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Manila Bay-Ani Awardees

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



Former **Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)** Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna (right) joins the recipients of the Manila Bay-ani Award during the recognition ceremony held on June 14, 2022 in Manila. Sampulna thanked all the awardees including the river rangers and volunteers for all their hard work and perseverance in rehabilitating Manila Bay. Among the awardees are (from left to right): Atty. Antonio Oposa, Jr., former DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, Senator Cynthia Villar, Palawan 3rd District Representative Edward S. Hagedorn, and National Irrigation Administration Senior Deputy Administrator and former **DENR** Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda.

Source: <https://journal.com.ph/manila-bay-ani-awardees/>



Sampulna Extols Heroes of Manila Bay Rehab

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



Former **Department of Environment and Natural Resources** Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna expresses gratitude to the [heroes of the Manila Bay rehabilitation](#) who have given invaluable support to the [DENR](#) in what seemed to be an “impossible dream” to clean up the historic bay. A total of 22 individuals, government agencies, organizations, and private entities from the Manila Bay Region – National Capital Region (NCR), Regions 3 and 4A – were recognized as “Manila Bay-ani” on June 14, 2022 in the City of Manila.



Boracay Rehab Prime Movers

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



The [Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force](#) (BIATF) chaired by former Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna (3rd from right) ceremonially culminates its management of the Boracay Rehabilitation with present and past prime movers in a simple ceremony on June 16, 2022 in Balabag Wetland Park, Boracay Island. The BIATF will end its term on June 30, 2022 after it was extended twice by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Present in the culminating activity are (from left to right) Boracay Inter Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group General Manager Martin Despi, Department of Public Works and Highways Undersecretary Roberto Bernardo, Department of Justice Assistant Secretary Margaret V. Castillo-Padilla, Department of Tourism Undersecretary Christopher Morales, DENR Undersecretary Ernesto D. Adobo, Jr., Department of the Interior and Local Government Undersecretary Epimaco V. Densing, III, former [DENR](#) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, and DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau OIC Director Natividad Y. Bernardino.



DENR SOCCSKSARGEN Bags First Place in Virtual Category of DENR Talent Contest

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



The **Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) SOCCSKSARGEN** (Region 12) entry in the [Pasiklaban talent contest](#) featuring a festive cultural dance number accompanied by energetic drum beats is shown during the 35th anniversary celebration of the agency on June 10, 2022 at the DENR Multi-purpose Building. The lively performance earned for the region the first place in the virtual category of the competition. The 2nd and 3rd prize winners were Region 3 and Region 1, respectively. Former DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna praised the winners for coming up with energetic performances despite the challenges of a virtual presentation. The contest is the highlight of the [DENR](#) anniversary.



DENR Region 1 Wins Pasiklaban Face-To-Face Category

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



Performers from the **Department of Environment and Natural Resources** in Region 1 celebrate on stage after winning first prize in the face-to-face category of the Pasiklaban talent contest held in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the [DENR](#) on June 10, 2022. The team wowed the audience with their intricate costumes, energized dance routine and emotion-provoking environmental message. Second prize went to the DENR Central Office and third prize to the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority or NAMRIA. Former DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna applauded the contest for showcasing the talents of [DENR](#) personnel from all its regional offices nationwide, bureaus and attached agencies.

Source: <https://journal.com.ph/denr-region-1-wins-pasiklaban-face-to-face-category/>



DENR confident on BBM vs climate change



By [Eireene Jairee Gomez](#)

June 25, 2022

THE [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) is confident that the administration of President-elect [Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.](#) will sustain government efforts toward a more climate-resilient [Philippines](#) and take a more prominent presence in the global climate stage.

In a statement, Environment acting Secretary [Jim Sampulna](#) said that the Philippines, being one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, will take a more prominent presence in the global climate stage under the incoming Marcos administration.

He said that the next administration is fortunate enough that President [Rodrigo Duterte](#) jumpstarted the country's climate momentum.

To sustain the work toward a more climate-resilient Philippines, Sampulna urged the incoming administration to build on the achievements of the outgoing Duterte administration.

The DENR chief noted that the interest shown by Marcos on climate change gives a foresight as to how his administration would carry on the gains of the Duterte government on strengthening the country's position on sustainable and renewable energy.

"The development and promotion of renewable energy sources and energy efficient technologies must be high in the development agenda, not only to address the problem of high power costs, but as one way the country could move forward to address climate change and global warming," Sampulna said.

"President-elect Marcos' optimism is best articulated in the disclosure of Ambassador [Ibrahim](#) who, after his visit, told reporters that the incoming chief executive would work hard in response to his invitation to attend the 2022 [United Nations Climate Change Conference](#), which will be held in Egypt in November," he added.

Sampulna noted that the Philippines has been a leading voice in the global community on climate justice for access and technical support for initiatives of developing countries, especially those at most risk to climate change.

"President Duterte leaves a better, cleaner, more sustainable Philippines. I see a more profoundly improved Philippines in the next six years," Sampulna said.

In 2021, the [Department of Finance](#) (DoF) reported that climate-related hazards cost P506.1 billion in economic losses over the last decade.

During the COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland in 2021, Finance Secretary [Carlos Dominguez 3rd](#), as head of the Philippine delegation, called on developed countries to set aside funds to help developing countries, like the Philippines, shift to clean energy.

Furthermore, the DoF established the Sustainable Climate Finance Roadmap, which serves as the country's blueprint to address policy and regulatory gaps in promoting sustainable investments



DENR confident on BBM vs climate change

through finance, and facilitate investments in public infrastructure and development projects that promote sustainable financing in the Philippines.

In 2020, the Department of Energy imposed a moratorium on new coal power plants, as it would no longer accept new endorsement applications for the construction of greenfield coal power plants, which refer to power facilities that are yet to be constructed.

Continuing on the pathway the Duterte administration has taken, a low carbon, sustainable and climate-disaster resilient development is not far off, as the DENR pushes for the implementation of the country's commitment to the Paris Agreement to reduce and avoid greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent, and work toward a water resilient and secure Philippines.

The move forms part of the Duterte administration's agenda to propel the country's strides toward a resilient and green economic recovery marked with a sustainable power system that would accommodate the entry of new, cleaner and indigenous power sources.



Dolomite Beach permanente nang bubuksan sa publiko - DENR

[Angie dela Cruz](#) - Pilipino Star Ngayon
June 25, 2022 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Permanente nang bubuksan sa publiko ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach.

Ayon sa DENR, mananatiling bukas ang Dolomite Beach kahit matapos na ang termino ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa June 30.

Muling binuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach noong June 12 kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng ika-124 na anibersaryo ng Independence Day kung saan dumalo si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Bukas ang Dolomite Beach mula alas-6 ng umaga hanggang alas-6 ng gabi.

Sarado naman ito tuwing araw ng Huwebes para sa paglilinis at pagsasaayos.

Pinapayagan ang may 1,500 hanggang 3,500 na bisita na makapasok sa Dolomite Beach.



Dolomite beach permanente nang binuksan ng DENR sa publiko



June 24, 2022 @ 5:45 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Inanunsyo ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) nitong Biyernes na permanente na nitong binuksan ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach mula Hunyo 12.

Subalit inihayag ng public information office (PIO) ng DENR na sasaraduhan ang lugar sa publiko tuwing Huwebes para sa paglilinis at maintenance.

“It was permanently opened to the public on June 12, during its inauguration. It will be, however, closed to the public on Thursdays for maintenance work.,” ayon sa DENR-PIO.

Sinabi ng DENR na bukas ang Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach para sa pamamasyal at pagkuha ng larawan mula alas-6 ng umaga hanggang alas-6 ng hapon. Tatanggap ng 1,500 hanggang 3,500 indibidwal sa lugar.

“After this eventful yet arduous journey that started on January 27, 2019, we have kept our bearing unbroken and soldiered on to make into a reality what doubters thought to be not achievable,” sabi ni DENR Acting Secretary Jim Sampulna.

“The journey has been a story of swift rebounds from the coronavirus pandemic and resurgent optimism as the country welcomes the leadership of President-elect Ferdinand E. Marcos Jr.,” dagdag niya.



Dolomite beach permanente nang binuksan ng DENR sa publiko

Iginiit din ni Sampulna na ang end goal umano at gawing “swimmable” ang Manila Bay.

Inihayag naman ni Interior Secretary Eduardo Año ang kumpiyansa na ang rehabilitation program “faces a bright future” sa ilalim ng bagong liderato ng DENR at Manila local executives sa pamumuno ni Mayor-elect Honey Lacuna-Pangan. **RNT/SA**



Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach Permanently Open to Visitors

by  [Village Connect](#) about 13 hours ago



Despite the challenges and limitations brought about by the pandemic, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has finally reopened the Manila Bay Dolomite Beach on June 12, in conjunction with the 124th observance of the Philippine Independence Day.

The reopening of the 500-meter beach along Roxas Boulevard in Manila City was led by former DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampilna, former DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año.

"After this eventful yet arduous journey that started on January 27, 2019, we have kept our bearing unbroken and soldiered on to make into a reality what doubters thought to be not achievable. The journey has been a story of swift rebounds from the coronavirus pandemic and resurgent optimism as the country welcomes the leadership of President-elect Ferdinand E. Marcos Jr.," Sampilna said.

He expressed optimism that the rehabilitation of Manila Bay would continue even after the administration of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

"This stretch of the Manila Bay is now a far cry from the stench and garbage-filled shore associated with it," Sampilna noted, as he pointed to the dolomite beach marker that was carved out from a dolomite boulder measuring 8-10 feet long and 5-7 feet high.

Seen at the beach entrance is the boulder's front elevation with the "Battle for Manila Bay" photo marker, while at the rear elevation is the "Dolomite Beach Project" marker showing before-and-after photos of the beach.



Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach Permanently Open to Visitors

"Now the breeze is refreshing, the bay is much cleaner, and we have this beach, helping restore the bay and its shoreline to its historic glory," Sampulna said.

He pointed out that the successful rehabilitation programs for Manila Bay and Boracay Island resulted from the political will of the Duterte administration to push for its environmental agenda.

Referring to his predecessor, Sampulna addressed Cimatu as the "mastermind" behind the Manila Bay and Boracay rehabilitation programs.

He assured the 300 visitors during the reopening event that the end goal is to make Manila Bay swimmable soon.

"For now, we can only visit the Manila Bay Dolomite Beach. To make it swimmable is an enormous challenge to Secretary Sampulna or whoever will be the next secretary," Cimatu said.

"Eventually, this will be swimmable. That's what is lacking, we can't say that we have completely accomplished the bay's rehabilitation, as what the Supreme Court has said, 'make this swimmable,'" said Cimatu.

Año also expressed confidence that the Manila Bay rehabilitation program "faces a bright future" under the new leadership, including that of the Manila local executives headed by Mayor-elect Honey Lacuna-Pangan.

The Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach is open for strolling and picture-taking from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

It can accommodate 1,500 to 3,500 individuals at a time, except on Thursdays when it will be closed for cleaning and maintenance work.



Boracay's restored wetland transferred to DENR, LGU



[BYRODERICK ABAD](#)

JUNE 24, 2022

TIMELY to the celebration of Environment Month this June, the Aboitiz Group has turned over the rehabilitated Wetland No. 4 to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as part of its commitment to preserve and protect biodiversity and surroundings on Boracay Island.

Now known as the Balabag Wetland Park, the one-hectare lagoon area in Barangay Balabag has been transformed into a linear urban park.

“The Aboitiz Group’s contribution to Boracay’s rehabilitation is part of our commitment to co-create safe, empowered, and sustainable communities. As sustainability is a major part of our Great Transformation into the Philippines’ first techglomerate, we will continue to do our part to uplift and bring focus to environmentally and socially impactful initiatives for all our stakeholders,” said Sabin M. Aboitiz, president and CEO of Aboitiz Group.

This initiative has been made possible in partnership with key national government agencies led by the DENR Region 6, the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), Department of Public Works and Highways, Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority, and the Department of Tourism.

According to Aboitiz, the group hopes that the park “continues to promote education for the community on the protection, conservation, enhancement, and rehabilitation of Boracay’s natural ecosystems.”

For DENR Acting Secretary Jim Sampulna, it is a proof of another “successful wetland rehabilitation” in the world-renowned island popular for its white sand beach.

“My heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Aboitiz Equity Ventures for being our partner in the rehabilitation and transformation of Wetland No. 4 into an urban linear park, which now serves as the center of the wetland ecotourism circuit of Boracay,” he said.

“May the Balabag Wetland Park serve as a success story as we capitalize on nature-based solutions such as wetland conservation and rehabilitation in our localities for a greener, more sustainable, and resilient approach to building back better,” Sampulna added.

BMB Officer-in-Charge Director Natividad Y. Bernardino lauded the partnership under their “Adopt-A-Wetland” program. She said: “From being a ‘waste receptacle,’ Wetland No. 4 has now been transformed into a lagoon with a linear park, attracting tourists and locals right in the middle of Boracay’s commercial area.”

Wetland No. 4 underwent rehabilitation in 2018 and since then the Aboitiz Group has aimed to conceptualize and deploy nature-based solutions to create a functional public space out of the wetland area.

With its low-impact designs, the Balabag Wetland Park has become a recreational spot. This ecotourism also has transformed as an educational and experiential space that promotes awareness



Boracay's restored wetland transferred to DENR, LGU

on the importance of wetlands and creating opportunities for collaboration and partnerships among the local community, students, and even tourists.

Throughout its rehabilitation, several improvements have been noted in the wetland area, one of which is the return of endemic species of plants and wild migratory birds, installation of aerators that maintain the water quality of the lagoon, and the planting of endemic trees and plants along the lagoon's perimeter boardwalk that rebuild its biodiversity.

Also constructed in the Balabag Wetland Park is a plaza that serves as both a flood management measure and an attraction site for tourists and locals alike. What's more, it hosts an activity area for community events and educational signages have been placed around the park to add to the experience.

The Aboitiz Group hopes that through the partnership project, it has been able to contribute to the government's mission of imparting the value of environmental protection and the continued preservation of Philippine wetlands to the greater community.



Mobile game, mascot to promote proper waste management in Bicol

By Connie Calipay June 24, 2022, 5:59 pm



(Photo courtesy of Joan Mariscotes)

LEGAZPI CITY – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Bicol (DENR-5) on Friday cited the importance of new technology as it launched its new mascot and mobile game application in promoting awareness on solid waste management.

In an interview, Joan Mariscotes, DENR-5 communication development officer, said 70 barangays officials and representatives of 25 participating schools here were invited to the event held at the Pepperland Hotel

She said with the launching of the "Pinas: Basura Buster (PBB) Mascot" and "Basura Buster" mobile game app, they are hoping to increase awareness and encourage the participation of stakeholders.

"In this campaign, we, in DENR, with the help of local government units (LGUs), want to improve the solid waste management at the grassroots by providing awareness, education drives, and additional information on the importance of the support of the public to have a clean environment," Francisco Milla, Jr., DENR-5 regional executive director, said in his message during the event.

Milla said "Pinas, the Basura Buster" mascot holds a plastic bottle gun with suction power to symbolize picking up of trash.

"You will appreciate how a mascot can win the hearts of the community and at the same time help us with our advocacy for a cleaner and greener Bicol region," he noted.



Mobile game, mascot to promote proper waste management in Bicol

Meanwhile, Milla said the Basura Buster App is a drag-and-drop game where players will segregate the garbage.

"Green trash for biodegradable waste, black for residual, blue for recyclable, yellow for household health care waste and red for hazardous waste. This is an exciting and novel way to instill awareness and create a better understanding of solid waste management," he added. **(PNA)**

DENR-MGB 2 to conduct Karst Subsidence Mapping in Diffun

Published on: June 24, 2022

By Thelma Bicarme



CABARROGUIS, Quirino (PIA) - - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) will conduct a Karst Subsidence Mapping in the whole town of Diffun next month to be able to identify the sinkhole areas and the areas affected by such hazard.



During the interview with Chief Geologist Felicitas Villaflores Piligan of DENR-MGB Region 2.



DENR-MGB 2 to conduct Karst Subsidence Mapping in Diffun

According to MGB Chief Geologist Felicitas Villaflores Piligan, there is an urgent need to conduct a survey following the recent findings of the group of MGB geologists of the presence of sinkholes in some residential areas of Purok 3, Barangay Rizal.

It can be recalled that the MGB conducted an initial assessment of the recent drowning incident in an alleged sinkhole involving two residents of the area.

Piligan said they targeted one area or local government unit but considering the urgency of the situation, they decided to transfer their assessment activity in Diffun.

“Actually, there are several areas of the province that have such hazard and we had already conducted assessments as we are working on targets. If we see some emergencies, we have to act on it immediately,” Piligan said, adding that they have to prioritize the populated areas.

The chief geologist said the results of the assessments according to Piligan can be utilized by the local government unit as additional technical inputs for the LGU to attain sustainable development through comprehensive land-use, development, and disaster risk management planning.

Piligan explained that sinkholes develop through time especially if there are heavy rainfalls and the rocks covering the surface soil are limestones which can be easily eroded, or worn away, by the movement of water.

“As the limestone is carried away by the water, the ground above them becomes unstable, small fractures will be developed, will become bigger and will eventually collapse,” Piligan further said.

She further said that the presence of sinkholes in an area pose some risks among the residents as these will suddenly collapse without any warning and it will also cause water contamination especially if there are septic tanks near the sinkholes.

Piligan has advised the residents to always seek the help of the MGB if they see indications of the presence of sinkholes in their areas.

“If you notice some holes in your areas, do not take the risk to enter because these might be sinkholes. We have to be observant and vigilant.

The chief geologist said that their initial assessment aimed not to scare but to raise awareness among the residents saying that if the people are well-informed about the risks and hazards in their environment, they can prepare for them. (MDCT/TCB/PIA Quirino)



Mine and smelt

Local investor ties up with a Chinese firm for a \$1-B iron ore mineral extraction venture in Zambo Sibugay



[BY MANUEL CAYON](#)

JUNE 25, 2022



MZMC President and CEO Leonardo Fernandez (third from left), outgoing National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon (fourth from left) and Chairman Ninchy Lin of Shenzhou Investor Corp. (second from left) are seen at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the groundbreaking of the Mount Zynai Industrial Park on June 19, 2022.

“WE are now smelting.” Thus declared Davao City investor Leonardo A. Fernandez in announcing to the world that his iron ore venture in Zamboanga Sibugay will not only be extracting rich iron ore deposits, but his company, Mt. Zynai Mining Co. (MZMC), will smelt these ores into final steel products for Philippine use.

This will be the country’s first smelting activity, an important ingredient in any country’s industrial dream, and it will happen four years from its inauguration on June 17, along with 100 hectares of land for an envisioned industrial park in Diplahan town.

“This is important for our industrialization, because this smelting plant will bring several benefits from now. We can bring down the volume of steel imports and cost of construction, we can generate 1,000 factories around our smelting plant, we can generate 20,000 jobs,” he told reporters the night before the MZMC inaugurated the projects. This will also be the site of an industrial park some 52 kilometers southwest of Pagadian City.



Mine and smelt

The industrial park will host the smelting plant and other accessory facilities and will cover the 50 hectares of the park. The remaining 50 hectares will be allocated to outsiders in other mining-related ventures.

