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'Positive impact': Cimatu says Dolomite Beach will environmentally inspire Filipinos

OCT 24, 2021, 5:37 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

BY making Manila Bay more attractive and clean, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu believes the area especially the Dolomite Beach can positively impact the mindset of the public on proper solid waste management.

Cimatu said he envisions the full restoration of the historic bay as a way to inspire Filipinos' behavioral change towards the environment.

He added the public will be inspired to practice proper solid waste management and shun environmentally destructive habits.

"Why did we beautify the Baywalk when we can have just settled with its old appearance? You see, our intention is to dramatically change it so that when you enter there, your mindset and attitude will improve," Cimatu said.

The Dolomite Beach was reopened to the public last Oct. 16.

"This is really our intention for doing this, for us not to go back to the old, dirty Manila Bay," he stressed.

Cimatu, who is chair of the Manila Bay Task Force which launched the "Battle for Manila Bay" in 2019, underscored the importance of instilling behavioral change among Filipinos as he pointed out that solid waste management remains "one of the biggest challenges" faced by the DENR.

Meanwhile Cimatu also enjoined Filipino families to be DENR's partners in this and other similar efforts and programs.

He said that good practices instilled by parents on their children can positively contribute to the care and restoration of the country's environment and natural resources.

Cimatu said once the full rehabilitation project is done, he is confident that the Filipino youth will someday be proud of the Manila Bay and the culture change that, hopefully, he said, they will inherit.

"When the next generation witnesses this, they will say — 'This is beautiful. Mabuti nalang nagawa ito noon.' I know that the next generation will say that," Cimatu said.

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/positive-impact-cimatu-says-dolomite-beach-will-environmentally-inspire-filipinos?fbclid=IwAR0D8UIZCAXnV2OEeGQB1Ik4Ymb9846J1W3cFLjgzhZ7Zm9jJsIi-Kl-xGE>



Cimatu: Dolomite beach to spark positive environmental behavior

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA OCTOBER 25, 2021

ENVIRONMENT and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatu believes the controversial Dolomite Beach project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) will inspire positive environmental behavior among Filipinos.

During the launch of the DENR's Solid Waste Management Advocacy Campaign last October 15, the DENR chief reiterated the importance of the dolomite beach in the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program, noting how the P389-million beach enhancement project can positively shape the mindset of the public on proper solid waste management.

The Beach Enhancement Project is just part and parcel of the bigger P1.2 billion DENR-DPWH Manila Bay Rehabilitation program that breathed life to the Battle for Manila Bay launched in January 2019.

Cimatu said he envisions the full restoration of the historic bay as a way to inspire Filipinos' behavioral change towards the environment.

Cimatu was quoted in a statement as saying that in making Manila Bay more attractive and clean, the public will be inspired to practice proper solid waste management and shun environmentally destructive habits.

"Why did we beautify the Baywalk when we can have just settled with its old appearance? You see, our intention is to dramatically change it so that when you enter there, your mindset and attitude will improve," Cimatu said a day before the dolomite beach at Manila Bay was reopened to the public last October 16.

"This is really our intention for doing this, for us not to go back to the old, dirty Manila Bay," he said.

He also underscored the importance of instilling behavioral change among Filipinos as he pointed out that solid waste management remains "one of the biggest challenges" faced by the DENR.

In line with this, the DENR had launched the "solid waste management advocacy campaign," a youth-focused advocacy drive that aims to spur behavioral change towards the environment and mobilize the citizenry on the proper handling and disposal of solid waste.

Cimatu also enjoined Filipino families to be DENR's partners in this and other similar efforts and programs. He said that good practices instilled by parents on their children can positively contribute to the care and restoration of the country's environment and natural resources.

The DENR, together with its "Estero Rangers" and government and non-government partners, likewise continues to implement the Manila Bay rehabilitation program through various cleanup activities in the historic bay and its connecting waterways.

Once the rehabilitation project is done, Cimatu expressed confidence that the Filipino youth will someday be proud of Manila Bay and the culture change that, hopefully, he said, they will inherit.



“When the next generation witnesses this, they will say — ‘This is beautiful. Mabuti nalang nagawa ito noon.’ [It’s good it was done that time.] I know that the next generation will say that,” Cimatú said.

“When they grow up, they wouldn’t think our country is a third world country because they’ll see this as very orderly, clean, and beautiful,” he added. “This is really intended for the next generation.”



Dolomite beach remains packed

The official advised visitors to go inside in batches to avoid congestion at the beach and outside where the long queues formed

Published 4 hours ago on October 25, 2021 02:30 AM

By **Larry Payawal**



Manila Bay's dolomite beach had to be closed for an hour early Sunday after a throng of about 4,000 people raised fears of the situation becoming a Covid-19 super-spreader event.

Jacob Meimban Jr., deputy executive director of the Manila Bay Coordinating Council, said authorities have extended by up to 300 meters the area that is open to the public to avoid overcrowding.

The Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the proponent of spreading crushed dolomite rocks on the beach, has said that 25,000 people visited the beach in the first week that it opened.

Physical distancing and other health protocols like the wearing of masks and face shields were enforced by marshals in the beach measuring 12,000 square meters or 1.2 hectares.

"I've directed the ground commander to temporarily stop the entry of people. The entrance is in Pedro Gil. I've ordered him to ask people to go to Remedios instead," Meimban said.

"People can walk along the stretch of Remedios to Abad in the Baywalk Area. They can return in an hour to replace visitors that have just left the area," he added.

The official advised visitors to go inside in batches to avoid congestion at the beach and outside where the long queues formed.

Meimban noted that some visitors spend quite some time at the beach, with some even laying down mats or blankets. Some even played volleyball, he said.



Authorities limit access as thousands flock to Manila's dolomite beach

Philstar.com October 24, 2021 | 11:13am



Crowds gather as families spend quality time while waiting for the famous Manila Bay sunset at the Manila Dolomite Beach during its 2nd day opening on Sunday (October 17, 2021).

Miguel De Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Thousands trooped to the Manila Bay dolomite beach on Sunday, prompting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to order the area's temporary closure.

Speaking in an interview aired over dzMM TeleRadyo, Jacob Meimban Jr, deputy executive director of the department's Manila Bay Coordinating Office, said that he directed the office's ground commander to temporarily stop the entry of people after the number of visitors reached up to 4,000.

"During last weekend when the beach re-opened, we gave them access to some 140 meters or 8,000 square meters of the Dolomite Beach area. If we see that a much larger number of people are going in, we are ready to open up to some 300 meters or 12,000 square meters – that is 1.2 hectares," he said earlier.

"The following day, which is a Sunday, that number tripled since we monitored some 25,000 visitors that day. And consecutive days after that, we recorded more or less 20,000 sightseers per day."

Metro Manila has few parks and public spaces. Shopping malls, where many go for leisure, have reopened subject [to restrictions](#).

More people expected at sunset

Asked about holding people in queues outside the gates, Meimban said: "We've done that already, it only made congestion outside worse, which we think is more dangerous because it causes overcrowding."

"People can walk along the stretch of Remedios to Abad in the Baywalk Area...They can return in an hour to replace visitors that have just left the area," he said in Filipino.

Meimban said there would be a surge of visitors starting at around 5 p.m. "That is the crucial time because we learned that many want to see the sunset in the bay area," he added.

As the national government's coronavirus task force opts to relax restrictions and open more public areas, local government and police officials urge the people to be more "disciplined" when going out.



Police Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, PNP chief, reminded the public to be "more responsible," pointing to the visitors of the dolomite beach.

"We have repeatedly reminded the public to strictly adhere to minimum health standards especially when in public places or attractions such as Dolomite Beach. I understand the desire of our countrymen to get out of their homes, but if we are not careful, the COVID-19 case is likely to rise again and the government will be forced to tighten protocols again," Eleazar said.

"I have instructed our unit commanders to ensure that we have a sufficient number of police in public places to ensure compliance with the minimum public health safety."

Earlier, the DENR recorded at least 25,000 visitors in the Manila Bay during the first week it reopened following Metro Manila's shift to the lighter Alert Level 3.

To date, health authorities have recorded 2.75 million coronavirus infections in the country, 63,051 of which are still classified as active cases.

