

19 DECEMBER 2020, Saturday



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



NSWMC inaprubahan ang 57 bagong solid waste management plans



December 18, 2020 @ 7:40 PM 9 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Dahil sa mahusay na pamamahala sa pagtatapon ng kanilang mga basura, inaprubahan ng National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) ang solid waste management (SWM) plans ng 57 local government units (LGUs) sa buong bansa kaya't umabot na sa 114 ang kabuuang naaprubahan ngayong taon.

Nabatid sa ulat na sa 57 na inaprubahan kung saan 32 ay mula sa mga lungsod at munisipalidad sa Luzon; 18 sa Mindanao; at pito sa Visayas.

Ang Region 1 at 3 ang may pinakamaraming naaprubahan na SWMP sa tig-sampu bawa't isa.

Ayon kay NSWMC Alternate Chair at Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda, nakapakalaki ang maitutulong nito sa pagbibigay ng solusyon sa problema ng bansa sa solid waste.

“The approval of this new batch of 10-year SWM plans proves that we are on track in instilling responsibility and accountability among LGUs in managing solid waste,” sabi pa ni Antiporda.

“This will be a huge boost in our campaign to urge them to address the solid waste problem in their localities and to fully implement Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.”

Sinabi sa ulat na nakasaad sa Republic Act 9003, lahat ng LGUs – probinsiya, lungsod o munisipalidad ay kinakailangang gumawa at magsumite ng 10-year SWM plans na nakaangkla sa SWM framework at ito ay kinakailangang aprubahan ng NSWMC.



NSWMC inaprubahan ang 57 bagong solid waste management plans

Kabilang sa plano ang istrategiya para sa SWM, information campaigns at incentive programs.

Kaugnay nito, dahil naman sa COVID-19 pandemic, sinabi ni Antiporda na ang DENR's Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) ay gumawa ng paraan upang magkaroon ng online submission at approval ng SWM plans.

“The Commission was in consensus of the adjustment I suggested, which is to do the approval online,” paliwanag ni Antiporda.

Idinagdag pa nito na ang EMB regional offices ng nagsagawa ng screening ng aplikasyon para sa balidasyon ng EMB central office bago aprubahan ng NSWMC.

“Due to the pandemic, we cannot do face-to-face deliberations and approvals. We do it through teleconferencing.”

Sinabi ni Antiporda na inobliga ng NSWMC ang mga alkalde o gobernador na iprisinta ang kanilang plano ng “live” upang matiyak na ang opisyal ay kasama sa paggawa nito. Kung hindi naman, hindi ito maeendorso.

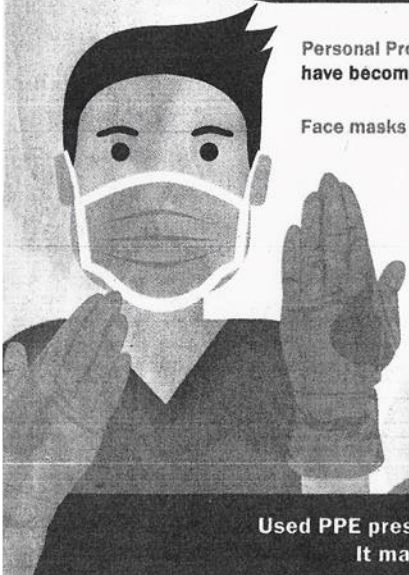
“We want our local chief executives to be really involved in creating their SWM plan,” paliwanag nito.

“When they are involved, they will identify the needs of their respective LGUs, what could be improved, and what could be done to help the community in terms of SWM.”

Punto pa ni Antiporda, habang ang ibang SWM plans ay kasalukuyang nasa “validation process” ay maaari na itong ipatupad ng LGU applicants. Hinikayat din nito ang hindi pa nagsusumite ng kanilang plano na tumalima sa batas. (Santi Celario)



Are you disposing your **USED ?** face masks and gloves **PROPERLY ?**

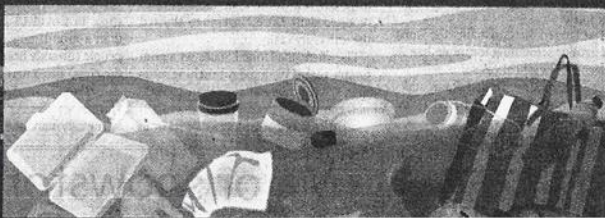


Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as disposable face masks and gloves have become household essentials in this time of pandemic.

Face masks and gloves are considered household healthcare wastes.



Used PPE presents a problem if its disposal is not properly managed. It may end up as plastic waste in our water bodies.



Thus, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources requires everyone to practice the proper handling and disposal of PPE at home, to mitigate the proliferation of plastic waste and the spread of COVID-19.

4 steps on how to properly dispose used face mask and gloves:

1 Remove face mask by removing the lace or ear loop from behind. Do not touch the front of the mask.

Remove gloves by pinching one glove at the wrist. Without touching the skin, peel it away from the hand, turning the glove inside out. Hold the removed glove in the gloved hand. Then, remove the second glove by rolling it down and folding it into the first glove.



3 For proper disposal, put used face mask or gloves in a segregated and sealed waste bag or in a yellow bag labeled as "household healthcare wastes."



2 Disinfect used face mask and/or gloves by soaking it in a mixture solution of 1 tablespoon of bleach and 1.5-liter of clean water for 30 minutes.




4 After disposal, wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, or use alcohol or hand sanitizer.



If we properly dispose of our used household healthcare wastes, we protect ourselves, other people, and the future generation.

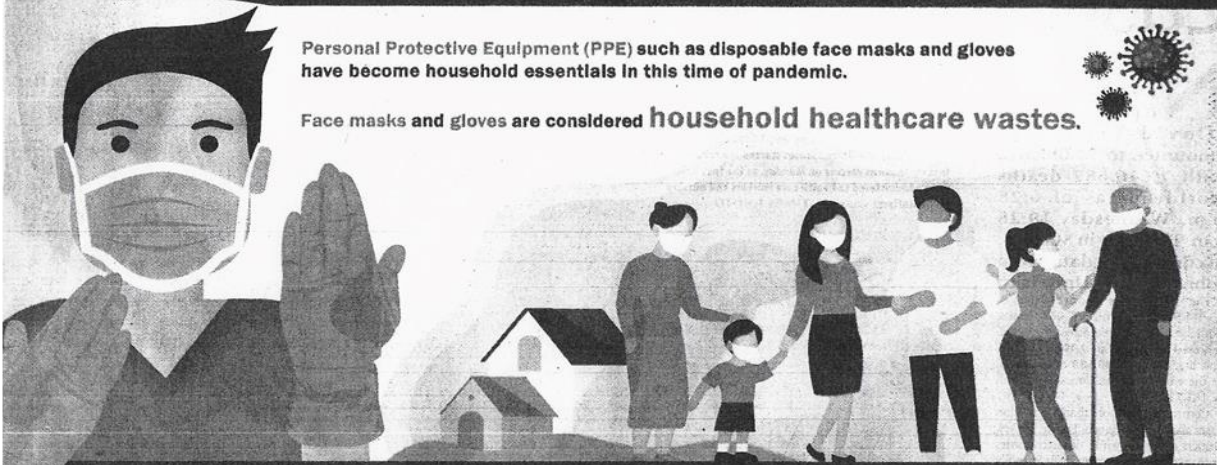
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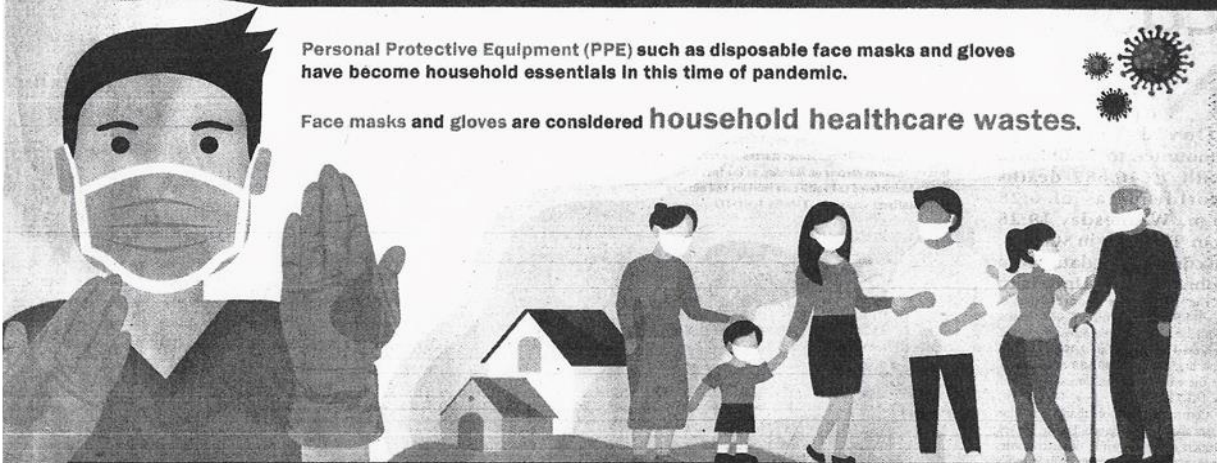
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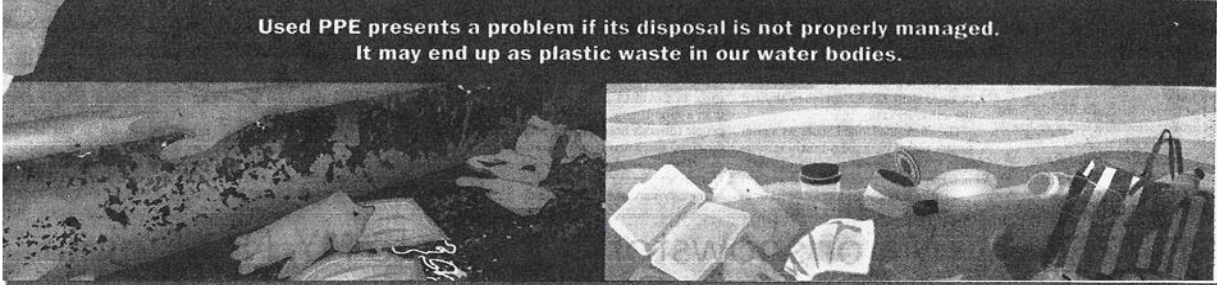
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Protecting a 'protected' land

DENR steps in to avert a full-blown real-estate boundary dispute at the controversial UMRBPL

By [Jonathan L. Mayuga](#)
December 19, 2020



“Nanay,” limestone rock peaks interconnected by bridges, part of the discovery trail at Masungi Georeserve in Baras, Rizal.

