

15 JUNE 2021, Tuesday



NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Cimatu seeks more grassroots participation as DENR marks 34th founding anniversary

JUN 14, 2021, 4:47 PM



Santiago Celario
Writer

"Let more people know how far we have gone in our Enhanced National Greening Program and other DENR programs and projects implemented in the field that resulted in communities' lives getting better," Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu urged his employees.

Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu challenged agency officials and employees to "go down to the grassroots level and involve more people and communities to the agency's programs and projects."

Cimatu made the remarks during a web conference in celebrating the DENR's 34th anniversary last June 10.

This is the first time that the DENR celebrated its anniversary with all its employees—from the regions, bureaus, attached agencies, and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENRO) and Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENRO)—attending the event online, via Zoom.

"For instance, make as many people as possible aware that we have forest guards and other employees who put their health and lives at stake defending our environment," the secretary said.



Cimatu seeks more grassroots participation as DENR marks 34th founding anniversary

JUN 14, 2021, 4:47 PM

"Let more people know how far we have gone in our Enhanced National Greening Program and other DENR programs and projects implemented in the field that resulted in communities' lives getting better," Cimatu added.

The DENR was created on June 10, 1987, by virtue of Executive Order 192 reorganizing the previous Department of Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources and transferring the energy matters to the Office of the President during that time.

With the theme "Celebrating with A Greener and Safer Environment," the 34th DENR founding anniversary also featured the Environmental Awards for Governance and Leadership Excellence or EAGLE Award 2020, which is conferred to the most outstanding regional executive director, regional director, and implementing and supervising officers of the PENRO and CENRO.

Outstanding employees

For the second time, Arleigh Adorable of DENR-Region 10 (Northern Mindanao) was hailed as the top-performing Regional Executive Director and was awarded a trophy and a cash prize of P100,000. Adorable was first conferred with the award in 2019.

Mario Ancheta of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) and Ma. Victoria Abrera of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) in Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) were also recognized as top regional directors for their respective line bureaus. Abrera also won the same award in 2019.

Delia Benitez of PENRO-Eastern Samar was recognized as the top Supervising PENRO, while Merlyn Dumalahay of PENRO-Camiguin bagged the top Implementing PENRO.

Benitez and Dumalahay each received a trophy and a cash prize of P75,000.

Like Adorable and Abrera, Dumalahay also won the top Implementing PENRO for the second time around since she was first awarded in 2019.

A supervising PENRO heads a provincial office with sub-offices headed by the CENROs, while an Implementing PENRO heads a lone DENR field office in the entire province.

The top performing CENRO for 2020 was awarded to Imelda Casiwan from CENRO Pinukpuk in the Cordillera Administrative Region. Casiwan received a trophy and a cash award amounting to P50,000.

The EAGLE Award aims to *"strengthen the culture of organizational and leadership excellence in the DENR as it carries out its important role in ensuring the conservation, management, development, and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources."*

(SC)



Cimatu hinikayat ang mas maraming partisipasyon mula sa “grassroots” sa 34th founding anniversary ng DENR

June 14, 2021 @ 5:29 PM 11 hours ago



MANILA, Philippines – Upang makilahok para protektahan ang kapaligiran hinamon ni Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang iba’t-ibang tanggapan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na bumaba sa “grassroots level” upang makahikayat ng mas maraming tao at komunidad na makilahok sa mga programa at proyekto ng ahensiya sa pagdiriwang nga 34th anniversary noong Hunyo 10.

“For instance, make as many people as possible aware that we have forest guards and other employees who put their health and lives at stake defending our environment,” saad ni Cimatu sa ginanap na selebrasyon sa pamamagitan ng face-to-face at web conference na dinaluhan ng mahigit 1,500 empleyado ng DENR sa buong bansa.

Sa press release sinabi ng DENR na maituturing na “momentous occasion” ang ginanap na selebrasyon dahil ito ang unang pagkakataon na nagdiwang ang DENR ng anibersaryo kasama ang lahat ng mga kawani nito — mula sa regions, bureaus, attached agencies, at Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENRO) at Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENRO)—ay nakilahok sa pamamagitan ng Zoom telecommunication application.

“Let more people know how far we have gone in our Enhanced National Greening Program and other DENR programs and projects implemented in the field that resulted in communities’ lives getting better,” dagdag pa nito.

Ang DENR ay naitatag noong Hunyo 10, 1987 sa bisa ng Executive Order 192 mula sa dating Department of Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources kung saan ang mga patungkol sa enerhiya ay napunta sa Office of the President noong panahon na iyon.

Kaugnay nito sinabi ng DENR mula sa temang “Celebrating with A Greener and Safer Environment” itinampok din sa 34th DENR founding anniversary ang Environmental Awards for Governance and



Cimatu hinikayat ang mas maraming partisipasyon mula sa “grassroots” sa 34th founding anniversary ng DENR

Leadership Excellence o EAGLE Awards 2020 na kumikilala sa most outstanding regional executive director, regional director, at implementing and supervising officers ng PENRO at CENRO.

Sa pangalawang pagkakataon ay kinilala si Arleigh Adorable ng DENR-Region 10 (Northern Mindanao) bilang top-performing Regional Executive Director kung saan binigyan ito ng trophy at cash prize na P100,000. Si Adorable ay unang nabigyan ng parehong pagkilala noong 2019.

Samantala pinarangalan naman bilang top regional directors para sa kanilang line bureaus sina Mario Ancheta ng Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) sa Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) at Ma. Victoria Abrera ng Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) sa Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). Napanalunan din ni Abrera ang nasabing award noong 2019.

Si Delia Benitez ng PENRO-Eastern Samar ang kinilala bilang top Supervising PENRO habang si Merlyn Dumalahay ng PENRO-Camiguin ang nakapagbalsa ng top Implementing PENRO.

Sina Benitez at Dumalahay ay nabigyan ng trophy at cash prize na P75,000.

Katulad ni Adorable at Abrera, si Dumalahay ay nanalo rin ng top Implementing PENRO sa pangalawang pagkakataon, ang una ay noong 2019.

Ang supervising PENRO ay pinamumunuan ang provincial office na may sub-offices na pinangungunahan naman ng CENROs habang ang Implementing PENRO ay namumuno bilang nag-iisang field office sa buong probinsiya.

Ang top-performing CENRO para sa 2020 ay ipinagkaloob kay Imelda Casiwan mula sa CENRO Pinukpuk sa Cordillera Administrative Region. Si Casiwan ay nakatanggap ng trophy at cash prize na P50,000.

Layunin ng EAGLE Award na “strengthen the culture of organizational and leadership excellence in the DENR as it carries out its important role in ensuring the conservation, management, development, and proper use of the country’s environment and natural resources.” Santi Celario



DENR OFFICES HINIMOK NA BUMABA SA 'GRASSROOTS LEVEL'

[June 15, 2021](#) [admin](#)



HINAMON ni Secretary Roy Cimatu ang iba't-ibang tanggapan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na bumaba sa "grassroots level" upang makahikayat ng mas maraming tao at komunidad na makikilahok sa mga programa at proyekto ng ahensiya sa pagdiriwang ng 34th anniversary ng kagawaran kamakailan.

"For instance, make as many people as possible aware that we have forest guards and other employees who put their health and lives at stake defending our environment," saad ni Cimatu sa ginanap na selebrasyon sa pamamagitan ng face-to-face at web conference na dinaluhan ng mahigit 1,500 empleyado ng DENR sa buong bansa.

Mai tutoring na "momentous occasion" ang ginanap na selebrasyon dahil ito ang unang pagkakataon na nagdiwang ang DENR ng anibersaryo kasama ang lahat ng mga kawani nito — mula sa regions, bureaus, attached agencies, at Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENRO) at Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENRO) sa pamamagitan ng Zoom telecommunication application.

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Sinabi ni Cimatú na bukod sa pag layunin ng EAGLE Award na: "to strengthen the culture of organizational and leadership excellence in the DENR as it carries out its important role in ensuring the conservation, management, development, and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources." Kasama rin sa layunin ni to na "assess the efficiency and effectiveness in delivering their official functions, and to recognize and commend the performance of the field officials for their exemplary leadership and major accomplishments and contributions in pursuing the department's goals and objectives." BENEDICT ABAYGAR, JR.



