

15 JULY 2021, Thursday



# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

## Cimatu: DENR nasa tamang landas upang makamit ang 2021 target kahit na may pandemya



July 14, 2021 @ 4:44 PM 14 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Positibo pa rin ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na maabot nito ang 10-point priority environmental agenda para sa 2021 kahit na may mga sagabal dulot ng pandemya.

“True, there are key activities under the DENR’s 10 priority programs that have been stalled or slowed down due to COVID-19 restrictions, but many of these targets have been accomplished already beyond expectations,” saad ni Secretary Roy A. Cimatu sa ginanap na mid-year assessment ng DENR’s priority programs noong Hulyo 5.

Sa press release sinabi ng DENR na ginanap ng DENR ang assessment ng 10-priority programs kabilang na dito ang— Enhanced National Greening Program (ENGP); Manila Bay Rehabilitation; Forest Protection and Anti-illegal Logging program; Clean Air; Clean Water; Solid Waste Management; Enhanced Biodiversity Conservation; Scaling-up of Coastal and Marine Ecosystem; Geo-Hazard, Groundwater Assessment and Responsible Mining; and Improved Land Administration and Management— sakop ang petsa mula Enero hanggang Mayo 2021.

Bagama’t may mga hadlang dulot ng “restricted conditions,” sinabi ni Cimatu na pito na rehiyon ang nakapagsagawa ng plantation establishment activities sa ilalim ng eNGP.

Kabilang dito ang 17,696 family-beneficiaries para sa pagtanim at pagpapanatili ng humigit-kumulang na 1.97 million seedlings.

“Although hampered by the health protocols and travel restrictions brought about by the COVID-19, the implementation of eNGP is on track in most of the regions,” paliwanag ni DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment Juan Miguel Cuna.



## Cimatu: DENR nasa tamang landas upang makamit ang 2021 target kahit na may pandemya

Kaugnay nito binigyang-diin nito na 98 percent ng total annual target area ang nakatakdang magkaroon ng plantation establishment sa third quarter kung kailan handa na ang mga seedlings para itanim.

Iniulat din ni Cuna na nagkaroon ng 923 "apprehensions" ang DENR laban sa illegal logging na nagresulta sa pagkakakumpiska ng 1,444 sako ng uling, 721,500 board feet ng undocumented forest products na nagkakahalaga ng P24.7 million, at may 400 conveyances at implements.

Samantala bukod dito, sa pamamagitan ng Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System, 53,040 kilometers o 61 percent ng annual target na 86,868 kilometers ang nabantayan ng 3,532 forest patrollers.

Ito ay nagresulta sa pagkatuklas ng 3,367 "potential illicit activities," kung saan ay 1,479 na kaso ang itinuturing na "requiring post-patrol responses" at narespondehan ng grupo na nai-dispatch mula sa pinakamalapit na DENR field offices.

Magugunitang naipasara na rin ng DENR ang lahat ng 335 open dumpsites sa bansa kung saan ay lumampas ito sa target na 219 dumpsites ng 152.97 percent at nagsasagawa rin ng inspection at monitoring sa 519 treatment, storage at disposal facilities na nakarehistro mula sa buong bansa o 390 percent ng annual target na 133.

Para naman sa land management, umabot sa 11,167 agricultural at 7,902 residential patents ang naisyu kung saan ay lumampas ito sa annual target ng may 277.57 at 110.92 percent mula sa 4,023 at 7,124, ayon sa pagkakasunod.

"We are on our way towards the completion of our mission and those challenges did not deter you from giving your share in moving our 10 priority programs," sabi ni Cimatu sa DENR officials at sa may 650 field officers na sumali sa virtual event. Santi Celario



## Cimatu: Environmental law enforcement summit ikakasa



July 14, 2021 @ 6:40 AM 1 day ago

MANILA, Philippines – Magsasagawa ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources ng National Environmental Law Enforcement (NELE) Summit sa Hulyo 14, hanggang 16, 2021 para maipabatid sa publiko ang kanilang ginagawang pagsugpo sa environmental crimes.

Sa press release, sinabi ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, ang pagsasagawa ng NELE summit ngayong may health crisis ay “a good opportunity to revisit the environmental law enforcement (ELE) components to make sure they are updated, and to make sure that the policies are relevant and timely.”

“There could never be a much better time for holding the NELE summit, as it is during this quarantine that we have more challenges in apprehending environmental law violators who are taking advantage of the immobility and lesser resources that we have,” saad ni Cimatu.

Ito rin ay “especially significant, especially when most ENR laws are already 20 years old and older, and during this time that the agency gears up for the creation of an Enforcement Bureau,” ayon pa sa kalihim.

“The previous NELE Action Plan has already expired last 2020. With this summit, we hope to create a new Action Plan that would serve the needs of the ever-changing and evolving modern society,” sabi ni Cimatu.

Ayon sa DENR sa temang “Sustaining inter-agency collaborations for intensified ELE towards a better environment amidst pandemic,” ang NELE summit ang magiging lugar upang magkaroon ng update ang mga makabagong developments sa ELE tulad ng mga bagong batas at polisiya, implementing guidelines, programs, tools at technologies.



## Cimatu: Environmental law enforcement summit ikakasa

Sinabi pa ng DENR na ito rin ang lugar upang matiyak ang patuloy na koordinasyon at kooperasyon ng mga ahensiyang sangkot at pagbibigay ng pagkilala sa partner-agencies at institusyon maging sa mga indibidwal.

Sa gaganaping summit, inaasahan na ang mga lalahok ay magbabahagi ng major highlights or milestones on ELE for the last 15 years ng kanilang mga agencies at branches; identify the contribution of the agencies in mainstreaming environmental and natural resources protection in the national strategies and policies; and formulate responsive strategies that will expedite actions for urgent ENR concerns in support of Philippine development.”

Kaugnay nito inaasahan din na makatatanggap ng impormasyon sa kalagayan ng kapaligiran, partikular ang kondisyon ng kagubatan at protected areas kabilang na dito ang kuweba at wildlife resources, urban environment at marine at coastal areas kasama na dito ang fishery resources, repasuhin ang mapipiling ELE technologies at matukoy ang mga kinakailangang pagbabago upang makasabay sa napapanahong pangangailangan at pagbabago sa pagpapatupad ng batas; at mapag-aralan ang implementasyon at i-update ang ELE action plan. Santi Celario



## DENR shuts down 355 illegal dumpsites

By JOVILAND RITA, GMA News  
Published July 14, 2021 5:26pm



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has recently closed down 355 illegal dumpsites in the country, its spokesperson Undersecretary Benny Antiporda said on Wednesday.

At the Laging Handa public briefing, Antiporda said these were open dumpsites, which the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 had ordered to be closed.

"Three hundred thirty-five po ang huling napasara. Twenty years na po ang batas na [Republic Act] 9003, pero ngayon lang po natupad ang ipinag-uutos ng batas na ipasara ang open dumpsites," he said.

(Three hundred thirty-five were recently closed. It's been 20 years since RA 9003 was enacted, but its order to close open dumpsites is just being enforced now)

Antiporda said that the DENR is now focusing on the safe closure and rehabilitation of the dumpsites.



## DENR shuts down 355 illegal dumpsites

He also advised local governments units (LGUs) affected by the closure of the dumpsites to establish a residual containment area for their garbage while they develop a sanitary landfill.

Antiporda also warned LGU against burying their garbage in these areas as this is still considered as an open dumpsite and dangerous.

"Better shape up bago tayo abutan ng batas (before the long arm of the law reaches you)," he added.  
-MDM, GMA News



## 355 ilegal na tapunan ng mga basura, ipinasara ng DENR

ni Lolet Abania | July 14, 2021



File photo: Larawan mula sa DENR

Umabot sa 355 ilegal na dumpsites sa bansa ang naipasara ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, ito ay tinatawag na mga open dumpsites, kung saan ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 ang naging basehan ng order para maipasara ang mga ilegal na tapunan ng basura.

“Three hundred thirty-five po ang huling napasara. Twenty years na po ang batas na [Republic Act] 9003, pero ngayon lang po natupad ang ipinag-uutos ng batas na ipasara ang open dumpsites,” ani Antiporda sa Laging Handa public briefing ngayong Miyerkules.

Sa ngayon aniya ay nakatuon ang DENR sa maayos na pagsasara at rehabilitasyon ng mga dumpsites. Pinayunahan naman ni Antiporda ang mga local governments units (LGUs) na apektado ng closure ng mga dumpsites na magtatag ng isang residual containment area para sa mga basura habang nagsasagawa ang ahensiya ng isang sanitary landfill.

Nagbabala rin ang kalihim sa mga LGUs laban sa pagbabaon ng kanilang mga basura sa mga naturang lugar dahil sa kinokonsidera pa rin itong open dumpsite at sadyang mapanganib. “Better shape up bago tayo abutan ng batas,” sabi ni Antiporda.

Source: <https://www.bulgaronline.com/post/355-ilegal-na-tapunan-ng-mga-basura-ipinasara-ng-denr>





## DENR KUKUHA NG WATER SAMPLE SA WPS PARA MABERIPIKA ANG REPORT SA UMANO'Y PAGTATAPON NG DUMI NG TSINA

written by DWIZ 882 July 15, 2021



Kukuha ng water samples ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa West Philippines Sea kasunod ng ulat na umano'y nagtatapon ang Chinese Vessels ng human waste doon.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, titingnan nila kung ano ang pinakamalapit na lugar na makukuhanan ng water sample.

Duda aniya siyang human waste ito dahil mas mukha itong oil spill.

Sinabi pa ni Antiporda na makikipagtulungan sila sa Department of National Defense, Department of Foreign Affairs at Coast Guard upang beripikahin ang report ng US-based geospatial imagery firm na Simularity. — sa panulat ni Hyacinth Ludivico

Source: <https://www.dwiz882am.com/index.php/denr-kukuha-ng-water-sample-sa-wps-para-maberipika-ang-report-sa-umanoy-pagtatapon-ng-dumi-ng-tsina/>



## DENR verifying reported waste dumping in PHL-claimed parts of South China Sea

July 14, 2021 | 7:29 pm

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is already verifying reports that swarms of Chinese ships anchored in Philippine-claimed areas in the South China Sea are dumping human waste there, a department official said on Wednesday.

US-based geospatial imagery firm Simularity, Inc. earlier reported that Chinese vessels have been dumping raw sewage into the Spratly and Paracel Islands.

The DENR has already coordinated with the Philippine Coast Guard to verify the correctness of the report, Environment Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda told a televised news briefing.

The DENR was also set to coordinate with the Department of National Defense and the Department of Foreign Affairs, he said.

Simularity founder and Chief Executive Officer Liz Derr earlier told a forum organized by a Philippine think-tank that human waste and wastewater have accumulated at Union Banks in the resource-rich Spratly Islands, where more than 200 Chinese ships have moored.

The raw sewage led to the overgrowth of harmful algae in the disputed area threatening marine life and damaging corals, she said.

Mr. Antiporda downplayed the report, saying what the agency found in the image was not “waste discharge” but “most probably oil spill or something which is not human waste.”

Still, the DENR would investigate the report “since this is to protect our environment,” he said.

“Iimbestigahan pa rin po natin at aalamin (We will still investigate and find out), just to protect our bio-diversity,” Mr. Antiporda said. — Kyle Aristophere T. Atienza



## DENR sisilipin Chinese ebak sa West PH Sea

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Jul 14, 2021

NEWS



Kukuha ng mga water sample sa West Philippine Sea (WPS) ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) para suriin kung positibo ito sa dumi ng tao.

Gagawin ito ng DENR matapos lumabas ang ulat na nagtatapon umano ang mga barko ng China ng dumi ng tao sa South China Sea at maging sa bahagi ng West Philippine Sea.

“Ipatse-check po natin iyan. At titingnan po natin kung ano ang pinakamalapit na lugar pong makukuhanan ng water [sample],” pahayag ni DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda sa isang briefing.

Una nang ibinunyag ng isang US-based geospatial imagery firm na Similarity, na nagtatapon umano ang mga barko ng China ng dumi ng tao sa West Philippine Sea na nakakapinsala sa mga bahura.

Source: <https://tonite.abante.com.ph/denr-sisilipin-chinese-ebak-sa-west-ph-sea/>



## DENR to test West Philippine Sea water quality amid alleged human waste dumping by China vessels

By JOVILAND RITA, GMA News  
Published July 14, 2021 2:44pm  
Updated July 14, 2021 5:12pm

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will test the water quality in the West Philippines Sea following a report on Chinese vessels allegedly dumping human waste in the area, its official said Wednesday.

At the Laging Handa public briefing, DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda said they will identify the nearest portion of the concerned water territory.

"Since there is an allegation na ganyan ang nangyari ay ipapa-check natin 'yan at titingnan natin kung ano ang pinakamalapit na lugar na pwedeng makakuha ng water sampling," he said.

(Since there is an allegation like that, we will check and look for the nearest location of the area where we can obtain a water sample.)

Antiporda expressed doubt that the report on the alleged dumping of human waste in the West Philippine Sea was true.

He said the materials that were being dumped into the sea, as seen in the photos provided in the report, do not look like human waste but oil spill.

Asked about the [call of Senate President Pro Tempore Ralph Recto](#) for the government to investigate and file a diplomatic protest against China, Antiporda opposed the suggestion.

"I don't think the country should be that gullible in an allegation na hindi pa po confirmed (that is not confirmed yet)," he said.

Senator Risa Hontiveros reiterated her call for the DENR to provide a baseline report on the natural resources that were destroyed in the West Philippine Sea.

Antiporda said the DENR will follow Hontiveros' suggestion if such allegations are found to be true.

He also questioned the motive of the US-based expert in sharing the findings to the public during the fifth anniversary of the arbitral win of the Philippines against China over the disputed territory.

"We're looking into the motive of the prescon," he said.

Meanwhile, Philippine Coast Guard spokesperson Armand Balilo said they are working with intelligence units to confirm the report on human waste dumping.

He said the PCG has yet to receive a confirmation.

"So far, walang confirmation doon sa kanilang mga kini-claim (So far, there is no confirmation on their claims)," he said in an interview on Super Radyo dzBB.



