

19 NOVEMBER 2021, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# NEWS ALERTS

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## DENR builds partnership with deaf, blind community toward environmental awareness

Published on: November 18, 2021

By DENR

QUEZON CITY -- To promote environmental communication and learning for people who are blind or deaf-blind, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) launched Tuesday (November 16) an information, education, and communication (IEC) project as a highlight of the annual observance of the Deaf Awareness Week.

Through the DENR's Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS) - Person With Disability Desk (PWDD), the project titled, "Strengthening DENR's Partnership with the Deaf/Blind Community," aims to enable the visually and hearing impaired, including the blind and deaf-blind, to gain access to essential IEC materials and strengthen capacities as partners in advocating good environmental citizenships.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the initiative highlights DENR's agenda to build strong frameworks for disability inclusion and advocacy for disability rights in DENR's programs in building institutional collaborations with the PWD community like in environmental advocacy.

"The DENR believes people with disabilities have and should have all the same access to our communication tools as others," Cimatu said.

The DENR chief cited that the partnership is DENR's commitment to support broad-based and inclusive approaches to address climate-related threats and push for green recovery under the government's pandemic recovery plans.

The launch was highlighted by the presentation of DENR's IEC materials with sign language interpretations and braille translations, and the pledge of solidarity with the deaf and blind community represented by National Council on Disability Affairs Executive Director Emerito Rojas and Integrated Blind of the Philippines president Gerard Amosco.

SCIS Director Hiro V. Masuda said his push to create disability-inclusive activities such as the production of IEC video and print materials accessible to the deaf and blind "echoes DENR's putting policy into practice for persons who are most at risk of being left behind due to their vulnerabilities."

"Moving forward, we will institutionalize this undertaking by increasingly engaging them also in tree growing activities and other advocacy efforts. The launch of the IEC materials is just the first installment of a series of IEC materials that will be published in 2022," Masuda said, noting that all DENR-SCIS field offices will be tapped for the effort.



The materials, which are considered the first-of-its-kind in DENR's history, consist of 16 videos with sign language interpretations.

These include materials about the key projects of the DENR, namely Battle for Manila Bay, Manila Bay Accomplishment, Manila Bay Beach Nourishment, and Battle for the Rivers and Esteros.

The DENR also produced videos about the Boracay Island rehabilitation showing activities such as the 25+5 easement, Boracay Centurion, Operation Save Boracay, Old Boracay, and Cimatú's inspection of the island.

There are also videos about the Tourism Award, Zero Waste Month, Bird TV commercial (TVC), and Corals TVC.

The IEC printed materials translated into braille include, "Huwag Magtapon ng Basura sa Estero: Konting Abala, Laking Ginhawa," a call on proper disposal of waste to prevent clogging of esteros and avoid flooding; "Perwisyong Usok, Pigilan," a reminder on consistently maintain the engines of vehicles and use of clean fuels for clean air; and "Estero Mo, Estero Ko," on the status of esteros as a result of dumping of garbage and pollution from industries.

Others are "Adopt an Estero program" pursuant to the Supreme Court Continuing Mandamus Order to rehabilitate Manila Bay with tips on proper waste management practices such as waste segregation and reuse-recycling; "Right to Clean Air: Step Up, Act Now," a situationer on air pollution and its sources in urban areas particularly in Metro Manila; and "DENR's s Air quality monitoring efforts," a guide on doable interventions to improve air quality.

The Deaf Awareness Week is observed every year from November 10-16 under Presidential Proclamation No. 829. (DENR)



Provincial Government of Bulacan

10h · 🌐



16 Nobyembre 2021

Isinagawa ang Meycauayan and Calumpit River Inspection sa pangunguna ni DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu at Gobernador Daniel R. Fernando upang pag-aralan ang posibleng hakbangin tulad ng dredging at widening of rivers upang masolusyunan ang pagbaha sa mga naturang lugar.  
(Photos by John Louie De Leon)

#WeFightAsOne #WeHealAsOne #NagkakaisangBulacan  
#Mask #Hugas #Iwas #Bakuna

Daniel R. Fernando  
Bulacan Rescue  
Galing Bulacan TV Program

See Translation



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#EagleNews

### DENR Region 4A, nagtanim ng 200 punong kahoy sa Infanta Quezon

37 views • Nov 18, 2021

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Muling nagtanim ng 200 seedlings ng Malaruhat, Malaikmo, Batino, at Igang sa may 32 ektaryang proyekto sa National Greening Program site sa Brgy. Magsaysay, Infanta, Quezon.

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# Mining firm resumes drilling in Negros city

By [Eugene Y. Adiong](#)

November 19, 2021

**BACOLOD CITY:** Mayor Alfredo Marañon 3rd on Wednesday said drilling operations of the Tambuli Mining Company in hills in three barangay (villages) of Sagay City, Negros Occidental, will resume after an exploration permit was issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to the firm.

Marañon accompanied Tambuli officers in a meeting with Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson to discuss the project in the Nabigaa and Sherman hills in the villages of Lopez Jaena, Bato and Baviera. The mining firm is in search of gold and copper.

The exploration started in 2012, the mayor said.

Because of a change in management in 2017, however, the exploration project stopped in the same year.

Marañon recalled that in the late 1980s, there were small groups of local miners who discovered minerals, like copper and gold, in rivers.

The Tambuli Mining Company is the Philippine subsidiary of Celsius Resources, a mining and exploration development firm.

"The commencement of drilling at Sagay is another milestone in an effort to create wealth for both shareholders and the Philippine government, along with creating employment and business opportunities for the local communities, especially during this time of the Covid-19 pandemic," Celsius Chairman Martin Buckingham said in a statement issued by the company.

Celsius Resources said the drilling contractor has been appointed for seven diamond drill holes totaling about 4,400 meters, with landowners very supportive of the drilling program.