The Department of Health earlier this week said that coronavirus cases are expected to stabilize back to pre-Delta numbers, indicating a possible shift to Alert Level 2 in the coming weeks. — with a report from The STAR/Rhodina Villanueva



Dolomite beach sumobra sa kapasidad

By [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - October 25, 2021 - 12:00am



Sa datos ng MBCO, umabot sa 4,000 ang dumagsa nitong Linggo sa 1.2 ektaryang dolomite beach. Nasa 25,000 naman ang kabuuang bumisita sa loob ng isang linggo mula nang ibaba ang Alert Level 3 sa Metro Manila.

The STAR / Miguel de Guzman

4K katao dumagsa

MANILA, Philippines — Sumobra sa kapasidad ang Manila Bay Dolomite Beach nang libu-libong tao ang dumagsa dito nitong Linggo dahilan para magpatupad ang pamunuan ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office ng pansamantalang pagsasara nito.

Sa datos ng MBCO, umabot sa 4,000 ang dumagsa nitong Linggo sa 1.2 ektaryang dolomite beach. Nasa 25,000 naman ang kabuuang bumisita sa loob ng isang linggo mula nang ibaba ang Alert Level 3 sa Metro Manila.

Dahil sa rami ng tao, nahirapan nang ipatupad ang 'minimum health protocols' partikular ang 'physical distancing'.

Hindi na rin nakukuha ang temperatura ng mga taong pumapasok at hindi na rin umano natatanong kung bakunado na sila.

Dahil dito, ipinag-utos ni MBCO deputy executive director Jacob Meimban Jr. na pansamantalang isang oras na isara ang pasukan sa may Pedro Gil at pinapunta ang mga tao sa may Remedios. Pinabalik sila ng isang oras kapag nakalabas na ang ibang tao na nasa loob ng beach.

Sinabi pa ni Meimban na isasara nila ang beach kada Biyernes para isailalim sa maintenance at lilimitahan na ang pagpasok ng mga bisita dahil sa banta na maging 'superspreader event' ang pagtitipon-tipon ng mga tao.

At least 4,000 troop to Manila Bay dolomite beach early Sunday: official

Gillan Roper, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Oct 24 2021 08:48 AM | Updated as of Oct 24 2021 03:08 PM



Thousands visit Manila's dolomite beach on Sunday morning amid the COVID-19 pandemic. *Jekki Pascual, ABS-CBN News*

MANILA (2nd UPDATE) - Manila Bay's dolomite beach will be closed for at least an hour after some 4,000 visitors have already trooped to the area as of early Sunday, an official said.

At least 25,000 people have visited Manila Bay dolomite beach in the first week it reopened following the capital region's shift into Alert Level 3, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources earlier said.

Authorities have extended up to 300 meters the area that is open to the public, according to Jacob Meimban Jr, deputy executive director of Manila Bay Coordinating Office.

Marshals reminding the public to observe physical distancing have been doubled, he said. The beach measures around 1.2 hectares or 12,000 square meters, he added.



"Inutusan ko na ang ground commander namin d'yan na pansamantalang pigilan ang pagpasok ng tao. Ang entrance kasi d'yan ay nasa Pedro Gil Pansamantala muna ihinto ang pagpasok ng tao at papuntahin muna sa Remedios," he told ABS-CBN's TeleRadyo.

(I've directed the ground commander to temporarily stop the entry of people. The entrance is in Pedro Gil. I've ordered him to ask people to go to Remedios instead.)

"Magandang lakaran yung papuntang Remedios hanggang sa Abad, 'yang stretch ng Baywalk Area... Balik sila ng 1 oras para yung mga lumabas na bisita ay sila ang papalit."

(People can walk along the stretch of Remedios to Abad in the Baywalk Area...They can return in an hour to replace visitors that have just left the area.)

Visitors cannot go inside in batches as this will cause long and congested queues outside, Meimban said.

"Ginawa na namin 'yan (pag-hold sa tao sa entrance). Ang nangyari ay lalo nagkaka-congestion sa labas, na sa tingin namin ay mas delikado dahil dikit-dikit sila doon at hindi gumagalaw," he said.

(We've done that already, it only made congestion outside worse, which we think is more dangerous because it causes overcrowding.)

ABS-CBN's Jekki Pascual, who is in the area, reported that visitors include children, and some promptly left when the rain poured around 8 a.m.

He also observed that some visitors spend some time inside, laying mats or blankets to sit or lie on, while some young people were seen playing volleyball.

Visitors are not asked if they have been vaccinated against COVI

Crowds usually come in at around 5 p.m. to watch the sunset and leave at 6 p.m., according to Meimban.

The beach will be closed to the public on Friday for maintenance work, he said.

Swimming remains prohibited as the bay's chloroform levels have yet to reach the safety standard, he added.

The police said a meeting will be held in the coming days to check if there is a need to amend the rules.





More than 500 Philippine Army reservists conducted a clean-up operation at the dolomite beach and Baseco beach in Manila.

"Anything na makakatulong sa komunidad, reservist natin ang mag-aaksyon. Kailangan din namin ng tulong ng mamamayan natin para maprotektahan natin ang kalikasan at ang ating bansa para mapakinabang ng din ng kabataan na susunod na salinglahat natin," Major Gen Fernando Felipe, commander of Philippine Army Reserve Command.

(Reservists will do anything we can do to help the community. We also need the public help in protecting the environment and our country so the youth can benefit in the future.)

- with reports from Jekki Pascual, ABS-CBN News

Source: https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/10/24/21/thousands-troop-to-manilas-dolomite-beach-early-sunday-official?fbclid=IwAR25C8yRwMe2tlbu-e5mGs01rrNs8_uH8sMKOUbdAVObyCME7eawxyFLTn0



Mga dolomite beach marshal `di naawat buhos ng tao

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Oct 24, 2021

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Tinatayang umabot umano sa mahigit 6,000 katao ang dumagsa sa dolomite beach sa Manila Bay kahapon para mamasyal matapos na ibaba sa alert level 3 ang National Capital Region(NCR).

Ayon sa Manila Police District-Station 5, nagsimulang dumating ang mga tao alas-siyete ng umaga.

Ito'y sa kabila ng pagtatalaga ng mga marshal sa lugar para ipatupad ang mga safety protocol para na rin sa kaligtasan kontra COVID.

Naging mapayapa naman ang paligid sa kabila nang pagdagsa ng mga tao sa kontrobersiyal na dolomite beach.

Una nang binuksan ito noong Oktubre 16, mula alas-otso hanggang alas-11:00 ng umaga at alas-tres ng hapon hanggang alas-sais ng gabi.

Mahigpit na pinatutupad sa dolomite beach ang pagsusuot ng publiko ng face mask at face shield gayundin ang physical distancing bilang safety protocol laban sa COVID-19.

Source: <https://tonite.abante.com.ph/mga-dolomite-beach-marshal-di-naawat-buhos-ng-tao1/>



Manila Bay dolomite beach isasara tuwing Biyernes



October 24, 2021 @ 2:13 PM 17 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Inanunsyo ng Manila Bay management na isasara nila ang dolomite beach tuwing Biyernes para sa maintenance.

Gayundin ay lilimitahan ang pagpasok ng mga tao sa lugar upang maiwasan na lumobo ang kaso ng COVID.

Ayon kay Jacob Meimban Jr., deputy executive director ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office, ito ay adjustments para sa one-day maintenance work.

“In the coming days, we will be putting the additional adjustments. Una diyan gusto namin ipaalam sa publiko na magsasarado po kami tuwing Biyernes ng buong araw. Bigyan niyo kami ng isang araw yung dolomite beach dahil sa libo-libong tao pumapasok,” saad ni Meimban sa radio interview.

“I-advise ang mga darating na bisita na pumunta muna sa Remedios ng isang oras. Balik sila ng isang oras para yung mga lumabas na bisita ay sila ang papalit.”

Dagdag pa ng opisyal, dinoble na rin ang mga bilang ng kapulisan at bantay para maipatupad ang social distancing. **RNT/FGDC/Jocelyn Tabangcura**



Dolomite Beach isasara tuwing Biyernes dahil sa maintenance, dagsa ng tao

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Oct 24 2021 05:40 PM | Updated as of Oct 24 2021 06:20 PM

MAYNILA - Planong limitahan ng mga awtoridad ang mga araw na bukas ang Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach kasunod ng walang patid na pagdagsa ng mga namamasyal dito.

Ayon kay Jacob Meimban Jr., Deputy Executive Directo ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office, isasara tuwing Biyernes ang lugar para magkaroon ng maintenance work.

"In the coming days, we will be putting additional adjustments. Una diyan, gusto nating ipaalam sa publiko na magsasarado po kami tuwing Biyernes, buong araw. Bigyan niyo po kami ng 1 araw na gawan ng maintenance work yung dolomite beach," ani Meimban.