The construction of the smelting plant and the industrial park would cost \$1 billion.

China tieup

FERNANDEZ said they bought from China two drilling machines, each costing \$200,000, to conduct further geological and metallurgical studies to determine a more proximate estimate of the deposit, although his partner from Shenzhou Investor Corp. has initially evaluated the area in Bayog to be “very big.” Bayog is in the central portion of the Zamboanga Peninsula north of Diplahan. Bayog is described to be part of the so-called iron ore corridor.

The drilling will also determine the kind of iron ore deposit, as well as the other minerals present in the area.

The company expects the corridor to have a volume of as much as 500 million metric tons to allow the MZMC to design its smelting plant of 3-million-metric-ton production capacity each year.

At this capacity, it could cut down nearly half of the annual importation of steel billets from China, which charges \$24 per ton. Each ship carries 50,000 metric tons of these steel billets.

Mindanao has its own steel processor, Steel Asia, located in Barangay Mahayag in Davao City, but he said Steel Asia and the rest of the nine other steel processors are importing a total of seven million metric tons of the billets. Steel Asia processes these billets into deformed bars to supply the needs of Mindanao, he said.

“Even our National Steel Corp. is importing these billets as well as recycling the iron to process them into deformed bars,” he said. “But we never had our own smelting plant. This time, my company extracts the ore and we will process them into billets and other steel products in our smelting products.”

“My target is to kill this dependence on steel from China and to bring down the cost of construction in the Philippines,” he added.

“Even if we can cut down the importation by only half, it would already create an impact on local prices of steel products, and that would be a huge benefit to the country’s economy,” Fernandez, president and CEO of MZMC, said.

At the initial phase of commercial production, the MZMC would produce 1.5 million metric tons and double that in two years.



Mine and smelt

'Coal factor'

ALL this would be made possible by MZMC's partnership with the Chinese firm, whose chairman, Ninchy Lin, assured Fernandez that Shenzhou Investor Corp. would allow MZMC to sell wholly to the Philippines all the steel that would be produced by the smelting plant.

Fernandez said earlier that their agreement was on 60-40 terms, the bigger percentage going to the Philippine market. When pressed for further comment, Lin reiterated that all that would be produced by MZMC may be sold in the Philippines "because we know that the Philippines is really in need of steel."

Fernandez said his operation would also involve coal mining. Why? "Because coal would be important to our electricity requirement and these areas—Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga del Norte—have rich deposits of coal."

He added: "That is why many of the farm areas here have no lot titles because of the rich mineral deposit in these areas.

"This place is really blessed with a lot of minerals and many have not been mined," he said.

Fernandez's MZMC acquired on February 3 the right to explore and develop the 2,637-hectare MPSA (Mineral Production Sharing Agreement) No. 349-2010-IX located in Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur, and Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte, from Czarstone Mining Corp, also a Filipino-owned mining company.

The MZMC also negotiated with the Subanen tribe to mine the iron ore in Bayog, which would cover some 15,000 hectares.

A separate mining operation was being negotiated also with the Subanen tribe in Diplahan, Zamboanga Sibugay, this time to extract coal in a patch of land measuring 2,000 hectares.

"The said acquisition ensures a steady supply of raw materials for the steel mill and smelting plant at the industrial park," he said. Processing of iron ore will be done at the industrial park to be established inside a park complex in Barangay Santa Cruz, Diplahan. The municipality of Diplahan is the field operations office of the mining company.

This month, Palafox Associates and Architecture will start the planning of its industrial park and the smelting plant.



Mining, quarrying post fastest recovery in 2021



Photo by Mark Perandos

[IONA FINLAY C. MENDOZA](#)

June 23, 2022

AMONG the different sectors in Davao Region, the mining and quarrying industry posted the fastest recovery growth in 2021 at 22 percent, according to the Regional Development Council in Davao Region (RDC-Davao).

A sub-sector of the industry sector, RDC-Davao chairperson Gov. Jayvee Uy said during the state of the region address on June 21, 2022, that the mining and quarrying industry contributed greatly to the 9.9 percent growth of the industry sector.

“The Covid-19 pandemic gravely affected the industry and services sectors... but the perseverance and resilience of Davaoños slowly and surely paid off. Davao Region started to recover in 2021, led by the Industry sector,” he said.

The construction industry had the second-fastest recovery with 12.5 percent growth, followed by the manufacturing industry with 9 percent growth.

On the other hand, the services sector recorded 5.6 percent growth in the same year, led by the human health and social work subsector with almost 15 percent growth while the accommodation and food service sub-sector recorded 11 percent growth, and the information and communication sector with 8.6 percent growth.



Mining, quarrying post fastest recovery in 2021

At the same time, the region's economy also bounced back in 2021 with 5.9 percent Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) growth rate from the -7.5 percent dip in 2020 due to the outbreak of Covid-19 that year.

"This was made possible through our progressive and effective implementation of priority programs and projects embodied in the Davao Regional Recovery and Resiliency Program to Mitigate Losses from Covid-19 and to Adapt to the New Normal," Uy said.

In order to sustain Davao Region's economy, Uy said P49.5 billion has been allocated for the implementation of the Regional Recovery Program from 2020 to 2022. **ICM**



SMC leads cleanup of Bulacan rivers



By Frederick Silverio

June 25, 2022

[San Miguel Corp.](#) (SMC) announced on Thursday, June 23, that the company will soon start cleaning up rivers belonging to the Marilao-Meycauayan-Obando River System in Bulacan.

This is after the SMC has reached its goal of removing over 1 million metric tons of silt and solid waste from the length of the [Tullahan River](#) ahead of the schedule drawn up with the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR).

Having met its target, SMC's team is now focusing and moving on to its next mission to clean up the Bulacan rivers which are set to start this month.

The initiative will be part of its comprehensive flood mitigation measures for the province of Bulacan, which is committed together with its [New Manila International Airport](#) and Airport City projects.

A study commissioned by [San Miguel Aerocity Inc.](#) has assessed the impact of the airport development on flooding and has identified measures to reduce the province's long-standing flooding problems. It also studied the water flow affecting the airport site and areas within a seven-kilometer radius.

"This study, plus our experience and learnings in the past two years in the Tullahan River, as well as our ongoing clean-up of the [Pasig River](#), will be a huge help to our upcoming river rehabilitation effort in Bulacan," SMC president and CEO [Ramon S. Ang](#) said.

SMC's river channel improvement plan for Bulacan involves the clean-up, widening, and deepening of the Alipit or [Taliptip River](#), Sta. [Maria River](#) and the Meycauayan River.

Meycauayan River is one of seven Philippine rivers included in the world's top 10 list of tributaries that emit the highest share of ocean plastics, according to the scientific publication "Our World in Data," a collaborative effort between researchers at the University of Oxford and UK-based non-profit, [Global Change Data Lab](#).

SMC said the river rehabilitation plan will improve these rivers' capacity to carry excess rainwater following the removal of silt, trash, and other obstructions that restrict the free flow of water and threaten the marine ecosystem and traditional fishing grounds.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/05/02/public-square/smc-launches-program-for-continued-community-education/1842064>

Meanwhile, as of June 20, SMC's cleanup teams have rid the river of an accumulated total of 1,029,257 metric tons of silt and waste, roughly equivalent to close to 70,000 dump trucks.

"We thank the DENR for its trust and confidence in our ability to get the job done. Despite the pandemic that delayed and limited our cleanup operations, we were determined to accomplish our objectives, which included removing silt and waste, increasing the river's width and depth in shallow sections, improving navigability and helping restore the marine line," Ang said.



SMC leads cleanup of Bulacan rivers

"What is critical now is getting all stakeholders to keep the river clean and free of garbage. This requires all of us to work together. We can either go big or take small steps and build on our own individual efforts to manage our consumption and waste generation. What's important is we start now," Ang added.

SMC started the P1-billion Tullahan program together with the DENR in February 2020, to complement the ongoing [Manila Bay](#) rehabilitation project. Work, however, was interrupted by the pandemic and only began in June, after the easing of pandemic restrictions.

SMC was one of the companies that answered the DENR's call to the private sector to clean tributaries leading to the Manila Bay, as these were identified as major sources of solid waste, including plastics.

The company is undertaking the project at no cost to the government or taxpayers and is part of its larger sustainability initiative to clean up major river systems and coastal areas throughout Luzon — to help mitigate some of the impacts of climate change, in particular, flooding.

Already, SMC's cleanup of the Tullahan River has significantly reduced severe flooding in Navotas, Malabon, Valenzuela and [Caloocan](#).

Hydrographic or depth surveys conducted before and after dredging showed that sections of the river that used to only measure one to three meters in-depth are now more than three to five meters deep.

The increased depth improves river flow and capacity to carry floodwaters out to Manila Bay.

In the last two years, areas around the river have reported lesser incidences of severe flooding. Whenever there was any flooding, waters were observed to subside faster than usual.

Following the dredging plan laid out by the [Department of Public Works and Highways](#), SMC's river cleanup operations covered an 11-kilometer stretch from the Manila Bay in Navotas to NLEX in Caloocan City.

Since the project's start, SMC has continued to accelerate the pace of the cleanup by investing in more equipment and hiring more personnel. Dredged wastes are sorted and transported to DENR-accredited and assigned disposal sites.



SPF, DENR honor Ph Environmental Month with tree-planting activity

‘This initiative aims to transform this 9.5-hectare property into an urban green space by planting more than 400 trees this year by promoting a participatory approach through partnerships with other government agencies, NPF executive director Batocabe said.



Published 6 hours ago
on June 25, 2022 12:25 AM
By [TDI @tribunephil](#)



NAYONG Pilipino advocates for a greener environment. | PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF NAYONG PILIPINO

Greening the city continues to be a vital part in mitigating climate change. To celebrate Philippine Environmental Month, the Nayong Pilipino Foundation (NPF) has partnered with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in a tree planting activity on 23 June at the NPF 9.5-hectare property, the Entertainment City, in Parañaque.