# Rizal solon urges LGU's to ensure that face shields are sent to recycling plants

Published November 18, 2021, 6:27 PM

by [Ben Rosario](#)

Following government's decision to lift the mandatory wearing of face shields, Rizal 2nd District Rep. Fidel Nograles urged local government units to initiate their respective campaigns to ensure the proper disposal of the COVID-19 protection.



Rizal Rep. Fidel Nograles

Nograles suggested that LGUS organize a plastic waste drive that guarantee that face shields disposed of are sent to recycling plants.

"We have a mounting waste problem that needs intervention both the local and national level. Kailangang maging organisado ang disposal ng mga face shield upang hindi na dumagdag pa sa problema (There is a need to ensure organized disposal gn face shields to ensure that these do not added to our problems). " Nograles said.

The government scrapped the face shield policy on Nov. 15 in areas under Alert Levels 1, 2, and 3. Local governments under Alert Level 4 have the discretion to continue or stop the use of face shields.

Meanwhile, the policy remains in place in hospitals, areas on granular lockdown, and those under the highest Alert Level 5.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources estimates that about 65 million face shields are being used daily in 21.8 million households nationwide.

Nograles urged the agency to take a more aggressive approach to the disposal of face shields.

"We have to provide avenues that the public can access—the onus of disposal, reusing, and recycling should not be placed solely on households," the lawmaker said.

Nograles suggested to LGUs to explore partnerships with firms that specialize in plastic recycling.

"We have local social enterprises like The Plastic Flamingo (Plaf), for example, which transform plastic waste into sustainable construction materials. This is a good point of convergence for the public and private sector," said the Harvard-trained lawyer.



The Plaf, a recycling service founded in 2019, aims to collect 500 metric tons of plastic waste by the end of 2021, and 2,000 tons by 2023, through its network of partnerships within and beyond Metro Manila.

At the barangay level, Nograles added, LGUs could also organize not only collection drives, but lectures on plastics recycling and reuse.





## Rep. Villar looks for ways to address plastic pollution

BYBMPLUS NOVEMBER 18, 2021



Deputy Speaker and Las Piñas Rep. Camille Villar (Photo from her official website)

The push for legislation seeking to address plastic pollution in the country is gaining ground as Deputy Speaker and Las Piñas Rep. Camille Villar filed a bill anew to shift to companies the responsibility of recycling.

Villar introduced House Bill No. 10498 or the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act of 2021 to improve the responsibility of producers in the design, collection, reuse, recycling, and disposal of their products and packaging which turn into wastes if not properly recycled or disposed of.

“This legislation institutionalizes the EPR mechanism as a practical approach on efficient waste management, waste reduction, and development of ecologically-friendly packaging products. EPR as a concept refers to the environmental policy, initiatives and practices in which companies and corporations are obliged to have the responsibility of proper and effective recovery treatment, recycling and disposal of their products after they have been sold and used by consumers aimed at improving the 3Rs of ecological management: reuse, reduce and recycle,” the lawmaker said in filing the measure.

According to the lone district representative, she wants the bill passed to address the damaging impacts of plastic wastes, which make up a significant share of the overall generated waste in the Philippines. The country produces about 2.7 million metric tons of plastic waste every year.

Under the bill, companies shall be mandated to exercise EPR over the plastic packaging waste used on their products that are sold and distributed within the Philippines, whether in traditional physical stores, distribution outlets or online platforms. They are also responsible for making financial contributions to support the collection, recovery, transportation, processing, recycling and disposal of plastic wastes.

Also, firms that have put in place EPR mechanisms are entitled to tax and duty exemption on imported capital equipment to be used for EPR purposes.

Other highlights of the bill include a dedicated corps of personnel in the National Ecology Center headed by a director to implement in practice and spirit of the EPR and assure compliance, inclusion of the private sector and civil society and non-government organizations in the decision-making body, and advancing awareness on EPR programs by private organizations and business entities.



A sunset provision has been included in the bill to review the policy and assess the impact it has created to the environment five years after the law is passed.

The bill, which is an updated version of HB 8691 earlier filed by the lawmaker last March, is a product of consultations with and studies by organizations to address plastic and solid waste management.



# WATCH: Quirino Avenue in Manila Is Now a "Graveyard of Old Trees"

Located near the Skyway 3 project.

by **Kristine D. Garcia**

A day ago



**Quirino Avenue on Wednesday morning, November 17**

PHOTO BY TWITTER/BART GUINGONA

**(SPOT.ph)** Just a few days after the endemic trees at [Arroceros Forest Park](#) in Ermita, Manila were found dead by members of the Save Arroceros Movement, another site in the Philippine capital is now described a "graveyard of old trees." A video that's been circulating online since 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17 shows tree stumps along the stretch of **Quirino Avenue**, particularly the segment from South Super Highway to Taft Avenue.

Check out the situation along Quirino Avenue Manila:



**Bart Guingona**  
@guingonabart



It's like a graveyard of old trees on Quirino Avenue, Manila. Tsk. As if this city weren't depressing enough.



Watch on Twitter

10:04 AM · Nov 17, 2021



7.4K 319 Share this Tweet

Tweet your reply



The area captured by the video is near the Quirino Interchange, which is part of the [Metro Manila Skyway Stage 3 Project](#). The elevated expressway starts from Balintawak in Quezon City and ends in Buendia in Makati City. The 18.83-kilometer project connects the North Luzon Expressway to the South Luzon Expressway. The island full of cut down trees in the short clip is not directly below the elevated skyway—at least, as of writing.



Quirino Avenue (captured on Google in January 2019)

PHOTO BY GOOGLE MAP



PHOTO BY GOOGLE MAP

During the International Forum on Air Pollution and Climate Change in Seoul, Manila Mayor [Isko Moreno](#) said that: "The city of Manila commits to achieve air quality that is safe for our population and will align our climate change and air pollution policies by 2030 to maximize the number of people breathing clean air."

The Philippine capital also received a [modernized real-time air monitoring system](#) from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in September 2020 through the Environmental Management Bureau - National Capital Region. This agency implements and enforces the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 across the country.