Dagdag nila, pinapapasok na nila ang lahat ng gustong pumasok dahil baka magsiksikan pa sa pila sa labas ng beach.

"In-institute namin na approach sa labas. Mahirap kasing magkaroon ng congestion sa labas, lalo na yung mga nakaraang araw, dahil sa labas, makitid yung Baywalk area. So pag nagkaroon doon ng congestion, ng pilahan, mas mahirap yun, mas dikit-dikit sila kumpara dito sa loob," aniya.

Paalala rin ng opisyal na bawal magswimming at magtampisaw dito at kung makita na maraming tao rito ay huwag munang pumasok at mamasyal lang muna sa ibang parke.

-- Ulat ni **Jekki Pascual**, ABS-CBN News



Manila Bay dolomite beach isasara na tuwing Biyernes – DENR

By **Bombo Dave Vincent Pasit** -October 24, 2021 | 3:39 PM

Isasara ng pamunuan ng Manila Bay ang dolomite beach tuwing Biyernes para sa isasagawang maintenance, at lilimitahan na rin ang bilang ng pinapapasok na mga tao sa artificial beach na ito para maiwasan ang peligro nang hawaan ng COVID-19.

Ayon kay Jacob Meimban Jr. ang deputy director ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office, ang ipapatupad nilang adjustments na ito ay kasunod na rin ng libo-libong mga tao na pumasok sa dolomite beach sa mga nakalipas na linggo.

Sa pangamba na maging superspreader event ang pagdagsa ng maraming mga tao, sinabi ni Meimban na inatasan na nila ang ground commanders ng dolomite beach na pansamantalang pahintuin ang mga bisita sa pagpasok sa Pedro Gil entrance.

Dodoblehin na rin aniya nila ang bilang ng mga pulis at marshals para sa implementation ng social distancing.

Sa ngayon, pinag-aaralan pa nila Meimban ang lahat ng mga proposals para masolusyunan ang pagdagsa ng maraming tao sa lugar.



Pagliligo o pagtatampisaw sa dolomite beach, delikado — Dermatologist

ni [Jasmin Joy Evangelista](#) | October 24, 2021



Nagbabala ang isang doktor laban sa mga sakit na maaaring makuha sa exposure o paliligo sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach matapos itong buksan sa publiko.

Nitong mga nagdaang araw ay dagsa ang mga bumibisita sa dolomite beach na puno ng crushed dolomite na nagsisilbing parang white sand.

Ayon sa dermatologist na si Dr. Grace Beltran, mapanganib sa kalusugan ang dolomite sand dahil puwede itong magdulot ng sakit sa balat, allergy, at maaari ring sanhi ng sakit sa baga.

Ang Dolomite sand ay gawa sa crystalline silica na maaaring magdulot ng iritasyon sa baga at mauwi sa lung cancer.

"The dolomite sand is crystalline silica kaya puwede kang magkaroon ng irritation doon sa lungs... then eventually can also lead to lung cancer," ani Beltran.

"Aside pa dito kapag ikaw ay naka-ingest accidentally kasi syempre kapag nagsu-swimming ka o naglalangoy-langoy ka na doon, pwede mong ma-ingest yung water doon sa lugar na yun," dagdag niya.

Sa ngayon ay mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang pagliligo sa dolomite beach bagama't marami ang nasita dahil sa pagtatampisaw sa tubig.

Samantala, sinabi ng Manila Bay management na isasara ang dolomite beach tuwing Biyernes para sa maintenance nito. Lilimatahan na rin ang pagpapapasok dito upang maiwasan ang paglaganap ng COVID-19.

Ayon kay Jacob Meimban Jr., deputy executive director ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office, nagsasagawa sila ng adjustments tulad nga ng pagpapatupad ng isang araw na maintenance work.

"In the coming days, we will be putting the additional adjustments. Una diyan gusto namin ipaalam sa publiko na magsasarado po kami tuwing Biyernes ng buong araw. Bigyan niyo kami ng isang araw yung dolomite beach dahil sa libo-libong tao pumapasok," aniya



GMA News

8h · 🌐



Kahit umulan kanina ay blockbuster pa rin ang dami ng tao sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach.

May nilinaw naman ang DENR kung puwede nga raw ba o hindi doon ang mga bata.



👍 😄 ❤️ 2.3K

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Source: <https://fb.watch/8RCh4jSzSY/>



UNTV News and Rescue

19h · 🌐

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LOOK: A large crowd gathered at Manila Bay's dolomite beach on Sunday morning (October 24)



👍 🥰 ❤️ Patricia Lee and 15K others

3.3K Comments 8K Shares



Boracay rehab completion eyed before June 2022

[Elizabeth Marcelo](#) - The Philippine Star October 25, 2021 | 12:00am



This September 2020 photo shows the sunset in Boracay island, Malay, Aklan.
Malay Municipal Tourism Office / Facebook

MANILA, Philippines — The Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force (BIATF) aims to complete the rehabilitation of the world-famous tourist destination before June 2022.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, who heads the BIATF, said the term extension earlier given by President Duterte to the task force should be enough to finish all the rehabilitation works.

“The 2022 polls are nearing and we must ensure that we have the proper mechanisms in place, so our hard work and efforts would not turn to naught,” Cimatu said during a press briefing on Friday.

The BIATF, which is co-chaired by the departments of tourism and the interior and local government, was created on May 8, 2018 under Executive Order 53.

The task force’s term was supposed to have ended in 2020, but was extended by Duterte until May 2021.

Last March, Duterte granted the BIATF’s request to again extend its operations until June 30, 2022, citing the stalled works due to the COVID pandemic.

Cimatu said the water quality along the beaches of Boracay has significantly improved, noting that the coliform level was high before the rehabilitation started in 2018.

Natividad Bernardino, general manager of the Boracay inter-agency rehabilitation and management group, said the June 2022 target is realistic for the total completion of the island’s rehabilitation.

Demolition of establishments encroaching the shoreline easement is now 83 percent complete, Bernardino said.

Affected fisherfolk were given cash assistance amounting to almost P1 million by the local governments of Malay and Aklan as well as by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said the vaccination of residents and tourism workers was expected to reach 100 percent by the end of this month, citing the arrival of 35,100 doses of Pfizer vaccine last Thursday.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2021/10/25/2136429/boracay-rehab-completion-eyed-june-2022>



Boracay rehab kukumpletuhin sa mid-2022 – DENR



October 24, 2021 @ 10:21 AM 21 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Target ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na makumpleto ang rehabilitasyon ng Boracay Island sa Hunyo 2022.

Sinabi ni DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu na ang kwalidad ng tubig sa Boracay beaches ay gumanda nang simulan ang rehabilitasyon noong 2018.

Samantala, sinabi ni Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG) General Manager Natividad Bernardino na ang June 2022 completion target ay “realistic goal.”

“We have to do it. Hindi pwedeng hindi. Gawin natin (We shouldn’t do it. Let’s do it),” panig ni Cimatu.

“We are doing this as a nature-based solution to address the issue that the 25+5 easement has shrunk a bit because of soil erosion,” paliwanag pa nito. **RNT/FGDC**



DENR, tiwalang matatapos ang natitirang trabaho sa Boracay

By [RadyoMaN Manila](#) -Oct. 24, 2021 at 6:31am



Determinado ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na tapusin ang mga trabaho ng Boracay Inter-agency Task Force (BIATF) bago matapos ang administrasyong Duterte.

Ayon kay Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, sapat na ang pinalawig na termino ng BIATF upang matapos ang pagsasaayos sa Boracay.

Aniya, mas mainam na maplantsa na ang mga nararapat na mekanismo upang hindi masayang ang pinagpaguran sa Boracay lalo pa at nalalapit na ang eleksyon.

Matapos ang isinasagawang paglilinis sa isla, malaki na ang na-improve ng water quality sa mga beach.

Source: https://rmn.ph/denr-tiwalang-matatapos-ang-natitirang-trabaho-sa-boracay/?fbclid=IwAR3QSOOnoSv2k06XPJLmXcRQy7BklGUjiNJO9v5bOLrcSrFP_C-T7TuGbRnY



Carrying capacity ng Boracay, maaring dagdagan

By **Bombo Radyo Kalibo** -October 24, 2021 | 8:52 AM

KALIBO, Aklan – Ikinokonsidera ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang pagdagdag ng carrying capacity sa isla ng Boracay upang mas marami pang turista ang makakabisita sa pamosong tourist destination.