Employees of the NPF, DENR’s Biodiversity, and Forest Management Bureaus planted more than 100 trees with different saplings from Ipil-Ipil, Tindalo, Yakal, Makaasim, Phil Ash, Lipote, Palawan Cherry, Dita, Batino to Bignay.

This year’s theme is “Aksyon Para sa Natatanging Mundo” and highlights the collaborative efforts between the two agencies to provide a healthy and breathable environment for future generations. The said planting activity coincided with Proclamation No. 237, declaring the month of June as Philippine Environment Month, aimed at instilling environmental awareness and concern among the country’s various sectors.



SPF, DENR honor Ph Environmental Month with tree-planting activity

Speaking on behalf of NPF Executive Director Gertie Duran-Batocabe, NPF Deputy Executive Director for Marketing and Operations Dr. Jovertlee C. Pudan emphasized the Foundation's advocacy for a greener environment and nature conservation through Project Sambayanihan.

"This initiative aims to transform this 9.5-hectare property into an urban green space by planting more than 400 trees this year by promoting a participatory approach through partnerships with other government agencies," he said.

Last March, NPF partnered with the Armed Forces of the Philippines in planting flowering trees in honor of the Philippines Women's Month. In May, NPF teamed up with the Department of Health to promote Mental Health awareness by creating greener space in the Metro Manila.

An environmental planner, Dr. Pudan reiterated that to make real change, we should plant more trees.

"When we conserve the environment today, the future generations will be able to live healthier lives," he said.



Arbor Day celebration

JUN 24, 2022, 5:09 PM



Danny Querubin
Photographer

.In celebration of of Arbor Day, Manila Water Company holds a tree planting event with the theme "Punong puno ng Pag-asa" at the La Mesa Nature Reserve in Quezon City today to protect the environment and advocate the importance of watershed protection.

Present during the event is (from left) Quezon City congressman Alfred Vargas with daughter Ariana, MWSS-RO administrator Engr. Leonor Cleofas, MW Foundation executive director Reginald Andal, DENR assistant director for technical services Jun Almira, and ABS-CBN Foundation director Jun Dungo.

Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/168722493140749/posts/pfbid02gmA78k24nXHabWMNT6NM7ZuZMnKfwQ63avigH9qy2QvT747LLCZyiw4XU2DmKVEWl/?app=fbl>



Personal Collection's Ongoing Environment-Centric Efforts to Scale Up Protection of PH Coastlines

[Friday, June 24, 2022 Journal Online](#)



Personal Collection Bataan branch's employees and dealers (Orion, Bataan Mangrove Planting)

Personal Collection (PC) took the lead in planting over 100,000 mangroves and collecting thousands of kilos of plastic waste from shorelines in less than a year

Personal Collection Direct Selling Inc. ramps up mangrove-planting and coastal clean-up activities across the Philippines as it celebrates the triumphant first year of its #GreenLifeGreatLife movement – a commitment to step up the company's participation in making the world a better place for future generations.

After pioneering the shift from merely recyclable to biodegradable packaging that's good for the environment, Personal Collection's eco-warriors did not miss the chance to make their contributions count.

Last April, dealers and employees planted over 30,000 mangrove seedlings in Sta. Cruz in Zambales, Noveleta in Cavite, and Orion in Bataan. In addition to the 70,000 mangroves Personal Collection's volunteers planted from November to December last year, this brings the total to 100,000 mangroves in just a span of eight months. These efforts are deemed important in protecting the coastlines from erosion and flooding and in preserving the marine life and the creatures that take shelter in the affected aquatic habitats.

Personal Collection's Ongoing Environment-Centric Efforts to Scale Up Protection of PH Coastlines

This substantial achievement has been possible with the help of the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) and the proactive support of Personal Collection's thousands of dealers and employees all over the country.



Personal Collection's mangrove-planting initiative inspires teamwork (Orion, Bataan Mangrove Planting)

Alongside [mangrove planting](#), Personal Collection has been organizing coastal clean-ups since October last year as it aims to help in addressing the gigantic plastic pollution problem in the country. In fact, the Philippines is the world's third-largest plastic waste contributor, with over 0.75 million metric tons of mismanaged plastic waste dumped in landfills or in oceans yearly as shown in a World Bank report (Market Study for the Philippines: Plastics Circularity Opportunities and Barriers, March 21, 2021).

In partnership with Marine Conservation Philippines, Personal Collection has led volunteers in different parts of the country and has collected thousands of kilos of trash from the coasts of Dumaguete, Siaton, Bayawan, Las Piñas-Parañaque Wetland Park, BASECO Beach in Manila, Isla Pulo in Navotas, and Centennial Park in Malabon.

Launched last June 8, 2021, Personal Collection's #GreenLifeGreatLife movement is in line with the company's commitment to creating a positive impact on the environment. It started with manufacturing eco-friendly packaging for its top-selling flagship household products: Tuff TBC (Toilet Bowl Cleanser), Tuff MSC (Multi-Surface Cleaner), and sof & mmmmm..... Concentrated Fabric Conditioner. The biodegradable packaging is designed to decompose within five to 10 years



Personal Collection's Ongoing Environment-Centric Efforts to Scale Up Protection of PH Coastlines

in landfill conditions, unlike regular plastic bottles which could take up to 1,000 years before disintegrating into harmful microplastics.

In April this year, Personal Collection officially launched Tuff Naturals, the company's first liquid laundry detergent. It comes not only in biodegradable packaging but is also comprised of 95% biodegradable ingredients – unarguably the smarter choice for the environment.

With the #GreenLifeGreatLife movement, **Personal Collection** takes the lead in offering the Great Life through high-quality and environmentally responsible products and supporting employees, direct sellers, and customers to become ambassadors of sustainable living and environmental conservation.

To learn more about the **Personal Collection** #GreenLifeGreatLife movement, visit www.personalcollection.com.ph and follow www.facebook.com/pcdsiofficial, @pcdsiofficial on Instagram for more updates.



Balobok Cave gets endorsed as heritage zone



By [Julmunir Jannaral](#)

June 25, 2022



A view of the Balobok rock shelter in Barangay Lakit-Lakit, a potential tourist attraction in Tawi-Tawi.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COTABATO CITY: The Bangsamoro lawmakers filed a bill declaring Balobok Cave in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi as a heritage zone in order to preserve, promote, and develop it as the earliest human settlement in [Southeast Asia](#).

BTA Bill 197, also known as the "[Balobok Cave Preservation Act](#) of 2020," is principally authored by Member of Parliament Amilbahar Mawallil.

Balobok Cave, located in Barangay Lakit-Lakit in Bongao town, is a rock formation that forms part of a cave system situated along the coast.

According to the bill's explanatory note, the cave is found to be one of the earliest human settlements in Southeast Asia, dating back to 8000 years ago. Because of excavation efforts in the area, ancient artifacts such as earthenware shards, polished stones, and bone tools were discovered.

It also served as a natural shelter for the [Moro National Liberation Front](#) combatants in the 1970s.



Balobok Cave gets endorsed as heritage zone

"Due to the significance of this archaeological site, it is only natural for the Bangsamoro government to preserve, protect, promote and develop the Balobok Cave," Mawallil said.

Under the proposed measure, the [Bangsamoro Commission](#) for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage (BCPCH) and the [Environment Ministry](#) will be in charge of protecting, developing and promoting the site.

A comprehensive plan for its preservation, protection, rehabilitation, infrastructure, installation, development into ecotourism, management, and maintenance will also be formulated by the BCPCH, Menre, [Ministry of Trade](#), Investment and Tourism, and the Tawi-Tawi Provincial Government.

A regional heritage zone refers to historical, anthropological, and artistic geographic areas that are culturally significant to the Bangsamoro Region.



Save the marine life of Manila Bay Ternate project



Published 7 hours ago
on June 25, 2022 12:20 AM
By [Jorge Hizon](#)



(from left): Mike Caragay, Dolly Tuason, Virtus Gil, RC Makati Circle of Friends president Nelia Cruz Sarcol, Liway delos Santos, Pinky Mission and Jo Ayodtod.

The Board and Members of the Rotary Club of Makati Circle of Friends led by CP/LCP Nelia Cruz Sarcol embarked on their save the Rotary environment project by donating the much-needed resources to their Save the Manila Bay Ternate Marine Life Partner Coast Guard Auxiliary District NCRCL. The project is the installation of reef enhancements in the core zone of the Ternate Marine Park starting from the far left part of Caylabne to eventually cover the whole Cylabne Cove in Ternate, Cavite with a total area of 64 hectares.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2022/06/25/save-the-marine-life-of-manila-bay-ternate-project/>



Hotel 101 Group launches 101 Stay Green initiatives



BYBMPLUS

JUNE 24, 2022



Hotel 101 Group and Pasay City LGU sign MOA for Sustainability Projects in Pasay City (L-R: Hotel 101 – Manila Hotel Manager Ryann Dimayuga, Hotel 101 Group General Manager Gel Gomez, Pasay City Mayor Imelda Calixto-Rubiano and Pasay City CENRO's RR Salvador)

Hotel 101 Group officially launched its sustainability campaign, 101 STAY GREEN, led by the Hotel 101 Group Green Team, and signed Sustainability Agreements with the Pasay City Government and the Philippine Coast Guard respectively.

Hotel 101 Group General Manager Gel Gomez welcomed everyone. “Today is a big win for the environment as we have gathered everyone for the launch of Hotel 101 Group’s sustainability initiatives, and as we commit to a common goal of protecting the environment and putting our stake in our future and the future generations,” she remarked.

