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# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



## Owners of sunken vessel to take full responsibility for Misamis oil spill-DENR

Published April 26, 2021, 5:10 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

Owners of the sunken MV Racal IV will take full responsibility for the oil spill in Misamis Oriental, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) assured on Monday, April 26.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) in Region 10 (Northern Mindanao) has held a meeting with the shipowners to demand them to shoulder the full cost of damages brought about by the incident that took place last April 3.

"The incident should serve as a lesson for business owners to take full responsibility for the damages brought about by their operations near the country's rich ecosystems," Cimatu said, citing the report EMB-Region 10 Director Reynaldo Digamo submitted to the DENR Central Office.

Digamo oversaw the meeting with vessel owners Sherwin Doctora and Lord Sanny Salvaña on April 13. It was also attended by representatives of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the local government of Jasaan.

"It was agreed upon in the meeting that the owners should compensate all the expenses, including the cleanup activities, as well as the transportation of the contaminated debris to the accredited treatment, storage, and disposal facility," Digamo said in his report.

He emphasized that the owners should also be accountable for the environmental damage the incident has caused as well as the lost opportunity suffered by the fishermen and other stakeholders.

The EMB-Region 10 has also conducted ambient water sampling in the five affected barangays namely, Lower Jasaan, Upper Jasaan, Luz Banzon, Kimaya, and Solana, to assess the water quality.

The test results showed that the concentrations of ammonia, color, dissolved oxygen, nitrates, oil and grease, pH, phosphates, and total suspended solids and temperature were all within the Water Quality Guidelines for Class SC Water pursuant to DENR Administrative Order 2016-08.

Class SC water body includes Fishery Water Class III, which is intended for the propagation and growth of fish and other aquatic resources, as well as for commercial and sustenance fishing.

"We commend the people behind this successful dialogue with our stakeholders to ensure that the oil spill will be controlled and thoroughly cleaned to protect our vast oceans and seas," Cimatu said.

As of its April 6 report, the PCG said it has recovered approximately 80 percent of the oil spillage including oil-contaminated debris and materials along the shorelines of the affected areas.

They deemed the situation as "under control."

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/04/26/title-137/>



## DENR: May-ari ng cargo vessel aakuin ang responsibilidad sa Misamis Oriental oil spill



April 26, 2021 @ 4:12 PM 14 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Dahil sa naganap na oil spill tiniyak ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na aakuin ang responsibilidad ng may-ari ng MV Racal IV na lumabog sa Jasaan, Misamis Oriental na nagresulta ng oil spill nitong Abril 3.

Ayon kay Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, nakipagpulong na ang Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Region 10 (Northern Mindanao) sa may-ari ng lumubog na barko upang akuin ang gagastusin sa naganap na insidente.

“The incident should serve as a lesson for business owners to take full responsibility for the damages brought about by their operations near the country’s rich ecosystems,” saad ni Cimatu batay na rin sa ulat ni EMB-Region 10 Director Reynaldo Digamo na isinumite sa DENR Central Office.

Ayon sa DENR nitong Abril 13 ay nakipagpulong si Digamo sa mga may-ari ng sasakyan na sina Sherwin Doctora at Lord Sanny Salvaña kasama ang Philippine Coast Guard at local government unit ng Jasaan.

“It was agreed upon in the meeting that the owners should compensate all the expenses, including the cleanup activities, as well as the transportation of the contaminated debris to the accredited treatment, storage, and disposal facility,” nakasaad sa ulat ni Digamo.



## DENR: May-ari ng cargo vessel aakuin ang responsibilidad sa Misamis Oriental oil spill

Ayon pa sa ulat, binigyang-diin ni Digamo na sasagutin ng mga may-ari ang environmental damage sa insidente partikular na ang epekto nito sa mga mangingisda at iba pang stakeholders na naperwisyo.

Kaugnay nito nagsagawa na rin ang EMB-Region 10 ng water sampling sa paligid ng limang apektadong barangay— Lower Jasaan, Upper Jasaan, Luz Banzon, Kimaya at Solana upang masuri ang water quality kabilang na rito ang dissolved oxygen, oil at grease, pH at temperature bilang parametro.

Batay na rin sa resulta, “concentrations of ammonia, color, dissolved oxygen, nitrates, oil and grease, pH, phosphates and total suspended solids and temperature are all within the Water Quality Guidelines for Class SC Water pursuant to DENR Administrative Order 2016-08.”

Kabilang sa Class SC water body ang Fishery Water Class III na “intended for the propagation and growth of fish and other aquatic resources and intended for commercial and sustenance fishing.”

“We commend the people behind this successful dialogue with our stakeholders to ensure that the oil spill will be controlled and thoroughly cleaned to protect our vast oceans and seas,” sabi pa ni Cimatú.

Batay pa sa ulat ng PCG noong Abril 6, nakolekta na nila ang 80 percent ng oil spill kabilang na rito ang oil-contaminated debris at materials sa kahabaan ng mga baybayin ng mga apektadong lugar at idineklara nito na ang situwasyon ay “already under control.” *Santi Celario*



## MV 'Racal IV' Owners Assume Full Responsibility For Misamis Oriental Oil Spill



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

APRIL 26, 2021

2 MINUTE READ

The owners of the MV *Racal IV* that sank in the waters of Jasaan will take full responsibility for the oil spill in Misamis Oriental last April 3, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatú said.

In a news statement issued on Monday, Cimatú said the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) in Region 10 (Northern Mindanao) has held a meeting with the ship owners to discuss the damages brought about by the incident to the environment.

"The incident should serve as a lesson for business owners to take full responsibility for the damages brought about by their operations near the country's rich ecosystems," Cimatú said, citing a report from EMB-Region 10 Director Reynaldo Digamo submitted to the DENR Central Office.

Digamo held the meeting with vessel owners Sherwin Doctora and Lord Sanny Salvaña, together with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the local government of Jasaan last April 13.

"It was agreed upon in the meeting that the owners should shoulder all the expenses, including the cleanup activities, as well as the transportation of the contaminated debris to the accredited treatment, storage, and disposal facility," Digamo said in his report.

Digamo also emphasized in his report that the owners should be held accountable for the environmental damage caused by the incident, including the income opportunity lost on the part of the fishermen and other stakeholders affected by the oil spill which has adversely affected five barangays.