Ganito Kasi 'Yan

ni **ANDY VERDE** DENR archon

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PINARANGALAN NG AHENSYA BAYANI NG KALIKASAN

IPINAABOT po natin ang pagbati sa limang empleyado ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at isang diocesan priest na itinalagang forest protection officer ang isinama sa listahan ng environmental heroes ng Environmental Heroes Foundation Inc. (EHFI) sa selebrasyon ng World Environment Day kama-kalawa.

Kabilang sa mga kinilatsina DENR workers Joselyn Aleste Bugaring, officer-in-charge ng Kalinga Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office; Norberto Mabias,

Land Inspector I ng Lianga, Surigao del Sur; Rolando Sinday, tree marker ng Lianga, Surigao del Sur, Isidro Roluna, tree marker ng Tandag, Surigao del Sur; Jessie Comendador, laborer ng Los Baños, Laguna at Fr. Nerilito Dazo Sator, deputized forest protection officer ng Bukidnon.

Tinanggap naman ng pamilya ng mga kinilala ang posthumous awards na kinabibilangan ng plaque of recognition at livelihood assistance na nagkakahalagang P1.8 million.

Ayon sa EHFI, ang assistance ay ibibigay sa pamilya ng mga kinilala sa pamamagitan ng tatlong tranche na

igigitan ng P600,000 o P100,000 kada pamilya simula 2021 hanggang 2023.

"Though our intensified actions against violators of environmental laws are taking a toll on our people, we will not relent. With these, we urge Congress to support us in our call for the creation of an Enforcement Bureau that will give the DENR stronger enforcement powers," nakasaad sa mensahe ni DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu na binasa ni DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio de Leon.

Sinabi din ni de Leon na patuloy itong nakikipag-ugnayan sa Office of the President upang masertipikahan na "urgent bill" ang pagbuo ng Environmental Enforcement and Protection Bureau o EPEB.

Aniya, ipinag-utos din ni Cimatu na pansamantalang

bumuo ng "interim enforcement bureau" na tatawagin na "Environmental Enforcement and Protection Service" upang magkaroon ng mas epektibong grupo na tututok sa enforcement activity ng DENR.

Binigyang-diin naman ni former Chief Justice Reynato Puno, chair ng EHFI board of trustees na ang foundation ay may "clear-eyed vision from the beginning that most of the lives that will be lost in this battle to preserve our environment, especially our forest, will come from the rank and file employees and officials of the (DENR)."

Ikinalungkot pa nito na ang DENR rank and file employees ay "unarmed, virtually defenseless" against "powerful people who are used to imposing their illegal will and immoral motives from the barrel of a gun."

Ayon naman kay DENR Assistant Secretary for Enforcement at EHFI executive director Daniel Darius Nicer, ang anim na "honorees" ay binubuo ng second batch ng environmental heroes na kinilala ng EHFI.

Nauna nang binigyan ng posthumous recognition ng organisasyon ang limang katao noong 2016.

"We will be giving P600,000 of your prize to the families of our environmental heroes this year and another P600,000 each year for the next two years," saad ni Nicer at sinabi pa nito na ang P4-million ay mula sa UNTV Foundation matapos tanghaling kampeon ang DENR Warriors sa ginanap na UNTV Cup Season 8 noong Pebrero 2020 at ang EHFI ang napiling "charity-recipient" ng P4-million prize money.



Water lily-infested Laguna Lake to get DENR's attention next

Published June 14, 2021, 2:40 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is keen on cleaning up Laguna de Bay (Laguna Lake) next following the agency's works on Boracay Island and Manila Bay.

In particular, the DENR bared in a statement Monday, June 14 that it wants to rid Laguna de Bay of its water hyacinth or water lily problem, which has been going on for some time.

"I personally commit that in the coming weeks or so, we will be here in this lake to clean up all the water hyacinth and make sure that we will prevent incidents in the previous years where this lake is all covered with water lilies," DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda said.



DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda (Photo from DENR Facebook page)

"We have rehabilitated Boracay. We are cleaning up the Manila Bay. Laguna Lake is relatively not that big. Why not, we clean this up, too?" added Antiporda, who is the undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns and head of the Manila Bay Anti-Pollution Task Force.

Water hyacinths are an invasive plant species that can take over the entire surface of a body of water if left unchecked. They can be a nuisance since they allow disease-spreading vector species of mosquitoes to breed freely in the static waters. The plants' decomposition results in a foul odor, decreases the clarity of water, and depletes the level of dissolved oxygen in the water, making it unsuitable for human use.

Antiporda said that the DENR will continue its project, which started in October 2020, to tap local fishermen in addressing the spread of water lilies.



Water lily-infested Laguna Lake to get DENR's attention next

"The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has a project where we commission the labor or assistance of our local fishermen to harvest the water hyacinths in polluted waterbodies," he said.

According to him, the project provides livelihood to the fisherfolk and at the same time "gives life to the Bay".

Antiporda, who promised to supervise the project, expressed confidence in getting the job done at Laguna Lake in the light of the successful rehabilitation of the world-famous Boracay Island.

The national government closed down Boracay for six months in 2018 to fix the various ecological problems that have accumulated at the popular tourist destination. So bad was the state of the island that President Duterte described it as a "cesspool".

The DENR has also been rehabilitating and beautifying Manila Bay under a P389-million effort, which began in 2020. The funds were allocated back in 2019.



DENR, fisherfolk magtutulong upang matanggal ang water hyacinth sa Laguna Lake



June 14, 2021 @ 5:50 PM 11 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tiniyak ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) noong June 11 ang pag-alis sa water hyacinth sa Laguna Lake sa pamamagitan ng pakikipagtulungan sa local fishing communities.

Ayon kay Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns at Head ng Manila Bay Anti-Pollution Task Force Benny D. Antiporda, ipagpapatuloy ng DENR ang proyekto na sinimulan noong Oktubre 2020 na kunin ang serbisyo ng mga mangingisda upang mapigilan ang pagkalat ng water hyacinth na mas kilala sa tawag na water lily.

“The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has a project where we commission the labor or assistance of our local fishermen to harvest the water hyacinths in polluted waterbodies,” saad ni Antiporda sa ginanap na cleanup drive sa Binangonan, Rizal na inisyatibo ng Rotary Club of Binangonan noong Hunyo 11.

Sa press release sinabi ng DENR ang proyekto ay para makapagbibigay ng pagkakakitaan sa mga mangingisda at kasabay nito ay muling mabibigyan ng buhay ang lawa.

Si Antiporda na nangakong pangungunahan ang proyekto ay tiwala na matutugunan ang problema sa water hyacinth sa Laguna Lake dahil isa lamang itong maliit na tungkulin kumpara sa naging matagumpay na Boracay rehabilitation.

“I personally commit that in the coming weeks or so, we will be here in this lake to clean up all the water hyacinth and make sure that we will prevent incidents in the previous years where this lake is all covered with water lilies,” paliwanag ni Antiporda.



DENR, fisherfolk magtutulong upang matanggal ang water hyacinth sa Laguna Lake

“We have rehabilitated Boracay. We are cleaning up the Manila Bay. Laguna Lake is relatively not that big. Why not, we clean this up, too?” dagdag pa nito.

Kaugnay nito sinabi ng DENR na malaki ang nagiging pinsala ng water lilies dahil sa pamamagitan nito ay maaaring makakuha ng sakit dahil madaling nakapangingitlog ang mga lamok sa “static waters”. Nagiging masangsang ang amoy nito kapag nabubulok, nakababawas sa linaw ng tubig at nababawasan din nito ang oxygen dahilan upang hindi na ito angkop sa paggamit ng tao.

Ang pilot testing ng nasabing proyekto ay ipinakilala sa local government ng Taytay sa probinsiya ng Rizal kung saan ay nakadaupang palad ng DENR ang mga miyembro ng Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Lawa ng Taytay o SMALT. *Santi Celario*



DENR expediting Manila Bay rehab project –Antiporda

By VIRGIL LOPEZ, GMA News
Published June 14, 2021 6:17pm

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is expediting the rehabilitation of Manila Bay despite criticisms against its beach nourishment project.

At the Laging Handa briefing on Monday, Environment Undersecretary Benny Antiporda said the DENR aims to complete the project and open it to the public next month.

“The DENR is fast-tracking everything. Secretary Roy Cimatu personally supervises the project,” said Antiporda. “Rest assured that our countrymen will notice big changes in the appearance of Manila Bay.”

Earlier, environmentalists and fisherfolk said the dumping of crushed dolomite along the shoreline [would not help solve the root of the environmental problems](#) in Manila Bay.

