

24 NOVEMBER 2021, WEDNESDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## Cimatu: Agarwood propagation allowed but 'highly regulated'

NOV 23, 2021, 4:57 PM

Santiago Celario  
Writer

***"The DENR is always in the middle of balancing things, from protecting and conserving threatened flora and fauna, making sure that the resources can still be used for our economic development, especially during this crisis, but utilization in a sustainable manner," DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu said.***

TO protect the country's flora and fauna, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said that while propagation of agarwood-producing species like *Aquilaria malaccensis* is allowed, it is however highly regulated and collecting its seeds directly in the wild is prohibited.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu issued the statement following the granting of Wildlife Culture Permit through the regional offices to certain companies for the propagation of agarwood using *Aquilaria malaccensis*.

*"The DENR is always in the middle of balancing things, from protecting and conserving threatened flora and fauna, making sure that the resources can still be used for our economic development, especially during this crisis, but utilization in a sustainable manner," Cimatu said.*

He added: "Before engaging in this highly regulated lucrative endeavor, interested individuals and private firms are advised to secure all the necessary permits from the DENR. We must ensure that the source of planting materials is legal and that the propagation of the species is in accordance with the existing rules and regulations."

DENR said Agarwood can be derived from the *Aquilaria* species, which are widely distributed in the Indomalaysia region.

Nine of the 21 known *Aquilaria* species are found in the Philippines, based on an international study titled, "The Origin and Domestication of *Aquilaria*, an Important Agarwood-Producing Genus."

Six species are endemic or found only in the Philippines, while the remaining three are native or indigenous.

Among the native or indigenous species is the *Aquilaria malaccensis*, which can also be found in other countries, such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand.



The *Aquilaria malaccensis*, locally known as "lapnisan," is a major source of agarwood — a resinous heartwood used for perfume and incense.

Meanwhile, DENR-BMB Director Datu Tungko Saikol said that gathering of seeds and seedlings, agarwood, and other derivatives of *Aquilaria malaccensis* in the wild for commercial or trade purposes is "not allowed yet pending the population assessment study of the species in the Philippines."



# Collection of agarwood-producing species illegal unless permitted – DENR

Published November 23, 2021, 2:02 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

Collecting seeds of agarwood-producing species, such as of *Aquilaria malaccensis*, from the wild is prohibited by the law, unless granted permit by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu made the pronouncement Tuesday, Nov. 23, after several DENR regional offices granted Wildlife Culture Permits to some companies for the propagation of agarwood using *Aquilaria malaccensis*.

*Aquilaria malaccensis*, locally known as “lapanisan,” is a major source of agarwood—a resinous heartwood used for perfume and incense.

“The DENR is always in the middle of balancing things, from protecting and conserving threatened flora and fauna, making sure that the resources can still be used for our economic development, especially during this crisis, but utilization in a sustainable manner,” Cimatu said in a statement.

The secretary also said individuals or private firms interested to engage in such “a highly regulated lucrative endeavor” must secure all the necessary permits from the DENR.

“We must ensure that the source of planting materials is legal and that the propagation of this species is in accordance with the existing rules and regulations,” he said.

Agarwood can be derived from the *Aquilaria* species, which are widely distributed in the eco-zone of the Indomalaysia region.

Nine of the 21 known *Aquilaria* species are found in the Philippines, according to an international study entitled “The Origin and Domestication of *Aquilaria*, an Important Agarwood-Producing Genus.” Six of them are endemic or can only be found in the Philippines, while the remaining three are native or indigenous.

Among the native or indigenous species is the *Aquilaria malaccensis*, which can also be found in other countries, such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand.

DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau Director Datu Tungko Saikol explained that gathering of seeds and seedlings, agarwood and other derivatives of *Aquilaria malaccensis* from the wild for commercial or trade purposes is “not allowed yet pending the population assessment study of the species in the Philippines.”

“Those who are interested to propagate this species of agarwood may apply for a Wildlife Culture Permit from the concerned DENR Regional Office where the farm or plantation site is located. The seedlings should be sourced legally as well,” Saikol said.



“While we allow the importation of the *Aquilaria malaccensis* seeds through the issuance of CITES or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species Import Permit by BMB, applying for a CITES Import Permit for seeds of exotic *Aquilaria* species such as *Aquilaria crassna* for use in the establishment of plantation in the country is a more tedious process as it requires prior clearance from the DENR Secretary upon recommendation from the Wildlife Management Committee,” he added.

Saikol also said that a Local Transport Permit is necessary “for the transportation of legally acquired seeds, seedlings, agarwood and other agarwood by-products and derivatives.”



## Permits needed for agarwood propagation — DENR

November 23, 2021 | 10:49 pm



BOC

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reiterated on Tuesday that individuals or companies must first secure permits from the agency before collecting seeds from agarwood-producing species for propagation.

“Before engaging in this highly regulated lucrative endeavor, interested individuals and private firms are advised to secure all the necessary permits from the DENR,” Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said in a news release.

Beginning this month, the DENR has given the green light for the commercial propagation of agarwood, one of the most expensive trees in the world and is in the endangered list.

