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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR to take lead in ASEAN-level meetings on peatlands

Published June 25, 2021, 3:52 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will host later this month the sixth ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands (ATFP) meeting and third Programme Steering Committee (PSC) meetings of ASEAN Peatland Programmes and Projects.



A peatland. (Photo from DENR)

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the meetings, which are slated on June 28 to 30, will “keep the country on track in conserving the peatlands as it aims to oversee the implementation and monitoring of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS).”

ASEAN stands for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The Philippines is a founding member of the regional bloc.

“We want to continuously educate the public about the importance of peatlands in our ecosystems, and we could only do this by being updated with the latest methodologies on how our neighboring countries also keep their peatlands sustainably managed,” Cimatu said.

Peatlands are wetland ecosystems characterized by the accumulation of organic matter derived from dead and partially decomposed plant material that has accumulated under high water saturation or waterlogged condition.

A peatland covers only three percent of the Earth’s land surface but it can store twice as much carbon as all the world’s forests combined if kept wet. This trait makes them a globally important ecosystem in terms of carbon sequestration.

A peatland is also a rich ecosystem that supports biodiversity and plays an important role in climate change mitigation. Currently, the Philippines has nine confirmed peatlands, which are all listed as part of the tropical peatlands in the ASEAN region.

DENR Undersecretary for Special Concerns and concurrent Biodiversity Management Bureau Director Edilberto Leonardo said that one of the topics in the series of meetings would be the implementation of the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems or APSMPE for 2014 to 2020.

“With the increasing effects of climate change, we have to strategize to protect our peatlands by preventing the conversion, draining and forest fire that might happen on such significant ecosystems,” Leonardo said.



The DENR will chair the three meetings—PSC 3 of the Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN, PSC3 of the Measurable Action for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management in Southeast Asia, and the ASEAN Task Force 6 or ATF6 meeting.

Participants in the series of PSC meetings will include representatives from the ASEAN member-states; donors such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development, European Union, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; and implementing partners such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Center for International Forestry Research, Global Environment Centre, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, and World Resources Institute.

The meetings of the ATFP aim to coordinate and strengthen the efforts of ASEAN member states in the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of peatland in the region.

It also serves as a venue to update where the member states are in terms of the implementation of the APMS in relation to their respective National Action Plan on Peatlands.



PH to Host ASEAN Meetings on Peatlands Conservation End of June

by [Village Connect](#) about 16 hours ago



The Philippines, through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), will host the 6th Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands (ATFP) Meeting and 3rd Programme Steering Committee Meetings of ASEAN Peatland Programmes and Projects slated for June 28-30, 2021.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the meetings will *"keep the country on track in conserving the peatlands as it aims to oversee the implementation and monitoring of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS)."*

"We want to continuously educate the public about the importance of peatlands in our ecosystems, and we could only do this by being updated with the latest methodologies on how our neighboring countries also keep their peatlands sustainably managed," Cimatu said.



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A peatland covers only three percent of the Earth's land surface but it can store twice as much carbon as all the world's forests combined if kept wet, making it a globally important ecosystem in terms of carbon sequestration. It is also a rich ecosystem that supports biodiversity and plays an important role in climate change mitigation.

Currently, there are nine confirmed peatlands in the entire country which are listed as part of the tropical peatlands in the ASEAN region.



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According to Leonardo, this is the reason why the Bureau of Fire Protection under the Department of the Interior and Local Government is joining the DENR in the activity and serves as one of the Philippine Delegation's Alternate National Focal Point.

The ATFP was established as a subsidiary body of the Committee under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution to oversee the implementation of the APMS, including the Programme.

The objectives of the APMS include enhancing the awareness and capacity on peatlands; addressing the transboundary haze pollution and environmental degradation; promoting sustainable management of peatlands; and promoting regional cooperation.

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Coconut Palms starts to Grow back along Manila Baywalk

by [Village Connect](#) about 17 hours ago



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has begun planting matured coconut palms along the Manila Baywalk on Roxas Boulevard as part of the government's efforts to rehabilitate Manila Bay.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said around 60 matured coconut palms will be planted along the shore to complement the agency's beach nourishment project, which aims to bring back the "tropical aura" of Manila Bay.

During the ceremonial planting held last Wednesday, the DENR chief said that based on the assessment conducted by their field office in the National Capital Region (NCR), coconut palms were previously planted in the area but were cut down due to over maturity or have withered away through time.

"This area has been planted with coconuts before. Subalit sa ginawang assessment ng ating field office, marami na ang mga naputol o namatay sa paglipas ng panahon," said Cimatu when he led the initial planting of 10 coconut palms that are around three-four meters high.

"So we will undertake coconut planting today as part of our restoration and continuing rehabilitation of Manila Bay," he added.

He noted that decades-old photos of Manila Bay have shown that coconut palms used to line up the stretch of Roxas Boulevard.

"These coconut trees or palms will add to the aesthetic value of the area because they will give an otherwise plain landscape a distinctly tropical aura, the way this area was years ago," Cimatu said.

"It will not only beautify the baywalk portion of the Manila Bay coastline. It will also serve as a living reminder of how much the coconut tree has contributed to our way of life," he added.

Cimatu said the maintenance of the project will be monitored by the DENR-NCR in collaboration with the Parks Development Office of Manila.

The activity was led by the DENR-NCR in collaboration with the Philippine Coconut Authority, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and the city government of Manila.

Department of the Interior and Local Government Undersecretary Marjorie Jalosjos, MMDA General Manager Jose Arturo Garcia, and Manila Department of Public Service Director Kenneth Amurao also joined the ceremonial planting of the coconut palms.

Source: <https://www.villageconnect.com.ph/coconut-palms-starts-to-grow-back-along-manila-baywalk/7335>



Over 600 former rebels serving now as forest rangers — DENR

By JOAHNA LEI CASILAO, GMA News

Published June 25, 2021 3:40pm



Over 600 rebels that have turned over a new leaf and are now serving as forest rangers across the country under a Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) program.

According to Abby Espiritu's report on "Stand for Truth," rebel returnees are assigned to patrol forests as rangers under DENR's PAMANA Program.

"Ang bantay gubat tinatawag din nating mga forest ranger 'yan, ito 'yung inatasan natin magbantay, mag-patrol sa ating mga kagubatan," DENR undersecretary Jonas Leonen said.

(The "bantay gubat" -- we also call them forest rangers -- these are the people we assign to protect and patrol our forests.)

"So binibigyan natin sila ng uniform. Tine-train natin sila... pagka sa mga lugar na talagang delikado ay bibigyan din natin ng mga armas para proteksyon din nila kasi delikado din 'yung ginagawa nila kapag nasa bundok sila," he added.

(We give them uniforms. We train them... when patrolling dangerous areas, we provide them weapons for their own protection.)

One of the rebel returnees is Ramel Farol, who became a forest ranger in 2013.

Prior to this, Farol was a part of the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) for more than 20 years.

The RPA-ABB is now known as Kapatiran, a legitimate non-violent, non-armed organization engaged in economic-socio-political activities.

"Noon bilang rebelde, nag-engage kayo doon sa war. 'Yung pag-iisip niyo ay palaging violent. And now, here comes na civilian na kami. Engaged doon sa DENR as a forest guard, forest ranger, so medyo mas maluwag 'yung buhay," Farol said.

(When I was a rebel, I engaged in war. My thinking was always violent. Now we are civilians, engaged as forest rangers in the DENR, so life is a bit easier.)



Farol said he surrendered worrying about the future of his family.

“Syempre ‘yung worry ko, paano ko mapapaaral ‘yung anak ko? Paano kami magiging buo ng pamilya ko 24 hours a day, 7 days a week na without fear, without security problem,” he said.

(I worried over how I would send my children to school. How we could spend time as a family 24 hours a day, seven days a week without fear, without security problems.)

“Yung pinaka worse diyan ‘yung hindi makakain buong araw, naglalakad ng gabi. ‘Yung sakripisyo, ‘yung hindi mo makita ‘yung family mo within a year,” he added.

(The worst part of being a rebel was when I couldn’t eat for a day, and walk the whole night. The sacrifice, the thought that I couldn’t see my family for a year.)

In December 2000, there was a negotiation between the government and the RPM-RPA-ABB (Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas or Revoluton Proletarian Army-Alex Alex Boncayao Brigade), after talks with the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) in 1986.

At present, 128 former members of the RPM-RPA-ABB are assigned in the Visayas and Mindanao, while 508 former CPLA members are assigned in the Cordillera Region.

Of the rebel returnees from RPM-RPA-ABB, 48 are assigned in Panay, 14 are assigned in Aklan, 22 in Antique, and six in Iloilo.

Though they have surrendered, Farol said they are still facing discrimination.

“Nandoon talaga ‘yung discrimination dahil former rebel ka, ganoon ‘yung activity mo, ganoon ka dati, so parang iba ‘yung tingin ng buong community sa iyo,” he said.

(The discrimination is there because we are former rebels. So that’s how the community will look at you.)

The forest rangers also called on for additional wages as well as equipment. —**LBG, GMA News**



600 rebel returnees, mga forest ranger na



June 25, 2021 @ 6:18 PM 12 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Mahigit 600 dating rebelde na sumuko sa pamahalaan ang nagsisilbi ngayong mga forest rangers sa iba't ibang parte ng bansa.

Ito ay sa ilalim ng PANAMA Program ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

“Ang bantay gubat tinatawag din nating mga forest ranger ‘yan, ito ‘yung inatasan natin magbantay, mag-patrol sa ating mga kagubatan,” ani DENR Usec. Jonas Leonen.

“So binibigyan natin sila ng uniform. Tine-train natin sila. Sa mga lugar na talagang delikado ay bibigyan din natin ng mga armas para proteksyon din nila kasi delikado din ‘yung ginagawa nila kapag nasa bundok sila,” dagdag niya.

December 2020 nang magkaroon ng negosasyon sa pagitan ng gobyerno at ng Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas or Revoluiton Proletarian Army-Alex Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPM-RPA-ABB) matapos ang pakikipag-usap din nito sa Cordillera People’s Liberation Army (CPLA) noong 1986.

Sa ngayon, 128 dating miyembro ng RPM-RPA-ABB ang itinalaga sa Visayas at Mindanao, habang 508 dating CPLA members ang nadestino sa Cordillera Region.

