

27 AUGUST 2021, FRIDAY



# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





## Dagdag-pondo sa Bicol at Cagayan River rehab hirit ng DENR



August 26, 2021 @ 7:22 PM 11 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Inihirit ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary at Task Force Build Back Better (TFBBB) chairperson Roy Cimatu ang dagdag pondo para agad na matapos ang Cagayan at Bicol River rehab.

Para mangyari ito, hirit ni Cimatu ang karagdagang P1.45 billion at P3.2 billion bilang funding assistance sa pagbili ng bagong equipment sa dredging operations sa Bicol at Cagayan River Basins, ayon sa pagkakasunod.

Kaugnay nito, bahagi ng panukalang pondo para sa Cagayan River dredging activity ay para sa restorasyon at pagpapalit ng 40 floodgates sa kahabaan ng Naga-Calabanga embankment na nagkakahalaga ng P64.1 million.

Sa ulat sinabi ni Cimatu, ang mga nagawa ng TFBBB sa restorasyon ng river basins ng Cagayan, Bicol at Marikina ay nagpapatunay lamang na ang Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) ay kayang tapusin nang mabilis ang proyekto at mas “cost-effective” sa halip na umarkila ng private contractors.

“This is really a big policy shift and I hope the next administration will continue this. They cannot afford not to continue this,” ani Cimatu.

“You can just imagine if we bid these out to contractors, baka wala pa sa kalahati nagagawa natin ngayon,” dagdag nito.

Ayon pa kay Cimatu na siya ring namumuno sa Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction na habang kinakailangan ang priority funding para matugunan ang pandemic crisis, “priority should likewise be given to equally important efforts on climate change and disaster mitigation programs meant to assure the country of its food security and prevent, or at least minimize loss of precious infrastructures due to flooding.”

Kaugnay nito ang Cagayan River Dredging Plan ay binubuo ng walong yugto na inaasahang matatapos sa loob ng first quarter ng 2025 kung mayroong karagdagang equipment. Ito ay maaaring umabot ng 2028 kung limitado lamang sa paggamit ng existing fleet ng DPWH.

Samantala, ang Bicol River Dredging Plan ay inaasahang matatapos sa katapusan ng 2025 kung gagamitin ang kasalukuyang equipment ng DPWH ngunit ito ay mapapabilis ng dalawang taon kung maaaprubahan ang hiling na karagdagang gamit. **Santi Celario**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/dagdag-pondo-sa-bicol-at-cagayan-river-rehab-hirit-ng-denr/>



## Cimatu asks additional P4.65 B for faster Bicol, Cagayan Rivers rehabilitation

Published August 26, 2021, 4:40 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu has requested the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) an additional P4.65 billion fund assistance for the agency's ongoing projects that aim to remove the sandbars in Bicol and Cagayan rivers.

Cimatu, who is also the chairman of Task Force Build Back Better (TF BBB), said in a statement released on Thursday, Aug. 26, that he is pushing for the early completion of sandbars removal in Bicol River from 2025 to 2023 and in Cagayan River from 2028 to 2025—the reason why an additional fund is necessary.

The fund will be dedicated for the purchase of new equipment for the dredging operations in Bicol and Cagayan River basins. A total of P1.45 will go to Bicol while P3.2 billion to Cagayan, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said.

Part of the proposed funding for the Cagayan River dredging activity is also for the restoration and replacement of 40 floodgates along the Naga-Calabanga embankment worth P64.1 million, it added.

Cimatu explained that the task force's TF achievements in the restoration of the river basins of Cagayan, Bicol, and Marikina prove that "the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) can finish the project faster and more cost-effective than by hiring private contractors."

"You can just imagine if we bid these out to contractors, baka wala pa sa kalahati nagagawa natin ngayon," he added.

The environment chief said while we need to prioritize the COVID-19 crisis, "priority should likewise be given to equally important efforts on climate change and disaster mitigation programs."

"If we invest now, the best option is to already have these pieces of equipment this year," Cimatu said, adding that his task force's initiatives "will go a long way in accelerating the recovery of the country from the social and economic disruptions from the global pandemic."

The Cagayan River Dredging Plan consists of eight phases with projected completion within the first quarter of 2025, if provided with the additional equipment. The undertaking, however, will likely extend until 2028 if limited to DPWH's existing fleet, DENR said.

Meanwhile, the Bicol River Dredging Plan is scheduled to be finished by the end of 2025 using the present fleet of DPWH equipment. However, the project can be finished two years earlier if the request for additional equipment is granted.



## Cimatu-led task force seeks more funding for early completion of Bicol, Cagayan rivers ' rehab

AUG 26, 2021, 6:49 PM

Santiago Celario  
Writer

***Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said the agency's achievements in the restoration of the river basins of Cagayan, Bicol, and Marikina are proof that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) can finish the project faster and more cost-effective than by hiring private contractors.***

**ENVIRONMENT** Secretary and Task Force Build Back Better (TF BBB) chairperson Roy Cimatu is pushing for the early completion of the removal of sandbars in Bicol River from 2025 to 2023, and in the Cagayan River from 2028 to 2025.

To accomplish these, Cimatu has requested the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for additional P1.45 billion and P3.2 billion funding assistance to purchase new equipment for the dredging operations in Bicol and Cagayan River Basins, respectively.

Part of the proposed funding for the Cagayan River dredging activity is for the restoration and replacement of 40 floodgates along the Naga-Calabanga embankment worth P64.1 million.

Cimatu said the TF BBB's achievements in the restoration of the river basins of Cagayan, Bicol, and Marikina are proof that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) can finish the project faster and more cost-effective than by hiring private contractors.

"This is really a big policy shift and I hope the next administration will continue this. They cannot afford not to continue this," Cimatu said.

"You can just imagine if we bid these out to contractors, baka wala pa sa kalahati nagagawa natin ngayon," he added.

Cimatu, who likewise heads the Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction said that while priority funding should be made to address the pandemic crisis, "priority should likewise be given to equally important efforts on climate change and disaster mitigation programs meant to assure the country of its food security and prevent, or at least minimize loss of precious infrastructures due to flooding."

"If we invest now, the best option is to already have these pieces of equipment this year," Cimatu said noting the TF BBB's initiatives "will go a long way in accelerating the recovery of the country from the social and economic disruptions from the global pandemic."

The Cagayan River Dredging Plan consists of eight phases with projected completion within the first quarter of 2025 with the additional equipment.



The undertaking, however, will likely extend until 2028 due to limits in the DPWH's existing fleet.

Meanwhile, the Bicol River Dredging Plan is scheduled to be finished by the end of 2025 using the present fleet of DPWH equipment.

However, officials said the project can be shortened by two years if request for additional equipment is granted.





## DENR requests additional funds for river dredging

August 26, 2021 | 8:03 pm



PHILSTAR

ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY Roy A. Cimatu has asked the budget department for an additional P4.65 billion to buy new dredging equipment to be used in removing sandbars from the Bicol and Cagayan River basins.

Some P1.45 billion will support operations in the Bicol River basin and P3.2 billion will fund activities in the Cagayan River basin.

In a statement Thursday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said Mr. Cimatu is pushing for the early removal of sandbars from the Bicol River between 2023 and 2025, and from the Cagayan River between 2025 and 2028.

He said that while priority funding should be allotted for initiatives focusing on the public health emergency, “priority should likewise be given to equally important efforts on climate change and disaster mitigation programs meant to assure the country of its food security and prevent, or at least minimize loss of precious infrastructure due to flooding.”

“If we invest now, the best (case scenario) is to have these pieces of equipment this year,” he added.

At present, the DENR is using the dredging equipment of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for both river basins.

The DPWH and DENR are both part of the Task Force Build Back Better (TF BBB) which is in charge of restoring the river basins in Cagayan, Bicol, and Marikina.

According to Mr. Cimatu who also chairs the TF BBB, the group’s achievements are “proof” that the government can finish the project faster and at less cost than private contractors.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) confirmed that it has received the DENR’s request for additional funding.

“The request was referred to the DPWH for possible accommodation in the available funds of DPWH,” DBM Spokesperson Rolando U. Toledo told *BusinessWorld*. — **Angelica Y. Yang**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-requests-additional-funds-for-river-dredging/>



# Task force seeks more funding for rehab of Bicol, Cagayan rivers

(Philstar.com) - August 26, 2021 - 3:57pm



Handout photo from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shows Cagayan River. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MANILA, Philippines — The government's Task Force "Build Back Better" is seeking more funds to fast-track the rehabilitation efforts in Bicol and Cagayan rivers.

The task force co-chaired by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Works and Highways aim to remove sandbars in Bicol River by 2023 and in Cagayan River by 2025.

Task Force Build Back Better was directed to ensure post-disaster rehabilitation efforts in typhoon-hit areas

The agencies need about 1.45 billion and P3.2 billion funding assistance to purchase new equipment for the dredging operations in Bicol and Cagayan River Basins, respectively.

Part of the proposed funding will go to the restoration and replace of 40 floodgates along the Naga-Calabanga embankment.

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu said the initiatives of Task Force Build Back Better "will go a long way in accelerating the recovery of the country from the social and economic disruptions from the global pandemic."

While priority funding should go to address the pandemic, Cimatu said that "priority should likewise be given to equally important efforts on climate change and disaster mitigation programs meant to assure the country of its food security and prevent, or at least minimize loss of precious infrastructures due to flooding."

The Bicol river dredging plan is scheduled to be finished by end-2025 using the present fleet of DPWH equipment but can be shortened by two years if the request for additional equipment is granted.

Meanwhile, the projected completion of the dredging efforts in Cagayan River is within the first quarter of 2025 with the additional equipment. — **Gaea Katreena Cabico**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/08/26/2122804/task-force-seeks-more-funding-rehab-bicol-cagayan-rivers/amp/>



# DENR hails signing of law streamlining land titling requirements for A&D agricultural lands

August 26, 2021 3 min read

By Rjhay E. Laurea

MANILA — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) welcomed the signing of Republic Act (R.A.) 11573 which will seriously upgrade the land titling application procedures for alienable and disposable (A & D) agricultural lands.

“The DENR gladly welcomes the passage of RA 11573 into law. We have been aiming for this in order to relieve farmers of some of the requirements from existing land laws and accelerate titling in the country,” said DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu.

The DENR-Legislative Affairs Group and DENR-Land Management Bureau (LMB), with the public defense organization Foundation for Economic Freedom (FEF), have been pushing for the aerodynamic of land processing needs since 2020.

“Securing a land title goes beyond land ownership. It elevates the lives of our farmers through the increase in land productivity and promotes investments,” Cimatu added.

On the other hand, DENR-LMB Dir. Emelyne V. Talabis cited the new law as giving value to the success of agricultural land titling in the country at a faster pace.