It is used for making perfume, incense, and small carvings.

Mr. Cimatu said permits are needed as the department must first ensure the legality of the source of planting materials “and that the propagation of this species is in accordance with the existing rules and regulations.”

The DENR said agarwood can be derived from the Aquilaria plant family, which is native in Southeast Asia.

Of the 21 known species of Aquilaria, nine are found in the Philippines and of the nine, six are endemic.

Meanwhile, DENR’s Biodiversity Management Bureau Director Datu Tungko Saikol clarified that the collection of seeds, seedlings, and agarwood from the Aquilaria plants in the wild for commercial and trade purposes are still prohibited but is subject to an assessment study.

Mr. Saikol added that a Local Transport Permit is also necessary to move “legally acquired seeds, seedlings, agarwood, and other agarwood by-products and derivatives.”

The issuance of the said permits will hopefully “contribute in the protection and conservation of Aquilaria in the wild and will at the same time provide economic benefits for Filipinos, and eventually, economic development for our country,” Mr. Saikol said. — **Bianca Angelica D. Añago**

Source: [https://www.bworldonline.com/permits-needed-for-agarwood-propagation-denr/?fbclid=IwAR3cEf0ZGyesigAG\\_CwGAaa\\_UzRIPxpJdqhxEAxNImLmEoEfR1G3KJ-fMcU](https://www.bworldonline.com/permits-needed-for-agarwood-propagation-denr/?fbclid=IwAR3cEf0ZGyesigAG_CwGAaa_UzRIPxpJdqhxEAxNImLmEoEfR1G3KJ-fMcU)



## DENR: Pagtatanim ng agarwood pinapayagan ngunit may mahigpit na regulasyon



November 23, 2021 @ 7:41 PM 12 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tiniyak ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na ang pagtatanim ng agarwood species tulad ng *Aquilaria malaccensis* ay pinapayagan ngunit may ipinatutupad naman na mahigpit na regulasyon kagaya ng pagbabawal sa pagkuha ng buto nito direkta sa kagubatan.

Sa press release ang pahayag na ito ay inilabas ni DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu matapos na payagan ang pagbibigay ng Wildlife Culture Permit sa pamamagitan ng DENR regional offices sa ilang kumpanya sa pagtatanim ng agarwood gamit ang *Aquilaria malaccensis*.

“The DENR is always in the middle of balancing things, from protecting and conserving threatened flora and fauna, making sure that the resources can still be used for our economic development, especially during this crisis, but utilization in a sustainable manner,” saad ni Cimatu.

Dagdag pa nito: “Before engaging in this highly regulated lucrative endeavor, interested individuals and private firms are advised to secure all the necessary permits from the DENR. We must ensure that the source of planting materials is legal and that the propagation of this species is in accordance with the existing rules and regulations.”

Ang agarwood ay nakukuha sa *Aquilaria* species na dinadala sa Indomalesia region.

Siyam sa 21 *Aquilaria* species ay matatagpuan sa Pilipinas base na rin sa international study na may pamagat na “The Origin and Domestication of *Aquilaria*, an Important Agarwood-Producing Genus.”

Ayon sa DENR anim sa mga ito ay matatawag na endemic o matatagpuan lamang sa Pilipinas habang ang tatlo pang iba ay tinaguriang native o indigenous.

Kabilang sa native o indigenous species ay ang *Aquilaria malaccensis* na matatagpuan din sa mga bansang Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore at Thailand.

Ang *Aquilaria malaccensis* na mas kilala sa tawag na “lalnisan” ay ang pangunahing pinagkukunan ng agarwood na sinasabing resinous heartwood na ginagamit sa pabango at insenso.



Kaugnay nito samantala, sinabi naman ni DENR-BMB Director Datu Tungko Saikol na ang pagkuha ng buto at seedlings, agarwood at iba pang bagay na nanggaling sa *Aquilaria malaccensis* sa kagubatan para sa “commercial at trade purposes” ay “not allowed yet pending the population assessment study of the species in the Philippines.”

Dagdag pa dito, ang Local Transport Permit ay kinakailangan “for the transportation of legally acquired seeds, seedlings, agarwood, and other agarwood by-products and derivatives.” Santi Celario





## DENR: Support drive vs illegal wildlife trade

[Rhodina Villanueva](#) - The Philippine Star November 24, 2021 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — A Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) official appealed to the public on Monday to support the government's campaign against the illegal wildlife trade, which reportedly costs the Philippines P50 billion every year.

Datu Tungko Saikol, Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) director, said the COVID pandemic "proved that public health could be adversely affected by zoonotic diseases emerging from contact with wildlife or infectious diseases transmitted from animals to humans."

He issued the warning during the DENR-BMB's National Wildlife Law Enforcement Summit held online recently.

Saikol noted that in 2020, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's World Wildlife Crime Report indicated that zoonotic diseases represent up to 75 percent of all emerging infectious diseases.

He also said that conserving and protecting Philippine biodiversity "creates jobs, supports local businesses and tourism, and increases local tax revenue. It is common-sense economics."

The DENR said the P50 billion lost to the illegal trade covers the market value of wildlife, poaching-related damage to habitats and loss of ecotourism revenue.



