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DENR, DILG team up on Bulacan bamboo plantation effort

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By **TDT** @tribunephil



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has partnered with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) for the establishment of bamboo plantations in Bulacan as part of the National Greening Program (NGP).

Held with a ceremonial bamboo planting at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center on 25 March, the signing of a memorandum of agreement (MOA) signified the partnership of the DENR and the DILG-Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) for the adoption of two NGP reforestation areas in the municipalities of Norzagaray and Doña Remedios Trinidad.

The agreement will implement the planting of bamboo and other forest and fruit-bearing species in the 25-hectare reforestation area at Brgy. San Lorenzo in Norzagaray and 25-hectare reforestation area at Brgy. Kalawakan in Doña Remedios Trinidad.

Moreover, the DENR will provide a tree plantation plan and technical assistance, while the DILG-BFP will spearhead the plantation, rehabilitation, maintenance, protection, conservation, and other related activities of the adopted plantation sites to sustain growth and survival of the planted seedlings for five years.

The MOA signing was led by DENR-Central Luzon Regional Executive Director Paquito T. Moreno Jr. and DILG-BFP Chief Director Louie S. Puracan.

In his keynote message read by DENR-Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS) Director Khalil Sergio Bayam, Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna acknowledged the initial partnership of the two agencies.

“We take this as a noble act on the part of the DILG-BFP because we, at the DENR, could certainly look forward to more successful and sustained forest rehabilitation efforts in these areas,” Sampulna said.

Meanwhile, Puracan said the DILG-BFP initiated the partnership not only for environmental protection but also to empower and provide livelihood to the local community and indigenous peoples living around the sites, as well as, for their own BFP firefighters given its “limitless potentials.”

He estimated around 40,000 BFP personnel will plant at least 10 bamboo seedlings, equating to 400,000 bamboo seedlings.



Moreover, Moreno also highlighted the timeliness of the partnership, as the BFP will experience firsthand how to protect these sites during summer when forest fires are rampant in the country.

“Forest fire is the biggest issue in terms of forest protection or established plantation protection. I hope that this MOA will spur a sustainable, broader partnership among our partners on forest protection and establishment,” said Moreno.

The MOA also allows the DILG-BFP to engage the services of the concerned community in implementing seedling production, planting, maintenance, and protection activities.

For these adopted areas, the DILG-BFP will also establish a forest fire station where basic firefighting equipment, supplies or vehicles are available for immediate response to forest fires.

DILG-BFP is also responsible for the establishment of fire lookout towers and provision of manpower.

In 2020, forest fires destroyed 7,830 hectares of NGP forestland areas that cost about P120 million. Of the total damaged area, 2,169 hectares were in Central Luzon.

In time with the Fire Prevention Month, the MOA signing was conducted in collaboration with the DENR Tayo Ang Kalikasan and SCIS. It is also supported by the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council.

Bamboo planting in various sites in Central Luzon and National Capital Region and coastal cleanup in Region 4A, in collaboration with the BFP, were also held in March.



DENR to tourists: Keep travel destinations free of plastic litter

[Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) - Philstar.com April 4, 2022 | 1:17pm

EL NIDO, Palawan — The acting chief of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources urged tourists to not litter when they visit destinations like El Nido as the country eases travel protocols.

"Wag magtapon ng kung anong plastic na ginagamit sa araw-gabi," DENR Acting Secretary Jim Sampulna said in an event held in El Nido Saturday.

(Don't throw away plastic waste that we use day and night.)

Plastic pollution is a major problem in the Philippines, a nation listed among the top contributors to marine plastic crisis.

"Ang hinihiling ko sa ating foreign and local tourists ay magpakatao kayo. When I say magpakatao, meron tayong ordinansa na dapat sundin, wag tayong magtapon ng dumi kasi babalik sa atin 'yan," Sampulna said.

(I'm asking foreign and local tourists to act with manners. There are ordinances that we need to follow. Let's not litter because trash will come back to us.)

The Philippines has been progressively easing travel rules for international and local tourists in a bid to revitalize an economy hit hard by the pandemic.

Fully-vaccinated travelers who want to enter Palawan—famous for its white sand beaches, limestone formations and turquoise waters—only need to present their vaccination cards, [Palawan News reported](#). Unvaccinated tourists need to provide negative RT-PCR results obtained 72 hours before their scheduled departure dates.

According to Palawan Governor Jose Alvarez, the local government of the country's largest province is targeting to welcome five million tourists.

Sampulna said the department's Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau will conduct a carrying capacity study of El Nido.

In 2018, the DENR ordered a six-month rehabilitation of El Nido, which focused on improving the town's water quality, and enforcing coastal easement and carrying capacity policies. However, unlike Boracay, the town was not closed to tourists.

Sampulna said the agency will continue the rehabilitation of beaches and rivers in the remaining months of the Duterte administration.

"We will finish it. If we don't finish it by June, we may ask the next administration to complete the rehabilitation," he said.



DENR partners with BulSU to conserve Biak-na-Bato



CONSERVING BIAK NA BATO. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the City of San Fernando recently partnered with the Bulacan State University in an effort to conserve the cultural heritage and promote ecotourism in the Biak-Na-Bato National Park in San Miguel, Bulacan. (DENR Central Luzon)

IAN OCAMPO FLORA

April 04, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the City of San Fernando recently partnered with the Bulacan State University (BulSU) in an effort to conserve the cultural heritage and promote ecotourism in the Biak-Na-Bato National Park (BNBNP) in San Miguel, Bulacan.

DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr. noted that this newly minted memorandum of agreement (MOA) was an all-encompassing strategy to preserve both the historical and environmental value of the BNBNP by integrating research and rehabilitation components that convert the national park’s pavilion into an exhibit area.

“By staging the heritage and ecotourism value of this more than 2,000-hectare protected area, we are establishing a channel to educate the public on the critical role it plays to our biodiversity and wildlife, thus, encouraging them to help us in our protection and conservation efforts,” Moreno said.

The said exhibit is part of the implementation of the Sustainable Heritage Imbibing Nationalism through Education in Bulacan, otherwise known as the Shine Bulacan project. It aims to increase awareness and nationalism by promoting sustainable heritage through educational tourism and community engagement.

Material culture retrieved from archaeological excavations and researches in Bulacan, particularly in the BNBNP, will be displayed in the exhibit, which is part of the BulSU’s three-year research program, “Bulacan Landscape Reconstruction: Identifying Anthropogenic and Natural Indicators in Changing Environment.”

It may be recalled that in 2020, a team of archeologists led by Dr. Armand Salvador Mijares, recovered archaeological materials like earthenware pots, modified bones, and even faunal remains inside the Tanggapan Cave in the BNBNP. This discovery added a new dimension to the ecological and archaeological relevance of the national park with evidence of Neolithic and Late Paleolithic periods present within the cave.



For her part, BulSU President Cecilia Gascon expressed her gratitude towards the ratification of the MOA, noting that this would further collaborative efforts to safeguard Bulacan's cultural heritage and rich natural resources.

Under the MOA, the Protected Area Management Board of the BNBPN will be responsible for the protection and maintenance of the exhibit, as well as the provision of technical support to the BulSU's research program.

The BNBPN was established by former president Manuel Quezon through Proclamation No. 223 in November 1937. DENR studies showed that aside from its historical value, the national park is home to 177 animal species, including the endemic Kalaw or Philippine hornbill, wild boar and Philippine deer.



20 cops among DENR's environmental partners feted in Butuan

By Alexander Lopez April 4, 2022, 6:26 pm



ENVIRONMENTAL WARRIORS. Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Caraga Region Director Nonito Tamayo (left) leads the recognition of 17 personnel from Butuan City Police Office Station 2 in a ceremony conducted at the agency's office in Butuan City on Monday, April 4, 2022. The police personnel are recognized for supporting the implementation of environmental laws in the city. *(Photo courtesy of DENR-13)*

BUTUAN CITY – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Caraga (DENR-13) commended Monday 20 personnel of the Butuan City Police Office (BCPO) Station 2 here for supporting the agency's anti-illegal logging campaign.

DENR-13 Director Nonito Tamayo spearheaded the awarding in time with the opening salvo for the Month of the Planet Earth celebration at the agency's office in Barangay Ambago here.

"The BCPO Station 2 was instrumental in the success of the two operations by assisting in the arrest and filing of complaints through inquest proceedings against the driver and owners of the forest products apprehended," DENR-13 said in a statement.

DENR-13 said the operations took place last March 5 in Barangays Bading and Obrero in this city resulting in the seizure of 460 pieces of Odalo and mixed dipterocarp species of lumber and flitches totaling 24,009 board feet.

The apprehended forest products were valued at more than PHP1.4 million.

The awardees include BCPO 2 station commander Maj. Jayeward S. Dularte; deputy station commander Lt. Melecio Jovero; Executive Master Sgt. Judan Alvizo; Chief Master Sgt. Jenious Sab-a; Senior Master Sgts. Venchito Fortun, Junie Murillon, Ricardo Arcite, and Welmer Villamor.

Also given commendations were Staff Sgts. Landric Aque, Rodelio Pesquera, Avel Cabig, Bernardo Labadia; Corporals Chito De Lara, and Ronil Cadeliña; Patrolmen Jaypee Obemio, Jiton Jay Impon, Jade Ocon, Basilio Lucar, Jeppee Higayon, and Beljun Hijos.

"The BCPO 2 personnel also provided security during the inventory, retrieval, and hauling of the items apprehended to the depository area at DENR R-13 motorpool, Ambago, Butuan City, and assigned personnel to secure the unhailed forest products in Barangay Bading from pilferage when the retrieval operation was temporarily suspended," the DENR-13 statement said. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1171344>



NWRB assures no water supply cut in NCR

By Lade Jean Kabagani [April 4, 2022, 10:20 pm](#)



Angat Dam (File photo)

MANILA – While it assures there will be no water supply cut in Metro Manila, the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) on Monday urged again the public to conserve water as the Angat Dam’s water level is now at 190.75 meters.

NWRB Director Seville David Jr. said the current water level in Angat Dam is 10 meters lower than the previous years.

“Bago pa nga ho pumasok iyong taon at bago magsimula itong January po ay nag-abiso na po tayo sa mga kababayan po natin na magtipid kasi nga po medyo mababa po sa inaasahan natin ang level po ng Angat Dam (Before the year begun and before the January started, we already reminded the public to start conserving water because the water level in Angat dam is lower than the expected level),” he said in an interview at the Laging Handa public briefing.

David said they are projecting that the supply of 190 meters can be at least stretched until May before it will go down to 180 meters, which is the minimum operating level of the dam.

