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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





DENR: Agarwood propagation allowed but 'highly regulated'

Published on: November 24, 2021

By DENR

QUEZON CITY -- 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 this species is in accordance with the existing rules and regulations."

Agarwood can be derived from the Aquilaria species, which are widely distributed in the Indomalesia 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."

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"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," the DENR-BMB chief said.

Moreover, a Local Transport Permit is necessary "for the transportation of legally acquired seeds, seedlings, agarwood, and other agarwood by-products and derivatives."

Saikol expressed hope that the issuance of Wildlife Culture Permit will "contribute in the protection and conservation of Aquilaria malaccensis in the wild and will at the same time provide economic benefits for Filipinos, and eventually, economic development for our country." (DENR)



DENR approves commercial cultivation of agarwood tree

BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA NOVEMBER 23, 2021

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has approved the commercial propagation of agarwood-producing species like Aquilaria malaccensis.

The granting of the Wildlife Culture Permit, through the regional offices of the DENR to certain companies for the propagation of agarwood using Aquilaria malaccensis, will be allowed but collection of the seeds in the wild is strictly prohibited, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said in a news statement.

Also called the "wood of the gods" because of its aroma, agarwood is the most expensive wood in the world.

"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.

"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," the DENR chief added.

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

DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Director Datu Tungko Saikol, however, said that gathering of seeds and seedlings, agarwood, and other derivatives of Aquilaria malaccensis in the wild for commercial or trade purposes are "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.

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PH to share best practices on climate change

By Angela Celis -November 24, 2021



Ambitious. The Philippines has committed to reduce its green house gas emissions by 75 percent in 2030.

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, starting with the member nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

The Department of Finance (DOF) stressed the move is to help fast-track adaptation and mitigation efforts meant to avert catastrophic global heating.

Carlos Dominguez, DOF secretary, said Asean countries, which, 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."

"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," Dominguez said during the 3rd Climate Smart and Disaster-Resilient Asean forum yesterday.

"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," he added.

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.

The DOF said that as a new entrant to the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), the Philippines at number 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 on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, renewable energy 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.

These 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.



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Dominguez pointed out that the country is ahead in the use of climate finance, with Philippine companies having issued \$4.8 billion-worth of Asean-labelled Green, Social and Sustainability (GSS) bonds since 2019.

Business Insight

Malaya

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

Meanwhile, on Dominguez's initiative, the Climate Change Commission 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 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.

He said the Philippines has also been active in representing the position of developing countries in various meetings and forums at the two-week COP26 summit in Glasgow, Scotland.

"The Philippine delegation to COP26 was insistent that those who have emitted and continue to emit the most greenhouse gases must bear the largest financial burden in our transition to carbon neutrality. This is the essence of climate justice that the most vulnerable countries have long been fighting for," Dominguez said.





PH gov't must act now to address climate change – WWF

Published November 24, 2021, 6:56 PM by Joseph Pedrajas

The Philippine office of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is calling on the government to urgently take concrete steps to address climate change as the country's delegates to the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) return home.

WWF in a statement urged the government to hastily put in place policies and make necessary executive decisions following the conclusion of the COP26 as the gathering "is not just a one-time event where world leaders make surprise announcements and flowery speeches."

The non-profit organization also said that the implementation of such actions must be "enhanced and stakeholders must be gathered and galvanized so that the country can move towards a future responsive to climate change."

WWF said that while "most Filipinos are already suffering from the climate crisis," it "doesn't mean the situation is hopeless."

According to the group, the government must take the following actions, which are in line with the pledges and commitment its delegates made during the COP26 in Glasgow:

• Accelerate the clean and just energy transition through more renewable energy sources and energy efficiency use

• Undertake enhanced implementation of the Philippine NDC and ensure that the Philippine national budget supports our climate actions

• Put in place executive measures and policies that integrate sustainability in the systems that provide our basic needs

• Seriously implement actions to stop nature loss, scale-up restoration, and integrate the value of nature in our national plans

• Use effective leadership to get our local governments, the private sector, and all

stakeholders to apply solutions towards climate resilience, environmental protection, and sustainable development

"Words won't solve the climate crisis. Actions are what we need to see to Change the Ending for the planet now," Angela Ibay, WWF-Philippines' Head of Climate and Energy, said in a statement.