THE Blue Star Construction and Development Corp. and the Masungi Georeserve Foundation, which runs the Masungi Georeserve, a conservation area in Baras, Rizal, as well as Rublou Inc. and its subsidiary, Green Atom, would have to apply for a Special Use Agreement in Protected Areas (SAPA) from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to continue occupying territories in the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape (UMRBPL), environment officials said.

The operators of Masungi and Rublou Inc., which both occupy areas in the Upper Marikina River Basin, are in conflict over boundary issues. The feud between the contending firms has already dragged the Dumagat-Remontados of Antipolo into the land boundary dispute.

“I have already asked our DENR regional executive director in the Calabarzon area to look into the legality of the various land tenure instruments within the UMRBPL.”

Ricardo L. Calderon
DENR Undersecretary for Climate Change and concurrent Biodiversity Management Bureau Director

BM



Protecting a ‘protected’ land

While still applying for its Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT), the Dumagat-Remontados of Antipolo have an ancestral domain claim covering 13,000 hectares, or half of the 26,000-hectare total land area of the UMRBPL.

DENR Undersecretary for Climate Change and concurrent Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Director Ricardo L. Calderon, however, said both Blue Star and Rublou are technically without proper tenure in UMRBPL.

Moreover, he said, the UMRBPL, a Protected Area (PA), is “not for sale” and even Indigenous Peoples (IP) with a CADT issued by the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) are not allowed to sell land within a PA.

The DENR has recently issued a show-cause order against Rublou and Green Atom for allegedly putting up fences in the UMRBPL upon the complaint of Masungi Georeserve.

Intrusion

ON Wednesday, however, the Dumagat-Remontados of Antipolo City turned the tables on Masungi, slamming Blue Star President and CEO Benjamin Dumaliang for “intruding” in their ancestral land.

The operation of Masungi Georeserve has gained international recognition, but the camp of Rublou alleged that Masungi is charging visitors “excessive fees,” while it is not paying corresponding taxes to the government for the 3,000 hectares it has under its management and control.

Siding with Rublou and Green Atom over the land feud, tribal leaders of the Antipolo City IPs admitted to have sold 300 hectares of their ancestral land for P5/sq m sometime in the 1990s to companies of top official Luizo C. Ticman, a retired general whom they said had been a friend to them ever since.

“Technically, they have no proper tenure over the UMRBPL. And to be able to use the land within a Protected Area, they must secure a SAPA,” says Calderon.

Masungi’s existence is backed by a 2017 memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed by the late former DENR Secretary Regina Paz L. Lopez.

But Calderon said a mere MOA cannot supersede the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas (E-NIPAS) law.

Property of the state

“I have already asked our DENR regional executive director in the Calabarzon area to look into the legality of the various land tenure instruments within the UMRBPL,” said Calderon, who insists that the PA, being land of public domain, belongs to the state.

“It is public land and, as such, the government is entitled to certain taxes and fees for its use,” he says.



Protecting a ‘protected’ land

Calderon also assailed the MOA that legalizes the occupancy of Masungi Georeserve operators, saying it is flawed and disadvantageous to the government.

“Imagine, having the right to use land for ecotourism for free, without paying taxes forever?” Calderon lamented.

He said the MOA is “perpetual” in nature, which means it has no expiration, unlike all other land tenure instruments which expire, but may be renewed every 25 years.

To recall, in April 2018, DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu signed an order that will ensure the proper determination, assessment and collection of fees for SAPAs.

The new order is expected to increase revenues generated from fees collected from the special use of land within a PA to as much as P500 billion annually.

The SAPA was halted in 2011 by then DENR Secretary Ramon Paje, but was later lifted upon the signing of the new order which determines the new fees for the use of land.

With the new guideline, the DENR will be able to charge operators according to the zonal value of the land nearest to the protected area.

Undercollection?

A 2013 study by Resources, Environment and Economics Center for Studies Inc. commissioned by the DA, which covers 22 PAs, revealed that income from rental or lease of lands can increase the total annual revenues derived from operation from a “measly” P16 million to a whopping P306 billion.

The study indicates that current rental or lease of lands in PAs, including national parks, marine protected areas, natural parks and sanctuary, are covered by Commonwealth Act (CA) 141, or the Public Lands Act, which charges a minimal fee of less than 3 percent of the value of the land to locators doing business within the PAs.

The study said charging merely an additional 1 percent of the minimum allowable fees for rent or lease of the land within PAs based on a higher zonal land value than that of agricultural land under CA 141 will do the trick.

The study said with the proper application of the NIPAS Act, the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (Ipaf), the automatic-retention law and their implementing rules and regulations, the value of lands within PAs is actually higher and can be based on the zonal value of the nearest city or urban center; putting a premium to the fact that the lands are special because of their unique features, aesthetic value and that they are natural habitats of threatened and endangered species that need special care.

Give what’s due

CALDERON said it is only fair for private companies that use government land in PAs for profit to pay corresponding taxes.



Protecting a ‘protected’ land

According to Calderon, part of the income to be generated from SAPA, like other revenues in running the PA, will be retained by the PA itself.

“Twenty-five percent of the revenues under the Integrated Protected Areas Fund goes to the National Treasury and 75 percent goes to the Protected Area,” says Calderon.

Moreover, he said, under SAPA, use of land will be strictly monitored and regulated by the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) headed by the DENR and other stakeholders, including concerned local government units (LGUs).

Calderon said in the next few days, he expects DENR Regional Executive Director Nonito Tamayo and Rizal Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Isidro L. Mercado to come up with the findings and recommendation to once and for all settle the land dispute over the UMRBPL.

Sought for comment, Billie Dumaliang, a trustee of Masungi Georeserve and its concurrent advocacy officer, said they will consult their lawyer on the issue of their tenure over the UMRBPL.

She said Masungi will also seek an audience with Calderon and other DENR officials to clarify matters of their occupancy in the Protected Area, insisting that the MOA with the DENR covers the massive reforestation of some 2,700 hectares of degraded forest in the area.



DENR turns over care for protected areas, assets to BARMM

By Noel Punzalan December 18, 2020, 8:07 am



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION TURNOVER. DENR Undersecretary Jim Sampulna (3rd, left) and MENRE-BARMM Minister gesture the “fist-bump” after the turnover of BARMM protected areas previously under the care of Regions 9, 10, and 12. The protected assets included the Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary in Region 9, the Lake Lanao Watershed in Region 10, and the Liguasan Marsh in Region 12. *(Photo courtesy of MENRE-BARMM)*

COTABATO CITY – Officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) handed over the protection of assets, forest covers, and natural resources in areas now officially under the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

On Thursday afternoon, DENR Undersecretary Jim Sampulna of the Enforcement, Mining and Muslim Affairs Division, led the official turnover of BARMM environment field offices and assets in Regions 9, 10, and 12 to the BARMM’s Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy (MENRE).

The turnover included the DENR field office here and the assigned MENRE-BARMM office for the 63 villages in North Cotabato. This city and the 63 North Cotabato villages opted to join the almost 21-month-old region in a two-part plebiscite held last January and February 2019.

During the turnover, Sampulna said the DENR national office will continuously coordinate with the MENRE-BARMM for environmental and natural resources concerns of the region.

“We are willing to guide the administration of environmental and natural resources projects in the BARMM,” Sampulna said as he cited the instruction of DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu for close coordination with the MENRE-BARMM.

MENRE-BARMM Minister Abdulraof Macacua, meanwhile, vowed to take good care of the region’s natural assets.

“Now that Cotabato City and the 63 barangays of North Cotabato are officially part of the BARMM, we envision a society that features greener and more climate-smart values,” Macacua said.



DENR turns over care for protected areas, assets to BARMM

Present during the turnover were DENR-12 Executive Director Felix Alicer, DENR-9 Assistant Director for Technical Services Ronald Gadot, and DENR-10 acting Assistant Director for Technical Services Aldrich Resma.

Protected areas in the turnover were the Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary in Region 9, the Lake Lanao Watershed in Region 10, and the Liguasan Marsh in Region 12.