“Sa ganoong punto po ay mabibigyan po natin ng priority ang supply ng tubig po para sa mga Metro Manila areas (At that point, we can prioritize the water supply for those residing in Metro Manila areas),” he said.

He said the farmers in Bulacan and Pampanga are nearing their harvesting schedules. Thus, prioritize urban areas for water supply once the Angat Dam will meet its minimum operating level.

For the month of April, the Angat Dam saves at least five cubic meters from 15 cubic meters per second since the supply for irrigation is being reduced during harvest time

Meanwhile, he said the water supply in Metro Manila will remain at 48 cubic meters per second with the ongoing threat of the Covid-19 pandemic and because of the hot weather.

“Kaya po minabuti po ng NWRB na i-maintain po iyong kasalukuyang alokasyon at wala pong pagbabawas na mangyayari po (That’s why the NWRB decided to maintain its current water allocation and there will be no cut to happen),” David said.

On the other hand, David said the cloud seeding operations seem to be getting positive results as the water level in Angat Dam slightly increased.



The NWRB continues the cloud seeding along with the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) and Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA).

“Umaasa po tayo na sa mga susunod na araw ay parehas po ang magiging resulta, at sa tingin po naman natin ay malaki ang naitutulong po nitong cloud seeding operations para po mapanatili sa mas magandang level po ang kasalukuyang level po ng Angat Dam (We are hoping for same results in the coming days and I think this cloud seeding operations is helping the Angat Dam to maintain its current water level),” David said.

As its short-term solution for possible water supply shortages, NWRB allows MWSS and other concessionaires to prepare deep wells.

The treatment facilities in Laguna Lake and Marikina river are also on standby.

Major projects are also slated as their medium and long-term solutions.

David said the government, through the National Economic and Development Authority, has already launched the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan, not only making enough water supplies but also seeking good sanitation.

The NWRB is also crafting a water security roadmap to make sure there is enough supply not only in Metro Manila but also nationwide. **(PNA)**



Pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam, bumagal – NWRB exec

By **Bombo Dave Vincent Pasit** -April 4, 2022 | 2:39 PM

Bumabagal na sa ngayon ang pagbaba ng tubig sa Angat Dam, ayon sa isang opisyal ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB).

Ayon kay NWRB Executive Director Seville David Jr. na ang tubig sa Angat Dam kaninang umaga ay pumalo sa 190.75 meters.

Mas mababa aniya ito kung ikukumpara sa mga naunang taon, subalit mabagal aniya ang pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig sa naturang dam dahil sa cloud seeding operations na isinagawa ng ahensya.

NAbatid na ang minimum operating water level ng Angat Dam, na siyang pinagkukuhanan ng 90 percent ng water requirement ng Metro Manila at mga kalapit na probinsya, ay papalo sa 180 meters.

Sa kabila ng pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam sa kasagsagan ng mainit na panahon sa bansa, sinabi ni David na hindi naman nila nakikita na magkakaroon ng krisis sa supply ng tubig.

May mga alternatibo rin kasi aniyang pinagkukuhanan ng Tubig, ayon kay David.



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READ:

National Water Resources Board (NWRB) Executive Director Sevillo David Jr. says the water level of Angat Dam is now at 190.75 liters.

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Presidential bets tackle climate action during 2nd Comelec debate

Published 19 hours ago on April 4, 2022 12:17 PM

By [MJ Blancaflor](#) @tribunephil_MJB



Candidates vying for the presidency have discussed the steps they would take to cut the country's carbon emissions while responding to climate-adaptation challenges, bringing to the fore issues that have been neglected in election campaigns.

At the second round of the Commission on Elections-sponsored debate held Sunday night, presidential bets raised the need to push for the country's transition from fossil fuels to clean energy and to promote water and food security.

Vice President Leni Robredo said the next administration should chart a roadmap outlining the goals and actions that should be taken by the Philippines in the next few years to become carbon neutral by 2050 in accordance with its commitment to COP26.

"We have to fix a roadmap and identify our target milestones and what we should do to achieve it," she said.

"We have to prepare how to transition from a fossil fuel-dependent source of electricity to being carbon neutral," said Robredo, noting that the portion of renewable energy in the country's energy mix decreased in recent years.

Among the steps she had proposed include hastening the awarding of service contracts for the development of liquefied natural gas deposits in the Philippines amid the transition to renewable energy and decreasing gas production in the Malampaya gas field.

Environment groups, however, have earlier warned against the use of liquefied natural gas since it is still fossil fuel.

Labor leader Leody De Guzman of socialist coalition Laban ng Masa said the next Philippine leaders should have the "political will" to abandon coal and fossil fuels in favor of more sustainable sources even if it would hurt business corporations.

"We must make a firm decision to let go of coal plants because these are the dirtiest source of energy," De Guzman said.

"That is what we will do because we, our country, are blessed because we have so many sources of renewable energy," he added.

Former presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella, meanwhile, said he was willing to open discussions for nuclear energy as an alternative power source.



He also reiterated his pitch to make agriculture a “mega industry” in the country by using renewable energy in the sector, while implementing programs that would instill the importance of environmental protection to the youth.

Manila Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso echoed Abella’s proposal, saying the country could utilize “agrivoltaic system” or the simultaneous use of areas of land for both power generation and agriculture.

“This thing exists in the boundary of Netherlands and Germany and this is adaptable in our geography because we are a tropical country,” he said. “We can harness the power of the sun to produce energy.”

Doctor and lawyer Jose Montemayor Jr. cited the need to demand for climate justice and climate financing on a global scale, saying the world’s top contributors of carbon — particularly the United States and China — should pay developing countries like the Philippines for the damage caused by climate change-induced catastrophes.

Poor countries or developing economies contribute the least to climate change, but are the most vulnerable to its consequences like strong typhoons and massive droughts.

Various groups have long been candidates to outline their proposed policies on addressing the climate crisis and to discuss it with the public.

Water, food security

During the debate, candidates have agreed that the climate crisis threatens food and water production.

To ensure water security, Senator Panfilo Lacson pondered on whether the government should invest more for research and development to harness rainwater for irrigation and to strengthen the country’s irrigation facilities.

Robredo echoed Lacson, saying there were existing studies which identified large rivers that could be used as new sources of water, but she said it requires a massive funding.

Senator Manny Pacquiao, on the other hand, proposed the creation of a Department of Water Management to address water issues.

“I was able to investigate that, there’s some push and pull of who is in charge of water management so we need the Department of Water [Management]. That is important to properly manage our water,” the lawmaker said.

As for food security, Montemayor said he wanted to strengthen agriculture, fisheries, and forestry in the Philippines and turn it into “core competencies” of Filipinos.

“We will be aggressive to prepare the country for future problems of food shortage. We should keep in mind that we cannot forever rely on other countries,” he said, as he slammed the Rice Tariffication Law that paved the way for increased rice importation.

Pacquiao shared the same view, noting that the country should support local farmers and fisherfolk to increase food production.

Survey frontrunner Bongbong Marcos Jr. was absent during the debate.



Legaspi: Makakalikasan: Sustainable development



CARLOS LEGASPI JR. April 04, 2022

PROMISES, here and there, are what we hear today in many campaigns done by national and local candidates. These are surely made to be broken. I do not believe in promises but in what a person had done in the past. We hear people promising “heaven and earth” just to get our precious shade on the ballot. Some incumbent candidates are still making promises for they had done nothing during their term. They always say that it is because of the nature of the position they are in that they have done little. Some keep quiet and do their jobs just to work for the common good. We are reminded by Buddha that shallow water is noisy but deep water is silent and calm. We need to learn more from nature.

Our students are told that one of the values they must learn from school is being Makakalikasan. They have to be guardians of the environment. They have to take care of the environment for future generations. The children should be the ones to possess these values. So how about the adults who are supposed to be the models for these young people? Do we understand the values of Makakalikasan even for this election period alone?

What great escape adults do. We are often reminded that in the eyes of the young, the evil, we do, becomes good for them. This is our duty of modeling good values for the young. We are always blaming young people for being imprudent, irresponsible, and uncaring for the environment. We often say that we are indifferent to environmental issues. While we tell them these, what are we doing?

Makakalikasan means sustainability. We are now experiencing an unsustainable future. We lack a good water supply. Our food supply is also decreasing. Human settlements have destroyed the balance of nature. Diseases from unknown sources are now lurking in every corner of the globe. Unethical Environmental experiments and researchers continue to kill life forms. Mother Earth is no longer capable of sustaining human life. Again, we are promised a brighter and better future. Where?

The adults, in the Philippines today, have surrendered their being guardians of the environment. We are destroying the future. Today, we exchange the future of our children with the use of plastic and plastic-based campaign materials (tarpaulin, turpentine-based cheap paints); rubber-based campaign posters which are nailed on century-old trees; trash, plastic bottles, styro cups and containers, plastic bags used as give-aways during campaigns; sound pollution from the noisy sound systems during kampanya a la Concierto; and degradation of soil and killing off plants in the campaign areas and the worst pollution is urine. Do we call these



Do we call these “leaders” responsible? They are liars and they do not know what is to be Makakalikasan!

What I pity most are the politicians who claim to be Makakalikasan or who work for sustainable development. Some are true to their commitment to the future but many are just using the issue. These are the ones who should not be given a seat in our government. They talk about exoticism and romanticism in their sorties. They make the world seem to need them for protection. They capitalize on the issue of the environment to move forward. Not only among the ranks of politicians, but we also have those in civil society. They make lots of money out of their cry for the environment. We have to be very careful with these people. They are using the environmental issue to fatten their bellies and pickets. I heard from one environmentalist that the global advocacy to save mother Earth is a lucrative business that made many millionaires and even leaders of great nations.

When we work for Mother Earth, we need to be genuine and must be out of our love for Mother Earth and never be tainted with our selfish interests and our security. Mother Earth knows our hearts and our intentions, we need not publicize.

We need to have leaders who love Mother Earth and future generations. We do not need promises but we need action and performance for our future.



SWM summit in Cebu City set April 6-8

By: Delta Dyrecka Letigio - CDN Digital|April 04,2022 - 03:38 PM

CEBU CITY, Philippines — The Cebu City government will be holding a Solid Waste Management (SWM) summit on April 6 to 8, 2022, to tackle the perennial garbage problems of the city.

Mayor Michael Rama said in a press conference on Monday, April 4, 2022, that the summit is part of his 21-gun salute plan before his term ends.

The 21-gun salute programs are Rama's way to continue the legacy of late Mayor Edgardo Labella and ensure that the projects will be completed for what was supposed to be by the end of Labella's first term.