"The Philippine delegation, led by DOF Secretary Carlos Dominguez III, should make it clear now what direction the country is heading to protect nature and people from the worst effects of climate change," she added. "With the elections and a change of administration coming next year, our leaders should not put off addressing the climate crisis for later anymore."

Source: https://mb.com.ph/2021/11/24/ph-govt-must-act-now-to-address-climate-change-wwf/





China, pinagbabayad sa coral reef destruction at illegal poaching sa West Philippine Sea

By RadyoMaN Manila -Nov. 24, 2021 at 4:30pm



Hindi bababa sa P1.3 trilyon ang nalulugi sa bansa kada taon dahil sa pagkasira ng 16,000 ektarya ng mga coral reef at illegal poaching sa West Philippine Sea.

Ito ang lumabas sa pag-aaral ng scientist group na AGHAM ng University of the Philippines. Dahil dito, giniit ni Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (PAMALAKAYA) Vice Chair for Luzon Bobby Roldan, dapat pilitin ang China na magbayad para sa mga nasirang bahura at ilegal na pag-okupa sa ating teritoryo.

Ang kaduwagan aniya ng gobyerno at kawalan ng political will na gawin ito ay hindi makakapigil sa mga mangingisdang Pilipino na tumindig laban sa China o sa sinumang dayuhang mananakop.

Source: https://rmn.ph/china-pinagbabayad-sa-coral-reef-destruction-at-illegal-poaching-sawest-philippine-sea/?fbclid=IwAR3PcyOojjo7ovnWW-VVPDwgQ30DH5qbjwtImzhC9LNgdvFtrnfknWxpOzw





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Las Pinas Rep. Villar leads fight vs plastic pollution

Published November 24, 2021, 4:00 PM by **Manila Bulletin**



Deputy Speaker and Las Piñas Rep. Camille Villar

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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



Low rate of plastic recycling seen as a missed opportunity

November 25, 2021 | 12:08 am



THE PROPORTION of plastics that are recycled in the Philippines is about 30%, with the unrecycled materials that go to waste valued at around \$1 billion, the International Finance Corp. (IFC) said.

IFC Country Manager Jean-Marc Abrogast said deterrents to recycling include high power costs and cheap landfill disposal fees.

"We estimate that to be around \$1 billion every year of value that goes to waste," he said at the BusinessWorld Virtual Economic Forum Wednesday.

He said more global brands have voluntarily committed to using recycled resins in their products, increasing demand.

But in the Philippines, recycled material suppliers are small- and medium-sized businesses that cannot scale up their operations to meet the needs of global companies, pushing the brands to choose virgin plastic made from crude oil or natural gas.

"The decision here also becomes economic. You have competition from virgin materials, virgin plastic. So if the oil price is low, for example, the decision is very quick, unfortunately. You'll go with the lower cost," Mr. Abrogast said.

Tipping fees, or waste disposal charges, are also cheap in the Philippines compared to other Asian countries, which means there is little incentive for local government units or private companies to invest in waste management.

"The fees are so low, it's very hard to come in and make (recycling) profitable," he said.

"Electricity costs are very high in the Philippines, among the highest in the region. So if you're running a facility, whether it's a mechanical recycling facility or chemical recycling facility, it's very expensive."

Over 60% of products sold in the Philippines, he added, use packaging that is hard to recycle. — Jenina P. Ibañez



"If we're able to put in place some regulation or standard that would mandate companies to look at those packaging in a different way, I think it would help a lot."

He said the government should require companies to have a percentage of recycled material in their packaging and products. Packaging can also be made easier to recycle by limiting the coloring and types of resin, he added.

"In the end, if we really want to make a change, it has to come from the consumers. If the consumers are not there, it won't happen. If the consumers all together want something, the market's going to respond to it."

The House of Representatives in July approved on final reading House Bill No. 9147 or the Single-Use Plastic Products Regulation Act, which would stop the production and sale of single-use plastics. The counterpart measure is still pending at the Senate.