“I am also happy to strengthen our partnerships between the Pasay City government, and the Philippine Coast Guard, both of which we worked closely with during the height of the pandemic, ensuring a safe and happy stay for all our guests across our hotels,” GM Gomez shares.

Hotel 101 Group Green Team Lead and Hotel 101 – Manila Hotel Manager Ryann Dimayuga enumerated the 101 STAY GREEN initiatives of the hotels which highlight efforts in Water Conservation, Energy Conservation, Waste Management, and Community Engagement.

Pasay City Mayor Imelda Calixto-Rubiano thanked the Hotel 101 Group for its sustainable initiatives and for closely working with the LGU. “We are happy and thankful of Hotel 101’s eco-projects and plans and to be able to work hand-in-hand guaranteeing our public an eco-conscious, practical, and leisurely stay in our hotels,” says Mayor Emi. “This is really part of our vision for



Hotel 101 Group launches 101 Stay Green initiatives

Pasay City, to be the first Eco-City in the Philippines. So we will always be of support to your endeavors and your journey towards sustainability,” the Mayor adds.

“On behalf of our Commandant, CG Admiral Artemio M Abu, the Philippine Coast Guard congratulates the Hotel 101 Group in its endeavor towards a more sustainable and greener environment for tomorrow,” remarked by Philippine Coast Guard Deputy Commandant for Administration Vice Admiral Rolando Lazor Punzalan, Jr.



Hotel 101 Group and Philippine Coast Guard sign MOA for Environmental Projects

(L-R: PCG Marine Environmental Command Commander Rear Admiral Robert Patrimonio, Hotel 101 Group General Manager Gel Gomez, PCG Deputy Commandant for Administration Vice Admiral Rolando Lazor Punzalan, Jr. and Hotel 101 – Manila Hotel Manager Ryann Dimayuga)

“As part of its mandate, the Philippine Coast Guard ensures safe and cleaner seas. But the PCG, through its Marine Environmental Protection Command led by CG RADM Robert Patrimonio, shares the advocacy of likewise, protecting our land-based environment. Without hesitation, PCG vigorously supports Hotel 101 Groups’ sustainability initiatives for the environment capped up with a MOA Signing event and is honored to have as partners, the City of Pasay and Hotel 101 Group in this very sublime commitment,” Vice Admiral Punzalan adds.

Kicking off the partnership, Hotel 101 – Manila will host all of Pasay City Barangay Captains for a half-day training on environmental issues, together with the Philippine Coast Guard Marine Environmental Command this July.

The hotel group also shared its Going Green projects, including working towards benchmarking and adopting tenets or criteria to be given the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)’s Hotel Sustainability Basics badge and ASEAN Green Tourism Standard, both of which aims to transition the hotels to operate greener.



Hotel 101 Group launches 101 Stay Green initiatives

As part of Going Green efforts, Horizon Café at Hotel 101 – Manila also launched its TLC Plant Based Burger perfectly paired with fried sweet potato chips, giving guests a healthier option of a traditional burger but with no meat. Guests may try this new addition to the menu starting June 27, 2022.

“These initiatives are part of our authentic, collective efforts in each of our hotels and departments, that contribute to the whole 101 STAY GREEN initiative. I hope that we continue to work together, build on our partnerships, think of more creative ideas to engage our audiences, to make sure we leave a better, greener, and happier future,” closes GM Gel Gomez.

The Hotel 101 Group is a subsidiary of DoubleDragon Corporation, which operates Hotel 101, Injap Tower Hotel in Iloilo City, and Jinjiang Inn Philippines. Hotel 101 Group has recently unveiled its direction to begin expanding abroad. It aims to make Hotel 101 the first global Filipino hotel chain.



Hotel 101 Group installs Bike Parking, offers free coffee for cyclists every weekend to promote alternative means of transportation among its guests, patrons, and employees

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How the youth can help address climate change

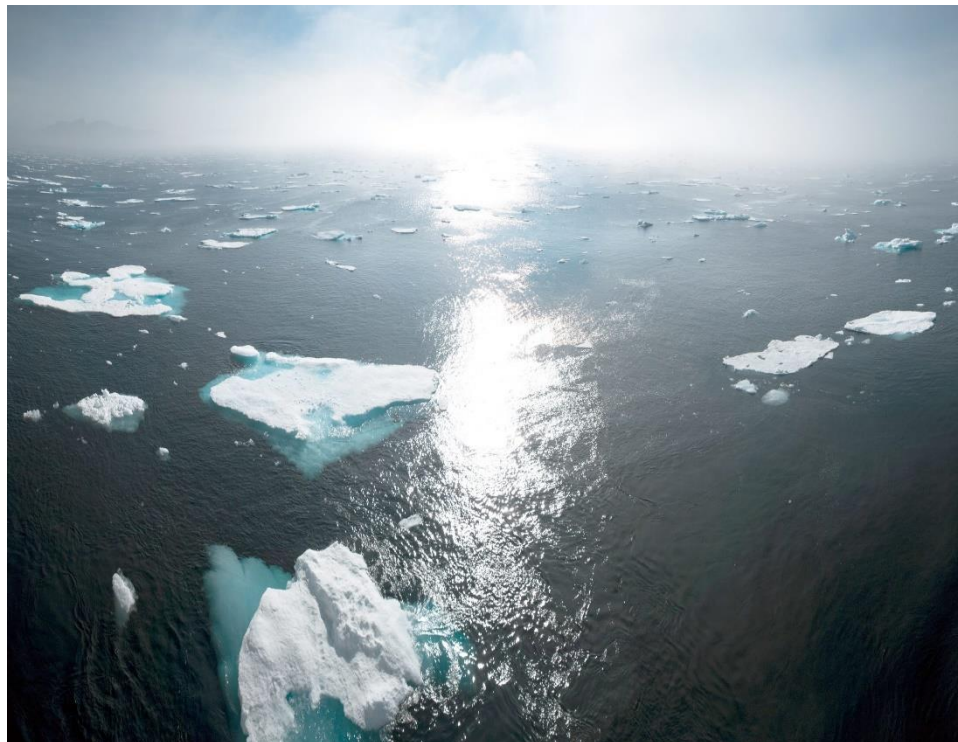
Young people can spread the word on environmental sustainability and climate change, encouraging others to do the same.



Published 5 hours ago

on June 25, 2022 01:55 AM

By [Mikaela Kristina Acido-Muega](#)



As the next generation, we should be aware of the effects of climate change and how sustainable practices can benefit us in the long run.

By changing the way we do things, we can help stem the degradation of the environment and make this world a better place for all.

Climate change is one of the significant issues our world is facing in this era. On the news, social media and other forms of media, we hear of how climate change affects the Earth's polar caps, flora and fauna.



How the youth can help address climate change



photograph courtesy of PEXELS/COTTON BRO

These articles show how people using the Earth's resources, such as fossil fuels, are causing an increase in carbon dioxide emissions, affecting our Earth's climate.

However, there is still hope. While we cannot stop climate change overnight, we can at least contribute to slowing it down. If we adopt sustained efforts to take care of the environment and to curb climate change in our daily lives, maybe we can still save the planet.

Sustainability and climate change

In an ecological sense, sustainability is avoiding the depletion of natural resources to maintain ecological balance.

Applying sustainability for the sake of our planet means the human race will have to change some behaviors and approaches to various daily tasks and bigger ones to ease the adverse effects of climate change.

Everyone can carry these changes with them if they start early, especially when they are young.



How the youth can help address climate change



photograph courtesy of PEXELS/COTTON BRO

Reduce, reuse and recycle

Waste being disposed of carelessly contributes to climate change so we should apply the three Rs in our daily lives to improve sustainability.

Reducing certain kinds of waste, such as plastic, can benefit water and land because we are finding more environment-friendly alternatives.

Aside from reducing the use of more harmful objects for ones that are easier on the environment, we have to ensure the substitutes fit the criteria of being reusable and recyclable.

Another example of this is reusable bags that can replace plastic. They do not break down easily and can be washed when stained.

These reusable bags can be used for the same purpose over and over and disposed of when no longer serviceable.

Buying and consuming only what you can

Waste increases when people literally and figuratively bite more than they can chew. Improper waste disposal can apply to products such as food and other biodegradable objects.

When unfinished or unused food is disposed of, it is left to decay and release carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change.

How can this be stopped? People should buy just enough food and objects to meet their short-term or long-term needs and use them up without wasting as much as possible to prevent careless disposal.



How the youth can help address climate change



photograph courtesy of PEXELS/COTTON BRO

Make good use of energy

Energy to generate the electricity and heat we need is produced by burning fossil fuels, and if we use it often, more fossil fuels will be burned.

We can start by saving energy by turning off things that run on electricity, lessening the time we spend on gadgets, and relying on nature if we can.

An example is using natural light instead of a lightbulb when reading and writing. Increasing access to solar power, hydroelectric power, and more can also reduce the burning of fossil fuels and provide us with sufficient, sustainable energy.

Education is important

Yes, the things that we can do can boost sustainable development and help address the effects of climate change, but a small number of people can only do so much. This is why influence through words and action is essential.

By sharing information on social media, young people can spread the word on environmental sustainability and climate change, encouraging others to do the same.

Then more people will be compelled to follow the path to a sustainable future and a better planet. The new generation has a big stake in addressing climate change and applying sustainability now.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2022/06/25/how-the-youth-can-help-address-climate-change/>



Mass biodiversity loss would slash global credit ratings, report warns

June 23, 2022 | 2:38 pm



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

LONDON — Major global biodiversity loss could cause enough economic damage by the end of the decade to severely cut more than half of the world's sovereign credit ratings — including China's, the first [major study](#) on the issue has warned.