"When we ascended as Mayor, we gave prime to waste management, only interrupted by Odette. Be that as it may, we will in a few days undertake our Waste Summit. The convenors undertook preliminary focus group discussions that yielded valuable outputs that will be reported and consolidated during the main Summit," he said.

Reymar Hijarra, one of the summit's convenors, said the summit will be held from April 6 to 8, 2022, be attended by a city government department, national agencies, and nongovernment organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, solution companies will be also in attendance to discuss the new technologies for managing waste.

"We also have panel discussions with establishments that are solid waste generators such as hotels, malls, and the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) for a general assessment," said Hijarra.

Embassies, the Cebu academe, and other groups will also be joining the summit.

The goal of the summit will be to consolidate input from all stakeholders in order to come up with a SWM plan that would satisfy the Commission of Audit's (COA) requirement for the city's 10-year SWM Plan.

The summit will be held at SM Seaside Sky hall.

WTE Debate

Mayor Rama is also looking forward to hearing the debate for the possible Waste-to-Energy project in the city that has become controversial since the City Council has passed a proposed Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) between the city government and New Sky Energy Philippines over the project.

Rama said that while it is not a matter of proving whether the WTE will be beneficial or detrimental to the environment of the city, he wants all minds to be poured in over the issue.

"At the end of the day, there will be a decision to be made," he said.

The WTE project is now up for Swiss Challenge within 30 days for possible other proponents who wish to provide a better proposal to Cebu City.

Ahead of the city's organized SWM summit, Philippine Earth Justice Center Inc., will be holding its own summit at the University of Cebu on April 5, 2022, to discuss the WTE project.

/bmjo

Source: <https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/433741/swm-summit-in-cebu-city-set-april-6-8?fbclid=IwAR1Z1UGcsihufiF-1d9NAvgveimd6ELklw3t8etlzyun7A7UOkqsII1edl0>

Tayud residents, fisherfolk grateful for ‘temporary victory’ vs Seafont City reclamation project

By: Doris C. Bongcac April 03, 2022 - 12:25 PM



A fisherman prepares his net just outside a shipyard in Sitio Bagacay, Barangay Tayud, Consolacion town, Cebu. The area is part of the 235.8 hectares that the municipal government wants to reclaim in partnership with a private consortium. | Contributed photo

MANDAUE CITY, Cebu — Residents and fisherfolk in Barangay Tayud in Consolacion town are happy that President Rodrigo Duterte heard their plea for the suspension of the proposed Seafont City Reclamation Project.

But Anabella Pomento, president of the Tayud Fisherfolk Association, said they were also well aware that what they now enjoy was just a temporary victory.

Still, she and the rest of her neighbors remain hopeful that the next administration would continue the suspension of the processing of the application of all pending reclamation projects in the country, especially the one in Barangay Tayud.

“Kun kinsa man ang sunod nga molingkod, manghinaot ko nga dili na lang gyud intawn ipadayon,” she said in a phone interview.

(Whoever will sit as the next president, I hope that he/she will no longer authorize the implementation of reclamation projects.)

Duterte said in a meeting with top government officials on Thursday, March 31, that he had ordered a stop to the processing of applications for reclamation projects in the country due to reports of corruption.

These include reclamation project applications in Cebu and Mindanao.



Residents gather shells at the shorelines of Sitio Bacagay in Barangay Tayud, Consolacion during low tide. | Contributed photo



“Happy kaayo mi nga nakadunog mis tingog sa president. Pasalamat mi nga gidungog sa Ginoo ang among mga pag-ampo. Nagpasalamat pud mi sa presidente nga wala gyud mi pasagdai, kami nga mga namuyo diri nga pulos gyud intawn pobre,” Pomento said.

(We were very happy when we heard about what the president said. We are grateful that God heard our prayers. We are grateful that the president did not forsake us, we who reside in this place and who are poor.)

Pomento clarified that they would not oppose the implementation of the 235.8-hectare Seafront City Reclamation Project. They just wanted assurance that they would be taken cared of by the municipal government.

“Ang among gipangita lang gyud ang among siguridad. Kun asa mi ibutang? Ang among panginabuhi-an?” she said.

(We just wanted to be certain of our security. Where will they relocate us? Our source of livelihood?)

Pomento said residents of Barangay Tayud have suffered more than enough. They have been struggling as a result of the pandemic which prevented most of them from going out of their homes to work.

Super typhoon Odette which hit Cebu on December 16, 2021 worsened their sufferings after the typhoon also damaged most of their fishing boats.

In fact, most of them have become dependent on aids that they had been getting from private donors and from the Cebu Provincial government through its Dasig Sugbo program.

As per her experience, Pomento said, she only received two relief packs, each consisting of five kilos of rice, coffee and sardines, since the pandemic started two years back.

Source: <https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/433479/tayud-residents-fisherfolk-grateful-for-temporary-victory-vs-seafront-city-reclamation-project?fbclid=IwAR3WHQdiqAbbr3BLDtToM-s-5bMBtBBJ8OpQANsp7L6w7vLU6CIO1ZPe4Pg#ixzz7PMn0wA7X>



Mga epekto sa paggamit ng plastic bag

By [Dr. Willie T. Ong](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - April 5, 2022 - 12:00am

ANG Pilipinas ay isa sa pinakamalakas gumamit ng plastic bag sa buong mundo. May apat na masamang epekto ito sa ating kalikasan at kalusugan.

1. Masama sa kalikasan – Ang plastic bag ay gawa sa non-renewable (hindi nabubulok) na bagay (polypropylene) at nagiging dahilan ng napakaraming basura papunta sa dagat at iba't ibang panig ng mundo. Dahil ito ay napakagaan, nakararating ito ng malayo dahil sa hangin at tubig. Bukod sa basura, ang problema ay napag-kakamalang pagkain ng ibon, isda, at mga hayop. Libu-libong hayop na ang namatay dahil sa pagkain ng plastic dahil sa hindi matunawan. Nalalason din ang mga hayop dahil sa dioxin mula sa plastic.

2. Masama sa kalusugan ng tao at hayop – Ang plastic bags ay nagdudulot ng panganib sa kalusugan natin. Dahil karamihan ng plastic ay napupunta sa dagat ay nakakain ng mga isda, kapag tayo ay kumain ng isda ay posibleng magdulot ito ng kanser at iba pang seryosong sakit sa atin.

3. Magastos – Hindi libre ang plastic bag. Dinaragdag ang presyo ng plastic bag sa presyo ng bilingin.

4. Ang plastic bag ay hindi madaling i-recycle - Ang 1 trillion plastic bags ay nagagamit taun-taon at may 8 million metric tons ng plastic na basura ang napupunta sa karagatan bawat taon.

Mga solusyon:

1. Gumamit ng bag na tela. Baunin ito kapag pupunta sa supermarket at palengke. Makatitipid dito.

2. Piliin at gumamit ng paper bag kaysa plastic bag.

3. Maging responsable tayo sa ating kapaligiran at kalusugan. Umiwas sa paggamit ng plastic bag para lahat tayo ay mabuhay nang mahaba.

4. Magdala ng baunan sa trabaho o kung bibili ng pagkain sa restaurant o karinderya.



SM City Telabastagan promotes responsible plastic waste disposal



PLASTIC WASTE COLLECTION. Residents from Barangay Telabastagan in the City of San Fernando headed by Barangay Clerk Martel Cruz kick-off the Plastic Credit Exchange's Plastic Waste Collection Program through the SM Cares. (Contributed photo)

April 04, 2022

RESIDENTS of Barangay Telabastagan in the City of San Fernando headed by Barangay Clerk Martel Cruz kicked off the Plastic Credit Exchange's (PCX) Plastic Waste Collection Program through SM Cares.

Located in SM City Telabastagan and SM City Pampanga, the community can now responsibly dispose of their plastic wastes.

SM Malls now serve as collection points for almost all types of plastic and Styrofoam waste. The program aims to divert plastic waste from landfills and bodies of water by collecting them straight from households for co-processing, upcycling or recycling.

To date, SM and PCX have collected more than 13,271 kilograms of plastic waste from the participating SM Malls, similar to diverting 21,442 kilograms of CO2, equivalent to 355 tree seedlings grown for ten years.

The Plastic Waste Collection Program is sponsored by Nestle Philippines and supported by Watsons, Procter & Gamble, and PricewaterhouseCoopers Philippines. **(PR)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1925557/pampanga/local-news/sm-city-telabastagan-promotes-responsible-plastic-waste-disposal>



Illegal lumber busted in South Cotabato

By [Franz R. Sumangil](#) April 4, 2022

AUTHORITIES in Surallah town, South Cotabato captured a chainsaw operator after being caught transporting illegal lumber. The operator was intercepted while driving his truck loaded with illegal logs at a Philippine National Police (PNP) checkpoint in crossing Curva, Dajay village. Surallah PNP chief LtCol. Jomero Sentinta identified the suspect as Noel de la China, 56, and a resident of Norala town, South Cotabato. The truck driven by de la China was loaded with 41 pieces of 600-board feet assorted acacia lumber costing an estimate of P13,800 per board feet. De la China was arrested by PNP personnel manning the checkpoint after the suspect failed to present necessary documents to show that the lumbers were acquired legally. The confiscated lumber was turned over by Surallah PNP to the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources office of the said town. Meanwhile, de la China is now under the custody of Surallah PNP and will face appropriate criminal charges.



Nearly entire global population breathing polluted air: WHO

Agence France-Presse Posted at Apr 04 2022 10:31 PM



A general view of the surroundings of the city of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 05 February 2022. With 217 AQI (Air Quality Index), Sarajevo is one of the most polluted cities in the world. *EPA-EFE/Fehim Demir*

GENEVA—A full 99 percent of people on Earth breathe air containing too many pollutants, the World Health Organization said Monday, blaming poor air quality for millions of deaths each year.

Fresh data from the UN health agency showed that every corner of the globe is dealing with air pollution, although the problem is much worse in poorer countries.

"Almost the entire global population (99 percent) breathes air that exceeds WHO air quality limits, and threatens their health," the agency said in a statement.

In its previous report four years ago, WHO had already found that over 90 percent of the global population was affected, but it has since tightened its limits, it said.

"The evidence base for the harm caused by air pollution has been growing rapidly and points to significant harm caused by even low levels of many air pollutants," WHO said.

While UN data last year indicated that pandemic lockdowns and travel restrictions caused short-lived improvements in air quality, WHO said air pollution remains a towering problem.

"After surviving a pandemic, it is unacceptable to still have seven million preventable deaths and countless preventable lost years of good health due to air pollution," Maria Neira, the head of the WHO's department of public health and environment, said in a statement.