Critics also pointed out that the project was ill-timed as the country is still facing a health crisis and its effects on the economy.

Interior Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said last September that the project was [approved by Congress under the 2019 national budget, it underwent competitive bidding, and was awarded before the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

Malaya also said that only P28 million of the P389-million allocation for Manila Bay's rehabilitation and cleanup was used for the crushed dolomite.

“The government cannot simply stop a project when it is already under contractual obligation to proceed. We also have a responsibility to clean up and rehabilitate Manila Bay for ourselves and future generations,” he said. — DVM, GMA News



Manila Bay's 389-M 'white sand' project eyed for completion by July

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jun 14, 2021 2:01:07 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 14) — The Manila Bay's "white sand" project is expected to be completed early in the third quarter, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said Monday.

Asked on updates on the government's massive Manila Bay rehabilitation project, DENR Usec. Benny Antiporda said the agency is "fast-tracking everything".

"Minamadali na para sa July ay ma-open or matapos na 'yan. Rest assured na ang taumbayan ay may makikitang malaking pagbabago," he said.

[Translation: We're ramping up [the rehabilitation] so we could open or complete it by July. Rest assured that our citizens will see huge changes.]

Antiporda, in a mobile message, clarified that he was referring to the DENR's beach nourishment project.

The program covers the cleanup of the Bay area as well as the controversial overlaying of artificial white sand on the beach, for a whopping 389 million.

The fund allotted for the dumping of crushed dolomite rocks has been receiving criticism not just from ordinary citizens, but also government officials.

Vice President Leni Robredo, for instance, called the DENR "insensitive" for focusing on the beautification of the area at the height of the pandemic.

Antiporda, however, previously said that the project has been studied thoroughly, with "engineering intervention."

He also stressed that the multimillion-peso funding was not solely earmarked for the dolomite rocks.

Source: <https://www.cnn.ph/news/2021/6/14/manila-bay-white-sand-project-july.html>



DENR, SMC Partnered for Major Pasig River Dredging Project

by  [Village Connect](#) 3 days ago



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu and San Miguel Corporation (SMC) President Ramon Ang (2nd and 3rd from right, respectively) show the Memorandum of Agreement for the Pasig River cleanup and dredging project signed on June 9, 2021 at the Petron Sales Training Office in Pandacan, Manila. Cimatu expressed gratitude to SMC for its “unwavering support and continuing commitment to various environmental causes.” The Pasig River rehabilitation is the second Adopt-a-River partnership of DENR and SMC after it launched the Tullahan-Tinajeros River Rehabilitation Project in 2020. Mandaluyong City Mayor Carmelita Aguilar Abalos, Manila City Mayor Francisco Domagoso, and Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Benjamin Abalos, Jr. (from left to right) will also lend support to the project which aims to improve the water flow along Pasig River and to mitigate flooding through dredging

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and conglomerate San Miguel Corporation (SMC) on Wednesday, June 9, officially commenced the Pasig River Dredging Project, a major venture to rehabilitate one of the largest river systems connected to Manila Bay.

The signing of the memorandum of agreement (MOA), held at the Petron Sales Training Office in Manila, signifies the start of the project and the commitment of DENR and SMC to work together in the dredging and cleanup of Pasig River.

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



DENR, SMC Partnered for Major Pasig River Dredging Project

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

The ongoing Tullahan-Tinajeros River Rehabilitation Project is SMC's first Adopt-a-River partnership with the DENR.

"Indeed, this is another significant step towards our ultimate goal of restoring and enhancing the environmental integrity of Pasig River, one of the most iconic and important waterways in the country," Cimatu said.

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

The implementation of the dredging project will also involve the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Philippine Coast Guard, whose officials have expressed support for the project during the MOA signing.

SMC President Ramon Ang regarded the event as a "very historic gathering" as representatives from various government agencies, along with the local governments of Manila and Mandaluyong, were also in attendance.

After the MOA signing, a site and equipment inspection for the initial operations were also held in the former Pandacan Oil Terminal.

The SMC has identified the narrow and shallow portions of the river along the Pandacan-Paco area, Estrella in Makati City, and near C5 Road, Manila Bay, and EDSA, as priority dredging sites.

The SMC said that larger equipment will be used as the Pasig River is a much bigger river system compared to the Tullahan-Tinajeros River.

Ang said that SMC has invested in a cutter suction dredger—which can dredge 1,000 tons per hour, 10,000 tons per 10 hours a day, or 3 million tons a year—and hopper barge for high volume dredging and transfer of dredged materials to a designated site.

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

Under the MOA, the DENR will also help in the evaluation of soil test results to be conducted by the SMC to identify the location and find the best usage for the dredged materials.

Moreover, it will assist in the application for an environmental compliance certificate or ECC for the relocation site of dredged materials.

"On behalf of the DENR, I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to SMC for its unwavering and continuing commitment to various environmental causes," Cimatu said.



'Burning stone' contains meteorite-like element



BACOLOD. Negros Occidental High School Principal Mario Amaca (right) shows this writer the stone believed to be a meteorite that recently fell in their school grounds following the examination conducted by a team from Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Mines and Geosciences Bureau in Western Visayas Monday, June 14, 2021.
(Contributed photo)

[ERWIN P. NICAVERA](#)

June 14, 2021

THE alleged burning stone that recently fell at the grounds of Negros Occidental High School (NOHS) in Bacolod City was found to have a metal component that is also present in a meteorite locally known as "bulalakaw."

A team from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) in Western Visayas arrived at the school to examine the stone Monday, June 14, 2021.

Geologist Arnel Angelo Olarde, DENR-MGB focal person for Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office-Negros Occidental, said the magnetic test is used to ascertain whether an object is a meteorite.

"A meteorite will attract the magnet as it has iron and nickel elements," he said, adding that in this case, it does not hold tight.

The team tried to chip the stone to further examine its mineral content. However, they have no tools to use.

It is hard to break the stone into pieces, so they recommended to send it to the National Museum of the Philippines in Manila for a laboratory test.



'Burning stone' contains meteorite-like element

Mario Amaca, principal of NOHS, said he has already coordinated with the National Museum for the conduct of the "confirmatory" test.

Amaca said they will send the stone to Manila as soon as travel restrictions have been eased.

"Let us wait for the result. We will keep the stone for the meantime," he added.

On Sunday evening, the school official said that as per initial assessment of the National Museum using the images and videos of the stone, there was a 70 to 80 percent probability that it was a meteorite.

It can be recalled that the "burning stone" reportedly fell near the barracks of the security guards inside the school premise around 4 p.m. of June 4.

A wife of a security guard found the three-inch rock believed to be a meteorite following a loud burst similar to an exploding electric transformer.

It destroyed a trunk of Gemelina tree and styrofoam box.

"The stone was burning," Amaca said, quoting the staff who first found the object and brought it at his office.

The black stone is smooth, light and can fit a palm.

Once confirmed that it is a meteorite, it will be used by the school for its special science classes.

"It is a blessing for us as it will enable our students to see an actual meteorite if ever," Amaca said, as he dismissed claims by some that the it was just a hearsay.



100-hectare Minglanilla reclamation project gets PRA nod

By: Christian Orellano, Doris C. Bongca June 14, 2021 - 08:07 AM



MANDAUE CITY, Cebu — The Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) has already given its go signal for the P20 billion Minglanilla Techno-Business Park or the Ming-Mori reclamation project to proceed.

Lawyer Janilo Rubiato, PRA general manager and CEO, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with town officials led by Mayor Elanito Peña on Friday, June 11, with Jose Soberano III, Cebu Landmasters Inc (CLI) CEO, acting as witness.

Soberano is also chairman and president of CLI affiliate, Ming-Mori Development Corp., the developer and manager of the 100-hectare technohub that is envisioned to become Central Visayas' regional growth center.



Jose Franco Soberano III, CEO Cebu Landmasters Inc. | Contributed Photo

100-hectare Minglanilla reclamation project gets PRA nod

"The project will take CLI to a brand-new level and widen the range of our customer base to include light-industrial and technology-driven companies," Soberano said in a statement.

"We aim to achieve a balanced and mutually supporting relationship between urban mixed-use development, light-industrial land use and environmental stewardship. This will be our formula for sustainable growth and development," he added.

PRA coordinates and administers all reclamation projects in the country and its approval is an indication that "the government has thoroughly evaluated the undertaking," CLI said in a statement.