# 1K bamboo shoots planted near river

By [Franz R. Sumangil](#) November 24, 2021

MORE than 1,000 bamboo shoots were planted along the banks of Pangsi River in the village of La Union, Maitum town, Sarangani province on Saturday.

The shoots were provided by the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro).

More than one hundred individuals took part in the bamboo planting activity, which was part of Cenro's celebration of the National Environment Awareness and National Clean Air Month.

According to Kiamba Cenro officer Forester Abdul Cariaga, the planting of bamboo shoots was just one of the many initiatives of Cenro to help rehabilitate the Pangsi River.

Cariaga stated that the current generation faced the difficult task of improving the river's water quality from Class B to Class A. He added that in order to achieve the goal, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources needed the cooperation of the public and the local government units.

Cenro is also scheduled to hold a tree-planting activity and cleanup drive later this month.



# Almost 4-meter python found near Bohol town hall entrance

ABS-CBN News Posted at Nov 23 2021 09:53 PM



*Photo courtesy of Jono Jumamoy*

A 3.9-meter-long python was caught near the entrance of the municipal town hall of Inabanga, Bohol on Tuesday morning.

Inabanga councilor Jono Jumamoy said some utility workers found the snake, identified as a reticulated python, near the sewers of the entrance leading up to the municipal town hall.

“We turned it over to the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) based in Talibon, Bohol for proper action,” said Jumamoy.

Authorities are investigating how the python was able to reach near the town hall entrance.

The town of Inabanga has rice fields and is dependent on a river that spans several kilometers.

Multiple encounters with snakes in the country have been reported this year.

— Report from Annie Perez



# Asean told: Address climate change

By [Kristina Maralit](#) November 24, 2021



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivers his remarks during the virtual plenary session of the ASEAN-China Special Summit at the Arcadia Active Lifestyle Center in Matina, Davao City on November 22, 2021. The President, in his remarks, recognized China as ASEAN's comprehensive strategic partner. Nevertheless, he raised the South China Sea issue, saying that it has become a strategic challenge that cannot be solved by force. RICHARD MADELO/PRESIDENTIAL PHOTO

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte renewed his call to neighboring countries to take swift action to address climate change "anchored on the principles of justice and fairness" during his recent intervention at the just concluded China-Asean Special Summit.

Pointing to the 26th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), the President underscored that developing coastal states such as the Philippines "contribute the least to global warming," [but] they "bear the brunt of the adverse effects of climate change."

"The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties or COP26 has just wrapped up. We hope that urgent climate action anchored on the principles of justice and fairness will follow suit," Duterte said during his intervention.

"Our peoples depend on the oceans and seas for livelihood. Let us protect and preserve the biodiversity and the marine environment through sustained cooperation. This includes support for the work of the Asean Center for Biodiversity hosted by the Philippines," he added.

This was not the first time the President called for a unified action to address climate change.

At the 76th United Nations General Assembly last September, Duterte urged "rich nations" to "deliver on their financial pledges to address the impacts of climate change in developing countries."

According to him, it is a "moral obligation that cannot be avoided" by powerhouse countries and that they should follow up on their promise to extend climate financing.

He cited the cost to transition to a green economy is too high for developing countries to afford technology transfer and capacity-building in the developing world.

Prior to COP26 last October, Duterte noted that the Philippines is one of the more than 40 countries at COP26 that have committed to shift away from the use of coal, tagged as the world's dirtiest fossil fuel.

At the 16th East Asia Summit joined by the United States and Japan during the 38th and 39th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) Summits and Related Summits, also held last month, the President called for "climate justice" for the country.



The Philippines, he said, is "battered by extreme weather events like typhoons that are increasing in frequency and intensity" that affect livelihoods, claim lives and destroy infrastructure.

"We adapt. We try to build back better, only to be hit by another big disaster," he added.



# PH to share best practices vs. climate change with Asean

November 23, 2021, 2:37 pm



Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III (*file photo*)

**MANILA** – Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said Tuesday the Philippines will share the inroads it has made in translating theories on addressing climate change into actionable projects on the ground with other countries, especially its fellow members in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), to help accelerate adaptation and mitigation efforts to avert catastrophic global heating.

Dominguez said Asean countries, like the Philippines, are highly vulnerable to the adverse effects of global warming, “must vigorously escalate” their respective mitigation and adaptation initiatives and “immediately move to concrete steps to save the planet.”

With the Philippines sinking at a rate four times faster than the global average and confronted with increasingly more severe typhoons and other extreme weather events, Dominguez said the country wants to set a clear example of how a highly vulnerable country can move ahead with its climate action ambition.

“We are most open to sharing expertise, best practices, and technologies with the rest of the region. We hope our initiatives could be replicated and scaled by other countries,” he said during the 3rd Climate Smart and Disaster-Resilient Asean (CSDRA).

“The Philippines will do all these with a great sense of urgency. We see global warming as an existential threat to our archipelago. We will respond to the challenge with everything we have,” added Dominguez, who is also chairperson-designate of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) and head of the Philippine delegation in the recent 26th United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) held in Glasgow, Scotland.