WHO's study provides air quality data from more than 6,000 cities and towns across 117 countries.

The findings were alarming, the organization said, and highlighted the importance of rapidly curbing fossil fuel use.

'HEALTHIER ENERGY SYSTEMS'

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus stressed that worries over soaring energy prices, due in part to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, should help propel change.

"Current energy concerns highlight the importance of speeding up the transition to cleaner, healthier energy systems," he said in a statement.



"High fossil fuel prices, energy security, and the urgency of addressing the twin health challenges of air pollution and climate change, underscore the pressing need to move faster towards a world that is much less dependent on fossil fuels."

The report provides data on concentrations of dangerous particulate matter with a diameter of between 2.5 and 10 micrometers (PM10), and particles with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers (PM2.5).

PM2.5 includes toxins like sulfate and black carbon, which pose the greatest health risks since they can penetrate deep into the lungs or cardiovascular system.

And for the first time, the report also provides ground measurements of annual mean concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), a common urban pollutant, which is associated with respiratory diseases, particularly asthma.

The report found problems related to particulate pollution were far worse in poorer countries, but that most cities had trouble with nitrogen dioxide.

While the air in 17 percent of cities in high-income countries fell below WHO's air quality guidelines for PM2.5 or PM10, less than one percent of cities in low and middle-income countries complied with the recommended thresholds, the report said.

Out of the around 4,000 cities across 74 countries that collected NO₂ data, measurements meanwhile showed only 23 percent of people breathed annual average concentrations of the gas that met levels in WHO's recently updated guidelines.



Climate change: IPCC scientists say it's 'now or never' to limit warming

[Matt McGrath](#)

Environment correspondent

[@mattmcgrathbbc](#) on Twitter



UN scientists have unveiled a plan that they believe can limit the root causes of dangerous climate change.

A key UN body says in a report that there must be "rapid, deep and immediate" cuts in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.

Global emissions of CO₂ would need to peak within three years to stave off the worst impacts.

Even then, the world would also need technology to suck CO₂ from the skies by mid-century.

After a contentious approval session where scientists and government officials went through the report line by line, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has now published its guidance on what the world can do to avoid an extremely dangerous future.

First, the bad news - even if all the policies to cut carbon that governments had put in place by the end of 2020 were fully implemented, the world will still warm by 3.2C this century.

This finding has drawn the ire of the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres.



Drought is having an impact in many countries including Bangladesh

"Some government and business leaders are saying one thing - but doing another. Simply put, they are lying. And the results will be catastrophic."



That sort of temperature rise would see our planet hit by "unprecedented heatwaves, terrifying storms, and widespread water shortages".

To avoid that fate, the world must keep the rise in temperatures at or under 1.5C this century, say researchers.

The good news is that this latest IPCC summary shows that it can be done, in what Mr Guterres calls a "viable and financially sound manner".

But keeping temperatures down will require massive changes to energy production, industry, transport, our consumption patterns and the way we treat nature.

To stay under 1.5C, according to the IPCC, means that carbon emissions from everything that we do, buy, use or eat must peak by 2025, and tumble rapidly after that, reaching net-zero by the middle of this century.

To put it in context, the amount of CO2 that the world has emitted in the last decade is the same amount that's left to us to stay under this key temperature threshold.

"I think the report tells us that we've reached the now-or-never point of limiting warming to 1.5C," said IPCC lead author Heleen De Coninck, who's Professor of Socio-Technical Innovation and Climate Change at Eindhoven University of Technology.

Speaking to BBC News she said: "We have to peak our greenhouse gas emissions before 2025 and after that, reduce them very rapidly.

"And we will have to do negative emissions or carbon dioxide removal in the second half of the century, shortly after 2050, in order to limit warming to 1.5C."



Governments will need to look at the provision of low carbon transport

The next few years are critical, say the researchers, because if emissions aren't curbed by 2030, it will make it nigh on impossible to limit warming later this century.

Key to that in the short term will be how we generate energy. Luckily, solar panel and wind turbines have never been cheaper, having fallen in cost by around 85% over the past decade

"It's game over for the fossil fuels that are fuelling both wars and climate chaos," said Kaisa Kosonen from Greenpeace, who was an observer at the IPCC approval session.

"There's no room for any new fossil fuel developments, and the coal and gas plants we already have need to close early."

But diets and lifestyles will also need changing, with huge scope for major carbon savings, according to the authors.



"Having the right policies, infrastructure and technology in place to enable changes to our lifestyles and behaviour can result in a 40-70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This offers significant untapped potential," said IPCC Co-chair Priyadarshi Shukla.

"The evidence also shows that these lifestyle changes can improve our health and wellbeing." In practice, this means governments doing more to encourage walking and healthy eating, and putting in place the infrastructure for far more electric vehicles.

One of the most contentious aspects of the report concerns the removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

This can be done in a number of different ways, including through planting trees and making changes to farming practices.



Solar power has fallen dramatically in price in the last decade

But the report finds that to keep warming from going over the dangerous 1.5C threshold, we will need more than new forests.

Keeping temperatures down will require machines to remove CO2 directly from the atmosphere.

This is very contentious as the technology is new and currently very expensive.

Some participants in the IPCC process are highly sceptical that these approaches will work.

"The idea of quick emissions reductions and large negative emissions technologies are a concern," said Prof Arthur Petersen, from UCL, who was an observer in the approval session.

"There are a lot of pipe dreams in this report."

Follow Matt on Twitter [@mattmcgrathbbc](https://twitter.com/mattmcgrathbbc).

05 APRIL 2022, TUESDAY



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



BFP adopts NGP reforestation areas in two Bulacan towns

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

@jonlmayuga

THE Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) has formally adopted two National Greening Program (NGP) sites, one each in the towns of Norzagaray and Doña Remedios Trinidad in the Province of Bulacan.

The move came after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) outlining the partnership for the National Greening Program (NGP).

Under the agreement, the parties will plant bamboo and other forest and fruit-bearing species on the 25-hectare reforestation area at Barangay San Lorenzo in Norzagaray and, a 25-hectare reforestation area at Barangay Kalawakan in Doña Remedios Trinidad.

The DENR will provide a tree plantation plan and technical assistance, while the DILG-BFP will spearhead the plantation, rehabilitation, maintenance, protection, conservation, and other related activities of the adopted plantation sites to sustain the growth and survival of the planted seedlings for five years.

DENR-Central Luzon Regional Executive Director Paquito T.

Moreno Jr. and DILG-BFP chief Director Louie S. Puracan led the MOA signing.

In his keynote message read by DENR-Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS) Director Khalil Sergio Bayam, Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna acknowledged the initial partnership of the two agencies.

"We take this as a noble act on the part of the DILG-BFP because we at the DENR could certainly look forward to more successful and sustained forest rehabilitation efforts in these areas," Sampulna said.

Meanwhile, Puracan said the DILG-BFP initiated the partnership not only for environmental protection but also to empower and provide a livelihood to the local community and indigenous peoples living around the sites as well as for their own BFP firefighters given its "limitless potentials."

He estimated that around 40,000 BFP personnel would plant at least 10 bamboo seedlings, equating to 400,000 bamboo seedlings.

Moreover, Moreno also highlighted the timeliness of the partnership, as the BFP will experience firsthand how to protect these sites during the dry season when forest fires are rampant in the country.

"Forest fire is the biggest issue in terms of forest protection or estab-

lished plantation protection. I hope that this MOA will spur a sustainable, broader partnership among our partners on forest protection and establishment," said Moreno.

The MOA also allows the DILG-BFP to engage the services of the concerned community in implementing seedling production, planting, maintenance, and protection activities.

For these adopted areas, the DILG-BFP will also establish a forest fire station where basic firefighting equipment, supplies or vehicles are available for immediate response to forest fires.

DILG-BFP is also responsible for the establishment of fire lookout towers and the provision of manpower.

In 2020, forest fires destroyed 7,830 hectares of NGP forestland areas that cost about P120 million. Of the total damaged area, 2,169 hectares were in Central Luzon.

In time with Fire Prevention Month, the MOA signing was conducted in collaboration with the DENR Tayo Ang Kalikasan and SCIS. The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council also supports it.

Bamboo planting in various sites in Central Luzon and National Capital Region and coastal cleanup in Region 4A, in collaboration with the BFP, was also held in March.



TITLE:

PAGE 1/2

How to manage e-waste: Bring to a treatment, storage and disposal facility

By FAITH ARGOSINO

Have you ever wondered where your irreparable battery, cord, or plug-dependent devices go? And do you know that improper disposal of these items may threaten public health?

A 2019 report from "A New Circular Vision for Electronics: Time for a Global Reboot" showed that 80 percent of e-waste goes to a landfill or is informally recycled, while less than 20 percent is formally recycled.

Citing that report, Jover Larion of the EcoWaste Coalition (EWC), said that the study also revealed that informal recyclers in developing countries like the Philippines handle e-waste "by hand," which expose them to hazardous and carcinogenic substances such as mercury, lead, and cadmium.

Other e-waste excreted chemicals include hexavalent chromium, polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic, and many others.

Larion reiterated that improper e-waste management, such as burning, dumping fluorescent lamps, breaking leaded glasses of television picture tubes, and dismantling e-waste in streets and alleys, might lead to exposure and release of the above-mentioned toxic chemicals.

Items considered as e-waste

Anything with a battery, electric cord, or plug that reaches the end of its life is considered e-waste.

"Common examples of e-waste include non-functional appliances (electric cookers and stoves, coffee makers, toasters, refrigerators, washing machines,

air conditioners, fans, stereo and TV sets, desktop computers)," Larion said in an online interview with Manila Bulletin.

Other typical samples he cited are: "broken or obsolete gadgets such as mobile phones, laptops, tablets, chargers, remote controls; busted lamps (incandescent bulbs, fluorescent lamps, LED lights); spent batteries and other unwanted electrical and electronic products, including broken electronic cigarettes or vapes and worn out electronic toys."

E-waste management

A person generates approximately 3.9 kilograms of waste,

on advised Metro Manila residents to bring their items to the country's first barangay-run facility located in Barangay 176, Bagong Silang in Caloocan City, launched in November 2020.

For residents near Dampalit, Malabon, a similar government-supported e-waste treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facility was installed within the area last March 2.

"There are ways to prevent e-waste from entering landfills, such as keeping the public informed on safe e-waste management, providing drop-off points, and supporting environmentally sound recycling efforts. Big or small,



E-WASTE (Photo from Pixabay)

including electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), which totals to 32,664.41 metric tons (MT) of e-waste per year, according to the 2019 Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) data and the Global Environment Report.