Coca-Cola Philippines in September announced it would phase out its sachet production by next year. — Jenina P. Ibañez



Headline Editorial Column Opinion Feature Article

From plastic waste to plushies: Payatas residents survive by recycling

Geela Garcia - Philstar.com November 24, 2021 | 7:52pm



Doris Mutya, surrounded by recycled synthetic cotton, separates the fibers to stuff in recycled plushies in Quezon City. Photos by Geela Garcia

MANILA, Philippines — Every day, colorful stuffed toys are hung up to dry along Doris Mutya's street in Payatas, Quezon City.

While the Payatas dumpsite has been closed down since the tragic landslide in 2000 that killed 232 people, many junk shops still operate in the area and residents like Mutya make a living by salvaging junk.



A garbage collector sorts plastic waste at a junk shop in Tondo, Manila.

According to a <u>report</u> by the United Nations Environment Program, the Philippines is the fourth largest generator of solid waste in Southeast Asia, generating 14.66 million tons of waste per year.

The country is also ranked as the <u>third largest contributor of plastic waste</u> to the ocean. Annually, <u>60 billion</u> sachets are used, most especially by low-income Filipinos, the market of corporations that sell fast-moving consumer goods.

The plastic industry is a driver of climate change and is seen to <u>outpace coal</u> by 2030. Poor countries like the Philippines are among the most vulnerable to disasters brought by the climate crisis.

Most impacted by these are urban poor women like Mutya, who, despite having a smaller carbon footprint, are the victims of natural and man-made disasters through economic displacement and destructive development.



Recycling 'rubbish'

"When people get tired of things, they throw them away, but what they don't know is that their rubbish still has value," said Mutya.

Mutya has been residing in Payatas since the late 1990s. After working at a junk shop for a year and learning about the different ways people can earn from waste, Mutya developed a greater appreciation for garbage.

Earning slightly better from recycling, her husband quit his job as a security guard and joined her. Now the couple's main income relies on reworking old stuffed toys.



Mutya buys sacks of disposed stuffed toys from a junkshop in Payatas. She said these were collected by garbage collectors from Tondo and Montalban and are sold at junkshops for recycling. She buys them in bulk to wash and repair and sells them as new.

Outside her home are two washing machines, a dryer, and a tub which she fills with chlorine, liquid soap, and disinfectants. She cuts the stuffed toy, removes its synthetic cotton, and washes the cloth and the fiber separately.

"These are not made of real cotton that's why they don't degrade. These are made of synthetic fibers, still made of plastic," explained Mutya.



Mutya washes the stuffed toys she ordered for the day.

After washing, she hangs both the cloth and the fibers to dry. Once dry, she separates the fibers for stuffing and sews the stuffed toy again.

"Separating the fibers takes a long time because you do it manually... by hand. We do this so the bears wouldn't be bulky and are soft when hugged," she explained.







Mutya puts the synthetic cotton inside a washed stuffed toy.



Nothing is thrown away in Mutya's home. Her husband Wilson sorts through a pile of collected googly eyes to replace missing parts of other stuffed toys.



Wilson does a minor repair on a toy with holes





Each stuffed toy is blow-dried to ensure it's good as new.

"We keep all the trash here unless they're really considered as rejects," said Mutya.

At night, her family sells recycled stuffed toys, thrifted clothes, and pillows along Litex Road.



A mother and daughter purchase a stuffed toy from Mutya

On rare good days, Mutya can earn as much as P2,500 for a whole night of selling. Small toys sell for just P20, but large life-sized stuffed toys can go for as much as P800. On average, she sells toys worth P50-150.

She said she doesn't earn much, but at least the job can pay some of their bills.

"Our only 'enemies' in this livelihood are typhoons and raids. When it rains, we can't put our products on display. When there are raids, authorities confiscate our products," said Mutya.

Despite having permits from their local organization, authorities may still bar them from selling on the sidewalk. Mutya said that workers can rely on each other because they understand the struggle of making a day-to-day living.

"When there are raids, tricycle drivers inform us so that we could pack our products up and avoid getting penalized unfairly. We learned to adapt by using one large cloth to spread on the floor. So, when raids occur, we just have to pull it up to quickly pack all the toys," explained Mutya.