The two-day CSDRA virtual conference aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers, scholars, government agencies, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders to share their experiences and research results on aspects of climate change and disaster risks in Southeast Asia.

As a new entrant to the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), the Philippines at No. 23 has outperformed its peers in the Asia-Pacific Region in terms of climate protection performance.

The CCPI tracks the performance of 63 countries and the European Union (EU) on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, renewable energy (RE) use, and climate policy.



At the CSDRA forum, Dominguez shared some of the initiatives that the Philippines is currently undertaking to move ahead with its climate ambition, which include the launching of its Sustainable Finance Roadmap to provide a masterplan that will create a synergy between public and private investments in greening the financial system, and the planned issuance of its first-ever sovereign green bonds.

Dominguez said the country is ahead in the use of climate finance, with Philippine companies having issued USD4.8 billion worth of Asean-labelled Green, Social and Sustainability (GSS) bonds since 2019.

This figure is equivalent to 29 percent of the current total Asean-labelled GSS Bond issuances, the highest in the Asean region.

Dominguez said the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Indonesia and the Philippines have also launched a partnership for the trailblazing Energy Transition Mechanism (ETM) that will hasten the retirement of coal plants in the country and the shift to clean and renewable energy sources using an equitable, scalable, and market-based approach.

The ETM project aims to bring together financial resources from multilateral banks, private institutional investors, philanthropic contributions and long-term investors to trigger the Philippines' decisive shift towards de-carbonization, he said.

"This is a model of cooperation that may be replicated elsewhere in the world where multilateral finance institutions, governments, and the private sector are aligned in their climate resiliency goals," he added.

On Dominguez's initiative, the CCC has put together a group of national technical experts who represent all corners of the Philippines to advise the Commission and engage fishers and farmers in local communities to prepare them to adapt and mitigate the impacts of global warming.

To show to the world how the Philippines is acting with urgency, Dominguez said it has committed to reduce its GHG emissions by 75 percent in 2030 --one of the most ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) put forward by any country-- even though it is one of the lowest GHG emitters at only 0.3 percent of the world's total. **(PR)**



# PH urged to take 'urgent, concrete steps' to fulfill COP26 pledges

John Gabriel Agcaoili, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Nov 23 2021 08:07 PM | Updated as of Nov 23 2021 08:13 PM



Members of various environmental groups participate in a Global Climate Strike protest in front of a Standard Chartered Bank office in Makati on March 19, 2021. *Jam Sta. Rosa, AFP/File*

MANILA — A conservation group on Tuesday urged the Philippine government to take "urgent, concrete" steps to fulfill its commitments and pledges made at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) summit in Glasgow that ended more than a week ago.

The World Wide Fund for Nature Philippines, in a statement, said that COP26 may have ended "on a disappointing note" for falling short of what experts believe is needed to contain dangerous temperature rises, but the Philippines is "moving in the right direction."

The country was among more than 40 countries at COP26 that committed to shift away from the world's dirtiest fossil fuel as part of efforts to put the "end of coal in sight."

"What is essential to watch for now are the concrete steps Philippine government officials will take," said Angela Ibay, head of WWF-Philippines Climate and Energy.

The WWF called on Filipino officials to take the following steps to fulfill the country's commitments in COP26:

- Accelerate clean and just energy transition through more renewable energy sources and energy efficiency use
- Undertake enhanced implementation of the Philippine Nationally Determined Contribution and ensure the national budget supports climate actions
- Implement executive measures and policies that integrate sustainability in systems that provide basic needs
- Strictly enforce actions to stop nature loss, scale-up restoration, and integrate the value of nature in national plans
- Use effective leadership to get LGUs, private sector, and all stakeholders to apply solutions towards climate resilience, environmental protection, and sustainable development

"Most Filipinos are already suffering from the climate crisis, but that doesn't mean the situation is hopeless. This is the fight for our survival and for the planet. And we need to win. Whatever it takes," Ibay said.





## 'HALF-BAKED PLEDGE'

Climate groups Greenpeace Philippines and Aksyon Klima Pilipinas earlier slammed Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi, who signed on behalf of the Philippines, for only endorsing two clauses of the COP26 to phase out coal power, specifically rapidly scaling up deployment of clean power generation; and making a just transition away from coal power in a way that benefits workers and communities.

Cusi did not sign the two other goals, which are phasing out coal power in economies in the 2030s for major economies and 2040s for the rest of the world; and ending all investment in new coal power generation domestically and internationally.

WWF called on the Philippines to address global warming to "make it clear now what direction the country is heading to protect nature and people from the worst effects of climate change."

"With the elections and a change of administration coming next year, our leaders should not put off addressing the climate crisis for later anymore," Ibay said.

President Rodrigo Duterte, who is stepping down in 2022 after his six-year term, has urged major economies to help developing countries like the Philippines to address the consequences of climate change.

During the virtual 2021 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory Council Dialogue with Economic Leaders, he said emergent nations need to pull all stops in fighting global warming, such as climate finance, technology transfer and development, and capacity-building.

He also urged rich countries to fulfill their pledges to climate efforts.