To manage these wastes, Lari-

all e-waste must be properly recycled or disposed of to conserve resources and prevent their toxic components from polluting the environment," he explained.

Larion also highlighted the need for an extended producer responsibility (EPR) system for elec-



STRATEGIC
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AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

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PAGE



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PAGE 1
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STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

04-05-22

DATE

TITLE:

How to manage e-waste ...

PAGE

7/8



E-WASTE TSD FACILITY — At the inauguration of the e-waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal facility on March 2, 2022 were Globe Telecom's Apple Evangelista (left); Engr. Jun Rivera; Dr. Carmela Centeno, project manager of UNIDO; Engr. Geri Geronimo Sañez, chief of DENR-EMB Hazardous Waste Management Section; Captain Carlo Jay Dumalaog of Barangay Dampalit, Malabon; and Captain Ricky Bernardo of Barangay San Agustin, Quezon City. The TSD facility is located in Brgy. Dampalit, Malabon City. (EWC)

trical and electronic equipment.

"If there is a functional EPR system in place, the manufacturer of an electrical or electronic product will be responsible for the whole product life cycle, especially for the take-back, recycling, and disposal after a product's useful life," he said.

Initiatives and regulatory policy

Aside from e-waste facilities, the national government and private entities also implemented programs such as the "Safe PCB and E-Waste Management Project" conducted by the Department of Environment Natural Resources (DENR) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

According to Larion, the said project aims "to demonstrate Best Available Techniques/Best Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP) in the sustainable management of e-waste."

Moreover, Globe implemented the "E-Waste Zero" initiative to recover and recycle old mobile phones, broken chargers, and elec-

tronic gadgets. At the same time, the UP Circuit conducted "The E-Waste Project" to raise awareness and promote the collection and recycling of e-waste.

In a 2020 statement, EMB revealed that the national policy and regulatory framework or the enactment of Republic Act (RA) 6969 or the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act have been in place since 1990.

"The law seeks to regulate the importation, manufacture, processing, handling, storage, transportation, sale, distribution, use, treatment, and disposal of toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes that pose risks to human health and the environment," the EMB said.

To monitor e-waste movement, generators, transporters, and treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities of hazardous waste must be registered with EMB, to be able to get a permit to transport (PTT), and manifest chain-of-custody document, as stated under DENR Administrative Order 2013-22.



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By Tyrone Jasper C. Piad
@TyronePiad

A private sector-led campaign against San Miguel Corp.'s (SMC) proposed Pasig River Expressway (PAREx) alleged that some parts of the road project's environmental impact statement (EIS) appeared to have been copied from other reports, thus casting doubts as to whether a proper assessment was conducted in the first place.

In a letter dated March 29 and addressed to the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and National Resources (DENR),

'NEARLY IDENTICAL' TO OTHER REPORTS

PAREX ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY SUSPECTED TO HAVE BEEN COPIED

#NoToPAREX campaign representative Joven Jacolbia asked the EMB to "look into possible incidents of misconduct and irregular practice in the preparation of the draft EIS" by the RHR Consulting Services on the 19.27-kilometer PAREx project.

The Inquirer sought comments but SMC has yet to reply.

The group said it had identified sections of the PAREx EIS that "appear to have been lifted almost wholly" from other reports.

The Toll Regulatory Board, in a letter dated April 1 sent to representatives of the Ramon Ang-led conglomerate, asked

SMC to comment on the matter.

Among the sections that appear to be copied were the Changes on Local Micro-Climate.

Jacolbia said it was "nearly identical" to an EIS report for the Makati Public Rail Transport System in 2019. He noted that words like "railway track" and "railway car" were even in the PAREx report, which signals that this section was "cut and paste" from other documents.

The same was observed in the PAREx EIS section on greenhouse gas mitigation measures, Jacolbia said. It was almost "identical" to a section in the Environmental Perform-

mance Report and Management Plan for the 7x55 MW Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion Coal-fired Power Plant Expansion Project in Misamis Oriental in 2017.

In addition, the group noted that "several paragraphs" in Section 1.5 on Project Components of the PAREx report were "nearly identical" to some parts of Cavite-Laguna Expressway's EIS.

"If EMB can verify that such sections were indeed 'lifted' from other documents, such practices may be a strong indication that the project proponent, SMC Infrastructure, and its consultant, RHR Consulting

Services Inc., may not have carried out the Environmental Impact Assessment with the rigor, diligence and integrity that EMB and the Filipino people expect, as required in the DENR Administrative Order No. 2003-30 Sec 1.c," Jacolbia said.

"It may also constitute theft of intellectual property, malpractice and violation of professional codes that should be acted upon by DENR-EMB and other concerned agencies," he added.

The Intramuros Administration (IA) also informed the DENR-EMB that it was not consulted about the project prior to the public hearing last month.

"PAREx, if situated along the banks of the Pasig River adjacent to the boundaries of Intramuros, may affect the structural integrity as well as archeological excavations" of Intramuros Fortifications, Fort Santiago, Intendencia (Aduana) Building, Bureau of Immigration Building and National Press Club Building," the IA pointed out.

Thus, the IA said it was "imperative that the proponents diligently and truthfully conduct the required Heritage Impact Assessment and Archeological Impact Assessment," apart from the environmental impact assessment. INQ



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

Manila Standard



PAGE



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PAGE 1 STORY



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EDITORIAL



CARTOON

04-05-22

DATE

TITLE:

How to manage e-waste ...

PAGE

7/8



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TITLE:

PAGE

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UN to release handbook of climate change solutions for 'livable' future

UN CLIMATE experts are set to release what is expected to be the definitive guide to halting global warming on Monday, in a report that lays out how societies and economies must transform to ensure a "livable" future.

With war in Ukraine spurring an urgent energy rethink in the West, analysts say the latest report from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will also be an important resource for nations seeking a rapid transition away from Russian oil and gas.

In recent months the IPCC has published the first two instalments in a trilogy of mammoth scientific assessments covering how greenhouse gas pollution is heating the planet and what that means for life on Earth.

This third report will outline what to do about it.

But that answer has sweeping political ramifications as climate solutions touch on virtually all aspects of modern life – and require significant investment.

Two weeks of grueling negotiations have seen nearly 200 nations struggling to thrash out line-by-line a high-level "summary for policymakers" that distills the hundreds of pages of underlying

assessment.

That meeting was supposed to wrap up on Friday, but dragged on through the weekend. The IPCC assessment was originally due to be published publicly on Monday at 0900 GMT, but will now be released at 1500GMT.

"Everybody has something to lose and everybody has something to gain," said one person close to the process.

Easy answers are unlikely, with the IPCC expected to detail the need for transformational changes to energy generation and industry, as well as to cities, transportation and food systems.

To save the world from the worst ravages of climate change, the report is also expected to warn that slashing carbon dioxide pollution is no longer enough.

And technologies that are not yet operating to scale will need to be ramped up enormously to suck CO2 out of the atmosphere.

A 1.5C cap on global warming – the aspirational goal of the 2015 Paris climate accord – has been embraced as a target by most of the world's nations.

Barely 1.1C of warming so far has ushered in a devastating surge of deadly extreme weather across the globe.

UN chief Antonio Guterres warned last month that major economies are allowing carbon pollution to increase when drastic cuts are needed.

"We are sleepwalking to a climate catastrophe," he said.

In February, the IPCC report on past, present and future climate change impacts and vulnerabilities detailed what Guterres called an "atlas of human suffering." **AFP**



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PAGE

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Nearly entire global population breathing polluted air — WHO

A FULL 99 percent of people on Earth breathe air containing too many pollutants, the World Health Organization said Monday, blaming poor air quality for millions of deaths each year.

Fresh data from the UN health agency showed that every corner of the globe is dealing with air pollution, although the problem is much worse in poorer countries.

“Almost the entire global population (99 percent) breathes air that exceeds WHO air quality limits, and threatens their health,” the agency said in a statement.

In its previous report four years ago, WHO had already found that over 90 percent of the global population was affected, but it has since tightened its limits, it said.

“Every corner of the globe is dealing with air pollution, although the problem is much worse in poorer countries.”

“The evidence base for the harm caused by air pollution has been growing rapidly and points to significant harm caused by even low levels of many air pollutants,” WHO said.

While UN data last year indicated that pandemic lockdowns and travel restrictions caused short-lived improvements in air quality, WHO said air pollution remains a towering problem.

“After surviving a pandemic, it is unacceptable to still have seven million preventable deaths and countless preventable lost years of good health due to air pollution,” Maria Neira, the head of the WHO’s department of public health and environment, said in a statement.

WHO’s study provides air quality data from more than 6,000 cities and towns across 117 countries.

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ance of rapidly curbing fossil fuel use.

‘Healthier energy systems’

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“High fossil fuel prices, energy security, and the urgency of addressing the twin health challenges of air pollution and climate change, underscore the pressing need to move faster towards a world that is much less dependent on fossil fuels.”

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Out of the around 4,000 cities across 74 countries that collected NO2 data, measurements meanwhile showed only 23 percent of people breathed annual average concentrations of the gas that met levels in WHO’s recently updated guidelines. **AFP**



PPA HINAHARANG PAGKOLEKTA TULFO NG BASURA SA BARKO?

**TULFO
JUSTICE**



Ni ERWIN TULFO

USAP-USAPAN ngayon sa pier ang paghaharang daw ng Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) sa pagkolekta ng basura ng isang kumpanya sa isang barko ng US Navy na dum-aong kamakailan sa ating bayan.

Bali-balita din na umaal-ingasaw na raw ang ilang tonelada ng basura galing sa USS Abraham Lincoln na dumating sa bansa noong March 25, 2022 dahil ayaw umano pumayag ni PPA South Harbor Manager Eligio Fortajada na ilabas sa pier para itapon na ang nasabing basura ng contractor na Northstar Shipping and Marine Services Inc.

Kung tutuusin nakaka-hiya sa ating bisita itong nangyayari diyan ngayon sa South Harbor at pinag-a-gawan ang basura. Kung sabagay, may kasabihan nga

tayo na "may pera sa basura". Ang tanong, magkano kaya ang halaga ng basura ng mga Amerikanong sundalo at pinag-aawayan ng PPA at ng private contractor?

Base sa impormasyon na aking nakalap, kinuha ng US Navy ang Northstar Shipping and Marine Services Inc. ilang araw bago dumating ang USS Abraham Lincoln para kolekta-hin ang lahat ng basura ng naturang barko.