She also recalled that during lockdowns, sidewalk vendors like her had to look for other sources of living. Some recyclers also shifted jobs because the pandemic limited their sales.

Learning sustainable practices from the poor





Cloth of stuffed toys hang outside Mutya's home.

For Marian Ledesma, Zero Waste campaigner for Greenpeace, Mutya's livelihood can be considered one of the best examples of recycling since, most of the time, recycling facilities still use virgin plastic materials to convert plastic waste into other materials.

But, in Mutya's case, she just returns the product to what it was before.

"It's good that communities are finding ways to manage the waste that we have right now, but the danger is, society is relying so much on individuals to come up with the solutions," said Ledesma.

She also emphasized that while Greenpeace encourages recycling, it should not be seen as the sole solution to the current plastic problem. The solution to too much plastic should be a combination of efforts from communities, corporations and the government.

"This is a very clear example that it's the low-income communities, vulnerable communities that find ways to manage this waste. But systemic changes to address the waste problem should come from the government and companies. It's not fair to just expect individuals and communities to be doing all the hard work," added Ledesma.

Jefferson Chua, another campaigner from Greenpeace, said that examples like this prove that there are sustainability practices of the poor that are already being practiced on the ground, but there is little investigation and capacitating to scale these efforts up.



Bobby Bueno dries foam and synthetic cotton in Payatas, Quezon City. The foam comes from factories and he buys them from garbage trucks for a living. Bueno sorts the foam and synthetic cotton, dries them under the sun for days to remove its stench. His customers are the ones responsible for sanitize the foam.

Chua also discussed a different perspective of the poor's "tingi" (buying in small amounts) culture. The poor, because of limited options, become slaves to sachets because they do not have a lot to spend, but the "tingi" culture also shows the poor's open-handedness because "they only get what they need," he said.

Mutya is not the only one from her community who sells recycled stuffed toys for a living. Once or twice a week, an L300 van drops by her sister-in-law's place to pick up sacks of stuffed toys that are sold online.

She is unsure if the plushies reach department stores, however, she's certain that some of her customers at night are sales ladies from these retailers.



"They work there, but don't buy toys there, because they're more expensive," she said.

Chua said that during typhoons, people usually see photos of depressed areas filled with trash, but it's not the poor's fault.

"It is in their communities because 'development' forced it to be there, and that's essentially a marshaling of space. You can't see that in affluent areas because they have better systems, and at the end of the day, the poor bear the brunt of that," he said.

Mutya also said that most people may look down at them for making a living out of waste, but she takes pride in the fact that they're not making "dirty" money.

"People who judge us for our livelihood have little understanding of the work that we do. They don't know that there is value in retrieving waste," she said.

"These stuffed toys, made of non-biodegradable materials, could possibly block drainage systems and cause floods. Even in small ways, I'm glad that we are able to reduce waste and make money out of it, but what makes me really happy is seeing children's faces light up because of our simple toys," she added.



A little girl strolls around at night with her recycled stuffed cat from Mutya.

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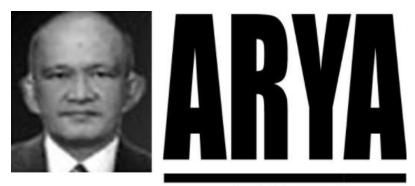
This story was produced with support from Internews' Earth Journalism Network and Photojournalists' Center of the Philippines.

Geela Garcia is a freelance multimedia journalist and peasant advocate based in Manila.



Pandemya sinamantala ng land grabber sa Montalban!

On Nov 24, 2021



Irwin Corpuz

SA mga kabundukan ay karaniwang LAND GRABBING ang nagiging kaganapan na humahantong pa sa karahasan.., tulad na lamang nitong nagdaang araw ay puwersahang pinapuwestuhan sa mga armadong guwardiya ang isang pribadong lupain sa SITIO UPPER BANGKAL, BRGY. SAN ISIDRO, MONTALBAN, RIZAL.