Source: [https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/11/23/21/ph-urged-to-take-urgent-concrete-steps-in-cop26-pledges?fbclid=IwAR0QZMj\\_shGTVCeSSg26i7noUUpNUwjPNrpxagAW1EDePRSqsRtjclxp6YU](https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/11/23/21/ph-urged-to-take-urgent-concrete-steps-in-cop26-pledges?fbclid=IwAR0QZMj_shGTVCeSSg26i7noUUpNUwjPNrpxagAW1EDePRSqsRtjclxp6YU)



# Pamilyang 'dungon' o Asian small-clawed otter, nakita sa Palawan

Nobyembre 23, 2021 8:57pm GMT+08:00 SINULAT NI: JAMIL SANTOS

Lingid sa kaalaman ng marami, mayroong isang uri ng otter o dungon na makikita sa Palawan. At sa unang pagkakataon, naidukumento ito habang sila ay nasa wild ng programang "Born To Be Wild"--at may bonus pang squirrel.

Sa 14 taon ng programa, hindi pa nito nakukuhanan ng video ang mga mailap na Asian small-clawed otter o dungon, habang sila ay nasa natural nilang tirahan o sa "wild."

Ayon kay Dr. Ferds Recio, isa sa mga host ng "BTBW," sa Pilipinas ay tanging sa Palawan lamang makikita ang mga dungon.

Ang residenteng si Domingo Palatino ng San Pedro sa Puerto Princesa City, masuwerteng natiyempuhan na makunan ng video ang isang pamilya ng dungon na sinasabing naninirahan malapit sa kaniyang fishpond.

Nang mabalitaan ito ng "BTBW," kaagad na naghanda ang team upang lumipad sa Palawan sa pag-asang maidudukumento nila sa unang pagkakataon ang mailap na mga hayop.

Dahil sa gabi madalas na lumabas ang mga dungon, nag-setup si Doc Ferds ng CCTV at camera trap para makunan ang mga ito.

Ilan sa palatandaan ng kanilang presensiya ay ang bakas ng kanilang paa sa putikan at ang kanilang dumi.

Sa kuha ng CCTV, naging mailap ang mga dungon na magpakita sa camera. Pero nahagip ang ibang hayop na tila may minamatyagan sa kanilang paligid.

"This is so many years in the making. Ang hirap kasi talagang makita ng dungon. These are very smart animals, very elusive and very sensitive sa kanilang environment," sabi ni Doc Ferds.

"In fact they're known as barometers of the environment. Doon lang sila tumitira sa lugar na may malinis na tubig," dagdag pa ni Dr. Ferds.

Pero kung bigo ang kuha ng CCTV, tagumpay naman ang camera trap dahil nahuli-cam ang mga dungon ng "BTBW" sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon.

Tunghayan sa video ang nakuhanan ng camera at ang paglalaro ng Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel, na nahuli-cam din sa wild. Panoorin.

--FRJ,GMA News

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/balitambayan/talakayan/811988/pamilyang-dungon-o-asian-small-clawed-otter-nakita-sa-palawan/story/?fbclid=IwAR2MVgoMe64H8Syi8kZ5-BsVz5hYTyYMghJNI3qlydiou31geDveIY15gwM>



## EDITORIAL - Ibinasurang face shields dagdag sa plastic pollution

(Pilipino Star Ngayon) - November 24, 2021 - 12:00am



Hindi na sapilitan ang pagsusuot ng face shield. Kung sino na lang ang may gusto. Ito ay makaraang ipag-utos ng Malacañang noong nakaraang linggo na hindi required mag-face shield sa pampublikong lugar ang mga tao maliban na lamang kung papasok sa mga ospital o clinic. Maski sa mga mall, puwede nang pumasok nang walang face shield. Pati sa mga pampublikong sasakyan gaya ng jeep, bihira na ang mga pasaherong naka-face shield.

Marami ang natuwa sa pag-aalis ng face shield. Para sa iba ay wala namang naitutulong ang face shield para mahadlangan ang virus. Wala naman daw katibayan na nakaka-prevent ito sa pagkalat ng virus. Kinakapitan pa nga raw ng virus ang plastic nito at maaaring mahawakan ng taong may suot nito. Pero sabi ng Department of Health (DOH), malaking tulong ang face shield dahil pangunang proteksiyon ito sa virus. Kung may face shield, hindi mahahawakan ang mukha, hindi makukusot ang mata at hindi makakalikot ang ilong.

Pero mas marami ang naniniwalang sagabal ang face shield. Isang araw makaraang gawing boluntaryo ang pagsusuot ng face shield, marami na agad ang nakitang nakakalat o ibinasurang face shield. Sa kalsada, may mga face shield na nasasagasaan ng sasakyan. Mayroon na ring face shield na inanud-anod sa estero at kanal.

Marami agad ang nagbasura na hindi muna sana. Huwag magmadali sa pagbabasura sa face shields. Puwede raw munang itago ang mga ito ayon sa ilang environmental groups. Hindi naman daw ito masisira kahit abutin ng ilang taon. Mas safe raw na itago kaysa ibasura dahil makakaapekto sa kapaligiran. Dadagdag ito sa mga dati nang basurang plastic na hindi natutunaw at nakabara sa mga daluyan ng tubig.