Elanito Pena, Minglanilla Mayor | Contributed Photo

In 2020, the Ming-Mori project was issued an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) after more than five years of rigid and comprehensive review.

CLI will develop and manage this high capital project with the support of its bank partners.

Early this year, the company was able to secure P3 billion notes at a very competitive rate to fund the early works for Ming-Mori project starting at the fourth quarter of 2021.

CLI has also strengthened its capital base by declaring 123 percent stock dividends to shareholders as of June 18, which will be paid on or before July 14. This move prepares the firm for any capital raising in the future.

"This is one of CLI's biggest projects thus far. Because of the scale of this project that will take several phases to develop, we have carefully and meticulously planned it to be sustainable and supportive of future generations," Soberano said.

The project's proximity to Cebu City "makes it a highly viable location for light manufacturing industries especially now that the province's main industrial parks are fully occupied."



100-hectare Minglanilla reclamation project gets PRA nod

Ming-Mori will also have its own port facilities to connect its industries with the global economy.

To further attract locators, Ming-Mori's first phase will include commercial, residential and institutional zones "to create enough diversity to make it a vibrant community at the outset," Soberano said.

Jobs that will soon be offered by its light manufacturing firms is expected to "draw workers and their families into the area to create a critical mass of residents supported by residential and commercial areas, schools, churches, and other institutions."

"As more areas become available and are developed, CLI envisions a vibrant waterfront community with lifestyle, business and industry woven together."

Mayor Pena, for his part said, the "Ming-Mori Techno Business Park is the long-awaited realization of a dream of many Minglanillahanons that would later become a representation of progress that all of us will be forever grateful for."

The Minglanilla Techno Business Park has been masterplanned by globally acclaimed Singapore-based Surbana Jurong Consultants, one of the most successful urban and infrastructure consulting firms in Asia with projects in over 30 countries. /dbs

Read more: <https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/382346/100-hectare-minglanilla-reclamation-project-gets-pra-nod#ixzz6xniHQtoy>

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Ecowaste group flags improper disposal of face masks, other wastes amid dengue threat

[INQUIRER.net](https://www.inquirer.net) / 04:32 PM June 14, 2021



Discarded face masks and other trash are seen along the shore of Baseco Beach in Tondo, Manila on June 4, 2021, some of which were washed ashore by strong waves after Tropical Storm Dante passed near Manila. RICHARD A. REYES / INQUIRER PHOTO

MANILA, Philippines — The improper disposal of face masks and face shields, along with that of other waste materials, is providing the perfect breeding ground for *aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, which spread viruses that cause dengue and other fever diseases.

In a statement on Monday, environmental health group EcoWaste Coalition said that while acknowledging the need for face masks and face shields at this time of the pandemic, there is need for a sustainable waste management in order to prevent the outbreak of dengue and other diseases, and lessen the burden on the health sector.

“By ecologically managing our discards, we prevent the collection of water in snack packs, plastic containers, tin cans, broken appliances, used tires, and even in used face masks where dengue transmitting *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes can lay their eggs,” Jove Benosa, Zero Waste Campaigner from EcoWaste Coalition, said.

The group likewise urged the public to give all-out support to ecological solid waste management at the household level and in the community to lessen the [dengue](#) cases amid the [pandemic](#).

The Department of Health has proposed a four-step strategy, called 4-S, in fighting dengue — (1) search and destroy mosquito-breeding sites, (2) secure self-protection measures, (3) seek early medical consultation, and (4) support fogging/spraying only in hotspot areas.

“Preventing and controlling dengue outbreaks is very important as the country’s healthcare system is already facing tremendous pressure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We need to avoid dengue and other rainy season diseases from further stretching the system’s capacity to serve our people’s health needs,” Benosa said.



Ecowaste group flags improper disposal of face masks, other wastes amid dengue threat

The zero-waste advocacy group urged the public to observe 12-point eco-tips:

- Properly manage household discards, keeping non-biodegradables dry and clean.
- Inspect and remove standing water at home, in your garden and neighborhood.
- Turn over, store in a dry place or dispose of containers that may collect water.
- Cover water drums, pails and tanks with lids or mosquito-proof mesh.
- Empty and clean water containers thoroughly once a week.
- Change water in flower vases weekly.
- Remove water from pot plates every other day.
- Clean plant pots that may harbor mosquitoes.
- Loosen soil in potted plants to prevent water from stagnating on the surface
- Clean animal drinking containers daily.
- Cut or puncture tires used as roof support to avoid collecting water.
- Clean clogged roof gutters of leaves and other debris.

The group also encouraged the public to avoid unregistered household insecticides, including mosquito repellent products, which may pose health and environmental risks.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources recently called on local government units to pass ordinances that would direct barangays (villages) in [implementing waste segregation](#). — *Faith Yuen Wei Ragasa, Inquirer trainee*

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1445882/ecowaste-flags-improper-disposal-of-face-masks-other-wastes-amid-dengue-threat#ixzz6xnl4JXkw>

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Masungi Georeserve

9h · 🌐



MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE ✨🌧️

These fascinating planthoppers (Flatidae), both the fluffy nymphs and adults, have reappeared in the georeserve – just a few steps away from the Discovery Trail's Sapot!

Passersby may be fooled into thinking that these white and yellow clusters are just flowers and leaves. However, upon closer inspection, one can actually distinguish the eyes and legs of these highly intriguing insects. Mostly found hanging in low-lying branches, planthoppers make use of their unique appearance to trick and ward off predators.

All creatures, big or small, which find home in Masungi deserve to be protected from external forces that look to invade and destroy their sanctuary. Learn more about the flora and fauna that we are striving to protect in Masungi when you visit our trails (www.masungigeoreserve.com ✅). 🌍

#SaveMasungi #RestoreTogether



'Declare Marinduque as mine-free zone'



BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

JUNE 15, 2021

2 MINUTE READ



A local nongovernment organization (NGO) based in Marinduque is appealing to President Duterte to deny all mining applications in the island province.

The Marinduque Council for Environmental Concerns, Inc. (MACEC) based in Boac, Marinduque is a support group for plaintiffs in a case filed against Barrick Gold, Marcopper Mining Corp., and Placer Dome Inc.

Marcopper and Placer Dome, Inc. are based in Canada. The company figured in the 1996 toxic spillage when the drainage tunnels of its open-pit mines broke causing about 2 to 3 million tons of toxic mine tailings.

To support its appeal to Duterte, the group has forwarded resolutions and statements to the Regional Office of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) for MIMAROPA, including an appeal from Former Associate of the Supreme Court and now Marinduque Governor Presbitero Velasco Jr. to the president to deny all mining applications in Marinduque.

In the document submitted to the office of NEDA OIC-Director Augustin Mendoza, the group stated that 41 resolutions and statements from the provincial government of Marinduque and civil society organizations are urging the national government to deny mining applications in the province. The provincial government, academe and civil society groups also want to delist Marinduque in the mining tenement area and to declare the province a mining-free zone in response to the lifting of the mining moratorium under Executive Order (EO) 130 issued by Malacañang.

"The petition filed by the people of the Province of Marinduque contained an overwhelming evidence and reasons against allowing corporations to mine the island," Yoly Esguerra, National Coordinator Church-based NGO Partnership Mission for People's Initiatives, said in a statement.

The groups also appealed for the revocation of Duterte's EO 130.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/06/15/declare-marinduque-as-mine-free-zone/>



Villar seeks measure to protect oceans

posted June 14, 2021 at 10:20 pm

by [Macon Ramos-Araneta](#)

Alarmed by experts' reports that the world's seas will turn into "virtual desserts" by 2050, Senator Cynthia Villar pushed for legislative measures to protect the sustainability and biodiversity of the country's oceans.

Villar made the call as she joined the international community in celebrating this year's World Oceans Day, which is observed to educate the public of the impact of human action on the ocean and to mobilize people for the sustainable management of the world's ocean.

This year's celebration also marks the start of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development which will run from 2021 to 2030.

As chairperson of the Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, Villar is strongly pushing for the passage of Senate Bill No. 1331, a measure institutionalizing EPR or the Extended Producer Responsibility mechanism.

EPR is part of the country's solid waste management system.

Villar said it is a strategy to reduce the proliferation of single-use plastics that end up in the oceans and pollute the environment.

This measure, she said, would ensure that the responsibility for the entire life cycle of plastic products rests on the manufacturers.

It mandates manufacturers to recover plastic wastes from their products as a mechanism towards achieving an efficient solid waste management.