Ngunit, laking gulat na lamang daw ng Northstar dahil hinarang na ang kanilang mga trak ng PPA Police at ayaw na itong palabasin ng pier hanggat hindi ito nagpapakita ng Permit to Operate na galing sa PPA.

Pero ayon sa aking impormante, ilang beses daw sinubukan ng nasabing waste disposal company na mag-apply ng nasabing permit pero hindi raw ito inaaprubahan mismo ni PPA Manager Fortajada.

Ang dahilan daw ni Fortajada ay may accredited waste disposal contractor ang PPA base sa memo niya sa Northstar noong March 24, 2022.

Pero giit ng kumpanya hindi nila kasalanan dahil sila ang pinili ng mga Amerikano. Dagdag pa ng Northstar dapat bago pa

dumating ang barko ng US Navy ay sinabihan na ni Fortajada ang US Navy na may contractor sila na kukuha ng basura.

Dagdag pa ng aking impormant sa loob ng naturang ahensya, nakasaad sa PPA Administrative Order No. 09-2020 Section 8.83 o ang Implementing Guidelines on the Issuance of Permit to Operate na kapag port service providers, tulad nga ng Northstar Shipping and Marine Services Inc. hindi na kailangan mag-apply ng "permit to operate" sa pagkuha ng basura ng mga barko basta isang beses isang taon nya lang itong gawin.

Ilang sulat na raw ang pinadala ng kumpanya simula pa noong March 25 kay Fortajada para bigyan sila ng permit para mailabas na nila ang basura, ngunit nagmamatigas daw umano ang PPA Manager.

Ang problema ngayon mabaho at umaalingsaw na raw ang nasabing basura dahil hi di ito makalabas at mahigpit na binabantayan ngayon ng PPA police 24-7 pa raw. Aba'y hindi lang siguro may pera dyan sa basura na yan...

Sinubukan kontakin ng aking staff si Ginoong Fortajada pero wala ito sa kan-

yang tanggapan dahil nag-iinspeksyon daw ito sa pier.

Hindi ito ang umang report na natanggap ko hinggil sa problema sa PPA. Isang sumbong din ang nakarating sa akin nitong Pebrero lang na sobrang mahal daw ang singil sa arastre cargo handling ng isang contractor din ng PPA sa Leytenaman.

Nagrereklamo ang mga negosyante doon dahil tu-maas bigla ang singil sa kanila ng nasabing arastre company sa mga kargamento nilang mga asukal, bakal, at bigas bagama't bumabangon pa lamang sila dahil sa pandemya.

Ayon sa mga negosyante, mapipilitan silang ip-asa sa kanilang mga customer o konsumer ang dagdag singil ng contractor ng PPA sa Leyte pier para hindi sila malugi.

Inilapit ko na rin kay PPA General Manager Jay Santiago ang problema at nag-gako ito na sisilipin ang nasabing problema. Pero halos dalawang buwan na ang nakalipas wala pa ring aksyon si Santiago.

DOTR Sec. Art Tugade, ano po ba ang nangyayari diyan sa PPA? Mukhang-naghahanda na po ba sila ng pabaon para sa sarili dahil pababa na sila sa pwesto?

Tanong lamang Sir...



TITLE:

PAGE

Republic of the Philippines LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

09 March 2022 MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2022-Q4

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES FOR CARRYING OUT THE TADLAC LAKE MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN FORMULATED BY LLDA IN 2008 AND REVISED IN 2017...

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Tadlac Lake is one of the picturesque small lakes in the Laguna de Bay Region that is specifically located in Barangay Tadlac, Los Baños, Laguna at coordinates 14°11'14" to 14°12'50" north and 121°12'10.2" to 121°12'26.8" east...

The consequent improvement of the water quality of Tadlac Lake as a result of the ban on aquaculture structures lead to the recognition and appreciation of the potential of Tadlac Lake as one of the tourist destinations in the CALABARZON.

SECTION 2. Objective - These guidelines aim to ensure the balanced and sustainable use, management and development of Tadlac Lake Nature Park that is resilient and climate-proof in order to provide continuous livelihood opportunities to the stakeholders while protecting and conserving the lake's natural ecosystem for posterity.

SECTION 3. Scope and Coverage - These guidelines shall govern the entire water of Tadlac Lake including its legal easement, the tributary river that drain into it and the lands surrounding the lake delineated as the lake's basin.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- a. Access Lane refers to the ingress and egress passage with a width of 20 meters.
b. BPAR refers to Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.
c. Closed Season is the period when all fishing activities are banned in the lake.
d. Contact Recreation Zone refers to area of the lake which is intended for primary contact recreation such as bathing, swimming, and skin diving.

SECTION 5. ALLOWABLE USES OF THE LAKE WATER

- a. Fishing Zone. Open fishing zones shall be the areas enclosed by the Access Lane. This area is where swimming shall be undertaken on a regular basis and the species and number of fingerlings to be dispersed as well as the time and manner of dispersal shall be with prior approval of BPAR.
b. Sanctuary. The Sanctuary shall be located at the left side of the lake adjacent to the ridge with a total area of not less than 1 hectare and with the following coordinates: 14°10'55.087N to 14°11'01.587N to 121°12'14.572E to 121°12'19.111E.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES IN TADLAC LAKE

- a. Construction and operation of fish corrals, fish traps, fish pens and fish cages that do not have appropriate permit from LLDA.
b. Exploitation, production, breeding or culture of fish, fry or fingerlings of any fishery species or fishery products without permission from LLDA and BPAR.
c. Introduction and culture of invasive species.
d. Fishing within the designated fish sanctuary of the lake.

SECTION 7. REGULATION ON OPEN FISHING

- a. Open fishing shall be allowed to all community members of the barangays within the Tadlac Lake Basin including non-commercial/recreational fishing by tourists and visitors. Tourists and visitors shall pay for the harvested fish to the FARMC at an appropriate prescribed amount per kilogram.
b. The size and number of fish that shall be allowed to be harvested per visitor shall be prescribed by the FARMC in consultation with BPAR.

SECTION 8. MANAGEMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES

- a. Open and closed season for dwindling indigenous species in the lake shall be imposed to ensure their regeneration and perpetuity.
b. Feeding of fish in open lake water shall be strictly prohibited.

SECTION 9. WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The water quality of Tadlac Lake shall be maintained to or improved from its current status such that LLDA will continue the conduct of regular water quality sampling and monitoring. Results of the monitoring shall be disclosed to the stakeholders for information and guide to ensure the attainment of the objective for balanced and sustainable use, management and development of TLPN.

Monitoring shall be done by LLDA monthly for the 1st and 4th Quarters every June during the 2nd Quarter and every September during the 3rd Quarter of each year.

The parameters to be monitored shall include but not limited to the LGU for clearance and discussion with the Executive Committee of the TLPN Conservation Association to ensure that the proposed project is in accordance to the Zoning and Management Plan and within the carrying capacity prior to endorsement to LLDA for evaluation, approval, and issuance of permit, if required.

SECTION 10. ECOTOURISM AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE LAKE WATER

All proposed ecotourism and other recreational projects and activities in the water of Tadlac Lake proposed by private entity shall be submitted to the LGU for clearance and discussion with the Executive Committee of the TLPN Conservation Association to ensure that the proposed project is in accordance to the Zoning and Management Plan and within the carrying capacity prior to endorsement to LLDA for evaluation, approval, and issuance of permit, if required.

SECTION 11. REGULATION ON 20-METER LEGAL EASEMENT

- a. The 20 meters legal easement shall be determined in the map and shall be delineated on the ground using appropriate markers to serve as guide to all stakeholders.
b. The Sanggunian of Los Baños shall pass a resolution adopting the national policy on legal easement articulated in the Water Code of the Philippines (Presidential Decree No. 1067).
c. Only activities allowed by the State shall be undertaken within the legal easement as specified in Section 51 of PD 1067 which states that "The banks of rivers and streams and the shores of the seas and lakes throughout their entire length and within a zone of three (3) meters in urban areas, twenty (20) meters in agricultural areas and forty (40) meters in forest areas, along their margins, are subject to the easement of public use in the interest of recreation, navigation, floatage, fishing and salvage. No person shall be allowed to stay in this zone longer than what is necessary for recreation, navigation, floatage, fishing or salvage or to build structures of any kind".

SECTION 12. DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE TADLAC LAKE BASIN

The following are the guidelines for any development that shall be established beyond the lake's legal easement:

- a. All development projects should follow the existing protocols of acquiring permit from barangay, municipality, and LLDA and/or DENR.
b. Developments beyond the easement should blend with the natural environment and should conform with the existing Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) of the LGU.
c. Private developers should submit letter of intent and submit project proposal to the LGU for initial review of the Tadlac Lake Technical Working Group (TWWG) as to conformance to the guidelines prior to endorsement to LLDA for further assessment and approval.
d. All development projects related to Tadlac Lake Nature Park should be within the approved TLPN Master Development Plan and should benefit the local stakeholders of the concerned LGU particularly the marginalized members of the community.

SECTION 13. FINES AND PENALTIES

Violations to any of the provision of these policy guidelines shall be subjected to fines and penalties stipulated in all national policies and laws and their corresponding local ordinances promulgated by the municipal and barangay LGUs.

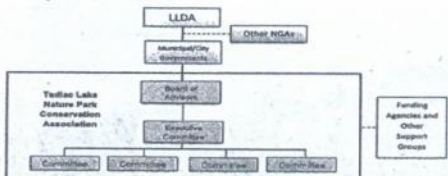
SECTION 14. WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RELATED REGULATIONS

To ensure that the lake can be protected from degradation and pollution, the LGUs particularly the barangays, shall conform strictly to the following: Republic Act 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2001), Republic Act 9275 (Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004), Republic Act 7279 (Urban and Housing Act of 1995) as amended by RA 10854, and other related ordinances and issuances.

The municipality and barangay LGUs shall issue ordinances adopting these laws for local enforcement and implementation.

SECTION 15. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

The organizational structure illustrated below shall be established to govern the implementation of the TLPN MDP which shall clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the key concerned entities.



a. Laguna Lake Development Authority - The LLDA shall be vested with management rights over the Tadlac Lake Nature Park and shall perform the following:

- Exercise overall regulatory control over Tadlac Lake Basin and enforce the same as stipulated in Republic Act No. 4850 as amended.
• Coordinate development, operation, and management matters among the various partners.
• Provide technical and legal advice on development planning and management.
• Provide seed money to the Lake Conservation Association.
• Assist in the generation of capital funds.
• Assist in developing marketing, business, and capacity building networks.
• Exercise water rights.
• Conduct regular water quality monitoring, and
• Monitor the implementation of programs, projects, and activities stipulated in the MDP.

b. Other Non-Government Agencies shall include all relevant national government agencies which can contribute technical, legal, financial and logistical support and assistance in the fulfillment of the plans, strategies, programs and projects for the protection and conservation of the Tadlac Lake and its basin.

c. Municipality/Barangay - Vested with co-management rights over the Tadlac Lake Basin and shall perform the following mandates:

- Exercise overall regulatory control over Tadlac Lake Basin and enforce the same as stipulated in Republic Act No. 7160.
• Coordinate development, operation and management matters among the various partners.