Bunsod nito, ang umu-okupa sa mahigit 9,000 metro kuwadrado na si ROSELO ESPEÑERA ay dumulog sa MONTALBAN POLICE STATION at sa BRGY. SAN ISIDRO para sa legalidad na aksiyon.

Lumalabas na nitong alas-10 ng umaga November 22 ay puwersahang pumasok sa naturang private property ang mga armadong guwardiya ng SILVER GRIFFIN SECURITY AGENCY mula sa utos umano ng isang ALLAN CRUZ.

Ayon sa kasalukuyang umu-okupa ng lupain na si ESPEÑERO ay mahigit 10-taon na nilang minamantine ang lugar na nabili nila ang RIGHTS mula sa dating nakaokupa at rehistrado sa BRGY. SAN ISIDRO..,, na ang naturang PROPERTY ay gusto umanong bilhin ng nagngangalang ALLAN CRUZ na rumerepresenta ng QUARRYING COMPANY na nag-ooperate katabi ng PROPERTY ng una.., bagay na tinanggihan ito.

Kamakalawa, si ESPEÑERO ay huminge ng asiste sa MONTALBAN POLICE STATION para mamagitan hinggil sa gusot. Tinungo ang lugar kasama ang ilang pulis at ilang mamamahayag.., siyempre, hindi maaaring puwersahing paalisin ang mga guwardiyang ipinuwesto sa lugar dahil hahantong lamang sa karahasan at ang mga guwardiya ay idadahilang sumusunod lamang sila sa utos ni ALLAN CRUZ.

Ang mga ganitong eksena ay madalas mangyari sa mga kabundukan lalo na ngayong COVID-19 PANDEMIC ay sinasamantala ng mga maiimpluwensiya.., na imbes idaan sa mapayapang proseso tulad sa pagdulog sa hukuman ay idinadaan na lamang sa puwersahang pamamaraan.

Paging DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR)..,, pakisiyasat nga po ang impormasyon na etong si ALLAN CRUZ ay pinalalawak ang lugar ng kanilang QUARRY OPERATIONS sa paraang pangangamkam ng mga katabing property tulad sa pagkamkam sa property ni ESPEÑERA?

Tanging hangad ng ARYA.., huwag sanang manamantala ang maiimpluwensiyang personalidad at sa halip ay daanin sa legal na pamamaraan tulad nitong si ALLAN CRUZ, na kung may karapatan siyang okupahin ang property ni ESPEÑERA ay dapat na idaan ito sa tamang proseso at hindi sa puwersahang sistema!



NANALO SA LOTTO PERO DISMAYADO?

Ang pagtaya sa LOTTO ang siyang pinipilahan ng mga nangangarap para sa biglaang pagyaman... pero may mga nananalo sa LOTTO na DISMAYADO pa rin ang mga ito dahil sa laki pala ng kinakaltas na buwis sa kabuuang halaga ng napanalunang premyo.

Lumalabas mga ka-ARYA na ang mga nananalo sa LOTTO ng halagang P10,000 ay TAXABLE at kinakaltasan ito ng 20%.., kaya, sa premyong P10,000 ay P8,000 lamang ang matatanggap ng nanalo at kung ang napanalunan ay P100 milyon ay P80 milyon lamang ang matatanggap ng nanalo.

Gayunman, inihayag ni PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE (PCSO) VICE CHAIR PERSON/GENERAL MANAGER ROYINA GARMA na nagpanukala na umano sila sa KONGRESO at SENADO, na kung ano ang nakasaad na JACKPOT PRIZE o papremyo ay iyon dapat ang kabuuang premyong matanggap ng mananaya.

Ayon kay GARMA, ang pagkaltas ng buwis sa premyo ng mga nananalo sa LOTTO ay wala umano silang magagawa sa ngayon dahil ito ang itinatakda ng batas.

Inihayag ito ni GARMA nitong nakaraang Lunes sa kanilang isinagawang TURNOVER OF CHECKS bilang ambag ng PCSO sa ilang GOVERNMENT AGENCIES tulad ng SMALL TOWN LOTTERY (STL) SHARES na kanilang ipinagkaloob sa NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) sa halagang P8,823,523.72; sa PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) ay halagang P22,058,902.37.., at sa COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION ay ibinigay naman ang MANDATORY CONTRIBUTION sa halagang P21,406,854.70!