Supervision and control of other matters that were handed over to the BARMM also included the protected area suitability assessment of Lake Buluan and Liguasan Marsh, and other projects and programs. *(PNA)*



Workers replenish dolomite in Manila Bay

George Calvelo, ABS-CBN News
Posted at Dec 18 2020 03:24 PM



Workers replenish crushed dolomite at the Manila Bay on Friday after a series of typhoons in November dumped trash and washed out portions of the artificial beach. Critics of the dolomite sand project, which is part of DENR's Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program, have questioned the safety and necessity of the project costing some P389 million at a time when the country is dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Read More: [Dolomite](#) [Manila Bay](#) [Manila Bay dolomite](#) [crushed dolomite](#) [Manila Bay white sand project](#) [Manila Bay beach](#) [multimedia](#) [multimedia photos](#)



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Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office - PRCMO

19h · 🌐

LOOK: PRCMO IN ACTION IN ESTERO DE TRIPA DE GALLINA

Happy Friday! ❤️🌱🌳

Here's the situation in [#EsteroDeTripaDeGallina](#) in the City of Manila.

The River Warriors recovered 40 sacks of nonbiodegradable waste from the estero's portion along Tuazon Street in Malate, Manila.

With only 7 days left before Christmas, may the Warriors be our beacons of light and inspire us to be one at heart in protecting our water bodies and environment for merrier and brighter days ahead for everyone!

[#PusoParaSallogPasig!](#) ❤️

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5 hinawla sa pamamaril ng ibon

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Dec 19, 2020

METRO



ARESTADO ng mga pulis at tauhan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources ang isang grupo na may kinalaman umano sa pamamaril sa mga migratory birds sa Candaba, Pampanga.

Sinabi ng pulis sa paunang imbestigasyon na may 2 great egret na napatay ang grupo.

Anim ang suspek sa nasabing illegal hunting sa Barangay Paligui at kinilala ang lima sa mga suspek na sina Jaime Buenaventura, Pablo Cunanan, Jose Carlo Dizon, Michael Gamos at Vicente Pangan Rodrigo Canlas.

Nakuha sa grupo ang 4 na unit ng air rifle, 3 carbon dioxide (CO2) tank, 37 air gun pellets at ang 2 patay na great egret.

Sinampahan ang mga suspek ng mga kasong paglabag sa Section 27 of Republic Act 9147 (Wildlife Resources and Conservation and Protection Act of 2001).

Doble dagok ito dahil sinampahan din sila ng paglabag sa Provincial Ordinance No. 756 in relation to Republic Act 11332 (Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act of 2018) dahil wala silang suot na face masks. (Kiko Cueto)



6 suspected bird hunters nabbed



HUNTED. DENR wildlife protector and police take a look at Great Egrets killed by suspected hunters in Candaba town. (DENR-Central Luzon)

[IAN OCAMPO FLORA](#)

December 18, 2020

SIX suspected illegal hunters were arrested by authorities for allegedly killing two bird species of Great Egrets in the famous 32,000-hectare Candaba swamp.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) of Candaba in Pampanga made the arrest in close coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) based in Guagua Friday, December 18.

Laudemir Salac, head of DENR-Penro Pampanga, said after receiving information from a concerned citizen that a group of people is hunting birds, the DENR and PNP immediately responded and caught the suspects while hunting birds in Barangay Paligui, Candaba town using air rifles.

"It is very clear that killing and destroying of wildlife species is illegal and punishable against our wildlife law. We will not tolerate this incident even during this pandemic to protect our migratory birds and other wildlife species since they are vital components of our environment," he said.

He said the protection and conservation of wildlife, including birds, is very important to maintain a well-balanced ecosystem.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Efren David Jr. of the Candaba PNP identified the suspects as Jaime Buenaventura, Pablo Cunanan, Jose Carlo Dizon, Michael Gamos Vicente Pangan and Rodrigo Canlas, all from Barangay San Joaquin in Sta. Ana, Pampanga.



6 suspected bird hunters nabbed

David said four units of oxygen-powered air rifles, 37 pieces of air gun pellets and two species of dead Great egrets were seized from the suspects.

The suspects are now under the custody of the Candaba PNP while criminal charges are being prepared for violation of Section 27 of Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources and Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, and Provincial Ordinance 756 in relation to Republic Act 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act of 2018, for not wearing face masks.

If found guilty, the suspects may be imprisoned for a maximum of six months and a fine of P100,000.

Salac appealed to the public to report to the nearest DENR Office in their area any illegal hunting and wildlife trade or contact DENR hotline at 09453685303.

According to DENR, the Great Egret, scientific *Ardea alba*, or also known as common egret, is a frequent migratory bird species in the Candaba swamp and is also found in Africa, America and southern Europe.

Candaba swamp has been identified as one of the three "most important wetlands" in the Philippines and has consistently been listed in the Asian Bird Map as an important wintering area for migratory birds.

DENR records show that there are 54 species of resident birds and 68 migratory birds recorded in Candaba wetlands since 1940. Last year, more than 2,000 birds were recorded during the Asian Waterbirds Census.

Migratory birds from as far as China, Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand prefer the Candaba Swamp as a wintering refuge, feeding and breeding in the area from October to March to escape the cold winter.



6 held for killing 2 migratory birds in Candaba Swamp

By: [Tonette Orejas](#) - [@ttorejasINQ](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:01 PM December 18, 2020



Hunters preyed on migratory birds at the Candaba Swamp in Pampanga. (Photo courtesy of DENR)

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO -- Six men were arrested in Candaba town in Pampanga on Wednesday for allegedly killing two Great egrets, a kind of migratory bird taking winter refuge at the Candaba Swamp.

The suspects used air rifles in shooting the globe-trotting fowls in Barangay Paligui, according to Laudemir Salac, head of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Pampanga.

Lt. Col. Efren David, Jr., police chief in Candaba, identified the suspects as Jaime Buenaventura, Pablo Cunanan, Jose Carlo Dizon, Michael Gamos, Vicente Pangan, and Rodrigo Canlas, all residents of Barangay San Joaquin in nearby Sta. Ana town.

David said four air rifles, three carbon dioxide tanks, 37 air gun pellets, and two species of dead Great egrets were seized from the suspects.

The suspects have been under the custody of the Candaba police while criminal charges were being prepared against them.

The DENR said 54 species of local birds and 68 migratory birds have been recorded in the Candaba wetlands since 1940. Last year, more than 2,000 birds were recorded during the Asian Waterbirds Census.

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1373314/6-held-for-killing-2-migratory-birds-in-candaba-swamp#ixzz6hiQkEC0Q>

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6 wildlife hunters arrested in Pampanga

[Ric Sapnu](#) (The Philippine Star) - December 18, 2020 - 12:00am

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga, Philippines — Six persons were arrested for illegal hunting of migratory birds in Candaba, Pampanga on Wednesday.

Lt. Col. Efren David Jr., Candaba police chief, said Jaime Buenaventura, Pablo Cunanan, Jose Carlo Dizon, Michael Gamos Vicente Pangan and Rodrigo Canlas, all residents of Barangay San Joaquin in Sta. Ana town, were caught hunting birds in Barangay Paligui using air rifles.

David said four air rifles, three carbon dioxide tanks, air gun pellets and two dead egrets were recovered from the suspects.

SKIP

“Killing and destroying wildlife species is illegal and punishable by law. We will not tolerate this incident... to protect our migratory birds and other wildlife species since they are vital components of our environment,” Laudemir Salac, head of the provincial environment and natural resources office, said.

Charges for violation of the Wildlife Resources and Conservation and Protection Act and Provincial Ordinance 756 in relation to Republic Act 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act of 2018 are being readied against the suspects.

8M Trees Planted In Negros Amid The Pandemic



By [Featuresdesk \(MD\)](#)
December 18, 2020

Despite the travel restrictions during the community quarantines, a massive joint government and non-government movement for the forest restoration of Negros Island has already planted eight million trees on its fifth year.

The 10 Million Trees in 10 Years (10M in 10) for a Greener Negros Movement was launched in 2015 by geothermal power leader Energy Development Corporation, in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), other line agencies, and civil society groups.

The aim was to plant and grow 10 million trees in 10 years across the island.

The movement honored its partners via a Zoom celebration recently with the theme “High Five at 5”, a media release from EDC said Tuesday.

In Negros Oriental, the movement paid tribute to one of its partners, Rene “Tatay Eti” Vendiola, who is known for being a “rainforestation” farmer and owner of the Liptong Woodland in Bacong town.

Bacong is dubbed as a “haven of Philippine native trees”.

“They call me Tatay not really because of my age but because I’m the father of endemic native trees in Liptong Woodlands,” Vendiola said in his short video played during the Zoom event.

“I didn’t hesitate to partner with 10M in 10 and with EDC because I see that their goal and dedication are true. I can see that 10M in 10 has a positive effect,” Vendiola said.

Meanwhile, Norreen G. Bautista, head of EDC’s Corporate Social Responsible (CSR) team in Negros that likewise manages the company’s 10M in 10 contributions, was quoted as saying “we are grateful to our partners whose unwavering commitment to our common goal of re-greening Negros island was proven as they helped us exceed our five million target number of seedlings to be planted and managed to maintain an average survival rate of 85 percent amid this challenging year.”

“The health crisis brought about by Covid-19 has put the spotlight even more on the need to keep our air clean through decarbonization, which entails planting and growing native trees as well as shifting to renewable energy for our source of power,” she added.