The research published on Thursday by a group of British universities looked at a range of scenarios, including one where a partial collapse of key ecosystems savaged nature-dependent industries such as farming and fishing that some economies rely on.

It estimated that the detrimental impact would result in 58% of the 26 countries studied facing at least a one notch downgrade of their sovereign credit rating.

As ratings affect how much governments have to pay to borrow on the global capital markets, the downgrades would result in between \$28 to \$53 billion of additional interest costs annually.

“The ratings impact under the partial ecosystem services collapse scenario is in many cases significant and substantial,” the report said, adding that those additional debt costs would mean governments have even less to spend and that things like mortgage rates would go up.

The study carried out by the University of East Anglia, Cambridge, Sheffield Hallam University and SOAS University of London shows that China and Malaysia would be most severely hit, with rating downgrades by more than six notches in the partial collapse scenario.

India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Ethiopia would face downgrades of approximately four notches, while almost a third of the countries analyzed would see more than three.



Mass biodiversity loss would slash global credit ratings, report warns

For China, that drop in creditworthiness would add an additional \$12 to 18 billion to its yearly interest payment bill, while the country's highly-indebted corporate sector would incur an additional \$20 to 30 billion.

Malaysia's costs would rise between \$1 to 2.6 billion, while its companies would need to cover additional \$1 to 2.3 billion.

"More importantly, these two sovereigns would cross from investment to speculative-grade," the report said, referring to what investors usually dub a higher risk "junk"-grade credit rating.

"Biodiversity loss can hit economies in multiple ways. A collapse in fisheries, for example, causes economic shockwaves along national supply chains and into other industries," said co-author Dr. Patrycja Klusak, affiliated researcher at Cambridge's Bennett Institute and Associate Professor at the University of East Anglia. — **Marc Jones/Reuters**

Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/100064329023551/posts/pfbid02Lu6mvoKXR5EWFgpf33U3BWDkeyTFYV39Vh6DA2rLV9d8PUhKsfoY9v6wukskY8rDl/?app=fbl>



Easterlies to bring rains over Philippines

Published June 24, 2022 4:24pm

Easterlies will affect the eastern section of the country, PAGASA said Friday.

In its latest bulletin, the state weather bureau said partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms will prevail over Metro Manila and the rest of the country due to the easterlies and localized thunderstorms.

Possible flash floods or landslides may occur during severe thunderstorms, it added.

Wind in the whole of the archipelago will be light to moderate. Coastal waters will be slight to moderate.

Minimum temperature was recorded at 5 a.m. at 23°C while the maximum temperature was at 32°C at 1:50 p.m.

Sunset will be at 6:28 p.m. It will rise Saturday at 5:29 a.m.—**Sundy Locus/AOL, GMA News**

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/weather/835981/easterlies-to-bring-rains-over-philippines/story/?fbclid=IwAR3gy83wDaKaxZcRwuygCRo25mdhrDsBzHrY5e6qOKv8L7ftOnzeKA8RzaE>

25 JUNE 2022, Saturday



DENR

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DENR-BMB, PCG ink accord to protect coastal, marine ecosystems

By **CORY MARTINEZ**

THE protection and conservation of the country's coastal and marine ecosystems will now be "strengthened" after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), has signed a landmark agreement with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) for the said endeavor.

The signing of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was one of the highlights of the recently-celebrated "World Ocean Day 2022".

DENR-BMB OIC (Officer-in-Charge) Director Natividad Y. Bernardino and PCG Commandant Admiral Artemio M. Abu signed the MOA.

Bernardino said the agreement aims to "harmonize the conservation and protection" efforts between the DENR-BMB and PCG, particularly in deterring illegal activities within marine protected areas (MPAs) and maintaining the balance and ecological integrity of the country's marine ecosystems.

"As a bureau supervising marine protected areas under the National Integrated Protected Areas System or NIPAS, we have certain limitations in terms of enforcement and logistics. There are gaps in addressing marine-related incidences and violations of the law. So there's really a need to synergize protocols between the PCG and the BMB as well as collaborate to augment each other's resources," Bernardino pointed out.

The MOA also will al-

low the exchange of technical expertise, information, and assistance on the demarcation (boundary) and marker buoy installation of MPAs under the NIPAS framework; facilitation of capacity-building activities; and development of reporting mechanisms on marine vessel-related incidents, such as oil spills and ship grounding.

"Enforcement must be participatory, consultative, science-based, and sustainable. We will be committed. You can count on our sincerity and active involvement in putting this agreement to motion," Abu said.

The partnership will also streamline joint activities and assistance during water quality monitoring, enforcement of wildlife laws, and marine research expeditions within MPAs, the West Philippine Sea (WPS), and the Philippine Rise

Marine Resource Reserve.

Joint marine protection activities will also be implemented, such as coastal and underwater cleanups and intensified communication, education, and public awareness activities.

To begin the partnership, Bernardino said that the DENR-BMB will craft the operational plan anchored on the stipulations of the MOA to identify the short-term and long-term goals and activities and ensure the funding complementation between the two agencies.

Captain Lazaro Ernesto C. Valdez Jr., PCG Deputy Chief of Coastal Guard Staff for Marine Environmental Protection CG-9, on the other hand, expressed "optimism" that the MOA signing is only just the beginning of more precise and more cohesive cooperation with the DENR.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

Pilipino Star

NGAYON

Diyaryong disente ng masang intelihente



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Dolomite Beach permanente nang bubuksan sa publiko - DENR

Permanente nang bubuksan sa publiko ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach.

Ayon sa DENR, mananatiling bukas ang Dolomite Beach kahit matapos na ang termino ni Pangulong Rodrigo

Duterte sa June 30.

Muling binuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach noong June 12 kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng ika-124 na anibersaryo ng Independence Day kung saan dumalo si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Bukas ang Dolomite Beach mula alas-6 ng

umaga hanggang alas-6 ng gabi.

Sarado naman ito tuwing araw ng Huwebes para sa paglilinis at pag-sasaayos.

Pinapayagan ang may 1,500 hanggang 3,500 na bisita na makapasok sa Dolomite Beach. (Angela dela Cruz)



DOLOMITE BEACH, PERMANENTE NANG BUKAS SA PUBLIKO

Pahina 2



DOLOMITE BEACH, PERMANENTE NANG BUKAS SA PUBLIKO

Permanente na uma-nong bubuksan sa publiko ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach kahit matapos na ang termino ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa June 30.

Magugunita na muling binuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach noong June 12 kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng ika-124 na anibersaryo ng Independence Day kung saan dumalo si Pangulong Duterte.

Bukas ang Dolomite Beach mula alas-6:00 ng umaga hanggang alas-6:00 ng gabi.

Saando naman tuwing araw ng Huwebes para sa paglilinis at pagsasaayos.

Pinapayagan ang may 1,500 hanggang 3,500 na bisita na makapasok sa Dolomite Beach. -Angie dela Cruz-



Dolomite Beach permanente nang bukas sa publiko - DENR

INIHAYAG ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na permanente nang bukas sa publiko ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach.

Ayon sa DENR, manatiling bukas ang Dolomite Beach kahit matapos na ang termino ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa June 30.

Matatandaan na muling binuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach noong June 12 kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng ika-124 na anibersaryo ng Independence Day kung saan du-

malo si Pangulong Duterte.

Bukas ang Dolomite Beach mula 6:00 ng umaga hanggang 6:00 ng gabi.

Sarado naman tuwing araw ng Huwebes para sa paglilinis at pagsasaayos.

Pinapayagan ang may 1,500 hanggang 3,500 na bisita na makapasok sa Dolomite Beach.



Safe water project to benefit 350k Filipinos

BY EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ

THE United States-funded Safe Water Project (SWP), to be implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), is expected to give access to safe drinking water and sanitation services to some 350,000 individuals in Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

In a statement, the DENR said that the project cost is P922 million, equivalent to a grant of \$18 million from the United States Agency for International Development (USAid). The Philippine government shoulders a fund equivalent to not less than one-third (P307 million) of the USAid grant.

The SWP components include technical assistance (TA) on water chlorination for local government units (LGUs) and water districts and TA to Local Water Utilities Administration on septage management, which

covers the Supreme Court Mandamus for Manila Bay area.

Other components are exploration on diversifying surface bulk water supply in Negros Occidental and assistance in water security plans for Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

USAid was prompted to undertake the project amid water security challenges in the Philippines including a "growing population, unsustainable land uses [and] deficient wastewater management."

"At the center of these challenges are the need for adequate supply of clean drinking water, which

has become increasingly elusive in many parts of the country, elimination of open defecation, especially in poorer communities, and increased access to safely managed sanitation services," said Israel Helios Inocencio, DENR project evaluation officer.

Climate change, typhoons, droughts and diseases like Covid-19 are further worsening the level of stress from these water supply threats. These threaten watersheds and the integrity of water and sanitation infrastructure.

The project employs the Integrated and Inclusive Water Security framework. This is part of the long-term goal to protect the upstream water resources — the forests — where the water comes from. The National Economic and Development Authority is a complementor of the project.

As such, a highlight of the SWP is a livelihood component, which includes production training for people's organizations (POs) in Narra, Palawan,

in collaboration with private company Sunlight Corp.