- Provide technical and legal advice on development planning and management.
• Provide capital funds for the identified projects and other related activities.
• Assist in developing marketing, business and capacity building networks.
• Enforce relevant environmental laws.
• Maintain peace and order in the basin particularly in the ecotourism area, and
• Monitor the implementation of programs, projects, and activities stipulated in the MDP.

d. Advisory Board - The Advisory Board shall approve policies, plans and programs for the Tadlac Lake including proposed projects that shall be initiated by both public and private entities.

The composition of the Advisory Board shall be the heads or duly authorize representative of the following entities:

- Laguna Lake Development Authority
• Provincial Government of Laguna
• Municipal Government of Los Baños
• Designated NGO/Private Entity
• Los Baños FARMC

Once the Advisory Board is officially convened, election of the Chairperson and Secretary of the Board shall then be held from among the members.

The meeting of the Advisory Board shall be held at least once a year and whenever there is a policy, plan or program that needs to be approved and ratified immediately.

e. Conservation Association - The Lake Conservation Association (LCA) shall be the implementing body of the approved policies, plans and programs for the sustainable use, management and development of Tadlac Lake and its basin.

The members of the LCA shall come from active and committed representatives of the various stakeholder groups such as but not limited to the following institutions, entities, and organizations:

- Laguna Lake Development Authority
• Provincial Government of Laguna
• Municipal Government of Los Baños, Laguna
• Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office - Los Baños
• Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region IV-A
• Tadlac Lake FARMC
• Barangay Tadlac
• Civil Society Organizations
• Association of Property Owners in Tadlac Lake

Any willing entity that has the same protection and conservation goals for the lake can be a member of the LCA.

The key roles of the Lake Conservation Association shall be the following:

- Implement programs, projects and activities prescribed in the MDP.
• Implement policies promulgated by the LLDA, the Municipal Government, and the barangay.
• Recommend actions and policies for consideration of LGU, LLDA and other government agencies, and
• Generate funds for the operationalization of the TLPN MDP.

f. Executive Committee - The existing Technical Working Group which LLDA currently serves as the Secretariat shall be formally organized into LCA once sentiment of organizational stability through approved guidelines and operational protocols has been attained. An Executive Committee composed of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Chairpersons of the various operational committees shall then be elected.

The meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held quarterly or as needed.

g. Operational Committees - Various operational committees shall be created to perform specific tasks and responsibilities inherent for any community-based lake basin organization to sustain its operation such as but not limited to the following: Ecotourism Development, Fishery and Aquatic Resources Management, Health and Environmental Protection, Resource Generation and Management, Capacity Building, and Marketing and Promotion. The Operational Committees shall be in charge of executing different concerns of the association that shall contribute in achieving its goals and purposes.

The Fishery and Aquatic Resources Management Council shall handle all fishery and aquatic resources management concerns as stipulated in Republic Act 8550 as amended.

Community Organizations in the lake basin that are duly recognized by the LGUs and LLDA shall be delegated to manage ecotourism and livelihood development activities.

b. Funding Institutions and Other Support Groups shall assist in providing required funding of the various programs, projects, and activities as well as research/audit needs identified in the MDP.

SECTION 16. FUND SOURCES, DISBURSEMENT AND MANAGEMENT, AN SHARING SCHEME

a. Fund Sources - Funds for the implementation of MDP can come but not limited to the following:

- LGU Funds,
• Seed Money from LLDA when legally permissible,
• Grants, donations and gifts from private entities, philanthropists, National Government Agencies (NGAs), bi-lateral and multi-lateral funding institutions, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and environmental foundations.
• Loans from government and commercial banks, local and international lending institutions.
• Fees and charges for the use of Tadlac Lake resources, and
• Marketing of goods and services.

b. Disbursement and Management

The LCA shall establish its own independent accounting records. This is to ensure that revenues that shall be gained from the operation of ecotourism business-related activities are properly utilized for the operation and maintenance of the TLPN. A separate charge against the business shall be recorded and accounted for in a proper book of accounts, which shall be maintained by the accounting unit that will be established.

The revenues that will be obtained from income-generating activities shall be used for the purpose of implementing livelihood, infrastructure and/or environment development projects within Tadlac Lake Basin that are aligned with the intents of the MDP. The allocation and disposition of these funds shall be monitored by the Executive Committee.

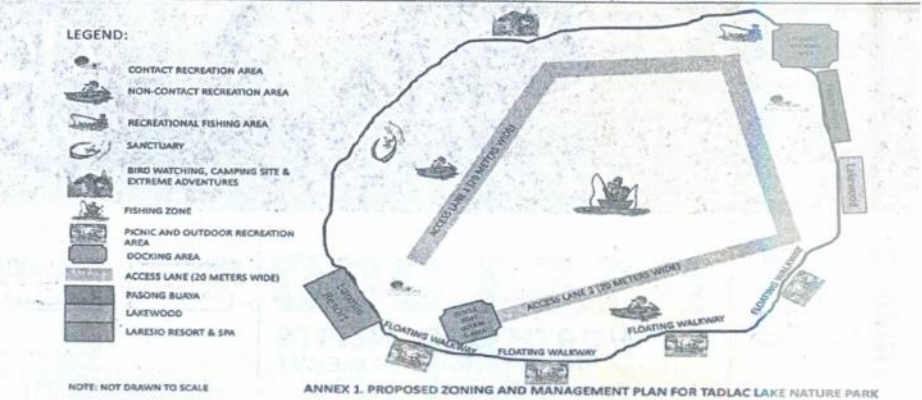
c. Sharing Scheme

Sharing scheme from the net income from all the ecotourism business-related activities of the TLPN LCA shall be proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Advisory Board once the LCA already gained stability in its operation.

SECTION 17. EFFECTIVITY

This Circular shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon registration to the Office of National Administrative Registrar (ONAR) UP Law Center, Diliman, Quezon City.

JAMES C. MEDINA General Manager



ANNEX 1. PROPOSED ZONING AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TADLAC LAKE NATURE PARK



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
Regional Office No. VII
Greenplains Subd., Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu 6014
Tel No. (+63 32) 344-3047 / 343-8557 / 344 3046 / 346-1689 / 346 2275;
Fax No. (+63 32) 346-9176 / 236 1139;
E-mail: region7@mgb.gov.ph

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF MIDAN CORPORATION
FOR EXPLORATION PERMIT**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 21 of Department Order No. 2010-21 (Providing For A Consolidated Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order For The Implementing Rules And Regulations Of Republic Act No. 7942, Otherwise Known As The "Philippine Mining Act Of 1995"), that **MIDAN CORPORATION** with office address at **18E Fort Palm Spring, 30th Street Corner 1st Avenue, Bonifacio Global, Taguig City, Metro Manila** has filed an Exploration Permit application, for the exploration of **limestone, gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, molybdenum, and other minerals** and particularly described as follows:

- I. Application Number : **EXPA-000223-VII**
- II. Date of Filing : **February 03, 2020**
- III. Area Location
 - Barangays : **Actin and Nagbo-Alao**
 - Municipality : **Basay**
 - Province : **Negros Oriental**

IV. Technical Description of the Area *#

CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
1	9	23	00.00	122	40	30.00
2	9	23	30.00	122	40	30.00
3	9	23	30.00	122	40	00.00
4	9	24	00.00	122	40	00.00
5	9	24	00.00	122	39	30.00
6	9	24	30.00	122	39	30.00
7	9	24	30.00	122	40	30.00
8	9	24	00.00	122	40	30.00
9	9	24	00.00	122	41	30.00
10	9	23	00.00	122	41	00.00

Total area = **590.4446 hectares**

* **Exceptions:** The Applied Area shall be subject to Section 19 of RA 7942 and Section 15 ("Areas Closed to Mining Locations") and Section 16 ("Ancestral Lands"), of DENR Administrative Order No. 96-40, Series of 1996. Among other things:

- a) The following shall be closed to mining locations: areas with valid and existing mining rights; existing mining applications; and areas expressly prohibited by law;
- b) The following shall also be closed to mining locations except upon written consent of the concerned government agency or private entity subject to the evaluation and validation by the Bureau: areas near or under public or private buildings, cemeteries, archaeological and historical sites, bridges, highways, waterways, railroads, reservoirs, dams or other infrastructure projects, public or private works including plantations or valuable crops.
- c) Applications for mineral agreement or financial or technical assistance agreements covering: small scale mining areas; civil or military reservations; areas covered by Certificate of Ancestral Domain claims; or areas of ancestral land as may be defined by law shall require prior written consent of concerned individuals, groups or other government agencies having jurisdiction over the area(s) applied for.

Note: The Notice must be accompanied by a map/sketch plan with index map showing the nearest municipality(ies) and any major environmental feature(s).

V. Size of the Area – **590.4446** hectares

VI. Duration of the Permit

The permit shall be for a period not exceeding two (2) years from date of issuance, renewable for a term of two (2) years each but in no case shall the total exceed six (6) years.

VII. Extent of Operation to be Undertaken

Exploration [Reconnaissance/Regional Survey, Semi-Detailed to Detailed Geological and Geochemical Survey, Topographic Survey, Subsurface Investigation (Test Pitting, Trenching & Drilling) of limestone, gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, molybdenum, and other minerals.

Any and all persons having adverse claims, protests and/or opposition to the above mentioned application(s) are hereby notified that their adverse claims should be filed directly within ten (10) days from the date of publication or from the last date of posting/radio announcement, with the Regional Office or through any Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) or Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) concerned of the DENR for filing in the Regional Office concerned for purposes of its resolution by the Panel of Arbitrators pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act 7942 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. Adverse claims, protests or oppositions should be accomplished in accordance with Sections 203 and 204 of Department Order No. 2010-21 (Providing For A Consolidated Department of Environment And Natural Resources Administrative Order For The Implementing Rules And Regulations Of Republic Act No. 7942, Otherwise Known As The "Philippine Mining Act Of 1995"), and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the applicant by the adverse claimant.

For further particulars, apply or course your inquiries to the Regional Director, Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Regional Office No. VII, Greenplains Subdivision, Banilad, Mandaue City, Philippines.