Kung may reaksiyon lalo na sa mga nakakanti ng ating kolum ay maaari po kayong mag-email sa corpuzirwin074@gmail.com o magtext lamang sa 09085841303 para sa inyo pong mga panig.

Source: <u>https://www.policefilestonite.net/2021/11/24/pandemya-sinamantala-ng-land-grabber-sa-</u>

montalban/?fbclid=IwAR0SgA_E0FLk35K6CbiIk28PhZfjJaj_iwRLCberI1WjDWPGYHwL3 WPMoWU



Think small to fight climate change

Small businesses are integral to climate-change mitigation and adaptation, particularly in the developing world. But international policymakers and financial institutions routinely overlook their contribution, jeopardising us all.



Nepali traditional houses with solar panel roofs. Image: Shutterstock

By Kristina Skierka and Richenda Van Leeuwen Nov. 24, 2021

When applied to droughts, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, or other extreme weather events, the term "unprecedented" is getting old. In August, when the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its <u>latest report</u> about the dire realities we face, a drought exacerbated by global warming already had been <u>raging for years</u> across much of southern Africa.

It seems as though world leaders are finally ready to take meaningful action, but there's a critical group regularly missing from key climate meetings like the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow: local, climate-focused small businesses that already are making a difference in their communities. Small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) working on climate adaptation and mitigation are a crucial but underestimated partner in the fight to reduce emissions.

Even though climate financing options are increasing, SMEs' role in sustainable development continues to be overlooked. Their predicament is one shared by more than <u>200 million SMEs</u> of all types in developing countries that cannot get the funds they need to grow, facing an estimated <u>US\$5.2 trillion annual financing gap</u>.

International investors focus on getting dollars out the door through larger deals, while local capital is kept on the sidelines by high collateral requirements and unmanageable interest rates for early-stage businesses.

SMEs represent 90 per cent of businesses and provide more than 50 per cent of jobs worldwide according to the <u>World Bank</u>, so they have a key role to play in creating opportunities in economies struggling to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Examples like <u>SELCO India</u>, a pioneering off-grid solar company, and <u>Husk Power</u>, an innovative pay-as-you-go renewable energy provider operating in Asia and Africa, show that with the right amount and type of financing and technical support, small businesses can improve lives through energy access – a key <u>international goal</u>. Off-grid renewables also help power <u>sustainable mobility</u> in both rural and urban settings.

Small businesses also have an important role to play in greening agriculture. Land use for crop and livestock production accounts for <u>24 per cent of global greenhouse-gas emissions</u>, and farms are vulnerable to droughts, floods, and rising temperatures. Financing climate-smart agricultural entrepreneurs is essential for making our food systems more resilient.





Here, too, off-grid renewable energy has become indispensable, providing power for irrigation, processing grains, and operating the cold rooms and coolers needed to store dairy products, fresh seafood, and fruits and vegetables. In India, <u>Technoserve</u> is helping small farms withstand and adapt to the climate crisis and raise their productivity without increasing emissions.

As these examples show, when small businesses have the financing and support they need, they can drive economic growth while mitigating emissions and supporting adaptation to climate change. That is because small businesses are more agile and adaptable – and respond to local needs much faster and more effectively – than large organisations. They also offer governments and policymakers an opportunity to try out new ideas, revealing both pitfalls and best practices before initiatives are scaled regionally or nationally.

For starters, the world needs far more finance vehicles and instruments that are tailored to small businesses working in the green economy. That means a mix of lower-cost, long-term capital and blended finance, as well as easier access.

Achieving the global goal of net-zero emissions requires policymakers, investors, banks, and others to attend to SMEs' needs much more effectively than they have in the past. For starters, the world needs far more finance vehicles and instruments that are tailored to small businesses working in the green economy. That means a mix of lower-cost, long-term capital and blended finance, as well as easier access.

The world also needs more business accelerators focused on adaptation to climate change. There are <u>only 25</u> such green accelerators located in non-OECD countries. Funding research and establishing professional networks will drive support to businesses that have strong growth potential.