"We should be all responsible enough to protect our oceans, our source of marine resources and protein," Villar said.

"Our plastic waste problem is an environmental issue we need to urgently address if we are to help in ecosystem restoration and in the conservation of our oceans," she added.



Batangas Lakelands offers a Nature Walking Tour

June 15, 2021

In celebration of Philippine Environment Month, Batangas Lakelands is offering a guided walking tour inside its nature-centric 20-hectare leisure enclave that will showcase about 36 different trees. With around 3,600 tree species in the Philippines, this walking tour, featuring the "Trees of Batangas Lakelands," will already "expose" you to 1 percent of the country's known species of trees.

Entitled "Pasyal-Lakad para sa Kalikasan," this walking tour will also showcase "the Bridges of Batangas Lakelands." These are the six wonderful bamboo bridges along the way, each of which exudes its own unique character.

For only P400 per person inclusive of an environment-themed t-shirt, this walking tour is about 2 kilometers long and will take about an hour and a half to finish. However, there is a break halfway through the walk. Participants who wish to explore the other features of Batangas Lakelands may decide to leave the guided tour at this stage.

The guided walking tour starts at 8 o'clock in the morning of every Saturday this month of June. So, if you intend to join, make sure to wear comfortable walking shoes.

"Doing a nature walk is not only about celebrating environment days. It's also an opportunity for learning experiences," said Anna Ortiz, vice president of Batangas Lakelands. "Each nature walk offers something different for you to explore, even if you walk the same trails from one day to the next."

Batangas Lakelands is located along Leviste Highway, Balete, Batangas. For inquiries or reservations, follow @batangaslakelands on Facebook or Instagram. For more information, email tours@lakelands.com.ph.



QC gov't to install air quality sensors in pollution hotspots

Published June 14, 2021, 4:58 PM

by [Allysa Nievera](#)

The local government of Quezon City will put up air quality monitoring sensors to determine the pollution levels.

The sensors will measure pollutants such as the most dangerous particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) which comes from the emissions of cars, trucks, and industrial facilities. Long-term exposure to this pollutant affects the residents' health as the particles travel deeply into the lungs and bloodstreams and can worsen health problems such as asthma and heart disease.

"Quezon City is very grateful to C40 Cities and Clean Air Asia for their continuous assistance in capacitating city officials and technical staff in terms of developing a more comprehensive strategy to improve air quality in the city. Through these air quality monitoring sensors, we will be able to gather the city's air quality baseline data that will help us in planning and determining programs, projects, and policies to reach our goal," Mayor Joy Belmonte said.

Mayor Belmonte and Environment Protection and Waste Management Department (EPWMD) head Andrea Villaroman received eight units of air quality sensors and the "Roadmap for Quezon City's Air Quality Management Plan" from Clean Air Asia and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group through its C40 Air Quality Technical Assistance Program.

In the next two months, the monitoring sensors will be placed in areas with high public risk for air pollution exposure.

The city identified some monitoring sites such as areas in Novaliches, Sto. Domingo, and Quezon Memorial Circle.

Historical data from ground and satellite-based measurements will be analyzed and the city will form air quality solutions which will become part of the Air Quality Management Plan of the Quezon City Government.

Series of technical training about operation and management of air quality monitoring networks were conducted for the officers from EPWMD, Information Technology Development Department (ITDD), and the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (DRRMO).

"The comprehensive training which Clean Air Asia provided covered guidance on data analysis, visualization, and interpretation to help the government better communicate to the public what the air quality data means. These trainings would help the city sustain the air quality monitoring system." Clean Air Asia deputy executive director Atty. Glynda Bathan-Baterina said.



QC air quality sensors soon to dot hotspots of pollution

posted June 14, 2021 at 11:20 pm

by [Rio N. Araja](#)

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte on Monday ordered the city's environmentalists to put up air quality sensors in pollution hot spots in a bid to strengthen the city's commitment to lessen air pollution.

Belmonte tasked the Environment Protection and Waste Management Department head Andrea Villaroman to carry out the project after receiving eight units of air quality sensors and the "Roadmap for Quezon City's Air Quality Management Plan" from Clean Air Asia and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group through its C40 Air Quality Technical Assistance Program.

The sensors will measure pollutants such as the most dangerous particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) which comes from the emissions of cars, trucks, and industrial facilities.

Long-term exposure to this pollutant affects the residents' health as the particles travel deeply into lungs and blood streams and can worsen conditions such as asthma and heart disease.

"Quezon City is very grateful to C40 Cities and Clean Air Asia for their continuous assistance in capacitating city officials and technical staff in terms of developing a more comprehensive strategy to improve air quality in the city. Through these air quality monitoring sensors, we will be able to gather the city's air quality baseline data that will help us in planning and determining programs, projects and policies to reach our goal," Belmonte said.

"It contributes to the realization of our city's 14-point agenda, specifically agenda number 10, which is to build a livable, green and sustainable city," she added.

In two months, monitoring sensors will be placed in the "pollution hot spots" or areas with high public risk for air pollution exposure. Initially, the city has identified areas of Novaliches, Sto. Domingo and Quezon Memorial Circle as monitoring sites.

Deployment of the sensors will serve as the city's foundation in developing its air quality management system.

Historical data from ground and satellite-based measurements will be analyzed and the city will form air quality solutions which will become part of the Air Quality Management Plan of the Quezon City government.

"The comprehensive trainings which Clean Air Asia provided covered guidance on data analysis, visualization, and interpretation to help the government better communicate to the public what the air quality data means. These trainings would help the city sustain the air quality monitoring system," Clean Air Asia Deputy Executive Director Glynda Bathan-Baterina said.

In addition to the Roadmap, a range of knowledge products were also developed under the project that have bolstered Quezon City's air quality management capacity, providing guidance in developing, managing and operating its own local air quality monitoring network, and in establishing a sustainable air quality management system.



QC air quality sensors soon to dot hotspots of pollution

“Linking air quality monitoring and air quality management planning puts the city firmly on track to meet its commitments under the C40 Clean Air Cities Declaration. We are so pleased to have the opportunity to support Quezon City in its laudable air quality work,” Helen Ho, Program Manager for Air Quality Technical Assistance of C40



DOST helps Laguna LGUs reassess waste management plans

Published June 14, 2021, 9:41 PM

by [Charissa Luci-Atienza](#)

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) has strengthened the capacity of the local government units (LGUs) from Laguna to reassess their solid waste management plans.



(Photo from DOST-PSTC Laguna)

The DOST-Industrial Technology and Development Institute, in partnership with the Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC) Laguna, held a two-day webinar on the conduct of Water Analysis and Characterization Study (WACS) with 14 LGUs from Laguna as participants last May 18-20.

"Through the expertise of DOST-ITDI, the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officers (MENROs) from Siniloan, Paete, Magdalena, Luisiana, Pakil, Majayjay, Kalayaan, Mabitac, Calauan, Los Baños, San Pablo, Sta Cruz, Rizal and San Pedro were equipped with necessary skills to conduct their WACS plans," the DOST said in a statement issued on Monday, June 14.

It noted that the webinar is timely, considering that Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act requires all LGUs to revisit their 10-year Solid Waste Management plans to make them responsive to the current situation in their respective localities.

"Learning outcomes from this webinar-training will be used by the local government units to comply to RA No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act."

During the webinar, the LGUs were taught "to determine appropriate sample sizes, identify sources of wastes from households to industrial establishments, and prepare a worksheet to be used for the preparation of their WACS plan.



DOST helps Laguna LGUs reassess waste management plans

DOST-Calabarzon's Officer in Charge-Assistant Regional Director for Technical Operations Engr. Francisco Barquilla III urged the participants to "adhere to science-based solid waste management systems that are compliant with the law."

SM Prime, coast guard clean up a portion of Manila Bay

June 15, 2021 | 12:02 am



BW FILE PHOTO

INTEGRATED property developer SM Prime Holdings, Inc., in partnership with the Philippine Coast Guard, conducted a clean-up activity along a portion of Manila Bay last week.

The project is in line with the company's continuing efforts to support the Manila Bay rehabilitation program.

The clean-up team, which also included officials from SM Mall of Asia (MOA) and SM By the Bay, sought to remove solid waste and debris from SM MOA's stretch of the bay, according to statement sent by a public relations agency. The activity took place on June 8, which fell on World Oceans Day.

"Being a responsible integrated property developer, SM Prime has always been aware of its role as a member of the community to help care for the environment, including our seas and oceans," SM Prime's Senior Vice-President for Special Projects Siegfred B. Mison said.