SPOT.ph has reached out to the mayor's office on November 17 for comments, but has yet to get a response.

*Video used with permission from Bart Guingona for SPOT.ph.*

Source: [https://www.spot.ph/newsfeatures/the-latest-news-features/88003/chopped-down-trees-found-along-quirino-avenue-manila-a4356-20211117?utm\\_source=Facebook-Spot&utm\\_medium=Ownshare&utm\\_campaign=20211117-fbnp-newsfeatures-chopped-down-trees-found-along-quirino-avenue-manila-a4356-20211117-fbfirst&fbclid=IwAR3sqjJ2Ps-2AftnPrE2ppSeb6jVku\\_KXhvD9kD2FBWDPtOdZ191A7\\_HnA](https://www.spot.ph/newsfeatures/the-latest-news-features/88003/chopped-down-trees-found-along-quirino-avenue-manila-a4356-20211117?utm_source=Facebook-Spot&utm_medium=Ownshare&utm_campaign=20211117-fbnp-newsfeatures-chopped-down-trees-found-along-quirino-avenue-manila-a4356-20211117-fbfirst&fbclid=IwAR3sqjJ2Ps-2AftnPrE2ppSeb6jVku_KXhvD9kD2FBWDPtOdZ191A7_HnA)



# Video bares 'graveyard' of chopped down trees along Quirino Avenue

By [Catalina Ricci S. Madarang](#) - November 18, 2021 - 6:46 PM



Screenshots of an area in Quirino Avenue where trees were cut down (Twitter/Bart Guingona)

(Updated: 7:38 p.m.) A video clip circulating online showed the worsened state of an area of Quirino Avenue that were once lined up with trees.

This video uploaded by artist Bart Guingona immediately triggered caught the attention of alarmed environmental advocates and other concerned Filipinos.

"It's like a graveyard of old trees on Quirino Avenue, Manila. Tsk. As if this city weren't depressing enough," Guingona wrote on November 17.



In the video, stumps of trees, dried leaves and a fallen trunk were found along the stretch of Quirino Avenue, near the Quirino Interchange.

The area is also near the Metro Manila Skyway Stage 3.



Google Maps Street View captured images of the thoroughfare back in January 2019.

Here are some snapshots that showed the island which divided both sides of the roads was filled with trees and some plants:



Screenshot of Quirino Avenue from Google Maps captured on 18 November 2021



Screenshot of Quirino Avenue from Google Maps captured on 18 November 2021

Guingona's video soon circulated around the micro-blogging platform.

Environmental advocates and other Filipinos lamented the loss of trees in the city of Manila. "It takes years or even decades before a tree matures. Sobrang nakakalungkot (Sad emoji)," one Twitter user [wrote](#).

"It takes YEARS to grow these trees tapos??" another online user [said](#).

"These trees are decades-old. It's so depressing to see their stumps knowing that the Skyway will never solve and has not solved our traffic problem. It serves only those who can afford it," an online user [said](#).

"Manila: A city of dirt, death, and decay," another Twitter user [commented](#).

One Twitter user also shared then-and-now photos of the Quirino Avenue to show the drastic change after trees get chopped down.



Another online user suggested that election debates should also include the question on what action will candidates take to resolve climate change.

“Please if ever may debate sa president and vice president, pwede bang isali sa topic yung about sa environment and action to take against climate change? This is so saddening,” the Twitter user [said](#).

This development came after a group of environmental advocates called the **Save Arroceros Movement** found most of the flora and fauna at the Arroceros Forest Park destroyed.

The movement then urged the **Manila City government** to stop its current redevelopment plans to prevent further destruction of Manila’s last lung.

“We are calling on the Manila LGU to STOP the Arroceros Urban Forest Park Redevelopment Project and come out with a REVISED design and construction approach that will minimize further destruction of the forest area and help to start restoration of the forest environment inside the park, in CONSULTATION with environmental partners and civil society,” they said.

Manila Mayor **Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso**, however, denied he cut down trees at the park.

He said the chopped trees were the ones damaged by storms or pose safety to park-goers.

“I did not cut a single tree, and I guarantee you that,” [he was quoted as saying](#).

The city chief executive also [reportedly invited](#) the movement to the Manila City Hall this coming Monday, November 22.

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/trends-spotlights/2021/11/18/204820/video-bares-graveyard-of-chopped-down-trees-along-quirino-avenue/>



# Food security and climate change

[DEMAND AND SUPPLY](#) - [Boo Chanco](#) - The Philippine Star November 19, 2021 | 12:00am

It has been said that future wars will be fought over water. Climate change and the inability of countries to share water resources will make this come sooner.

During a 2019 Mekong basin drought, the upper reaches in China received record rainfall, but dams kept nearly all of it from flowing downstream causing serious repercussions for agriculture in Vietnam and other countries in the region.

In Africa, Ethiopia is building dams at the source of the Nile River, causing a major concern in Egypt, which has been dependent on its flows for centuries. Things will only get worse as drought brought by climate change dries up water sources that are the lifeblood of nations.

Climate change has been in the news lately, but I am sure very few of us have given it much thought. The meeting in Glasgow emphasizes its importance, but it is essentially a talkfest.

Sure, we worry a bit when we hear rising sea levels making Manila another Venice. But it all seems so far into the future. Our time frame is short because we have been in survival mode for so long. Makaraos lang has been our national strategy.

Many of us find it hard to understand how a rise in world temperature by a few centigrades can cause so much havoc. But we are starting to feel changes in weather patterns that affect us badly. Typhoons have become more destructive. Longer dry seasons have curtailed our ability to grow enough food.

Just because our carbon footprint isn't much doesn't mean we should do nothing. At the very least, we have to take care of ourselves because like it or not, we are victims. We have to take measures to minimize the negative impact of climate change on our lives.

Other than being prepared to deal with typhoons, floods, and landslides or what we call disaster mitigation measures, climate change also means we have to assure our food security. Yet, our leaders have hardly talked about how they are future-proofing our agricultural sector.