The EMB-Region 10 has conducted ambient water sampling in the affected areas, Lower Jasaan, Upper Jasaan, Luz Banzon, Kimaya, and Solana, to assess the water quality, which includes dissolved oxygen, oil and grease with pH, and temperature as parameters.

Based on the initial test results, it showed that the concentrations of ammonia, color, dissolved oxygen, nitrates, oil and grease, pH, phosphates, and total suspended solids and temperature are all within the Water Quality Guidelines for Class SC Water pursuant to DENR Administrative Order 2016-08.

Class SC water body includes Fishery Water Class III, which is intended for the propagation and growth of fish and other aquatic resources, and intended for commercial and sustenance fishing.

"We commend the people behind this successful dialogue with our stakeholders to ensure that the oil spill will be controlled and thoroughly cleaned to protect our vast oceans and seas," Cimatú said.

As of its April 6 report, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) said it has recovered approximately 80 percent of the oil spill including oil-contaminated debris and materials along the shorelines of the affected areas, declaring that the situation is "already under control." 30

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/04/26/mv-racal-iv-owners-assume-full-responsibility-for-misamis-oriental-oil-spill/>



## DENR bans vessels docking in Manila Bay

posted April 26, 2021 at 11:50 pm

by [Rio N. Araja](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has banned all vessels, except cargoes, within two kilometers from the shoreline of Manila Bay to prevent further water pollution.

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu said vessels crossing the two-kilometer periphery shall be penalized.

He said only vessels delivering sand would be allowed to dock near the bay's shoreline following a spill of liquid waste in the area of the Manila Yacht Club from m/v Sarangani.

Meanwhile, Cimatu assured the public that the owners of the m/v Racal IV that sank off the town of Jasaan would take full responsibility for the oil spill incident in Misamis Oriental last April 3.

The DENR's Environmental Management Bureau in Northern Mindanao has already demanded the shipowners to foot the full cost of damages brought about by the incident.

"The incident should serve as a lesson for business owners to take full responsibility for the damages brought about by their operations near the country's rich ecosystems," Cimatu said.

Reynaldo Digamo, EMB region director, met with vessel owners

Sherwin Doctora and Lord Sanny Salvaña, along with the Philippine Coast Guard and the local government of Jasaan.

"It was agreed upon in the meeting that the owners should

compensate all the expenses, including the cleanup activities, as well as the transportation of the contaminated debris to the accredited treatment, storage, and disposal facility," Digamo said in his report.

Topics: [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) , [DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu](#) , [Manila Bay](#)



## DENR, 'di na pinayagang dumaong ang mga vessel na may layong 2 kms sa Manila Bay shoreline dahil sa liquid waste

By [Bombo Jerald Ulep](#)

-April 26, 2021 | 8:29 PM

Inabisuhan na ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu ang lahat ng mga vessels na bawal nang maglayag sa shoreline ng Manila Bay sa layong dalawang kilometro.

Kasunod na rin ito ng namataang liquid waste sa Manila Bay malapit sa Manila Yacht Club na patuloy pa ring inimbestigahan ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)).

Pero ayon kay Cimatu, hindi naman daw kasali rito ang mga cargo vessels.

Ang hakbang na ito ng DENR ay para mapigilan ang polusyon sa marine life.

Nagbabala si Cimatu na ang lahat ng mga vessels na lalagpas sa 2-kilometer periphery ay otomatikong mamumultahan.

Ang mga vessels lang daw na nagde-deliver ng buhangin ang pinapayagang dumaong sa shoreline.

Ayon sa DENR sa ngayon nasa 500 meters hanggang isang kilometro ng Manila Bay waters ang nag-iba na ang kulay ng tubig matapos daw nag-discharge ang isang vessel ng kanilang used water mula sa kanilang cooling system.

Isinailalim na rin sa pagsusuri ang water samples para malaman kung mayroong pollution-causing components sa discharged wastewater.

Una rito, sinabi ni Marine Environmental Protection Group (MEPGRP)-Manila at ng PCG Sub-Station CCP, ang suspected vessel na MV Sarangani umano galing ang liquid waste.

Sa ocular inspection, natuklasan PCG na ang pinagmulan ng liquid waste ay ang cooling system ng MV Sarangani.

Nakakolekta na rin ng samples ang team at nag isyu na ito ng Inspection Apprehension Report (IAR) sa may-ari ng MV Sarangani na si Emil Neri.

Partikular na nilalaman ng report ang paglabag nito sa PCG Memorandum Circular Number 01-2005 Paragraph 4 ng marine pollution.

Source: <https://www.bomboradyo.com/denr-di-na-pinayagang-dumaong-ang-mga-vessel-na-may-layong-2-kms-sa-manila-bay-shoreline-dahil-sa-liquid-waste/>



## DENR investigates possible oil spill in Manila Bay

By: [Cathrine Gonzales](#) - Reporter / [@cgonzalesINQ](#)  
[INQUIRER.net](#) / 01:05 PM April 26, 2021



The water of Manila Bay at the portion of Mall of Asia in Pasay City amid the enhanced community quarantine in 2020. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO / RICHARD A. REYES

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and authorities in the Manila City local government unit are investigating a possible oil spill in Manila Bay.

According to a report from Manila's Department of Public Services (DPS) dated Monday, they had observed a possible oil spill activity while they were conducting regular clean-up along the shoreline of Manila Bay in Roxas Boulevard on Saturday.

"Yellow stains can be seen in the water surrounding a yacht moored beside the sea wall of the Manila Yacht Club," the DPS said in its report.

The DPS said the Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) then conducted an ocular inspection at the area together with the Philippine Coast Guard and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

According to DENR, the possible oil spill spread about 500 meters. The DENR also took samples of the water which were sent to the Environmental Management Bureau to determine if it was contaminated with oil.

Following the incident, the DPS noted that "spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping oil and gas, ballast water and other wastes from any marine vessel or fishing boat using, in transient or navigating its waters are prohibited" under the Manila City Ordinance No. 8371 or the Environmental Code of the City of the Manila.





## DENR investigates possible oil spill in Manila Bay

Violation of the ordinance could lead to a penalty of P600 for first offense, or it can lead to closure of the concerned establishment and revocation of business permit on the fourth offense, according to DPS.