“With this, we foresee potential untitled agricultural lands to be titled in the next 10 years,” she said.

Talabis said the DENR-LMB, alongside FEF, is set to send the 10-year Completion of the National Land Titling Program to the House of Representatives this month.

The DENR is now outlining the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) for RA 11573 to ensure that it would be signed by Cimatu in 60 days from its official effectiveness date.

“Farmers will soon be able to apply for an agricultural free patent without a specific acceptance period once RA 11573 takes effect,” Talabis pointed out.





“We advise applicants to await the issuance of the IRR before applying,” she added.

On July 16, 2021, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued RA 11573, or the Act improving the confirmation process for imperfect land titles.

It revised the Commonwealth Act. No. 141, also known as the Public Land Act, and Presidential Decree No. 1529, also known as the Property Registration Decree.

RA 11573 aims to simplify, update and match similar and related provisions of land laws in order to simplify and remove uncertainty in its interpretation and implementation.

The law gets rid of the due date for the filing of applications for free patent and legal confirmation and reduces the needed period of possession to 20 years.

It also authorizes the Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENRO) and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENRO) to process free permit pleas for 120 days.

Furthermore, it rules the PENRO, DENR, Regional Director, and the DENR Secretary to approve the pleas within five days, depending on the size of the land. (ai/mtvn)



# DENR: '100 percent' of Philippine dumpsites shut down

John Gabriel Agcaoili, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Aug 27 2021 01:16 AM



MANILA - Environment (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu on Thursday said his department has shut down all of the dumpsites in the Philippines.

"Gusto ko pong i-report na ... 100 percent na sarado na ang dumpsite. Itong dumpsites ay ito 'yung utos ng R.A. 9003, Solid Waste Management Law," Cimatu said, referring to the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

(I wish to report that ... 100 percent of the country's dumpsites have closed. These dumpsites were shut down under R.A. 9003, Solid Waste Management Law.)

Operation of open dumps is prohibited under the law.

Cimatu said they only managed to shut down all open dumps this year, despite the law enacted two decades ago.

"Nag-umpisa ito noong 2000. Eh 2021 na ngayon, at ngayon pa lang natin napasarado ng dumpsite kasi bawal ito sa batas," he said.

(This started in 2000. But it's 2021 now, so we only managed to shut down all of the dumps because they're prohibited by law.)

Before Cimatu's announcement, the DENR said Mimaropa had the most number of open dumpsites with 28, followed by Western Visayas with 19 in January 2021.

There were no reported open dumpsites in Cagayan Valley, Soccsksargen, Cordillera Administrative Region, and Metro Manila in that period.

The DENR had urged municipalities or cities that do not have sanitary landfills of their own to create a clustered sanitary landfill that would be shared by multiple localities, or to come up with a residual containment area (RCA).

They also reminded local government units to conduct safe closure and rehabilitation on dumpsites.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/27/21/denr-100-percent-of-philippine-dumpsites-shut-down>



## Duterte vouches for Cimatu's work on Manila Bay: 'Dolomite is beautiful'

Published August 27, 2021, 12:02 AM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

President Duterte has defended the Department of Environment and Natural Resources's (DENR) efforts in rehabilitating Manila Bay, specifically its use of crushed dolomite rocks along its shore line.



President Duterte speaks during his "Talk to the People" public briefing on Aug. 26, 2021. (Screenshot from Facebook live)

In his pre-recorded "Talk to the People" public briefing on late Thursday night, Aug. 26, the President was listening to DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu's presentation regarding the agency's accomplishments when he felt the need to chime in on the dolomite issue.

"Dolomite is beautiful to the eyes, period. 'Wag ka na magtanong kasi hindi naman ninyo kaya kung kayo (Don't even ask because if it's you, you would be incapable of doing it). You had your chance, actually. For so many years, you had every chance to do it," Duterte said.

"Was there anybody willing to take the problem by its horns? Si Cimatu lang (Only Cimatu)," he stressed.

The DENR [dumps crushed dolomite rocks](#) along the beach in Manila Bay as part of its "beach nourishment" activity. The crushed dolomite, which approximates white sand, gives the artificial beach its striking appearance.

However, the use of dolomite is controversial since the rocks have cost the government millions in cash amid the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Attesting to Cimatu's competence, Duterte pointed to how the DENR chief has transformed the "cesspool" that was Boracay.

"Ginagawa na nga ni Secretary Cimatu para mapaganda ang lahat. Tignan mo ngayon ang Boracay. Noon, maraming magagandang babae na naliligo doon, Roy. Noong pinaganda mo, mas lalong pinakamagandang lahat na babae sa buong mundo, nandyan na. Ayaw mo pa yan? (Secretary Cimatu has been trying to beautify everything. Look at Boracay. Back then, a lot of beautiful women go to the beach there, Roy. When you improved the place, even more of the most beautiful women in the world went there. And you don't like that?)" he said.





“What is beautiful is beautiful, period,” added the Chief Executive.

He went on to further laud Cimat, who is a former chief-of-staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

“Pasalamat tayo. Itong mga ito mga retired military na ito, ayaw na nito magtrabaho, pinipilit ko lang (Let’s be thankful. These retired members of the military, they don’t want to work anymore, I just convinced them to).”



# Duterte to Manila Bay project critics: Dolomite is beautiful, period

By MA. ANGELICA GARCIA, GMA News

Published August 26, 2021 11:56pm

President Rodrigo Duterte on Thursday night defended the multimillion-peso project that dumped crushed dolomite on a portion of Manila Bay, saying the result is beautiful.

"Dolomite is beautiful to the eyes, period. 'Wag ka na magtanong kasi hindi naman ninyo kaya kung kayo," Duterte said in his second public address this week.

[Don't ask about it anymore because you wouldn't have been able to do it if it had been you.]

"You had your chance, actually. For so many years, you had every chance to do it. Was there anybody willing to take the problem by its horns? Si Cimatú lang [only Environment Secretary Roy Cimatú]," he added.

As part of its P389-million Manila Bay rehabilitation program, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources last year began placing tons of sand—made from crushed dolomite boulders shipped from Cebu province—over a small stretch of the bay's shoreline.

Cimatú, who was presenting the DENR's accomplishments during the televised briefing, claimed that the dolomite sand prevents coastal erosion, filters water and increases beach width.

"It is considered a beach nourishment kasi malaking bagay ang nagagawa niya diyan. Nililinis niya 'yong, na-prevent niya rin ang erosion at tsaka 'yong mga luwag ng beach ay napaluwagan nito," he said.

The DENR earlier [said the beach project would also discourage people from littering](#).

The project received criticism from various sectors, with environmental and fishing groups [calling it a "cover-up" of the bay's pollution problem](#).

The artificial white sand [gets washed away when heavy rains hit the city](#), with Duterte [saying the beach needs to be replenished as a result](#).

During storms, the beach also becomes littered with trash that washes onto shore, which Cimatú [has blamed on the public](#) while claiming there is nothing wrong with the beach's design.

A group of scientists said the government [is "literally throwing money into the sea"](#) as these funds could have been used for the improvement of hospital facilities, vaccine procurement, and financial assistance to pandemic-hit Filipinos.

Biologists from the University of the Philippines also objected to the project, saying that rehabilitating the mangroves in the area instead of covering the bay's shoreline with dolomite [would have been "cheaper and more cost-effective,"](#) as well as one that contributes to biodiversity conservation. — **BM, GMA News**

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/801002/duterte-to-manila-bay-project-critics-dolomite-is-beautiful-period/story/?fbclid=IwAR1cx4w1kornTCYZNhGEIEwrysZZpPa7XK8j0l3pG7j9g7CPJhWmBCXifmU>



# Duterte on dolomite beach in Manila Bay: 'It's beautiful to the eyes'

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Aug 27 2021 01:59 AM



DENR personnel, together with some bloggers, check out the newly installed rock garden at the dolomite beach near the US Embassy along Roxas Boulevard in Manila on June 16, 2021. *ABS-CBN News/file*

MANILA—President Rodrigo Duterte defended the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for its makeover of Manila Bay with crushed dolomite sand, adding that it "is beautiful to the eyes."

"What is beautiful is beautiful. Dolomite is beautiful to the eyes. Period. 'Wag ka na magtanong kasi hindi niyo naman kaya kung kayo (Don't ask because you cannot do it)," Duterte said in a taped public speech aired late Thursday.

He said there had been opportunities to rehabilitate Manila Bay, but it was only Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu who "took the problem by its horns".

The DENR, aside from dumping crushed dolomite rocks in Manila Bay as part of its rehabilitation project, has also planted mature coconut palm trees along Roxas Boulevard.

The agency has been criticized following its P389-million project dumping dolomite sand in one part of the bay's shore to create an artificial beach, which government said was part of efforts to beautify the bay and help improve Filipinos' mental health during the pandemic.

It has been criticized for being wasteful, as hundreds of millions were spent on the project in the middle of a crippling health crisis.

Malacañang has also defended the project in past, saying the funds for the rehabilitation have long been allocated.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/27/21/duterte-on-dolomite-beach-its-beautiful-to-the-eyes>





# Duterte defends dolomite project on Manila Bay anew: Dolomite is beautiful

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Aug 27, 2021 4:43:27 AM



**Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, August 27)** — President Rodrigo Duterte on Thursday evening once again defended the overlaying of crushed dolomite on the shore of Manila Bay, as he recalled the projects of his administration.

During a recorded "Talk to the People" program, Duterte asked Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu to present the agency's previous initiatives, which included the rehabilitation of Boracay and Manila Bay.

Duterte then hit back at critics of the so-called Manila Bay "white sand" project, which had drawn the [doubt and ire of experts and environmentalists](#).

"Dolomite is beautiful to the eyes. Period," said the President. "*Wag ka nang magtanong kasi hindi naman ninyo kaya kung kayo* [Do not ask, because you would not be able to do it]."

"For so many years, you had every chance to do it. Was there anybody willing to take the problem by its horns?" he added.

The 389-million project aimed to improve the bay's water quality and the coastline's appearance, but it has been heavily condemned as experts deemed it ineffective in actually addressing the area's environmental issues. Other critics called it a waste of taxpayers' money.

[Marine scientists from the University of the Philippines](#) also said the sand could pose health problems given that dolomite has fine particles which can be inhaled. However, the [Health Department denied](#) that the sand could cause adverse health effects.

Criticism fell on deaf ears as the government dumped a [fresh batch of sand](#) in April this year.

But Duterte himself earlier admitted that the sand gets washed away and [needs continuous replenishment](#) until there is a "good alternative."