Aminado naman ang ilang rebel.returnees na nakararanas pa rin sila ng diskriminasyon mula sa komunidad dahil na rin sa naging buhay nila noon bilang mga rebelde.

Samantala, nanawagan din sila ng dagdag sahod gayundin ng mga kagamitan. RNT



(Nagbalik-loob sa pamahalaan) REBELDE NOON, BANTAY GUBAT NGAYON

[June 25, 2021 admin](#)



MAHIGIT sa 600 rebelde na nagbalik-loob sa pamahalaan ang nagsisilbi ngayong bantay gubat sa buong bansa sa ilalim ng programa ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Ang mga rebel returnee ay napag-alamang inatasang magbantay sa mga gubat sa ilalim ng PAMANA Program ng DENR.

“Ang bantay gubat tinatawag din nating mga forest ranger ‘yan, ito ‘yung inaatasan natin magbantay, mag-patrol sa ating mga kagubatan,” wika ni DENR undersecretary Jonas Leonen.

“So binibigyan natin sila ng uniform. Tine-train natin sila... pagka sa mga lugar na talagang delikado ay bibigyan din natin ng mga armas para proteksyon din nila kasi delikado din ‘yung ginagawa nila kapag nasa bundok sila,” dagdag pa niya.

Sa mga rebel returnee mula sa Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) na kilala ngayon bilang Kapatiran, isang lehitimong non-violent, non-armed organization na nagsasagawa ng economic-socio-political activities, 48 ang nakatalaga sa Panay, 14 sa Aklan, 22 sa Antique, at 6 sa Iloilo.

Ang mga bantay gubat ay may kaukulang suweldo rin mula sa pamahalaan.



Philippine 'river warriors' fight tide of trash for cleaner future

By [Adrian Portugal and Peter Blaza via Reuters](#) - June 25, 2021 - 3:40 PM



Members of the River Warriors gather washed-up trash from the heavily polluted San Juan River, a tributary of Pasig River, in Mandaluyong City, Philippines, June 21, 2021. The "River Warriors" is a group of volunteers founded over a decade ago whose sole purpose was to pick up garbage in and around Manila's Pasig River. Picture taken June 21, 2021. (Reuters/Eloisa Lopez)

MANILA — Each morning, a group of Filipinos rakes up piles of trash on the banks of one of the world's most polluted rivers, filling sacks in an endless pursuit to clean a waterway that is also a major source of ocean plastics.

These "river warriors" are a decade-old group of about 100 people who work to clear the glut of garbage floating or washed up along Manila's notorious Pasig River.

The 27 km (16.8 mile) river cutting through the Philippine capital was once a vital trade route. But urbanization and poor sewage planning have left the river all but dead.

"There's never a time without garbage here. It's unlimited," said Angelita Imperio, a river warrior for six years.

The warriors wear rubber boots and elbow-length gloves, using rakes and handmade tools to scoop rubbish from stagnant waters in different locations.

The warriors started off as volunteers but now receive a basic income from a local government and operate in small groups at different parts of the river.

Dexter Opiana, another river warrior with six years of service, says she and about 19 others work shifts of about seven hours and collect an average of 80 to 100 sacks a day, more during monsoon season.

Most of it is plastic wrappers, single-use sachets, and packaging materials. Since the pandemic began, surgical face masks are sometimes mixed in among the other floating garbage.

Pasig's trash isn't just a Philippine problem.

A 2021 report by Oxford University's Our World in Data estimated 81% of global ocean plastic comes from Asian rivers and the Philippines alone contributes a third of that total.



The Pasig River alone provides up to 6.43% of ocean plastic originating from rivers, the report said.

Despite the warriors' Sisyphean task, they are optimistic of better days ahead.

"This has been our advocacy, to have the river cleaned for the sake of our children, our parents, our nation and mother nature," Imperio said.

Joan Lagunda, assistant secretary at the environment department, said authorities were coordinating with local governments to establish proper waste segregation practices and want informal settlers on the riverbanks to be moved. Marian Ledesma, a campaigner with Greenpeace Philippines, said the government should reduce single-use plastics and strengthen law enforcement on waste disposal and sewage.

"I've seen it done in other cities, in other countries, so I don't think it's impossible to revive and clean up Pasig River," she said.

"It will need a collective action." —Reporting by Adrian Portugal Peter Blaza; Editing by Martin Petty and Tom Hogue



Philippine 'river warriors' fight tide of trash for cleaner future



Philippine 'river warriors' fight tide of trash for cleaner future
Philippines 'river warriors' fight tide of trash hoping for cleaner future

Adrian Portugal and Peter Blaza

Fri, 25 June 2021, 9:08 am·2 min read

By Adrian Portugal and Peter Blaza

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"It will need a collective action."

(Reporting by Adrian Portugal Peter Blaza; Editing by Martin Petty and Tom Hogue)

Source: https://ph.news.yahoo.com/philippine-river-warriors-fight-tide-010846714.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=YW5kcm9pZC1hcHA6Ly9jb20uZ29vZ2xILmFuZHIvaWQuZ29vZ2xlcXVpY2tzZWZyY2hib3gv&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAEtWQv8g3iEXJxH1qpjTN9X6YsCWQamBKARjEC80yWk5Yk92tKuKAfGD7SlS ERQWGU_d2pL8TTKhKMPwpnNzVw5xTb-nkNkDcoCiHtftV9YVs70-u30ncrD2HcAXPGL-h3NowRAGRwBA_s88_B_dEdBRQKaQAAJxyl1vBgy4wFZS



Lawmaker, NLEX lead greening initiative in Harbor Link Interchange



GREENING. DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline Caancan, Deputy Speaker and Valenzuela City Second District Representative Eric Martinez, and NLEX Corporation President and General Manager J. Luigi Bautista during the recent tree planting activity at the Harbor Link Interchange. (Contributed photo)

[CHARLENE A. CAYABYAB](#)

June 25, 2021

DEPUTY Speaker and Valenzuela City Second District Representative Eric Martinez and officials of the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) Corporation led by President and General Manager J. Luigi Bautista have spearheaded the planting of 3,181 saplings at the Harbor Link Interchange.

Joining Martinez and NLEX officials was Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Regional Executive Director Jacqueline Caancan.

The tree planting activity aims to provide cleaner air and healthier ecology along the expressway.

Also present during the event were barangay officials from Paso de Blas and Gen. T. De Leon headed by Chairman Lucy Nolasco and Chairman Alfren Caiña, respectively.

Saplings of Bougainvillea, Igem Dagat, and Palawan Cherry are among those planted within the cloverleaves of the said interchange to help reduce carbon emissions from vehicles plying the NLEX.

“I envision NLEX to be the greenest highway, not only in the country but in the whole world—the greenest highway with zero carbon footprint,” Martinez said.

Martinez regarded global warming as the biggest threat to mankind. He noted that “we [people] are preoccupied with so many things but we have to look back and see for ourselves that nature needs care, nature needs us. We don’t need to go against it but we have to live together.”

More than just improving the aesthetics of the expressway, the greening initiative intends to strengthen the parties’ commitment to reversing the effects of climate change not just in the country but in the world.



DENR-National Capital Region Regional Executive Director Caanacan said the planting event is timely as it coincides with the celebration of the Philippine Environment Month and the Philippine Arbor Day.

“More than the aesthetic value of the project, what we are excited about is the greater value of these trees that would be planted. Let us join hands in keeping, protecting and nourishing our environment,” Caanacan added.

For his part, Bautista stated, “This project will not only beautify the NLEX Harbor Link Interchange, but most importantly, it will help strengthen our efforts in building the road to a greener future.”

He appreciated Congressman Martinez for proposing the noteworthy venture and DENR for planning the project.

“We believe that our duty is not only to make travel easier and more convenient for economic growth but also to do it in an environmentally sustainable manner,” Bautista said.

The “#GreeNLEX: Greening the NLEX,” which has been ongoing since 2006 to mitigate the effects of global warming and environmental imbalance, is a vital part of the tollway company’s corporate social responsibility program.

NLEX Corporation is a subsidiary of the Metro Pacific Tollways Corp., the tollways unit of Metro Pacific Investments Corp.

8,000 seedlings up for grabs in 4 NCR cities on Arbor Day

June 24, 2021 | 8:49 pm



DENR NCR FB PAGE

THE FIELD offices of the Department of Environment and National Resources (DENR) in Metro Manila will open four community “PanTrees” to distribute free seedlings of fruit-bearing trees and vegetables in celebration of Philippine Arbor Day on June 25.

DENR National Capital Region (NCR) Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caangan told *BusinessWorld* in phone call on Thursday that a total of 8,000 seedlings are up for distribution across the four sites from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

These will be located in the following covered basketball courts: Barangay Lower Bicutan, Taguig; Barangay 863, Pandacan in Manila; Barangay UP Campus, Quezon City; and Barangay Marikina Heights, Marikina.

On Arbor Day, government agencies and the public are encouraged to participate in tree planting activities.

“The roll-out of the PanTrees will be simultaneous, then we’ll take it from there on what the public’s response will be. And then we’ll line up the barangays (that the panTREES will visit),” she said.

Earlier this week, the DENR brought its mobile community PanTree project to Barangay 163 in Caloocan City where residents were able to receive free seedlings of guyabano, mango, jackfruit, among other fruits and vegetables.

In April, the DENR-NCR began a community PanTree at its headquarters in Quezon City with the goal of promoting urban and backyard gardening, while helping residents cope with quarantine fatigue and other mental health issues associated with the global health emergency.
— **Angelica Y. Yang**

Source: https://www.bworldonline.com/8000-seedlings-up-for-grabs-in-4-ncr-cities-on-arbor-day/?fbclid=IwAR35C_ysx9XEkYqpBmFJPhjfBqOHJMv3ux_emL8CgYuG3fQ6bhBVd7uJqQg



Villar exalts trees' role as country marks Arbor Day

posted June 25, 2021 at 10:10 pm by [Macon Ramos-Araneta](#)

Saying trees not only provide people with clean air but also protect from destruction due to calamities, Senator Cynthia Villar exhorted the public to protect them and join in greening the communities as the country observes Arbor Day on June 25.