8M Trees Planted In Negros Amid The Pandemic

Bautista said there are 83 new partners this year for the greening movement of Negros.

These additional sign-ups brought to 252 the movement's total number of partners as of December 2020, EDC said in its statement.

Among the top achievers that were cited was the Alliance of Mangrove Planting Organizations which was able to plant a total of 500,000 seedlings since it became one of the movement's founding members in 2015.

Another partner is Jeffrey "Jepoy" Palata and his organization, Edmund Rice Industries-Kabankalan, Negros Occidental chapter, one of three chapters of this international foundation supported by Edmund Rice Foundation Australia that was also engaged in mangrove and tree planting until Covid-19 initially crippled its activities that led to the chapter's closure.

To keep pursuing his passion for planting native trees, Jepoy came up with a climate change module that involved planting a total of 1,000 native tree seedlings in his area with the help of his friend, Fr. Jude Garceniego, head of Sharing with the Poor is Always a Grace- a HOPE (SPAG-ASA) Feeding Charity Work that is now also a 10M in 10 members, as well as other volunteers.

10M in 10 partner, Lawyer Henry Sy Yap, was likewise cited for his passion for environmental preservation that inspired him to include his 16-hectare Farmville de Bago into a reforestation area.

"I have committed to plant and grow native trees and to convince my family and friends to take the same path in their own little way to fight climate change," he said.

Over 100 partners graced the virtual event, representing various stakeholder groups such as government agencies, local government units, academic institutions, businesses, media, non-government organizations, and other concerned groups and individuals. (PNA)



Lot owners must prove right to real property before registration

By Benjamin Pulta December 18, 2020, 5:53 pm



MANILA – Lot owners need to prove their right to real property that they bought before it can be registered under their name, the Supreme Court (SC) said in a ruling.

In a nine-page resolution made public on Friday, the high court's First Division turned down the petition filed by the spouses Rufus B. Rodriguez and Fenina T. Rodriguez questioning the lower court's decision against their application for land registration over a parcel of land.

The property, Lot 2260 in Silang, Cavite has an area of 1,744 square meters and had been purchased by the Rodriguezes in 1997 from a certain Francisco Poblete, who in turn purchased the property in 1979 from a certain Engracia Garcia who bought it in 1948 from the original owner, Urbano Descallar.

The Rodriguezes claimed that along with the said predecessors-in-interest and previous owners of the land, they should be deemed to be in possession of the property for more than 50 years. They had in fact planted fruit-bearing trees and vegetations on the property as well as paid taxes on the same.

The SC, in denying the Rodriguezes' claim, pointed out that they failed to prove they are entitled to a title to the property even as they produced certifications from the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) and the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) as well as tax declarations receipts.

"Clearly, the CENRO and PENRO certifications which spouses Rodriguez presented are not enough evidence to prove the alienable and disposable nature of Lot 2260. Apart from these twin certifications, spouses Rodriguez should have also presented a copy of the original classification of Lot 2260 duly approved by DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) secretary or as proclaimed by the president and certified as a true copy by the legal custodian thereof." the court said.



Lot owners must prove right to real property before registration

The tribunal noted that under Presidential Decree No, 1529, which the Rodriguezes cited, among those who are entitled to the registration of title to land must prove they derived their right from predecessors-in-interest or previous owners under a bonafide claim of ownership since June 12, 1945, or earlier.

"The property remains to be part of the inalienable and indisposable lands of the public domain, hence, incapable of registration or titling in the name of the spouses Rodriguez or any private person or entity," it added. *(PNA)*



Climate change remains a major world problem

Published December 18, 2020, 7:56 AM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)



Five years ago, the nations of the world, including the Philippines, met in Paris, France, on the world's climate problem — rising world temperatures due to carbon emissions from the world's industries, causing the polar ice to melt, ocean levels to rise, and spawning more destructive typhoons and hurricanes.

A Climate Ambition Summit was convened this weekend by the United Nations and the governments of Britain and France to assess what progress has been made on the world's climate since that Paris conference five years ago. The nations had agreed then to try to keep the rise in world temperature to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius and each country submitted its commitment to take steps to help reach that goal.

Last Saturday, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres told the Climate Ambition Summit: "Carbon dioxide levels are at a record high. Today we are 1.2 degrees hotter than before the Industrial Revolution. If we don't change course, we may be headed for a catastrophic temperature rise of more than 3 degrees this century. That is why today I call on all leaders worldwide to declare a state of climate emergency in their countries until carbon neutrality is reached." Guterres said 38 countries have already done so. "All other countries should follow," he added.

The Climate Ambition Summit acknowledged the public commitments announced only recently by some nations led by China whose President Xi Jinping told the conference China would reduce its emissions by 65 percent over 2005 levels by 2030.

China became the first nation to announce its commitment to the Paris goal when President Xi Jinping pledged before the United Nations last September that China would achieve zero carbon emissions by 2060. It was soon followed by Japan, whose Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga committed to achieve the same goal by 2050.

Xi said China was making its commitment although it is still developing economically. Richer countries should step up more, he said, evidently referring to the United States, under President Donald Trump, the only nation that rejected the Paris Agreement. Incoming President Joseph Biden, however, has already announced he will bring the US back to the assembly of nations that have vowed to reduce their carbon emissions.



Climate change remains a major world problem

The Philippines is a minor contributor to the world's carbon emissions but it has vowed to do its part. Last month, our Department of Energy declared a moratorium on its endorsements for coal power plants. This should lead to "more opportunities for renewable energy to figure prominently in our country's energy future," Secretary of Energy Alfonso Cusi said.

The world is still in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic but it has not forgotten the other problems it faces today, such as the climate problem that continues to worsen and threaten the lives of all people on our planet on a scale more massive than regional conflicts, hunger in so many nations, and even epidemics like the one we are now beginning to overcome



Climate change remains a major world problem

December 18, 2020 | Filed under: [Editorial, Opinion](#) | Posted by: [Tempo Desk](#)



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COVID-19 cases sa Pilipinas pumalo na sa 456,562 nang madagdagan ng 2,122 kaso

(Philstar.com)

- December 18, 2020 - 4:00pm



Ipinakikita ng nurse na ito ang isang dosage ng Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine bago ito iturok sa isang empleyado sa Pittsburgh VA Medical Center, ika-17 ng Disyembre, 2020
Jeff Swensen/Getty Images North America/Getty Images via AFP

MANILA, Philippines — Paalon-alon pa ring tumatalon ang bilang ng mga nahahawaan ng coronavirus disease sa bansa eksakto isang linggo bago ang araw ng Pasko.

Umabot na kasi sa 456,562 ang kabuuang bilang ng kumpirmadong infections sa Pilipinas, matapos tablan pa nito ang 2,122 katao, ayon sa Kagawaran ng Kalusugan ngayong Biyernes.

Ito ang unang beses sa loob ng higit kalahating buwan na mas marami sa 2,000 ang sariwang kaso sa isang araw. Huli itong naitala sa 2,076 noong ika-29 ng Nobyembre.

Nangyayari ito ngayong naghahanda na ang gobyerno sa inaasahang "post-holiday surge" ng COVID-19 cases, lalo na't mas marami ang lumalabas at bumibisita ng mga bahay ngayong holiday season.

Kaugnay niyan, natagpuan ang karamihan sa mga bagong ulat na COVID-19 cases sa mga sumusunod na lugar:

- Quezon City (160)
- Rizal (105)
- Bulacan (91)
- City of Makati (83)
- Davao City (79)



COVID-19 cases sa Pilipinas pumalo na sa 456,562 nang madagdagan ng 2,122 kaso

Nananatili namang nasa 27,021 ang bilang ng domestic active cases, o 'yung mga patuloy na nagpapagaling pa rin sa COVID-19 magpahanggang sa ngayon.

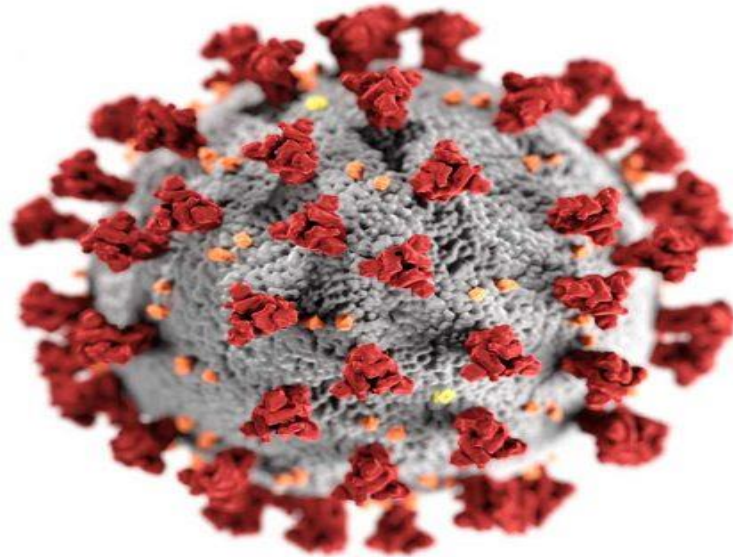
"Samantala ay mayroon namang naitalang 2,122 [bagong] gumaling at 25 na pumanaw," dagdag pa ng Department of Health.

Sumatatal, 420,666 na ang tuluyang gumaling mula sa pathogen habang 8,875 naman ang hindi pinalad at pumanaw.