Since December, the listed firm has been conducting weekly cleanups at the SM MOA Complex, with support from several groups within the company.

"To ensure that we are able to carry out this role effectively, we continue to collaborate with various communities and government partners as we implement programs that contribute to marine conservation," Mr. Mison said.

In May, SM Prime collected 4,322 sacks of waste, which reached 42,878 kg; 80 bags of recyclable materials amounting to 240 kg; and 5,272 sacks of silt, which weighed 105,440 kg.

"SM's regular clean-up drives support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly SDG 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 14, Life Below Water," the company said.



SM Prime, coast guard clean up a portion of Manila Bay

It added that it had embarked on other marine conservation-focused programs, including the “Plastic Waste Collection Program” in partnership with local nonprofit Plastic Credit Exchange, and the “Trash-to-Cash Recycling Market.”

The Sy-led company previously reported a first-quarter net income of P6.5 billion, lower by 22% from P8.3 billion year on year, amid lower consolidated revenues.

Shares in SM Prime improved by 1.35% or 50 centavos to finish at P37.50 apiece on Monday.
— Angelica Y. Yang



Coca-Cola partners with PBSP, PLAF to collect, recycle plastic packaging

[INQUIRER.net BrandRoom](https://www.inquirer.net/brandroom) / 05:12 PM June 14, 2021

Plastic waste pollution continues to be a growing problem in the Philippines and the world as millions of tons of plastic end up in our oceans, endangering marine life and contributing to climate change.

Coca-Cola Philippines, in line with its vision of a World Without Waste—where the company aims to help collect and recycle the equivalent of every bottle and can it sells by 2030—has joined hands with its long-time partner, the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), and budding social enterprise, the Plastic Flamingo (PLAF), to help improve the collection and recycling of plastic PET packaging at the community level.



Coca-Cola, in line with its vision of a World Without Waste, partners with Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) and Plastic Flamingo (PLAF) to help improve the collection and recycling of plastic PET packaging at the community level.

"This is a pressing and urgent issue and we can't solve it alone. We need to collaborate with partners who have similar goals. We're excited to work with PBSP and Plastic Flamingo and we know this project will have a big impact in terms of improving the collection of recyclable packaging in communities. We're making sure that these initiatives are inclusive and will benefit the environment and those in the informal waste sector," said Anthony "Tony" del Rosario, President of Coca-Cola Philippines and VP for Coca-Cola Franchise Operations in the East Region (Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Philippines).

Providing inclusive circular economy solutions for the waste value sector

Coca-Cola aims to help solve the global plastic packaging crisis by providing inclusive circular economy solutions. These include projects to prevent recyclable packaging from ending up in



Coca-Cola partners with PBSP, PLAF to collect, recycle plastic packaging

landfills and the oceans, while empowering the waste value chain by providing waste pickers with proper equipment and skills training.

With the partnership with PBSP and Plastic Flamingo, Coca-Cola aims to help collect at least 500 metric tons of plastic waste within one year across traditional collection points, junk shops, and communities in Muntinlupa City. The project will involve collaboration with 27 junk shops and 20 waste collectors in the target area who will be educated on the different plastic types.

Through PBSP, the collectors will be provided with tools for collection such as tri-bikes and other resources to support their health and livelihoods such as personal protective equipment (PPEs), health insurance, and vitamins. These are on top of the premiums they receive collecting recyclable plastic materials that can help in improving and uplifting their lives.

"The problem of solid waste, particularly flexible plastic, has skyrocketed during the pandemic and threatens the environment more than ever. This project, while helping the environment, will help waste pickers in Muntinlupa earn income from the waste collected," said Elvin Ivan Y. Uy, PBSP executive director. "PBSP and Coca-Cola aim to make the project more responsive and inclusive. While our advocacy is to lessen waste in the environment, this project also ensures that upcycling activities like PLAF's will help make our waste reduction efforts sustainable."

Plastic waste gathered by partner collectors will be sold to the designated junk shops, who will then deliver the raw materials to PLAF facilities for upcycling.

Working towards a world without waste

Coca-Cola continues its commitment to reaching a World Without Waste through various partnerships and initiatives including its partnership work with Plastic Bank, World Wildlife Fund Philippines (WWF-PH), PeacePond Farmers Association (PFA) and other like-minded organizations. At present, Coca-Cola Philippines, in partnership with its local social investment arm, the Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, has empowered nearly 40 communities in 22 provinces across the country with opportunities to better manage their solid waste.

The company is also accelerating the launch of a major new PET recycling facility in General Trias, Cavite. The facility—a joint partnership between local bottler, Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines and Bangkok-based Indorama Ventures, a global leader in packaging solutions and green technology—will be the largest bottle-to-bottle recycling plant in the Philippines and is expected to process around 30,000 metric tons of used PET bottles and produce around 16,000 metric tons of recycled PET resin every year.

Coca-Cola is committed to multi-stakeholder partnership action and believes that by working with NGOs, local government units, and communities, we can achieve a litter-free Philippines and improve the lives of those in the waste sector. To learn more about World Without Waste and read Coca-Cola's latest Business and Environmental, Social, and Governance Report (ESG) Report, please visit www.coca-colacompany.com.

Read more: <https://business.inquirer.net/?p=325025#ixzz6xnjm6EMA>

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Solon seeks more investments in renewable energy

June 14, 2021, 5:35 pm



File photo

MANILA – To encourage large power consumers to invest in the electricity sector and develop the use of indigenous and renewable energy (RE) resources, Senator Win Gatchalian proposed the removal of the 100-kilowatt size limit in the installation of power generation facilities under the net metering program through Senate Bill 2219.

Removing the 100-kilowatt cap will allow large electricity consumers such as commercial establishments, industrial buildings, and government offices to avail of the net-metering program under Republic Act 9513, otherwise known as the Renewable Energy Act of 2008.

Gatchalian said it will encourage more investments in RE while at the same time provide support in terms of savings to industries that have the capacity to install power generator facilities such as solar panels on their rooftops.

"The rooftop now becomes a resource. *Kung mayroong kang* (If you have) rooftop, it's as good as real estate *kasi puwede kang magkabit doon ng panels at mag-generate ng* (because you can install panels and generate) revenue," Gatchalian, chairperson of the Senate Energy Committee, said in a news release on Monday.

In filing Senate Bill 2219, Gatchalian noted that the net-metering program is not maximized as only 53 or 37.32 percent out of the 142 distribution utilities (DUs) are qualified end-users for net-metering as of March 31, 2021.

"*Kung dati ang pinakasilbi ng rooftops ay ang protektahan ang property mo, ngayon maaari na rin itong maging instrumento para bumaba ang singil sa kuryente. Ngunit dahil sa limitasyon na nakasaad sa umiiral na batas, hindi ito naisasakatuparan* (If the rooftops are being used before to protect your property, now it can be an instrument to lower electricity bill. But because of limitation provided under the law, it cannot be done)," he added.

Aside from the removal of the 100-kW cap, the proposed bill mandates the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) to regularly determine the cap taking into consideration the possible effects on the stability of the grid and the retail rates of captive customers and further streamline the



Solon seeks more investments in renewable energy

submissions and permitting process to include minimum requirements for local government units, all under the time frames provided in Republic Act 11234, otherwise known as the Energy Virtual One Stop-Shop Act (EVOSS).

To further promote and encourage commercial development of RE projects, RA 9513 provided the net-metering program where electricity customers are allowed to install an RE facility within their premises up to a capacity of 100kW and any excess electricity not consumed is exported to a DU and in return, the customer is compensated through credits in their monthly bill.

Those RE installations above the 100kW ceiling are not covered by the net-metering program. (PR)



The world needs to triple its annual investment in nature by 2030 to protect land, wildlife and climate

The UN's State of Finance for Nature report says that public and private entities need to quadruple their annual investment in nature if the climate, biodiversity and land degradation crises are to be tackled by the middle of the century.



Southeast Asia's peatlands have suffered widespread damage. This tropical peatland along Mendaram river in Brunei is one of the last undisturbed tropical peatlands in the region. Image: Lahiru Wijedasa

By [Gillian Parker](#)
June 14, 2021

Nature-based solutions (NbS) are woefully underfunded with the public sector coughing-up the majority of investment, which is still inadequate, according to an inaugural [State of Finance for Nature](#) report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Global annual spending to avoid the breakdown of natural ecosystem "services" such as clean water, food and flood protection needs to triple this decade to about US\$350 billion by 2030 and rise to US\$536 billion by 2050, the UN report said.