The DPS said it is coordinating with the DENR-MBCO regarding the detailed report on the result of water quality analysis on samples taken from the bay.

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1423822/denr-investigates-possible-oil-spill-in-manila-bay#ixzz6tBCdOFmv>

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## DENR investigates oil spill off Manila Bay

[April 26, 2021](#) 1 min read



Staff from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shows off jars of water samples collected Monday (26 April 2021) from Manila Bay as part of an investigation over a reported oil spill coming from a cargo ship moored near the Manila Yacht Club. (Jhun Mabanag/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/AI/MTVN)



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/2165747740135352/posts/4050045261705581/?app=fbl>



## DENR, Manila probe possible oil spill in Manila Bay

By Marita Moaje April 26, 2021, 1:29 pm



**OIL LEAK.** A Philippine Coast Guard staff checks on a liquid spill off Manila Bay near the Manila Yacht Club, on Sunday (April 25, 2021). The suspect vessel, M/V Sarangani, has been issued an Inspection Apprehension Report, through its owner, Emil Neri. *(Photo courtesy of PCG Facebook)*

MANILA – The Manila City government and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Manila Bay Coordinating Office (DENR-MBCO) are investigating a possible oil spill in Manila Bay.

A report sent by Department of Public Service (DPS) officer-in-charge Kenneth Amurao to Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso stated that on Saturday, a possible oil spill activity was observed during the conduct of a regular cleanup along the shoreline of Manila Bay in Roxas Boulevard.

DPS is still waiting for a detailed report on the result of the water quality analysis by the DENR-MBCO.

“Yellow stains can be seen in the water surrounding a yacht moored beside the sea wall of the Manila Yacht Club,” the DPS report stated.

Immediately, an ocular inspection was launched by the DENR-MBCO together with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

Amurao said the DENR took samples of the water and sent them to the Environmental Management Bureau.

The oil spill has spread to about 500 meters in the area, according to the DENR.

The PCG posted on Facebook Monday that its Marine Environmental Protection Group–Manila and sub-station at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex inspected suspected vessel, M/V Sarangani, on Sunday and found out that the only crew member on board was oiler Escolastico Bunyi, who also served as caretaker.



## DENR, Manila probe possible oil spill in Manila Bay

The PCG discovered that the source of the liquid waste was the cooling system of M/V Sarangani and issued an Inspection Apprehension Report to its owner, Emil Neri, for violating marine pollution ordinances.

“Spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping oil and gas, ballast water and other wastes from any marine vessel or fishing boat using, in transient or navigating its waters are prohibited,” according to Section 3A of City Ordinance No. 8371 or the Environmental Code of the City of Manila, Article III-Marine and Freshwater Resources.

Violation of the ordinance could lead to the closure of the establishment and revocation of the business permit. (PNA)



## DENR, Manila LGU investigate possible oil spill in Manila Bay

April 26, 2021 3:34 PM by [Christhel Cuazon](#)



A possible 'oil spill' from a ship in Manila Bay (Photo courtesy: Philippine Coast Guard/Facebook)

The local government of Manila and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Manila Bay Coordinating Office (DENR-MBCO) are currently investigating the possible oil spill in Manila Bay.

In a report dated Monday from the Department of Public Services (DPS), a possible oil spill activity was observed during the conduct of a regular cleanup along the shoreline of Manila Bay in Roxas Boulevard on Saturday, April 24.

"Yellow stains can be seen in the water surrounding a yacht moored beside the sea wall of the Manila Yacht Club," the DPS report stated.

The report stated that the Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) then conducted an ocular inspection at the area together with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

The oil spill has spread to about 500 meters in the area, according to the DENR. The agency also took samples of the water which were sent to the Environmental Management Bureau to determine if it was contaminated with oil.

Following the incident, the DPS noted that "spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping oil and gas, ballast water and other wastes from any marine vessel or fishing boat using, in transient or navigating its waters are prohibited" under the Manila City Ordinance No. 8371 or the Environmental Code of the City of the Manila.



## DENR, Manila LGU investigate possible oil spill in Manila Bay

The PCG discovered that the source of the liquid waste was the cooling system of M/V Sarangani and issued an Inspection Apprehension Report to its owner, Emil Neri, for violating marine pollution ordinances.

Violation of the ordinance could lead to a penalty of P600 for the first offense, or it can lead to the closure of the concerned establishment and revocation of business permit on the fourth offense, according to DPS.

## MANILA BAY SPILL | Philippines looks into possible oil spill in Manila Bay

April 26, 2021 , 06:26 PM



(April 26, 2021) – The Philippines has started looking into a potential dangerous liquid spill from a vessel moored near the Manila Yacht Club over the weekend, the environment chief said on Monday.

Retired general Roy Cimatu said his department is working closely with Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) to determine the threat posed by a yellowish liquid coming from M/V Sarangani, which has spread more than 500 meters from the vessel.

The environment department has taken water samples to determine if the liquid is harmful to waters in Manila Bay.

He said the investigation will be concluded on Wednesday, promising to impose punishment if the vessel owner is found guilty of neglect.

Authorities have impounded the vessel for violating marine pollution laws. It will stay in the Manila Bay until the investigation is completed.

Cimatu said a P10,000 to P20,000 fine might also be slapped on the owner, who will be asked to rehabilitate the water based on the Marine Pollution Act and Clean Water Act.

Cimatu said the ship owner might also face charges depending on the results of the investigation.

The ship owner, Emil Neri, blamed the storm which did not directly hit the country as a possible reason for liquid spill, denying the ship's crew dumped waste into the sea.

"Dapat ang mag-check ay 'yung proper authority," Neri said, promising to cooperate with authorities. "Di natin pwedeng i-speculate [kung ano ang totoong nangyari]. Let the authority check. 'Yun po yung tama e. Dapat hintayin natin 'yung report kung may halo man siya [na langis] o wala."



## MANILA BAY SPILL | Philippines looks into possible oil spill in Manila Bay

There were reports the vessel's engine and the cooling system may have malfunctioned, which caused the leak.

One of the ship's crew, Escolastico Bunyi, supported Neri's statement, saying the liquid discharged from the vessel's cooling system came from the bay.

He said they moored M/V Sarangani in Manila Bay for several months to fix the vessel.