Villar, chair of the Senate committee on natural resources, said Arbor Day is a special occasion to remind us of the importance and role of trees in environmental health and human life.

With the onset of the rainy season, Villar said Arbor Day is a reminder of the significant role of trees in helping avert massive flooding, and of mangrove trees serving as barriers against storm surges.

Villar also encouraged the public to use the occasion to accelerate protection and conservation of areas like the Las Pinas-Paranaque Wetland Park (formerly Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area), which has been threatened by development initiatives in Manila Bay.

LPPWP, a protected area as declared by Proclamation No. 1412 and listed by the Ramsar Convention as one of the world's most important wetlands, has a 36-hectare mangrove forest with 11 mangrove species.

The mangrove species growing in the area are the Bungalon, Bakauan Babae, Bakauan Bato (or Bangkau in Cebuano), Pototan, Kolasi, Pagatpat, Banalo, Tabigi, Saging-saging, Butabuta and Nilad.

According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), mangrove forests are critical spawning grounds, nursery, feeding and temporary shelter areas, not only to fishes but other wildlife species as well.

Mangrove forests also act as natural barriers. In the case of LPPWP, it serves as protection of the coastal communities of Las Piñas and Parañaque from storm surges and high tide.

The swamps at LPPWP also provides a habitat for many migratory bird species which create the East Asian-Australasian Migratory Flyway.

It's the only known breeding ground for endangered species like the Philippine duck and Chinese egret.

June 25 is declared as Philippine Arbor Day by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 396. On this day, all government agencies including government-owned or controlled corporations, private sector, schools, civil society, and citizens are encouraged to participate in tree-planting activities.

Villar also said that Republic Act No. 10176 or the Arbor Act mandates citizens aged 12 years and above to plant one tree every year.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, activities such as tree planting, watering of plants, coastal clean-up, and nature exposure walk were held at the LPPWP to celebrate Arbor Day.

Villar has partnered with Villar SIPAG (Social Institute for Poverty Alleviation and Governance), DENR-National Capital Region and several other agencies and organizations and engaged in several environmental-related activities to mark the celebration. Macon Ramos-Araneta

Source: <https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/358086>

A startup deploys black soldier flies in the Philippines' war on waste

by [Bong S. Sarmiento](#) on 25 June 2021



- *In Davao City, in the southern Philippines, a startup has introduced the use of black soldier flies (*Hermetia illucens*) to address kitchen waste.*
- *The flies are fed kitchen waste, turning the food waste into compost, while their larvae, rich in protein, is touted as alternative feed for livestock.*
- *Proponents say insect protein is a much better alternative than commercial livestock feed made with fishmeal, associated with depleting fish populations, or soybeans, linked to deforestation and extensive use of pesticides and fertilizers.*
- *Treating kitchen waste with black soldier flies is also being touted as a cleaner alternative to municipal plans to incinerate the waste to generate electricity, which would contribute to air pollution.*

MINDANAO, Philippines — Maggots are considered gross since they thrive best in stinky, decaying organic matter such as animal waste and plants. The mere sight of them in a household often prompts a frantic search for a can of insecticide.

But in Davao City, the hometown of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, the black soldier fly or BSF (*Hermetia illucens*), an insect that many confuse with a wasp, is making a buzz as an innovative solution to address the problem of kitchen waste — benefiting both the environment and agriculture.

Located 960 kilometers (600 miles) south of the capital Manila, Davao is the largest city in the Philippines in terms of land area, and has grown as the major metropolis in the southern Mindanao region with its catchy “Life Is Here” slogan. Its population has grown from 1.1 million people in 2000 to an estimated 1.8 million in 2020.

More people means more garbage. Data from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) show that Davao has generated at least 600 tons of garbage daily since the COVID-19 pandemic started last year, with about half considered biodegradable that could have been composted at home to make fertilizer. Eighty percent of the trash is from households, while the rest comes from commercial establishments.



Aiming to turn that trash into treasure, an eco-agricultural startup is piloting a program to produce compost and animal feed using black soldier flies. FiveDOL Upcycling Corp. started commercial operations in March 2021, and is the first such outfit of its kind in Mindanao (a few similar initiatives are launching in the northern Luzon region of the Philippines). It uses techniques developed with the help of the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag).

“Food waste is a good resource that we can create value from while at the same time helping to conserve the environment and address the problem on biodegradable kitchen waste using the black soldier fly,” Peter Damary, FiveDOL’s chief executive officer, told Mongabay in a video interview.

By harnessing the rapid growth of the flies and their capacity to break down kitchen waste, scientists and engineers have, over the last few years, been able to develop an efficient technology to transform large quantities of kitchen waste into insect protein and compost beneficial to agriculture and the environment, Damary said.

Despite its wasp-like appearance, black soldier flies don’t sting. A female can produce between 500 and 900 eggs during its two-week lifetime. The larvae, once mixed with kitchen waste, grow very quickly: From 1 millimeter in length, the black soldier fly larvae can reach 27 mm (1 inch) long and 6 mm (0.25 in) wide, and can weigh up to 0.22 grams, nearly as much as an aspirin tablet, after just 18 days.

Damary said the black soldier flies, which originated in the Americas, have long been present in the wild in the Philippines and do not pose risks to the local ecosystem, or worse, become invasive. The adult flies naturally die after two weeks and they thrive only on decaying wastes. Black soldier flies have significantly reduced mouth parts compared to houseflies; they don’t bite and are not known to transmit any diseases.

During the larval stage, they consume and convert large quantities of food waste into compost, while the larvae grow rich in protein and can be used as alternative feed for chicken or pigs.



Chickens feeding on protein-rich black soldier fly larvae. Image courtesy of FiveDOL.

Commercial feeds are usually produced using fishmeal, which has been partly blamed for depleting fish populations from the seas; or soybeans from Latin America, where industrial-scale farming drives deforestation and consumes high volumes of pesticides and fertilizers. Black soldier fly larvae can be a substitute to these commercial feeds — and making that switch will help save precious ocean resources and prevent further deforestation for soy cultivation, Damary said.

“The compost produced by black soldier flies can give back life to the soil for organic farming,” he added. Damary, a Swiss national married to a Filipina and long based in Davao, founded FiveDOL in 2019, inspired by the success of black soldier fly larvae ventures in Europe, South Africa, China, Malaysia and Indonesia.

FiveDOL is locally promoted as LimaDOL. “Lima” means “five” in Filipino, while DOL stands for “day-old larvae” — hence, five-day-old larvae, which is the crucial period for black soldier fly larvae.

FiveDOL formally launched a facility on May 27 in Barangay Tacunan, a village of nearly 13,000 people some 15 km (9 mi) from the heart of Davao City. Barangay Tacunan has already proven receptive to environmental initiatives and collaborations: it holds regular radio programs promoting environmental protection, requires residents to plant at least five types of vegetables on their properties, and received a local award for “outstanding initiatives in environmental protection and management” in 2018.

FiveDOL’s project has drawn the support of the Tacunan village government as well as the Sustainable Davao Movement (SDM), a coalition of environmental multisectoral organizations in the city.

So far, at least 50 households have voluntarily joined the zero-kitchen-waste initiative, and several small-scale farmers have started using the compost it produces. The participating households in Tacunan have been trained to properly segregate their kitchen waste, which the company regularly collects without a fee.



A black soldier fly laying eggs. A female can produce between 500 and 900 eggs during its two-week lifetime. Image courtesy of FiveDOL.

Damary says his company aims to be profitable, while also promoting organic agriculture and helping the city solve a mounting waste-management problem.

Davao City has mandated the segregation of solid waste and banned the use of single-use plastics to help reduce its mounting garbage problem of the locality. Under a local ordinance, failure to separate waste is punishable with a fine of up to 5,000 pesos (\$100) or a jail term of up to six months.

CENRO chief Marivic Reyes says that despite continuous awareness campaigns, many households still don’t practice proper waste separation, which is part of the reason why the city’s waste landfill is quickly exceeding capacity.

The landfill, in the outlying village of Tugbok some 15 km from the city proper, was opened 10 years ago with a capacity of 800,000 tons. As of 2016, the landfill had accumulated 900,000 tons of waste. The local government carried out rehabilitation that allowed the city to continue using it until now, while looking for an expansion area. It is also eyeing the establishment of a 2.5 billion peso (\$51.3 million) facility to burn the solid waste to generate electricity, using a grant from the Japanese government.

The city’s solid waste problem is also compounded by the lack of material recovery facilities at the grassroots level, where garbage can be sorted either for composting or recycling. Of the city’s 182 villages, fewer than a dozen have such functional facilities.



Damary noted that if FiveDOL can get hold of 200 tons of kitchen waste daily and compost it using black soldier flies, that would help tremendously in conserving the environment and reducing the pressure on the city's exhausted landfill. Aside from leaching that causes health hazards, kitchen waste in landfills contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, with each ton of kitchen waste producing the same amount of carbon dioxide equivalent in the form of methane, he said.



BSF larvae can be a substitute to commercial feeds for chicken and pigs such as fishfeed and soybeans; making this switch can help save precious ocean resources and prevent further deforestation. Image courtesy of FiveDOL.

Carmela Santos, director of Ecoteneo, the environmental advocacy arm of the Jesuit-run Ateneo de Davao University and one of the members of the Sustainable Davao Movement, described the black soldier flies as "friends of the earth and a community's treasure."

"It is an amazing demonstration of science at work and technology that works for a carbon-neutral world," she said. An opponent of the city government's waste-to-energy project, Santos says the black soldier fly technology shows that waste can be managed without subjecting the public to health risks like air pollution and food contamination associated with incineration.

"Organic solutions and composting technology like BSF will help our homes become waste-proof, our communities prepare to be pandemic-proof, and our world become climate-proof," she said.

With FiveDOL's venture gaining the support of local environmentalists, Damary says he's upbeat that BSF can invade other parts of Mindanao and become the army that will address the problem of household kitchen waste.



Duterte halts processing of permit applications for Manila Bay reclamation projects

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jun 25, 2021 9:15:59 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 25) – President Rodrigo Duterte has stopped the processing of permit applications for Manila Bay reclamation projects due to reports of corruption.