Better metrics to assess success will be needed. That does not mean lowering environmental, social, and governance standards. Instead, it means devising indicators specifically for green enterprises in the SME sector to help them demonstrate their effectiveness and attract more investment.

Finally, investors must not overlook women, who produce up to <u>80 per cent of food</u> in the Global South. Women also are the <u>most vulnerable</u> to the effects of climate change. Investing in female climate entrepreneurs benefits the climate, food production, and overall prosperity.

Small businesses are integral to climate-change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience. Providing them the financing and support necessary to help them succeed is in everyone's interest.

Kristina Skierka is CEO of Power for All. Richenda Van Leeuwen is Executive Director of the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs.

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Code of Conduct to ensure peace in WPS: Esperon

By Priam Nepomuceno November 24, 2021, 1:04 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr. said he believes that the Code of Conduct (COC) being worked out by member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) is among the measures to ensure peace and stability in the South China Sea (West Philippine Sea).

"Ang isang solusyon dito ay yung Code of Conduct na pinag-uusapan ngayon ng Asean, of course led by our Department of Foreign Affairs. Nandun sila at ng China para magkaroon ng Code of Conduct upang itong South China Sea ay maging isang karagatan na tahimik at magandang magnegosyo (One of the solutions to ensure this is the Code of Conduct currently being discussed by the Asean, of course led by our Department of Foreign Affairs. They are there at the talks, and of course, China so that there would be a Code of Conduct for the South China Sea so it could become peaceful and conducive for business)," he said in an interview with SMNI on Tuesday.

The COC is expected to be a regional framework that establishes rules and standards for regional peace and stability amid several long-running and escalating disputes.

"Remember *ang* South China Sea *ay* 5 trillion (US dollars) worth of goods pass every year. Napakaimportante, *hindi lang dito sa atin sa* Asean *kundi sa buong mundo* (Remember that USD5 trillion worth of goods passes in the South China Sea every year. It is very important not only to Asean but the rest of the whole world, as well)," Esperon said.

He also noted that the Philippines' relations with China do not start and end with the issue and that going to war is not the way to resolve the issues in the region.

This came in the wake of the Chinese Coast Guard's act of blocking and firing water cannons on two Philippine boats transporting supplies to Philippine military personnel at the BRP Sierra Madre at the Ayungin (Second Thomas) Shoal on November 16.

The move drew international criticism and from President Rodrigo Duterte himself, who said the incident "does not speak well of relations" between Manila and Beijing.

A week after the incident, the Philippines resumed its resupply mission to the Ayungin Shoal.

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However, reports said Chinese Coast Guard personnel aboard a rubber boat allegedly took pictures and videos of the mission.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said Chinese Ambassador to Manila Huang Xilian has vowed to look into the incident, an act which Manila views as a form of intimidation and harassment. (PNA)



DIPLOMASYA GUMAGANA SA WPS



November 23, 2021 @ 11:55 PM 1 day ago

GUMAGANA ang madiplomasyang pag-aksyon ng Pilipinas sa problema sa Ayungin shoal sa West Philippine Sea.

Bumiyahe na muli ang mga sasakyang pandagat ng Pilipinas upang magdala ng suplay ng mga sundalong Pinoy na naninirahan sa loob ng nakabalahong lumang barko ng Philippine Navy sa nasabing lugar at itinuturing ding teritoryo ng Pilipinas.

Ayon kay Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, tuloy-tuloy ang pakikipag-usap niya kay Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Huang Xilian na nagsabing hindi na makikialam ang kanilang pwersang pangkaragatan sa pagbiyahe ng mga sasakyang Pinoy na pupunta sa nasabing lugar...kung walang eskort na military.

Matatandaang binomba ng tubig ng China Coast Guard ang sibilyang sasakyang pandagat nang malapit na ito sa lugar at napilitang bumalik ito sa bansa.

Naghain ng protesta si Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin sa ginawa ng China Coast Guard kasabay ng pagsasabi nitong walang karapatan ang China na pagbawalan ang Pilipinas na gumawa ng nais nitong gawin sa lugar.