The impact of climate change aside, we have as a nation neglected our farmers. Our farm productivity has always been low so that we import quite a bit of our food needs.

Our farmers have always been poor. When the current generation of farmers become too old to farm, we are likely to have a crisis of not having enough farmers to produce our food. Their children would rather be OFWs or test their luck in Metro Manila.

Approximately 10.9 million Filipinos were employed in the agricultural sector as of 2018, accounting for 26 percent of national employment and providing around 10 percent of our GDP. We have a fast growing population, more people to feed, making food security an ever present concern.

Modernization of our farm sector has not progressed much. It should have received a boost courtesy of the Rice Tariffication Law. But we haven't heard much about how the program went.

In the meantime, climate change has made traditional farming passed down from generation to generation obsolete. Uneconomical farm sizes, thanks to mindless agrarian reform, have added to the sector's woes.

Our food security is clearly vulnerable to climate change. Every year, we experience natural disasters like typhoons, floods, and droughts that cause significant losses in crops and livestock production.





But there is no significant government program responding with some urgency to the need to develop climate-smart technologies to help our farmers. Bahala na.

This failure is dangerous. Climate change disrupts food availability. If farmers are unable to grow our food in sufficient quantities, prices will rise for the consumer. We may also become dependent on other countries for our food needs, assuming they have surplus to spare because they too will feel the challenge of climate change.

Worse, our poor farmers will have little to eat themselves. And with the urban poor unable to cope with rising food prices, food riots cannot be discounted.

With the longer dry season in recent years, the scarcity of water available for irrigation brings down farm productivity. Because our major agricultural crops like rice, corn, sugarcane, etc are rain-fed, the lack of rain severely reduces crop yields.

The wet season is becoming shorter and marred by intense typhoons that damage crops, adding to the misery of our farmers. The cost impact of climate change has been estimated at about P145 billion annually through 2050.

Since all these destructive changes are happening globally, there will be reduced supply of crop and livestock commodities, resulting in higher world commodity prices. That, in turn, impacts on our entire economy.

It is important to develop agricultural adaptation and growth strategies not only to maintain domestic agricultural production, but also to support broader economic growth. Unfortunately, the little that we are doing will be further undermined by corruption.

As it is, Congress has not supported the budget needs of the agriculture department. Year after year the proposal is slashed. They asked for P284 billion, but only got P85.6 billion for this year.

“While the agriculture sector contributes about 10 percent to the country’s gross domestic product (GDP), it gets a measly share of total national appropriations, at three to five percent in the last 10 years,” Agriculture Secretary William Dar laments.

What we need to see in a new administration is a commitment to support agricultural adaptation to climate change. It will require an inter-agency program to come up with a response that will matter to farmers and our ability to produce our own food.

Then again, our leaders are more interested in politics, Charter change, federalism, and other such concerns and not so much with useful programs that will protect future generations of Filipinos from food scarcity. They only get interested in agriculture when they can profit from things like fertilizer scams.

Let us elect leaders who know how to make the right priorities or the future of our children and grandchildren will be bleak.

*Boo Chanco’s email address is [bchanco@gmail.com](mailto:bchanco@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter [@boochanco](https://twitter.com/boochanco)*



# US throws support behind treaty to curb plastic

Agence France-Presse  
November 18, 2021 | 5:00pm



A trash barrel with a painting of plastic trash in the ocean is displayed as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (R) attends an oceans plastics event at the United Nations Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, on November 18, 2021. Blinken is on a five day trip to Kenya, Nigeria, and Senegal.

Andrew Harnik / POOL / AFP

NAIROBI, Kenya -- The United States on Thursday threw its support behind negotiations on a treaty to curb plastic pollution, ending a key holdup in international efforts to clean up the planet's oceans and save marine life.

On a visit to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the United States would back talks in the Kenyan capital in February on a treaty to address plastic.

"Our goal is to create a tool that we can use to protect our oceans and all the life that they sustain from growing global harms of plastic pollution," Blinken said.

"As we know, our health -- our survival -- is bound up in the health of our oceans. We have to do more to protect them," he said.

About eight million tonnes of plastic end up in the oceans each year, killing or injuring one million birds and more than 100,000 marine mammals, according to UN figures.

Blinken's statement is the latest US effort to ramp up environmental protection under President Joe Biden, who has made the fight against climate change a key domestic priority.

Likely mindful of political realities in divided Washington, where treaties need ratification by the Senate, Blinken called for a plastic treaty in which countries would come up with their own plans of action.

The United States, however, has seen bipartisan calls to clean up oceans with former president Donald Trump signing an act aimed at curbing plastic pollution in the oceans.

But environmentalists say that the previous administration stymied international efforts by opposing a treaty and blaming the problem squarely on China -- a major source of plastic processing but of material often coming from the West.

In 2019, the United States did not join around 180 governments that agreed in Geneva to create a legally binding framework to regulate plastic waste.

The United States did not vote as it is not party to the Basel Convention, a UN treaty reached in 1989 that regulates the movement of hazardous waste.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/world/2021/11/18/2142215/us-throws-support-behind-treaty-curb-plastic>



## U.S. backs calls for plastic action

NAIROBI, Kenya (AFP) – The United States on Thursday threw its support behind negotiations on a treaty to curb plastic pollution, ending a key holdup in international efforts to clean up the planet’s oceans and save marine life.

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# \$500M climate change credit line approved

By **Angela Celis** -November 19, 2021

The World Bank has approved a new contingent credit line to help strengthen the country's institutional and financial capacity to manage risks from climate change, natural disasters and disease outbreaks.

In a statement, the Washington-based agency said the Fourth Disaster Risk Management Development Policy Loan with a Catastrophe-Deferred Drawdown Option (CAT-DDO4) provides \$500 million, or approximately P25.1 billion, funding that the Philippines can quickly tap to manage financial impacts brought about by disasters and disease outbreaks.