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/8/27/Duterte-defends-Manila-Bay-dolomite.html>



# Paglalagay ng dolomite sand sa Manila Bay ipinagtanggol ni Pres. Duterte

By [Bombo Jovino Galang](#) - August 27, 2021 | 2:29 AM

Ipinagtanggol ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa ginawa nilang pag-aayos sa Manila Bay sa pamamagitan ng paglalagay ng dolomite sand.

Sa kaniyang pagpupulong sa gabinete nito, sinabi ng pangulo na maganda sa mata ang nasabing dolomite sands.

Maraming mga oportunidad na pagandahin ang Manila Bay at tanging si DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu ang nakagawa nito.

Magugunitang umani ng batikos ang ginawang paglalagay ng DENR ng mga dolomite sands sa Manila Bay na nagkakahalaga umano ng P389 milyon.

Pagtatanggol ng gobyerno na ang pondong ginamit dito ay matagal ng inilaan at ngayon lamang isinakatuparan ang proyekto.

Source: <https://www.bomboradyo.com/paglalagay-ng-dolomite-sand-sa-manila-bay-ipinagtanggol-ni-pres-duterte/>



# Duterte: Gov't may need 'martial law power' to clean up canals, Manila Bay

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

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 12:15 AM August 27, 2021



President Duterte: You need another martial law power for a president someday to clean up Manila Bay. FILE PHOTO from MMDA-PIO

## Update

MANILA, Philippines — For a clean Manila Bay, the government may need a martial rule-like power to prevent temporary restraining orders from hindering its work to clean up other bodies of water, President Rodrigo Duterte said on Thursday.

Duterte said steps should be taken to make Manila Bay cleaner, including dredging and opening up canals and rivers which all affect the quality of the bay's water.

However, the President acknowledged that this is a difficult task and "cannot be addressed in an ordinary day" since people may file lawsuits and temporary restraining orders (TROs) may be issued.

To deal with these challenges, Duterte said: "Much as I would like to proceed with my job unhampered, unbridled. I cannot because I have to contend with democracy and the courts... Kailangan i-dredge na talaga, including the esteros and if need be destroy all houses at 'yung mga esteros na ninakaw ng mga subdivision. Buksan, pilitin mo, but this cannot be done in an ordinary day."

(It must be dredged and canals cleaned. If necessary, destroy all the houses and open up the canals used by subdivisions. It cannot be done on a normal day.)

"Hindi na ako maging president (my term as president will end soon), but you need another martial law power for a President someday to do this thing," he added.

"Yang wala ng TRO, basta 'yung mali, ano 'yung original mapa, 'yun ang sundin. Then this country would find a relief of what is now a quagmire of our country," Duterte continued. (If there is no TRO, the original mapping would be followed.)

At the presentation by Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu about the progress of Manila Bay cleanup, Duterte chimed in with this remark.





This is Duterte's second public address this week, and an hour was devoted to Cimatú's updates on environmental efforts.

In this public address, which was supposed to give updates on the government's COVID-19 response, Duterte said his goal was to let the taxpayers know where their money was going, which is why he had Cabinet members present their achievements under his administration.  
Abc

Source: [https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1479493/martial-law-needed-to-clean-up-canals-manila-bay?utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR1bH3BDBkpzRWuS7\\_fuCR2xBxHM-CMUFVgjzcT7bpVc23tL7avYuFaJGkU#Echobox=1629994706](https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1479493/martial-law-needed-to-clean-up-canals-manila-bay?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR1bH3BDBkpzRWuS7_fuCR2xBxHM-CMUFVgjzcT7bpVc23tL7avYuFaJGkU#Echobox=1629994706)



President Duterte defends the controversial dumping of dolomite for the 'beautification' project on Manila Bay.

CONTEXT: <https://bit.ly/3BcGk1W>

**DOLOMITE IS BEAUTIFUL**

**one news**

**PRES. RODRIGO DUTERTE**  
AUGUST 26, 2021

“  
Itong dolomite ang daming nagreklamo diyan. Ginagawa na nga ni Sec. Cima ang lahat... **Dolomite is beautiful to the eyes period.**  
**'Wag ka nang magtanong kasi hindi niyo kaya kung kayo.** For so many years, you had every chance to do it. Was there anybody willing to take the problem by its horn?  
”

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## Dolomite project, dinipensahan ni Pres. Duterte

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Dinipensahan ni Pres. Duterte ang Manila Bay dolomite project mula sa mga kritiko, at ang kanyang appointment sa dating military officers sa kanyang gabinete.

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Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugVm5MiV-w4>



# DENR's order to destroy fishing structures in Manila Bay to affect 15,000 fisherfolks

Published August 26, 2021, 12:33 PM

by [Madelaine B. Miraflor](#)

The decision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) to dismantle fishing and aquaculture structures in Manila Bay is feared to negatively impact the livelihood of as many as 15,000 fisherfolks and coastal residents.



A Fisherman in Cavite (File photo/Manila Bulletin)

This is according to fishers' group Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (PAMALAKAYA), which slammed the DENR for such an order.

In a statement, PAMALAKAYA said the regulation is "unjust and anti-fisherfolk" as it would take away the livelihood of around 15, 000 fisherfolks and coastal residents in the affected towns who directly depend on Manila Bay by culturing mussels and oysters.

The group further said that "it will bring widespread destruction to the livelihood of thousands of fisherfolk who subsist in Manila Bay through aquaculture."

To be specific, the Cavite Task Force Group for Manila Bay has installed billboards in municipalities of Noveleta, Kawit, and cities of Cavite and Bacoor in Cavite province notifying the public regarding the demolition of alleged illegal fishing structures in Manila Bay.

The said demolition on September 7 is said to be in compliance with the directive of DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu to regulate fishing structures in Manila Bay and tributaries.

PAMALAKAYA chided the DENR for reproaching the bamboo poles washed into the shores over the recent monsoon rains to justify the dismantling order.

"Why make a fuss on the bamboo poles washed along the shore when in the first place, these are not pollutants that can cause damage to the marine ecosystem unlike plastic and other solid wastes? It's a common sense that disposed bamboos will naturally submerge in water and eventually decompose," Fernando Hicap, PAMALAKAYA National Chairperson, said in a statement.

Hicap, a resident fisherman in Rosario, Cavite, said that some of PAMALAKAYA members in Bacoor and Cavite City who source their livelihood in Manila Bay's aquaculture industry would be directly affected by the DENR's directive.





He also slammed the DENR's Manila Bay rehabilitation program as "bogus" that actually targets the fishing and urban poor population along the bay.

"The real targets of this Manila Bay 'clean up' are the poor fishing and coastal population across the bay and not the toxic emitting and pollution spawning industrial and commercial establishments. We warn of strong opposition against this destruction of our livelihood and fishing waters under the guise of a bogus clean-up drive," ended Hicap.



## Mga Cavite mangingisda idedemolis ng DENR

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Aug 26, 2021

METRO



Ipegigiba ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mga fishing at aquaculture structure sa Noveleta, Kawit, Bacoor at Cavite City sa Cavite simula Setyembre 7, kaya nabahahala ngayon ang mga mangingisdang Pincoy na nakasalelay ang kabuhayan door.

Ayon sa Pambansang I akas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya), nagpalagay na ng mga billboard ang DENR sa apat na lugar para ianunsyo ang demolisyon ng mga fishing structure sa Manila Bay at mga ilog sa lalawigan

Dahil dito ay mawawalan anila ng kabuhayan ang 15,000 mangingisda at mga residente roon.

Malaking bahagi ng kabuhayan ng mga mangingisda sa Bacoor ang aquaculture sa lugar at may barangay pa nga ritong ang pangalan ay Talaba dahil iyon ang pinagkakakitaan ng mga residente noon pa.

Ginamit pa umano ng DENR na dahilan ang mga kawayan na naanod sa dalampasigan dahil sa habagat para sa gagawin nitong demolisyon ng kanilang kabuhayan.

Punto ni Pamalakaya national chair Fernando Hicap, "The real targets of this Manila Bay clean up are the poor fishing and coastal population across the bay and not the toxic emitting and pollution spawning industrial and commercial establishments." (Eileen Mencias)

Source: <https://tonite.abante.com.ph/mga-cavite-mangingisda-idedemolis-ng-denr/>



# Fisherfolks rescue endangered turtles in Iloilo, Guimaras

Published August 26, 2021, 11:16 AM

by [Tara Yap](#)

ILOILO CITY – For the month of August, two endangered turtles were rescued by fisherfolks and returned back to the wild off the coastal towns in Iloilo and Guimaras provinces.

Personnel from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) provided technical assistance after local fisherfolks found the sea turtles.



The green sea turtle rescued in Dumangas town, Iloilo province. (DENR-CENRO Barotac Nuevo/MANILA BULLETIN)

It was a fisherfolk in Dumangas town, Iloilo province who rescued a female green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) along the seashore of Sito Lacaran of Ermita village recently. The fisherfolk then reported finding the marine animal to DENR's Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR CENRO) in neighboring Barotac Nuevo town.

The green sea turtle has a length of 84 centimeters (cms) and width of 63.5 cms and has an estimated weight of 100 kilograms (kgs). It was nursed back to health before it was released back at the Lapus-Lapus Fish Sanctuary, which is a proposed marine protected area.

The Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) was rescued by fishermen off the coast of Buenavista town, Guimaras province.

The Hawksbill turtle was accidentally trapped inside a gill net and the fishermen took it ashore. They then reported to personnel of DENR's Protected Area Management and Biodiversity Conservation/Coastal Unit (PAMBCU) so the turtle can recuperate. It was later released back to the wild.





# New species of snout beetles discovered in Mount Hamiguitan in Davao Oriental

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Aug 27 2021 05:07 AM



Fig. 5. *Metapocyrtus villalobosae* in its natural habitat, perched on a shrub plant along the riverine ecosystem of Mount Kabunulan, Mount Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary, Surop, Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental, Mindanao, Philippines.

*Photo courtesy of DENR Davao*

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Davao region on Wednesday said another new and endemic species of snout beetles were recently discovered in the lowland forest of Mount Hamiguitan, the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in Mindanao, in San Isidro town, Davao Oriental.

In April, the DENR reported the discovery of new beetle species.

Two more of its kind have been newly described by the scientists, researchers, and entomologists of Central Mindanao University and University of the Philippines in Los Banos.

According to the researchers, the two new and endemic species — *M. villalobosae* and *M. gapudi* of the genus *Metapocyrtus* — are considered one of the most diverse and complex beetle genera.

"*Metapocyrtus villalobosae* was concluded being distinct from all other beetles for having a wider than long rostrum, the presence of blue to light yellow and gold scale markings and having two unique longitudinal stripes in the apical half of each elytron," the DENR said in a statement.