Ang iba ginagawang hollow block ang mga ginamit na face shield. Gaya sa isang barangay sa Quezon City ang ginagawang bricks o hollow blocks ang mga lumang face shield. Dudurugin nang pino ang plastic ng face shield at ihahalo sa kaunting semento at kaunting buhangin. Hahaluin at ilalagay sa hulmahan at patutuyuin. Mayroon nang bricks.

Huwag munang ibasura ang face shields. Itago na lang muna. Mas malaking perswisyo kapag nahantong ang mga ito sa estero, sapa, ilog at dagat. Masisira ang kapaligiran at lulubha ang plastic pollution.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/opinyon/2021/11/24/2143401/editorial-ibinasurang-face-shields-dagdag-sa-plastic-pollution/amp/>



# 'Climate warming forecasts uncertain'

By [Agence France-Presse](#) November 24, 2021

**PARIS:** United Nations projections of how much current climate policies and national pledges to cut carbon pollution will slow global warming are more uncertain than widely assumed, researchers reported on Monday (Tuesday in Manila).

Leading into this month's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) summit, the United Nations said existing policies would see Earth's average surface temperature rise a "catastrophic" 2.7 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by 2100.

Renewed pledges from large emitters, such as India, would have a negligible effect on warming this century, the United Nations said during COP26 and were still worlds away from the Paris Agreement temperature goal of 1.5 C of warming.

But the apparent precision of these estimates is misleading, according to a new study, written by several contributors to the UN reports it calls into question.

"The false precision to climate outcomes given during COP26 may lead countries to believe they are making good progress, when the opposite may be true," said first author Ida Sognnaes, a senior scientist at the Cicero climate research center in Oslo.

At issue is the standard method used to connect the dots between a set of climate policies and the end-of-century temperature increases they might lead to.

Most climate projections are based on models that start with the desired temperature outcome — a cap on global warming of 1.5 C or 2 C, for example — and then work backwards to see what policy levers need to be pulled in order to get there.

In this "backcasting" approach, experts adjust variables, such as coal use, renewables and afforestation, to hit the end-of-century target.

"Our study is a 'forecast,'" said Cicero's director of research Glen Peters. "We model out where existing policies take us and then see where we end up."

Seven different climate modelling groups used this technique to assess how voluntary pledges under the Paris treaty running to 2030 — known as nationally determined contributions — would play out by 2100.

Their estimates, published in *Nature Climate Change*, ranged from 2.2 C to 2.9 C, roughly in line with "New policy is based on where we are actually heading, not where we may have been heading if there was no action taken," Peters said. h the UN figures.

What stood out, however, was the lack of certainty.

"If you take the low end of that range, it may sound like we are really close to meeting the Paris goals," Peters told *Agence France-Presse*.

"But it is equally likely that the outcome could be up around 3 C, in which case much stronger policies would be needed."

Peters compared the new study's methods to those used to measure the impact of Covid policies such as mask wearing, social distancing or vaccination.



Since the outbreak of the pandemic in early 2020, Covid modelling has been updated every few months based on how policy is seen to be affecting the spread of the virus.

"New policy is based on where we are actually heading, not where we may have been heading if there was no action taken," Peters said.



# COP26 and the end of coal: Asean needs a plan

By [Han Phoumin](#) November 23, 2021



After extending the COP26 climate negotiations an extra day, nearly 200 countries meeting in Glasgow, Scotland adopt an outcome document that, according to the UN secretary-general, 'reflects the interests, the contradictions and the state of political will in the world today.' UN NEWS PHOTO

AMONG the immediate results of COP26 in Glasgow is a strong commitment by at least 23 nations to phase out coal power. Most importantly, three countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations — Indonesia, Vietnam and Singapore — are among countries that joined this pledge. Historically, coal use in Asean is viewed as strategically important due to its competitive cost and available supply within the region.

Thus, transitioning away from coal is challenging for leaders to contemplate. However, the strong consensus at COP26 to dramatically decrease dependence on fossil fuels provides momentum for a more rapid energy transition in the region. Furthermore, world leaders announced a consensus to "phase down unabated coal" use, and countries have set ambitious targets to reduce emissions to limit the temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees of temperature rise above the preindustrial level.

At COP26, despite some contradictions on the timeline for net zero emissions and other climate policies, they set forth a path to achieve the climate goals including phasing out coal, ending fossil fuel subsidies, putting a price on carbon, protecting vulnerable communities, and delivering the \$100 billion climate finance commitment. If all these can be translated into real policy actions, it will have enormous impact on trade and employment opportunities.

Countries and regions that move quickly are positioned to benefit from favorable policies and incentives. As the saying goes, 'the early bird catches the worm.' Asean should strive to be an "early bird."