More than 2,000 new coronavirus cases reported

December 18, 2020 | 6:48 pm



The Department of Health reported 2,122 new coronavirus cases on Friday, bringing the total to 456,562.

The death toll rose by 25 to 8,875, while recoveries increased by 778 to 420,666, it said in a bulletin.

There were 27,021 active cases, 5.1% of which were critical, 8.0% were asymptomatic, 2.5% were severe, and 0.31% were moderate.

Quezon City reported the highest number of cases at 160, followed by Rizal at 105, Bulacan at 91, Makati City at 83, and Davao City at 79.

The DOH said seven duplicates were removed from the total case count, of which five were reclassified as recoveries.

Advertisement

Four labs were unable to submit their data to the COVID-19 Data Repository System (CDRS) on Dec. 17, it added. — KATA



Virus cases hit 3-week high

Health officials urge vigilance amid growing risks of COVID transmission

posted December 19, 2020 at 02:20 am
by [Willie Casas and Vito Barcelo](#)

The Philippines logged 2,122 new cases of COVID-19 Friday, bringing the total to 456,562 cases, even as four laboratories failed to submit their testing data on time, the Department of Health (DOH) said.

This was the first time the country logged more than 2,000 cases in a day since Nov. 29.

The top cities and provinces with new cases are Quezon City, 160; Rizal Province, 105; Bulacan, 91; Makati, 83; and Davao City, 79.

Health officials reported 25 new fatalities, bringing the death toll to 8,875, which is 1.94 percent of the total.

On the other hand, 778 persons recovered on the same day, bringing the total number of patients who have recovered from the disease since the pandemic began to 420,666, which is 92.1 percent of total cases.

That leaves 27,021 active cases, which is 5.9 percent of the total cases. Of the active cases, 84 percent are mild; 8 percent are asymptomatic; 5.1 percent are critical; 2.5 percent are severe, and 0.31 percent are moderate.

The DOH on Friday called on the public to remain vigilant and on high alert as it cited the risk of increased transmission of COVID-19 over the holiday season.

“With increased mobility, there’s an increased contact rate and transmission so there’s the possibility the cases would rise,” Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said during a virtual conference with government media.

To prevent this, Duque said the public must understand the importance of cooperation by way of strict compliance with the minimum health and safety standard imposed by the government.

On Dec. 18 alone, the DOH recorded a spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases, recording some 2,122 new infections in a day.

Previously, the DOH revealed the “continuous growth of cases in Metro Manila, signaling the start of a surge.”

Nine cities are now at moderate risk compared to last month when all cities were at low risk. The average daily attack rate in all Metro Manila cities is also higher than the national average, DOH said.

If the trend continues, the DOH expects a “sharp spike of cases” that could possibly overwhelm the country’s health system capacity, similar to the peak experienced in August in Metro Manila.

Duque said the DOH will continue its efforts to ensure that the high-density places in the country are following the health protocols, especially now that Christmas is approaching.



Virus cases hit 3-week high

He said his team will also continue visiting areas such as supermarkets, transport stations, and malls to monitor their compliance.

The DOH said the ban on singing to prevent COVID-19 transmission, especially during the holiday season, includes church choirs.

“When we issue this protocol, it is not limited to karaoke because there are several other opportunities for us to sing in public places. There is evidence that when we sing, more viral particles are released from our body when we are sick,” Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said in Filipino during an online forum.

“Choir members are not exempted. We will be coordinating with the Catholic Church to enforce minimum public health standards now that a lot of people go to church during Simbang gabi,” Vergeire also said, referring to nine straight days of dawn masses that Catholics attend in preparation for Christmas Day.

Despite calls to limit mobility, the government on Friday said 10 provincial point-to-point bus routes will begin operating on Dec. 21.

The routes include the following: Clark, Pampanga - SM North EDSA; Clark, Pampanga - NAIA Terminal (with limited Stop in Ortigas); Clark, Pampanga - Lubao, Pampanga (with special stops in San Fernando and Angeles City); Clark, Pampanga - Dagupan, Pangasinan (with special stops at Rosales and Urdaneta, Pangasinan); Clark, Pampanga - Subic, Zambales (with special stop at Dinalupihan, Bataan); NAIA/Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITx) - Baguio City; Batangas City – Ortigas; Batangas City – PITx; Lipa City, Batangas – Ortigas; and Lipa City, Batangas - PITx

A total of 269 buses will be deployed and will be given unhampered passage through the different local government units en route to the destination, the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) said.

The move was approved by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF).

Meanwhile, IAFTF spokesman Harry Roque said foreigners with valid and existing visas who left the Philippines from Dec. 17 onwards may be permitted to return to the country as long as they comply with certain conditions.

The conditions include a valid and existing visa on the date of arrival, a pre-booked quarantine facility, and a pre-booked COVID-19 test at a laboratory operating at the airport, and they must be subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry.

Advisory on the proper use of face shields to be issued

By PCOOPublished on December 18, 2020

MANILA, Dec. 18 -- The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) on Dec 17, Thursday, instructed the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and other agencies of the national government to issue a consolidated advisory to the public on the proper use of face shields when leaving residences, including exclusions or exemptions, as may be appropriate.

The IATF likewise appealed to local government units (LGUs) to provide regulatory relief assistance, such as but not limited to deferment of payment of deadlines for local government business fees, to micro, small, and medium business establishments.

Abovementioned business establishments were those which were not permitted to operate or adversely affected by the restrictions imposed under the different community quarantine classifications.

The IATF, in its 89th meeting, also allowed the re-entry to the Philippines of foreign nationals with valid and existing visas under Section 9(e) and 9(g) of Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended, who are already in the country and will be leaving the country starting December 17, 2020.

This, however, is subject to conditions, such as they must have a valid and existing visa on the date of the arrival; they must have a pre-booked quarantine facility; they must have a pre-booked COVID-19 testing at a laboratory operating at the airport; and they must be subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry.

In this regard, the Bureau of Immigration has been directed to issue the guidelines to implement this IATF resolution on foreign nationals.

In the same meeting the IATF directed the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP) to cease and desist in the expansion of permissible accessory activities in the golf clubs like the reopening of locker rooms for golfers, among others, pending the review and approval of health protocols by the appropriate government agencies.

The NGAP is further ordered to transmit its proposed protocols for golf to the DOH and DOLE for vetting. (PCOO)



Magat Dam to release water Saturday, cites 'heavy inflow' due to monsoon

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Dec 19 2020 12:16 AM

The Magat River Integrated Irrigation System Dam and Reservoir Division on Friday said it would release water from its dam Saturday morning in anticipation of the heavy rains due to "the surge of the northeast monsoon."

The National Irrigation Administration, tasked to oversee the operations, issued the notice on the dam discharge on Friday.

Based on the notice signed by Magat FFWHU Dam Office flood operation manager Eng. Carlo Ablan, the dam will release water starting 5 a.m. on Saturday.

"Pre-release - Reservoir elevation needs to be lowered in anticipation of the expected heavy inflow due to surge of N.E. Monsoon," said Ablan.

The dam is on the Magat River, a major tributary of Cagayan River, and is one of the largest dams in the Philippines.



Magat Dam to release water ahead of Vicky's rains

Published December 18, 2020 10:05pm

The Magat River Integrated Irrigation System Dam and Reservoir Division on Friday announced that the Magat Dam will release water on Saturday, December 19 in preparation for Tropical Depression Vicky.

According to Vicky Morales' report on "24 Oras," one gate will be opened, and 200 cubic meters of water per second will be released.

However, the management clarified that the Magat Dam water level had not yet reached the spilling level.

Data from PAGASA showed that the water level was at 191.15 meters as of 6 a.m. on Friday.

This is lower than the normal high water level of 193 meters. — **Joahna Lei Casilao/DVM, GMA News**



Parts of Mindanao flooded due to rains brought by Vicky

Published December 18, 2020 9:06pm

Portions of Mindanao have experienced flooding on Friday due to heavy rains brought by tropical depression Vicky.

According to Real Sorroche's report on "24 Oras," authorities earlier ordered the preemptive evacuation of residents in Barangay San Vicente in Cateel, Davao Oriental amid the continuous rise of floodwater in the area.

?The residents also tried to salvage their items and pets as rescuers were unable to enter the barangay as the road leading to the area had become flooded.

Meanwhile, the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO), police authorities, army troops, and volunteers worked together to remove the fallen trees in the middle of the highway in Lupon, Davao Oriental.

No one was injured in the incident.

Vicky made landfall in Baganga, Davao Oriental at 2 p.m.

Due to things, strong winds and rains were expected over several areas in Mindanao, particularly in Dinagat Island, Surigao Del Norte, and Surigao del Sur.

"Actually, this is only signal number 1. Hindi siya ganon kalakas kasi ang hangin niya ay 45 kilometers per hohur lang hanggang 50. Ito, siya ang pinakamahinang bagyo," Honey Perez, PAGASA-Davao Station weather observer, said.

The effects of Vicky were already felt in the Caraga region as rains poured in the area.

In Butuan City, some primary roads have become flooded due to the continuous rains.

Meanwhile, the Cagayan de Oro DRRM department is monitoring the water level of the Cagayan de Oro river. Residents in low-lying areas have also been advised to evacuate in case the water level increased.

Kidapawan City also experienced rains due to the Tail-End of a Cold Front and Vicky while several areas in Tagbilaran experienced rains.