Both beetles were said to be found perching on a shrub in the forest.



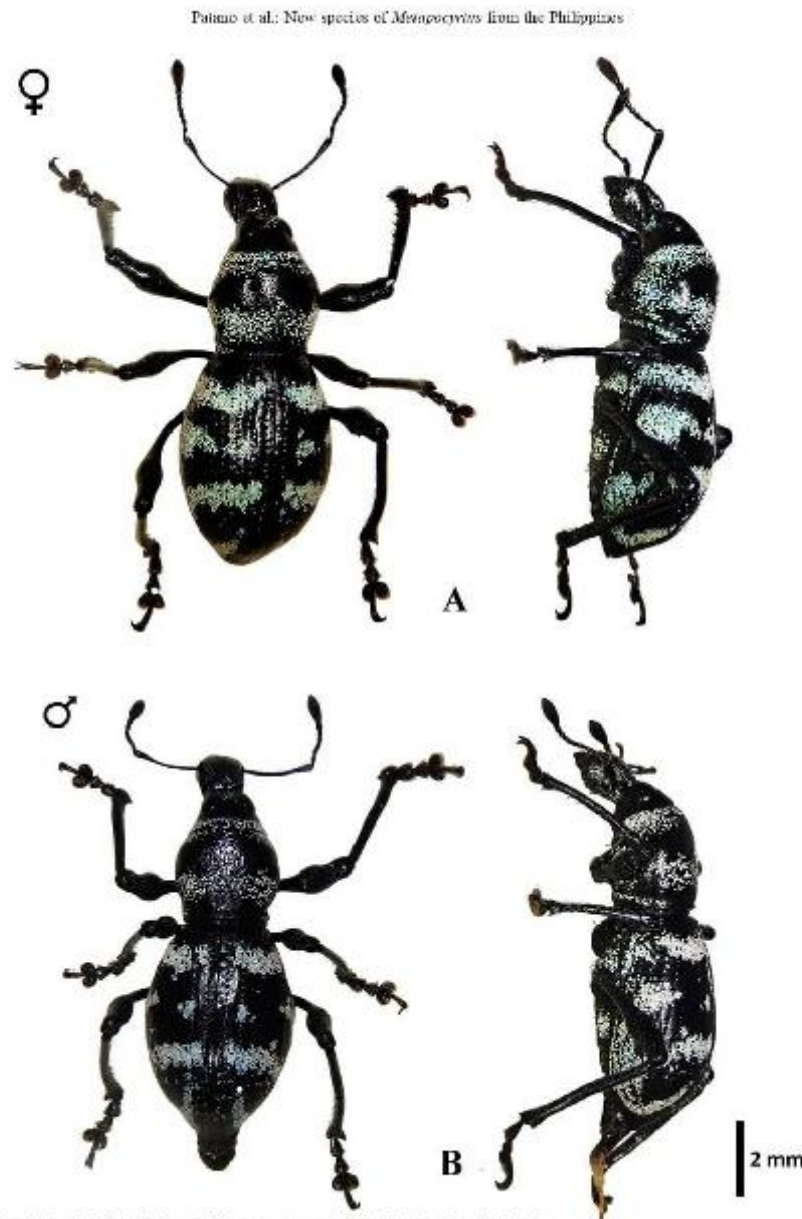


Fig. 6. Dorsal and lateral views of *Mitropocyrtus gaussoni* habitus, female (A) and male (B).

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*Photo courtesy of DENR Davao*

DENR Region 11 said the Mount Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary remains home to countless, rare and endemic wildlife species.

According to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Hamiguitan is home to 1,380 species with 341 endemic species, including the critically endangered Philippine eagle and Philippine cockatoo.

The DENR said agency and conservation partners will continue in its protection and conservation efforts for this “nature’s gem”. — **With a report from Hernel Tocmo**

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/life/08/27/21/new-species-of-beetles-discovered-in-mount-hamiguitan>



# Go bats for insurance coverage for environmentally critical projects

Published August 26, 2021, 12:51 PM by [Mario Casayuran](#)

Senator Christopher “Bong” Go has filed Senate Bill (SB) 2358 which seeks to establish a national framework for the mandatory environmental insurance coverage of environmentally critical projects.

Go, chairman of the Senate Health committee, bemoaned the fact that, throughout time, the state’s duty to care for the environment had been ignored, particularly in the wake of modern industrialization’s breakneck speed.

“This has led to almost irreparable damage to the environment, seriously jeopardizing future generations. The Philippines is no exception to this high cost,” he said.

Citing the country’s mandate to “protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature”, Go said the bill would guarantee sufficient funding coverage for the needed restoration and compensation for damages on the environment caused by owners and operators of environmentally-critical projects.

“It is the duty of the State to uphold the quality of life of its people through the protection of the environment they live in,” said Go.

The bill establishes the national framework for Mandatory Environmental Insurance Coverage (MEIC). All owners and operators of environmentally critical projects (ECPs) will be required to secure MEIC. This is to compensate for the adverse environmental consequence arising from their operations.

ECPs include heavy industries, major manufacturing industries, major resource-extractive industries, major infrastructure projects, and other similar projects that could pose serious risks to people and the environment.

Owners and operators of ECPs will not be allowed to commence construction or commercial operation without initially obtaining the MEIC required by the measure.

Furthermore, the bill mandates the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to establish and chair an Inter-Agency Committee, with the Commissioner of the Insurance Commission and representatives of the insurance industry, the mining industry, and other stakeholders that the DENR may deem fit, as members.

The IATC will identify the perils or possible negative environmental impacts, activities, processes or undertakings; conduct risk assessment to determine the appropriate insurance coverage for different ECPs and activities; formulate guidelines for the identification of primary impact areas and prescription of rehabilitation or remediation environmental damages; among others.

The beneficiaries of the MEIC include affected communities, stakeholders, and local government units (LGUs) within the primary impact areas of the projects.

Also included as beneficiaries are government departments, bureaus, and agencies which are tasked under the law to undertake the rehabilitation, cleanup, and monitoring of sites affected by the pollution or insurable event, for which no responsible private or public entity is specified.



In addition to ensuring that projects in the country are environmentally-friendly as far as practicable, Go emphasized the need to ensure that the environment has the means to recover if these projects inevitably damage it.

“While we cannot stop the advancement of industrialization, we cannot sacrifice our environment at the altar of modernization,” he added.

On the same day, Go also filed SB 2359 which provides competitive remuneration and compensation to social workers as a recognition for their work to help the poor and needy in securing government services.



# QC solon files bill allowing recyclable trash to be exchanged for cash aid, goods

By: [Zacarian Sarao](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 01:51 AM August 26, 2021



INQUIRER.net file image

MANILA, Philippines — Quezon City Rep. Alfred Vargas has filed a bill that will allow people to exchange recyclable trash for cash aid and basic necessities.

According to Vargas, the proposed Basura to Ayuda Act (House Bill No. 9781) seeks to continue the government's solid waste management program while providing aid to citizens affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the bill's explanatory note, Vargas explained that rewards and incentives under the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 had "limitations and must be innovated to adapt to the needs of the new normal."

"The social and economic climate brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges on food security and environmental protection," Vargas said.

He noted that the increase in consumption during the pandemic also caused an increase in the production of solid wastes.

Quarantine restrictions also affected the implementation of solid waste management programs in some local governments.

"But the environment must not be a victim of the pandemic. We can continue to promote segregation and concern for our environment while helping those in need" Vargas said.

He said the bill would "institutionalize innovative efforts" to incentivize solid waste management and recycling by allowing residents to trade in their garbage for "basic commodities such as rice, eggs, vegetables, canned goods, basic household consumer items, other essential grocery items, or even cash."

In filing the bill, Vargas drew inspiration from Quezon City's Trash to Cashback Program, which allows city residents to trade in recyclable materials for "environmental points" that they can then use to redeem essential grocery items.

Under the bill, the value of trash to be exchanged will be determined through an Incentivized Solid Waste Redemption System by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).





The bill will also allow civic associations, parents-teachers associations, homeowners associations, and nonprofit institutions to trade in their recyclable and nonhazardous solid wastes.

The bill will also task the DENR, DA, and DTI to establish Hazardous Waste Recovery Protocols and a reporting system under which individuals can report to the proper government agencies the location of the suspected hazardous wastes for recovery.

For private and government-owned corporations, the DENR, DTI, and Department of Finance will then be tasked to draft a Carbon Credits System for reducing carbon emissions, among other incentives.

“Many of our citizens still find it difficult to meet their daily needs even with help from the government,” Vargas said.

“With this bill, we are proposing yet another way to provide help for our fellow Filipinos during this pandemic by incentivizing the collection and turnover of solid waste materials,” he added. Meanwhile, as of Aug. 25, the government has [completed 80% of its distribution of cash aid](#) in Metro Manila, according to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

The aid was meant to cushion the economic impact of the two-week enhanced community quarantine in Metro Manila, which ended on Aug. 20 but was extended until Aug. 31.



# Bill seeks to let people trade in recyclable items for cash, food

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Aug 26, 2021 11:48:36 AM



FILE PHOTO

**Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, August 26)** — A lawmaker has filed a bill seeking to provide cash aid and basic goods in exchange for recyclable items.

House Bill 9781 filed by Quezon City 5th District Rep. Alfred Vargas authorizes the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Trade and Industry to establish the Incentivized Solid Waste Redemption System.

Under the proposed system, individuals and organizations could trade in non-hazardous and recyclable solid wastes "for rice, water, canned goods, basic household consumer items, or cash."

"The DENR, DA, and DTI shall determine the reasonable and compliance-inducing exchange values for graduated weights or volumes of solid waste surrendered, provided that the minimum exchange value of one kilogram of non-hazardous and recyclable plastic waste is one kilogram of commercial quality rice or its cash equivalent, while for one kilogram of metallic, non-hazardous, recyclable waste is two kilograms of commercial quality rice or its cash equivalent," a portion of the bill stated.

The proposal also includes the creation of a reporting system through which people can report the location of suspected hazardous wastes.

It should have a cash reward feature to "encourage the public to help government pinpoint and confirm the exact location of hazardous wastes," according to the bill.

In filing the proposed law, Vargas argued that incentive programs on waste management have to "adapt to the needs of the new normal."



# Basura gagawing ayuda!

On Aug 26, 2021



**KAPAKINABANGAN** para sa mahihirap na mamamayan ang nasaisip kaya walang kaabog abog na nag file ng isang house bill si Quezon City Dist V Rep. Alfred Vargas “Basura Gagawing Ayuda”.