## End of coal financing

Until now, Asian economies have benefited from the growth of coal-fired power plants due to financing from China, South Korea and Japan. However, surprisingly, these three developed countries of northeast Asia have turned away from coal and recently announced plans to end overseas coal financing. In addition, major banks and financial institutions also made landmark commitments at COP26 to stop funding coal around the world. COP26 partners, including Italy, Canada, the United States and Denmark, have also signed a UK-led joint statement committing to ending international public support for the unabated fossil fuel energy sector' by the end of 2022 and instead prioritizing support for the clean energy transition (UNFCCC, press release, Nov. 4, 2021).



It is very likely that the outcome of COP26 will influence national policies across the globe towards becoming low carbon societies to limit global warming to below 2 C. For example, Europe's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on imported products will likely to be imposed on all products entering the region, including from Asia. This means that all future imports of products and services to Europe will be assessed by the life cycle assessment (LCA) method to evaluate their carbon impact. If the CBAM is implemented strictly, it will have huge implications for the future export of products and services produced in Asean countries where carbon intensity is still relatively high.

What will happen after COP26 in terms of policy changes? Also what does the energy transition towards net zero emissions mean for Asean? And how can the region handle the sudden elimination of coal financing from China, South Korea and Japan?

Undoubtedly, the race to net zero emission has begun, posing an extreme challenge for many countries that have high dependency on fossil fuels, especially for many developing countries around the world and Asean in particular. In the region of Asean and East Asia, Japan and South Korea have joined the pledge for net zero emissions by 2050, while China aims to achieve net zero emissions by 2060. Singapore has also announced ambitious plans for net zero emissions beyond 2050, and Thailand pledged for net zero emissions by 2065. Although many countries in Asean have yet to set any specific emissions targets, most are working hard to redesign their policies towards more sustainable cleaner energy systems.

The COP26 outcomes therefore pose a risk for Asean countries with high carbon intensity. These countries should envisage policy changes to offset the risk, including assessment of unintended consequences. One of the chief issues will be the impact on energy affordability. Will Asean leaders dare to guarantee energy affordability if fossil fuels and coal are reduced drastically? Will alternative energy be affordable? Who will finance the energy transition as many clean technologies remain expensive or technologies that are expected to abate emissions are yet to be commercialized or developed?

There is doubt that countries that are able to decarbonize not only help protect the environment, but also enhance opportunities for future economic growth as many policies will offer incentives to do so. However, it is important to understand changes in carbon competitiveness relative to countries or regions that may compete in the export market. This knowledge will be the starting point for considering necessary actions to strengthen the economic competitiveness of the Asean region even in the low-carbonized world of the future.

### **Carbon-offset mechanisms**

Decarbonization will require policies for renewable energy, the deployment of clean energy such as hydrogen along with other carbon-offset mechanisms such as energy efficiency and carbon credits, and the deployment of carbon sink technology such CCUS. We know that Asean is rich in solar PV resources and hydropower. However only a few countries have offshore wind and geothermal resources. If the Asean electricity market gradually shifts to an integrated electricity market, hydropower resources from the Mekong subregion could function as the baseload power and complement solar and wind energy. In the absence of thermal power plants, the region needs to develop sufficient electrical battery storage as a backup during shortages of sunshine and wind power.

In providing the roadmap for decarbonization in the Asean region, ERIA research has found that the marginal CO2 abatement cost exceeds \$900 per tonne of CO2 in net zero emission target by 2050, implying big economic challenges for carbon neutrality in this region.



Thus, ensuring success for energy transition, Asean needs to be bold and carefully craft the energy policy road map that can ensure growth, sustainability, accessibility and affordability. Rich countries should deliver on their COP 26 commitment for \$100 billion a year to support the energy transition in less developed countries. And Asean countries should put those funds to work.

*Han Phoumin is a senior energy economist at the Economic Research Institute for Asean and East Asia (ERIA).*





## Climate warming forecasts may be too rosy: study

posted November 23, 2021 at 08:30 am

by [AFP and Marlowe Hood](#)

UN projections of how much current climate policies and national pledges to cut carbon pollution will slow global warming are more uncertain than widely assumed, researchers reported Monday.

Leading into this month's COP26 summit, the UN said existing policies would see Earth's average surface temperature rise a "catastrophic" 2.7 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels by 2100.

Renewed pledges from large emitters such as India would have a negligible effect on warming this century, the UN said during COP26, and were still worlds away from the Paris Agreement temperature goal of 1.5C of warming.

But the apparent precision of these estimates is misleading, according to a new study, written by several contributors to the UN reports it calls into question.

"The false precision to climate outcomes given during COP26 may lead countries to believe they are making good progress, when the opposite may be true," said first author Ida Sognaes, a senior scientist at the CICERO climate research centre in Oslo.

At issue is the standard method used to connect the dots between a set of climate policies and the end-of-century temperature increases they might lead to.

Most climate projections are based on models that start with the desired temperature outcome—a cap on global warming of 1.5C or 2C, for example—and then work backwards to see what policy levers need to be pulled in order to get there.

In this "backcasting" approach, experts adjust variables such as coal use, renewables, and afforestation to hit the end-of-century target.

"Our study is a 'forecast'," said CICERO's director of research Glen Peters. "We model out where existing policies take us and then see where we end up."