Unang ikinatwiran ni Xilian na teritoryo nila ang lugar kaya trespassing umano o pagpasok nang walang pahintulot ang ginawa ng sasakyan ng Pilipinas.

AKSYON NG PALASYO

Malinaw na kumikilos sina Lorenzana at Locsin para ipagtanggol ang interes ng Pilipinas sa pinag-aagawang lugar.

At may basbas mismo ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa mga ito batay sa pinakahuling aksyon mismo ng Pangulo.

Kinondena ng Pangulo ang ginawang panghaharang at pambobomba ng China Coast Guard.

Hindi man niya sinasabi, may pahintulot din itong umeskort sa sasakyang pandagat ng Pilipinas ang isang eroplano ng Philippine Navy na tahasang taliwas sa paggigiit ni Xilian na huwag lagyan ng military escort ang supply ship ng Pilipinas.

Ipinahayag ng Pangulo na hindi maganda ang pangyayari sa relasyon ng Pilipinas at China at sa samahan ng mga ito.



Iginiit ng Pangulo ang dapat na pamamayani ng pandaigdigang batas, kasama na ang United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas at ang 2016 Arbitral Award na nagpasakamay sa Pilipinas ng 200-mile exclusive economic zone mula sa mga teritoryo nitong katubigan.

Kasama rin sa mga batas ang paglutas sa mga sulirarin sa mapayapang paraan at pagsunod mismo ng China, Pilipinas at iba pa sa Code of Conduct sa buong South China Sea.

HINDI KAILANGAN ANG GIYERA

Sa panahon ng halalan ngayon, may ilang kandidatong Pangulo ang naghahayag sa aksyon at salita nila ng kahandaang makipaggiyera.

Ngunit batay sa mga pangyayari, gumagana ang madiplomatikong paraan sa pagbabawas ng isa sa tatlong barkong China Coast Guard sa lugar at pag-alis ng nasa 19 iba pang pininiwalaang China militia vessels.

Klarong kayang ipagtatanggol ng Pilipinas ang sarili at isulong ang pambansa nitong interes nang hindi idinaraan sa anomang hakbang na makalilikha ng madugong digmaan.

25 NOVEMBER 2021, THURSDAY



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines receives 700K AstraZeneca jabs from Australia

Philstar.com November 24, 2021 | 11:01am



A health worker holds a vial of the AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine inside a Catholic church turned into a vaccination center in Manila on May 21, 2021.

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines received Wednesday 700,000 doses of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine donated by the Australian government.

The jabs landed past 9 a.m. onboard a Cathay Pacific plane at Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The vaccine shipment makes up the first batch of a total of 3.6 million shots that the Australian government is donating to the Philippines.

"This is substantial in light of the fact that we're rolling out our booster policy," Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said.

Vaccine czar Carlito Galvez Jr. said most of the freshly delivered vaccines will be used in the three-day simultaneous vaccination drive.

"These will be used maybe as first dose, second dose or booster," he said.

According to Australian Ambassador Steven Robinson, the next batch of Australia's donation to the Philippines may be delivered during the first quarter of 2021.

Since February, more than 135 million vaccine doses have arrived in the country.

Over 33.84 million Filipinos have completed vaccination against COVID-19 since the rollout began in March. Meanwhile, 42.63 million people have received partial protection. — Gaea Katreena Cabico

Source: <u>https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/11/24/2143494/philippines-receives-700k-astrazeneca-jabs-australia</u>

EEGOGEDENIR

Covid-19 Situation and Response



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ang pagbabakuna ay hindi lamang nagbibigay ng sanggalang laban sa COVID-19 sa iyo kundi pati na rin sa mga mahal mo sa buhay. Maliban dito ay marapat lang na ating patuloy na sundin ang Minimum Public Health Standards kahit saan man tayo naroroon. Kasabay nito ang ating pagiging alisto sa mga sintomas. Sa oras na makaramdam ay agad makipag-ugnayan sa BHERTS o sa One COVID Referral Center na maabot sa 1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333, para sa karampatang gabay.

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



lhahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod: SMART: 0919 977 3333 GLOBE: 0915 777 7777 TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



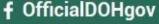
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