"Thousands have applied but because of the corruption that I've heard early last year, there's no more processing of papers," Duterte said in a speech during Friday's launch of the National Coalition of Lingkod Bayan Advocacy Support Groups and Force Multipliers at Camp Crame in Quezon City.

Duterte added that the halt to the processing of permit applications cost big companies involved "a lot of money." He did not name those corporations allegedly involved in corruption.

"I told you, do not give money to the people in government. If I know you have given even a single centavo, I will throw your application to the waste basket and I have done that and I am doing that every day," the President warned.

[In March this year](#), the Philippine Competition Commission approved the joint venture between the Manila City government and developer Waterfront Manila Premier Development, Inc. to build a man-made island in Manila Bay.

The Manila Waterfront City project, however, still needs to be assessed by the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) for its technical, environmental, and socio-economic merits.

The PRA has approved several reclamation projects in Manila Bay such as the 148-hectare Solar City Manila project of the Manila Goldcoast Development Corp. owned by the Tieng family, the Navotas City Coastal Bay Reclamation Project, a 360-hectare reclamation project and 265-hectare reclamation project both in Pasay City, and the 418-hectare Horizon Manila project from the joint venture between the Manila City government and JBros Construction Corporation.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/6/25/duterte-halts-application-permits-manila-bay-reclamation.html>



Ilocos Norte lauds ranger officers for forest rehab efforts

June 25, 2021 2 min read

LAOAG CITY – The province of Ilocos Norte has lauded the efforts of its barangay ranger officers (BROs) for safeguarding its upland forest and watersheds.

Running for eight years now, the provincial government, through its Environment and Natural Resources Office, has sustained its local greening program particularly in ensuring the upkeep of the so-called “Green Wall” of Ilocos Norte that spans around 8,000 hectares of forest lands and watersheds in the municipalities of Solsona, Marcos, Nueva Era, Dingras, Vintar and the cities of Batac and Laoag City.

Parts of it can be accessed through bike and other four-wheeled vehicles, which serves as added highway and eco-tourism attractions of Ilocos Norte especially in this time of the pandemic.

According to Community Development officer Estrella “Baby” Sacro, they can not thank enough the barangay ranger officers (BRO) who are responsible for planting and growing thousands of forest tree seedlings and fruit-bearing trees in these areas.

With a minimum salary of PHP3,000 a month, hundreds of them are deployed up in the mountains to plant more trees and at the same time, guard the area from various threats.

On Thursday, at least 65 of them came down and went to the Capitol to receive their stipends, which were personally handed to them by Governor Matthew Joseph Manotoc.

Each of them receives PHP12,000 which accounts for their salary from January to April.

“Our BROs are responsible for preventing forest fires, planting fruit and tree seedlings as well as in ensuring a high survival rate of the plants through applying fertilizers and safeguarding the watershed,” said Sacro in an interview Friday.

The program of recruiting BROs is also meant for job-generating purposes.

Sacro said that aside from their cash allowances, they can also grow some root crops such as ginger, taro, and sweet potatoes which they can sell to sustain their family needs.

Under Governor Matthew Joseph Manotoc’s leadership, the hiring of more BROs for every town is a priority program to address and find solutions for various climate change issues in the province such as landslides and frequent droughts. (**PNA**)

Source: <https://maharlika.tv/2021/06/25/ilocos-norte-lauds-ranger-officers-for-forest-rehab-efforts/?fbclid=IwAR14vKBEyij-vlEUPSx8ZnPIiEjjwhv2MXEUTwBuBwvZ86zx-8lEQ6VxE>



Iligal na nag-recycle ng basura, 3 pinosasan

By Abante Tonite — Last updated: Jun 25, 2021

MCTD



Isinara ng National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) kamakailan ang isang recycling plant sa Barangay Tigbe, Norzagaray, Bulacan na gumagamit umano ng delikadong mga kemikal sa operasyon nito at inaresto ang tatlong katao na sangkot umano rito.

Kinilala ng NBI ang mga inaresto na sina Analiza Omblero, Laberto dela Cruz, at Ariel Helvero.

Bago ito, may isang intelligence report kaugnay sa operasyon ng isang aluminum chips recycling plant na nagre-recycle ng mga aluminum waste nang walang kaukulang environmental compliance certificate mula sa Environment Management Bureau (EMB) at walang permit mula sa Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) at Bulacan Environment and Natural Resources Office (BENRO).

Nalaman rin na ang planta ay gumagamit ng hazardous chemical Sodium Silicoflouride, isang toxic chemical compound ginagamit sa fluoridation, insecticide at rodenticide, na mapanganib umano sa kalusugan ng mga taong nakatira malapit sa planta.

Nabatid na nagsagawa ng surveillance ang NBI-BUI DO at nang makumpirma ang recycling plant ay ikinasa ang operasyon noong Hunyo 16.

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Provincial bus sa Quezon balik-operasyon
Jun 26, 2021



Shabu bumulaga sa Marikina CR

Inabot ng NBI sina Dela Cruz at Helvero, kasama ang dalawang menor de edad, habang nagtatrabaho sa makeshift plant.

Habang isinasagawa ang operasyon, dumating naman si Omblero kaya maging siya ay dinakip.



Jun 25, 2021



Driver buking sa 'holdap me' modus

Jun 25, 2021

Sinampahan ng mga kasong paglabag sa RA 9231,
RA 6969, RA 1506, RA 8749 at RA 9003 sa

Provincial Prosecutor's Office ng Bulacan ang mga
suspek.

Habang itinurn-over sa kostudiya ng Provincial
Social Welfare and Development ng Bulacan sa

Malolos City ang dalawang menor de edad. (Juliet de Loza-Cudia)



'COVID INFECTION' A CONCERN

Used syringes dumped in NCotabato

By [Franz Sumangil](#) June 26, 2021

MIDSAYAP, North Cotabato: More than half a sack of medical syringes dumped in a canal has been discovered by barangay (village) officials in Barangay Katipunan, M'lang, North Cotabato.

It was not yet established where the syringes came from and whether they had been used for injecting people positive of Covid-19.

Barangay Katipunan chairman Linda Fernandez said she was upset by the dumping of the devices in the village, especially the disposal was not even properly done, with the items left scattered in the area.

At present, the barangay officials still have no idea as to who might have disposed of the syringes but they suspected it may have been days when the devices were thrown in the area since they also found syringes further down the canal.

The incident distressed both the barangay officials and residents, who raised concerns about the health risks the dumping may cause their community.

Their fears came when they learned children in the area first discovered the syringes and even played with them.

M'lang Mayor Russel Abonado said the local government unit of M'lang will create a task force to investigate and identify those responsible for the dumping of the syringes.



PNoy admin's environmental achievements recalled as group tips hat to late leader

Published June 25, 2021, 11:36 AM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

Environmental group EcoWaste Coalition gave tribute to the late former President Benigno Simeon “Noynoy” Aquino III by recalling the numerous gains that the country made on chemical and waste issues during his administration.



(Photo from EcoWaste Coalition)

“To celebrate his life, we find it fitting to bring to mind some of the major accomplishments of PNoy’s presidency that have helped in protecting our people’s health and the environment from chemicals and wastes,” EcoWaste Coalition National Coordinator Aileen Lucero said in a statement on Friday, June 25.

Aquino, the country’s 15th president, passed away Thursday at the age of 61. His tenure in Malacañang lasted from June 2010 to June 2016.

“To recall, the EcoWaste Coalition in 2010 put forward a ‘Citizens’ Agenda for Zero Waste and Chemical Safety’ and even staged a ‘People’s Walk’ before his inauguration displaying a huge yellow banner with the message ‘PNoy, protect us from toxic chemicals,’” the coalition said.

The group reckoned that Aquino’s biggest indirect contribution to the environment was his crusade to stamp out corruption in government, saying he “realiz[ed] perhaps that most of our environmental problems are rooted in fraudulent transactions and crooked practices in the management of our natural resources.”

EcoWaste Coalition compiled the Aquino administration’s most significant accomplishments on the environmental front per category:

On the zero waste movement: PNoy in 2014 signed Proclamation 760, which declared January as “Zero Waste Month.” This led to the annual conduct of activities celebrating the benefits of the zero waste approach over polluting and unsustainable “burn or bury” disposal methods.



On chemical safety: In 2014, the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) adopted “The People’s Right to Chemical Safety: A Fifteen-Point Human Rights Agenda” espousing “health-based and human rights-based policies on chemicals” to safeguard the right of every Filipino, including those yet to be born, to be protected against hazardous substances.

On lead: While the issuance of a Chemical Control Order (CCO) to prevent and reduce harm from lead compounds has been in the works since 2005, it was during the Aquino presidency when the CCO banning lead in the production of all paints was deliberated and finally adopted in 2013, the group said. The CCO imposes a 90 parts per million (ppm) total lead content limit on lead for all paints, and provides for the phase-out of lead-containing paints and similar surface coatings.

On mercury: The Aquino administration actively participated in the mercury treaty negotiations leading to the government’s signing of the historic Minamata Convention on Mercury in October 2013. However, it was only ratified last year.

While it fell short in addressing much-needed reforms in the mining industry ardently sought by environmental and human rights advocates and affected communities, Executive Order (EO) 79 issued by Aquino in 2012 prohibited the use of mercury in small-scale mining. During Aquino’s term, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) tested and subsequently banned over 100 brands of skin bleaching, lightening, or whitening cosmetics contaminated with mercury.

On phthalates in toys: While the government had acknowledged as early as 1999 that “phthalates may cause adverse health effects such as liver and kidney wounds, reproductive abnormalities and immune system defects,” it was during the PNoy administration when the Department of Health (DOH) banned in 2011 six types of phthalates, a toxic plasticizer often used to soften PVC plastic toys.

On toy safety problems: Lawmakers took notice of the findings of the study conducted by the EcoWaste Coalition and International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) showing that 29 percent of the 200 toy samples procured in the local market were laden with antimony, arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury above levels of concern.

Bills were filed at both houses of the 15th Congress, which were consolidated into Republic Act (RA) No.10620, or the Toy and Game Safety Labeling Act, which PNoy signed in 2013 to protect children from unsafe toys through mandatory product safety labeling requirements. However, the implementing rules and regulations of the law were promulgated only in 2019 following a petition for a writ of mandamus filed in 2018 by the EcoWaste Coalition, Laban Konsyumer and 20 mothers yearning for safe toys for their children.