Ang kasalukuyang carrying capacity sa isla ay nasa 19,000 na katao bawat araw.

Sa isinagawang pulong ng Boracay Inter Agency Task Force, sinabi ni DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, hihilingin niya sa Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau ng ahensiya na pag-aralan kung maaring madagdagan ang bilang ng mga tao na pwedeng makapasok sa Boracay. Nabatid na nilimitahan ang pagpasok ng mga turista nang isailalim ang isla sa rehabilitasyon noong 2018.

Karamihan aniyang nagkukumpulan ang mga tao noon sa frontbeach, subalit matapos ang rehabilitasyon ay marami na ang pumupunta sa eastern portion o backbeach dahil malinis na doon.

Binansagang cesspool ang lugar noong una dahil sa mabaho at maduming tubig mula sa mga tubong direktang naglalabas ng waste water sa dagat.

Makaraang malinis ang tubig sa dagat, nagpapatuloy ang pagtibag ngayon sa mga istrakturang lumalabag sa 25+5 meter easement mula sa dalampasigan at pagpapalapad ng kalsada na mino-monitor ng binuong task force.



[Saving our natural resources](#)

OCT 24, 2021, 6:14 PM

Bobby Ricohermoso
Editor

JUST recently, the World Travel Awards has bestowed the Philippines with the honor of being THE leading beach and diving destination in Asia.

Actually, it was the fifth time that the country was named as Asia's Leading Beach Destination, and the third time in a row that it bagged the Asia's Leading Dive Destination Award.

It seems like the efforts of the Duterte government to take care of the country's prized tourist spots with Environment and Natural Secretary Roy Cimatu as the main implementer, are finally paying off.

Cimatu and his people at the DENR for more than two years now have been at the forefront of ensuring the preservation and conservation of some of our more popular tourist spots.

The initiatives started with the rehabilitation of Boracay followed by other destinations like, Bohol, Palawan, Baguio, Cebu and many more.

It's no wonder that Tourism Secretary Berna Romulo-Puyat was so happy with the developments at the tourism front.

"We are elated that the country's pristine beaches and mesmerizing dive spots have once again been cited as the best in Asia by the prestigious 2021 World Travel Awards," she said.

"We share this recognition with our tourism stakeholders, local government units, partner agencies, and all Filipinos who have been helping us promote our country's attractions, products, and culture," Puyat continued.

As we all know, tourism which employs and sustains the livelihood of millions of people throughout the country through direct and ancillary employments and services, is one of the sectors hardest hit by the still ongoing pandemic.

Therefore, recognitions like this one must be a huge source of inspiration not only for those in the tourism industry but for all Filipinos.

We must be proud that despite all the unpleasant and trying experiences that we are undergoing because of the contagion, there are still bright spots left for our country which should inspire us to persevere.

But earning the award for being the leading beach and diving destination in Asia is one thing, and maintaining that distinction is another.

Indeed, there are countless ways that our environment and most-cherished natural resources could be destroyed, if we are not careful and mindful of taking care of them.



Therefore, it was a welcome news that the Asian Development Bank has finally approved a new energy policy that includes its exit from coal financing, as it pushes for a low-carbon transition in the Philippines and in the Asia-Pacific amid worsening climate change.

This, as the Manila-based multilateral bank on Wednesday has approved its 2021 Energy Policy that aims to support universal access to reliable and affordable energy services.

Indeed, that was a step in the right direction.

ADB apparently has finally realized that taking care of the environment is infinitely more important than making oodles and oodles of cash in profits.

In a briefing late Wednesday, ADB chief of energy sector group Priyantha Wijayatunga explained that ADB would no longer fund new coal mining, oil and natural gas field exploration, drilling or extraction.

Wow! That was some real answered prayers for many of climate activists who have been asking ADB for the longest time to stop funding coal-related projects.

In fact, prior to ADB's announcement of its policy shift, groups advocating for energy transformation, led by the Power for People Coalition (P4P) trooped to the bank's headquarters in Mandaluyong to call for a stop of funding on coal-related mining.

The groups charged that for over a decade, the ADB allowed itself to be guided by an energy policy that massively supported fossil fuel development in its member countries in Asia-Pacific, driving the world to exacerbated climate change.

In fact, had the ADB continued with its policy of funding coal mining projects, the survival of climate-vulnerable countries like the Philippines would be severely compromised, and that would include our beautiful beaches and tourist spots.

The good thing is ADB went even one step farther by promising to help developing member countries, including the Philippines, increase their energy efficiency, deploy more renewable and low-carbon energy, and integrate climate and disaster resilience into energy sector operations, by providing with necessary funding.

With this encouraging developments, we can be assured that the Philippines ranking as a top destination for foreign tourists will continue for years to come.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/10/24/rodriguez-eyes-creation-of-environment-protection-agency/>



Villar to challenge Manila Bay ruling

posted October 24, 2021 at 10:20 pm

by [Macon Ramos-Araneta](#)

Senator Cynthia Villar will file a motion for reconsideration before the Supreme Court over its go-signal to reclaim the Manila Bay areas in the cities of Las Pinas and Paranaque, as she urged the High Court to take a “different and fresh appreciation” of the Environmental Impact Assessment rules.

Villar has been asserting that any reclamation project in the areas would impede the flow of the six rivers emptying into Manila Bay, which would cause massive flooding.

They are the Imus River in Imus City, Bacoor River in Bacoor City, Molino River in Bacoor City, Zapote River between Bacoor and Las Piñas cities, Las Pinas River in Las Piñas City, and Parañaque River in Paranaque City.

In fact, Villar said, the damage from the Imus River caused the filing of a case by lawyer Antonio Oposa, the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Environmental Law, which resulted in the issuance of a mandamus on the Manila Bay by the Supreme Court.

As the country marks the first year of the UN Decade for Ecological Restoration, the senator called on the magistrates to revisit their ruling that favored Alltech Contractors’ proposed projects to develop hectares of land in Las Piñas and Parañaque, both along the coastline of Manila Bay, which had been given up and declared illegal with its ECC (environmental compliance certificate) expired.

“This and the declaration by Congress of the existence of a climate crisis, and the two reports of the Nobel-Laureate group Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, have long since rendered any decisions of the DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) made in 2012 irrelevant,” stressed Villar.

She said the SC can also take judicial notice of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act or Republic Act 11038, which was enacted in 2018.

“This legislated the now-renamed Las Piñas Parañaque Wetland Park into a protected area,” said Villar.

She noted this area was included in the Ramsar Convention list of Wetlands of International Importance, in 2013.

A legislated protected area, the Las Piñas-Parañaque Wetland is entitled to a buffer zone in Manila Bay which cannot be reclaimed, Villar noted.

She related that the DENR is also determining the extent of the buffer zone needed for the conservation of the protected wetland park.

“The DENR’s procedures on EIA should take into consideration all these 94 newly-established Protected Areas (PAs),” said Villar, chairperson of the Senate Environmental committee.

“We have long imagined that the ecological services like the flood drainage mechanisms and the filtering capacity of the soil will be there forever. But without proper care, and paying the costs of that care, these services will dissipate. The EIA system must account for this degeneration,” she added.



The SC recently affirmed a Court of Appeals decision denying the petition for a Writ of Kalikasan filed by Villar and 315,000 petitioners to stop a reclamation that is beside the important international wetland.

According to Villar, the SC issued the decision eight years after the CA junked her petition to stop any reclamation project in the area.

She emphasized the DENR's decision to allow the reclamation "has long since been overtaken by multiple studies, many scientific and valuation findings, most of which were not in the case file."

"Worse, any environmental decision taken in an application for an ECC only has a 5-year validity, considering the changes in the surrounding environment and new scientific findings that may happen," the senator said.

She also pointed out that the ECC of Alltech, despite the SC decision, has long since expired, and the failure to start up the project was not caused by this case.

Villar said if the Supreme Court says the DENR currently has sufficient technical capacity to make a determination in this case of all the factors that need to be taken into account, "then why is our environment still on the decline?"



MR ISASAMPA SA SC KONTRA RECLAMATION

[12 hours ago](#) [jake](#)



MAGSASAMPA ng Motion for Reconsideration (MR) sa Supreme Court (SC) si Senator Cynthia Villar dahil sa pagbibigay nito ng “go-signal” na i-reclaim ang lugar ng Manila Bay sa Las Piñas at Parañaque kasabay ng apela sa High Court na magkaroon ng iba at “fresh appreciation” sa environmental impact assessment (EIA) rules.