"This contingent funding mechanism protects the Philippines' fiscal health following natural disasters and disease outbreaks, helps develop sustainable risk financing mechanisms for local government units, and cushions poor and vulnerable households from the impact of disasters," Ndiamé Diop, World Bank country director for Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand, said.

"If not managed well, these shocks can exacerbate poverty through the loss of lives, destruction of assets, disruption of economic activities and trade, and indirect impacts on health, mobility, and access to education," he added.

The World Bank said the funds can be accessed upon the declaration of a State of Calamity by the Philippines due to an imminent or occurring natural catastrophe or a declaration of a State of Public Health Emergency.

The full amount of the loan is available for three years after effectiveness of this project.

"This gives the government access to immediate liquidity to better manage the cost of shocks and protect the Filipino population. The government can renew this line of protection with the World Bank for up to a total period of 15 years," the World Bank said.

"This new lending operation supports on-going government efforts to strengthen disaster response and recovery policies and planning. This includes mainstreaming the use of pre-approved Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Plans to speed up access to funding from the national government for post-disaster recovery," it added.

The multilateral agency said in the aftermath of disasters, skilled workers in areas like construction, welding, electrical installation and maintenance, pipe-laying, heavy equipment operation, and food production are crucial for reconstruction and rebuilding. Part of the program will support strengthening delivery of community-based technical and vocational training.

The CAT-DDO4 also supports government efforts to integrate climate risk management in the preparation of provincial commodity investment plans among local government units, which can lessen the extent of agricultural and fisheries damage resulting from natural hazards and extreme weather events.

According to Lesley Jeanne Cordero, World Bank senior disaster risk management specialist, the policy reforms supported by the CAT-DDO4 are especially critical with the implementation of the Supreme Court ruling on the Mandanas case and the coming devolution transition phase of functions identified in the 1991 Local Government Code.

"The reforms supported by the program enables local governments to take stock of climate actions, track and report climate change expenditures to inform investment planning and programming for risk resiliency," Cordero said.

Source: [https://malayaph.com/news\\_business/500m-climate-change-credit-line-approved/](https://malayaph.com/news_business/500m-climate-change-credit-line-approved/)



# Energy efficiency progress short of level to hit climate goals

November 18, 2021, 5:20 pm



**ISTANBUL** – Global progress on energy efficiency is well short of what is necessary to help put the world on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 despite a recovery this year to a pre-pandemic pace, the International Energy Agency's (IEA) report Energy Efficiency 2021 revealed Wednesday.

Reaching international climate goals to limit the global temperature increase by 1.5 degrees Celsius requires a rapid expansion of technologies and solutions that drive more efficient use of energy across the economy, according to the report that is urging governments to take the lead in mobilizing an increase in the required investments.

Government policies are expected to help energy efficiency investment rise by 10 percent this year to almost \$300 billion.

However, total annual investment in energy efficiency globally needs to triple by 2030 to be consistent with a path towards reaching net zero emissions by 2050, the IEA said.

The report found that approved energy efficiency spending by governments is regionally unbalanced, as the majority of the spending comes from advanced economies.

The IEA said governments elsewhere have considerable potential to use recovery packages to boost spending, which would add 4 million more energy efficiency jobs by 2030 and promote economic growth.

"We consider energy efficiency to be the 'first fuel' as it still represents the cleanest and, in most cases, the cheapest way to meet our energy needs. There is no plausible pathway to net-zero emissions without using our energy resources much more efficiently," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said. "A step change in energy efficiency will give us a fighting chance of staving off the worst effects of climate change while creating millions of decent jobs and driving down energy bills."

According to the report, the rate of improvement in global energy intensity, a key indicator of how efficiently the world's economic activity uses energy, is expected to recover in 2021 to 1.9 percent.

This follows the worst year in a decade in 2020 when the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic shifted the center of economic activity away from services and towards industry.

"This is in line with the average annual rate of improvement over the past 10 years but well below the 4 percent needed between 2020 and 2030 in the IEA's pathway to net zero emissions by 2050," the report said.



The agency found over the past five years that energy intensity has improved on average by 1.3 percent a year, down from 2.3 percent between 2011 and 2016.

It said that in addition to well-developed energy efficiency policies, such as appliance standards, digital technologies will play a significant role in energy efficiency's future as the rapid uptake of digitally connected devices is helping to expand the scale and scope of benefits from energy efficiency and can deliver a cheaper and easier clean energy transition. **(Anadolu)**



# COP26: Strategic defeat for West; plenty of blah, blah; Biden dozes off

By [Yen Makabenta](#) November 18, 2021

## First word

IT will take a while for UN Secretary-General António Guterres and the climate movement to acknowledge the shortcomings of COP26 in Glasgow, or recognize their own failure. The reviews coming from all fronts are scathing.

Climate skeptics feel vindicated. Climate alarmists are seething with disappointment. Some say the West has suffered a strategic defeat. Others believe Russia and China got away with their tactic of noncooperation. The developing countries are left holding nothing despite their demands for climate financing.

Still, it won't take long before the alarmists are pushing again their agenda of fomenting climate hysteria and radical climate policy.

I will highlight today some reports on the summit that explain how the UN's big expectations from COP26 were dashed, and how climate alarmism was set back a notch.

## Defeat for the West

Rupert Darwall, a senior fellow at Real Clear Foundation and author of Green Tyranny, delivered an assessment of COP26 in the Real Clear Energy website on Nov. 14, 2021. He wrote:

"The Glasgow climate conference represents a strategic defeat for the West, and for Britain in particular. Boris Johnson unleashed everything he could muster. The royal family hosted receptions for multibillionaires. The Foreign Office sent climate envoys around the world.

"Glasgow would show the world that Britain could outdo France's performance six years ago at the Paris climate conference.

"Wrong. Whereas the French knew what they were doing in Paris, the British were at sea in Glasgow. The result was a display of the rank amateurism of the British state.

"If Boris Johnson and his ministers had done their homework, they would have known they were on a road to nowhere. The 1997 Kyoto Protocol failed because it exempted the developing world from cutting its emissions. The West attempted to remedy this at the Copenhagen climate conference in 2009 with a climate treaty that would bring the major emerging economies under a multilateral regime of emission targets and timetables. The attempt was sunk by China, India, South Africa and Brazil acting in concert.