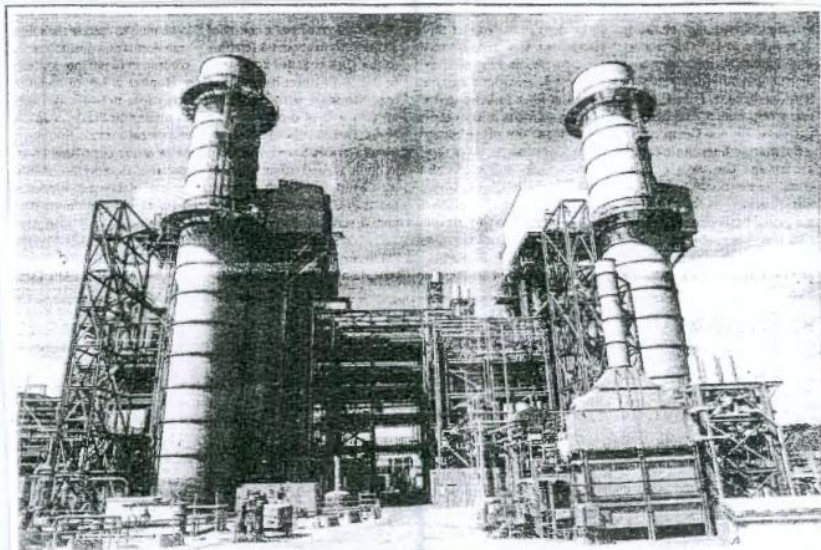
Another livelihood component is training for the use of starter kits and farm tools for the ECLOF Organic Farm, a non-profit micro-finance institution.

Profiling of a PO in Sarangani for enterprise development will also be implemented. An estimated 150,000 people will be the livelihood beneficiaries.

A total of \$20 million will be mobilized as investment for the sustainable environment operation.

The Environment department also noted that the project will empower LGUs, water service providers and watershed councils on the sustainable management of water resources.

Other beneficiaries are communities in Region 4-B (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan), Region 6 (Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo) and Region 12 (Cotabato, Sarangani and Sultan Kudarat).



ALSO POWERED BY HYDROGEN Mitsubishi Power and Georgia Power, alongside the Electric Power Research Institute, have successfully validated fuel blending of hydrogen and natural gas at both partial and full load on an M501G natural gas turbine at Georgia Power's Plant McDonough-Atkinson in Smyrna, Georgia. This project is the first to validate 20-percent hydrogen (by volume) fuel blending on an advanced class gas turbine in North America, and the largest test of its kind to date. The 20-percent blend provides an approximately 7-percent reduction in carbon emissions compared to the use of natural gas. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pawikan sinagip ng mga turista sa Aurora

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya – Matagumpay na naibalik sa karagatang bahagi ng Pacific Ocean ang isang mother pawikan (sea turtle) na napadpad sa tabing baybayin para mangitlong matapos sagipin ng mga nakakitang lokal na turista sa Barangay Ditawini, Dinalungan, Aurora.

Ayon kay Nuepe Manuel Jr., municipal tourism officer ng Ambaguio, nasa isang resort sila sa Dinalungan, kasama ang mga paragliders pilot mula sa Ambaguio, Nueva Vizcaya nang makita ang isang pawikan na katatapos lamang mangitlog sa silong ng isang puno dakong alas-7:00 ng umaga.

Agad na nagtulong-tulong ang grupo ni Manuel para alalayan pabalik sa dagat ang pawikan sa pangamba na baka makita ng mga residente rito.

"This mother turtle just laid eggs on the shore, immediately we guided and pushed her way back to the ocean to prevent it from being captured by locals," pahayag ni Manuel sa PSN/PM.

Sinabi ni Manuel na hindi niya agad inilagay sa social media ang mga

kuha nilang larawan at video matapos magka-interes ang ilang residente sa mga itlog nang mabalitaan ang kanilang ginawang pagpapakawala sa pawikan.

Paniwala ng ilang mga residente na nakakagamot umano ang pagkain sa kame at itlog ng pawikan.

Bagama't ipinangako umano ng caretaker ng resort na babantayan niya ang mga itlog ng pawikan ay nangangamba pa rin

ang mga bisita sa kalagayan ng mga itlog.

Ang mga endangered species tulad ng pawikan ay protektado sa ilalim ng Republic Act 9147, o mas kilala bilang Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act. Ang sinuman na mapatunayang sangkot sa paghuli, pananakit, pagpatay o pagkatay, pagbenta o pagbili sa mga endangered species ay mapapatawan ng kaukulang parusa tulad ng pagkabilanggo. (Victor Martin)



Ang giganteng pawikan na sinagip ng mga turista at agad pinabalik sa dagat matapos mangitlog sa dalampasigan ng Barangay Ditawini, Dinalungan sa lalawigan ng Aurora. (Courtesy: Ambaguio Municipal Tourism Office)



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, 1100 Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 8929-6626 to 96, (632) 8755-3300/8755-3330
Website: www.denr.gov.ph

MAY 31 2022

DENR Administrative Order
No. 2022-12

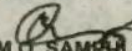
**SUBJECT : AMENDING SECTION 16.6 OF DENR
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2017-15,
GUIDELINES ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UNDER
THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT (EIS) SYSTEM**

Consistent with the continuing effort of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to effectively implement the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (Presidential Decree No. 1586) and the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 (Republic Act No. 7942), in relation to mining projects, Section 16.6 of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2017-15 entitled "Guidelines on Public Participation under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"16.6 In the case of MMTs for Mining Projects, the membership shall be governed by DAO No. 2010-21 and the EMB representatives shall continue to be a member of the MMT. The MMT shall regularly submit to the EMB, a CMVR format report including report on compliance with the EPEP (based on EMB-approved EMP) and the EMB shall similarly conduct its monitoring activities independent of the MMT."

All Orders, Circulars, Memoranda, and other issuances inconsistent with this Order shall be amended or repealed accordingly.

This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and acknowledgement of the Office of the National Administrative Registrar of the UP Law Center.


JIM O. SAMPULNA
Acting Secretary






08-25-22

TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____


 Republic of the Philippines
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 REGION IV - CALABARZON
 Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office - Cavite


NOTICE OF LEASE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the DENR-Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) at Trece Martires City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 am) on 15 August 2022 for the lease of Industrial-Commercial (mixed used) purposes of the tract of foreshore/offshore land herein below described:

Location	:	Barangay Calibuyo, Tanza, Cavite
Description	:	Miscellaneous land covered by approved plan MLC-042120-09-D
Total Area	:	50,033 square meters
Approved Value Of the Foreshore land	:	Php 4,750.00 per square meters or Php 7,129,702.50 for the whole tract
Value of Existing Improvements	:	Php 1,034,912,155.00
Annual Rental	:	Php 17,478,824.05 (3% value of the land & 1% of improvement)
Applied By	:	F & E DE CASTRO CORPORATION REP BY MR. FREDERICK A. DE CASTRO MLC-042120-09 & MLC-042120-09-A

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed and/or existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) month's rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise, such bid as raised shall and be accepted. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Trece Martires City, June 3, 2022.


JANUEL PERAS
 OIC-PENR Officer

IMS-JUNE 23, 2022



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1118
Tel./Fax. (02) 8539 4378
Website: www.emb.gov.ph Email: recordco@emb.gov.ph



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) of the PROPOSED SAMAR AGGREGATES PROJECT of the MAJESTIC EARTH CORE VENTURES INC (INC.) located in BARANGAYS SAN JOAQUIN, BA-AY, AND BINALIW, CITY OF CALBAYOG, SAMAR PROVINCE.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the PROPOSED SAMAR AGGREGATES PROJECT to attend the Public Hearing scheduled on:

Date	Time	Venue
13 July 2022 (Wednesday);	09:00 AM (Registration starts at 08:00 AM)	Barangay San Joaquin Covered Court, Brgy. San Joaquin, Calbayog City, Samar Province

The Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the review of the EIS of the aforementioned project by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information: Project Name

Project	Samar Aggregates Project													
Project Location	Barangays San Joaquin, Ba-ay, and Binaliw, City of Calbayog, Samar													
Project Capacity	561, 600 MT/yr													
Project Type	Resource Extractive Industry													
Project Rationale	With the quarrying of basalt and production of aggregates and base course, this proposed project will satisfy the requirements for road and bridge construction, and vertical structures construction. Because of the higher demand for quality aggregates brought by the Build, Build, Build Program of the current administration, continuous supply of construction materials must be satisfied.													
Project components	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Area/ Capacity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Quarry</td> <td>• 15.5 Ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Crusher</td> <td>• 561, 600 MT/yr</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Overburden/topsoil stockpile</td> <td>• 3.1 hectares</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Aggregate Stockpile</td> <td>• 2,500 m²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Mine (Haul Road)</td> <td>• 12m x 540 m @max. 10% gradient Proponent</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Area/ Capacity	• Quarry	• 15.5 Ha	• Crusher	• 561, 600 MT/yr	• Overburden/topsoil stockpile	• 3.1 hectares	• Aggregate Stockpile	• 2,500 m ²	• Mine (Haul Road)	• 12m x 540 m @max. 10% gradient Proponent	
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• Aggregate Stockpile	• 2,500 m ²													
• Mine (Haul Road)	• 12m x 540 m @max. 10% gradient Proponent													
Proponent	Majestic Earth Core Ventures Inc.													

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in this Public Hearing should preferably confirm their attendance/participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper to the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD) of this Office through email at eia@emb.gov.ph, three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EIS and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable on our website: (*kindly access the Notice of Public Hearing/ Consultation link found in our website*) while copies will be available in the following offices:

- **EMB Region 8**
DENR Compound, Jones Street, Tacloban City
Tel. No. (053) 832-2319
- **City Environment & Natural Resources Office- Calbayog**
Calbayog City Hall, Calbayog City, Samar, Province

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 8539 4378 loc. 116 and look for the project case handlers Engr. Joel Polintan and Engr. Jason Paolo Esguerra.

Handwritten signature





06-25-22

TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

Public Notice



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU - R6
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
Region VI, Western Visayas
EMB Building, DENR Compound, Paoa, Iloilo City
Tel. No. (033) 336-6989 Email: emb6@emb.gov.ph



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to participate in the Public Hearing for the proposed **Philippine Domestic Submarine Cable Network (PDSCN) Project Region VI - Segment 8** on the following date, onsite registration is at 9:00 AM and the Public Hearing proper will promptly start at 09:30 AM.