Patuloy na pinaninindigan ni Villar na magdudulot ng malawakang pagbaha ang anomang reclamation project sa mga nasabing lugar dahil mahaharang nito ang daloy ng tubig mula sa anim na ilog sa Manila Bay. Ang mga ito ay ang: 1. Imus River sa Imus City, 2. Bacoor River sa Bacoor City 3. Molino River sa Bacoor City 4. Zapote River na nasa Bacoor Las Piñas cities 5. Las Pinas River sa Las Piñas City at 6. Parañaque River sa Paranaque City.

Sa katunayan, ang pinsala sa Imus River ang naging sanhi ng kaso ni Atty. Antonio Oposa-ang Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Environmental Law. Dahil dito, nagpalabas ang SC ng Mandamus sa Manila Bay.

Sa pagkilala sa unang taon ng “UN Decade for Ecological Restoration,” nanawagan ang senador sa court magistrates na muling bisitahin ang kanilang ruling na pabor sa panukalang proyekto ng Alltech Contractors na i-develop ng ilang ektarya ng lupa sa Las Piñas at Parañaque na parehong nasa baybayin ng Manila Bay.

“This and the Declaration by Congress of the existence of a Climate Crisis, and the two reports of the Nobel-Laureate group Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, have long since rendered any decisions of the DENR made in 2012 irrelevant,” giit ni Villar.

“With due respect”, sinabi ni Villar na maaari ring bigyan ng SC ng judicial notice ang Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E NIPAS) Act o RA 11038 na nasaibatas noong 2018.

“This legislated the now renamed Las Piñas Parañaque Wetland Park (formerly LPPCHEA) into a protected area,” ani Villar, na binigyang diin din na nakasama ito sa “Ramsar Convention list of Wetlands of International Importance”.

Sinabi rin niya na ikinokonsidera ng DENR ang lawak ng buffer zone na kailangan sa conservation.

“The DENR’s procedures on EIA should take into consideration all these 94 newly established Protected Areas (PAs),” ayon kay Villar, chairperson ng Senate Environmental Committee.”



Kamakailan lamang, kinatigan ng SC ang Court of Appeals (CA) decision na nagbasura sa petition para sa Writ of Kalikasan na inihain ni Villar at 315,000 petitioners upang ipatigil ang reclamation na kalapit ng international important wetland.

Ayon kay Villar, nag-isyu ang SC ng desisyon, walong taon matapos ibasura ng CA ang kanyang petition na ihinto ang anomang reclamation project sa lugar.

Binigyan diin din niya na ang desisyon ng DENR na payagan ang reclamation ay nasapawan na ng maraming pag-aaral, scientific at valuation findings na karamihan ay wala sa case file. (ESTONG REYES)

Source: http://saksingayon.com/nasyunal/mr-isasampa-sa-sc-kontra-reclamation/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR02zX_z1m7BD4cP7fhgfvZMSzfEAQkUSkXYfq7y4psdvtsAFIMp3h3ITQA



USAID trains over 200 Filipino researchers, environment leaders in ecosystem valuation

Published October 24, 2021, 4:19 PM

by [Bethena Unite](#)

More than 200 researchers from Philippine public universities and natural resource managers were trained by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on how to properly track the changes in value and contribution of natural resources to the country's economy.



ECOSYSTEM VALUATION – The USAID builds the capacity of Filipino natural resource managers in generating information needed to track the changes in value and contribution of natural resources to the Philippine economy through a three-month training. (Photo courtesy of the US Embassy in the Philippines)

Through its Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL) project, USAID trained nearly 275 Filipinos over a three-month period to promote economic growth through the conservation of the country's ecosystems.

Natural resource managers and researchers from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, and six public universities learned various methods for measuring the value of benefits derived from the environment such as food, water and fuel, soil conservation, and coastal protection.

According to USAID Philippines Environment Office Director John Edgar, the training aims to provide understanding on the drivers of natural resource depletion in an attempt to identify proper interventions.

“When we have competent natural resource managers who are able to account for and monitor the economic value of ecosystem services in the Philippines, the country is in a better position to understand the drivers behind natural resource depletion and develop necessary interventions that will preserve the country's biodiversity, oceans, and landscapes,” Edgar said. The training, he added, serves as a foundation for incorporating environmental valuation into the design of economic plans at the local level.

Environment Undersecretary Edilberto Leonardo, said that the knowledge and skills learned in the training “will be applied in the actual implementation of natural capital accounting activities,” which include updating the country's asset accounts, or the value of resources found in Philippine forests, coral reefs, and fisheries.

According to the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Philippines is one of 17 megadiverse countries in the world, which account for 70 percent of the entire planet's species of flora and fauna.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/10/24/usaaid-trains-over-200-filipino-researchers-environment-leaders-in-ecosystem-valuation/>



Rodriguez eyes creation of environment protection agency

Published October 24, 2021, 12:10 PM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)

House Deputy Speaker Rufus Rodriguez is pushing passage of a bill seeking to create an independent government agency that would be tasked to focus on programs protecting the environment.

Rodriguez, in filing House Bill No. 3794, or “An Act Creating the National Environmental Protection Agency of the Philippines” said there is a need to establish an independent gency that exclusively deals with protecting, promoting and enhancing the environment.

The lawmaker said the proposed agency would be tasked to consolidate a variety of research, monitoring, standard-setting, and enforcement activities to ensure environmental protection.

Rodriguez took note of the mandate of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to protect the environment and oversee the utilization of the country’s natural resources saying it is already caught in between conservation and utilization.

He added that a clash of interest between environmental protection and use of natural resources is unavoidable and this puts the DENR in an uneasy and difficult situation.

According to the Cagayan De Oro representative, the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) will be the primary government office responsible for the conservation and protection of the country’s environment.

Among its powers and functions is to establish and enforce environmental protection standards; conduct research on the adverse effects, methods and equipment for controlling of pollution; gathering of information on pollution; use gathered information in strengthening environmental protection programs and recommending policy changes; assisting others through grants, technical assistance and other means in arresting of environmental pollution.

The proposed NEPA will also be mandated to give advise to the President and Congress on the enactment of laws relative to the conservation of the country’s natural resources and environmental protection; formulate, implement and supervise the government policies, plans and programs; and undertake geological surveys of the country including its territorial waters.

It will also be mandated to establish policies and implement programs for the accelerated inventory, surveys and classification of lands, forest and mineral resources using appropriate technology; preservation of cultural and natural heritage through wildlife conservation and segregation of national parks and other protected areas; and maintenance of a wholesome natural environment by enforcing environmental protection laws.

Rodriguez said NEPA will also oversee, supervise, and police the country’s natural resources; promulgate rules and regulations for the control of water, air and land pollution; promote standards for water and air quality; declare policies, rules and regulations for the conservation of the country’s genetic resources, biological diversity and endangered habitat; formulate an integrated, multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary national conservation strategy; and exercise other powers and functions, and perform such other acts may be necessary. (Melvin Sarangay)

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/10/24/rodriguez-eyes-creation-of-environment-protection-agency/>



Solon seeks coordinated management of coastal, marine resources

Published October 24, 2021, 4:35 PM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)

Bukidnon 1st District Representative Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba has sought passage of a bill that seeks to coordinate and ensure the sustainable development of coastal and marine resources of the Philippines.

Acosta-Alba has filed House Bill No. 3136 or “An Act adopting Integrated Coastal Ecosystem Management (ICEM) as a national strategy to ensure the sustainable development of the country’s coastal and marine environment and resources and establishing supporting mechanisms for its implementation, and providing funds.”

The said bill is based on Executive Order No. 533 which was signed by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on June 6, 2006. The EO adopts the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) as a national strategy to assure that the country’s coastal and marine environment and resources have sustainable development and are backed by support systems.

In her explanatory note on HB 3136, Acosta-Alba said the ICEM will serve as a holistic and ecological planning tool that will facilitate the management of coastal and marine resources. It will also be a system for cooperative management and intersectoral coordination, planning, and reporting at the local and national levels to address complex activities like deforestation, mining, fishing, shipping, public health, and recreation.

The bill also seeks to establish a body called the National Coordinating Committee on ICEM that will coordinate the review and implementation of the National ICEM Framework.

The said government committee will be composed of Secretaries of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA), and Department of Interior and Local Government, (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Director General, and representatives from the academe, non-government organizations (NGOs) dealing with coastal management or fisheries, private sector, fisherfolk organizations or cooperatives, and the Philippine Association of Marine Sciences.