## DENR to test West Philippine Sea water quality amid alleged human waste dumping by China vessels

The report said Liz Derr, founder and CEO of Similarity, found that hundreds of [Chinese vessels have been dumping raw sewage](#) every day for several years on reefs in the resource-rich area, creating harmful Chlorophyll-a blooms in the waters.

It also included satellite images of the supposed dumping in the South China Sea and parts of the West Philippine Sea.

Similarity specializes in geospatial analysis and provides satellite data imagery.

Derr's findings indicated that the damage brought by the dumping of human wastes would "take decades to recover even with active mitigation."—AOL, GMA News



## Environmental groups to challenge DENR order on waste-to-energy facilities before SC

Published July 14, 2021, 1:35 PM  
by Ellson Quismorio

Environmental groups are set to challenge before the Supreme Court (SC) a 2019 order from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) that sets the rules on the establishment and operation of waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities for the treatment of municipal solid waste (MSW) in the country.



(File photo/ MANILA BULLETIN)

An advisory sent by green group EcoWaste Coalition on Wednesday, July 14 bared that the petitioners will include the coalition, Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability, concerned individuals, and communities affected by WTE Incineration projects.

They will troop to the SC in Padre Faura Street, Ermita, Manila at around 10 a.m. Thursday to file the case.

The petitioners are challenging the validity of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No.2019-21 for, among other things, 1) being improperly issued, 2) violating the law and 1987 Constitution, and 3) violating the right to health and the right to a balanced and healthful ecology.



## Environmental groups to challenge DENR order on waste-to-energy facilities before SC

Signed by DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu on November 26, 2019, DAO No.2019-21 spells out the guidelines on “environmentally-sound evaluation, establishment, operation, and decommissioning or closure of WTE technologies for MSW management,” at least according to the Cabinet official.

WTE refers to the energy recovered from waste—usually the conversion of non-recyclable waste materials into useable heat, electricity or fuel through a variety of processes.

MSW is defined as the waste produced from activities within local government units (LGUs), which include a combination of residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial trash and street litters.

The EcoWaste Coalition is a national network of public interest groups pursuing sustainable and just solutions to waste, climate change, and chemical issues towards zero waste communities.

Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability is a non-profit environmental advocacy organization lobbying for the protection of watersheds in South Central Mindanao.



## PCSD, protecting Palawan

BY  
BMPLUS  
JULY 14, 2021  
3 MINUTE READ

Ursula Island, a wildlife and gaming sanctuary off the coast of Batarza in Southern Palawan, is one of several natural reserves in the province that the Palaweños are proud of.

When Republic Act 7611 or the Strategic Environment Plan (SEP) for Palawan became a law, the province acquired a strong foundation for clear policies on the protection of the environment – Palawan being touted as the country’s “last biodiversity frontier”.

SEP then created the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) giving the local government of Palawan direct jurisdiction over its natural resources.

The agency is seen driving the efforts to uphold and implement sustainable development in Palawan, taking advantage of newly-available scientific data, while establishing a system that controls, protects and develops Palawan’s natural resources.

Two contentious national issues push the role of PCSD under the microscope – one, that some of the province’s fishing grounds, particularly in Kalayan, form part of the West Philippine Sea; PCSD is highly involved in addressing the security and development concerns on the West Philippine Sea as it believes that the matters relating to the WPS are crucial to the well-being of Palawan, as well as national security and development.

The second contentious issue that PCSD has to address arise from the new policy pronouncements on mining agreements.

The PCSD’s position of balancing interests between economic growth and sustainable use of our natural resources is an extraordinary feat laudable in the midst of health crisis and economic frailties.

According to Atty. Teodoro Jose Matta, Executive Director of PCSD, “on Palawan’s shoulders lie that task of showing how to strike a balance between the desired social and economic growth and the preservation of the country’s natural resources.”

Atty. Matta explains that PCSD develops methods in order to achieve this “balance”.

One method is the Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN), which provides a graded system of protection and development control over the terrestrial, coastal and marine components of the province.





## PCSD, protecting Palawan

Recently, the ECAN maps of Palawan's municipalities of Quezon and Bataraza, known to be economically dependent on mining, were submitted for amendment.

The requested updates in the zoning classifications of the maps are seen as can potentially allow the expansion of mining activities in the areas.

Upon scrutiny of all factors presented, the updates to ECAN map will be approved by the PCSD if the council deems them consistent with what are prescribed in SEP law and other current guidelines.

While some dissent against mining is expected, the fact that environmentally sound mining practices (or responsible mining) exist should also be considered.

According to Sec. Harry Roque, Presidential Spokesperson, a recent visitor to Rio Tuba Mining in Palawan, "in a period of economic struggle, responsible mining should be treated as a promising economic contributor that can bring development especially to the local communities where economic stimulus is needed the most."

Roque says, that when done responsibly and within the bounds of existing laws, mining is socially and economically beneficial both to the local and national economy.

Based on data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Philippines is one of the world's richly-endowed countries in mineral resources.

In fact, the national government recently acknowledged the significant economic benefits of the mining industry when it issued Executive Order No.130 on April 14, 2021, effectively lifting the moratorium on mineral agreements.

If there is one place where the proper balancing of interests should be done, it is in the Province of Palawan.

And the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development is determined to achieve just that.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/07/14/pcsd-protecting-palawan/>



## DILG pushes raps vs officials for destruction of protected watershed areas

(Philstar.com) - July 14, 2021 - 2:53pm

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of the Interior and Local Government recommended the filing of criminal and administrative charges against government officials and private entities for their continued violation of environmental laws in the protected watershed areas of San Roque in Baras, Rizal.

The department's recommendation came in a letter addressed to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force where the DILG slammed what it said was the illegal entry, illegal logging, and encroachment of a private resort and other infrastructure within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal.

DILG Spokesperson Jonathan Malaya in a statement sent to reporters Wednesday cited reports from the DILG regional and provincial offices who conducted a site inspection that confirmed illegal cutting of trees and slash and burn activities in some 16 hectares.

The reports, he said, pointed out the illegal constructions by GSB Resort along the San Roque main road and waterways which are within the protected areas in Rizal.

"What is also appalling and alarming is the large-scale cutting of trees and kaingin activities covering more than 16 hectares in multiple sections of UMRBPL. Several new structures were also erected in the areas where the trees were burned," he said.

"They are already subjugating the environment, they still rule the area and do not follow the authorities and the laws to protect the environment," he also said in Filipino.

This comes after the Masungi Georeserve Foundation wrote to the Department seeking assistance on the alleged entry and incursion by the GSB Resort within the protected watershed areas.

Why does this matter?

The Upper Marikina Watershed is a 126-hectare protected area covering parts of Antipolo City, Baras, Rodriguez, San Mateo and Tanay in Rizal that also forms the upper area of the drainage basin of the Marikina River.



## DILG pushes raps vs officials for destruction of protected watershed areas

Over the coronavirus-induced community quarantines, illegal occupants have been documented in the area on numerous occasions.

Earlier in November, Interior Secretary Eduardo Año admitted there were cases of mayors and other local government executives either directly or indirectly benefited from illegal mining and logging.

Malaya in his statement Wednesday said that a portion of the site of burned trees is presently occupied by private entities which have even installed armed guards in the area without legal authority.

In the letter to DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu through DENR Undersecretary Edilberto DC Leonardo, Malaya said that appropriate charges should be filed against responsible officials and entities for "wanton disregard and violation" of laws including:

the Upper Marikina Protected Landscape Declaration and RA 7586 or the National Integrated and Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act;

the Revised Forestry Code (PD 705);

the Water Code of the Philippines;

and the DENR DAO 1993-33 (Masungi Strict Nature Reserve & Wildlife Sanctuary)."

Occupying or dwelling in any public land within a protected area without clearance from the Protected Area Management Board is also prohibited under Republic Act 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018.

"Since AILTF is mandated to take the lead in the anti-illegal logging campaign of the government and to assist the DENR in the enforcement of environmental laws, the filing of charges against concerned officials and groups will put a stop to the wanton destruction currently being done in the area as well as hold accountable the officials responsible," said Malaya.

Earlier, DENR Rizal issued a show-cause order to resort owners for maintaining a private mini-resort and fenced off the river as part of the area's expansion in Sitio San Roque in Rizal in violation of the NIPAS Act even without a permit from the Baras LGU.

Section 20 of the NIPAS Act prohibits the construction or maintenance of any structure, fence, or enclosures and conduct of any business enterprise without a permit within protected areas.



## DILG pushes raps vs officials for destruction of protected watershed areas

Violations will incur a fine of not less than P5,000 to not more than P500,000, or imprisonment of no less than one year to no more than six years, or both as determined by the court.

"Despite repeated warnings from the government, these establishments continue to build infrastructure in the area. This is detrimental to the country's environmental preservation initiatives, not to mention our COVID-19 response," Malaya said.

"The country is already embattled with the COVID-19 pandemic, let's not add to that with the destruction of our environment. We should protect our remaining watersheds just like those in Rizal."



Masungi Georeserve

15h · 🌐



**JUST IN:** "DILG Spokesperson and Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said that officials and private individuals should be held accountable for the illegal entry, illegal logging, and encroachment/construction of a private resort and other infrastructure within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape (UMRBPL) in Rizal.

Citing reports from the DILG regional and provincial offices and site inspection led by a team of DILG and DENR officials, Malaya said they confirmed illegal cutting of trees and slash and burn activities in some 16 hectares and illegal constructions by GSB Resort along the San Roque main road and waterways which are within the protected areas in Rizal.

"Binusabos na nga nila ang kalikasan, naghahari-harian pa sila sa lugar at hindi sumusunod sa mga otoridad at sa mga batas para protektahan ang kalikasan," said Malaya, who is a member of the AITF created under Executive Order No. 23, s. 2011.

In a letter to DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu through DENR Undersecretary Edilberto DC Leonardo, Malaya said that appropriate charges should be filed against responsible officials and entities for wanton disregard and violation of the Upper Marikina Protected Landscape Declaration and RA 7586 or the National Integrated and Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act; the Revised Forestry Code (PD 705); the Water Code of the Philippines; and the DENR DAO 1993-33 (Masungi Strict Nature Reserve & Wildlife Sanctuary).

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"The country is already embattled with the COVID-19 pandemic, 'wag na po natin dagdagan ng pag-sira sa ating kalikasan. We should protect our remaining watersheds just like those in Rizal," said Malaya. ###



**DILG recommends filing of raps vs officials, entities for illegal logging, construction in protected watershed areas in Rizal**

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has recommended to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force (AILTF) the filing of criminal and administrative charges against concerned government officials and private entities for their continued violation of environmental laws in the protected watershed areas of San Roque in Baras, Rizal.

[DILG Philippines](#) [@DILGPhilippines](#) [www.dilg.gov.ph](http://www.dilg.gov.ph)

DILG Philippines ✓

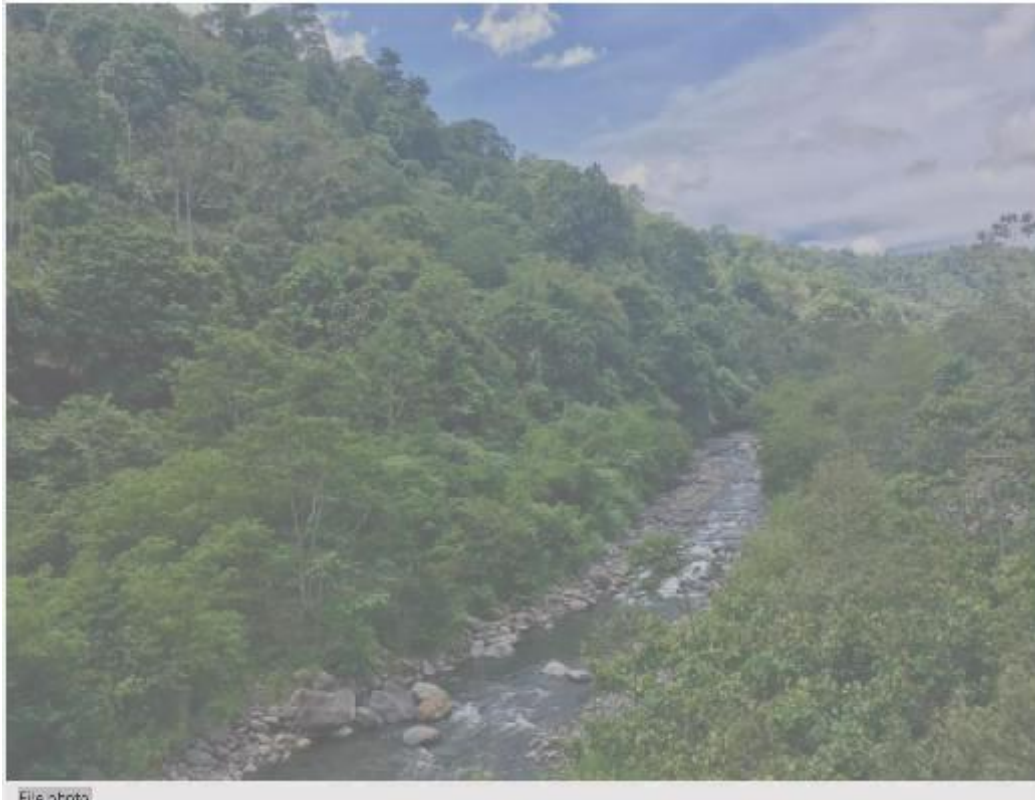
18h · 🌐

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READ: DILG recommends filing of raps vs officials, entities for illegal logging, construction in protected watershed areas in Rizal <https://bit.ly/3xRnRa5> ✓



## Groups call for halt of forest clearing in watershed



File photo

RALPH LAWRENCE G. LLEMIT  
July 14, 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL groups are calling for a stoppage of forest clearing in Panigan-Tamugan Watershed in Davao City.

In a press release forwarded to SunStar Davao, groups Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability (Idis), Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF), Euro Generics International Philippines (Egip) Foundation, and Bantay Bukid volunteers called for appropriate action to stop the clearing of forested areas in Sitio Kalatong, Barangay Carmen, Baguio District, Davao City.

In a letter submitted to Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio and City Administrator Zuleika Lopez, vice-chair of Watershed Management Council (WMC), the three environmental groups reported concerns during their monitoring visits to the site.

On August 21-22, 2018, the Egip Foundation, Obo-Manobo Forest Guards, and City Environment and Natural Resources (Cenro) reported forest clearing, illegal cutting of trees, and timber harvesting. They also noted the unauthorized building of structures.