Date / Time	8 July 2022 (Friday) / 09:30 AM
Venue	Brgy. Poblacion Uno (I), San Carlos City, Negros Occidental and Online Meeting via Zoom Meeting ID: 819 3868 4256 Passcode: PDSCN8PH78
Brief Description	A consortium of telecommunication service providers, namely, Globe Telecom, Inc., InfiniVAN Inc. (IVAN), and Eastern Telecommunications Philippines, Inc. (ETPI), plans to strengthen their network interconnectivity through the proposed Philippine Domestic Submarine Cable Network (PDSCN) Project that is composed of twenty-four (24) segments connecting various islands, provinces, and regions in the Philippines. The proponents apply for the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) of the PDSCN Project Segment 8 which will establish the 26.945km-connection from Barangay Poblacion Uno (I), City of San Carlos, Province of Negros Occidental, Region VI to Barangay Ibo, City of Toledo, Province of Cebu, Region VII.
Proposed Location	Brgy. Poblacion Uno (I), San Carlos City, Negros Occidental, Region VI to Brgy. Ibo, Toledo City, Cebu, Region VII
Proponent	Globe Telecom, Inc./ InfiniVAN Inc. (IVAN)/ Eastern Telecommunications Philippines, Inc. (ETPI)

The public hearing aims to achieve efficient exchange of information and views between and among the project proponent, the EMB-DENR, relevant agencies, LGUs and other stakeholders on environmental impacts of the proposed project currently applying for Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).

Full copies of Environmental Performance Report and Management Plan (EPRMP) and EIS Summary for the Public can be accessed thru EMB R6 website at <http://r6.emb.gov.ph/>.

For pre-registration and access of online meeting details or for more information, please contact the EIA Section of EMB R6 at mobile numbers 0999-6253-691/033-336-6989/ local number: 1005.

ATTY. RAMARNIEL V. PASCUA
Regional Director

IIS No.R6-2022-019847

"Productivity with Environmental Protection is the best answer to poverty"

25 JUNE 2022, Saturday



DENR

NEWS

ALERTS

COVID-19

NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DOH: No weak surge yet despite 4-month high COVID new cases



by [Willie Casas](#) and [Macon Ramos-Araneta](#)

[June 25, 2022, 1:40 am](#)

The Philippines logged 770 fresh COVID-19 cases Friday, the highest daily tally since March 7, data from the Department of Health (DPH) showed.

The number of people currently positive for the coronavirus stood at 6,068, the highest since May 1.

This is the highest number of cases logged in a single week in 13 weeks, or since the week of March 14 to 20 when 3,481 cases were reported.

The country's total confirmed cases climbed to 3,699,251.

Of the additional cases reported Thursday, 322 are from Metro Manila, the DOH said.

The positivity rate—or the percentage of people who test positive for the virus—from June 19 to 22 is at 4.7 percent.

The total number of COVID-related deaths in the country has reached 60,495 after 11 new deaths were confirmed.

Total recoveries stood at 3,632,491.

From June 13 to 19, the country recorded an average of 436 cases per day, the DOH said. The tally was 82 percent higher than infections from June 6 to 12, the agency said.

Despite the rise in new cases, the DOH dismissed OCTA Research Group's statement that there was a "weak surge" in infections. Most of the infections were mild to moderate and did not need hospitalization, the DOH said.

The DOH, however, warned that active cases could reach 7,500 by the second half of July if compliance to minimum health protocols declines and booster uptake remains low.

The Philippine Genome Center has detected 16 more cases of highly transmissible omicron subvariants BA.5 and BA.2.12.1, the DOH said Wednesday.

More than 70 million people in the Philippines have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, National Task Force Against COVID-19 chief implementer and vaccine czar Carlito Galvez Jr. said Saturday.

Metro Manila and dozens of other areas will stay under COVID-19 Alert Level 1 until the end of June, Malacañang said, even as the capital region recorded a rise in new infections.

Under Alert 1, all indoor establishments and public transport may operate at 100 percent capacity, but only for those with full vaccination status.



DOH: No weak surge yet despite 4-month high COVID new cases

Authorities continue to remind the public to follow minimum health protocols, especially wearing of face masks.

OCTA on Friday said the positivity rate in the National Capital Region (NCR) or Metro Manila rose to 5.6 percent on June 22, up from 3.9 percent on June 18.

In Quezon City, the local government said the average daily COVID cases rose to 50 from 32 last week, citing data from OCTA Research.

It added that the city's positivity rate also increased to 4 percent from 3 percent. But the QC Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit said the hospital utilization rate in the LGU is only at a little over 30 percent, far from the 50 percent to 70 percent needed to be considered a moderate risk for COVID-19.

More hospitals in Metro Manila started rolling out third COVID jabs to immunocompromised minors 12-17 years old on Thursday. These include Ospital ng Maynila, and Cardinal Santos Medical Center in San Juan City.

National Vaccination Operations Center Chairperson Undersecretary Myrna Cabotaje said hospitals outside Metro Manila may begin administering additional doses to eligible immunocompromised minors as soon as they're ready.

In other developments:

- OCTA said there is no need to escalate the alert level status of the country or impose any lockdowns, despite the rise in COVID-19 infections.
- Senator Sherwin Gatchalian urged local government units and schools to prepare for the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine booster shots among minors aged 12 to 17. He issued the call following the Department of Health's approval of using the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as a booster dose for the 12-17 age group.
- Senator Christopher Go warned that raising the alert level status in Metro Manila would hurt businesses and urged the government to strike a careful balance between health and economic concerns.

25 JUNE 2022, Saturday

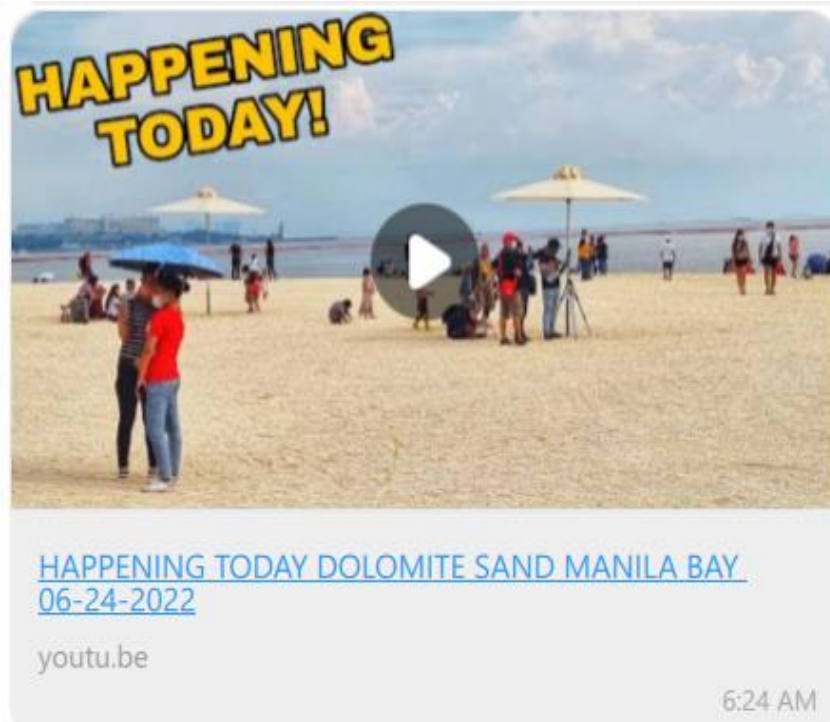


DENR

**NEWS
ALERTS**

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE




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MANILA
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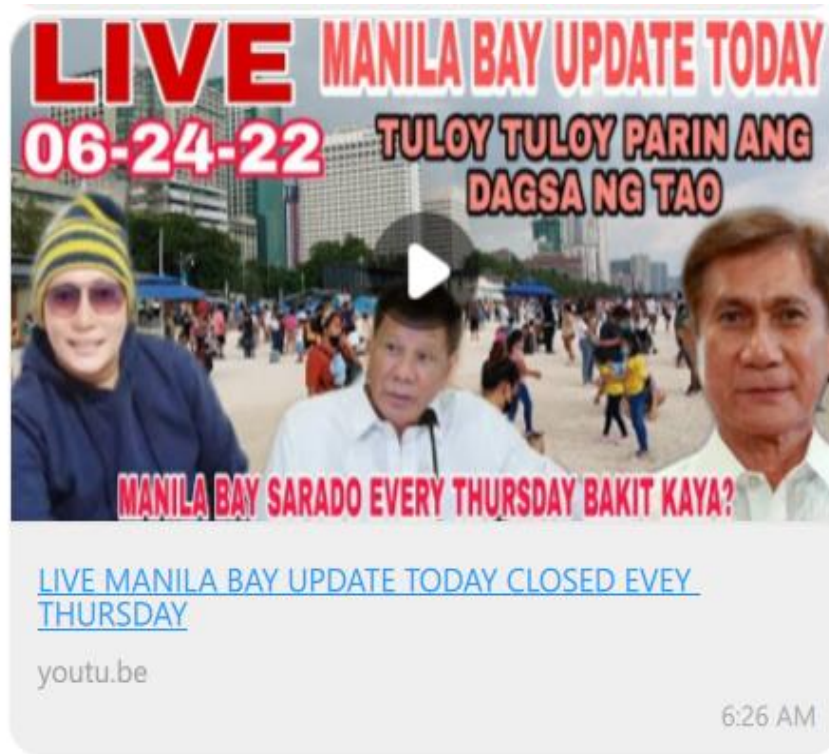
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




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MANILA BAY WHITE BEACH

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