The report, published on 27 May, looked at how to tackle the planet's climate, biodiversity and land degradation crises, estimating that about US\$8 trillion in investment is needed by mid-century to safeguard natural systems.

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/the-world-needs-to-triple-its-annual-investment-in-nature-by-2030-to-protect-land-wildlife-and-climate/>

15 JUNE 2021, Tuesday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



1.32 milyong COVID-19 cases naitala na ng DOH sa bansa; patay 22,845 na

(PhilStar.com) - June 14, 2021 - 4:20pm



People look over colorful artworks painted on oversized face masks worn by "Higantes" heads depicting some Philippine heroes on display inside the SM City Taytay in Rizal on June 9, 2021.
The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Nakapagtala ang Department of Health (DOH) ng 6,426 bagong infection ng coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Lunes, kung kaya nasa 1,322,053 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: 1,322,053

Nagpapagaling pa: 59,096, o 4.5% ng total infections

Kagagaling lang: 7,145, dahilan para maging 1,240,112 na lahat ng gumagaling

Kamamatay lang: 57, na siyang nag-aakyat sa total local death toll sa 22,845

Anong bago ngayong araw?

Simula bukas, Martes, paiiksiin na patungong 12 ng hatinggabi hanggang 4 a.m. ang ipinatutupad na curfew sa Metro Manila. Kasalukuyang 10 p.m. nagsisimula ang nasabing curfew hours sa Kamaynilaan bilang "tugon" sa COVID-19 infections sa National Capital Region.

Samantala, naninindigan si presidential spokesperson Harry Roque na malabong ibaba sa pinakamaluwag na modified general community quarantine (MGCQ) ang NCR Plus simula ika-16 ng Hunyo. Aniya, malamang ay ordinaryong general community quarantine ang ibaba sa mga areas. Ngayong gabi nakatakhang banggitin ni Duterte ang mga panibagong quarantine restrictions sa bansa.



1.32 milyong COVID-19 cases naitala na ng DOH sa bansa; patay 22,845 na

Inilinaw naman kanina ni Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire na wala pang matibay na ebidensyang magpapatunay na maipapasa ang COVID-19 sa pamamagitan ng "blood transfusion." Ito ang kanyang sinabi nang matanong kung ano ang safeguards ng DOH sa pagkalat ng hawaan dahil sa blood donations.

Kinumpirma din ng DOH na naipamahagi na nang buo sa mga bakunahan ang AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines na malapit nang mapanis sa buong Pilipinas. Nasa 2.5 milyong doses ang tinatayang mag-expire ngayong Hunyo at Hulyo.

Patuloy namang naiipit ang pinakabagong shipment ng COVID-19 vaccine doses ng kumpanyang Sinovac na dumating sa Pilipinas dahil sa hindi pa rin naisusumite ng naturang drugmaker ang ilang kinakailangang dokumento.

Iginigiit naman ni Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio na "agresibong" COVID-19 testing ang dahilan kung bakit lubhang tumataas ang mga naitatalang kaso sa kanilang lungsod, bagay na kanyang tugon sa komento ni Vice President Leni Robredo na maaring tingnan ng lungsod kung paano hinarap ng Cebu City ang spike sa mga kaso.

Umabot na sa 175.3 milyon ang tinatamaan ng COVID-19 sa buong daigdig, ayon sa huling datos ng World Health Organization. Sa bilang na 'yan, patay na ang mahigit 3.8 milyong katao.

— James Relativo



PH Covid-19 recoveries now 1,240,112

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor June 14, 2021, 5:33 pm



MANILA – The Department of Health (DOH) on Monday reported 7,145 new recoveries, pushing its overall count to 1,240,112.

This is equivalent to 93.8 percent of the country's total case count which has reached 1,322,053 since the start of the pandemic in March last year.

In its latest case bulletin, the agency also logged 6,426 new confirmed cases and 57 new deaths.

These figures bring the overall tally of active cases to 59,096 and the death toll to 22,845.

The latest figures showed 91.8 percent of the active cases are mild, 3.9 percent are asymptomatic, 1.8 percent are severe, 1.28 percent are moderate, and 1.3 percent are in critical condition.

"There were 12 duplicates removed from the total case count as four of these are recoveries. Moreover, 10 cases previously tagged as recovered were reclassified as deaths after final validation," it said.

DOH data on June 12, likewise, showed that 13.7 percent of 41,244 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

All laboratories were operational on June 12 while 10 laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System (CDRS).

"Based on data in the last 14 days, the 10 non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 1.9 percent of samples tested and 2.1 percent of positive individuals," the DOH said.

To date, 58 percent of 3,500 intensive care unit beds, 47 percent of 19,200 isolation beds, 48 percent of 12,500 ward beds, and 36 percent of 2,700 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use nationwide.



PH Covid-19 recoveries now 1,240,112

Meanwhile, 47 percent of 1,200 intensive care unit beds, 37 percent of 4,800 isolation beds, 33 percent of 3,600 ward beds, and 34 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are being used in the National Capital Region.

The public is reminded again to stay at home and to observe minimum health standards when going out.

The DOH urged those experiencing Covid-19 symptoms to immediately isolate and contact the Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams. (PNA)



Duterte: Metro Manila Plus stays under GCQ with restrictions

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jun 14 2021 10:55 PM | Updated as of Jun 15 2021 12:07 AM



President Rodrigo Duterte talks to the people after holding a meeting with the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) core members at the Malacañang Golf Clubhouse on June 14, 2021. *Richard Madelo, Presidential Photo*

MANILA — President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday said Metro Manila and surrounding Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal provinces—which government calls NCR Plus—would stay under general community quarantine (GCQ) with varying degrees of restrictions, until the end of June.

At the same time, the President said 21 areas would be under modified enhanced community quarantine from June 16 to 30, the second toughest lockdown level.

Duterte said the capital region and Bulacan will be under GCQ "with some restrictions" from June 16 to 30.

Meanwhile, Rizal, Laguna and Cavite will also be under GCQ, but "with heightened restrictions," during the same period, he said in a forced briefing.

Home to about 24 million people, NCR Plus was previously under GCQ "with restrictions".

Looser quarantine levels allow businesses to operate at higher capacity.

The congested capital region, an urban sprawl of 16 cities and a municipality, account for about two-thirds of the country's gross domestic product.

Extended coronavirus curbs will continue to hurt the Philippines' economy, which posted a record 9.6 percent slump last year.

QUARANTINE IN REST OF PH



Duterte: Metro Manila Plus stays under GCQ with restrictions

Duterte said the following areas will be under MECQ from June 16 to 30.

- Region 2
 - Santiago City
 - Cagayan
- Cordillera Administrative Region
 - Apayao
 - Ifugao
- Region 3
 - Bataan
- Region 4-A
 - Lucena City
- Region 4-B
 - Puerto Princesa City
- Region 5
 - Naga City
- Region 6
 - Iloilo City-
 - Iloilo
- Regio 7
 - Negros Oriental
- Region 9
 - Zamboanga City
 - Zamboanga Sibugay
 - Zamboanga Del Sur
 - Zamboanga Del note
- Region 10
 - Cagayan De oro City
- Region 11
 - Davao City
- Caraga
 - Butuan City
 - Agusan Del Sur
 - Dinagat Islands
 - Surigao del Sur



Duterte: Metro Manila Plus stays under GCQ with restrictions

Meanwhile, the following areas will also be under GCQ, the second loosest quarantine level, said Duterte.

- Cordillera
 - Baguio City
 - Kalinga
 - Mountain Province
 - Abra
 - Benguet
- Region 2
 - Isabela
 - Nueva Vizcaya
 - Quirino
- Region 4-A
 - Batangas
 - Quezon
- Region 10
 - Iligan City
- Region 11
 - Davao Del Norte
- Region 12
 - General Santos City
 - Sultan Kudarat
 - Sarangani
 - Cotabato
 - South Cotabato
- Bangsamoro
 - Lanao Del Sur
 - Cotabato City

The rest of the Philippines will be under the least stringent quarantine level, modified GCQ, also in the second half of June, said the President.

The Philippines, which has the second-highest COVID-19 cases and deaths in Southeast Asia, has tallied 1.322 million coronavirus infections.

Active cases in the country are at 59,096, while deaths reached 22,845 as of June 14, according to the health department.