## Groups call for halt of forest clearing in watershed

In December 2019, the groups said forest guards also reported that more forested areas were cleared.

Egip Field Biologist Joshua Donato said they reported the incident through a letter to WMC, the City Mayor's Office, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples-Davao (NCIP-Davao), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Davao, and Obu-Manuvu Unified Ancestral Domain Tribal Council of Leaders/Elders as early as 2018.

In response, the Cenro called the concerned parties for a hearing.

Datu Rubin Enangcob said he has several documents proving that they owned the land. He also denied cutting the trees in the area and doing any illegal activities in the area.

On March 16-20, 2019, the clearing of the forested area continued. Bantay Bukid volunteers recorded these incidents while doing their monitoring activity in Sitio Kalatong.

According to Idis, Egip again reported the incident to the same agencies and was given assurance that they will investigate the matter.

Datu Lipatuan Joel A. Unad, chairman of Mindanao Indigenous Peoples Conference for Peace and Development (MIPCPD), confirmed during a virtual presser on June 30 the rampant forest clearing in Kalatong and around 200 establishments have mushroomed in the area since 2018.

Unad added that these new "settlers" are not indigenous peoples.

The MIPCPD also expressed concerns that wastes from these settlements would eventually find their way to our waters.

"Ang Konseho sa Lungsod sa Davao nagmugna og ordinansa sa pagdeklara og mga area nga watershed. Mga uluhan sa mga kasapaan aron dili mahubsan ang katubigan sama sa (The Davao City Council crafted an ordinance declaring watershed areas. These are the above portion of the rivers in order not to drain the waters including) Panigan River, Kalatong River, Kabinuangan River, Laling River, [and] Tamugan River aron adunay mainum ang mga tao sa tibuok (so that there will be water source for the entire) Davao City," Unad said during the "Hisgutanang Tubig sa Dabaw: Things We Need to Know About Davao City Bulk Water Supply Project" presser.





## Bill seeks to protect home of 'world's largest flower'

By Mar Serrano July 14, 2021, 4:37 pm



**PROTECTING MT. MASARAGA.** Mt. Masaraga, shown in photo, is home to diverse species of flora and fauna including "Rafflesia", which is considered as the world's largest flower. Albay 3rd District Rep. Fernando Cabredo has filed a bill that aims to provide funds for the mountain's forest management operations. *(Photo courtesy of Rocky Fabiline/DENR)*

LIGAO CITY, Albay – A lawmaker in Albay has filed a bill seeking the declaration of Mt. Masaraga here as a protected area.

In an interview on Wednesday, Albay 3rd District Rep. Fernando Cabredo said the proposed measure entitled "Mt. Masaraga Protected Landscape (MMPL) Act of 2021" aims to provide funds for the mountain's forest management operations.

Local environmentalists said the 1,328-meter (4,357 feet) high Mt. Masaraga is home to diverse species of flora and fauna and a critical watershed for the Bicol River Basin.

"Rafflesia," considered as the world's largest flower, can be found in this mountain, according to records of the City Environment and Natural Resources Office.

Cabredo, who is an environmental advocate, said "the protection and conservation of forests and mountains would greatly benefit the future generation."



## Bill seeks to protect home of 'world's largest flower'

Designating Mt. Masaraga as a protected landscape area would preserve its beauty and protect it from future exploitations and devastations through "kaingin" or the slash and burn farming method, illegal cutting of trees, hunting, and irresponsible trekking, he said.

Under the bill, the city government here and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) would have a shared responsibility in preserving the pristine condition of the mountain, Cabredo added.

The proposed MMPL would also establish a Protected Area Management Office, which shall supervise the day-to-day management, protection, and administration of the Mt. Masaraga protected area.

The proposed act has wider coverage than the existing Mt. Masaraga Watershed Forest Reserve, which main objective is to maintain its usefulness as a source of water for irrigation and domestic use, and for other forestry purposes.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) lists the forested and sharp-topped mountain as an inactive volcano. It is also located close to the cone-shaped Mayon Volcano.

Tectonically, Mt. Masaraga is part of Bicol's chain of volcanoes and of the so-called "Pacific Ring of Fire". (PNA)



## Illegal Lumber worth P11,200 abandoned in Romblon town

By: Madonna T. Virola - Correspondent / @mvirolaINQInquirer Southern Luzon / 01:32 PM July 14, 2021

CITY OF CALAPAN—Authorities seized early morning Wednesday (July 14) illegally cut lumber valued at P11,200 in Magdiwang town in Romblon province, said a report from Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan (Mimaropa) police office.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, with police and Philippine Coast Guard personnel, conducted at 2:20 a.m. an anti-illegal logging operation and found the logs abandoned in Barangay Agutay.

Authorities confiscated 24 pieces of red lauan and five pieces of white lauan, with a total volume of 280 board feet and worth about P11,200.

Authorities are still investigating the incident.

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1459512/illegal-lumber-worth-p11200-abandoned-in-romblon-town#ixzz70doXIXHj>

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## SMC unit plans 300-MW hydro plant in Aklan

July 14, 2021 | 12:09 am

A UNIT of SMC Global Power Holdings Corp. is planning to build a 300-megawatt (MW) pumped-storage hydro power plant in Malay, Aklan to provide the Visayas with reserve power, according to documents from the Environment department.

In its project description, Strategic Power Development Corp. said that the pumped-storage facility, which will operate along the Nabaoy and Imbaroto rivers, aims to supply “a portion of the renewable energy requirement to the Visayas grid particularly during peak hours.”

“This will also contribute to the stabilization of the Visayas grid by providing ancillary services and peaking power,” the firm added.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said on its website that it would hold a public scoping for the planned facility via Zoom on July 28 as part of its environmental impact assessment process.

Strategic Power’s planned hydro project will consist of two dams or reservoirs, power waterways, and an underground powerhouse that can be reached through a 577-meter access tunnel.

The SMC Global Power wholly owned subsidiary said that the project’s construction is expected to generate employment and livelihood opportunities for locals.

It said that host communities living in the area also stand to benefit from the operations of the pumped-storage hydro plant as they will receive a portion of power sales — or one centavo per kilowatt-hour — in line with Republic Act No. 9136 or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001.

In 2014, the Energy department awarded a hydro service contract to Strategic Power, allowing it to develop the hydro facility.

SMC Global Power’s parent firm San Miguel Corp. (SMC) recently dropped “clean” coal power plant projects with a combined capacity of 1,500 MW as the firm detailed its plans to add more renewable energy in its portfolio.



## SMC unit plans 300-MW hydro plant in Aklan

Listed conglomerate San Miguel reported a first-quarter attributable net income to its parent of P9.30 billion, a reversal from its attributable net loss of P1.27 billion incurred in the same period last year as the economy slowly picked up.

Shares of San Miguel in the local bourse shed 1.10% or P1.3 to finish at P116.70 apiece on Tuesday. —  
Angelica Y. Yang



## Mayor says nat'l agencies have final say on reclamation project

By Mary Judaline Partlow July 14, 2021, 6:32 pmShare



**RECLAMATION PROJECT.** Dumaguete Mayor Felipe Antonio Remollo delivers his message during a press briefing in the city on Wednesday (July 14, 2021). The mayor explained the local government's side on the controversial P23-billion offshore reclamation project proposed to be undertaken through a public private partnership. (Screengrab from the *Lupad Dumaguete Facebook page/City PIO*)

DUMAGUETE CITY – Dumaguete City Mayor Felipe Antonio Remollo on Wednesday said national agencies such as the Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) have the “final say” in the proposed PHP23.35-billion reclamation project fronting the coastline here.

Remollo, in a press briefing at a local hotel, explained the processes which the “unsolicited project” proposed by a Quezon City-based firm has to go through, noting that it would take years before this could be realized if approved by the PRA and other agencies.

The mayor and majority of the city councilors who approved a resolution granting him authority to enter into a joint venture agreement (JVA) with the proponent drew flak from the public including residents, environmental advocacy groups, church leaders, and members of the academe.

He confirmed that the scheduled signing of the JVA between the city, represented by him, and the investor, EM Cuerpo, Inc. last Monday did not materialize because he asked the city council to have it amended into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with suggested inclusions as well as changes in some provisions.



## Mayor says nat'l agencies have final say on reclamation project

Remollo's letter to the city council said he wanted to allow the people to have a better understanding of the reclamation project, which would be implemented at no cost to the city under a public-private partnership (PPP).

In the meantime, he appealed to his constituents to listen to his plan and give his administration a chance to submit to the national government the proposal on the said project dubbed "Smart City".

It covers 174 hectares of reclaimed land and involves the building of two islands about 30 meters away from the city's coastline.

Remollo promised that "dili ta padayon kung walay blessing (we will not push ahead without the blessing) of concerned agencies."

The project aims to uplift the lives of the people in Dumaguete, create more jobs, bring more investors in, and hopefully upgrade its status from currently being a third class city, he said.

He also thanked the different opposition groups for their inputs and criticisms while appealing to them to not turn down something that has not yet even been finalized.

Various sectors, including National Scientist of the Philippines, Dr. Angel Alcala, had issued separate statements of opposition to the project in the past days, with a common call for public consultation.

However, Remollo said there is no need for that as yet. "Right now, there is nothing that I can present to the public and in fact, we don't even have a design yet," he said in mixed English and Cebuano dialect.

"Let's not quarrel on this anymore. You do your part, and I'll send this (project) and let the authorities decide," he added. (PNA)



## Larawan ng 'human waste' ng China sa West Philippines Sea, fake news

By [Doris Franche](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon)  
- July 15, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Fake news ang mga kumakalat na larawan sa social media hinggil sa pagtatapon umano ng mga barko ng Tsina ng human wastes sa West Philippine Sea.

Sinabi ni Defense Sec. Delfin Lorenzana na, ang naturang mga larawan ay hindi sa West Philippine Sea kundi sa Great Barrier Reef na nasa Australia at kuha noon pang Oktubre 2014.

Nakasaad sa larawan na hindi rin human waste kundi mga hinukay na lupa dulot ng dredging ang itinapon sa Great Barrier Reef na sa unang tingin ay dumi ng tao.

Una rito, inilabas sa website na Similarity.com ang ginagawang paglapastangan umano ng Tsina sa mga artipisyal na isla at bahurang nakapaloob sa WPS.

Dahil dito, nanawagan si Lorenzana sa publiko na huwag basta-basta pumatol sa mga nagpapakalat ng maling balita sa social media lalo't kung gumagamit ng mga lumang larawan. Kinuwestyon din ng kalihim ang konklusyon ng report base lang sa satellite images.

Sinabi ng kalihim, bagama't fake news ito kanila pa rin kinukumpirma ang nasabing ulat at kung mayroon itong katotohanan makakasira ito sa marine ecology ng rehiyon.





## PAGTATAPON NG DUMI SA WPS IIMBESTIGAHAN

9 hours ago jake



“WE need to verify first because that is just a report.”

Ito ang tugon ni Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque sa ulat na ginagawang kubeta o tapunan ng dumi ng tao ng China ang West Philippine Sea.

Sinabi ni Sec. Roque na hindi maingat kundi kailangan na maging responsable lamang ang pamahalaan na sagutin ang mga bagay na gaya nito.

“Tingnan muna natin kung may katotohanan dahil kung wala naman eh di tayo naman ang mapapahiya,” ayon kay Sec. Roque.

“Dapat i-verify muna bago pumutak. Noong na-verify naman po natin na nag-export ng basura ang Canada sa atin.. pinabalik naman natin ang basura sa Canada. No IFs, no BUTs,” ang pahayag ni Sec. Roque.



## PAGTATAPON NG DUMI SA WPS IIMBESTIGAHAN

Ayon naman kay Senadora Grace Poe, ang ginawa ng China ay tahasang insulto hindi lamang sa ating soberanya kundi maging sa lahat ng umaasa ng kabuhayan mula sa karagatan.

Iginiit naman ni Senador Panfilo Lacson na kumpirmahin muna ng pamahalaan ang nasabing ulat bago aksiyunan. (CHRISTIAN DALE)



## ON-SITE INVESTIGATION SA WPS GIIT NG SOLON

9 hours ago jake

SA halip na pabulaanan agad, iginiit ng isang dating mambabatas sa Kamara na magsagawa ang gobyerno ng on-site investigation sa report na ginagawang inidoro ng China ang teritoryo ng Pilipinas sa West Philippine Sea (WPS).

Ayon kay dating Congressman Fernando Hicap ng Anakpawis party-list, kailangan pumunta sa WPS ang Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) para mag-imbetiga at kumuha ng water sample.

Ginawa ni Hicap ang pahayag matapos agad pabulaanan nina Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana at Foreign Affairs Secretary Teddy Boy Locsin ang report ng US geospatial firm na Similarity na nagtatapon ng dumi ng tao ang mga Chinese vessel sa WPS.

"Our maritime authorities should look into the activities of anchored Chinese vessels to validate this disgusting report once and for all. We likewise urge the BFAR to conduct water sample testing in the area to determine the fecal coliform level," ayon sa dating mambabatas.

Sinabi ng dating solon na hindi malayong totoo ang ulat ng Similarity dahil daan-daang barko ng Chinese militia ang nakatambay sa territorial waters ng Pilipinas sa WPS.

Malamang na itinatapon nila ang kanilang dumi sa ating karagatan bago sila umalis lalo na't buwanan ang kanilang ang ilegal na pangingsda sa nasabing lugar.

"More than 200 Chinese vessels are present in our waters for more than three months now. Their activities are unmonitored so who knows what more obnoxious behavior are they engaged in?," paliwanag nito.

Bukod dito, may malalaking pasilidad na aniya ang China sa ating mga teritoryo sa WPS at tiyak na libo-libong People's Liberation Army (PLA) personnel ang naka-istasyon doon kaya hindi malayong itinatapon nila ang kanilang dumi sa karagatan. (BERNARD TAGUINOD)



## Malakanyang sisiilipin ang pagtatapon ng dumi sa WPS



July 14, 2021 @ 6:51 PM 11 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Bineberipika na ng Malakanyang ang ulat ng pagtatapon ng dumi ng tao ng mga barko ng China sa West Philippine Sea.

“We will verify. We will reply when it is verified,” ani Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque.