Eight houses in Barangay Calantas in Casiguran, Aurora also flooded due to the rains which prevailed overnight. Aside from being a low-lying area, residents also blamed the flood on the lack of good drainage in the area.

Motorists crossing the national highway in Barangay Marikit were also affected due to the flood. -
Joahna Lei Casilao/NB, GMA News



Signal No.1 remains over 30 areas as Vicky maintains strength

Published December 18, 2020 6:19pm

By JOAHNA LEI CASILAO, GMA News

Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal (TCWS) No. 1 remained over 33 areas as tropical depression Vicky maintained its strength while traversing Monkayo, Davao De Oro, PAGASA said on Friday afternoon.

According to the 5 p.m. severe weather bulletin, the following areas under TCWS No. 1 will experience strong breeze to near gale conditions during the passage of Vicky:

- The northern and central portion of Palawan (Puerto Princesa City, Roxas, San Vicente, Dumarán, Araceli, Taytay, El Nido) including Calamian, Cuyo, and Cagayancillo Islands
- The southern portion of Leyte (Baybay City, Javier, Abuyog, Mahaplag, Inopacan, Hindang, Hilongos, Bato, Matalom, Palompon, Merida, Isabel)
 - Southern Leyte
- The central and southern portions of Cebu (Borbon, Tabuelan, Tuburan, Sogod, Catmon, Carmen, Asturias, Danao City, Compostela, Liloan, Consolacion, Mandaue City, Lapu-Lapu City, Cordoba, Balamban, Cebu City, Talisay City, Toledo City, Minglanilla, Naga City, Pinamungahan, San Fernando, Aloguinsan, Carcar, Barili, Sibonga, Dumanjug, Ronda, Alcantara, Moalboal, Argao, Dalaguete, Badian, Alegria, Alcoy, Boljoon, Oslob, Malabuyoc, Ginatilan, Samboan, Santander) including Camotes Islands
 - Bohol
 - Siquijor
 - Negros Oriental
 - Negros Occidental
 - Guimaras
- The central and southern portions of Iloilo (Ajuy, Barotac Viejo, San Enrique, San Rafael, Passi City, Bingawan, Calinog, Lambunao, Janiuay, Banate, Anilao, Dingle, Duenas, Badiangan, Barotac Nuevo, Zarraga, Pototan, Dumangas, Mina, New Lucena, Santa Barbara, Leganes, Iloilo City, Pavia, Cabatuan, Maasin, Alimodian, San Miguel, Leon, Oton, Tigbauan, Tubungan, Guimbal, Igbaras, Miagao, San Joaquin)
- The southern portion of Antique (Valderrama, San Remigio, Sibalom, Hamtic, Tobias Fornier, Anini-Y, Bugasong, Laua-An, Patnongon, San Jose, Belison)
 - Dinagat Islands
 - Surigao del Norte
 - Surigao del Sur



Signal No.1 remains over 30 areas as Vicky maintains strength

- Agusan del Norte
- Agusan del Sur
- Davao Oriental
- Davao del Norte
- Davao de Oro
- Davao City
- The northern portion of Davao del Sur (Santa Cruz, Digos City, Bansalan, Magsaysay, Matanao, Hagonoy)
 - Camiguin
 - Bukidnon
 - Misamis Oriental
 - Misamis Occidental
 - Lanao del Norte
 - Lanao del Sur
 - Maguindanao
 - Cotabato City
 - North Cotabato
 - Zamboanga del Sur
 - Zamboanga Sibugay
- The northern portion of Zamboanga del Norte (Baliguian, Gutalac, Kalawit, Labason, Tampilisan, Liloy, Salug, Bacungan, Godod, Sindangan, Siayan, Jose Dalman, Manukan, Sergio Osmena Sr., Pres. Manuel A. Roxas, Katipunan, Dipolog City, Polanco, Pinan, Mutia, La Libertad, Dapitan City, Sibutad, Rizal)

[Vicky made landfall](#) in the vicinity of Baganga, Davao Oriental at 2 p.m.

At 4 p.m. on Friday, the center of Vicky was estimated in the vicinity of Monkayo, Davao De Oro with maximum sustained winds of 45 kilometers per hour near the center and gustiness of up to 75 kph.

It is moving west-northwestward at 15 kph.



Signal No.1 remains over 30 areas as Vicky maintains strength

PAGASA said Vicky is likely to emerge over the Bohol Sea, pass close to Siquijor or Misamis Occidental, and pass close or make another landfall over the southern portion of Negros Island on Saturday morning.

Vicky is expected to remain a tropical depression while crossing the Philippine archipelago.

The next severe weather bulletin will be issued at 8 p.m.

Heavy rainfall

Until Friday night, PAGASA said that moderate to heavy with, at times, intense rains may prevail over Caraga, Davao Oriental, Davao de Oro, Davao del Norte, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, Camiguin, Southern Leyte, Leyte, and Bohol due to the combined effects of Vicky and the Tail-End of a Frontal System.

Meanwhile, light to moderate with, at times, heavy rains are expected over the Bicol Region, MIMAROPA, CALABARZON, Lanao del Sur, Zamboanga del Norte, and the rest of Visayas, Davao Region, and Northern Mindanao.

On Saturday, the Bicol Region, Eastern Visayas, Central Visayas, Quezon, and the northern portion of Palawan including Calamian and Cuyo Islands may experience moderate to heavy with, at times, intense rains.

Light to moderate rains with, at times, heavy rains may also prevail over mainland Cagayan Valley, Apayao, Kalinga, Mountain Province, Ifugao, Bulacan, Metro Manila, Camiguin, Dinagat Islands, and the rest of CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, and the Visayas.

“Flooding (including flash floods) and rain-induced landslides may occur during heavy or prolonged periods of rainfall,” PAGASA said.

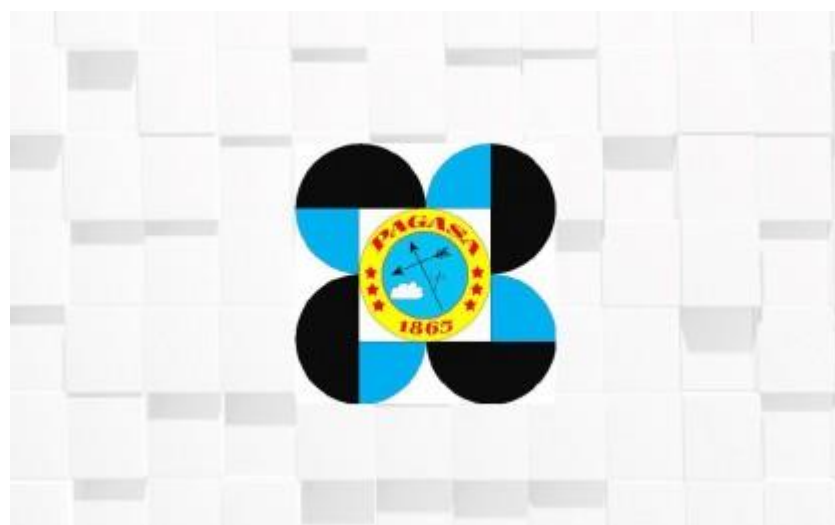
Hazards affecting coastal waters

Meanwhile, rough to very rough seas may be experienced over the following seaboard due to the combined effects of the surge of the northeast monsoon and Vicky:

- Entire seaboard of Northern Luzon
- The seaboard of Aurora
- The eastern seaboard of Quezon (including Polillo Islands)
- The seaboard of Camarines Norte
- The northern seaboard of Camarines Sur
- The northern and eastern seaboard of Catanduanes
- The eastern seaboard of Albay (including Rapu-Rapu Islands)
- The eastern seaboard of Sorsogon
- The northern and eastern seaboard of Northern Samar
- The eastern seaboard of Eastern Samar (including Homonhon Island)
- Moderate to rough seas, meanwhile, will prevail over areas under TCWS No. 1

Don't be complacent, PAGASA chief tells public

By Ma. Cristina Arayata December 18, 2020, 2:25 pm



MANILA – Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) administrator Vicente Malano on Friday said the public should be wary of and not complacent with regard to the weather or a tropical cyclone.

"*Wag tayong makampante* (We should not be complacent)," he said in a climate virtual forum, adding that this is not the first time a tropical cyclone visits around Christmas time.

In the past, weather disturbances "Sendong" (Washi) and "Pablo" (Bopha) both hit the country in December, he said.

A low pressure area has developed into Tropical Depression Vicky early Friday, and is the 22nd tropical cyclone in the Philippines this year.

Weather forecaster Raymond Ordinario said that while "Vicky" does not bring strong winds, it might cause heavy rains.

"Vicky" is expected to exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility by Monday, he added.

Meanwhile, based on PAGASA's 11 a.m. bulletin, "Vicky" was last seen 140 km. east of Davao City, and slightly slowed down moving west northwestward at 10 kph.

It packs a maximum sustained winds of 45 kph near the center, and gustiness of up to 55 kph.