“The EcoWaste Coalition [thanks] PNoy for his service to the Filipino people, especially for helping advance the unfinished cause of zero waste and chemical safety during his administration,” the group said.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/06/25/pnoy-admins-environmental-achievements-recalled-as-group-tips-hat-to-late-leader/>



Reflections on a world court for the environment

[By Amado Tolentino Jr.](#) June 26, 2021

THE development of international environmental law has been accelerated by the emergence of disputes due to numerous physical, economic, social and political factors. These factors include the danger of climate change, transborder pollution, waste disposal in bodies of water and on land, the transport of hazardous waste, desertification and drought, destruction of plant and animal genetic resources, genetically modified organisms, nuclear accidents, accidents at sea, and the exploitation of the seabed and of the Antarctic.

The international community was appalled by a series of environmental disasters in the recent past. Some of the more notable ones are the Bhopal chemical plant accident in India; the Chernobyl nuclear plant explosion in the Ukraine, which left a deserted, dangerously radioactive area that used to be an active community; the Deep Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico that spilled at least 168 million gallons of crude oil into the ocean and killed countless marine mammals, sea turtles, fish and migratory birds; and the 1991 and 2004 burning of oil wells in the Gulf area. These disasters affect not only the planet's present occupants but future generations as well.

The idea of creating a world court on the environment is now more than 30 years old. The proposal by the International Court of the Environment Foundation based in Rome is for an international court of the environment as a new and permanent body separate from the International Court of Justice at The Hague, endowed with an exclusive specialized and international competence in the field of environment and empowered to implement international law and to guarantee right of access to individuals to protect their human right to the environment. To complement its functions, the proposed court could undertake advisory, investigative and conciliatory functions.

Priority issues

Two things are vital to create an international court for the environment. These are: a) the individual as subject of international law and b) the place of the human right to the environment in international law.

Currently, the question of whether an individual can be the subject of international law has been met with negative response, but it is clear that this position will change under the influence of numerous independent factors. An example is the enormous increase in world population which is already not manageable in the current state aggravated by the health pandemic. Others are the explosive and spontaneous migratory movements of people, the limited resources available in terms of energy, and the phenomenon of planetary pollution. Bearing these and other factors in mind, how can international law remain oblivious to the individual this 21st century? Society as a whole will have to strike new balances and find common basis for the respect of human rights, including the right to the environment that would place the individual rather than state at the forefront.

Structurally, international law will have to recognize a more articulate group of legal subjects: individuals, state communities, regional communities such as the European Union, and new international organizations. From the point of view of norms, it can readily be anticipated that the number of international conventions or treaties will grow to meet new problems such as those posed by the environment. Above all, contents of these conventions will impose on states an increasing duty of service towards the international community and will allow states less recourse to claims of sovereignty.



The question is whether international law recognizes the right to the environment as a fundamental human right of every person. Right now, constitutional norms in many states, including the Philippines, already recognize the individual's right to the environment.

In international customary law, there is the assumption that the right has been accepted by the world community. But others regard environmental rights as belonging to the gray area between a political guideline and a rule of law, or simply stated, a law in the making. Hopefully, the UN General Assembly will vote affirmatively on the question sometime this year when it tackles the proposed Global Pact for the Environment which will make the right to a healthy environment a "hard law" binding on all signatory states.

Access to environmental justice

As proposed, the following may appear before the International Environmental Court: 1) individuals; 2) NGOs and environmental associations; 3) states; 4) supranational organizations such as the European Union; and 5) international organizations under the UN and the individual organs of the UN.

Of relevance is the fact that, to date, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has declined to submit decisions by UN organs to judicial review. International organizations are not accountable in law and do not exercise powers independently of their member states. NGOs and potentially affected individuals are not granted direct access to the ICJ. Only states have direct access and not individuals who are the direct victims of environmental destruction.

Critics point out that the ICJ established a chamber for environmental matters in 1993. Nevertheless, it is unrealistic to expect that tribunal to extend legal access to private parties or political action groups because states are inherently reluctant to relinquish sovereignty and expose themselves to legal proceedings.

Another institution, the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is also mentioned as a possibility in resolving environmental disputes. But as the jurisdiction of the PCA is not compulsory, its competence can be derived only from an agreement to arbitrate, or to a convention clarifying the validity of submission of a dispute to arbitration.

Arguments

Several arguments have been advanced to justify the establishment of an international environmental court. The arguments include, but is not limited to, the following:

The very many pressing environmental problems that we are faced with and the need for a court consisting of experts on international environmental law to consider these problems

The need for individuals and groups to have access to environmental justice at the international level

The need for international organizations to be able to be parties to disputes related to the protection of the environment

The need for dispute settlement procedures that enable the common interest in the environment to be addressed.

Arguments against the establishment of an international environmental court have been advanced as well. Among these are:

Proliferation of international courts and tribunals would result in the fragmentation of international law



Existing courts and tribunals are or can be well-equipped to consider cases involving environmental issues

Disputes involving international environmental law also involve other aspects of international law.

The arguments on both sides are meritorious but whether they justify the establishment of an international environmental court or not remains to be seen.

Conclusion

The international legal system, in particular the rules on dispute settlement, has not been amended to accommodate the societal changes that evolved since the second half of the 20th century. These changes are best characterized by globalization and interdependence. In fact, many of the transnational relations that exist today have not been translated into law. In that connection, serious consideration should be given to the fast-gaining adherence by concerned people everywhere for the inclusion of ecocide or the deliberate destruction of nature and global ecosystems by human activity as an international crime. It could even hasten the creation of an international environmental court.

The challenge for the 21st century is to develop the legal system, both national and international, so that those factual relations are captured in terms of law, including the law governing law-based means of environmental dispute settlement.



Climate change initiatives for manufacturing

[By Ludwig Federigan](#) June 26, 2021

THE manufacturing industry must start embracing low-carbon development and resilience at the core of their business strategies, promote green policies and initiatives, and strengthen support for climate action and disaster risk reduction to ensure a safe, healthy environment not only now but for generations to come.

Here are eight climate change initiatives the sector can implement:

1. Measure and analyze greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Companies can do this by ensuring that their buildings and infrastructure can cope with the impacts of extreme weather. Companies should also incorporate expected climate impacts in planning and decision-making.

Companies can reduce their impact on the planet by measuring their GHG emissions. Once these are known, companies can identify activities that produce the highest pollutants. They can then undertake an energy audit and begin crafting solutions to reduce emissions.

2. Reduce energy consumption and give renewable energies a go

Installing energy-efficient lights, turning off office lights in the evening or unplugging devices when these are not needed are some good actions to implement. By paying more attention to other daily routines, moreover, businesses can slightly reduce energy consumption.

More individuals are choosing renewable energy, which is an interesting solution for companies. Onsite renewable power generation is a way to cut emissions related to electricity consumption.

3. Optimize employees' transportation and promote environmental-friendly ways of working

Transportation is one of the largest factors contributing to GHG emissions. By encouraging employees to carpool or providing shuttle services, companies can significantly reduce their indirect carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.

Some ways of working are more ecological than others: telecommuting, for example, has many environmental advantages. One can also consider videoconferencing, which allows employees to avoid traveling by car for client meetings.

4. Choose greener infrastructure and equipment

It is also possible to choose more environmental-friendly infrastructure and equipment. When the time comes to buy new office materials or machines, choose the most energy-efficient if the old ones cannot be fixed or if more are needed. It is also important to use equipment properly to avoid faster deterioration and to repair devices when these break down instead of buying replacements.

5. Choose sustainable suppliers

Companies have the responsibility to choose their partners. Choosing a supplier is also an environmental-friendly choice thus companies should make an effort to identify suppliers who adopt and demonstrate good environmental practices.



6. Raise awareness among employees, clients and other stakeholders

As economic agents, companies also play a role in raising awareness among employees, consumers, media and other stakeholders. Organizing campaigns or webinars to raise awareness on sustainability issues is a great idea. Partner with external organizations. Do something original, unique and powerful that stays top of mind.

These small gestures gradually create the ground for best practices that individuals can reproduce at home and share with families, friends and communities for a snowball effect.

7. Reduce waste and phase out single-use plastic

Another way to reduce the climate footprint of a business is to reduce the amount of waste generated.

Environmental, public health and climate change issues have driven the need for a shift in the use of materials. Concerns about plastic pollution have led the Climate Change Commission and the national government as a whole to campaign for phasing out single-use plastics and demand more environmental-friendly alternatives.

The rate at which we are producing, using and discarding plastic - a fossil-fuel product that contributes to global warming and climate change - is a serious cause for concern. In 2017, we found that we produced as much plastic in the past 13 years as we did in the previous half-century. At this rate, we'll end up with more plastic than fish in the oceans by 2050 and 12 billion tons of plastic litter in landfills and the environment. We cannot recycle our way out of this problem - only 9 percent of the world's plastic waste has ever been recycled and the rest just end up in dumps, landfills or the environment.

The problem has gotten so bad that the Philippines was recently named the world's biggest contributor to plastic pollution. A study by The Ocean Cleanup showed 19 rivers, including the Tullahan, Agno, Davao and Iloilo waterways, as among the top polluting rivers in the world. The Pasig River was tagged the most plastic polluter in the world. It is also worth noting that over 25 percent of rivers worldwide are responsible for 80 percent of ocean plastic pollution.

Our country's single-use plastic problem is already hurting the entire planet. It is not a wake-up call - we have been hearing that for many years now - and it is high time to stop pressing the snooze button. That is why we need to support House Bill 9147 or the Single-Use Plastics Products Regulation Act, which will regulate the production, importation, sale, distribution, provision, use, recovery, collection, recycling and disposal of single-use plastic products.

8. Innovate alternative materials for packaging

We can contribute to lower GHG emissions by actively minimizing the environmental impact of a product starting from material extraction to the end of its life.

Remanufacturing is where products are repurposed from recovered, possibly already recycled, ones. Remanufacturing and reconditioning tend to be labor-intensive activities that can create jobs and require relatively little capital investment. These efforts reduce the carbon emissions associated with the disposal and procurement of raw materials.