The government has also ordered all vessels to stay at least two kilometers away from the Manila Bay shoreline to avoid polluting the water.

Only cargo vessels delivering sand would be permitted to dock near Manila Bay, according to Cimatu.

*(Beatrice Puente/MM with reports from Shyla Francisco, News5)*





## Maduming likido tumagas sa Manila Bay



April 26, 2021 @ 11:47 AM 19 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Iniimbestigahan ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) kung saan galing ang tumagas na liquid waste sa Manila Bay, partikular malapit sa Manila Yacht Club.

Ngayong Lunes nang magsagawa ang Marine Environmental Protection Group (MEPGRP)-Manila at PCG Sub-Station CCP ng inspeksyon sa MV Sarangani na hinihinalang pinaggalingan ng maduming likido.

Sa ocular inspection, dito nakumpirma ng PCG na nagmula ang liquid waste sa cooling system ng MV Sarangani.

Kumolekta ng sample ang PCG upang malaman ang dahilan ng discoloration ng tubig sa paligid ng barko.

Nag-isyu na rin ang MEPGRP at PCG ng Inspection Apprehension Report (IAR) sa MV Sarangani sa pamamagitan ng may-ari nito na si Emil Neri sa paglabag sa alituntuning ibinaba ng PCG. *Jocelyn Tabangcura-Domenden*

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/maduming-likido-tumagas-sa-manila-bay/>



**Philippine News Agency** ✓

15h · 🌐



LOOK: DENR-NCR and Department of Public Service-Manila personnel conduct daily cleanup of Manila Bay in Roxas Boulevard on Monday (April 26, 2021). | via DENR

<https://www.facebook.com/690282534387523/posts/3895327157216362/?app=fbl>



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/690282534387523/posts/3895327157216362/?app=fbl>



## DENR celebrates Earth Day with clean-up, info drives

By Benjamin Moses M. EbreoPublished on April 26, 2021

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya, April 26(PIA) - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources( DENR) in this province recently conducted a clean-up and information drive on Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP).

Edgar Martin, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer said the clean-up drive was conducted within the provincial capitol while the information drives were conducted in various barangays of Solano and Bayombong.

"We have conducted these activities as our contribution to the recent Earth Day celebration. Our information drive focused the distribution of IEC materials, particularly posters on "Apat na Hakbang sa Tamang Pagtapon ng nagamit nang face mask at gloves", " he said.

Martin said these activities were conducted by their employees who comprised the skeletal work force of their office due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said the IEC on proper disposal of face masks and gloves is timely inorder to teach villagers on proper waste management as these hazardous waste materials pose a threat to health and well being of Novo Vizcayanos in general.

"We are optimistic that the IEC activities conducted will be re-echoed by barangay officials in their respective communities to protect and safeguard the well-being and health of their constituents especially at this time of COVID-19 pandemic," Martin said.(MDCT/BME/PIA 2-Nueva Vizcaya



## DENR's 'community pan-tree' to return; find out when

Published April 26, 2021, 12:13 PM

by [Elison Quismorio](#)

Did you miss out on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) "community pan-tree" last week? If so, don't fret. The DENR-National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) office announced on Monday, April 26 that their special pantry will be back for at least two days this week.



(Mark Balmores/ File photo/ MANILA BULLETIN)

"DENR National Capital Region will be resuming its distribution of free fruit-bearing and vegetable seedlings on April 27 and 29, 2021, between 9AM to 12PM, at the DENR-NCR Technical Services compound, North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City," an announcement on the agency's Facebook page read.

It was last Thursday, April 22 when the office first set up their community pan-tree at the same location. It turned out to be a hit.

"We advise everyone to please observe minimum public health protocols (e.g., wearing of face masks and face shields and physical distancing) when lining up to pick up their free seedlings," the post read.

DENR-NCR has also set a limit of five fruit-bearing tree seedlings and ten vegetable seedlings per person, subject to the availability of stocks. The seedlings were provided by the Bureau of Plant Industry.

The bringing of pots for the seedlings was also encouraged.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/04/26/title-123/>



## DENR seizes illegal lumber in Pampanga

In the province of Pampanga alone, the PENRO and CIDG have already apprehended 4,000 board feet of illegally-sourced lumber made of Narra and Molave

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) seized more than P480,000 worth of illegally-sourced premium lumber here.

In a statement, CIDG Staff Sgt. Reynaldo Camacho disclosed that the illegally-sourced premium lumbers were made from Narra (*Pterocarpus indicus*) and Molave (*Vitex parviflora*) which were confiscated from a furniture shop in the town of Lubao.

The group sent undercover agents who posed as buyers and bought the said lumber from a certain Jose Marie Limpin of the

King and Prince Sash and Furniture Shop in Barangay Remedios in Lubao.

“The suspect, who also owned the sash and furniture shop was arrested while the illegal cut lumbers were seized and apprehended in the operation for failure of the owner to show legal documents” said Camacho.

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) Laudemir Salac, on the other hand, said that in the province of Pampanga alone, the PENRO and CIDG have already apprehended 4,000 board feet of illegally-sourced lumber made of Narra and Molave.

“We are not lowering our guards even during this pandemic but instead we further

intensified our anti-illegal logging campaign to check movement of illegal forest contrabands,” said Salac.

Both Narra and Molave are classified as premium hardwood species due to their excellent wood quality that are prized in the furniture industry. These species of hardwood are a favorite target of illegal loggers.

“We are still verifying the origin of this lumber species but definitely it’s not from the province,” Salac said.

The DENR- PENRO has already filed criminal charges against the suspect for violating the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines (PD 705). JONAS REYES



**DENR Central Luzon**

21h · 🌐



Authorities seize over P480K worth of illegal premium lumber species in Pampanga

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga--- Combined operatives of the provincial office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) here and the Crime Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) based in Pampanga recently apprehended more than P480,000 worth of illegally source premium lumber of Narra (*Pterocarpus indicus*) and Molave (*Vitex parviflora*) from a furniture shop in Lubao town, this province.

According to police staff Sgt. Reynaldo Camacho, investigator from CIDG, their agents who posed as buyers were able to buy illegally sawn lumbers to a certain Josemary Limpin in the King and Prince Sash and Furniture Shop in Barangay Remedios in Lubao town.