Duterte: Metro Manila Plus stays under GCQ with restrictions

- [COVID-19 deaths in Philippines top 17,000](#)

The Philippines has so far been able to administer at 6.9 million COVID-19 vaccine doses as of Tuesday.

The government aims to vaccinate at least 58 million of its 108 million population to achieve herd immunity and safely reopen the economy.



COVAX welcomes G7 commitment to share 870M vaccine doses

June 14, 2021, 1:40 pm



GENEVA – Partners for the COVAX initiative on Sunday welcomed a commitment by G7 countries to share at least 870 million doses, but the head of the World Health Organization (WHO) said more doses are needed with faster delivery.

“COVAX welcomes dose sharing commitments for 870 million additional doses to support equitable access to vaccines in 2021 and 2022, with the aim to deliver at least half by the end of 2021,” the WHO said in a statement.

However, WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus said “We welcome the generous announcements about donations of vaccines and thank leaders. But we need more, and we need them faster.”

“Many other countries are now facing a surge in cases — and they are facing it without vaccines. We are in the race of our lives, but it’s not a fair race, and most countries have barely left the starting line.”

COVAX is the vaccines pillar for equitable access to vaccines co-convened by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi) and the WHO, working with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

At its meeting in Cornwall, UK which ended Sunday, the G7 announced pledges of 870 million vaccine doses, with a goal of delivering at least half of them by the end of this year.



COVAX welcomes G7 commitment to share 870M vaccine doses

"We have reached a grim milestone in this pandemic. There are already more dead from Covid-19 in 2021 than in all of last year. Without urgent action, this devastation will continue," UNICEF executive director Henrietta Fore said.

Githinji Gitahi, Group CEO, Amref Health Africa, said "Africa's current vaccine supply shortage risks prolonging the pandemic, not just for millions on the continent but for the whole world." (*Anadolu*)



#OneDENR

Covid-19
Situation and Response

TANONG NG BAYAN

A4 PRIORITY GROUP RE-RESBAKUNA NA!

IN PHASES 1 AND 2

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
on Priority Eligible Group A4

RESBAKUNA
KASANGGA NG BIDA



Healthy
Pilipinas





Am I included in Priority Group A4?

The group consists of workers in both **private and public government sectors and informal sector** (self-employed such as small food stalls, sari-sari stores, wet market stalls and those working in private households) **who are:**

- a) physically reporting to the workplace
or;
- b) deployed or assigned for field work.

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Who will be vaccinated first under A4 priority group (Phase 1)?

Areas with rising cases of COVID-19 will be prioritized first (NCR +8):

- Entire NCR
- Bulacan
- Pampanga
- Cavite
- Laguna
- Batangas
- Rizal
- Metro Cebu
- Metro Davao

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When will other areas (Phase 2) be vaccinated?

After NCR+8 has been covered, phase 2 for Priority Group A4 will be implemented in the remaining areas of the country.

For the meantime, other provinces and LGUs outside NCR+8 will continue vaccinating Priority Groups A1 (healthcare worker), A2 (Senior Citizens), and A3 (those with comorbidities).

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Why vaccinate this Priority Group?

We need to protect our workers (A4) who have a high risk of contracting the virus due to the nature of their work (face-to-face transactions and working in the public).

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What proof or document do I have to prepare as part of priority group A4?

Depending on the nature of your work, you will be asked to present a document as proof of your inclusion during vaccination. These can be any one of the following:

- Company ID
- Contracts or permits
- Certificates of eligibility (employment, deployment, assignment)
- Other proof of occupation such as business permits or community tax certificates

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Where can I register for the COVID-19 vaccines?

Type of Worker	Place of Masterlisting
Working in private/public agencies and organizations	Establishment/ Agency/ Organization (EAOs)
Informal sector (self-employed, working in private households)	Local Government Unit

EAOs will coordinate with respective LGUs for the Vaccination Program roll-out

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Where will I get vaccinated?

Depending on the coordination of the establishment, agency, and organization (EAO) with their respective LGUs, you can be vaccinated at:

- a) Identified LGU Vaccination Sites
- b) EAO-LGU coordinated Offsite Vaccination Sites (e.g. offices, workplace, etc.)

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What type of vaccine will I get?

The brand of vaccine you will get depends on:

- Vaccine brands currently available in your LGU
- Assessment of the healthcare provider during health screening

Remember: All vaccines that have been given Emergency Use Authorization by the Philippine FDA are safe and effective in protecting you from severe COVID-19 and possible death from disease!

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Will vaccination for other Priority Groups (A1, A2, and A3) continue?

Yes. Vaccination for the previous groups shall continue and will still be prioritized.

LGUs will provide or assign priority lanes, transportation, and/or other mechanisms to prioritize persons belonging to Priority Groups A1, A2, and A3.

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FAKE vs FACTS

Issue 003

Maaari na akong hindi magsuot ng mask at shield pag nabakunahan na.



Kinakailangan pa ding magsuot ng mask at face shields (1) upang magbigay ng dagdag proteksyon laban sa virus/bagong variants o di naman (2) hanggang nabakunahan na ang karamihan sa atin.



PATULOY NA SUMUNOD SA HEALTH PROTOCOLS!

Hindi ko na kailangan ng bakuna dahil ako ay malusog at nasa kabataan pa.



Ang sakit na COVID-19 ay hindi namimili ng biktima. May mga naitalang kaso ng COVID-19 sa mga nakababata, pawang malusog, at aktibong mga tao.



DAGDAG PROTEKSYON ITO PATI SA MGA MALUSOG.

May mga gamot akong pwedeng inumin upang maiwasan ang COVID-19. Walang silbi ang mga bakuna.



Wala pang napatunayang gamot upang maiwasan ang COVID-19. Ngunit napatunayan na epekitibo ang mga bakuna upang maprotektahan ang tao laban sa malubhang karamdaman at kamatayan.



MAGPABAKUNA HABANG MAAGA!

Sapat na ang unang turok (dose) ng bakuna. Hindi ko na kinakailangan ang pangalawa.



Hindi sapat ang 1 turok (para sa mga bakuna na kinakailangan ng 2 turok) upang mabigyan ng pinakamataas na antas ng proteksyon. Kinakailangan makumpleto and 2 turok para dito.



ITULOY ANG PANGALAWANG TUROK NG BAKUNA!

RESBAKUNA
KASANGGA NG BIDA



Sama-sama tayo sa BIDA BAKUNATION!

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15 JUNE 2021, Tuesday



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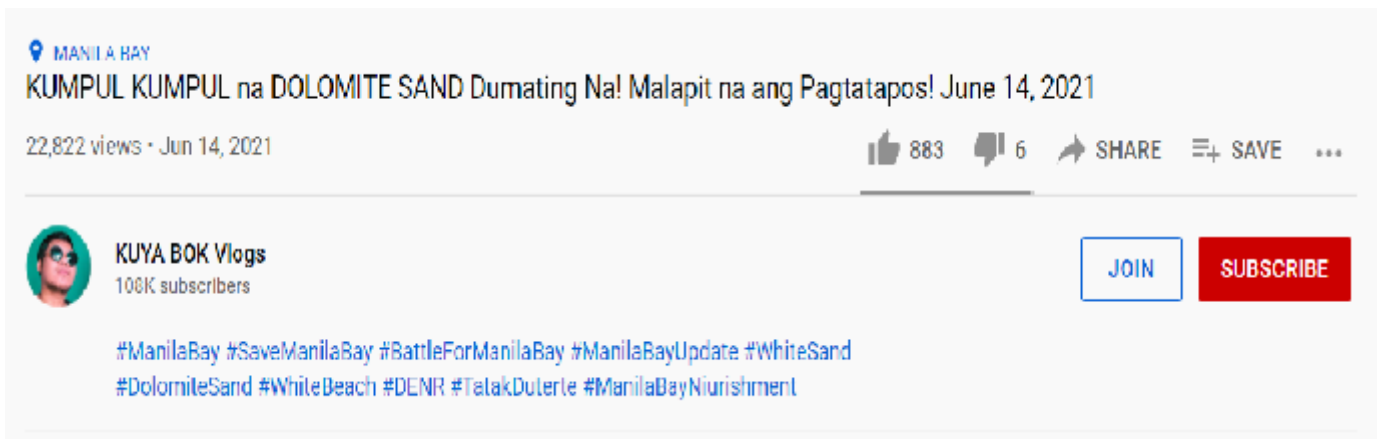
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