Sakaling maisabatas ang house bill 9781 o “Basura to Ayuda” Act makakatulong nang malaki ito sa ikalilinis ng kapaligiran at siguradong sisipag sa pagsinop ng basurang kapaki-pakinabang na mga nagkalat sa lansangan ang ating mga mahihirap na kababayan kapalit ng magiging pananghalian.

Ipinunto ng dating actor turn to politician Rep. Vargas na kinakailangan na pagibayuhan pa at magtuloy tuloy ang programa ng pamahalaan sa usaping solid waste management partikular ang tanggapan ng DENR.

Malungkot ngang nagpahayag mga Ka Usapang HAUZ ang Q,C kongresman hinggil sa dinaranas ngayong hirap ng maraming kababayan natin na nakikipagbuno pa rin para sa pang-araw araw na pangangailangan nila kahit may ayuda mula sa gobyerno.

“With this bill, we are proposing yet another way to provide help for our fellow Filipinos during this pandemic by incentivizing the collection and turn over of solid waste materials, In his explanatory note rewards and incentives under the Solid Waste Management Act “have limitations and must be innovated to adapt to the needs of the new normal”.

Ikinaalarma din ng Mambabatas ang paglobo ng basura sa mga kabahayan dahil na rin sa pagimplementa ng ECQ kung saan apektado na rin ang solid waste management programs ng LGU at bibihira ang paghahakot ng mga basurero.

May paalala ang Kongresista na sakaling magtagumpay at ganap ng batas ang inihain nitong panukala ay kailangan pa ring ipromote ang proper waste segregation sa mga household at huwag umasa sa mga namumulot ng recyclable materials para maging ayuda.

“But the environment must not be a victim to the pandemic. We can continue to promote segregation and concern for our environment while helping those in need” he added.

Nakasaad sa Vargas bill mga Ka Usapang HAUZ ang mga sumusunod seeks to “institutionalize innovative efforts” to incentivize solid waste management and recycling by allowing residents to trade in their garbage for “basic commodities such as rice, eggs, vegetables, canned goods, basic household consumer items, other essential grocery items, or even cash, Ang ganda di po ba?

Kabilang pa sa nilalaman ng “Basura Gagawing Ayuda” bill ibigay ang mandato sa the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to determine the values of traded solid wastes through an Incentivized Solid Waste Redemption System.



Aside from individuals and households, the bill also allows civic associations, parent-teachers associations, homeowners associations, and nonprofit institutions to trade their recyclable and non-hazardous solid wastes.

Hinihikayat rin ng panukalang batas ni Vargas ang mga indibidwal, nasa loob ng bahay, civic associations, parent-teachers association at maging Home Owners Association ay makipagtulungan para sa pagiipon ng recyclable and non-hazardous solid waste kapalit ng ayuda.

Samantalang ang hazardous wastes, nakasaad sa bill ang mandates ng DENR, DTI, and DA to establish Hazardous Waste Recovery Protocols and a reporting system where individuals can report the location and details of the suspected hazardous wastes for recovery by the proper government agencies.

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Anumang Reaksiyon Puri at Puna maaaring mag email sa cesarbarquilla2014@yahoo.com or mag Txt sa 0935-2916036





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PHOTOGRAPH BY AL PADILLA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE @tribunephi\_at  
SAMPLES are collected from the Marikina Riverside by a staff of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for laboratory analysis of its water quality.



# Saving the planet while ignoring two-thirds of it

[By Ian Urbina](#) August 27, 2021

FOR centuries, humanity has viewed the ocean as a metaphor for infinity. The assumption was - and frankly still is for many people - that the enormity of the sea comes with a limitless ability to absorb and metabolize all. This vastness is what lends the ocean deity-like potential. And more dangerously, it is what has given humans the license to dump virtually anything offshore. Oil, sewage, corpses, chemical effluvia, garbage, military ordnance and even at-sea superstructures like oil rigs disappear into the oceans as if swallowed up by a black hole, never to be seen again.

Ships knowingly release more engine oil and sludge into the oceans in the span of three years than that spilled in the Deepwater Horizon and [Exxon Valdez](#) accidents combined. They emit huge amounts of certain air pollutants, far more than all the world's cars. Commercial fishing, much of it illegal, has so efficiently plundered marine stocks that the world's population of predatory fish has declined by two thirds. At the same time, since the Industrial Revolution, companies on land have been allowed to dump carbon into the air for free, and roughly a quarter of that carbon is absorbed by the oceans. The hidden cost to that dumping is what we now call the climate crisis.

## Lungs of the globe

As the lungs of the globe, the oceans produce and filter half of the oxygen we breathe. But our "smoking habit" has caught up with us and those lungs are failing. In ways big, small and surprising, overfishing is a driver of climate change. For example, since whales are enormous carbon sinks, the past century of whaling equates to the burning of seventy million acres of forest.

With rising global temperatures, the ocean's levels of dissolved oxygen have plummeted. As rainfall crosses land, it picks up sewage, fertilizers, detergents, and microplastics and carries them straight into the world's oceans. This nutrient runoff feeds excessive algal and microbial growth worsening the 500 or so coastal water sites classified as "dead zones" - areas with so little oxygen that most marine life cannot survive. The largest of these is bigger than [Scotland](#).

The current outlook on the climate crisis barely even considers the oceans, even though it covers two thirds of the earth's surface. For instance, climate change agreements, such as the Paris Accord, have embraced the goal of restricting global temperatures to within 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. But what does that ambitious goal mean for marine life? If global temperatures rise by 1.5 C, only about 10 to 30 percent of coral reefs will survive, diminishing the habitat of roughly one-quarter of all ocean species, not to mention the impact on coastal storm protection, food and job security, and our marine prospects for biomedical research.

## 'Rewilding' coastlines

But the biggest problem is this: while most of the climate crisis attention is focused on land, many of the best fixes are offshore. A growing chorus of marine researchers is calling for governments to governments to "rewild" the world's coastlines, a conservation tactic that involves restoring habitats so nature can eventually revive itself. The oceans host three types of coastal ecosystems - mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses - that collectively absorb more carbon than all the planet's forests. If bolstered, these ocean biosystems could drastically slow the climate crisis.



Of course, this approach only works if protecting these habitats in one region doesn't give tacit permission for them to be destroyed faster elsewhere. The gravest risk with any approach aimed at ameliorating climate change is that, if successful, it might equip fossil fuel and other carbon-intensive industries with an excuse to dodge their emission-cutting commitments and maintain business as usual. Rewilding the oceans will require stricter controls on destructive activities like bottom trawling, dredging, and offshore mining and drilling, which decimate the seabed and release stored carbon into the water column.

The oceans have also become a laboratory for some of the most promising and risky forms of geo-engineering. One group of scientists hope to lock away atmospheric carbon using a specially designed type of sand made of an abundant volcanic rock, known to jewelers as peridot. Depositing it offshore on 2 percent of the world's coastlines would capture 100 percent of total global annual carbon emissions. Another set of engineers has developed a machine called a flow reactor that pulls in seawater and using an electrical charge makes it alkaline, triggering - not unlike the forming of seashells - the carbon dioxide to react with the seawater's magnesium and calcium, producing limestone and magnesite. The water then flows out, cleaned of its carbon dioxide and capable of absorbing more.

### **Ocean fertilization**

Among the more daring but controversial ideas are ocean fertilization. This involves dumping large amounts of iron pellets into the oceans to foster carbon-capturing algal blooms or marine cloud-brightening, which entails spraying a fine mist of seawater into clouds so that the salt makes them brighter and more reflective of the sun's heat.

Offshore wind energy can produce more than 7,000 terawatt hours per year of clean energy in the United States alone. This is roughly double the amount of electricity used in the United States in 2014. Cargo vessels and passenger ferries emit nearly three percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, including black carbon. Decarbonizing the global shipping fleet would be roughly equivalent to cutting all of Germany's carbon emissions.

The oceans are a bustling workplace, where more than 50 million people earn their livelihoods. Fully half of the world's population now lives within a hundred miles of the sea. And yet, most people, with sedentary occupations and land-locked lifestyles, conceive of this space as a liquid desert that they occasionally fly offshore has given rise to a dystopian hinterland where a rogues gallery of sea slavers, fish pirates, repo men, arms traffickers, oil dumpers and conservationist vigilantes operate with impunity. Countries do have vast and untapped jurisdiction to act in this relatively ignored realm. Half of the territory belonging to the US, for instance, is underwater. But the same out-of-sight-out-of-mind perspective that makes the ocean outlaw has created our worst blind spot on the climate crisis.

Perhaps it's time to think of the oceans in a radically new way. Surely, they are no longer a thing we take for granted, a bottomless trash can, a forever self-replenishing resource that we use to fill our stomachs or line our wallets. Maybe the oceans instead are a vast habitat that we should leave alone. Better still, what if the oceans are our 11th-hour saving grace, or a place to find answers, less a grocery store than a library? Perhaps in helping them to flourish, we will see that the oceans are not just a victim of the climate crisis but a big part of its solution.





# How to fight microplastic pollution with magnets



(Image credit: Fionn Ferreira)

By Isabelle Gerretsen 26th August 2021

Huge amounts of plastic ends up rivers and oceans every year, harming the environment and potentially also human health. But what if we could pull it out of water with the power of magnets?

As a child, Fionn Ferreira spent hours exploring the coastline near his hometown of Ballydehob in south-west Ireland. But the more time he spent on the sheltered, shingle-strewn coves nearby, he grew increasingly shocked by the large amounts of plastic litter he found strewn across the beach and in the sea.

"It didn't look nice to me – the coloured bits of plastic all along the shore," he says.

Around the world, humans produce an estimated **300 million tonnes of plastic waste every year**, and at least **10 million tonnes** end up in our oceans – the equivalent of a rubbish truck load every minute.

But it was the plastic that Ferreira couldn't see which really concerned him. Microplastics are fragments smaller than five millimetres and either come directly from the products we use or are created as larger plastic objects break down in the environment. They are ubiquitous – they have been found at **the bottom of the world's deepest ocean trench** and **lodged in Arctic sea ice**.

"I got really anxious when I found out about microplastics," says Ferreira, who is now aged 20 and a chemistry student at Groningen University in the Netherlands. "These plastics are going to be in our environment for thousands of years. We are going to be dealing with them long after we stop using plastic."

As he learned more about the environmental impact of microplastics in the environment, Ferreira began to look for ways to combat them. And it was a serendipitous discovery on his local beach that gave him the idea for a new way to remove these tiny, omnipresent plastics from the oceans.



Some shower products contain tiny plastic beads that when washed down the drain can escape into the environment where they are difficult to get rid of (Credit: Alamy)





Microplastics are found in our clothes, cosmetics and cleaning products. One load of laundry can release **an average of 700,000 microplastic fibres**. Less than a millimetre in length, these fibres make their way into rivers and oceans, where they are eaten by fish and **even corals**. Because of their tiny size, microplastics are able to pass through filtration systems, making it very difficult to avoid them.