"The suspect, who also owned the sash and furniture shop was arrested while the illegal cut lumbers were seized and apprehended in the operation for failure of the owner to show legal documents" he said.

According to Laudemir Salac, provincial environment and natural resources officer (PENRO) in Pampanga, over 4,000 board feet of illegally sourced lumbers of Narra and Molave were apprehended by the combined operatives of PENRO and CIDG.

"We are not lowering our guards even during this pandemic but instead we further intensified our anti-illegal logging campaign to check movement of illegal forest contrabands", he explained.

He said Narra and Molave are premium hardwood species because of their excellent wood quality primarily for furniture industry, as such making these species a favorite target of illegal loggers.

"We are still verifying the origin of this lumber species but definitely it's not from the province," he clarified.

The DENR- PENRO has already filed criminal charges against the suspect for violating the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines (PD 705). (-30-)

[#TayoAngKalikasan](#)





## One Million Trees Movement launched in Tuguegarao City

Published April 26, 2021, 4:34 PM

by [Liezle Basa Inigo](#)

TUGUEGARAO CITY, Cagayan – The Tuguegarao One Million Trees Movement was launched here last April 22 to encourage residents and environmental advocates to restore this city's natural state and counter the effects of climate change through the planting and growing of one million trees in the next three years.

The movement, a joint project of the Tuguegarao city government, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labor and Employment, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Cagayan State University, the Schools Division of Tuguegarao City, and proponent Northern Natural Resource Conservation Inc., was launched at the first ever Tree Summit in celebration of World Earth Day.

City Mayor Jefferson P. Soriano, in his welcome remarks during the summit, said that the effects of climate change are highly evident here. He added that there is an urgent need to address the problem of climate change.

The movement was institutionalized thru the enactment of City Ordinance No. 26-08-2021 that also localized Proclamation No. 643 declaring June 25 of every year as Philippine Arbor Day which requires all able-bodied citizens to plant one tree every year.

The summit was participated in by regional line agencies, civil society organizations, barangay captains, Sangguniang Kabataan officials, business establishments, and other private individuals.



## DENR asked: Stop coastal road project in Surigao

By: Chris V. Panganiban - 16 hours ago



**'DESTRUCTIVE' ROAD** An aerial photo of the coastal bypass road project in the town of Lianga, Surigao del Sur, now the subject of protests by residents and environmentalists for damaging the town's mangrove area and a seagrass bed thriving with marine life. — ERWIN MASCARIÑAS

LIANGA, Surigao del Sur, Philippines — Community leaders and environmental advocates here have asked the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to stop a coastal bypass road project that is destroying a vital part of this town's marine ecosystem and threatens to erase its identity as a seafood town of Surigao del Sur.

The clamor was raised as the community, along with the Catholic clergy of Surigao del Sur province, observed Earth Day here on April 22 with the theme "Restore our Earth."

Diosdado Labaso, chair of Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Lianga, said the 2.79-kilometer road threatened some 30 hectares of mangrove forest and seagrass area that served as habitat for different kinds of marine life that was gathered by locals for food.

Labaso said the large variety of shellfishes found at the seashore near the town's Sabang River was becoming a thing of the past due to the ongoing project, which also blocked the access of the fishers from the coastal communities to the sea.

Several century-old mangrove trees that have been enclosed by the road were dying, according to Labaso.

He also noted that half of the known breeding ground of shellfish were destroyed when piles of limestone began to be dumped into the shoreline to build the road.

"A road project is good if only they planned it accordingly that it will not affect our livelihood and [the] marine life," Labaso lamented.





## DENR asked: Stop coastal road project in Surigao

Some 1,600 Catholic Church parishioners in the town petitioned the DENR last December to have the project, implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), halted. However, the DENR has yet to act on the petition, said Lianga Councilor Samuel Dollano.

Dollano, one of those spearheading the opposition to the coastal road construction, said that even as the project adversely impacted the town's diverse ecosystem, the DPWH had not complied with the requisites for the issuance of an environmental clearance certificate, such as a consultation with the municipal council.

### Disaster

Marine biologist Amor Rojas Salinas of the Center for Research on Aquamarine Life Sustainability of the Surigao del Sur State University, lamented the "disaster" created by the project.

"The completion of the project will be a marine ecosystem disaster for the town of Lianga. The area where they dump the limestone material for the construction of the road is the very same spot where there was a thick concentration of seagrass," Salinas said.

The rich marine habitat at the project site "supported an entire ecosystem of marine life," the reason fishers and residents could easily catch fish near the shoreline before the coastal road blocked the area, added Salinas.

Salinas explained that the death of mangrove species locally known as pagatpat was due to the altered salinity of the water, as the road has blocked ocean water from nurturing these trees.

Salinas said what used to be the town's vast bed of healthy seagrass supported the population of juvenile rabbitfish, or danggit, blue crabs, and different species of shells, among others, for which Lianga has earned the moniker as the "seafood town" of the province.

—WITH REPORTS FROM ERWIN M. MASCARIÑAS INQ

## PEF, Australia and Bukidnon LGU release Philippine Eagle into the wild

By Philippine Eagle Foundation Published on April 26, 2021

MALAYBALAY CITY, Bukidnon, April 26--On Earth Day 2021, a rescued and rehabilitated Philippine Eagle is released back to its forest home.

Tagoyaman Fernando is among the seven Philippine Eagles that were rescued last year—the highest rescue rate recorded in the history of Philippine Eagle conservation—and the first Philippine Eagle to be released back to the wild this year.

Tagoyaman's release was made possible through the support of the Australian Government, Whitley Fund for Nature, Jurong Bird Park, DENR Region X, and the local government of San Fernando, Bukidnon.



Philippine Eagle protection and conservation team in Bukidnon. Ambassador Steven J. Robinson AO and Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri with the Indigenous Manobo-Tigwahanon community in San Fernando town. (Australian Embassy Photo)

"Rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing Philippine Eagles in the middle of a pandemic is very challenging. It's difficult to mobilize field operations when travel restrictions are imposed and sources of funds are shut down. Still, we are able to persevere, thanks to the support of the Australian Government and other conservation partners," said Dennis Salvador, Executive Director of the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF).

The short program in honor of Tagoyaman's release is attended by the Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Steven J. Robinson AO, Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri, San Fernando Vice Mayor Norberto Catalan, and PEF Trustee Mr. Francis Ledesma.