Ayon pa kay Roque, hindi dapat kaagad sabihing panghihimasok ang presensya ng mga Tsino sa WPS.

“We should accord our neighbors, friends, presumption of good faith,” aniya.

“We should be reasonable, we should verify before talking back because otherwise, tayo ang mapapahiya,” dagdag ng opisyal.

Batay sa US-based expert, nakasisira sa karagatan ng bansa ang dumi ng tao mula sa mga barko ng China na nakadaong sa South China Sea at ilang parte ng WPS.

Ayon kay Liz Derr, founder at CEO ng Simularity, isang geospatial analysis at nagbibigay ng satellite data imagery, araw-araw nagtatapon ang mga Tsino sa loob ng pitong taon sa mga bahura. RNT/ELM

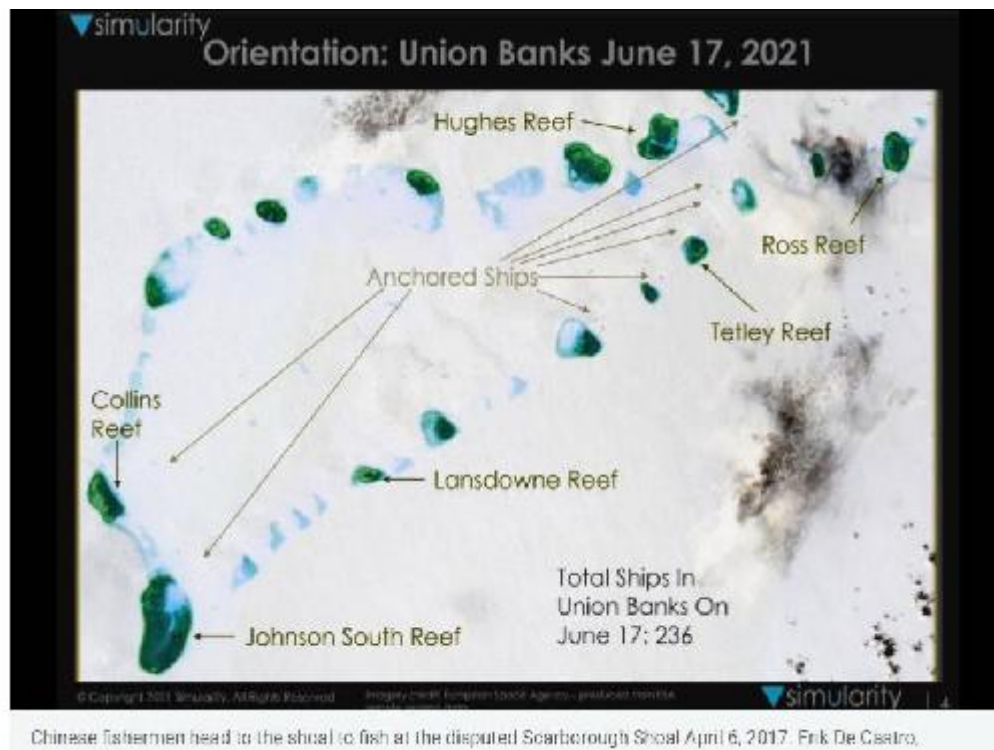
Source: <https://www.remate.ph/malakanyang-sisilipin-ang-pagtatapon-ng-dumi-sa-wps/>



## Philippines says giving China 'presumption of good faith' on alleged 'sewage-dumping'

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jul 14 2021 02:35 PM



MANILA — The Philippines is giving Beijing "presumption of good faith" pending the results of an investigation into a US-based tech firm's report that hundreds of Chinese vessels were dumping sewage into contested areas of the South China Sea, Malacañang said on Wednesday.

Similarity, an AI-based satellite image analysis firm, on Monday made public satellite images over a 5-year period that it said showed damage caused by untreated human waste from Chinese vessels.

Dumped human waste from Chinese ships creating 'dead zone' in Spratlys - intelligence firm

"The responsible answer is we're verifying first. We will react if it's been verified," Palace spokesman Harry Roque said of the report.

"We have to accord our neighbors and our friends the presumption of good faith, when they say something about an issue," he said in a press briefing.

Asked if government was trying to avoid hurting China with its rhetoric, Roque said: "Hindi po. Responsable lang tayo kasi dapat i-verify muna bago magputak."



## Philippines says giving China 'presumption of good faith' on alleged 'sewage-dumping'

(No. We are just responsible because we need to verify before blubbering.)

He noted that in 2019, the Philippines sent back trash to Canada after verifying reports on the waste exports.

"Matagal na po tayong naninindigan na hindi basurahan at siyempre, hindi kubeta ang Pilipinas. Tingnan muna natin kung mayroong katotohanan dahil kung wala naman, tayo ang mapapahiya," Roque said.

(We have long asserted that the Philippines is not a garbage dump, and of course, not a lavatory. Let us see first if there is truth to this because if there is not, we will be humiliated.)

Apart from the garbage row, ties between Ottawa and Manila also soured after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in 2017 raised concerns over President Rodrigo Duterte's drug war, which has secured China's pledge of aid.

Beijing maintains a constant presence of coastguard and fishing boats in the South China Sea to assert its claim of sovereignty, including hundreds in the Spratly islands, where the Philippines, Brunei, Taiwan, Vietnam and Malaysia also have claims.

At a forum on Monday, Liz Derr, Similarity co-founder and CEO, said the waste could threaten fish stocks.

"It is so intense you can see it from space," Derr said.

The Chinese embassy in Manila did not immediately respond when asked by media for comment on Similarity's report.

The Philippines has become more vocal in recent months over the presence of hundreds of vessels it believes are Chinese maritime militias.

— With reports from Jamaine Punzalan, ABS-CBN News; Reuters



## MMDA offers groceries in exchange for recyclable waste in Makati

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz July 14, 2021, 5:21 pm



**FOOD FOR WASTE.** Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos, Jr. (2nd from left) inspects grocery items given out in exchange for waste through the MMDA's 'Recyclable Mo, Palit Grocery Ko' program on Wednesday (July 14, 2021). In addition to encouraging the public to help with recycling, residents in two barangays in Makati City were taught the Takakura community-based composting method for non-recyclables. (Photo courtesy of MMDA)

MANILA – The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has given out groceries in exchange for recyclable waste in Makati City as part of its flood management project in Metro Manila.

In a statement on Wednesday, the MMDA said it has brought its mobile material recovery facility (MMRF) during visits to Barangay San Isidro and Barangay Pio del Pilar in the city.

"The MMRF, dubbed as 'Recyclable Mo, Palit Grocery Ko,' allows residents to collect waste with equivalent points duly recorded in their Ecosavers Passbook and trade it into certain grocery items such as canned goods, instant noodles, and rice which can be redeemed during the MMRF Market Day," the agency said.

In addition, it said residents were taught the Takakura home composting method -- a community-based composting method that uses Japanese fermentation solutions.

The MMRF and the Takakura Composting, it said, are part of the Metro Manila Flood Management Project funded by the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank.



## MMDA offers groceries in exchange for recyclable waste in Makati

The MMDA is tasked with minimizing solid waste in waterways especially in barangays located near pumping stations in Metro Manila.

MMDA Chair Benjamin “Benhur” Abalos Jr. said these initiatives are mean to help the local government at the barangay level to lessen generated garbage that could end up in Metro Manila’s waterways.

He said the MMDA is also coordinating with other non-government organizations with similar waste management programs to boost its solid waste campaign and bring it to more barangays in Metro Manila.

“Through these partnerships, we provide residents more options and wider reach to recycle their waste, promote segregation, and exchange it into something that would benefit the community,” Abalos said.

In addition to community-based solutions on waste management, he said the MMDA continues to deploy trash traps in esteros and tributaries near its pumping stations to block the entry of garbage and prevent further damage to the facility caused by trash.

He also reminded the public to stop “indiscriminately” dumping waste on the streets and waterways of Metro Manila.

On June 28, Abalos inspected the Estero Tripa de Gallina pumping station at Tramo Bridge along Aurora Avenue to help prepare the facility for the rainy season.

He said that around two truckloads of garbage are hauled in the facility daily, while a total of 32 truckloads of trash are collected from all 57 pumping stations in Metro Manila. (PNA)





## INGENIOUS WAY TO COLLECT WASTE IN MAKATI

JUL 14, 2021, 12:41 PM

Mike Taboy

Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chairman Benhur Abalos inspects a mobile waste material recovery facility in Barangay San Isidro, Makati City Wednesday (July 14).

The local government of Makati City is promoting an environmental consciousness program by urging local residents to collect their trash especially plastic waste to prevent them from ending up in Pasig River and other waterways, in exchange for grocery items. (MT)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/168722493140749/posts/4430908570255432/?app=fbl>



## IPM unit opens first major landfill under PPP scheme in Iloilo

By: Daxim L. Lucas - Reporter / @daxinqPhilippine Daily Inquirer / 03:32 PM July 14, 2021

MANILA, Philippines—A unit of publicly-listed IPM Holdings Inc. has begun operations of the first of several engineered sanitary landfills in the country using the public-private partnership model.

Located in Passi City, Iloilo province, the 10-hectare sanitary landfill of Basic Environmental Systems & Technologies (BEST) Inc. is capable of handling solid waste from 28 local government units in the third, fourth and fifth districts of Iloilo province.

The facility also accepts solid waste from other local government units within Iloilo province. Designed, built and operated by BEST in partnership with Passi City, the Passi Integrated Waste Management Facility is estimated to reach full capacity by 2030 based on the volume of waste generated by its LGU clients.

Local officials, led by Passi City Mayor Stephen Palmares and Vice Mayor Jesry Palmares, welcomed the facility's opening as it will allow LGUs to comply with the strict requirements of Republic Act 9003 or Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The event was also attended by representatives of Iloilo Gov. Arthur Defensor Jr. and the Environmental Management Bureau of the regional Department of Environment and Natural Resources office.

Apart from Iloilo, BEST is pursuing similar sanitary landfill projects using the PPP model in strategic areas in the Philippines. The company's aim is to be the country's leading local designer, builder and operator of integrated waste management facilities.

"For one, a sanitary landfill helps safeguard the environment from pollution due to mismanaged wastes," Mercado said in a statement.

"Second, it helps LGUs who lack finances and technical expertise to build and operate landfills that are fully compliant with RA 9003," she said.

"And, finally, it can help relieve pressures against closure of open dumpsites and residuals containment areas, including possible prosecution of violators," Mercado added.



## IPM unit opens first major landfill under PPP scheme in Iloilo

The birth of PPPs in waste management was a recognition of the significant role of the private sector as a partner in implementing environmental and solid waste management programs as well as accelerating the country's infrastructure development and sustained economic growth.

Palmares said his city's landfill is expected to generate environmental, health, economic, and social benefits for city residents.

"Neighboring municipalities will also have an environment-friendly disposal area thereby complying with the strict requirements of the law," Palmares said.

"The clustered sanitary landfill will redound to improved public health, sanitation, and overall well-being of Iloilo residents," he said.

Passi City adopted its PPP framework in 2014. After a competitive challenge process, the city selected BEST to be the private sector proponent to undertake the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the city's engineered sanitary landfill facility under a joint venture deal.

Read more: <https://business.inquirer.net/327153/ipm-unit-opens-first-major-landfill-under-ppp-scheme-in-iloilo#ixzz70dme65rA>

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## 10-hectare sanitary landfill opens in Iloilo

Published July 14, 2021 11:58pm

A 10-hectare sanitary landfill project was inaugurated on Wednesday in Passi City, Iloilo.

According to IPM Holdings subsidiary Basic Environmental Systems & Technologies, Inc. (BEST), the Passi Integrated Waste Management Facility (PIWMF) may handle solid waste from 28 local government units in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th districts of the Iloilo Province.

BEST said it may also accept solid waste from other LGUs in the province.

For his part, Passi Mayor Stephen Palmares said the PIWMF is expected to produce numerous benefits for residents.

"Neighboring municipalities will also have an environment-friendly disposal area thereby complying with the strict requirements of RA 9003," he said in a statement.

"The Clustered SLF will redound to improved public health, sanitation, and overall well-being of Iloilo residents," he added.

BEST President Isabelita Paredes Mercado said the project will address the concerns of local governments across the Philippines.

"For one, a sanitary landfill helps safeguard the environment from pollution due to mismanaged wastes; second, it helps LGUs who lack finances and technical expertise to build and operate landfills that are fully compliant with RA 9003," she said.

"[F]inally, it can help relieve pressures against the closure of open dumpsites and Residuals Containment Areas including possible prosecution of violators," she added.

The facility is expected to reach full capacity by 2030.

PIWMF is being constructed by BEST in partnership with Passi City.

BEST is also seeking to establish other sanitary landfill projects in other areas in the country. —  
Joahna Lei Casilao/NB, GMA News

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/795416/10-hectare-sanitary-landfill-opens-in-iloilo/story/?just\\_in](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/795416/10-hectare-sanitary-landfill-opens-in-iloilo/story/?just_in)



UN Environment Programme

11h · 🌐

To reduce the amount of plastic entering the ocean, we must reduce the amount of plastic in the system. 🌐 ♻️

We need more ambitious approaches to change from a linear & wasteful system to a circular plastic economy. Learn more in the 📺 UNEP International Resource Panel #MarinePlasticLitter report 📄 [bit.ly/IRPMPL](https://bit.ly/IRPMPL) ✅  
#BeatPlasticPollution






## Padcal extension of life mine up to December 2024

July 14, 2021 | 7:00 am

Philex Mining Corporation, one of the oldest and largest gold and copper producers in Southeast Asia, after the completion of confirmatory drilling and related technical studies on the mining methodology and Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) No. 3, has successfully identified from the end of 2022 additional mineable reserves in its Padcal Mine that are feasible for mining. The updated remaining mineable reserves as of end-March 2021 are estimated at 30.2 million tons with average gold and copper grades of 0.23 grams per ton (g/t) and 0.18%, respectively. This new estimate includes additional reserves of 16.2 million tons from the previously declared estimated mineable reserves as at the end 2020 of 17.4 million tons with an average gold and copper grades of 0.27 g/t and 0.18% that was reported in February 2021. The additional mineable reserves are expected to be mined over two years, extending the life of Padcal Mine until Dec. 31, 2024.