Tropical cyclone wind signal (TCWS) No. 1 is still hoisted over the following areas: northern and central portion of Palawan (Puerto Princesa City, Roxas, San Vicente, Dumarang, Araceli, Taytay, El Nido) including Calamian, Cuyo, and Cagayancillo Islands, southern portion of Leyte (Baybay City, Javier, Abuyog, Mahaplag, Inopacan, Hindang, Hilongos, Bato, Matalom, Palompon, Merida, Isabel), Southern Leyte, the central and southern portions of Cebu (Borbon, Tabuelan, Tuburan, Sogod, Catmon, Carmen, Asturias, Danao City, Compostela, Liloan, Consolacion, Mandaue City, Lapu-Lapu City, Cordoba, Balamban, Cebu City, Talisay City, Toledo City, Minglanilla, Naga City, Pinamungahan, San Fernando, Aloguinsan, Carcar, Barili, Sibonga, Dumanjug, Ronda, Alcantara, Moalboal, Argao, Dalaguete, Badian, Alegria, Alcoy, Boljoon, Oslob, Malabuyoc, Ginatilan, Samboan, Santander) including Camotes Islands, Bohol, Siquijor, Negros Oriental, Negros Occidental, Guimaras, the central and southern portions of Iloilo (Ajuy, Barotac Viejo, San



Don't be complacent, PAGASA chief tells public

Enrique, San Rafael, Passi City, Bingawan, Calinog, Lambunao, Janiuay, Banate, Anilao, Dingle, Duenas, Badiangan, Barotac Nuevo, Zarraga, Pototan, Dumangas, Mina, New Lucena, Santa Barbara, Leganes, Iloilo City, Pavia, Cabatuan, Maasin, Alimodian, San Miguel, Leon, Oton, Tigbauan, Tubungan, Guimbal, Igaras, Miagao, San Joaquin), and the southern portion of Antique (Valderrama, San Remigio, Sibalom, Hamtic, Tobias Fornier, Anini-Y, Bugasong, Laua-An, Patnongon, San Jose, Belison), Dinagat Islands, Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro, Davao City, the northern portion of Davao del Sur (Santa Cruz, Digos City, Bansalan, Magsaysay, Matanao, Hagonoy), Camiguin, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, Misamis Occidental, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Cotabato City, North Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, and the northern portion of Zamboanga del Norte (Baliguian, Gutalac, Kalawit, Labason, Tampilisan, Liloy, Salug, Bacungan, Godod, Sindangan, Siayan, Jose Dalman, Manukan, Sergio Osmena Sr., Pres. Manuel A. Roxas, Katipunan, Dipolog City, Polanco, Pinan, Mutia, La Libertad, Dapitan City, Sibutad, Rizal).

Those areas will continue to experience strong breeze to near gale conditions.

Moderate to heavy, with at times intense rains, will continue over Caraga, Davao Oriental, Davao de Oro, Davao del Norte, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, Camiguin, Southern Leyte, Leyte, and Bohol.

Light to moderate, with at times heavy rains will prevail over Bicol Region, the southern portion of Quezon, Lanao del Sur, Zamboanga del Norte, and the rest of Visayas, Davao Region, and northern Mindanao.

Rough to very rough seas will prevail over the entire seaboard of northern Luzon, the seaboard of Aurora, the eastern seaboard of Quezon including Polillo Islands, the seaboard of Camarines Norte, the northern seaboard of Camarines Sur, the northern and eastern seaboard of Catanduanes, the eastern seaboard of Albay including Rapu-Rapu Islands, the eastern seaboard of Sorsogon, the northern and eastern seaboard of Northern Samar, and the eastern seaboard of Eastern Samar including Homonhon Island.

Moderate to rough seas will continue over the coastal waters of areas under TCWS no. 1.

Sea travel is risky over these areas, especially for small sea vessels, PAGASA said. (PNA)



NDRRMC warns vs flashfloods, landslides as 'Vicky' hits land

Published December 18, 2020, 6:03 PM

by [Martin Sadongdong](#)

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) cautioned the public against possible flashfloods and landslides as torrential rains were experienced in parts of Mindanao after tropical depression "Vicky" made landfall over Baganga, Davao Oriental Friday.



(MANILA BULLETIN)

NDRRMC Executive Director Ricardo Jalad said at least two barangays in Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Sur were immediately flooded due to heavy rainfall.

"Pre-emptive evacuations had been carried out in these areas," he said.

Military and uniformed personnel joined rescue operations in Bislig City in Surigao del Sur and San Francisco and Bayugan City in Agusan del Sur due to deep floods.

Office of Civil Defense (OCD) spokesperson Mark Timbal said they received messages from affected residents asking to be rescued as flood reached their homes.

He said the requests sent through social media have been referred to local disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) offices for immediate coordination with local government units (LGUs).

"The LGUs were reminded of adherence to the usual COVID-19 protection protocols for both responders and evacuees at all times," Timbal said.

A red rainfall warning was hoisted in Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Sur, Misamis Oriental, Bukidnon, and Camiguin.

A red rainfall warning is issued when downpour constitutes an emergency, or if the observed rainfall is more than 30 millimeters within one hour, or if it reaches 65 millimeters continuously for the past three hours.



NDRRMC warns vs flashfloods, landslides as 'Vicky' hits land

According to Jalad, seven heavy rainfall advisories were issued Friday alone to warn the public against the adverse effects of Vicky. These advisories were sent to telecommunications subscribers in Northern Mindanao (Region 10), Davao Region (Region 11), and Caraga (Region 13).

After it made landfall over Baganga at 2 p.m., Vicky is expected to cross Mindanao and emerge over the Bohol Sea Saturday morning, passing close to Siquijor and passing over or making another landfall over the southern portion of Negros Island, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration.



Clearing Operation isinagawa dahil sa nangyaring landslide sa Monkayo, Davao de Oro

By [Bombo Radyo Davao](#)

-December 18, 2020 | 11:59 PM

DAVAO CITY – Nagsagawa na ngayon ng clearing operation sa kalsada ng Monkayo Davao de Oro matapos matabunan ito ng putik dahil sa nangyaring landslide.

Nabatid na gumuho ang lupa sa gilid ng kalsada ng Sitio Depo Upper Ulip na siyang nag-iisang daan papuntang Mt. Diwalwal at Poblacion sa Monkayo Davao de Oro dahil sa walang tigil na pag-ulan.

Tinuturong dahilan umano ng landslide ang paglambot ng lupa dahil sa Tropical Depression Vicky.

Samantalang kinansela na ngayon ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Davao Station ang biyahe sa lahat ng mga lantsa mula sa Sta Ana wharf nitong lungsod papuntang Talicud Island sa Island Garden City of Samal.

Sa inilabas na public advisory number 1 ni Commander Carlo Tiongson, ipinatupad ang pagkansela sa mga byahe ng mga lantsa at iba pang mga sasakyang pandagat mula 08:00 alas nuebe kaninang umaga dahil sa sama ng panahon at walang tigil na pag-ulan.

May kaugnayan ito sa inilabas na weather update ng Pag-asa kung saan kabilang sa tropical cyclone warning signal number 1 ang mga probinsiya ng Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro, Davao at Northern Portion ng Davao del Sur.

Sinabi ng PCG ka kailangan sumunod sa Memorandum Circular 02-13 na kabilang sa mga guidelines patungkol sa biyahe ng mga sasakyang pandagat lalo na kung masama ang lagay ng panahon.

Sa kasalukuyan, ilang bahagi ng Davao del Norte at katabing lalawigan sa Mindanao ang apektado ng mga pagbaha matapos ang malakas na pag-ulan.



Halos P400-M tulong mula sa EU para sa ‘Rolly, Ulysses efforts’ natanggap ng PH

By [Bombo Bam Orpilla](#)

-December 18, 2020 | 7:41 PM

Umabot sa mahigit 6-milyon euros o katumbas ng P380 milyon ang halaga ng humanitarian assistance na ibinigay ng European Union (EU) sa Pilipinas kasunod ng pananalasa ng bagyong Rolly at Ulysses.

Sa isang pahayag, sinabi ng EU na nagpaabot sila ng shelter, food at livelihood assistance, health care at access sa malinis na tubig, safe sanitation at good hygiene na nagkakahalaga ng mahigit 2-million euros.

Ang mga EU member states naman ay nag-donate ng mas malaking halaga sa mga humanitarian institutions na tumugon sa mga kalamidad.

Kasama rin aniya nilang nagpaabot ng tulong sa ilang mga non-government organizations ang Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, Hungary, Netherlands, at Sweden.

Pinuri rin ng EU ang gobyerno ng Pilipinas para sa kanilang pagtugon sa sakuna at recovery efforts.

Maliban dito, ginamit din daw ng EU ang kanilang Earth observation program na Copernicus Space Programme bago, sa kasagsagan, at pagkatapos ng paghagupit ng mga bagyo sa Pilipinas.

Kung maaalala, nag-iwan ng mga patay at bilyun-bilyong pinsala sa agrikultura ang Rolly at Ulysses, bukod pa sa malawakang pagbaha na nangyari sa ilang mga lugar gaya ng Cagayan at Metro Manila.



Kabuhayan sa Laguna Lake, palalaksin



December 18, 2020 @ 6:31 PM 11 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Sinimulan na ang mga hakbang na naglalayong paunlarin at palakasin ang kabuhayan ng mga residente at maging mismong ang Lawa ng Laguna sa nasasakupan Taguig City.

Kahapon, isinagawa ang paglagda sa Memorandum of Agreement sa pagitan ng Taguig City LGU, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Soils and Water Management at Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources o BFAR.

Sinabi ni Dir. Sonia Salguerro ng DA-Bureau of Soils and Water Management, umaasa siyang agad maisasagawa ang kauna-unahang proyekto na magpapaunlad sa Laguna Lake.