"The Australian Embassy is proud to continue our support to the Philippine Eagle Foundation for the protection and preservation of the Philippine Eagle. I traveled to Bukidnon to witness Tagoyaman's release because it is an important milestone in the Philippines' efforts in conserving local wildlife biodiversity. Australia stands with our friends in the Philippines as they protect their

## PEF, Australia and Bukidnon LGU release Philippine Eagle into the wild

natural resources, in their lands or seas. This initiative reinforces our deep and expanding relationship as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between our two countries," Ambassador Robinson said.

Tagoyaman was retrieved on October 2020 in San Fernando, Bukidnon, after getting accidentally caught in a native trap intended for other animals. The bird was then brought to the Philippine Eagle Center for further check-up and rehabilitation.

"We hope to see Tagoyaman successfully breed and contribute to his species' wild population in the future. His release on Earth Day is also our resounding call for long-term solutions to our problematic relationship with nature and wildlife. We believe that by conserving the Philippine Eagle and the biodiversity it represents, we can avoid another disease outbreak," Salvador said.

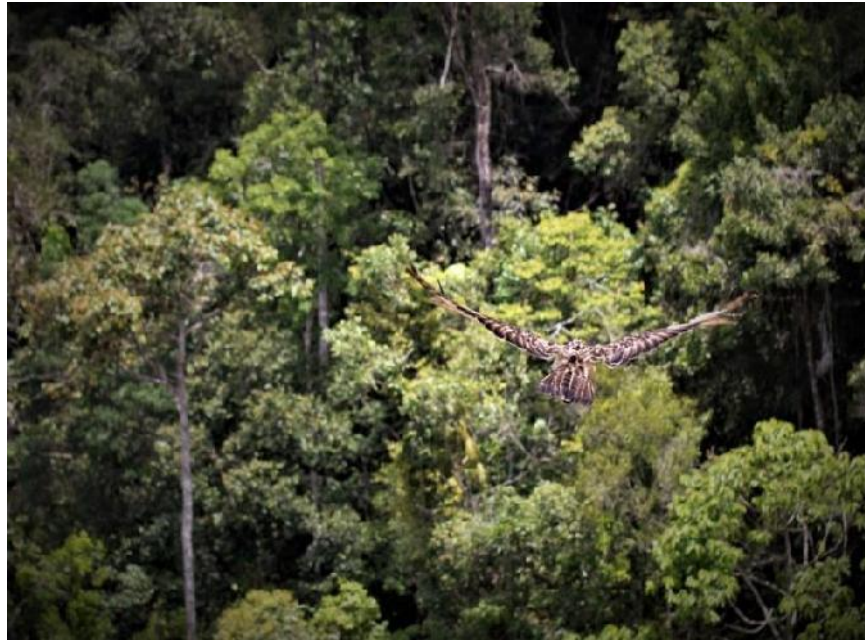


Philippine Eagle protection and conservation team in Bukidnon. Ambassador Steven J. Robinson AO and Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri with the Indigenous Manobo-Tigwahanon community in San Fernando town. (Australian Embassy Photo)

The PEF, through the support of its conservation partners has also taken measures for Tagoyaman's survival in the wild. An education campaign targeting communities surrounding the release site was conducted and Indigenous forest guards were trained to perform voluntary forest patrols and monitor Tagoyaman's movements using the GPS transmitter attached to its back, for the next six months.



## PEF, Australia and Bukidnon LGU release Philippine Eagle into the wild



Philippine Eagle's flight. Tagoyaman Fernando returns to his forest home on Earth Day, 22 April 2021. (Philippine Eagle Foundation)

"Collaborations and partnerships play a big role in Philippine Eagle conservation. The PEF can't save the eagles alone. We need the help of our local communities, government agencies, the private sector, and the Filipino people so that one day Philippine Eagles will thrive in the wild," said Salvador. (Philippine Eagle Foundation/PIA Bukidnon)

Source: <https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1073337>



## 18 wild birds nareskyu sa online traders



April 25, 2021 @ 2:13 PM 2 days ago

MANILA, Philippines – Nasagip ng Maritime Police ang 18 wild birds sa Oriental Mindoro.

Sa mga nareksyung ibon, dalawa rito ay juvenile brahminy kites, isang red-backed sea eagles na kakaunti na ang populasyon kasama ang apat na Eurasian collared doves, isang Eurasian white pigeon, dalawang thick-billed green pigeons, dalawang red turtle doves, isang whistling green pigeon, isang metallic pigeon, tatlong white-eared doves, at dalawang quails.

Nasagip ng mga operatiba ang mga ibon sa ikinasang entrapment and rescue operation laban sa mga online trader.

Ayon kay Police Lt. Angelo Astrero, hepe ng Oriental Mindoro Maritime Police Station na ibinebenta ang mga ito sa halagang P25,000 bawat isa.

Naaresto ang online trader na si alias Bunz Ferriol sa nasabing operasyon.

Mahaharap sa kasong paglabag sa Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act (RA 9147) ang suspek.

Dinala naman sa CENRO Mini forest sa bayan ng Roxas ang mga nasagip na ibon. *RNT/ELM*

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/18-wild-birds-nareskyu-sa-online-traders/>



## Para sa environmental protection sa SOCCSKSARGEN SUB-PORT OF DADIANGAS PUMIRMA NG MOA

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



Pumirma sa isang Memorandum of Agreement ang Bureau of Customs (BOC) – Port of Davao's Sub-port sa Dadiangas para sa karagdagang pagpapalawak, pagprotekta at pagkonserba ng likas na yaman sa lalawigan ng SOCCSKSARGEN Region.

Kasama sa lumagda sa MOA ang iba pang ahensya ng pamahalaan na pangunahing kinabibilangan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources at mga local government units o LGU's.

Nanguna sa aktibidad si Subport of Dadiangas Collector Orlando Orlino na tiniyak na ipapatupad ng BOC ang lahat ng mga batas na may kaugnayan sa environmental laws sa paraang palakasin ang kanilang pagbabantay na makapasok at makalabas ng bansa ang lahat ng uri ng mga itinuturing na likas na yaman ng bansa.

Nagkaisa ang lahat ng mga government agencies na magsasama-sama sila na magkaroon ng isang committed at multi-sectoral enforcement group na titingin sa environment and natural resources management upang mabantayan ang anumang pang-aabuso at pagkasira sa kalikasan at kapaligiran.