"The West accounts for a declining share of global emissions. 'This was the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal,' Barack Obama had boasted in 2008. Obama and the West were desperate for a climate agreement to justify increasingly punitive domestic climate policies.

"The Paris Agreement is the climate equivalent of Mikhail Gorbachev's Sinatra Doctrine, under which the captive nations of Eastern Europe could do it their way. It signaled that the Soviet Union had lost the Cold War. In similar fashion, the Paris Agreement signaled that the West had accepted its defeat and had given up its attempt to create a multilateral regime of emission cuts. Instead, the Paris Agreement is based on nationally determined contributions. Each party to the agreement would do it its way.



"After Copenhagen, small island states lobbied intensely to tighten the temperature target from 2 degrees above industrial levels to 1.5 degrees. Their islands, they claimed, were in danger of sinking beneath the waves. The West swallowed the sinking island sob story, which is how 1.5 degrees came to be included in the Paris Agreement as a subsidiary ambition to the 2-degree target. It was fake science, as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) later confirmed. 'Observations, models and other evidence indicate that unconstrained Pacific atolls have kept pace with [sea level rise], with little reduction in size or net gain in land,' the IPCC said in its net zero report.

"Because Paris included 1.5 degrees in its text, the IPCC brought forward the indicative timetable for net zero from the second half of the current century to 2050. In the waning days of her premiership in 2019, Theresa May decided to make net zero her legacy. It was incorporated as a binding target under the 2008 Climate Change Act after a 90-minute debate in the House of Commons, even though MPs had no idea how much it would cost or whether it was remotely feasible. But one thing is clear: whatever net zero costs Britain, it is pointless for Britain to decarbonize if the rest of the world doesn't follow suit. The regulatory-impact assessment accompanying the Climate Change Act signed by Ed Miliband as climate and energy secretary could not have been clearer: 'The UK continuing to act while the rest of the world does not, would result in a large net cost for the UK.' The benefits of UK climate action would be distributed around the world, but the UK would bear all the costs.

"The Climate Change Act was passed in the run-up to the Copenhagen climate conference, which was supposed to produce a binding climate treaty. 'Showing leadership through the Climate Change Act, the UK will help to drive a global deal,' Miliband asserted, showing that climate hubris is embraced by all Britain's political parties. Now, for a second time, a UN climate conference has produced a dud. The fantasy that Britain would lead and the rest of the world would follow has been exposed. After Glasgow, we now know that net zero is all pain for no gain."

### **COP26 limited to 'blah, blah, blah'**

One of the most recognized faces in the climate change movement, Sweden's Greta Thunberg, dismissed world leaders' promises at COP26 as "blah, blah, blah." She expressed displeasure over what she saw as a global pact ravaged by compromise emerging from the two-week summit.

Government negotiators from nearly 200 countries adopted a new deal on climate action after a last-minute intervention by India, and backing from China, to water down the language on cutting emissions from coal. India's growing energy needs still require the fossil fuel for now, it argued, and said it would not sign on without the change.

The final statement from the Conference of Parties calls on countries to "accelerate efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies." Earlier language pushed for all oil and gas subsidies to end, and called for a phaseout, not phase-down, of coal.

Of the three fossil fuels — coal, oil and natural gas — coal is the biggest polluter. It's responsible for about 20 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions.

Thunberg's high profile both before and during the Glasgow event are emblematic of rising interest among young people in climate change.

Thunberg said the climate deal reached by world leaders in Glasgow was "very vague" and left open the prospect of climbing global emissions and the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure.





"There is still no guarantee that we will reach the Paris Agreement. The text as it is now, as a document, you can be interpreted it in many different ways.

"We can still expand fossil fuel infrastructure, we can still increase the global emissions. It's very, very vague."

The Glasgow Pact, secured at the COP26 talks, committed countries to take more climate action.

Negotiators also sent a signal on the shift away from the world's dirtiest fuel, with the deal calling for efforts to accelerate the "phase down" of unabated coal, as well as the phasing out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.

It was the first time fossil fuels were mentioned in a COP deal; Thunberg told BBC this was a "crucial step."

The activist, who marched through the streets of Glasgow during the conference, added: "I think many people were surprised to learn we have had 26 COPs, and not once have we mentioned fossil fuels in the document up until now, then you start to wonder what have they been doing all this time."

### **Biden fell asleep**

The fate of COP26 was probably sealed when US President Joe Biden, who has repeatedly spoken of climate change as an existential threat, dozed off just minutes after the summit opened.

He woke up to deliver his remarks, and he dutifully sounded the bleak vocabulary of climate catastrophism. He said grimly: "We only have a brief window left before us to raise our ambitions and to raise — to meet the task that's rapidly narrowing. There's no more time to hang back or sit on the fence or argue among ourselves. This is the challenge of our collective lifetimes. The existential threat to human existence as we know it."

The harm was done, however. The alarmists have have been saying the same thing for more than half a century. Most people are exhausted now by all the dire predictions for the future of the planet.

If Joe Biden cannot bear to stay awake to hear the latest iteration of climate hysteria, why can't the world yawn at the nostrums of one more climate jamboree?

*yenobserver@gmail.com*

19 NOVEMBER 2021, FRIDAY



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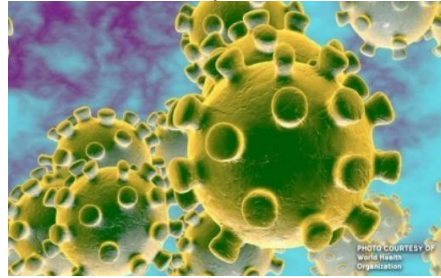
# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



# PH Covid-19 recoveries reach 97.5%

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor **November 18, 2021, 4:39 pm**



**MANILA** – The nation's total number of recovered coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases has reached 2,752,173 after 1,956 new recoveries were reported on Thursday.