One **2018 study**, plastic contamination can also be found in bottled water, with 93% of 259 bottled water samples the scientists examined containing microplastics.

According to **recent research**, we constantly inhale and ingest microplastics during our daily lives. One **study in 2019 by researchers at the University of Newcastle** found that globally people ingest an average of 5g of plastic every week – the equivalent of a credit card. The impact that this diet of microplastics has on our health, however, is **still poorly understood**.

Chemicals used in plastic have, however, been **linked to a range of health problems** including cancer, heart disease and poor foetal development. Studies have found that human exposure to microplastics could cause **oxidative stress, inflammation and respiratory problems**.

"The urgency of the plastic problem has not yet hit people," says Ferreira. "Plastic pollution is a public health issue. You are not just drinking the plastic, but also the chemicals that are added to it. Plastic attracts heavy metals and brings these into our system."

*You might also want to read:*

- **[Why plastic waste is an ideal building material](#)**
- **[The real price of getting rid of plastic packaging](#)**
- **[The world's first infinite plastic](#)**

Another concern is that plastics could help transport pathogens which bind themselves to the material. A **2016 study** found the pathogen *Vibrio cholerae*, which causes cholera in humans, attached to microplastics sampled from the North and Baltic Seas.

"It is not just a problem of the health of our environment, but really a problem that concerns all of us and our health," says Ferreira.

*After the microplastics attached themselves to the ferrofluid, Ferreira used a magnet to remove the solution and leave behind only water*

And the amount of plastic in the environment is projected to get much worse. Plastic production is expected to increase by **60% by 2030 and triple by 2050**. By then, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean, according to **the Ellen MacArthur Foundation**, a UK non-profit that promotes the circular economy where materials are reused rather than thrown away.

At the age of 12 years old, Ferreira became determined to find a solution to remove microplastics from water. He started by designing his own spectrometer, a scientific instrument that uses ultraviolet light to measure the density of microplastics in solutions.

"I could see there were a lot of microplastics in the water and they weren't just coming from big plastic breaking down in the sea," he says. "There needed to be a way to combat this."

It was on his local beach that Ferreira came up with a solution that could extract microplastics from water. "I found some oil spill residue with loads of plastic attached to it," he says. "I realised that **oil could be used to attract plastic**."



Ferreira mixed vegetable oil with iron oxide powder to create a magnetic liquid, also known as ferrofluid. He then blended in microplastics from a wide range of everyday items, including plastic bottles, paint and car tyres, and water from the washing machine.

After the microplastics attached themselves to the ferrofluid, Ferreira used a magnet to remove the solution and leave behind only water.

Following 5,000 tests, Ferreira's method **was 87% effective** at extracting microplastics from water.

Ferreira is currently in the process of designing a device which uses the magnetic extraction method to capture microplastics as water flows past it. The device will be small enough to fit inside waterpipes to continuously extract plastic fragments as water flows through them. He has also been working on a system that could be **fitted to ships so they can extract plastics** on the oceans.



*Microplastics are found in a wide range of cosmetics and toiletries, but can also come from synthetic clothing and larger plastic items as they break down (Credit: HP)*

"There is no current effective solution to remove microplastics in natural waterways," says Anne-Marieke Eveleens, who created another device known as the Bubble Barrier, a tube device that can be installed on canals and rivers to trap larger plastic waste with a stream of bubbles that guides it to a catchment area, preventing it from entering the ocean. "Our Bubble Barrier is very effective at catching macroplastics and can catch microparticles of plastic as small as 1 mm. Fionn's innovation has the capacity to remove all types of microplastics."

In 2019, Ferreira presented his invention to a panel of expert judges at the Google Science Fair, which led to him winning the competition and receiving an educational scholarship of \$50,000 (£36,400).

"He observed and tackled a problem he saw locally which has vast global significance," says Larissa Kelly, Ferreira's former science teacher at Schull Community College and his mentor for the Google Science Fair entry. "His invention, based on very simple components, is groundbreaking. It has powerful potential to provide solutions that will contribute to the worldwide effort to remove microplastics from the environment."

"I started out as a lonely inventor," says Ferreira. "After the Google Science Fair, I could all of a sudden speak to scientists – they gave me credit for what I had done. My idea was no longer a toy invented by a child."

After receiving funding from the **Footprint Coalition**, which was founded by actor Robert Downey Jr, Ferreira started scaling up the technology so it could be used at wastewater treatment facilities and prevent microplastics from escaping into the ocean.

He is currently working with US company Stress Engineering to fine-tune his invention and design a device out of stainless steel, glass or recycled plastic. "We're trying to make something where we are not creating more plastic pollution," he says.



*Humanity produces millions of tonnes of plastic waste every year and a large amount of it escapes to pollute natural habitats (Credit: Andrey Nekrasov/Getty Images)*

The technology is "very quick, cheap and low energy," he says, adding that it can easily be integrated into existing facilities and is able to handle normal flow rates of water.

Ferreira is also developing a consumer-focused device which can be installed inside pipes in homes, cleaning the water as it enters and leaves the house. The aim is to provide people with water that is both safe to drink and sustainable.

"I don't want to be drinking plastic every day," he says. "By building this device in our homes, we are not only protecting our health, but also raising awareness."

He is testing the devices in different water bodies around the world and hopes to commercialise both within the next two years.

But Ferreira says he has encountered scepticism throughout his journey as a young inventor and hopes that inventions such as his will help change that attitude. And as his generation inherits problems created by those that came before them, the world is likely to need more imaginative solutions.

"A lot of people don't trust young inventors," he says. "That needs to change. Youth have the power to come up with new creative ideas, they aren't trained to look down just one tunnel."

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### **Bright Sparks Sustainability**

This article is part of BBC Future's **[Bright Sparks: Sustainability](#)** series, which sets out to find the young minds who are finding new and innovative ways of tackling environmental problems. They are the next generation of engineers, scientists and entrepreneurs who are taking control of their own future by seeking solutions to climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss and over-consumption.

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Source: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210825-how-to-fight-microplastic-pollution-with-magnets>



27 AUGUST 2021, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

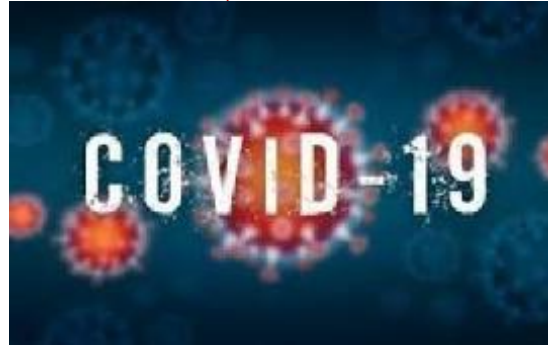
**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





# PH Covid-19 recovered cases reach 1,734,551

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor August 26, 2021, 4:24 pm



**MANILA** – An additional 9,659 patients have beaten the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), pushing the country’s overall recovery count to 1,734,551 as of Thursday.

The Department of Health (DOH), in its latest Covid-19 bulletin, said recoveries account for 91.3 percent of the total 1,899,200 infections since the start of the pandemic last year.

Another 16,313 new cases and 236 new deaths were also reported. These figures bring the overall tally of active cases to 131,921 and the death toll to 32,728.

The latest figures showed 96.1 percent of the active cases are mild, 1.1 percent are asymptomatic, 1.2 percent are severe, 1.03 percent are moderate, and 0.6 percent are in critical condition.

“There were 201 duplicates removed from the total case count as 201 of these are recoveries. Moreover, 125 cases previously tagged as recovered were reclassified as deaths after final validation,” it said.

DOH data on August 24, likewise, showed that 24.9 percent of 65,903 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

All laboratories were operational on August 24 and five laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System (CDRS).

Based on data in the last 14 days, the four non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 4.3 percent of samples tested and 3.1 percent of positive individuals.

To date, 75 percent of 3,900 intensive care unit beds, 63 percent of 20,700 isolation beds, 69 percent of 14,700 ward beds, and 54 percent of 3,200 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use nationwide.

Meanwhile, 77 percent of 1,300 intensive care unit beds, 61 percent of 4,900 isolation beds, 71 percent of 4,200 ward beds, and 58 percent of 1,100 ventilators reserved for patients with Covid-19 are being used in the National Capital Region. **(PNA)**



# COVID-19 cases near 1.9 million with 16,313 new infections

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Aug 26, 2021 4:03:10 PM



The country's total COVID-19 case count moved closer to 1.9 million on Thursday after 16,313 more people caught the coronavirus, the Department of Health reported. (FILE PHOTO)

**Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, August 26)** — The country's total COVID-19 case count moved closer to 1.9 million on Thursday after 16,313 more people caught the coronavirus, the Department of Health reported.

The DOH case bulletin counted a total of 1,899,200 cases in the country with 6.9% or 131,921 active or currently ill. It's the highest active case tally following April 19 when there were over 141,000 sick patients.

At least 96.1% of active cases have mild symptoms, 1.2% have severe symptoms, 1.1% are asymptomatic, 1.03% are in moderate condition and 0.6% are in critical condition.

The death toll also soared to 32,728 - which is 1.72% of the COVID-19 total - after 236 more people lost their lives. This marks the ninth consecutive day of over 150 deaths recorded daily.

Meanwhile, 9,659 more people recovered, bringing the survivor tally to 1,734,551 or 91.3% of the cases.

The DOH said it reclassified 125 survivors into deaths after validation, and deleted 201 duplicate recoveries.

The total excludes data from five laboratories which failed to submit their reports on time, the agency added. These laboratories contributed an average of 4.3% of tested samples and 3.1% of positive individuals in the last 14 days.

The positivity rate - or percentage of all tested people with positive results - fell from 25.5% based on tests from August 23 to 24.9% based on 65,903 tests reported on August 24.

The rate still falls within the critical level which indicates the need for more coronavirus tests, according to US nonprofit Covid Act Now that is used by OCTA researchers for reference. An area should aim for a positivity rate of below 3% to show there is adequate testing, Covid Act Now says.

For its part, the World Health Organization set the standard positivity rate to below 5% to say that infection in an area is under control.



It has been three days since the country hit a new all-time record for new daily cases but the DOH warned "[additional peaks](#)" may be seen in the coming days or weeks, due to ramped up testing and contact tracing efforts.

The country remains in the high-risk classification for COVID-19 based on its increasing two-week growth rate of cases and the average daily attack rate, DOH chief epidemiologist Alethea de Guzman said in a briefing.