Umaasa sila na magiging matagumpay ang kanilang layunin na maprotektahan ang lahat ng likas na yaman sa SOCCSKSARGEN laban sa mga sumasalaula nito.  
(Joel O. Amongo)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/107427980954216/posts/304452904585055/?app=fbl>



## 6 timbog sa pagtatayo ng istraktura sa protected area sa Rizal



April 26, 2021 @ 5:42 PM 11 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Anim na indibidwal ang inaresto ng mga ahente ng National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) dahil sa iligal na pananakop at pagtatayo ng mga istraktura sa protektadong sa protected landscape sa Brgy. San Rafael, Rodriguez, Rizal.

Kinilala ni NBI Officer-In-Charge (OIC) Director Eric B. Distor ang mga naaresto na sina Angelica Sanchez, Rosemarie Solomon, Daniel Solana, Romeo Enriquez, Maria Clarisa Camanguan at Emmanuel Dela Cruz.

Nag-ugat ang operasyon sa hiling ng Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office of Rizal (PENRO-Rizal) kaugnay sa umanyag na operasyon ng ilang indibidwal na umuukupa at nagtatayo ng permanenteng istraktura sa protected landscape na matatagpuan sa Sitio Wawa, Brgy. San Rafael, Rodriguez, Rizal.

Agad namang inatasan ni Distor ang NBI-Environmental Crime Division (NBI-EnCD) na magsagawa ng imbestigasyon sa target area.

Matapos ang beripikasyon at surveillance ay agad na ikinasa ang operasyon kung saan naaresto ang nasabing mga indibidwal na isasalang sa inquest proceedings sa Department of Justice dahil sa paglabag sa R.A. 7586, o "National Integrated

Protected Areas System Act of 1992 at Section 81 (formerly 71) ng P.D. 705, o "Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines". *Jocelyn Tabangcura-Domenden*



## Exclusive: Tampakan, other giant mines could strike gold in wake of Duterte's new order

By [Lois Calderon, CNN Philippines](#)

Published Apr 26, 2021 10:03:45 AM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, April 26) — Three giant mines, all in President Rodrigo Duterte's turf Mindanao, along with almost a hundred more in the pipeline could soon strike gold.

That's after Duterte -- who in the early days of his term opted to keep a ban on open-pit mining -- decided to lift a nine-year old moratorium on new mining permits. This could pave the way for easing of local restrictions against open-pit mining.

Listed company Philex Mining Corporation's Silangan mine in Surigao del Norte and NADECOR's King-king mine in Pantukan town east of Davao City are included in the priority list of 101 applications up for approval, the head of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau told CNN Philippines.

The mothballed multibillion-dollar Tampakan mine, formerly led indirectly by Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III and directly by his brother Paul, could be resurrected and shortlisted for regulatory approval once it meets certain conditions, the mines bureau said.

All three mines hope to dig copper and gold in mineral-rich Mindanao. Two of them, King-king and Tampakan, will be through open-pit mining. The bureau said this is allowed under Philippine law, the 1995 Mining Act.

Critics of open-pit mining, including Duterte's first environment secretary, Gina Lopez, have pointed to its damaging impact on the environment.

"It's very clear in the previous executive order of former President Aquino the consistency of local laws with national laws. Malinaw na malinaw doon," Wilfredo Moncano, Mines and Geosciences Bureau Director, said in an April 23 interview.

"It is one of the safest mining methods that is being employed and it is based also on the geology of the deposit. So if the geology of the deposit would warrant that open-pit mining should be used, then technically open-pit gagamitin. Why use underground mining?"





## Exclusive: Tampakan, other giant mines could strike gold in wake of Duterte's new order

Moncano also pointed out that open-pit mining is "an acceptable mining method all over the world." Mining is temporary land use so miners are tasked to have rehabilitation plans for the land after it has been mined, he added.

The Duterte government's U-turn stance on open-pit mining would be a turning point for Tampakan proponents whose undeveloped mine remains stalled by South Cotabato's environment code that has banned the said method since 2010.

A series of favorable outcomes

Duterte handed down Executive Order 130, or the presidential directive that lifted the moratorium, on his penultimate year as the highest leader of the land. It comes a year before his top economic manager Dominguez, a former mining executive and Davao businessman, returns to private life.

Dominguez's brother Paul was the president of Sagittarius Mines, Inc. (SMI), which holds the concession to the \$5.9-billion copper-gold Tampakan project, until he resigned in 2007. He remains an affine of the Alcantaras, the Davao-based family behind listed conglomerate Alsons Consolidated Resources, Inc.

Alsons controls Sagittarius Mines through subsidiary Indophil Resources Philippines, Inc., which owns 100% of the common shares of SMI. The company holds full economic control of the miner after the Alcantara group bought out Anglo-Swiss commodity trading giant Glencore plc in 2015, according to SMI's website.

Dominguez was a director of Alsons until the listed holding company, through a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange on June 20, 2016, announced his resignation from the board. The announcement came less than two weeks before Duterte's inauguration as president and prior to Dominguez' appointment as finance secretary.

But before Dominguez left Alsons, on June 8, 2016, subsidiary Sagittarius Mines had secured regulators' approval to extend its financial and technical assistance agreement or FTAA for the Tampakan project by another 12 years until March 2032. The extension was granted early, four years before the FTAA's supposed expiration in 2020. The Mines and Geosciences Bureau confirmed this extension during an April 23 interview with CNN Philippines.

In the weeks that followed after the FTAA extension in June 2016, Alsons' share price slowly had been climbing up from just P1.367 per share in April that year before it peaked at P2.065 each on June 21, 2016, a day after Dominguez's resignation disclosure was made, according to historical data from the stock exchange. The P2.065-per-share price is a five-year high for the stock, unmatched since then even as Alsons shares gained recently in the wake of the lifting of the moratorium on new mining permits. The shares were last traded last Friday at P1.29 apiece.

In his reply to a CNN Philippines query on what he thinks of remarks made by some quarters questioning the timing of the lifting of the moratorium on new mining permits and its possible



## Exclusive: Tampakan, other giant mines could strike gold in wake of Duterte's new order

link to his future plans or of his brother, Dominguez drove home the point that he has no more mining interest.