Industrial ecology is where one manufacturer's waste serves as another's feedstock or is used as input to the production process.

Companies can also follow the principle of eco-design by considering factors such as the



amount of energy and materials consumed in production or how the product and its manufacturing byproducts may affect biodiversity. They can opt for alternative processes, systems and materials. They can use biodegradable polymers instead of traditional petroleum-based plastics in ready-made meal packaging and other food products.

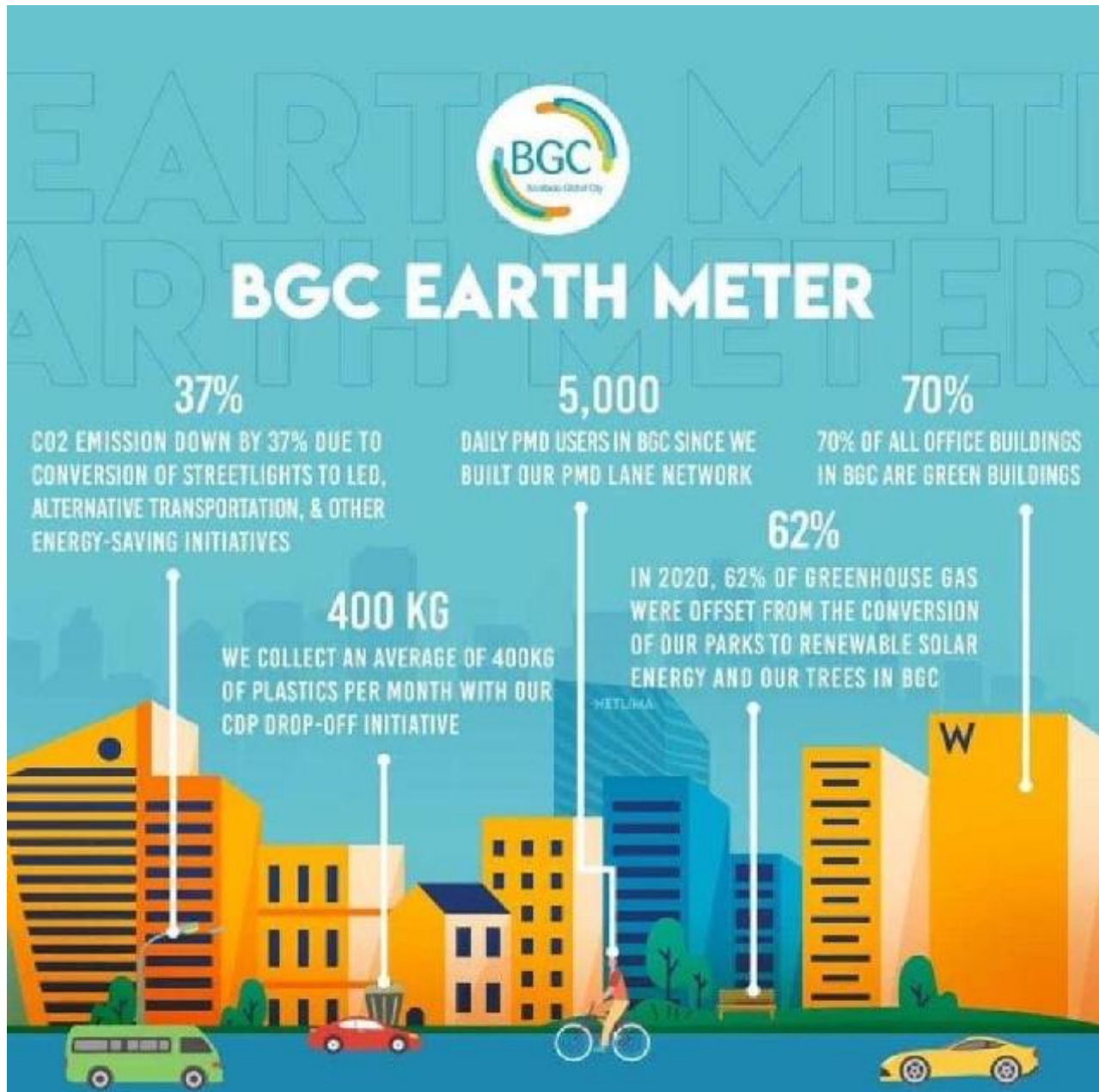
Companies can also put up simple, easy-to-do, no-regrets initiatives such as rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, food gardens and edible landscapes for food sufficiency; support solar and other renewable energy sources; support bamboo and mangrove planting; and prepare for an emergency response to and swift recovery from the cascading impacts of extreme weather events.

The author is the executive director of the Young Environmental Forum and a Non-Resident Fellow of Stratbase ADR Institute. He completed his climate change and development course at the University of East Anglia (United Kingdom) and an executive program on sustainability leadership at Yale University (USA). You can email him at ludwig.federigan@gmail.com.



BGC'S environment initiatives lead to healthier city

June 26, 2021



CLIMATE change is an urgent issue that cannot be ignored; hence, Bonifacio Global City shifts its focus to lessen its carbon emission and residuals while continuously building a more involved community that champions sustainable and eco-friendly initiatives and advocacies.

In 2020, BGC successfully cut its carbon emission down to 37 percent while offsetting 62 percent of greenhouse gas by converting streetlights, parks, and buildings with a renewable energy source, encouraging alternative transportation modes, and planting trees and shrubs around the city. The 3,800 trees in its 240-hectare estate helped improve the urban microclimate.

Establishing the 16-kilometer shared and dedicated bus and Personal Mobility Device (PMD) lanes enabled many commuters and car drivers to switch to bicycles and electric kick scooters. By the end of 2020, BGC recorded 5,000 bicycles and other PMD users daily.



For solid waste, BGC organized a weekly Clean and Dry Plastic Drop-off to encourage BGCitizens to segregate in their homes and drop-off plastics for recycling.

BGC collects an average of 400 kg of plastics per month. A whopping number of plastic waste that could have otherwise ended up in Metro Manila's garbage landfills.

BGC is also one of the greenest mixed-used estates, with 70 percent of its office buildings recognized as green buildings by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Building for Ecologically Responsive Design Excellence (BERDE), and WELL. It's a testament to how BGC makes a collective effort to turn the micro-city into a healthier place to live, work, and play.

Together with the City Government of Taguig and Brgy. Fort Bonifacio, BGC is finding more ways to lessen its residuals by diverting its solid waste from landfills to recycling facilities and household composting. This commitment is aligned with the LGU's objective of decreasing its residuals by 2022.

Deforestation of orangutan habitat feeds global palm oil demand: Report

Palm oil giant Royal Golden Eagle (RGE) has allegedly sourced the commodity from a plantation responsible for deforesting prime orangutan habitat in Sumatra, violating the group's no deforestation and no peatland destruction policies.



The Leuser Ecosystem is home to roughly 85 per cent of the Sumatran orangutan species' remaining population.

Image: Exotissimo Travel via [Flickr](#). [CC BY NC-ND 2.0](#)

[Hans Nicholas Jong, Mongabay.com](#)

June 25, 2021

A major palm oil company supplying to global brands like Nestlé and PepsiCo continues to source the raw commodity from plantations responsible for deforesting prime orangutan habitat in Sumatra, according to a [recent investigation](#).

US-based environmental advocacy group Rainforest Action Network (RAN) has found Singapore-based conglomerate Royal Golden Eagle (RGE) allegedly buying palm oil from a mill in Sumatra that sourced palm fruit from a plantation in the Leuser Ecosystem, one of Indonesia's last large tracts of intact rainforest.

RGE is owned by one of Indonesia's wealthiest tycoons, Sukanto Tanoto.

The plantation in question, PT Laot Bangko, allegedly cleared rainforests in Sumatra's Aceh province, with satellite imagery showing clearing taking place in early 2021. A total of seven hectares (17 acres) of forests were cleared since January, half in May alone, according to RAN.

"There was no clearing from February to April but clearing resumed again in May which is worrying given the importance of the lowland rainforests inside and surrounding its concession," Gemma Tillack, policy director with RAN, told Mongabay.

These rainforests are the last habitat for critically endangered Sumatran orangutans and elephants in the Leuser Ecosystem, RAN said.

Deforestation within Laot Bangko's concession has been [well documented](#) by RAN in [recent years](#), with forest cover within the company's area shrinking from 237 to 117 hectares (586 to 289 acres) between June 2016 and April 2021.

Through a field investigation, RAN traced the supply of palm fruit from Laot Bangko to palm oil mill PT Global Sawit Semesta (GSS). The latter sells its crude palm oil to a palm oil refinery, PT Sari Dumai Sejati (SDS), operated by RGE's palm oil arm, APICAL.

"The fact is that the PT SDS refinery has been sourcing from PT GSS for over a year and our field team found that sourcing continued at least up to April 2021 despite reports of the mill's non-compliance with no-deforestation policies during this period," Tillack said.

This isn't the first time RGE has been linked to deforestation-associated palm oil from Leuser.

A similar investigation by RAN last year found that RGE's APICAL sourced from another producer, PT Tualang Raya, and mill in northeast Leuser Ecosystem called PT Syaukath Sejahtera, that have also been linked to the destruction of the ecosystem.

According to RAN's report in September 2020, more than 269 hectares (665 acres) of forests were cleared inside Tualang Raya's concession since the government declared a moratorium on forest clearing for palm oil in January 2018.

RAN alerted RGE to this, and APICAL responded by securing a no-buy position on Tualang Raya and an agreement on a time-bound action plan, including requiring mill operator Syaukath Sejahtera to submit traceability information for its supply chain. This was ostensibly meant to allow APICAL to conduct a risk assessment to identify if any of its suppliers are operating illegally or have committed deforestation in the Leuser Ecosystem.

However, Tillack said RGE's response was inadequate because it focused on engagement only with mill operator PT Syaukath Sejahtera.

"RAN has been raising to RGE and APICAL that it is exposed to deforestation in the Leuser Ecosystem via a number of mills it sources from that lack adequate traceability and compliance systems, not just PT Syaukath Sejahtera," she said. "Yet its response following our September 2020 was to take action only via engagement with PT Syaukath Sejahtera."