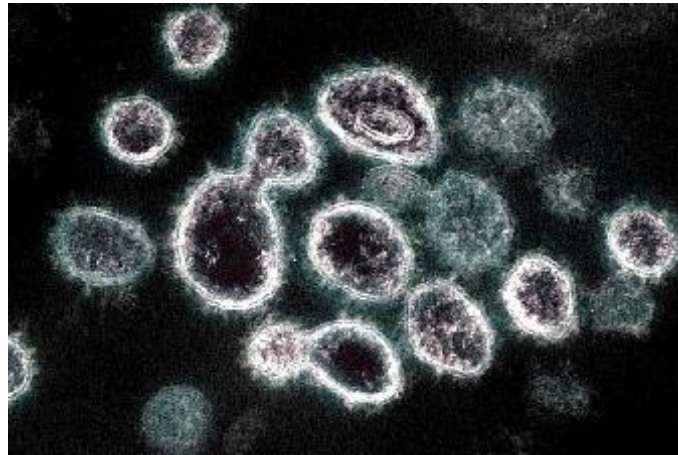
The country's growth rate is at 63% in the past two weeks, slightly higher than the 58% recorded three to four weeks ago, de Guzman said. A positive growth rate means infections are increasing, while a negative growth rate indicates that cases are decreasing.

Meanwhile, the average daily attack rate, defined as the number of infected people per a population of 100,000, rose to 12.9 on Aug. 12 to 25, from 7.9 in the previous two-week period. Officials earlier said the higher the attack rate in an area, the higher a person's risk of getting the infectious disease there.



# DOH: Delta variant detected in all regions except BARMM

Philstar.com August 26, 2021 | 5:21pm



This undated handout image obtained March 28, 2021, courtesy of The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/ NIH shows a transmission electron microscope image of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19, isolated from a patient in the US, as virus particles are shown emerging from the surface of cells cultured in the lab, the spikes on the outer edge of the virus particles give coronaviruses their name, crown-like

Handout / National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases / AFP

MANILA, Philippines — The highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19 has been detected in all regions in the Philippines, except in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, the Department of Health said on Thursday.

Dr. Alethea De Guzman, director of the DOH Epidemiology Bureau, said in a briefing that BARMM is the lone region without a local case of the Delta variant.

This, however, does not mean that the “fastest and fittest” form of COVID-19 is not present in the Bangsamoro region.

"This is maybe because of the low number of samples that we get from the region," De Guzman said in Filipino.

The country's genomic sequencing capacity is limited, with authorities processing only a few thousand samples every week. Whole genome sequencing checks the presence of COVID-19 variants in positive samples.

The DOH on Monday declared there is already community transmission of the Delta variant in Metro Manila and Calabarzon.

Health authorities have so far detected 1,273 cases of the Delta variant in the country.

Alpha, Beta, Delta—all variants of concern—account for 59% of the samples sequenced in the country, data from the DOH showed. — **Gaea Katreena Cabico**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/08/26/2122826/doh-delta-variant-detected-all-regions-except-barmm>





# Gov't to use 2022 budget for Covid-19 response, PH recovery

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos August 26, 2021, 3:14 pm



(File photo)

**MANILA** – The Duterte administration’s proposed 2022 budget spending aims to ramp up the response efforts against the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) and ensure the country’s recovery from the pandemic-induced economic slump, Malacañang said on Thursday.

Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque issued the statement in a virtual presser, after several lawmakers questioned the supposedly “misplaced” priorities in the government’s 2022 budget plan.

*“Ang importante po is dalawang bagay ang ating pinaghahandaan para sa susunod na taon – unang-una, ‘yung paglaban natin sa sakit mismo, pangalawa, ‘yung pagbangon ng ating bayan dahil nga sa pandemya (What’s important is we are preparing for two things next year – first is our fight against the disease and second, our recovery from the pandemic),”* Roque said.

On Tuesday, Gabriela Rep. Arlene Brosas said that under the 2022 National Expenditure Program, only PHP12.58 billion will be earmarked for health infrastructure, a mere one percent of the total PHP1.18-trillion 2022 infrastructure budget.

Brosas also does not support what she called as preference to “overwhelmingly prioritize road networks and other structures” under the administration’s “Build, Build, Build” infrastructure program.

Roque said a big chunk of the proposed PHP5.024 trillion national budget for 2022 will be used to finance the administration’s infrastructure projects to create more job opportunities for Filipinos who lost their jobs because of the pandemic.

*“So huwag po nating masamain na malaki po ang ating budget for ‘Build, Build, Build’ kasi ‘yung ‘Build, Build, Build’ po, iyan ang magbibigay ng hanapbuhay sa napakarami nating mga kababayan (So, let’s not question the allotment of higher budget for ‘Build, Build, Build’ because the ‘Build, Build, Build’ program will provide more jobs for many of our fellow countrymen),”* he said.

## Managing the pandemic ‘very well’

Roque also assured the public that despite the surge in Covid-19 infections in the country, the government has been able to manage the Covid-19 pandemic “very well”.

*“Nama-manage naman po natin very well ang ating Covid response (We are managing our Covid response very well),”* he said.



Citing the World Health Organization's (WHO) recent statement on the Philippines' pandemic response efforts, Roque said the Duterte administration has a "very good comprehensive plan" to stop the further transmission of Covid-19.

Roque also noted that the government's health and quarantine protocols have helped limit the coronavirus-related deaths in the country.

### **Granular lockdowns 'approved in principle'**

Roque likewise confirmed that there might be a "policy shift" to contain the Covid-19 pandemic.

He said the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) has approved "in principle" the recommendation to allow local government units (LGUs) to impose granular lockdowns instead of province-wide lockdowns.

He, however, said additional details will be discussed during the IATF-EID's meeting on Thursday afternoon.

*"Sa mula't mula po (From the very start), the science supports and our experience supports the view na mas epektibo po talaga ang localized and granular lockdown (that localized and granular lockdown is really more effective)," Roque said. "Hintayin po natin ang mga pronouncement ng IATF (Let's wait for the IATF's pronouncement). We are moving towards a direction na dahil ang LGUs naman talaga ang nakakaalam kung nasaan ang mga area, eh papunta tayo doon (that because LGUs know the areas [with high Covid cases], we're going to a [possible policy shift]. It's a principle that has been approved."*

The community quarantine classifications in the country are set to lapse on Aug. 31. **(PNA)**



# Public reminded to properly wear face masks amid Covid-19 rise

By Priam Nepomuceno August 26, 2021, 7:48 pm



National Task Force Against Covid-19 chair, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana (*Presidential photo*)

**MANILA** – With coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases on the upswing, National Task Force Against Covid-19 chair, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, on Thursday reminded the public to properly wear their face masks and comply with other safety and health protocols.

*"Mga kababayan, dumarami ang nagkaka-Covid. Ang pagsusuot ng face mask at ang pagsunod sa iba pang safety and health protocols ay mga mabisang paraan panguntra sa Covid-19. Nananawagan ako isuot natin ng maayos ang ating mga face mask (My countrymen, an increasing number of people are getting infected with Covid-19. The proper wearing of face and strict compliance with safety and other health protocols are the among the most effective means to defeat the virus. I am appealing to everyone to properly wear their face masks),"* he said in a video posted on the Department of National Defense (DND) Facebook page.

Lorenzana said everyone should make it a habit to properly wear face masks to prevent the spread of the deadly virus.

*"Siguruhing nakalapat ang face mask sa inyong mga mukha para hindi makapasok ang mga dumi o virus (Make sure to cover your face properly with the mask to prevent dirt and the virus from getting in),"* he said. *"Sundin po natin ito. Ito ay depensa laban sa pandemya. Mag-ingat po tayong lahat (Let us follow with this. This is part of our defense against the pandemic. Let us all take care)."*

As of Thursday, the Department of Health said the country has recorded 16,313 new Covid-19 infections and 236 new deaths, bringing the overall tally of active cases to 131,921 and the death toll to 32,728.

The DOH also logged 9,659 recoveries, pushing the country's overall recovery count to 1,734,551. **(PNA)**



# Skeleton workforce in gov't offices in NCR extended until Aug. 31

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos [August 26, 2021, 7:52 pm](#)



*(File photo)*

**MANILA** – Malacañang has instructed all government offices and instrumentalities in Metro Manila that are under executive branch to continue observing a skeleton workforce until Aug. 31.

The order was contained in Memorandum Circular (MC) 88 inked by Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea on Aug. 20 and was released on Thursday.

MC 88 extends the applicability of MC 88 signed on Aug. 4 which directs all government offices under executive branch to make sure that the number of employees who can physically report for work are not less than 20 percent until Aug. 20.

Metro Manila was under the most restrictive enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) from Aug. 6 to 20.

Under MC 88, government agencies and instrumentalities in Metro Manila are directed to remain “fully-operational” until Aug. 31, subject to the on-site capacity and work-from-home arrangements.

Despite the threat posed by the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) and following the downgrading of quarantine status, government offices should continue delivering public services, according to the memorandum circular.

“To ensure continuity of government service, the skeleton workforce shall not be less than 20 percent on-site capacity at any given time, with remainder being under work-from-home arrangements,” the latest order read.

Metro Manila is currently under the more relaxed modified ECQ (MECQ) until Aug. 31.

Agencies providing health and emergency front-line services, laboratory and testing services, border control, and other critical services, are allowed to operate up to “full on-site capacity.”

The head of each agency is tasked to submit to the department head exercising control or supervision over it the specific percentage of its skeleton workforce, along with work arrangements to ensure its continuing operation.





"The skeleton workforce as determined by the agency shall be immediately implemented upon the onset of MECQ, provided that the department head may, at any time, direct the modification of the submitted on-site capacity or related arrangements, as health considerations and the exigencies of the services may require," MC 88 said.