In its latest case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) noted that recoveries account for 97.5 percent of the total case count that has reached 2,821,753 since the start of the pandemic last year.

Meanwhile, some 1,297 new infections brought the total number of active cases nationwide to 23,158.

About 58.5 percent of these active cases are mild, 4.1 percent are asymptomatic, 5.2 percent are critical, 12.2 percent are severe, and 12.96 percent are moderate.

A total of 305 new deaths were also reported and it pushed the death toll to 46,422.

"Of the 305 reported deaths, only 36 occurred in November 2021. 44 percent of the reported deaths today occurred in October 2021 while 35 percent occurred in September 2021 due to late encoding of death information," the DOH said.

It added this issue is currently being coordinated with the Epidemiology and Surveillance Units to ensure information is up to date.

According to DOH data on November 16, about 3.4 percent of 42,043 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

"About 38 duplicates were removed from the total case count, and of these, 36 are recoveries. Moreover, 278 cases that were previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation," it added.

All laboratories were operational on November 16 while four laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

The DOH noted the four non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 0.8 percent of samples tested, and 0.3 percent of positive individuals based on data in the last 14 days.

To date, 62 percent of 4,300 intensive care unit beds, 47 percent of 20,700 isolation beds, 47 percent of 14,900 ward beds, and 46 percent of 3,300 ventilators are utilized by patients with Covid-19 nationwide.

Meanwhile, 59 percent of 1,500 intensive care unit beds, 39 percent of 4,800 isolation beds, 43 percent of 4,200 ward beds, and 44 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use in the National Capital Region. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1160184>



# COVID-19 vaccines expected to get full authorization from PH FDA by 2022

Published November 18, 2021, 12:44 PM

by [Analou de Vera](#)



Food and Drug Administration

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said that some coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccines may be granted a full authorization by next year.

This was the prediction of FDA Director-General Rolando Enrique Domingo as several vaccine developers are expected to finish the clinical trials of their respective vaccines this year.

“I believe— my prediction is early next year, by the first quarter. Not only Pfizer, maybe several of the existing vaccines will get full approval for marketing authorization. I hope next year, it will be available in the private sector,” said Domingo in an interview over ABS-CBN News Channel on Thursday, Nov. 18.

Domingo said that his agency is “really eagerly awaiting” for vaccine developers to submit their data for full authorization.

“I believe that towards the end of this year, the clinical trials will end. They would have completed their clinical trials,” he said.

“Once they consolidate all of that data, most of these vaccines will probably start applying, not just in Philippine FDA but all FDAs all over the world,” he added.

All COVID-19 vaccines that are being used currently in the Philippines are under emergency use authorization (EUA). Under this set up, only the government can procure these vaccines. If a vaccine is granted a full authorization or a Certificate of Product Registration (CPR), then they can be sold commercially.

The vaccines that were granted EUA in the Philippines include Pfizer-BioNTech, AstraZeneca, Sinovac, Sputnik V, Janssen, Covaxin, Moderna, Sinopharm, and Covovax.

In the United States, its FDA granted full approval to Pfizer- BioNTech’s COVID-19 vaccine last August. The vaccine makers have yet to submit an application for full approval to the Philippine FDA, said Domingo.

“They (Pfizer-BioNTech) haven’t applied anywhere else other than the US at this time. We did ask them and they said they were completing all of their documents and requirements,” said the FDA chief.

“If they do apply here, it’s not going to take long. Kaya lang (However), they haven’t applied yet. It’s probably also because the company is not yet ready to supply... baka nagko-concentrate sila sa (maybe they are concentrating in) one market at this time,” he added.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/11/18/covid-19-vaccines-expected-to-get-full-authorization-from-ph-fda-by-2022/>



## NO VACCINE CARD, NO ENTRY SA PILIPINAS LUMALAWAK NA



November 18, 2021 @ 6:26 PM 12 hours ago

DATI-RATI, mga Bro, no 'face mask, no face shield, no entry' ang pinaiiral laban sa coronavirus disease-19.

Ngayon, palawak na nang palawak o dumarami na ang mga lugar na nagpapairal ng 'no vaccine card, no entry.'

Magkaibang-magkaiba ang mga patakarang ito at nababatay sa nagaganap na mga paraan laban sa pandemya.

### PAMBANSANG PATAKARAN

Unang nag-anunsyo ang Lapu-Lapu City noong Setyembre ng "no vaccination card, no entry" pero kinontra ito ng Palasyo sa katwirang hindi pa napapanahon.

Noong Oktubre, nag-anunsyo ang Masbate ng parehong patakaran subalit kinontra ng Department of Health.

Sumunod ang Surigao City noong katapusan ng Oktubre ngunit sinuspinde rin ito.

Pagdating ng Nobyembre 5, 2021, nang ibaba sa Alert Level 2 ang Metro Manila at ibang pang mga lugar, dito na nag-anunsyo si Palace Spokesperson Harry Roque na pinapayagan na ang 'no vaccination card, no entry.'

At pangunahing pinatungkulan ang lahat ng mga establisimyento na istriktong ipatupad ito para na rin sa kaligtasan ng mga mamamayan, sarili nilang negosyo at pagbangon ng pambansang ekonomiya.

### IFUGAO, MAGUINDANAO, RIZAL

Nitong Nobyembre 9, pinairal na ng Ifugao ang 'no vaccine card, no entry' at nitong

Nobyembre 16, sumunod na ang Maguindanao at ngayon, ang Rizal na man na kadikit ng Metro Manila.

Lumalabas na kahit anong antas ng Alert Level laban sa COVID-19 ang iiral, hindi na mapipigilan ang patakarang ito.