ICEM, at the local level, will utilize the existing local development councils which will also ensure that it will now be included and accepted in the national economic planning.

As an internationally recognized coastal and marine planning tool, ICEM has produced successful pilot areas in Bataan, Guimaras, Cavite, and Batangas City.

Among the objectives of ICEM is to shift the focus of the country’s development planning from terrestrial to coastal and marine to reflect the significant contribution of such areas to the national gross domestic product (GDP), and to establish the ecological approach in managing the country’s coastal and marine environment to promote sustainable development, achieve food security, and to reduce the country’s vulnerability to impacts of Climate Change. (Melvin Sarangay)

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/10/24/solon-seeks-coordinated-management-of-coastal-marine-resources/>



'Well funded' suspects nabbed in Tubao River illegal quarrying

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA OCTOBER 25, 2021

AUTHORITIES believe that the suspects in the illegal quarry operations in Tubao River in La Union are well-funded and are being backed by an influential individual in Tubao town.

The suspects were operating heavy equipment such as a LiuGong payLoader, Hyundai excavator backhoe, Sinotruck dump truck and Isuzu mini-dump truck along the Tubao-Aringay River in the municipality of Tubao, in violation of national laws and provincial ordinances.

Documents provided by the Philippine National Police (PNP) named one of the suspects as Lito O. Panelo, 40, resident of Barangay Francia West, Tubao. The PNP said Panelo was the operator of the payloader.

The other suspects the PNP named included the following: Sammy L. Fernandez, 50, resident of Barangay Magsaysay, Tubao and operator of the excavator backhoe; Irzo M. Asuncion, 50, resident of Barangay Kagawad of Halog West, Tubao and driver of the dump truck; Rolly S. Laron, 37, resident of Barangay Francia West, Tubao and driver of the mini-dump truck; and, Michael O. de Guzman, 39, resident of Barangay Francia West, Tubao and helper assigned to the mini-dump truck.

The suspects, the police reported, failed to show corresponding permits for their operation in the area.

"They failed to show any pertinent documents with their quarrying activity," the police stated in the initial investigation report.

The suspects were detained at the Tubao Police Station but they posted bail on the same day, the police reports said.

The arrest of the suspects came after the provincial government of La Union asked a certain Edelberto Garcia "to cease and desist your extraction activities outside the applied area."

Police records showed that at 10:30 p.m. last October 19, joint personnel from the 2nd La Union Provincial Mobile Force Company and Tubao Police Station, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) of La Union and the Mines and GeoSciences Bureau (MGB), responded to a reported illegal quarrying at Tubao-Aringay River in Barangay Halog West, Tubao, La Union.

The alleged illegal quarrying in Tubao was discovered after the provincial government received a report from a reliable source who said that the operation was allegedly led by Garcia in Barangay Leones East, the police reported.

The provincial government, together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-MGB (DENR-MGB) Region 1, conducted a joint investigation in the area last September 14.

Personnel from the DENR-MGB Region 1 gathered global positioning system readings on the location of the extraction activities and based on the plotting, the extraction site was found to be outside the applied permit area of Garcia.



The environment officials recommended that Garcia stop his operation, rehabilitate the area where he extracted the sand outside his area and pay the penalty for violating Article 9, Section 2A of Provincial Ordinance 274-2021.

They also asked the local government unit of Tubao to monitor extraction along Aringay River to avoid illegal operation and extraction activities.

The shutting down of Garcia's illegal quarry operations is in line with La Union's Anti-Illegal Quarrying Task Force.

The task force was formed to inspect quarry operations, validate information, conduct investigation, monitor all reported illegal mining and quarrying operations, and set up necessary checkpoints and monitoring stations in the province.



Environmental group calls on public to compost, cut landfill waste

Jasmin Romero, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Oct 21 2021 05:50 PM

MANILA - Many households do not give a second look at the waste coming from their kitchens — leftovers are either recycled and turned into a new meal, fed to pets, or thrown in the trash bin along with fruits and vegetable scraps and peels.

But for environmentalists, people can begin composting at home, instead of throwing and letting their kitchen waste end up in landfills.

According to Mother Earth Foundation Project Manager Shelley Carbonel-Mentoya, this is a “process of biological decomposition of organic matter to form humus-like material,” which can be used as soil conditioner.

Citing studies from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, kitchen waste comprises 45% or nearly half of total waste being generated, followed by paper (17%), recyclable plastic (16%) and garden waste (7%).

“Organic waste in landfills generate methane -- ito yung mga sinasabing potent na greenhouse gas. By composting, nare-reduce ang emission ng methane gas,” she said.

(Organic waste in landfills generate methane, said to be a potent greenhouse gas. By composting, you reduce methane gas emission.)

Composting also saves on disposal costs, reduces the need for chemical fertilizer, and encourages home gardening.

Carbonel-Mentoya said composting is being done already in various areas using different methods.

But for those who want to begin or are living in small spaces, they could start clay-pot composting.

Other types include drum composting, sack composting, pipe- composting, bio pore, and vermiculture.

For those who wish to begin composting, she advises them to start segregating their wastes.

“Make sure na kapag kayo ay nagko-compost, ang gagawin ninyo, by layer po sya— lupa, ilalagay ang food waste, pagkatapos nito lupa hanggang sa mapuno siya, parang sandwich,” she explained.

(Make sure that when you compost, do it by layer--first the soil, then the food waste, and then soli again, just like sandwich.)

Usually, it takes up to 2 weeks and beyond before it can be used as soil conditioner. If it smells, it means it is not yet ready, she said.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/spotlight/10/21/21/environmental-group-to-public-compost-cut-landfill-waste>



3 TIKLO SA ILLEGAL DUMPING NG SOLID WASTE

October 24, 2021 Admin



CAVITE – TATLONG trabahador ng kompanya ang inaresto ng mga operatiba ng pulisya nang maaktuhang ilegal na nagtatapon ng tone- toneladang solid waste materials sa liblib na bahagi ng Sitio Malinta, Brgy. Sampaloc 2, sa Dasmariñas City noong Biyernes ng umaga.

Kinilala ang mga suspek na sina James Resurreccion y Gagucas, 32-anyos; Raymart San Juan y Carabit, 29-anyos; at si Alexander Candol y Cabigan, 57-anyos, pawang nakatira sa nasabing barangay.

Sa inisyal na ulat ng pulisya na nakarating sa Camp Pantaleon Garcia sa Imus City, nabatid na gamit ng mga suspek na ang kulay pulang Elf na may plakang XLR 408 kung saan ilegal na itinatapon ang solid waste materials sa nasabing lugar.

Gayunpaman, nakatanggap ng tawag sa telepono ang pulisya kaugnay sa illegal dumping ay kaagad na tinungo ang nasabing barangay kung saan naaktuhan ang mga suspek.

Sa beripikasyon ng pulisya ay walang maipakitang anumang permit ang mga suspek para sa kanilang operasyon ng solid waste materials na sinasabing mapanganib sa kalusugan ng mga residente.

Kaagad na dinala sa police detention facility ang mga suspek na sinasabing nahaharap sa kasong paglabag sa RA 9003 (Solid Waste Management Act) na may multang P300 to P500 o kaya community service sa loob ng 15 araw. **MHAR BASCO**



HINDI DUMPSITE. Pagtitiyak ng Bureau of Customs, hindi pahihintulutan ng kanilang kawanihan ang mga tangkang paglalagak ng basura sa Pilipinas mula sa ibang bansa. Babala pa ni Customs Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero, ibabalik nila sa pinagmulan ang anumang basurang laman ng mga kargamento. Bunsod nito, inatasan din ni Guerrero ang pamunuan ng kanilang mga Puerto na manatiling mapagbantay at mapanuri laban sa mga tangkang pagpupuslit ng foreign wastes upang maiwasan ang mga negatibong epekto nito sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng mga mamamayan. Kabilang sa mga basurang ibinalik ng BOC at mula sa mga bansang South Korea at Canada.



Youth-focused climate change solution pushed

Published 18 hours ago on October 24, 2021 12:22 PM

By **TDT** @tribunephil



Around the world, the impacts of climate change are already being felt across all sectors. It is evident in the occurrence of more frequent and severe weather events, the rise of sea levels, and the continuous increase in global temperatures, among many others that in turn, threaten many crucial aspects of our lives including food security and biodiversity.

Unfortunately, these effects are only bound to worsen over the next few decades according to a report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released last August. Human activities that result in greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere are still viewed as one of the main drivers of the climate crisis.