The latest mineable reserves estimate was undertaken by Engineer Ricardo S. Dolipas II, an accredited Competent Person by the Philippine Society of Mining Engineers (PSEM) under the Philippine Mineral Reporting Code (PMRC) Guidelines.

(Below is the mineable reserve statement from the Competent Person)



**TO: ALL CONCERNED**

**CC: MVP, EBA, JR., RBB, VMAY, RPM, File**

**FROM: R. S. DOLIPAS, II**

**DATE: June 24, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Summary of Remaining Proved Reserves as of March 31, 2021**

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The remaining proved reserves as of March 31, 2021 are tabulated below:

ORE SOURCES	Tonnes MT	PROVED RESERVES As of March 31, 2021		Recoverable Cu (000 lbs)	Recoverable Au (oz)
		Cu %	Au Grams/Tonne		
798-ML	25,900,000	0.18	0.23	82,300	150,000
782-ML	2,800,000	0.18	0.21	8,300	14,000
760-ML	1,700,000	0.18	0.39	4,600	17,000
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>30,200,000</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>95,400</b>	<b>181,000</b>

**Notes:**

- This Mineral Reserve Estimate was based on the *Summary of Remaining Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) for Padcal Mine as of December 31, 2020* memo dated February 22, 2021 by Noel C. Oliveros, a Competent Person for Exploration and Mineral Resource Estimation.
- Geovia GEMS™ and PCBC™ software were used in the above reserve estimate with the following parameters:

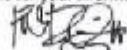
<b>Metal Prices:</b>	Cu: 3.00 US\$/lb	<b>Conversion Factor for</b>	
	Au: 1,800 US\$/oz	<b>Gold grade to CuEq:</b>	0.875
<b>Metal Recoveries:</b>	Cu: 80%	<b>Operating Cost per Tonne:</b>	PhP 882.00
	Au: 80%	<b>Break-even Grade (%CuEq):</b>	0.347
<b>Forum (PhP to US\$):</b>	PhP 48.00		



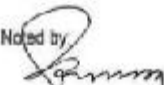
## Padcal extension of life mine up to December 2024

3. The cost per MT of PhP882 is the budgeted operating cost of the Company for the year 2021.
4. Metal prices of \$3.00/lb copper and \$1,800/oz gold are the projections of the Company until the life of mine. Meanwhile, the FOREX of PhP48.0/US\$ is the projection of the Company and is lower by 7% compared to last year's PhP51.5/US\$.
5. 16 million tons additional reserve was evaluated at 798-ML after confirmatory drilling for the Mineral Resource Estimate, resulting to extension of Life-of-Mine to year 2024.

This is for your information and reference.

  
RICARDO S. DOLIPAS, II

RSDII-M-004-21

Noted by  
  
VIC MORRIS A. YODONG  
Resident Manager

This estimate was prepared by Engr. Ricardo S. Dolipas, II (RSEM) who is the current General Manager for Technical Services for Padcal Mining Corporation, Padcal Operations. Engr. Dolipas is a Competent Person under the definition of the Philippine Mineral Reporting Code (PMRC) and has 27 years of experience as to the type of deposit and style of mining. He is a licensed mining engineer with Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) registration number 0002513 and accreditation number EM 0002513-0217/3. He has given his consent to the Public Reporting of this statement concerning Mineral Reserve estimation.

More importantly, the extended Life of Mine will ensure the continuous employment of 1,831 Padcal employees and support the social development of the host local government units (LGU) and neighboring communities especially in this time of COVID-19 pandemic. It will also give more time for the Company to bring the Silangan Project to development and commissioning stages.

The Company is currently processing all required permits and other regulatory requirements in connection with this impending Life of Mine extension.



## Gov't help sought in consolidating CARP lands

By: Karl R. Ocampo - Reporter / @kocampoINQPhilippine Daily Inquirer / 05:18 AM July 14, 2021

The distribution of lands to individual farmers under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (Carp) has “broken down” commercial production, an official from the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) said, hence the need for the government to assist farmers with land consolidation.

In a webinar organized by the state think tank Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Agrarian Reform Undersecretary Bernie Cruz said most of the lands distributed to farmers under Carp were haciendas that used to yield agricultural produce in large quantities. While it gave farmers the chance to own their respective shares of farm lots, the program also stumped the country's food production.

Several administrations have tried consolidating lands through the creation of farmers' organizations and cooperatives, but according to a separate PIDS study, many groups eventually become inactive due to lack of managerial and organizational skills among members.

Galalan Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Multipurpose Cooperative chair Marlon Talavera, who was also a discussant at the webinar, affirmed this situation, adding that most farmers were already old and were stuck with rudimentary practices.

He added that the lack of capitalization often discouraged agrarian reform beneficiaries to go into clustering since, without any financial buffer, farmer groups could not access loans to jump-start large-scale operations.

Moreover, many rural areas in the country do not have cell towers, making it difficult for groups to maintain communication.

“Our place is eight kilometers from the town. There's no communication because there's no cell tower. We don't have any cellphone signal so we have to go to the highlands just to receive a text message,” Talavera said in Filipino.

PIDS, in a bid to jump-start real consolidation, recommended that the government conduct capacity building among groups aimed at achieving two results— the provision of shares among farmer-members and the transformation of cooperatives into enterprises.

Read more: <https://business.inquirer.net/327109/govt-help-sought-in-consolidating-carp-lands#ixzz70dpWdRV0>

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## Working together for environmental stewardship

Published July 14, 2021, 11:34 AM  
by Len Amadora

The Philippines, like much of the world, is facing not only the ongoing pandemic but also an ongoing waste management problem. In hopes of contributing to local solutions, Coca-Cola Philippines – through its social investment arm Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines – is partnering with Teach for the Philippines (TFP) in a program that encourages and educates teachers, students, and families to become responsible environmental stewards.



Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines and Teach for the Philippines Partnership

“The saying, ‘it takes a village to raise a child’ extends to children’s behavior towards their surroundings and communities. Our Foundation recognizes the importance of collaborative efforts in forming young citizens committed to caring for the environment,” said Cecile Alcantara, President of Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines. “In 2019, we supported the roll-out of TFP’s Batang Bayani Environmental Education modules to hundreds of students. When face-to-face classes halted during the pandemic, we supported the adaptation of these modules to fit flexible learning delivery options in order to reach more students and communities.”

Through the continuing partnership with TFP — an organization that works to ensure all Filipino children can benefit from an inclusive, relevant, and excellent education — Coca-Cola is supporting the migration of its three modules on Environmental Education to various alternative delivery modes. These include Chat-and-SMS-based discussion guides, self-learning modules and session worksheets, and video-based instructional guides for online broadcast.



## Working together for environmental stewardship

During SY 2019-2020, the modules developed by TFP under its Batang Bayani Program were used to educate 520 students and 52 parents on topics such as Recycling for Students, Segregation for Students, and Recycling and Segregation for Parents. These same modules were adapted for distance and flexible learning. As a result, they were utilized to reach 1,730 students and 291 parents, exceeding the initial goal of reaching 600 public school students and 100 public school teachers and parents.

“The Environmental Education modules aim to teach students, their parents, as well as co-teachers to recognize and appreciate how the environment affects their daily lives, and vice versa,” said TFP Program & Training Director, Ginny Villa-Real. “With Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines’ partnership, we have been able to continue adapting and supporting learning amid the pandemic. Now more than ever, we find it important to continue empowering children and the communities around them to become responsible environmental stewards.”

Both parent and student participants reported to have been highly satisfied with the program. “We have noticed early indicators of knowledge transfer in our student participants,” TFP Program Manager John Cedric Pineda added.

Beyond migrating the modules to other learning delivery modes, the partnership also included an awareness campaign on social media which reached more than 100,000 Filipinos online.

### Teaching environmental stewardship to communities

Aside from the tie-up with TFP on environmental education, the Foundation has been supporting The Coca-Cola Company’s global vision of a World Without Waste. This is Coca-Cola’s commitment to ensuring that all the material it uses in its packaging is collected and circular so that none of it ends up as waste. To date, Coca-Cola has empowered 40 communities in 22 provinces across the Philippines by providing resources, technology support, trainings, and workshops.

Coca-Cola believes that partnering with like-minded organizations and working together with everyone — from local government units to communities — to address the problem of waste can create a bigger and long-term impact that can benefit not just the Philippines but also the world.

## With the private sector now on board, this is our year to turn the tide on biodiversity loss

If governments can agree to targets laid out in a new biodiversity framework, our societies, economies and financial system may have a fighting chance at preventing the precipitous decline of the planet's species and ecosystems.



Himba Raya is the largest REDD+ project in the world in terms of avoided emissions delivered to date, protecting nearly 65,000 hectares of peat swamp forest in Central Kalimantan in Indonesian Borneo and avoiding more than 130 million tonnes of carbon emissions. Image: Eric Hehl / OCBVSL & Co.

By Elizabeth Maruma Mrema  
July 14, 2021

Overexploitation of nature is putting our societies, economies and financial system on a path toward disaster – but we have a golden opportunity to help bend the curve of biodiversity loss downward at the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15), in Kunming, China, where world leaders will agree on the future Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) for the next ten years.

It is no exaggeration to describe COP15 as an event as of historical significance. Humanity has wiped out 83 per cent of wild mammals and half of all plants. Three-quarters of ice-free land and two-thirds of marine environments have been severely altered. The discussions at Kunming are as important to biodiversity as the Paris Agreement was to climate, and are likely to be similarly complex, if not more so. By extension, COP15 matters hugely to corporates and financial institutions around the globe, as tackling nature-related risks is set to become the new frontier for sustainable business and finance.



## With the private sector now on board, this is our year to turn the tide on biodiversity loss

Solving the biodiversity crisis requires an overhaul of our economic system – and this demands that business is on board and ready to lead alongside governments.

Draft proposals are on the table that would set global goals and targets to take urgent action across society to put biodiversity on a path to recovery for the benefit of planet and people by 2030 and to live in harmony with nature by 2050. This would involve increasing conservation areas to cover 30 per cent of the world's oceans and land by 2030, reduce threats to biodiversity, impose new controls on invasive species and reduce pollutions from all sources including plastic pollutions, increase contributions to climate changes mitigation and adaptation, amongst a host of other actions. If governments can agree to these goals and targets, our societies, economies and financial system may have a fighting chance at preventing the precipitous decline of the planet's species and ecosystems.

But targets are only the starting point. Implementation, not ambition, is the true driver of success. It's imperative that we back-up any agreed targets with specific implementation plans. Looking to the past at which environmental targets have succeeded and which have failed, we know goals need to be supported by clear next steps.

In 2010, countries united to create a 10-year plan, sub-divided into 20 targets, for protecting and conserving nature. The so-called Aichi Biodiversity Targets expired last year — and most of the targets were not reached. There are multiple reasons why the Aichi targets failed, but a critical problem was lack of coordination between governments, corporates and the finance sector, with limited action from the latter. Solving the biodiversity crisis requires an overhaul of our economic system – and this demands that business is on board and ready to lead alongside governments.

The stakes are even higher now, because scientists tell us this is the last decade we have to reverse nature loss and solve the climate crisis. To ensure that Kunming is a success, we'll need to take a different approach this time. A lot is at stake, so it's vital we bring all key actors to the table from the beginning.

That means working more closely with global business and financial sector, who have the power to direct financial flows away ecologically destructive operations. We have to treat business and financial sector as key drivers of solutions instead of seeing the private sector as a barrier to the sustainable use of natural resources.

Financial institutions and corporates have the necessary resources, autonomy, technology and ability to innovate. Since the world's governments signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in 2015, climate action has become mainstream across business. Now, we need to enable the same step-change to happen for nature.

## With the private sector now on board, this is our year to turn the tide on biodiversity loss

An increasing number of global businesses are leaning into efforts to protect nature, as they are realising the extensive financial risks posed by biodiversity loss. With over 50 per cent of the global economy highly dependent on nature, thriving biodiversity is a fundamental component of long-term business survival.

The loss of biodiversity can have a direct impact upon business operations, where raw materials are no longer available at the quality and quantity needed. Increasing costs in commodity supply chains, as a result of decreasing biodiversity, can have consequences on a company's bottom line. Biodiversity-related risks hit across sectors and countries. Moreover, the nature and climate crises are inextricably intertwined: as 50 of the world's leading scientists reminded us last week, we can't solve one without solving the other.

The recent launch of the market-led Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) illustrates that the market is ready to move on nature-related risks and opportunities. This new global initiative – which is supported by a wide range of leading financial institutions and corporates, including AXA, BNP Paribas, Kering, KPMG, H&M and many more – aims to give businesses a complete picture of their environmental risks.

An increasing number of global businesses are leaning into efforts to protect nature, as they are realising the extensive financial risks posed by biodiversity loss. With over 50 per cent of the global economy highly dependent on nature, thriving biodiversity is a fundamental component of long-term business survival.

Having the private sector as the driving force behind the TNFD sends a strong message to global governments of the growing appetite from business and financial sector to halt and reverse nature loss. Knowing that the finance sector and corporates are onboard will help governments across the world agree on ambitious targets when they gather at COP15 later this year. Business action on biodiversity assures governments that taking urgent, ambitious action to halt and reverse nature loss is an economic and financial imperative.

To ensure close collaboration from an early stage of the process, last week the CBD hosted a virtual workshop with the leaders of major investors, insurance firms, public and private banks, governments and regulators, NGOs and academia and other institutions to gather their input on the draft post-2020 biodiversity framework for Kunming and key actions to implement the GBF.



## With the private sector now on board, this is our year to turn the tide on biodiversity loss

Using the next four months to produce an ambitious yet actionable plan – supported by governments, financial institutions and corporates - is the challenge we now face. Corporates and financial institutions that engage in this process to set us up for success in Kunming - and in the decade of delivery that will follow - could find it to be the best investment they ever make.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, executive secretary of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and co-chair of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures.

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/opinion/with-the-private-sector-now-on-board-this-is-our-year-to-turn-the-tide-on-biodiversity-loss/>



## What should our relationship be with animals?

July 15, 2021

The late Australian zookeeper Stephen Robert Irwin, nicknamed 'The Crocodile Hunter', had once said that "if we can teach people about wildlife, they will be touched . . . because humans want to save things that they love." But what kind of a relationship do we really have with God's creations—do we respect them or do we just ignore their value and the beauty and perfection they represent?