Nauna nang sinabi ni Cong. Allan Peter Cayetano na maghahatid ng maraming kabuhayan ang Laguna Lake sa mga residenteng nakapaligid sa lawa kapaga nasimulan ang rehabilitasyon nito.

Kabuhayan sa Laguna Lake, palalakasin

Ayon kay Cayetano, ang mga nakatakdang proyekto sa Laguna Lake na may magandang epekto sa buong Metro Manila ay ang pagtatatag ng Urban Farm Institute kung saan maaaring mag-aral ng pagtatanim ang urban dwellers sa Metro Manila, ang Farmer and Fisherfolks Welfare kung saan tinutulungan ang 64 rehistradong magsasaka at 906 fisherman ng lungsod sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng scholarship sa kanilang mga anak at ang Agri-Economic Hubs kung saan ay nakikipag-partner ang LGU sa mga palengke.



Tiniyak naman ni director Salguerro sa LGU na susuportahan nila ang mga proyektong ilulunsad sa Laguna Lake sa ilalim ng Facility and Ensuring Clean Water and Sustainable Land Management.

Umaasa siyang sa maikling panahon ay maisasagawa kaagad ang proyekto at matatapos ito sa Abril na kauna-unahanan nilang gagawin.

Ang MOA ay nilagdaan nina Congresswoman Lani Cayetano, Congressman Alan Peter Cayetano, Mayor Lino Cayetano, DA Usec. Cheryl Marie Caballero, BWSM Dir. Sonia Salguerro, at Juan Albaladejo, asst. director for operations ng BFAR. **Dave Baluyot**



Plastik palit grocery sa Pangasinan

By Abante News Online — Last updated Dec 18, 2020

NEWS



Sa pamamagitan ng 'Kalinisan Karaban' project, nasa 64,464 kilo ng mga basurang plastik ang nakolekta ng Pangasinan provincial government, na pinalitan ng mga grocery item.

Ayon kay General Services Office chief Evan Gladish Domalanta, sa kabila ng pandemya ay itinuloy nila ang programa at nangongolekta pa rin ng mga basurang plastik sa mga residente.

Nasa P1.2 milyong halaga na aniya ng grocery item ang naibigay nila kapalit ng basura.

Ang tatlong lugar na may pinakamaraming nakolektahan ng basurang plastik ay ang Bautista (16,235 kilo), Balungao (10,497 kilo) at Bugallon (4,510 kilo).

Dagdag ni Domalanta, dahil sa programa na nagsimula noong 2019, umabot na sa 3,637 bricks mula sa plastik ang nagawa.

Maliban sa mga grocery, maaaring ipalit ng mga Pangasinenses ang kanilang basurang plastik ng cellphone load at school supply. (PNA)



Congress submits P4.5-trillion national budget to Palace

posted December 19, 2020 at 01:20 am

by [Maricel Cruz](#)

House Speaker Lord Allan Velasco said Friday the P4.506-trillion national budget for 2021 was now ready for the signature of President Rodrigo Duterte.

Velasco made the statement after he signed the final copy of the money measure which he described as the “single-most powerful tool” to fight COVID-19 and help Filipinos and the economy recover from the adverse impacts of the pandemic.

“This budget reflects the serious commitment of the Duterte government to defeat COVID-19 and bring the economy back on track,” Velasco said.

Velasco said next year’s government budget included a P70-billion allocation for the purchase of COVID-19 vaccines, including storage, transportation, and distribution.

At the same time, the bill included several changes introduced by the House.

These are the P44.8 billion funding for the “Build, Build, Build” program under the Department of Public Works and Highways; and P2 billion for the procurement of personal protective equipment or PPE, P434.4 million for the Health Facilities Enhancement Program; P462 million for the Medical Health Assistance Program; and P100 million for the mental health program, all under the Department of Health.

Party-list Rep. Eric Yap, chairperson of the House committee on appropriations, also said the 2021 budget provides the P3.177 billion budget augmentation for the Department of Labor and Employment, mostly for the Office of the Secretary’s Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged or Displaced Workers Program, or Tupad.

“Congress also increased the budget for Livelihood and Emergency Employment Program and the Government Internship Program (GIP) by P5.09 billion, bringing its total to P19 billion,” Yap said.

The amount, he added, will be used to implement Tupad for workers affected by COVID-19, among others.

KOPYA NG 2021 NATIONAL BUDGET NASA PALASYO NA

written by [Judith Estrada-Larino](#) December 18, 2020



Hawak na ng Malakaniyang ang kopya ng panukalang mahigit P4.56-T national budget para sa susunod na taon.

Matapos mapasakamay ang panukalang 2021 budget uubra na ito nang ma-review ng Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Ang education sector batay na rin sa konstitusyon ang nakakuha ng pinakamataas na pondo sa P708.2-B at sinundan ng dpwh sa P694. 8-B.

Nasa P287.47-B naman ang pondo ng health sector kung saan kabilang ang P72.5-B para sa COVID-19 vaccines.

Una nang inihayag ng Pangulong Duterte na gagamitin nito ang kanilang line item veto power kung kinakailangan at posibleng malagdaan niya ang 2021 national budget bago magpasko.

Una na ring pinalawig ng mga mambabatas ang validity ng 2020 general appropriations act hanggang Disyembre 31, 2021.

Pinalawig din hanggang Hunyo 30, 2021 naman ang validity ng mga pondo sa ilalim ng bayanihan to recover as one act.



Urgent action needed to measure air pollution worldwide

Beijing has shown how regular objective monitoring can lead to big improvements in air quality



▲ A woman looks at street directions as heavy haze and smog blanket Beijing. Photograph: Kim Kyung-hoon/Reuters

Gary Fuller

🐦 @drgaryfuller

Fri 18 Dec 2020 06.00 GMT

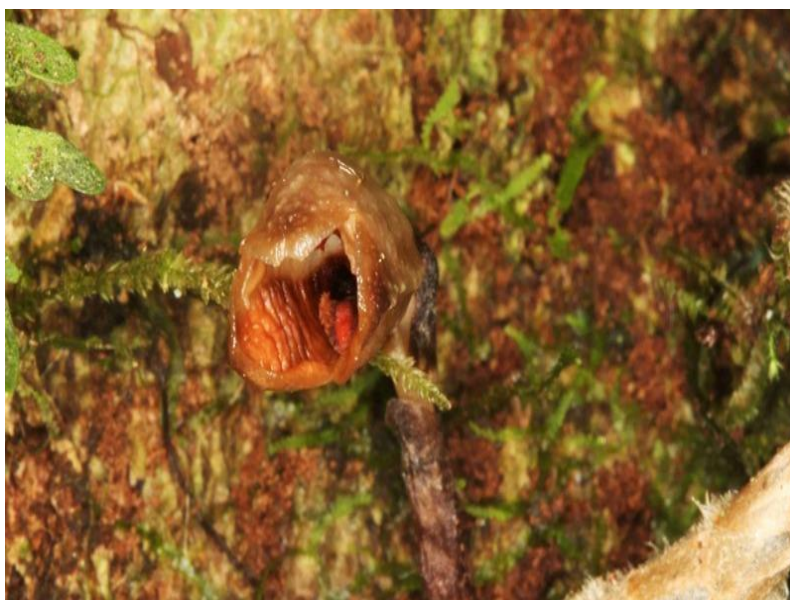
Just before the 2008 Olympics, a machine on the roof of the US embassy in Beijing [began to tweet](#) air pollution measurements to the world. The numbers that appeared each hour were often [shocking](#) but they demonstrated the power of objective measurement. The resulting response has led to [huge improvements](#) in [air quality](#) for much of the vast Chinese population.

Globally, particle pollution contributed to an [estimated 4.1 million](#) early deaths in 2019, but 141 of the world's [234 countries](#) had no regular measurements. If you live in the US, Canada or western Europe, your average distance to a monitoring site is just over 20km (12 miles). This seems a long way to give an understanding of the air in your local street but in central Africa the average distance is more than 1,000km.

Satellite data can help but it is hard to resolve pollution in the lowest part of the atmosphere where we live. [Computer models](#) can combine satellite data with the location pollution sources and the sparse measurements, but this data is not good enough to tell us how air pollution changes day to day and in response to cleanup initiatives. There is an urgent need for more pollution measurements around the world.



'World's ugliest orchid' pinangalanan ngayong 2020



December 18, 2020 @ 2:35 PM 15 hours ago

London — Kilala ang Orchids bilang isang magandang bulaklak ngunit taliwas ito sa iniulat ng Royal Botanic Gardens sa Kew, London na nadiskubre sa kagubatan ng Madagascar.

Ito ay ang *Gastrodia agnicellus* na isa sa 156 plants at fungal species kung saan sinabi ng Kew scientists at kanilang mga partner na ito ay 'worlds's ugliest orchid'

"The 11 mm flowers of this orchid are small, brown and rather ugly," saad ng Kew.

Gayundin ay nadiskubre ang anim pang bagong species ng webcap toadstool mushrooms sa United Kingdom.

"Some could provide vital income to communities while others may have the potential to be developed into a future food or medicine," saad ng botanist na si Wessel Swanepoel

"The bleak reality facing us cannot be underplayed. With two in five plants threatened with extinction, it is a race against time to find, identify, name, and conserve plants before they disappear," babala pa nito. RNT/FGDC