Given the current situation, the need to rethink our development approaches and incorporate sustainability principles in our strategies and plans has never been more urgent. Taking on this challenge and in line with its commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, Nestlé Philippines has partnered with the Climate Change Commission, the agency spearheading the government's climate change initiatives, for a joint project called "Klimathon: Our Race Towards a Net-Zero Reality."

With the goal to empower the youth to develop and implement meaningful climate actions to address climate change issues, the Klimathon provides a platform for Filipino youth to spur the development of innovative and sustainability-focused solutions. Participants are asked to develop creative solutions among the following pillars: tackling plastic problems; lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and improving food security.

"Half of the world's population consists of the youth. The Philippines today has the largest generation of young people in its history, comprising 28% of our population. Those of you who are young, who are here today, have a crucial and necessary role in tackling climate change. The Klimathon is a creative platform for you to participate in climate action, to help ensure a livable future on the planet that you will inherit," said Kais Marzouki, chairman and CEO of Nestlé Philippines.

"It is imperative to work with all sectors – including the youth – in taking a whole of government and whole of society approach in view of intergenerational responsibility. Their future will be paved by the actions we take today," said Secretary Emmanuel De Guzman of the Climate Change Commission.

Participating teams of Filipino students and young professionals will each present a project concept paper based on one of the three focus pillars. From there, 10 finalists will undergo a mentorship program with industry and field experts to refine and further develop their project design. Cash prizes and recognition await the winning teams.



Submission of proposals for Klimathon: Our Race Towards a Net-Zero Reality is now open until November 10, 2021, 11:59 PM. Interested participants can head on over to Nes.tl/Klimathon or the Climate Change Commission's website to view the full competition mechanics and how they can join. You may also check out CCC's and Nestlé Philippines' social media pages for more details and updates.



MINDANAO: Dealing with climate change is the challenge of the generation

Published October 24, 2021, 8:00 AM

by [John Tria](#)

With the announcement of a La Niña coming to the country, thoughts about climate and the changes therein permeate the air, and discussion about its effects on our daily lives are vital conversations we need to have, and engage more deeply.

We have seen how extreme weather wreaks havoc on economies. Experts have already told us repeatedly how we as a country are especially at risk of disasters spawned by a changing climate and the economic havoc it will bring.

The climate challenge looms especially large for those in Mindanao who grow crops. Shifting climate patterns affect the flowering of many crops that bear fruit, affecting harvest times and volumes.

This extends to the poultry and livestock sector, since they are fed with the corn we grow. In turn, incomes of those in the agricultural sector, which is a significant part of Mindanao's current economy and potential will be affected.

Climate change and the more frequent disasters expected from these, affect the operations of other businesses, including the manufacturing and distribution of products.

In the country, typhoon season means delays in the shipment of products, preventing the people from accessing the goods and services they need, and diminishing income opportunities.

The effects on income and business disruptions are clear for all to see.

Thus, addressing the climate change challenge means that we go beyond our lamentations and gather more solutions. We, yes, we, including me and you, will all need to contribute and document our ideas that can help each other, as our collective experience and the solutions drawn from these are how we address the challenge of a generation.

This challenge prods many of us who own businesses to think of strategies to make our businesses resilient to disruptions. As we enter strategic planning season, understanding and dealing with the effect of climate related disruptions ought to form part of our assessments, as it adds a layer to discussing other disruptions, challenges and opportunities.

Key here is figuring out how we can effectively source our inputs and how we can sell more volume in more markets.

To my mind we can start with mapping backward how we produce our products. Are we compliant with environment, health and safety requirements and best practices? Are we able to find alternative or back up suppliers in case disruptions take place?

The next step would be mapping forward how and where we sell them to a wider set of customers and markets.

Once we figure that, we become more competitive even in difficult circumstances.



Clinical trials

We eagerly anticipate the release of the results of the clinical trials for virgin coconut oil and lagundi as adjunct therapies for COVID-19.

The Department of Science and Technology's work in pushing these is truly appreciated and inspiring. I hope many young graduates of science courses can pursue fields in science and technology.

At the national level, the proposed virology institute will attract many of our young minds to research on means to address various viral diseases.

At the regional level I think the DOST regional offices will be working more closely with other agencies to pursue innovation related research that can offer technology options that can assist our MSMEs to make them more competitive.

A strong suggestion perhaps is that the studies can also look into having these and other similar locally available inputs to deal with other viral infections such as dengue fever.

May this effort continue!

Let us continue staying safe!

[www. Facebook.com/johntriapage](https://www.facebook.com/johntriapage)



Green bikers

posted October 24, 2021 at 11:40 pm



Hundreds of bikers in Quezon City join others in five Asian countries to demand urgent climate action ahead of a climate change summit.



Climate action prescribed for Covid recovery

Wherever we deliver care, in our hospitals, clinics and communities around the world, we are already responding to the health harms caused by climate change

Published 1 day ago on October 24, 2021 12:02 AM

By [TDT](#) [@tribunephil](#)



Air pollution in Dhaka, Bangladesh is leading to a series of health problems for the city's inhabitants. / Photograph courtesy of UNICEF

Ambitious national climate commitments are crucial for states to sustain a healthy, green recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, according to a new United Nations health agency report launched in the lead-up to the COP26 climate change conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

Based on a growing body of research confirming numerous and inseparable links between climate and health, the World Health Organization's (WHO) COP26 Special Report on Climate Change and Health spells out that transformational action in every sector, from energy, transport and nature to food systems and finance, is needed to protect people.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has shone a light on the intimate and delicate links between humans, animals and our environment," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO chief, said. "The same unsustainable choices that are killing our planet are killing people."

An urgent call WHO's report was launched at the same time as an open letter, signed by over two-thirds of the global health workforce — 300 organizations representing at least 45 million doctors and health professionals worldwide — calling for national leaders and COP26 country-delegations to step up climate action.

"Wherever we deliver care, in our hospitals, clinics and communities around the world, we are already responding to the health harms caused by climate change," the letter from the health professionals reads.

"We call on the leaders of every country and their representatives at COP26 to avert the impending health catastrophe by limiting global warming to 1.5°C, and to make human health and equity central to all climate change mitigation and adaptation actions," it adds.

Fossil fuels 'killing us' Both the report and open letter come as unprecedented extreme weather events and other climate impacts are taking a rising toll on everyone.



Heatwaves, storms and floods have taken thousands of lives and disrupted millions of others, while also threatening health care systems and facilities when they are needed most, the WHO said.

Changes in weather and climate are threatening food security and driving up food-, water- and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, while climate impacts are also negatively affecting mental health.

“The burning of fossil fuels is killing us. Climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity,” states the WHO report. And while no one is safe from the health impacts of climate change, “they are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.”

Climate actions far outweigh costs
Meanwhile, air pollution, primarily the result of burning fossil fuels, which also drives climate change, causes 13 deaths per minute worldwide, according to WHO.

The report states clearly that the public health benefits from implementing ambitious climate actions far outweigh the costs.

“It has never been clearer that the climate crisis is one of the most urgent health emergencies we all face,” Maria Neira, WHO Director of Environment, Climate Change and Health, said.

“Bringing down air pollution... would reduce the total number of global deaths from air pollution by 80 percent while dramatically reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change,” she pointed out.

Neira added that a shift to more nutritious, plant-based diets “could reduce global emissions significantly, ensure more resilient food systems, and avoid up to 5.1 million diet-related deaths a year by 2050.”

Call to action
Although achieving the Paris Agreement on climate change would improve air quality, diet and physical activity — saving millions of lives a year — most climate decision-making processes currently do not account for these health co-benefits and their economic valuation.

Tedros underscored WHO’s call for all countries to “commit to decisive action at COP26 to limit global warming to 1.5°C — not just because it’s the right thing to do, but because it’s in our own interests,” and highlighted 10 priorities in the report to safeguard “the health of people and the planet that sustains us.”