WE believe that we are at the top of the food chain and as God's own creation—and created in His own image—we claim that we have the authority to possess hegemony over all living creatures.

But have we realized that many animals and even plants are vanishing?

Some blame climate change for this while others blame the loss of habitat, yet the truth of the matter is that Man's hand has been behind the catastrophe of mass extinction.

Based on the latest analysis, humans are driving one million species to extinction. Up to one million plant and animal species face extermination, many within decades, because of human activities, says the most comprehensive report yet on the state of global ecosystems. And without drastic action to conserve habitats, the rate of species extinction—already tens to hundreds of times higher than the average across the past ten million years—will only increase, based on the



## What should our relationship be with animals?

findings from a United Nations-backed panel called the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

A few years ago, we had a clan reunion and my family and I visited the Liger Animal Sanctuary in Pililla, Rizal to see the animals there, including the unnatural animal combinations with clever portmanteaus, like Liger and Tigon, which gave the impression of one of those side circuses of a bygone era and made us reminisce the gross exhibits of freakish creations in the fourth season of the popular television series American Horror Story.

Witnessing the caged liger and huge dog breed known as Chao Chao, it seemed an unlikely spot to bring up a philosophical question of such importance: What should our relationship be with animals?

An excellent question I thought to myself.

And this led me to delve into the difference between animal welfare versus animal rights and to pontificate as well on what role we should have in the lives of our beastly counterparts.

In part these questions aren't as simple as they may first appear. After all, humans and animals have been co-dependent, symbiotic as well as completely at odds since the beginning of mankind itself.

On the positive ledger of relationships, hunting dogs immediately spring to mind. Though that bond existed long before the time period in which we concern ourselves, the Greeks are often credited as the first to invent spiked collars to protect their canine buddies from wolves. The canines were not only protectors and hunters but companions as well and they made plenty of appearances in mythology; Greek goddesses Artemis and Hecate had dogs as well as Hades' many-headed best friend Cerberus.

And then again, there is the horse. Whether large and wooden, or real and ridden, they feature extensively in ancient warfare. Where would the Celtic queen Boudicca be without her Iberian steed? Can you imagine the many cavalries sans stallions? And how bizarre is Marcus Aurelius' statue without his horse to sit upon?

Even the Greek writer and philosopher Xenophon wrote a handbook that instructed horse-owners on the correct treatment of their animals, called *On the Art of Horsemanship*.





## What should our relationship be with animals?

Then of course, there is the role of animals in sport. Chariot racing, for example, reached fanatic worthy status during the Roman Empire and plenty of powerful predators earned their keep on the sands of the gladiatorial arena.

And we certainly can't exclude those big creatures either. How would Hannibal fare in the history books without his trusty elephants? What corner of the Roman Empire was not visited by Bactrian camels? And how boring would Minoan frescoes be if there was no bull to jump over?

Then, of course, we must mention all the animals that were eaten. No doubt anything and everything that could be consumed was consumed.

Finally, on the farthest side of the spectrum, and one that brings us full circle to our Floridian source of inspiration, was the fear and violence of ancient animals, most notably, lions. According to Aristotle, who provided some data on their distribution, behavior, breeding as well as anatomy back in the 4th century BC, lions were more numerous in North Africa than in Europe. Apparently they had approached towns and attacked people only if they were old or had poor dental health.

Now that's a good reason to tell our children to brush their teeth!

But joking aside, we once more circle back to the question at hand, which is primarily: What should our relationship be with animals? And more importantly, how should we interact with our beastly counterparts? Should there be animal rights or welfare? Or are they tools, food or unthinking things at our disposal?

These questions should not remain unanswered. The reason is that without animals, mankind would also perish and what a boring world would ours be without our dog welcoming us home or our feline friend purring at us while curled on our lap. (ai/mtvn)



## Why citizens play a key role in Southeast Asia's energy transition

Some Southeast Asian nations have displayed leadership in facilitating bottom-up renewable energy development. Now it is time for others to follow suit.



Solar panels at a village on Sumba Island, Indonesia. In Southeast Asia, small-scale renewable energy solutions can not only help reduce carbon emissions, but also provide energy access which many rural communities currently lack. Source: Asian Development Bank, CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

By Monika Merdekawati and Natasha Agustin Ikhsan  
July 14, 2021

In recent months, a rising number of countries have pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero. Globally, 124 nations have made net-zero pledges leading up to this year's world climate summit in Glasgow (COP26). Despite varying deadlines, the recent net-zero movement has provided an "opening" to spur the decarbonisation of the global economy.

The wave of countries committing to carbon neutrality has also arrived in Southeast Asia, home to some of the fastest-growing economies in the Asia Pacific region. Singapore was the first in the region that jumped on the net-zero carbon bandwagon with its pledge to achieve carbon neutrality in the second half of the century, enshrined in the "Singapore Green Plan 2030". Earlier this year, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry expressed its hope to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070. Prompted by the recent Leaders' Summit on Climate convened by United States President Joe Biden, Malaysia and Thailand have also started dialogues around setting similar targets.



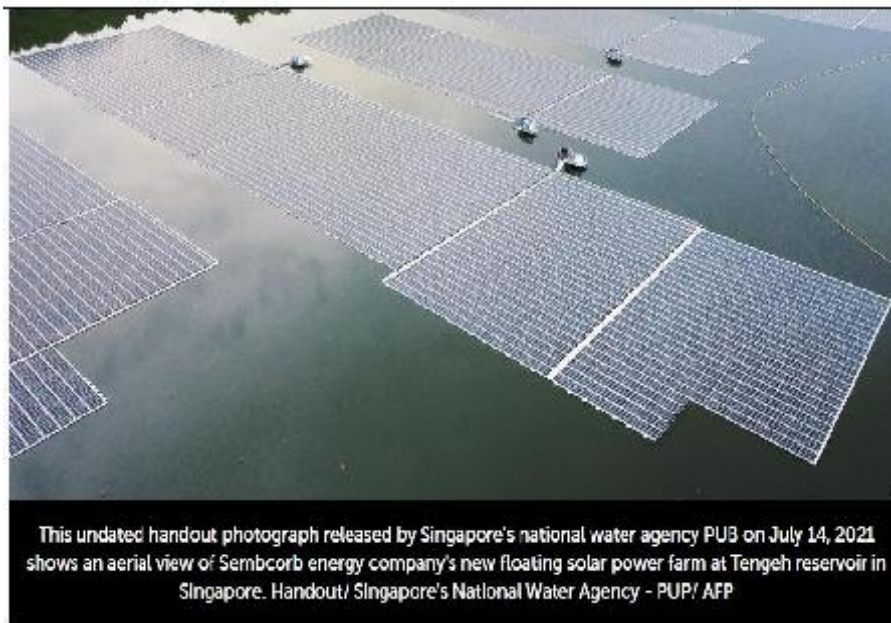
## Why citizens play a key role in Southeast Asia's energy transition

The key to achieving net-zero emissions is a global energy transformation, shifting from a fossil fuel-based and energy-intensive society to one that is renewables-based and energy-efficient. For this, we need public support. And therefore, we need an energy transition that citizens can be part of and that benefits everyone. That's because grassroots participation has been shown to increase overall support for renewable energy projects, which will ultimately speed up the transition.



## Singapore unveils one of world's biggest floating solar farms

Published July 14, 2021 8:01pm



SINGAPORE — Singapore Wednesday unveiled one of the world's biggest floating solar power farms, covering an area the size of 45 football pitches, as part of the city-state's push to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The project is the country's most ambitious yet, comprising 122,000 panels on Tengeh Reservoir that will produce enough electricity to run its five water treatment plants.

Singapore is among the biggest per capita carbon dioxide emitters in Asia and its land scarcity makes boosting renewable energy sources a challenge.

The prosperous financial hub has turned to setting up plants off its coasts and in reservoirs, and aims to quadruple solar energy production by 2025.

The new farm can produce up to 60 megawatts of electricity, and will lead to carbon emissions reductions equivalent to removing 7,000 cars from roads, according to Sembcorp Industries and national water agency PUB.

Sembcorp built the project, which covers about 45 hectares (110 acres), with backing from the agency.



## Singapore unveils one of world's biggest floating solar farms

"Solar energy is plentiful, clean and green, and is key to reducing PUB's and also Singapore's carbon footprint," said the water agency's chief executive Ng Joo Hee.

Singapore has also built a solar farm in the Johor Strait, which separates the island state from Malaysia, as well as plants on land.

The government in February unveiled a "green plan" that included steps such as planting trees, reducing waste sent to landfills and building more charging points to encourage electric car use.

Singapore has pledged to achieve net-zero emissions "as soon as viable" in the second half of the century.

Critics say the city-state's goals are behind that of other developed economies, and that it has not gone far enough to achieve its environmental ambitions. — Agence France-Presse



## Fossil fuel demands peak worldwide

By Agence France-Presse  
July 15, 2021

OMAHA: Electricity generation from fossil fuel has peaked worldwide as emerging markets opt for cheaper renewable technology as part of a global shift to cleaner energy, analysis showed on Wednesday.

Renewable options, such as solar and wind, are already the cheapest source of new power generation in 90 percent of the world's markets, meaning developing nations can avoid oil and gas as they seek to meet growing electricity demand.

New research from India's Council on Energy, Environment and Water and the financial think tank Carbon Tracker showed how emerging markets are already "leapfrogging" fossil fuel infrastructure and heading straight for green power generation.

These same markets account for nearly 90 percent of future electricity demand, the analysis found. It also showed that fossil fuel demand has already peaked in nearly all emerging markets, barring China.

But with solar and wind capacity growing rapidly in the world's most-polluting nation, fossil fuel demand there is predicted to peak within five years.

And, as demand plateaus, the study found that continuing to build fossil fuel-powered infrastructure could cost governments billions in stranded assets. China stands to lose up to \$16 billion by 2030 if it pushes ahead with its new planned coal plants, for example.

"Emerging markets are about to generate all the growth in their electricity supply from renewables," said Kingsmill Bond, Carbon Tracker energy strategist and report coauthor.

"The move will cut the costs of their fossil fuel imports, create jobs in domestic clean power industries, and save millions of lives lost to fossil fuel pollutants."

The analysis used the example of India - a major polluter and also a main driver of electricity demand growth - to show how power systems might be rapidly decarbonized with the right economic conditions.



## Fossil fuel demands peak worldwide

Since 2010, India's solar capacity has increased nearly fivefold from 20 to 96 gigawatts. Including generation from large hydropower projects, renewables now account for 37 percent of India's energy production, the analysis said.

15 JULY 2021, Thursday



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## Tinamaan ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas umangat na sa 1,481,660

(Philstar.com) - July 13, 2021 - 4:45pm



Vendors, delivery drivers and others who work at the night market in Divisoria, Manila wait for their turn to be inoculated with the COVID-19 vaccine on July 5, 2021 as the local government starts their night vaccination program which will cater to individuals who cannot go to inoculation sites during daytime.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Nakapagtala ang Department of Health (DOH) ng 3,604 bagong infection ng coronavirus disease, Martes, kung kaya nasa 1,481,660 na sumatutal ang nahahawaan nito sa bansa.

Batay sa mga bagong nakalap na datos ng Kagawaran ng Kalusugan, narito ang bagong mga pasok na datos para araw na ito:

lahat ng kaso: 1,481,660

nagpapagaling pa: 46,934, o 3.2% ng total infections

bagong recover: 5,840, dahilan para maging 1,408,634 na lahat ng gumagaling

kamatay lang: 77, na siyang nag-aakyat sa total local death toll sa 26,092

EDSA sumisikip na uli; Hawaan sa NCR tumataas

Bagama't nagdudulot ng "rare" neurological disorder na Guillain-Barré syndrome ang COVID-19 vaccines ng Johnson & Johnson ayon sa US FDA, tiniyak naman ni Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire kanina na mas matimbang pa rin ang benepisyo nito kumpara sa negatibong epekto.

## Tinamaan ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas umangat na sa 1,481,660

Habang nagluluwag sa COVID-19 restrictions ang Pilipinas, nagsisikip naman sa ngayon ang mga primaryang daanang kalye sa Pilipinas gaya ng EDSA. Sa huliung taya ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), nasa 399,000 na ang volume count nito — bagay na 98% na raw ng 405,882 bago pumalo ang COVID-19.

Samantala, ibinalita naman kanina ni Dr. Eva Cutiongco-Dela Paz, opisyal ng Philippine Genome Center, na tinanggal na ng World Health Organization (WHO) ang Theta variant sa kanilang "variants of interests" kaugnay ng COVID-19. Ang P.3 variant, na unang nadiskubre sa Pilipinas, ay hindi hindi gaano kabilis pagdating sa COVID-19 transmission, ayon sa DOH.

Napapansin naman ngayon ng DOH na tumataas uli ang hawaan ng COVID-19 sa walong lungsod sa Metro Manila gaya na lang ng Makati, San Juan, Muntinlupa, Mandaluyong, Maynila, Malabon, Navotas at Las Piñas. Aniya, bahagyang mas mataas sa 7-day moving average ang mga nagkakasakit doon ngayon.

Kahit na nagluluwag na ang mga healthcare protocols sa bansa sa pagbubukas ng ekonomiya't mga trabaho, lumalabas na mas marami ang nagugutom ngayon sa Pilipinas. Sa huling survey ng SWS, 16.8% (4.2 milyong pamilya) ang nakaranas ng gutom sa nakalipas na tatlong buwan. Mas malala 'ayn kumpara sa 16% (4 milyong pamilya) noong Nobyembre 2020.

Umabot na sa 186.63 milyon ang tinatamaan ng COVID-19 sa buong daigdig, ayon sa huling datos ng WHO. Sa bilang na 'yan, patay na ang 4.03 milyong katao.

— James Relativo



## DOH logs 3,806 new COVID-19 infections; active cases drop to over 44,000

By CNN Philippines Staff

Published Jul 14, 2021 4:04:57 PM



COVID-19 cases in the country rose to 1,485,457 after 3,806 more people got infected, the Department of Health reported on Wednesday (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, July 14) — COVID-19 cases in the country rose to 1,485,457 after 3,806 more people got infected, the Department of Health reported on Wednesday.

