang naman ng Italy, na sinuportahan naman ng ibang bansa sa EU, ang pagbiyahe ng AstraZeneca sa Australia.

Ang India naman, may kautusang unahin muna nilang bakunahan ang sarili nilang mamamayan bagama’t nagluluwas na ito ng gawa nitong bakuna para lang hindi ito maunahan ng China sa pagpapalaganap ng Chinese vaccines sa ibang mga bansa.



O tara na lahat sa mga vaccination center o magpalista na sa mga magbabakuna mula sa pambansang pamahalaan, lokal na pamahalaan at mga pribadong kompanya.

Ang mga bakunang galing naman sa China at Covax facility ay napatunayan nang makapigil sa pagkakaospital at kamatayan, gaya ng ibinubunga rin ng iba pang mga bakuna na galing sa US, United Kingdom at Europa.

Kung agapan natin ang pagkapit ng COVID-19 sa atin sa pamamagitan ng mga available o narito na sa atin na mga bakuna, makatutulong na rin nang malaki ito laban kahit sa mga tinatawag na COVID variant na Brazilian at South African variant na mas matindi ang banta sa ating kalusugan kumpara sa orig na COVID-19 virus.

Nagsimula nang umatake sa Pinas ang mga COVID variant at pinaniniwalaang sila ang dahilan kung bakit naghihigpit ngayon ang buong Metro Manila sa pamamagitan ng istriktong curfew mula sa darating na Lunes.



LPA to bring rains this weekend

[Helen Flores](#) (The Philippine Star )

) - March 13, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The state weather bureau yesterday warned residents in the eastern section of the country of more rains due to a low-pressure area off Mindanao.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the weather system was located 100 kilometers west-southwest of Zamboanga City as of 3 p.m. yesterday.

It was expected to bring moderate to heavy rains over Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Dinagat Islands in the next 24 hours.

Light to moderate to at times heavy rains will be experienced over Davao, Eastern Visayas and Bicol regions as well as Quezon, Palawan and the rest of Caraga.

The weather disturbance was forecast to move west-northwest and may traverse the Sulu Sea and southern portion of Palawan.

PAGASA said the low-pressure area is “less likely” to develop into a tropical depression.

PAGASA said zero or one tropical cyclone was forecast to enter the Philippine area of responsibility this month.



ASEAN, France discuss gender-responsive climate solutions

Published 6 hours ago on March 13, 2021 01:00 AM

By [TDI](#) [@tribunephil](#)



EXPERTS believe that Earth is experiencing accelerated global warming. / PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF ASEAN.ORG

In celebration of International Women's Month, the French Embassy to Indonesia, Institut Français Indonesia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat held a dialogue on gender-responsive climate solutions that leverages on global and regional partnership.

Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Socio-Cultural Community Kung Phoak implored that the ASEAN continue to intensify its cross-sectoral work to comprehensively address the environmental and climate challenges while, at the same time, "fully articulating and putting at the center gender equality and empowerment of women and girls."

Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, environmental and climate issues have now become an official framework for regional and national policies of several countries and multilateral organizations.

As experts believe that the planet is experiencing accelerated global warming and biodiversity erosion, the region has been pursuing a more inclusive, sustainable and gender-responsive path that entails integrating women and girls' concerns, needs and perspectives in its policies and programs.



Argentina forest fires kill 7

By Agence France-Presse

March 12, 2021

PATAGONIA: Seven people were injured and 15 more missing on Wednesday (Thursday in Manila) as forest fires ripped through Argentine Patagonia, official sources said. Some 200 people had to be evacuated and around 100 homes were damaged by fire in an area of forests and lakes popular with tourists close to the Andes mountain range. “I’m going to file a criminal complaint because it was an intentional fire,” said Environment Minister Juan Cabandie in a press conference.



APEC advances environmental goods tariff reductions

March 12, 2021, 4:08 pm



JAKARTA – Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) green growth target in the region received a boost as Indonesia became the latest APEC member to complete tariff cuts to not over 5 percent for 54 products on the APEC Environmental Goods List.

Endorsed by APEC Economic Leaders in 2012, the APEC List of Environmental Goods gave impetus to the Environmental Goods Agreement negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The APEC list comprises 54 products at the harmonized standard (HS) six-digit level, including solar panels, wind turbines, bamboo flooring, as well as environmental monitoring, analysis, and assessment equipment, according to a written statement issued by the APEC Market Access Group and received here Thursday.

Nearly a decade down the road, member economies have endeavored to apply measures to adhere to the APEC list's provisions of lowering the applied tariff rates to 5 percent or less to the 54 environmental goods and update the forum on their progress.

"Trade liberalization in environmental goods makes access to crucial environmental technologies easier and cheaper for both businesses and consumers," Helen Kwan, convenor of the APEC Market Access Group, who monitors the implementation of the initiative, said.

"This is important for the region, as it facilitates green and sustainable recovery," Kwan added.

With Indonesia's announcement, 19 APEC member economies are currently fully compliant with the APEC Environmental Goods List.

"The APEC List of Environmental Goods is one of APEC's significant success stories and represents the role of APEC as a regional forum where ideas are born and developed," APEC Secretariat executive director Rebecca Sta Maria said.

"The progress made by Indonesia is very encouraging, and we look forward to the day when all members fully comply with the tariff reductions," Sta Maria said.

APEC members are also delving into ways to further advance the work under APEC's list of environmental goods by considering the regulatory, environmental, and technological changes that the region underwent over the decade. The discussions will be carried over in the Committee on Trade and Investment.

Apart from the APEC List of Environmental Goods, APEC's Market Access Group also discussed initiatives in support of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA), the significance of applying the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) Expansion, and plans on remanufacturing and rules of origin among other trade matters pertaining to market access.

"We will utilize this momentum moving forward to deliberate on policies and measures to incentivize sustainability and enable economic and trade policies to drive recovery," Kwan said. (Antara)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1133348>

13 MARCH 2021, SATURDAY



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