The legislative and judicial branches of government are enjoined to adopt MC 88 which was made public on Thursday. **(PNA)**



# **#OneDENR**

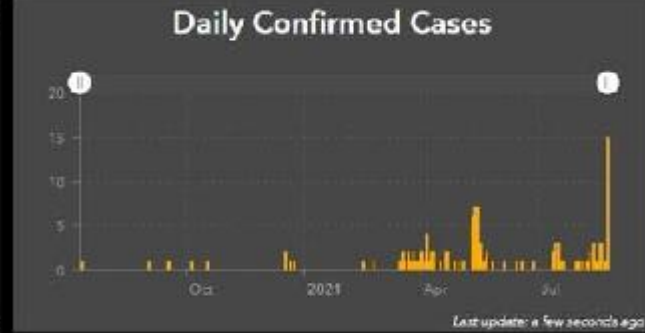
**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**



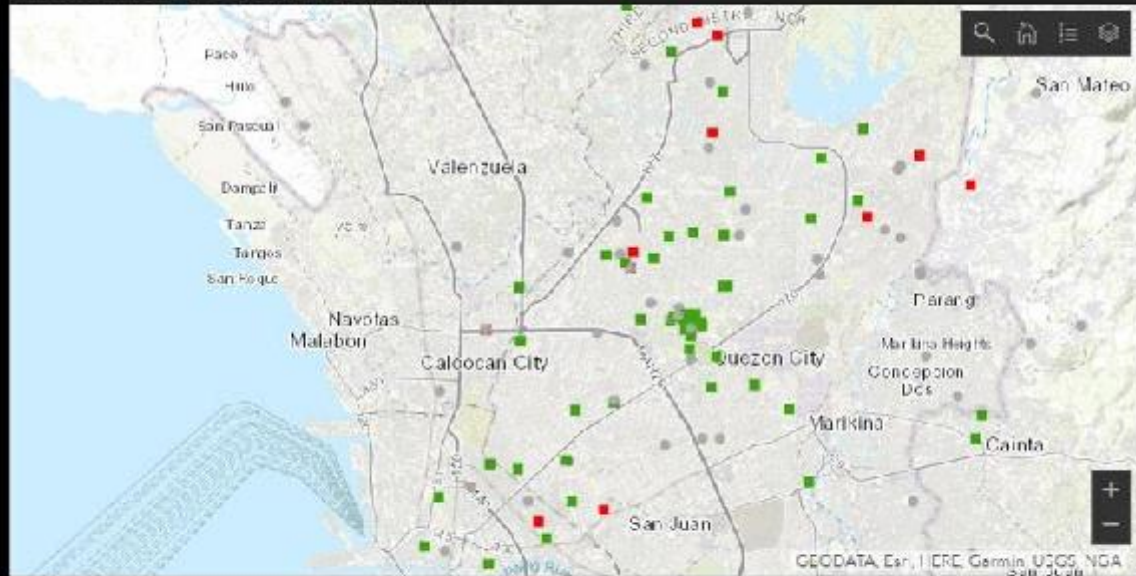
# DENR-CO COVID-19 Monitoring



Data on COVID-19 include reported cases of DENR employees (Permanent, Contract of Service/Job Order, Support Staff (TriumphSecurity)) as collected by the Contact Tracing Team of DENR Central Office.

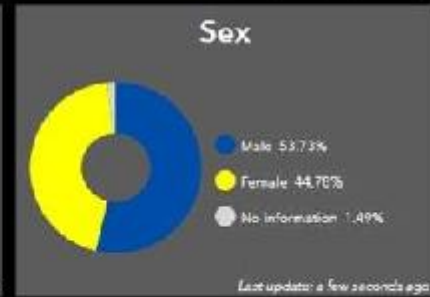
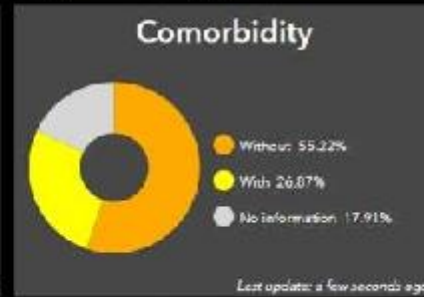
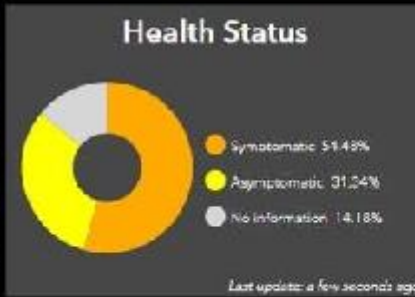
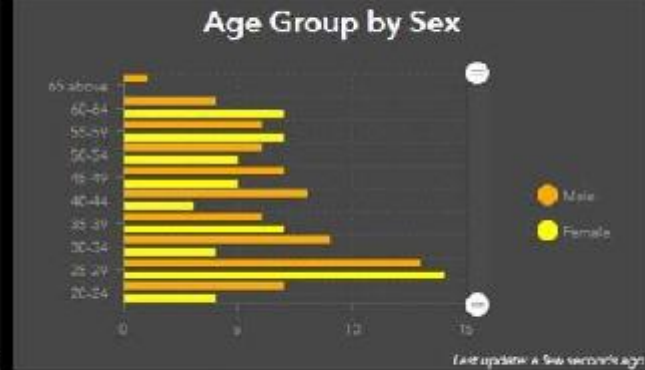
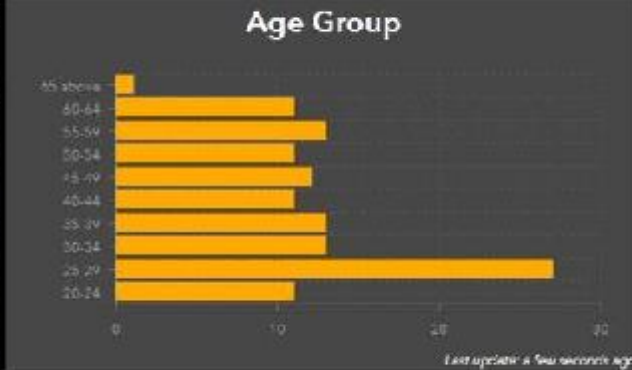


## Residence of affected personnel



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](#)



Developed by the DENR Statistics and Data Resource Management Division (SDRMD), Knowledge Information Systems Service. To report data discrepancies and for any inquiries email us at [sdmrd@denr.gov.ph](mailto:sdmrd@denr.gov.ph).





# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 530

## AGOSTO 26, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 6.9%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
**131,921**

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 91.3%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
**1,734,551**

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.72%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
**32,728**

MGA BAGONG KASO **16,313**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **9,659**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **236**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **1,899,200**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING AGOSTO 24  
DATOS NGAYONG AGOSTO 26  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG AGOSTO 24

# 24.9%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 65,903

BILANG NG  
TINEST

HALOS  
**97.2%**  
ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!



KABUANG PILIPINAS  
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION  
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA  
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)  
**75%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.7K TOTAL BEDS)  
**63%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.7K TOTAL BEDS)  
**69%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
**54%** Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)  
**77%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.9K TOTAL BEDS)  
**61%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)  
**71%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
**58%** Utilized

Mild **96.1%**

1.1% Asymptomatic

0.6% Critical

1.2% Severe

1.03% Moderate



## UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Magkaisa tayo sa pananatili ng **kaligtasan** ng ating mga komunidad, at sundin ang **Minimum Public Health Standards** sa lahat ng sitwasyon. Para tiyak na maiwasan ang pagkahawaan sa ating mga tahanan, makipag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS**, o tawagan ang **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o 0919-977-3333** upang maabot ang **One COVID Referral Center** sa oras na makaramdam ng anumang sintomas.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, nariyan din ang mga hotline ng ating mga pasilidad. 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  
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH  
KONTRACOVID PH: [kontracovid.ph](http://kontracovid.ph)



Manatiling ligtas!  
I-download ang StaySafe App  
O Gamiting ang WEBAPP  
at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](http://Staysafe.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

[doh.gov.ph](http://doh.gov.ph)

(02) 894-COVID / 1555





# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)



BIONTECH

## Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty

- mRNA technology platform
- EUA granted on January 14, 2021
- Intended for persons 12 y/o and above
- 2 doses required, 21 days apart
- -80 to -60 degrees Celsius storage requirement
- 95% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19 (16 y/o and above)
- 100% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19 (12 - 15 y/o)



#BCS



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)

## AstraZeneca

### Oxford-AstraZeneca

- **Viral Vector (non-replicating) technology platform**
- **EUA granted on January 28, 2021**
- **Intended for persons 18 y/o and above**
- **2 doses required, 4-12 weeks apart**
- **2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement**
- **70.4%-81.3% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19, 14 days after 2nd dose**
- **81.3% efficacy rate if dose interval is 12 weeks or more**
- **100% efficacy rate against severe COVID-19**



#BCS



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bcsgov



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)



## sinovac<sup>®</sup>

### Sinovac CoronaVac

- Inactivated Virus technology platform
- EUA granted on February 22, 2021
- Intended for persons 18 y/o and above
- 2 doses required, 28 days apart
- 2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement
- 51% vaccine efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 (based on Brazil trial)
- 83.5% vaccine efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19, 14 days after 2nd dose (based on Turkey trial)
- 100% efficacy rate against severe COVID-19 and hospitalization



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)

## Sputnik V

### Gamaleya Sputnik V

- **Viral Vector (non-replicating) technology platform**
- **EUA granted on March 19, 2021**
- **Intended for persons 18 y/o and above**
- **2 doses required, 21-42 days apart**
- **-18 degrees Celsius and below (frozen solution) storage requirement**
- **91.6% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19**
- **100% efficacy rate against moderate or severe COVID-19**



#BCS



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NTF  
COVID-19

# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)



## Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)

- **Viral Vector (non-replicating) technology platform**
- **EUA granted on April 19, 2021**
- **Intended for persons 18 y/o and above**
- **1 dose required**
- **2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement (3 months)**
- **66.1%-66.9% efficacy rate against confirmed moderate to severe/critical COVID-19**
- **76.7%-85.4% efficacy rate against severe COVID-19**



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)



## BHARAT

BIOTECH

### Bharat BioTech

- Inactivated Virus technology platform
- EUA granted on April 19, 2021
- Intended for persons 18 y/o and above
- 2 doses required, 28 days apart
- 2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement
- 77.8% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19, after 2nd dose
- 93.4% efficacy rate against severe symptomatic COVID-19
- 63.6% efficacy rate against asymptomatic infection
- 65.2% efficacy rate against Delta variant
- 90.1% efficacy rate against Kappa variant



#BCS



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)

moderna®

## Moderna

- mRNA technology platform
- EUA granted on May 5, 2021
- Intended for persons 18 y/o and above
- 2 doses required, 28 days apart
- -25 to -15 degrees Celsius storage requirement;  
2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement (30 days)
- 94.1% efficacy rate against symptomatic COVID-19
- 100% efficacy rate against severe COVID-19



#BCS



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# KNOW YOUR COVID-19 VACCINES!

(data as of August 9, 2021)

## NOVAVAX

### Novavax

- Protein Subunit technology platform
- No EUA approval yet
- 2 doses required, 21 days apart
- 2 to 8 degrees Celsius storage requirement
- 89.7% efficacy rate, at least 7 days after 2nd dose
- 100% prevention against hospitalization and death
- 86.3% efficacy rate against Alpha variant
- 96.4% efficacy rate against non-Alpha variants



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27 AUGUST 2021, FRIDAY



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
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


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