The DOH case bulletin said 3% of the case count or 44,408 were active cases or currently ill patients, with at least 90% experiencing mild symptoms, 3.5% with no symptoms, 2.8% with severe symptoms, 1.95% in moderate condition and 1.7% in critical condition. It is the lowest active case count after March 9, when there were over 41,000 sick patients.

The death toll also climbed to 26,232 or 1.77% of total cases after 140 more people lost their lives to the disease.

The recovery tally increased to 1,414,817 or 95.2% of the COVID-19 count with 6,296 new survivors.

The DOH said it reclassified 105 survivors into fatalities after validation and deleted nine duplicate cases, including eight recoveries.



## DOH logs 3,806 new COVID-19 infections; active cases drop to over 44,000

The updated numbers exclude data from five laboratories that failed to submit their reports on time, the DOH said. These laboratories contributed an average of 2.1% of samples tested and 1.9% of positive individuals in the last 14 days.

The daily positivity rate, or percentage of people that tested positive, rose to 11% based on 31,987 tests on July 12. The OCTA Research team classifies the figure as "high" based on the metric of the Covid Act Now, an initiative developed with the Harvard Health Institute, Bloomberg, Apple, and Microsoft. An area needs to achieve a positivity rate of below 3% to say that it has adequate testing, according to the criteria.



## HOME QUARANTINE UPON ARRIVAL AT REGION-7 COVID-19 SURGE



July 14, 2021 @ 2:14 PM 16 hours ago

SINASABI ng mga awtoridad sa kalusugan sa Central Visayas na nagaganap na ang ikatlong daluyong o pagsipa o surge ng coronavirus disease-19 o COVID-19.

Dapat na mapag-aralan ito nang husto upang maituwid ang sitwasyon at maging aral para sa ibang mga lugar at rehiyon ng mahal kong Pinas.

### INCUBATION PERIOD

Nasa 7 hanggang 14 araw o higit pa ang sinasabing paghinog o incubation period ng COVID-19 sa taong nahawa rito.

Hulyo 14, 2021 na at sa nakalipas na dalawang linggo sa buwang ito, kasama ang Hunyo, naobserbahan ang pagsipa ng pandemya sa mga lugar na sakop ng Central Visayas.

Heto ang pinakahuling rekord, ayon kay Dr. Eugenia Mercedes Cañal, regional chief of the Department of Health's (DOH) Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit.

Nitong July 11, Negros Oriental ang may pinakamataas na pagsipa sa pagkakaroon ng kasong 3,563 at sinundan ito ng Bohol - 1,987; Cebu City - 1,114; Cebu province - 861; Lapu-Lapu City - 447; Mandaue City - 340; at Siquijor - 32.

Ang mga lugar na ito ang bumubuo ng Central Visayas o Region 7.

### PIYESTA, KASAL, BINYAG

Sa pag-aaral ng DOH-Central Visayas, sumipa ang pandemya dahil sa pagdaraos ng mga mamamayan ng mga piyesta, kasalan, binyagan at iba pang mga pagtitipon.



## HOME QUARANTINE UPON ARRIVAL AT REGION-7 COVID-19 SURGE

Dito umano nakitaan ang mga mamamayan ng paglabag sa mga health protocol gaya ng hindi pagsusuot ng face mask at face shield, kawalan ng social distancing, hindi paghuhugas ng kamay at iba pang panlaban sa hawaan sa sakit.

Kaya naman, muli nilang hinihigpitan ang pagpapatupad ng mga health protocol, maging ang pagtatayo ng mga border control na hagip maging ang mga lokal na nagbibiyaha mula sa iba't ibang bahagi ng bansa.

'Yun bang === may mga checkpoint para malaman kung bakunado, may swab test result at walang lagnat ang mga biyahero pagpasok sa isang lugar, paglalagay ng kwarantina kung kinakailangan at iba pa.

### SWAB TEST UPON ARRIVAL AT HOME QUARANTINE

Itong patakarang ito ang dapat na isama sa pag-aaral bilang dahilan ng COVID surge.

Ayon sa DOH-7, apat na virus ang nagsasama-sama para magkaroon ng COVID surge at humalo ang mga ito sa mga piyesta, binyag, kasal at iba pang maramihang pagtitipon.

Ang orig na virus, Brazil variant, South Africa variant at Philippine variant.

Pero hindi ba nagmula ang surge sa buwan pa ng Hunyo na kasagsagan ng pagpapatupad ng swab test upon arrival at home quarantine kung negatibo sa swab test ang mga galing sa ibang bansa na lumalapag sa Mactan-Cebu International Airport?

Matapos ang swab test, agad pinauuwi o pinaalis ang overseas Filipino workers, returning Filipinos at dayuhan kung negatibo ang mga ito saka mag-home quarantine at muli silang sinu-swab test sa ika-7 araw.

Paano ang mga nakalulusot sa swab test na karaniwang bagong impeksyon?

Hindi ba sa kanilang hanay galing din ang mga pinagmumulan ng COVID surge?

Alalahaning maaaring kasama rin sila sa mga piyesta, binyag, kasal at iba pa.

### TINAPOS ANG PATAKARAN

Para matiyak ang tamang pagpapairal ng health protocol sa pagdating ng mga galing sa labas ng bansa, kinakailangan pang i-divert ang mga eroplano mula sa Mactan-Cebu International Airport sa ibang mga airport, lalo na ang Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Ito'y para matiyak na makwarantina ang mga dumarating ng kahit papaano 10 araw sa mga quarantine facility at ma-home quarantine sa huling 4 na araw.

'Yun ay kung negatibo sila sa swab test sa ika-7 araw na minimum na haba ng panahon ng obserbasyon kung may tama o wala ang isang tao.

Ngayong tumalima ang pamahalaang Cebu sa patakarang ito na pambansa, muling may biyahe palapag ng CMIA.



## HOME QUARANTINE UPON ARRIVAL AT REGION-7 COVID-19 SURGE

Hindi rin kasi pinagbigyan ng Inter-Agency Task Force ang hirit mismo ni Cebu Governor Gwendolyn Garcia na gawin na lang ang swab test upon arrival at agarang pagpapauwi sa tahanan para sa mga taga-Cebu lamang.

### PAMBANSANG PATAKARAN HUWAG BALEWALAIN

Nakikita ang pagiging epektibo ng pambansang patakaran sa biyaheng internasyunal at lokal na pinairal ng IATF at naayon sa kung ano ang umiiral na uri ng kwarantina.

Maging ang mga ispesyal na aksyon gaya ng pagkakaroon ng border control na internasyunal, gaya ng pagpapatigil ng biyaheng pa-Pilipinas ng mga galing sa India, Pakistan, Sri Landa, Bangladesh, Oman, United Arab Emirates at Nepal.

Dapat malinaw na imported ang mga mababagsik na variant na nakapasok na sa Pinas at sinamahan pa ng pinakamabagsik sa variant, ang Delta o India variant, at ng orig virus ng COVID-19 kaya dapat sumunod ang lahat sa IATF.



# **#OneDENR**

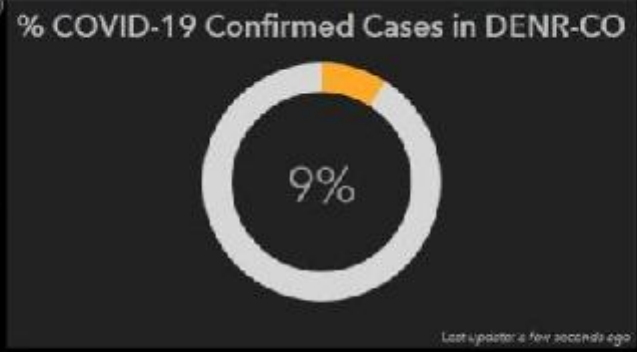
**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**





Data on COVID-19 include reported cases of DENR employees (Permanent, Contract of Service/Job Order, Support Staff (Triumph/Security)) as collected by the Contact Tracing Team of DENR Central Office.

<b>Total</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">100</span> <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	<b>Active</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2</span> <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	<b>Recovered</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">98</span> <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	<b>Deaths</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">0</span> <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>
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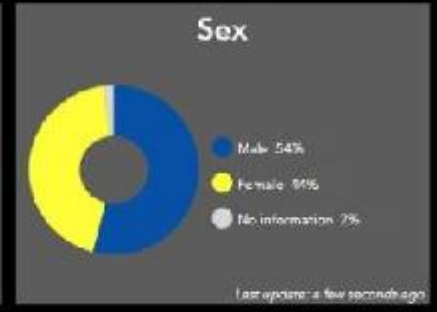
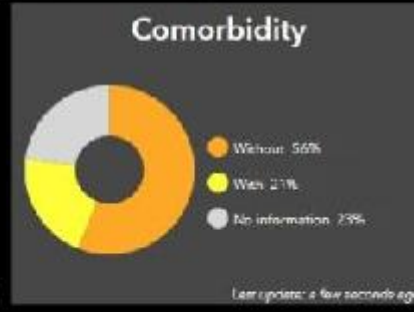
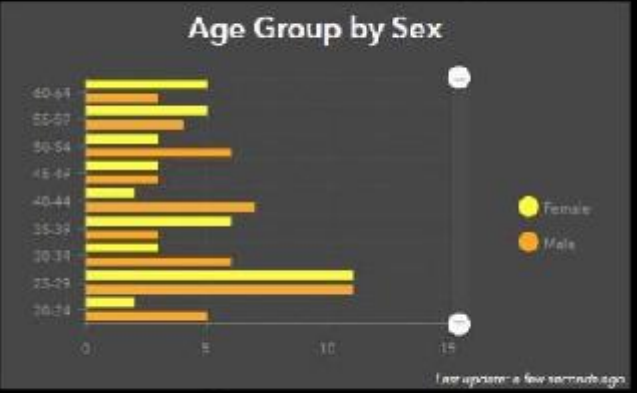
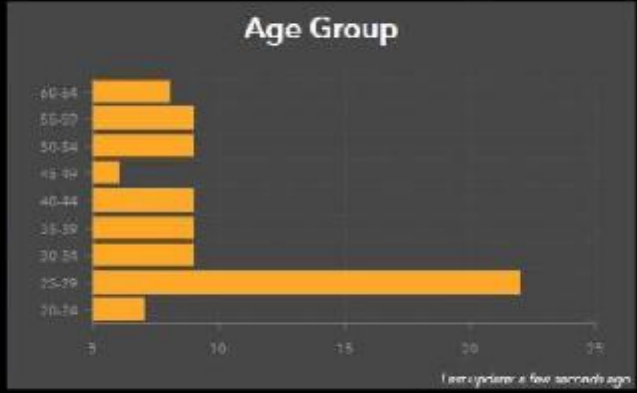


### Residence of affected personnel



Please note that representative dots were randomly assigned within the barangay residence of the affected personnel and do not necessarily provide exact location/ addresses of the cases.

[Map](#) [Map Legend](#)

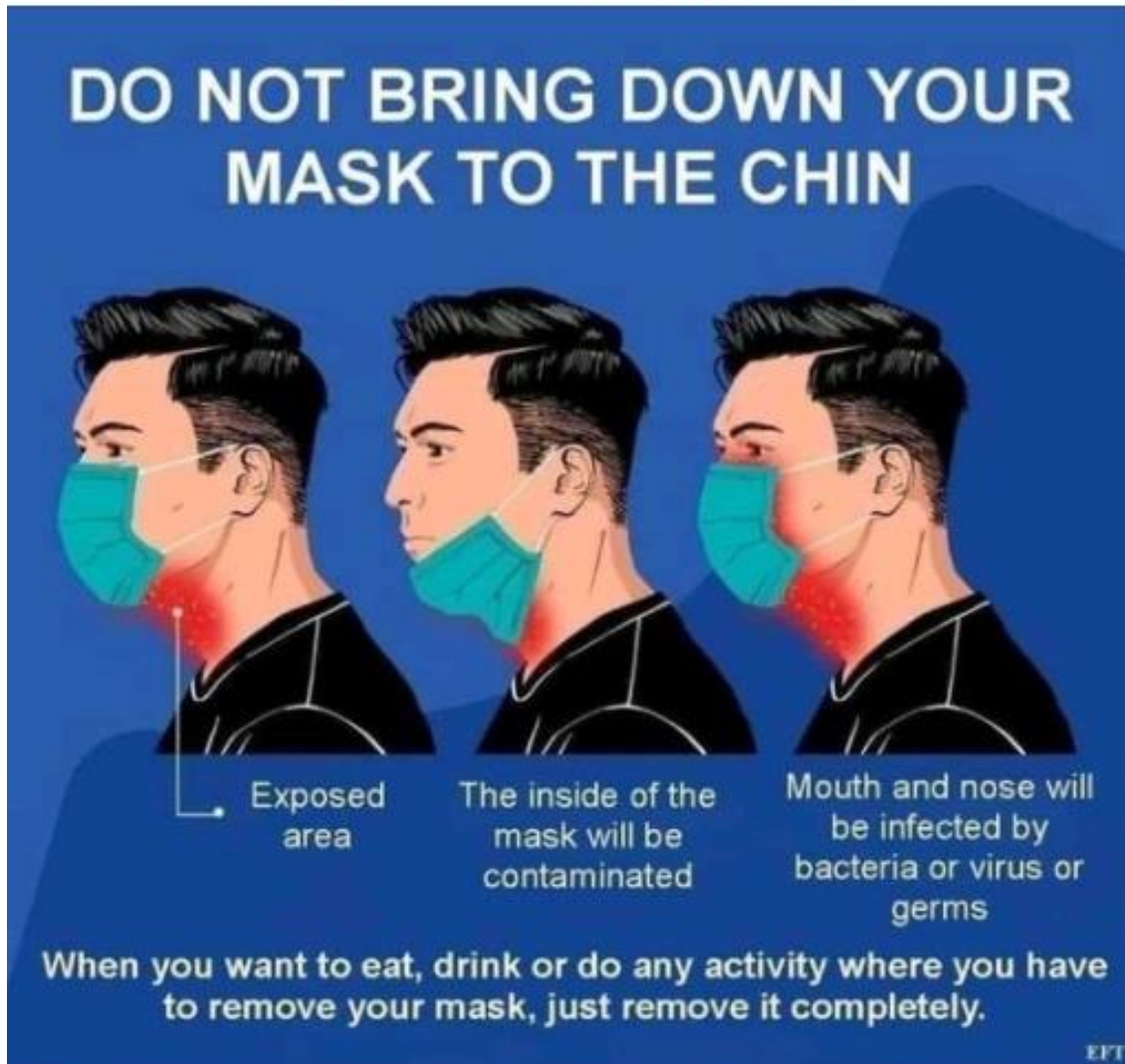




Ministry of Health Seychelles

July 20, 2020

It is important NOT to wear your mask under your chin. See below for the reason why. In addition, ensure that you always sanitize/wash your hands before and after removing your mask.



and 6.4K others

1.3K Comments 25K Shares



SA Health

Yesterday at 4:42 AM · 🌐

...