Tillack said RGE should have engaged with all mills that were sourcing from non-compliant producers known to be destroying the Leuser Ecosystem as they had been alerted by RAN of the high risk of sourcing from GSS and Laot Bangko, which have also been flagged by the campaign group in the past.

"RGE/APICAL's response was inadequate as the company has failed to engage with all the high-risk mills it sources from that are at known risk of sourcing from the producers actively clearing forests in the Leuser Ecosystem — including PT GSS," she said.

As global consumers increasingly demand that banks and brands cut forest destruction out of their supply chains or financial portfolios, RGE Group's failure to comply with basic policies against deforestation and peatland development poses a major liability to companies that continue to do business with this controversial company.

Maggie Martin, senior forest campaigner, Rainforest Action Network

Company response

Responding to the new findings, APICAL sustainability director Bremen Yong said the company had taken the allegation seriously.

"Although we have never sourced directly from PT Laot Bangko, we have engaged with PT GSS and instruct stop land clearing for their supplier, PT Laot Bangko, which include an action plan to correct and/or remediate any non-compliance," he told Mongabay.

Since then, Laot Bangko has committed to an action plan that includes a commitment to stop clearing with immediate effect and implement a "no deforestation, no peatland, no exploitation" policy, or NDPE.

"We will monitor the case and continue hold on sourcing from any grievance suppliers, until significant progress has been made or grievance resolved," Yong said.

Tillack said this response confirmed that APICAL sources palm oil from GSS, which is being supplied with deforestation-tainted palm oil from Laot Bangko.

In response to RAN's criticism of the lack of adequate traceability and compliance systems in RGE's supply chain, Yong said APICAL had committed to responsible sourcing and had carried out risk assessments of all suppliers in the company's supply chain.

"We have engaged with suppliers and carried out field visits in 2018/19 to all suppliers in Aceh, and demand full traceability of their sources," he said.

To complement the field visits, APICAL also has a monitoring system in place which adopts the Global Forest Watch (GFW) Pro and Global Land Analysis Discovery (GLAD) deforestation alerts for risk assessment and monitoring within its supply chain, Yong added.

APICAL has also worked with research consultancy Earth Equalizer to identify and address any deforestation risk in its supply chain in proactive manner, he said.

Tillack said all these risk engagement and supplier engagement measures had failed to prevent deforestation-tainted palm oil entering RGE's supply chain, and subsequently the global market. RGE is a key supplier of palm oil to major brands like Unilever, Kao, Procter & Gamble, PepsiCo, Mondelez, Nestlé and Colgate-Palmolive.

"Our investigations prove that these efforts have not addressed the RGE group's role in the ongoing destruction of the Leuser Ecosystem," Tillack said.

RAN has called on RGE's trade partners and financiers to stop doing business with the group. It says a failure to act constitutes a violation of the brands' and financiers' own NDPE policies.

RAN said RGE received financial services from MUFG, the largest bank in Japan; Dutch bank ABN Amro; and Chinese state-owned bank ICBC.

"As global consumers increasingly demand that banks and brands cut forest destruction out of their supply chains or financial portfolios, RGE Group's failure to comply with basic policies against deforestation and peatland development poses a major liability to companies that continue to do business with this controversial company," said Maggie Martin, a senior forest campaigner at RAN.

This story was published with permission from [Mongabay.com](https://www.mongabay.com).

26 JUNE 2021, SATURDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH tallies 116 new COVID-19 deaths, 6,812 more cases

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jun 25, 2021 4:19:15 PM



The country logged 116 new COVID-19 deaths on Friday, the third day in a row this week with over a hundred fatalities, pushing the death toll to 24,152. (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 25) — The country logged 116 new COVID-19 deaths on Friday, the third day in a row this week with over a hundred fatalities, pushing the death toll to 24,152.

The Department of Health's case bulletin said the death toll is 1.74% of the total number of infections, which increased to 1,385,053 after 6,812 more people got infected. Of this number, 4% or 55,293 are active or currently sick people, with 90.8% experiencing mild symptoms, 4.6% without symptoms, 1.9% with severe symptoms, 1.3% in critical condition, and 1.35% in moderate condition.

The recovery total also rose to 1,305,608 - which is 94.3% of the COVID-19 count - after 2,867 more people were cleared of the coronavirus.

The DOH said all laboratories submitted their reports on time. It added that 61 survivors were reclassified as fatalities after validation and 19 duplicates were removed, including 12 recoveries.

The daily positivity rate or percentage of people who tested positive rose slightly from 11.2% to 11.6% based on 51,005 tests done on June 23. The rate will still be updated but it is far from the below 5% recommended by the World Health Organization. Experts said high rates may mean high transmission and there may be more cases that have yet to be detected.

On Thursday, independent research group OCTA said the country will have to "[nearly double](#)" its daily vaccinations in order to reach population protection before Christmas. Population protection means administering a minimum of 50 million doses with focus on high-risk areas, the experts said. The country's current pace is at 195,400 doses per day and it has to increase to 350,000 to achieve 60 million doses administered by November 15. The Palace earlier vowed faster vaccination with more deliveries expected to come in.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/6/25/COVID-19-update-June-25-2021.html>



'All COVID-19 vaccines in Philippines effective vs Delta variant'

By [Sheila Crisostomo](#) (Philstar.com) - June 26, 2021 - 12:00am



A health worker administers the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to an individual at FilOil Flying V Center on May 12, 2021.

MANILA, Philippines — Allaying fears over the Delta variant, the Vaccine Expert Panel (VEP) said yesterday that all COVID-19 vaccines being administered in the country are effective against it.

At a forum, VEP member Rontgene Solante said that based on available data, the vaccines still work against the highly transmissible variant first detected in India in October 2020.

"I still believe that all of these vaccines, especially the vaccines currently available in the Philippines, are still effective," he said as concern grows over the strain's spread through 85 countries around the world.

Apart from spreading more easily, the variant B.1.1617.2 is also found to cause prolonged hospitalization.

While Solante said this is "not something to worry about since cases in the country are only few" as of now, heightened alert must be exercised, especially with people from other countries entering the Philippines.

Vaccination pushed

Isagani Padolina, another VEP member, urged the public to get vaccinated against COVID-19 "to reduce the burden on the hospitalization" as well as transmissibility.

Padolina emphasized how vaccination can also prevent mutation of the virus "because you don't have it replicating that much anymore."

"Mutations only happen when they replicate so the more replication happens, the more mutations happen," he explained.

This was echoed by Food and Drug Administration director general Eric Domingo, saying: "We need to speed up our immunization program so that we can prevent the spread of this variant... It is actually more important to get vaccinated now."

Domingo added that the country's border control is very strict but when cases of Delta variant come in, it will be easier to contain if many people are already inoculated.

Delayed second dose

Meanwhile, the VEP allayed fears over delayed inoculation of the second dose of Gamaleya's Sputnik V vaccines against COVID-19, giving assurance that the government would not allow vaccinees to miss their second dose.



"We have to reassure the public that the second dose is coming. It may just be delayed but the delay is not significant enough that the vaccines will no longer be effective," he noted at the same forum.

Solante added that a delay in the second dose would only be "dangerous" if it would reach one year, which he said is unlikely.

He also noted that like Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines, the efficacy rate of the first dose of a Sputnik V jab is high. Still, he said the efficacy of the first dose is not expected to last long without the second dose.

For AstraZeneca vaccine, Solante pointed out that a longer interval between doses from four to 12 weeks increased its efficacy rate from 67 percent to 80 percent.

"So we are looking at it the same way because they are both 'virus vector' vaccines. So it (delay) is not something to worry for me," he added.

Herd immunity

Vaccine czar Carlito Galvez Jr. said the Philippines' target of herd immunity is on track.

Reacting to comments made by a UK-based think tank claiming that the Philippines will be among the last countries to achieve herd immunity, he said: "We will prove them wrong."

As of June 23, the country has administered a total of 9,281,235 shots against COVID-19.

"This development shows that we are on the right track in our vaccination program," Galvez said.

He said the country's daily inoculation rate has been steadily increasing, citing the administration of 223,602 jabs last June 22.

Mega-facility

During the celebration of the city of Manila's 450th founding anniversary the other day, Manila Mayor Isko Moreno launched the city's Mega COVID-19 Field Hospital located in Rizal Park's Burnham Green.

The 344-bed field hospital dedicated for mild and moderate COVID-19 cases was completed in 52 days, way ahead of the city's original completion target of 60 days.

Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea noted that the facility will help in the government's efforts to decongest hospitals in the capital, while preventing patients from waiting for longer hours before getting admitted.

Also present at the inauguration were Manila Vice Mayor Honey Lacuna, Duque, Galvez, testing czar Vince Dizon, Sen. Bong Go, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chairman Benhur Abalos and Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission chairman Greco Belgica. – Jose Rodel Clapano, Rudy Santos, Edu Punay

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/06/26/2108183/all-covid-19-vaccines-philippines-effective-vs-delta-variant/amp/>



BORDER CONTROL PAIGTINGIN VS DELTA VARIANT



June 25, 2021 @ 4:58 PM 13 hours ago

HANGGANG kaninong bansa ba tayo dapat magdeklara ng border control ngayong mabilis na lumalaganap ang Delta o India variant ng coronavirus disease 2019 o COVID-19?

Nasa 85 bansa na ang kinalatan ng nasabing variant ngunit pitong bansa pa lang tayo may travel ban.

Ayon sa European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, sa darating na Agosto, nasa 90 porsyento na ng mga variant ang Delta variant sa buong 27 bansang miyembro ng European Union.

Natalo na ng Delta variant ang United Kingdom variant na malaganap pa rin sa EU.

Ang Russia, nagbabala na rin ng pagdoble ng biktima ng COVID-19 mismo sa Moscow at nagbabala na rin mismo si Dr. Anthony Fauci na kakalat din nang husto ang nasabing variant sa Amerika.

INTERNASYUNAL NA BORDER CONTROL

Sa ngayon, may travel ban tayo sa India, Pakistan, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh at Nepal.

Ano ang gagawin ng mga awtoridad sa mga biyaheng Pinas at nalalabing 78 bansa na wala tayong travel ban?