ARMANDO L. MALICSE
Regional Director

Encl. At

- The Acting Director
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
- The Honorable Governor
Province of Negros Oriental
- Mr. Hyun-gang Cho
President
Midan Corporation
18E Fort Palm Spring, 30th St., cor. 1st Ave.
Bonifacio Global Taguig City, Metro Manila
- The Municipal Mayor
Basay, Negros Oriental
- The Honorable Barangay
Captain
Actin, Basay, Negros Oriental
- The Honorable Barangay
Captain
Nagbo-Alao, Basay, Negros Oriental

MT - Apr. 5 & 12, 2022

05 APRIL 2022, TUESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DILG chief eyes Alert Level 1 status for entire PH

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan [April 4, 2022, 7:31 pm](#)



DILG Secretary Eduardo Año (File photo)

MANILA – Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año pushed for the placing of the entire country under Alert Level 1 to expedite economic recovery amid the coronavirus pandemic.

“Yes, *'yun ang ating adhikain d'yan. Dapat buong Pilipinas* under Alert Level 1 *para talagang halos ang ating restriction na lang ay minimum public health standards at ang iba't ibang bayan ay umunlad at mag-take off na* (Yes, that is what I am striving for. The whole country should be under Alert Level 1 so that almost all of our restrictions are limited only to the minimum public health standards and various localities will progress and take off),” Año said in a radio interview on Monday.

He also noted that the government has made adjustments to the requirements to place an area under Alert Level 1 like the required vaccination rate of the A2 (senior citizens) population from the previous 80 percent to the current 70 percent.

“We should get vaccinated so that even if we have another case surge, we are ready to face it. Anyway, vaccines are free and proven to be safe and effective, what we need to do, and the information campaigns of our LGUs (local government units) must be continuous, as well as strategic communication and providing incentives to encourage those unvaccinated to get vaccinated,” he added.

He added that municipalities now can also be placed under Alert Level 1 based on the healthcare utilization rate of their province.

Earlier, Año believed that Metro Manila and many other areas will be placed under Alert Level 1 until June after these locations were downshifted to the most relaxed health restriction against the pandemic from April 1 to 15.

The DILG chief reasoned out that this is due to the steady decline in the Covid-19 active cases in the country but at the same time warned the people never to be complacent emphasizing them to still strictly adhere to the minimum public health standards.

Comparing the data from March 21 to 27 to the previous week, Año pointed to the 24 percent decline of Covid-19 active cases, describing these as good numbers that he hopes will place the whole country under Alert Level 1.



In a press briefing in Camp Crame, Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Dionardo Carlos backed Año's remarks, saying they are now focused on securing travelers ahead of the Holy Week break as travel restrictions have been eased.

"Ahead of the traditional Holy Week retreat next week that is the highlight of the three-month summer vacation season, the PNP is directing focus to public safety and enhanced law enforcement operations to ensure safe and secure national observance of the Holy Week. These public safety operations shall also cover enhanced police visibility and preventive patrols in Islamic communities and places of worship to ensure the peaceful and orderly celebration of the Holy Month of Ramadhan that began over the weekend," Carlos said.

This came as the PNP anticipates an increased volume of passenger traffic in public transportation hubs, seaports, and domestic air terminals across the country.

Carlos said police assistance centers and road safety marshals will be deployed along national highways to assist motorists.

'Ayuda' payout suspended

Meanwhile, Año warned that candidates giving cash to their constituents supposedly under the guise of financial aid will face legal action.

"*Wala na tayong ayuda ngayon ano. Pinagbawal na natin yung mga pagbibigay ng ayuda except yung program ng DSWD (Department of Social Welfare and Development) na pinayagan ng Comelec (Commission on Elections) (We do not distribute ayuda right now. Ayuda distribution is prohibited except the DSWD programs allowed by Comelec),*" Año said.

He also cautioned local government unit (LGUs) officials against the use of their resources like government vehicles in bringing supporters to any campaign sorties of the political aspirants.

"We already gave a warning and issued an advisory and memorandum to all LGUs that their resources and equipment cannot be used for campaigning. That is prohibited so we teamed up with the Comelec that they will be in charge for Omnibus Election Code violations while the DILG will deal with the administrative case," he added.

The DILG chief also admitted having received reports of provincial local officials using public resources to print campaign materials like tarpaulins shown through social media.

"*Merong namang ginagawang kaukulan (action) 'yung ating Comelec at ang ating law enforcement (authorities) natin ano. Patuloy nating babantayan yung mga ganyan (incidents) at hinihiling din natin sa ating kababayan na anumang makikita natin o observation na (election) violation, ipagbigay alam kaagad sa pinakamalapit na authorities (Our Comelec and law enforcement authorities are taking appropriate actions. We will continue to be on guard against these incidents and we appeal to our countrymen to immediately report any election violations to the authorities),*" Año said.

Año noted that each locality has an election campaign committee up to the municipal level for the expeditious transmittal of election-related complaints to authorities. (PNA)



DOH binabantayan banta ng 'mas nakahahawang' Omicron XE sa Thailand

By [James Relativo](#)(Philstar.com) - April 4, 2022 - 5:56pm



People walk past vegetables on sale at a market in Quezon city, suburban Manila on January 27, 2022.

MANILA, Philippines — Pinapayuhan ngayon ng Department of Health (DOH) ang publiko na patuloy sa pagpabakuna laban sa COVID-19 ngayong namataan na ang Omicron XE — na kinatatakutang "pinakanakahawang COVID-19 variant" sa ngayon — sa Bangkok, Thailand.

Ika-29 lang ng Marso nang [magbabala](#) ang World Health Organization (WHO) patungkol sa XE recombinant (BA.1-BA.2) ng Omicron variant, na siyang unang na-detect sa United Kingdom.

"The Department of Health (DOH) is in constant coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the reported 'Omicron XE' detected in Bangkok, Thailand," ayon sa DOH, Lunes.

"Observation and monitoring are still ongoing on whether the variant would be categorized as a sub-variant of Omicron or a new variant to be named by WHO should it display any significant change in characteristics."

Patuloy naman daw mino-monitor ng DOH, sa tulong ng Philippine Genome Center, ang case trends at nagsasagawa ng genomic surveillance activities sa gitna ng bago at existing variants.

Ipinagpapatuloy naman daw nilang ipatutupad ang 4-door strategy ng gobyerno para mapigilan ang inisyal na pagpasok ng mga variants sa bansa.

"In this light, the DOH reminds the public that vaccines, in addition to adhering to the minimum public health standards and now more importantly, everyone, especially our elderly, the immunocompromised, those with comorbidities, and children are highly encouraged to get vaccinated and boosted," sabi pa ng Kagawan ng Kalusugan.

'Mas nakakahawa pa sa karaniwang Omicron'

Ayon sa WHO, posibleng mas nakahahawang pa sa nakahahawa na ngang BA.2 variant ng Omicron, ang Omicron XE.

Tinagurian ang BA.2 bilang "Stealth Omicron" dahil sa katangian nitong mas mahirap ma-detect. Una nang sinabi ni Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire na pinakakaraniwan ito sa local cases sa bawat rehiyon.

"Early-day estimates indicate a community growth rate advantage of ~10% as compared to BA.2, however this finding requires further confirmation," ayon sa WHO noong nakaraang buwan.



"XE belongs to the Omicron variant until significant differences in transmission and disease characteristics, including severity, may be reported."

Disyembre nang bumaba sa halos 500 lang ang kaso ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas, ngunit tumaas ito papunta sa record-high noong Enero matapos makapasok ang Omicron variant.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



National COVID-19 Case Bulletin

April 4, 2022

Official DOHgov
@DOHgovph

Healthcare Utilization

(as of April 3, 2022)

16.7%
Non-ICU Bed Utilization
4,230 out of 25,340 non-ICU beds used

16.5%
ICU Bed Utilization
492 out of 2,990 ICU beds used

692
Severe and Critical Admissions
11.9% of total COVID-19 admissions

Vaccination Accomplishment

(as of April 3, 2022)

73.47%
% Coverage of Target Population*

75.83%
% Coverage of Target A2 Population**

Fully Vaccinated Individuals
66,125,962
+485,128 vaccinated on Mar 28 to Apr 3

Individuals with Booster/Additional Dose
12,154,567
+329,164 vaccinated on Mar 28 to Apr 3

(added on Mar 28 to Apr 3)



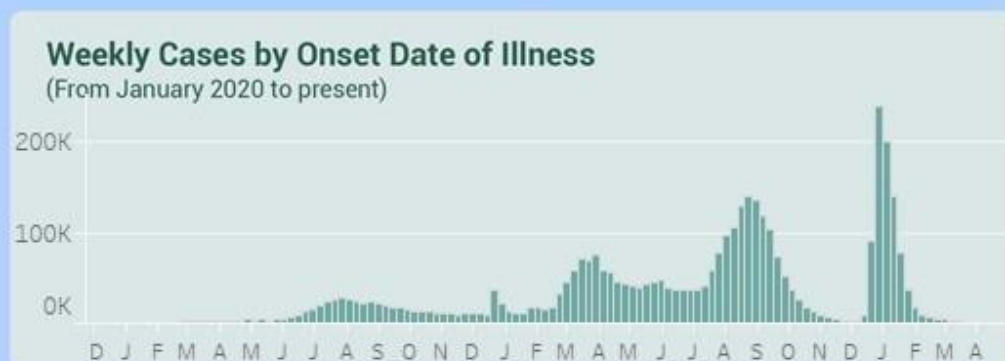
COVID-19 Cases

(as of April 3, 2022)

New Cases
+2,679
Daily Average Cases = 382
(2% lower than cases on Mar 21 to Mar 27)

New Severe and Critical Cases
+1
(0.04% of new cases)

Deaths Verified During The Past Week
+329



*Target population refers to 80% of the total population (90,005,357 individuals)
**Target A2 population refers to 85% of the total Senior Citizen population (8,721,357 individuals)

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

For health concerns and emergencies, you may access here the DOH hospital hotlines across the country:

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

• 1555 • 0915-777-7777
• 02-886-505-00 • 0919-977-3333

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

SeeYouDoc
✉ seeyoudoc.com
📞 SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD
✉ konsulta.md
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CloudPx
✉ cloudpx.ph/

Telimed and Medgate
✉ medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase

MedCheck
✉ medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/SeeYouDoc

TelAventusMD
✉ TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
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May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?
I-chat na sa KIRA!
VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH
KONTRACOVDPH: kontracovid.ph

05 APRIL 2022, TUESDAY



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




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




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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone
[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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