Even if you have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you should still get a COVID-19 test as soon as you develop any symptoms, no matter how mild.

This is because you can still catch COVID-19 even if you have been fully vaccinated, and you could pass the virus on to other people who may not be vaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccines have been designed to:

- help your immune system fight COVID-19
- reduce the severity of your symptoms if you do get sick
- prevent hospitalisation and death.

While it is still possible to pass on COVID-19 to other people even if you have been vaccinated, research is indicating that the vaccines may reduce how infectious a person is, which in turn may reduce the chance of them spreading the virus on to other people.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can include fever or chills, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, or diarrhoea and vomiting.

📍 Find testing sites near you: [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVIDtesting](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVIDtesting)

## If I am fully vaccinated for COVID-19, do I still need to have a COVID-19 test?

You should still get a COVID-19 test if you develop symptoms, no matter how mild.



SAHEALTH.SA.GOV.AU/COVIDTESTING



Government of South Australia  
SA Health




# Healthy Ways to Cope with Stress

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Learning to cope with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and those around you become more resilient.

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# Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

It's good to be informed, but hearing about the pandemic constantly can be upsetting. Consider limiting news to just a couple times a day and disconnecting from phone, tv, and computer screens for a while.

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- 🔍 +

# Make time to undwind

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)




Try to do some other activities you enjoy. This can be reading books, watching movies, trying on new recipes, listen to your favorite playlist, or as simple as drinking a cup of tea.

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- 🔍 +

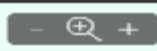
# Take care of your body

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)



- Take deep breaths, stretch or meditate.
- Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals.
- Exercise regularly
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Avoid excessive alcohol, tobacco, and substance use.
- Continue with routine preventive measures (such as vaccinations, cancer screenings, etc.) as recommended by your healthcare provider.
- Get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine when available.

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# Connect with others

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling. During times of social distancing, it is especially important to stay connected with your friends and family. Helping others cope with stress through phone calls or video chats can help you and your loved ones feel less lonely or isolated.

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# Connect with your community- or faith-based organizations.

Source: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



While social distancing measures are in place, try connecting online, through social media, or by phone or mail.

    @DENROfficial | [www.denr.gov.ph](http://www.denr.gov.ph) 



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**RESOLUTION NO. 126**

Series of 2021

July 13, 2021

**WHEREAS**, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 (b) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s.2020) extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 21, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has detected B.1.1.7, B.1.351, P.1, and P.3 variants of the COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has likewise received information on the existence of B.1.617 variant first detected in India;

**WHEREAS**, the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, that upon the recommendations of the Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics, the IATF approves the extension of the travel restrictions currently in place on India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, United Arab Emirates, and Oman until 31 July 2021. The IATF Technical Working Group is directed to further review and provide recommendations on the appropriate testing and quarantine protocols for travelers coming from the aforementioned countries, and such other countries/jurisdictions which may thereafter be identified as high risk.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on **13 July 2021** via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. **126** was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my signature this **13th** day of July 2021, Manila.

  
**ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE**  
*Assistant Secretary of Health*  
*Head Secretariat, IATF*



**Office of the President  
of the Philippines  
Malacañang**

**MEMORANDUM FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**FOR :** **THE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS**  
Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging  
Infectious Diseases (IATF)

**SUBJECT :** **IMPOSITION OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVELERS  
FROM INDONESIA**

**DATE :** **JUL 14 2021**

---

With reference to IATF Resolution No. 125-A (s. 2021) dated 08 July 2021 recommending the imposition of restrictions on travelers from Indonesia due to the incidence therein of COVID-19 cases caused by the B.1.617 Variant of the SARS-COV-2, also known as the Delta variant, this Office hereby **directs** all relevant agencies to implement the following:

- A. All passengers coming from or who have been to **Indonesia** within fourteen (14) days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, except Filipinos returning pursuant to government-initiated repatriation programs, or as part of non-government repatriation programs and special commercial flights allowed under existing IATF resolutions, shall be prohibited from entering the country effective 1201H of 16 July 2021 Manila time until 2359H of 31 July 2021.
- B. Effective immediately, all passengers who have been to Indonesia within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, arriving before 1201H of 16 July 2021 Manila time, shall not be prohibited from entering the Philippines, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) result.
- C. Filipinos and foreign passengers merely transiting through Indonesia shall be subject to the following rules:
  1. All passengers, whether Filipinos or foreigners, merely transiting through Indonesia shall not be deemed as having come from or having been to said country, provided that they stayed in the airport the whole time and were not cleared for entry into such country by its immigration authorities; and
  2. Upon arrival in the Philippines, passengers covered by the immediately preceding paragraph need not complete a full 14-day facility-based quarantine, but shall comply with existing testing and quarantine protocols of the national government.
- D. All specimens from travelers coming from Indonesia that turn positive upon testing in the Philippines shall undergo Whole Genome Sequencing. All close contacts must undergo facility-based quarantine for fourteen (14) days, and contact tracing shall expand up to the third generation contacts.



---

Existing prohibitions and procedures on entry generally applicable to arriving passengers, insofar as consistent with the foregoing, shall continue to be implemented.

The IATF may provide rules and regulations to implement this directive, which may include reasonable exceptions to the entry restrictions and protocols herein imposed. The IATF is also hereby authorized to extend the duration of the foregoing travel restrictions, as may be warranted.

For strict compliance.

By authority of the President:

  
**SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA**  






REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**RESOLUTION NO. 125-A**

Series of 2021

July 08, 2021

**WHEREAS**, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 (b) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s.2020) extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 21, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has detected B.1.1.7, B.1.351, P.1, and P.3 variants of the COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has likewise received information on the existence of B.1.617 variant first detected in India;

**WHEREAS**, the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF recommends to the Office of the President the imposition of travel restrictions on all incoming travelers, including Filipino citizens, coming from and those with travel history within the last fourteen days in Indonesia in this wise:

1. All passengers coming from or who have been to Indonesia within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, except Filipinos returning pursuant to



**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
**FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

government-initiated, allowed non-government initiated repatriation programs and special commercial flights shall be prohibited from entering the country effective 0001H of 10 July 2021 until 2359H of 25 July 2021.

2. Effective immediately, all passengers in transit coming from, or who have been to Indonesia within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, arriving before 0001H of 10 July 2021 Manila time, shall not be prohibited from entering the Philippines but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) result.
3. Filipinos and foreign passengers merely transiting through Indonesia shall be subject to the following rules:
  - a. All passengers, whether Filipinos or foreigners, merely transiting through this country shall not be deemed as having come from or having been to such country, provided that they stayed in the airport the whole time and were not cleared for entry into this country by their immigration authorities;
  - b. Upon arrival in the Philippines, passengers covered by the immediately preceding paragraph need not complete a full 14-day facility-based quarantine, and shall comply with existing testing and quarantine protocols of the national government, and
  - c. Transiting passengers who left the airport or were cleared for entry into Indonesia by their immigration authorities shall be prohibited from entering the Philippines; and
4. Finally, all specimens from travelers coming from Indonesia that turn positive upon testing in the Philippines shall undergo Whole Genome Sequencing. All close contacts must undergo facility-based quarantine for 14 days, and contact tracing shall expand up to the third generation contacts.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**APPROVED** during the 125th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this July 08, 2021, via video conference.

  
**FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III**  
Secretary, Department of Health  
IATF Chairperson

  
**KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES**  
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat  
IATF Co-Chairperson



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE**  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 08 July 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 125-B was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Secretary Karlo Alexz B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 8th day of July 2021, Manila.

  
ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE  
*Assistant Secretary of Health*  
*Head Secretariat, IATF*

15 JULY 2021, Thursday



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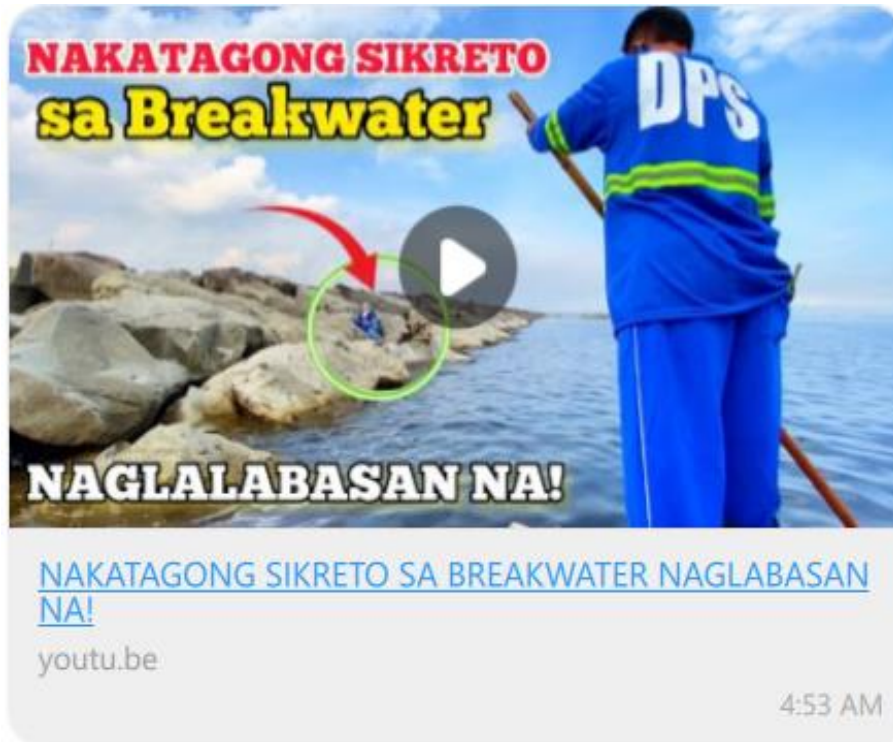
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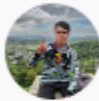
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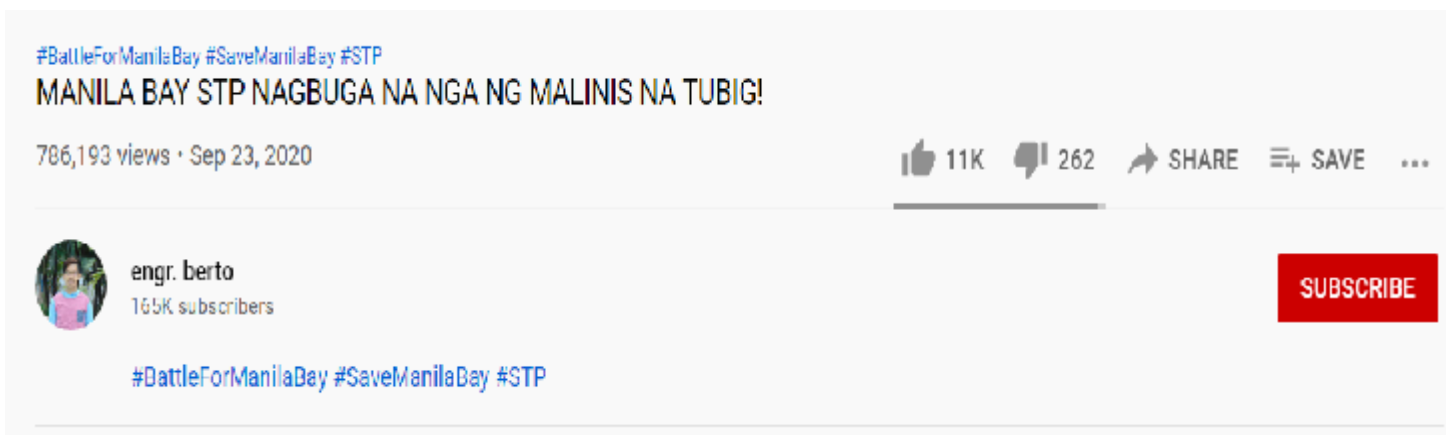
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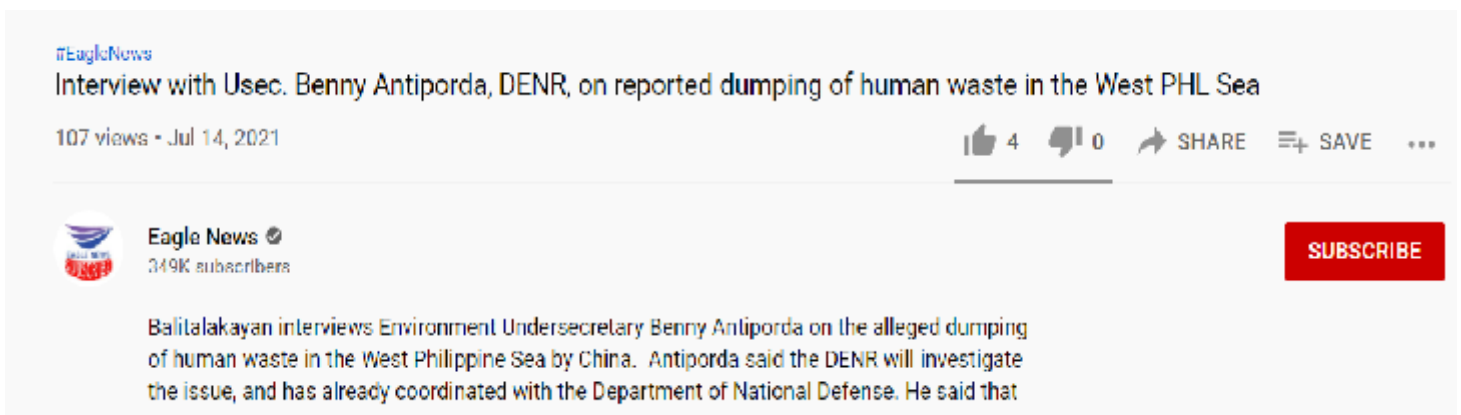
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