Sa ngayon, tuloy-tuloy ang biyahe sa pagitan ng Pinas at 78 bansa, kasama na ang United Kingdom, European Union, United States, Russia at iba pa.

Dahil sa kakulangan ng travel ban, hindi imposibleng mapasok tayo nang todo ng Delta variant.

Lalala ang kalagayan natin lalo't hindi natin pupwedeng tanggihan ang mga sinisipa ng ibang bansa pauwi sa Pilipinas, gaya ng tatlong seaman na crew ng MV Eastern Hope na nakadaong sa South Korea at ang mga crew ng MV Athena Bridge na dumaong naman mismo sa Manila Bay.

LOCAL BORDER CONTROL

Wala pa namang nakikitang community transmission o hawaan ng Delta variant sa Pilipinas.

Pero magandang magkaroon na ng mga paghihigpit sa mga biyaheng local.

Tama pa rin ang patakaran ng mga lokal na pamahalaan na lahat ng galing sa iba, sa antas ng mga probinsya at rehiyon, ay dapat may dalang health certificate, kasama ang sertipiko sa bakuna, o kaukulang resulta ng test bago sila payagang makapasok sa kanila.

Kung hindi, daraan ang mga ito sa mga kwarantana na nagtatagal ng 14 araw at kaukulang test bago sila tuluyang pakawalan.



MGA VARIANT KILALANIN

Paulit-ulit man, mahalagang malinaw ang mga pinag-uusapan natin.

May orig na virus ang COVID-19 at habang nagtatagal ito, nagkaroon ito ng mga bagong anyo o mutant o variant.

Heto ang mga variant na sa totoo lang, eh, libo na ang bilang subalit meron sa mga ito ang nakitaan ng bagsik na higit sa bagsik ng orig na virus.

United Kingdom o Alpha variant na may tatak na B117 at nadiskubre noong Setyembre 2020 sa UK.

South African variant o Beta variant na may tatak na B1531 na nalaman noong Mayo 2020.

Brazil variant o Gamma variant at may tatak na P1 na nadiskubre nitong Nobyembre 2020.

India o Delta variant na may tatak na B16172 na unang nakita noong Oktubre 2020.

BAGSIK NG DELTA VARIANT

Double mutant ang Delta variant dahil nagsama ang UK at South Africa variants at kung nakahahawa man ang orig o ang UK o South Africa variant ng hanggang 2-3 katao, hanggang 8 katao ang sa Delta variant.

At napakabilis pang dumami sa katawan ng tao kaya naman sa loob lang ng 3-4 araw, maaaring nasa severe o kritikal na ang biktima na maaaring maospital at mamamatay kung hindi siya mabilis na matulungan.

At ang nakatatakot pa, meron na ring mutant ang Delta variant na tinatawag ng Delta plus variant.

Ang bagsik ng variant na ito ay nakita sa nasa 400,000-500,000 biktima araw-araw kabilang na ang 4,000-6,000 patay sa India lalo na nitong nakaraang buwan ng Abril at Mayo.

BISA NG BAKUNA

Sa ngayon, tanging mga bakunang Pfizer at AstraZeneca pa lang ang may resulta ng pag-aaral sa bisa laban sa Delta variant.

Humina ang bisa ng Pfizer mula sa mahigit 90 porsyento sa orig at ibang variant sa 88% at ng AstraZeneca mula 89% sa 69%.

Ibig sabihin nito, malamang maospital o kaya'y mamatay ang nahawaan na walang bakuna lalo't napakabilis ang paghinog ng Delta variant na 3-4 araw lamang at 'di katulad ng iba na umaabot sa 7-14 araw.

MAGPABAKUNA NA LAHAT

Pinakamabisang panlaban sa Delta variant ang pagpapabakuna.

Kaya kung naririyon na sa atin ang mga nagbabakuna, magpabakuna na tayo bago tayo abutan ng variant na ito.

Ngunit habang wala pa, maging istrikto tayo sa pagpapatupad ng lahat ng health protocol mula sa pagsusuot ng face mask, face shield, social distancing, palagiang paghuhugas ng kamay, pag-iwas sa maramihang pagtitipon, pagkakaroon ng singawan ng kinalalagyan nating istruktura at iba pa.

Dapat ding maging aktibo tayo sa pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga awtoridad kung may mapansin tayong mga taong may sintomas ng COVID-19 para sa agaran at kaukulang aksyon.

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/border-control-paigtingin-vs-delta-variant/>



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**Covid-19
Situation and Response**

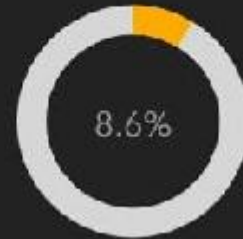
DENR-CO COVID-19 Monitoring



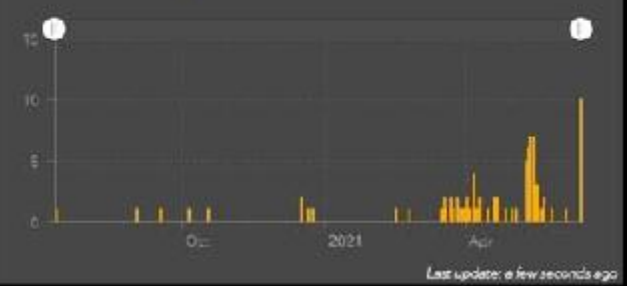
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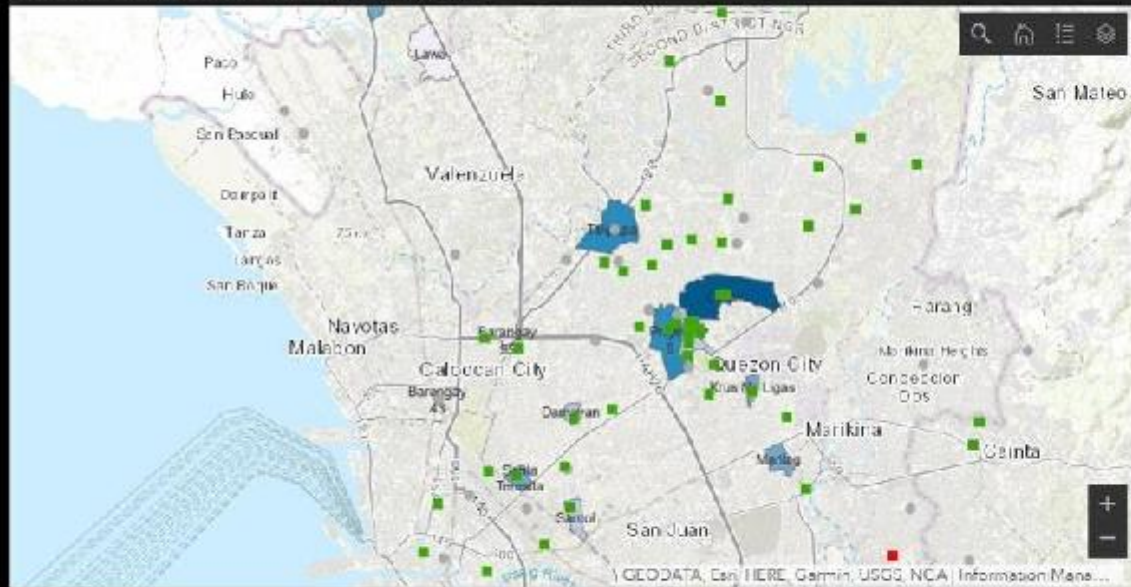
% COVID-19 Confirmed Cases in DENR-CO



Daily Confirmed Cases



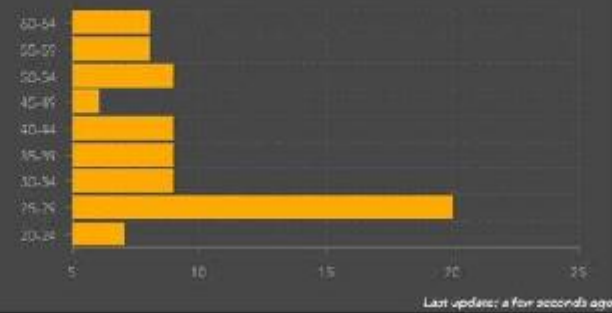
Residence of affected personnel



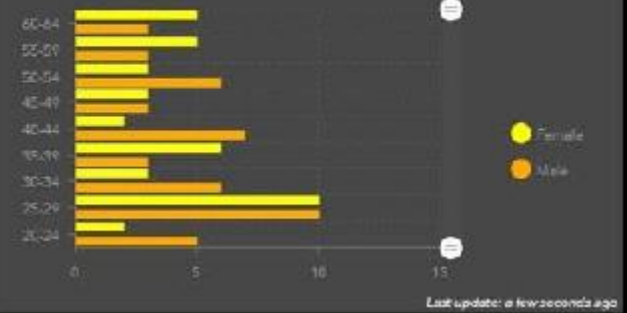
Please note that representative dots were randomly assigned within the barangay residence of the affected personnel and do not necessarily provide exact location/ addresses of the cases.

Map Map Legend

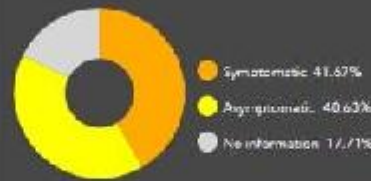
Age Group



Age Group by Sex



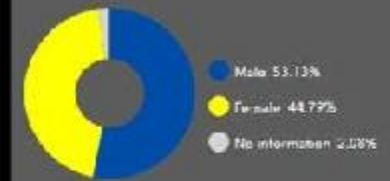
Health Status



Comorbidity



Sex



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LIGTAS ANG PAMILYA, LIGTAS ANG BAYAN
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KAILAN MAGKAKABISA ANG BAKUNA LABAN SA COVID-19

?

Sa pangkalahatan, **optimal na proteksyon:**

Sa loob ng **dalawang linggo mula sa 1st dosage** ng bakuna

Ang iyong katawan ay magsisimula nang gumawa ng depensa laban sa COVID-19

Pagkatapos ng **dalawang linggo mula sa 2nd dosage** (o pagkatapos ng full vaccination)

Buong bisa at proteksyon ng bakuna laban sa malubhang COVID-19

Source: Department of Health



26 JUNE 2021, SATURDAY



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