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/10/24/climate-action-prescribed-for-covid-recovery/?fbclid=IwAR0zpY8uTu-jXhw-H-45v4DBYdQrmUavlvoA3iwyYjK80Q1sjVPps22oz80>

25 OCTOBER 2021, MONDAY



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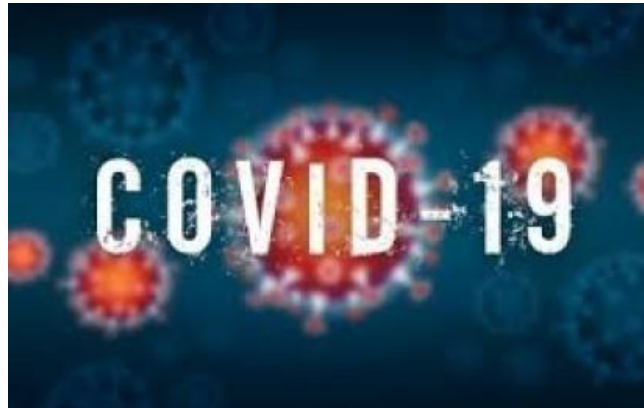
COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH Covid-19 recoveries rise by 7K to 2,654,173

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor October 24, 2021, 5:11 pm



MANILA – The country's total number of recovered coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases has reached 2,654,173 after 7,312 new recoveries were reported on Sunday.

In its 4 p.m. case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) said recoveries account for 96.3 percent of the total case count which has reached 2,756,923 since the start of the pandemic last year.

Meanwhile, some 5,279 new infections brought the total number of active cases nationwide to 60,957.

About 77.5 percent of these active cases are mild, 6.1 percent are asymptomatic, 2.1 percent are critical, 5.1 percent are severe, and 9.20 percent are moderate.

Moreover, 208 new deaths were reported, bringing the total death toll due to the coronavirus to 41,793.

According to DOH data on Oct. 22, about 10.3 percent of 52,881 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

"About 23 duplicates were removed from the total case count, and of these, 16 are recoveries. Moreover, 154 cases that were previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation," it added.

All laboratories were operational on Oct. 22 while two laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

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

To date, 53 percent of 4,300 intensive care unit beds, 41 percent of 21,200 isolation beds, 38 percent of 14,500 ward beds, and 37 percent of 3,200 ventilators are utilized by patients with Covid-19 nationwide.

Meanwhile, 46 percent of 1,500 intensive care unit beds, 35 percent of 4,900 isolation beds, 34 percent of 4,100 ward beds, and 35 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use in the National Capital Region. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1157613>



DOH adds 5,279 new COVID-19 infections, but two labs without data

Philstar.com October 24, 2021 | 4:00pm



Passengers pictured at Tandang Sora Jeep Terminal in Visayas Avenue, Quezon City on Oct. 19, 2021. The Department of Transportation is pushing for an increase in passenger capacity of public utility vehicles following the downgrading of Metro Manila's COVID-19 alert level from 4 to 3.

The STAR / Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — Health authorities reported 5,279 more coronavirus infections on Sunday, bringing the national caseload to 2,756,923.

In its latest bulletin released Sunday afternoon, the DOH reported a positivity rate of 10.3% out of 52,881 tests.

- **Active cases:** 60,957 or 2.2% of the total
- **Recoveries:** 7,312 new additions, bringing the number to 2,654,173
- **Deaths:** 208, now 41,793 in total

According to the Department of Health, two labs were not able to submit their tallies for Sunday's final count.

However, the DOH added that the three labs only accounted for 0.3% of all samples tested and 0.8% of all positive individuals.

The national government decided to downgrade Metro Manila's alert status to Level 3 amid the decrease in COVID-19 infections until the end of October.

It has been 586 days since the first enhanced community quarantine was hoisted over some parts of Luzon.

538 areas under 'granular' lockdown

- More areas are now under lockdown with the expansion of the alert level system to other parts of the country. Per data from the Philippine National Police, 538 areas are under granular lockdown across the country, leading to 22,911 households or 105,270 individuals under lockdown.
- Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio says anew that she will not run for president. Pressed for details on her recent meeting with former Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. in Cebu, Duterte said they discussed how Davao can help the presidential bid of the former dictator's son, and not necessarily about a possible tandem.



- Police Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, PNP chief, reminded the public that only gatherings within a family's bubble are allowed even under the relaxed Alert Level 3 in Metro Manila.
- "The PNP is aware of the traditional traditions whenever Undas approaches such as Halloween parties and tricks or treats for children and some of us may be encouraged by the continuous drop in COVID-19 cases in our country," he said in Filipino.

"So we advise our compatriots to postpone it first or make it limited to your own homes because instead of trick or treating, it may end up with a trip and treatment at the hospital when the children become infected and have nothing. they are vaccinated."

- Thousands trooped to the Manila Bay dolomite beach on Sunday, prompting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to order the area's temporary closure.



DOST: Lagundi, tawa-tawa effective in easing COVID-19 symptoms

Job Manahan, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Oct 23 2021 09:02 PM

MANILA—Lagundi and tawa-tawa are effective in easing COVID-19 symptoms among mild to moderate virus patients, the science department said Saturday.

Science Undersecretary Rowena Guevarra said aside from lagundi (chaste tree) and tawa-tawa (asthma plant), virgin coconut oil could help treat virus symptoms.

The official explained that based on their clinical trials, lagundi, the plant also commonly used to treat cough, helped ease the loss of smell or anosmia among virus patients.

[Loss of sense of smell](#) has become a telltale sign of COVID-19 and possible mark of infection.

The separate clinical trials on lagundi was concluded in August, while the comprehensive data of the study on virgin coconut oil (VCO) has been published on the Journal of Functional Foods, Guevarra added.

VCO, on the other hand, helped decrease the viral load by 60 to 90 percent, while it also helped stopped the progression of severe COVID-19 symptoms.

"Na-conclude ng ating team na ang lagundi safe nang gamitin for symptomatic treatment of mild COVID-19 cases for those without comorbidities," Guevarra said.

(Our team concluded that lagundi is safe to use for symptomatic treatment of mild COVID-19 cases)

Meanwhile, symptoms among mild to moderate COVID-19 carriers "disappeared" after the 3rd to 5th days when they were given the tawa-tawa food supplement, she said.

The study on tawa-tawa, an approved herbal supplement, had 172 random COVID-19 positive patients.

"Masasabi natin na itong (we can say that these) 3 locally available na food supplement at saka locally available na herbal medicine at supplement ay makaka-provide ng symptomatic relief sa COVID-19," Guevarra said in a public briefing.

While the clinical studies have yet to directly establish its anti-viral properties, Filipino scientists have established what these 3 supplements could do to alleviate symptoms.

Other countries are also interested in the clinical trials, which is why should the trials yield positive results it could help farmers who plant these directly through exports.

"Madami kaming nare-receive na inquiry . . . Sila rin nagbibigay sila ng scientific names na pinu-pursue nila at inaaral na ng researchers," Guevarra said.

(We have received a lot of inquiry . . . They gave scientific names that they are pursuing and these are being studied by the researchers.)

The country's total reported COVID-19 cases reached 2,751,667 on Saturday, of which 63,051 are still active, according to the Department of Health (DOH).

Source: https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/10/23/21/dost-lagundi-effective-in-easing-covid-19-symptoms?fbclid=IwAR0E7DH-zDuoXvmPy-mAjkW41PvafSVW2E0ebafqAWu7TsS_oPawE9aOQAA



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 589

OKTUBRE 24, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

2.2%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
60,957

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

96.3%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,654,173

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.52%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
41,793

MGA BAGONG KASO **5,279**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **7,312**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **208**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,756,923**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING OKTUBRE 22

DATOS NGAYONG OKTUBRE 24
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG OKTUBRE 22

10.3%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

52,881

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS

83.6%

ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

BAWAL
WALANG MASK
AT FACE SHIELD

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (4.3K TOTAL BEDS)
53% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (21.2K TOTAL BEDS)
41% Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.5K TOTAL BEDS)
38% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.3K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
37% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.5K TOTAL BEDS)
46% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.9K TOTAL BEDS)
35% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.1K TOTAL BEDS)
34% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
35% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA
AKTIBONG KASO

Mild 77.5%

6.1% Asymptomatic

2.1% Critical

5.1% Severe

9.20% Moderate



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ipagpatuloy natin ang ating masusing pag-iingat laban sa pagkalat ng anumang variant ng COVID-19. Nariyan ang ating **Minimum Public Health Standards** upang tiyakin ang ating kaligtasan sa lahat ng oras, lugar, at sitwasyon. Kasabay nito, agad tayong makipag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS o One COVID Referral Center** upang mabawasan ang pagkakataong makahawa pa ng iba. Maaabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa 1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333.

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



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

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



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: kontracovid.ph



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP
at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

doh.gov.ph

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

25 OCTOBER 2021, MONDAY



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NEWS ALERTS

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHIWJV4Ee60>

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


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