Maaaring magdeklara na rin nito ang iba pang nasa alert level 2 gaya ng Nueva Ecija, Bataan, Aurora, Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, Zambales, Olongapo at Angeles City sa Region 3; Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Quezon at Lucena City sa Region 4-A; Bacolod City, Iloilo City, Negros Occidental, Capiz, Antique, Aklan, Iloilo Province at Guimaras sa Region 6; Negros Oriental, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu City, Mandaue City, Cebu Province at Bohol in Region 7; Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Occidental, Lanao del Norte, Bukidnon, Camiguin, Misamis Oriental at Iligan City sa Region 10; at Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro, Davao Occidental, Davao City, Davao del Sur at Davao Oriental sa Region 11.



Lumalabas na kailangan na talagang magpabakuna ang mga mamamayan kung gusto nilang maging malaya na pumunta at pumasok sa kahit anong establisimyento para kumain, mamili, mamasyal at iba pa.

### **WALANG DAHILAN PARA 'DI MAGPABAKUNA**

Pasok nang pasok na ang mga bakuna bansa at inaasahang 54 milyon na ang mababakunahan sa Nobyembre 30.

Kaya nga makikita natin, marami nang munisipyo at lungsod ang naghahatid ng programang pagbabakuna kahit sa mga barangay.

Sa kabuuan, mga Bro, mayroon na tayong 125 milyong dose ng bakuna simula nang dumating ang Sinovac noong katapusan ng Pebrero 2021 at may darating pang 16 milyong dose bago matapos ang buwang ito.

May 70,677,771 na ang nabakunahan, kabilang na ang 31,868,120 na may doble bakuna.

Inaasahang aabot ang doble bakunado sa Disyembre 31 sa 70 milyon at doon na tayo magkakaroon ng herd o community immunity.

Kasama na rito ang mga batang 12-17 anyos.

Sa herd immunity, 70 milyon ang makaaasang kung kapitan man ng COVID-19, hindi sila maoospital sa severe at critical na kalagayan at hindi rin mamamatay.

Kung may maospital man nang seryoso at mamatay, bibihira ang bilang ng mga ito.

### **HUWAG MAGPAKAMPANTE**

Ngayon, mga Bro, kahit bakunado tayo, hindi nangangahulugan na tayo'y magpakampante at hindi na susunod sa mga health protocol gaya ng pagsusuot ng face mask, face shield sa mga lugar na may mataas ang alert level, social distancing, paghuhugas ng kamay, pag-iingat o pag-iwas sa mga sobrang matataong lugar, walang pasukan-labasan ng hangin na mga istruktura at iba pa.

Huwag ring kalilimutan na may tungkulin tayong kumilala sa mga napupuna nating may dala ng virus at pagtulong sa mga awtoridad na makilala ang mga ito at ilagay sa dapat na kalagayan para magamot o maihiwalay sa mga miyembro ng pamilya at komunidad o maitakbo kaya sa ospital

Kasi naman, malawak pa rin ang virus, lalo na kung bubuksan na ang turismo at papasok na ang mga dayuhan na maaaring may dalang virus.

Itong COVID-19 ay nanganak ng sobrang bagsik na Delta variant na halos siya na ang may gawa ng pagkakasakit sa buong mundo.

At ngayon may apo na ito na anak ng Delta variant na nakapasok na sa 42 bansa: ang AY.4.2 na delikado rin.



**#OneDENR**

**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**



# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 614

## NOBYEMBRE 18, 2021

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon, bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site: <https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 0.8%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
**23,158**

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 97.5%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
**2,752,173**

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.65%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
**46,422**

MGA BAGONG KASO **1,297**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **1,956**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **305**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,821,753**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING NOBYEMBRE 16

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 18  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG NOBYEMBRE 16

# 3.4%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 42,043

BILANG NG  
TINEST

HALOS  
**62.7%**  
ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**A**LAMIN  
ANG TAMANG  
IMPORMASYON

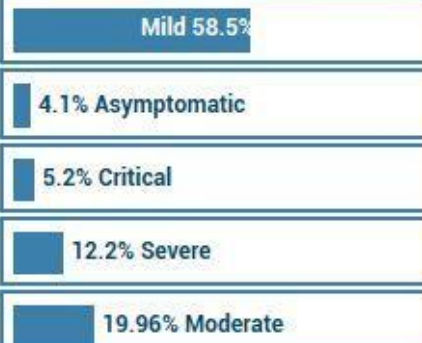
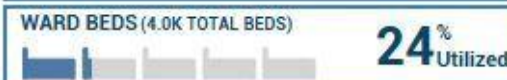
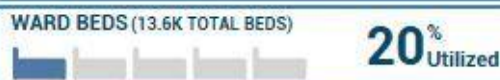
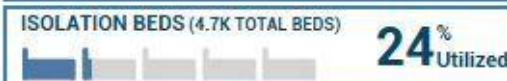
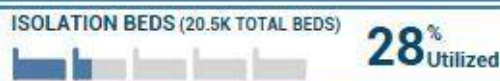
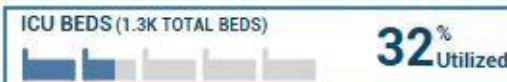
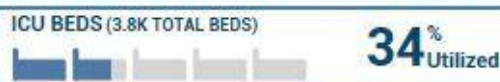
KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA  
AKTIBONG KASO



## UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Itatak sa ating puso at isip ang kahalagahan ng pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards** at pakikiisa sa pambansang pagbabakuna. Ang mga ito ang magliligtas sa atin laban sa COVID-19. Kasabay nito ang ating pagiging alisto sa mga sintomas. Sa oras na makaramdam ay agad makipag-ugnayan sa **BHERTS** o sa **One COVID Referral Center** na maabot sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**, para sa karampatang gabay.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, puntahan ang <http://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine> upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating **Telemedicine Service Providers**, at ang <http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines> para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod:

SMART: 0919 977 3333  
GLOBE: 0915 777 7777  
TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: [kontracovid.ph](https://kontracovid.ph)



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP

at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](https://staysafe.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

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


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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone  
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


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


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#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay

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MANILA BAY NOVEMBER 18,2021 GILID NG US EMBASSY INANGAT ANG MGA BATO! Miz July

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
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