Seven different climate modelling groups used this technique to assess how voluntary pledges under the Paris treaty running to 2030 -- known as nationally determined contributions -- would play out by 2100.

### Unrealistic scenarios

Their estimates, published in Nature Climate Change, ranged from 2.2C to 2.9C, roughly in line with the UN figures.

What stood out, however, was the lack of certainty.

"If you take the low end of that range, it may sound like we are really close to meeting the Paris goals," Peters told AFP.

"But it is equally likely that the outcome could be up around 3C, in which case much stronger policies would be needed."

Peters compared the new study's methods to those used to measure the impact of Covid policies such as mask-wearing, social distancing, or vaccination.



Since the outbreak of the pandemic in early 2020, Covid modelling has been updated every few months based on how policy is seen to be affecting the spread of the virus.

"New policy is based on where we are actually heading, not where we may have been heading if there was no action taken," Peters said.

Most studies on global warming impacts contrast a worst-case scenario of unabated carbon emissions, on the one hand, with aggressively optimistic pathways to a 1.5C world on the other. The reality, however, is somewhere in between these extremes and is likely to stay there for decades.

"We are filling a gap in the literature, and putting our money where our mouth is," Peters explained.

24 NOVEMBER 2021, WEDNESDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



# PH ‘slowly but surely’ beating COVID-19 – Duterte

By: [Daphne Galvez](#) - Reporter / [@DYGalvezINQ](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 12:21 AM November 24, 2021



President Rodrigo Duterte. (File photo from an RTVM video)

MANILA, Philippines — “We are slowly but surely making progress in our COVID-19 campaign,” President Rodrigo Duterte said in his weekly taped public address that aired late Tuesday night.

“I am very pleased to inform the entire nation that we continue to beat COVID-19, recent statistics affirm this,” he added.

Duterte noted how the country’s positivity rate dropped from 3.4% recorded on Nov. 18 to 2.3% on Nov. 23.

He also pointed out that Metro Manila’s weekly positivity rate was at 2% from Nov. 11 to 17 — the lowest, he said, since the region started testing for the disease.

He also cited reports of the Department of Health (DOH) on the “continuous decline” of active COVID-19 cases in the country, which is down to less than 19,000 on Nov. 23. The number of new COVID-19 cases also decreased on Tuesday as compared to those recorded on Nov. 18.

Despite the progress, Duterte urged the public not to let its guard down.

“Thanks to the mercy of God that the cases went down. But we should still follow health protocols being implemented by government if we really want to make headway,” he said, speaking in a mix of Filipino and English.

“You have to supplement God’s mercy by complying with to protocols set by the government — because God will be looking at the compliance to protocols set by the government. He might withdraw his mercy and we will be in a pitiable situation,” he added.

The DOH earlier warned that active COVID-19 cases nationwide might rise up to 27,000 by the end of the year if the government would allow an increase in the people’s mobility, compounded by their complacency in following the minimum public health standards.

ATM

24 NOVEMBER 2021, WEDNESDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **VLOGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvr0q1xkNAE>

MANILA BAY

Manila Bay Update NOVEMBER 23, 2021

5,287 views • Nov 23, 2021

167 3 SHARE SAVE ...



KUYA BOK Vlogs  
123K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBay #ManilaBayUpdate #CR #SAVEMANILABAY #battleForManilaBay #WhiteSand  
#Whitebeach #DENR #tatakDuterte



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfBvWMaTdco>

MANILA

MALA-FIRST CLASS HOTEL PUBLIC RESTROOM MANILA BAY UPDATE

3,546 views • Nov 23, 2021

157 0 SHARE SAVE ...



RONSTV VLOG  
96.6K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

MALA-FIRST CLASS HOTEL PUBLIC RESTROOM #manilabay #dolomitesand #manilabayupdate  
#dolomite







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dmBM58UUnE>

#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay

PUBLIC RESTROOMS NI TATAY DIGONG KAGANDA! PARTIDA KURAP PA DAW YAN!

5,466 views • Nov 23, 2021

 439  10  SHARE  SAVE ...



engr. berto

189K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach

#BattleForManilaBay

SHOW MORE





**Please click this link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9AGvsddc4k>

MANILA  
LIVE DOLOMITE SAND MANILA BAY 11-23-2021 RONSTV VLOG  
2,760 views • Streamed live 22 hours ago

113 2 SHARE SAVE ...

**RONSTV VLOG**  
96.6K subscribers

**SUBSCRIBE**

LIVE TODAY DOLOMITE SAND MANILA BAY UPDATE 11-23-2021 RONSTV VLOG  
[#manilabayupdate](#) [#dolomitesand](#)



**Please click this link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvRQnEb8tmI>

MANILA BAYWALK  
MANILA BAY NOVEMBER 23,2021,WOW GRAY SAND! Miz July  
2,584 views • Streamed live on Nov 23, 2021

195 2 SHARE SAVE ...

Miz July  
65.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE



**Please click this link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhT7rnN1Uv0>

MANILA BAY SUNSET

1,252 views • Streamed live 15 hours ago

85 0 SHARE SAVE ...



engr. berto  
189K subscribers

**SUBSCRIBE**