"I have no financial investments in the mining industry and no plans of having any in the future," the Finance minister told CNN Philippines over the weekend.

"My plans after my term as Secretary of Finance consist solely of full retirement as befits a person of my age. Moreover, the law requires that I not be engaged with any organizations I regulated. You will have to ask Paul what his plans are," Dominguez added.

After the extension of Sagittarius Mines' FTAA and before Duterte's new mining order, there was another event that primed the Tampakan grounds to make the gold mine soon within the Alcantara group's reach.

Tampakan's environmental compliance certificate or ECC, one of the conditions for a mining project to proceed to commercial operations, was restored by the Office of the President on May 6, 2019, two years after then Environment Secretary Lopez canceled it. Lopez, a staunch environmentalist who likened the Tampakan mine size to "700 football fields," did not secure the Commission on Appointments' blessing to formally become DENR chief, and passed away in 2019.

But while the Tampakan project won a beachhead in terms of FTAA and ECC, an August 2020 decision by the local municipality to terminate an old agreement for Sagittarius Mines to continue its mining operations in the area gave the miner a temporary setback.

Other conditions and the B'Laan Tribe

Still, the Tampakan municipality left the door open for a renegotiation with Sagittarius Mines for a new deal. A successful negotiation for a fresh license from the municipality is now one of the conditions set by environment regulators for the Tampakan project to be shortlisted for approval to join Silangan and King-king mines in the priority list.

"Gusto ng LGU (local government unit) ng renegotiation pero ang balita ko the LGU of Tampakan has already recommended to the province that they are now supporting the project," said Moncano.

[Translation: The LGU wants a renegotiation. I heard that the Tampakan LGU has already recommended to the province that they are now supporting the project.]

But there is one last hurdle for Sagittarius Mines: The "free, prior and informed consent" of the B'laan tribe whose Tampakan ancestral land, based on the miner's estimate, holds 15 million tons of copper and 17.6 million ounces of gold.

That consent will be contained in a certification issued by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), which the mines bureau said it will also require from Sagittarius Mines.



## Exclusive: Tampakan, other giant mines could strike gold in wake of Duterte's new order

But the opposition to the project in the past decades had turned violent, even bloody.

Tribal leader Daguil Capión lost his wife and two children in October 2012 in a military operation meant to arrest him. Capión back then was facing murder charges for the deaths of three people working for a road project funded by Sagittarius Mines, according to interviews he granted to environment news site Mongabay.com.

The wounds are still fresh for Capión and his tribesmen, said Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc. program officer for anti-mining campaign Melody Asia who has been helping the B'laan community hold dialogues with regulators to assert their rights for almost a decade now.

"Ongoing pa rin yung patayan, yung threat sa B'laan community," Asia said in an April 24 interview.

[Translation: The killings and threats in the B'laan community are continuing.]

"Pag natuloy ang mining sa Tampakan, yung watershed nila, yung farming nila, apektadong-apektado. Ngayon pa lang madugo, madami nang threats. Kawawa yung B'laan community. Kasi nahahati sila... Sinisilaw sila na aayusin ang roads, paaralin ang anak nila, yung mga ganong offers kaya yung iba pumapayag... Pero may iba rin na firm and nagdedecide na ilalaban namin yan kahit anong mangyari. Sacred land yan, hindi puedeng galawin," she said, recounting her conversations with the B'laan tribe.

[Translation: If the mining in Tampakan continues, the watershed and farming will be severely affected. Right now there are threats. It is already bloody. The B'laan community will suffer because they are divided. They are being promised that the roads will be fixed, their children will be sent to school, and other similar offers so some of them give their consent. But some of them are firm and have decided to continue the fight. Those lands are sacred. They shouldn't be touched.]

### Other pending approvals

Tampakan's mammoth \$5.9-billion investment eclipses any other single direct investment in Philippine mining, but unless it satisfies those conditions, it cannot belong to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau's shortlist.

Of the 101 shortlisted, 36 miners could start development and commercial operations in as early as three months' time, according to Moncano.

The 65 others are in the final stages of exploration and feasibility studies or at best, already have mining agreements with the government. The Silangan and King-king mines fall under this category, but are still pooling funding institutions or investors to raise capital.



## Exclusive: Tampakan, other giant mines could strike gold in wake of Duterte's new order

"Lahat ng mga deliberations on feasibility studies, environmental protection enhancement program, final mine rehabilitation program, social development management program, lahat ng deliberation dyan nakafocus sa priority projects. I anticipate within the next three months if their MPSAs are approved, they can start the development and construction," the mines bureau head said.

Outside that priority list, there are almost 400 more permits waiting for conversion from exploration rights to mineral production sharing agreements.



## 'Plastic people' mas malaking problema – Antiporda



April 26, 2021 @ 7:54 AM 23 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Iginiit ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny Antiporda na hindi mga plastik ang may malaking kontribusyon sa problema ng waste management problem kundi ang mga taong nagpapanggap na kakampi ng kapaligiran ngunit hindi naman talaga.

“Our main problem here in the country is not plastic per se, or literally. But our main problem [are] the ‘plastic’ people who are saying...they do care for the environment but they are the first polluters in this country,” ani Antiporda na nagsilbing resource person via Zoom sa Filipinos World’s episode na pinamagatang “Re-shape, Re-cycle, Re-invent: Save the Mother Earth.”

“They don’t even think of what they need to do in coming up with a solution [to] the problem of solid waste management,” punto pa ng opisyal.

“Kapag nagbara po ba ang kanal natin dahil sa isang plastic, kasalanan po ba ito nung tao o nung plastic? Kapag po tayo a lumunok ng pagkain at hindi po natin nginuya, kalasanan po ba ito ng pagkain o kasalanan ito ng tao?”

“Ngayon, handa na po ba natin ipagbawal ang pagkain, parang ipagbabawal na rin natin ang plastic? Pag-isipan po natin yan ng mabuti,” giit ni Antiporda. RNT/FGDC

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/plastic-people-mas-malaking-problema-antiporda/>



## We are killing ourselves with plastic



By [Marit Stinus-Cabugon](#)

April 26, 2021

SOME months ago, I bought groceries at SM Hypermarket in Mandaue City. I like this spacious and well-stocked supermarket. I was, however, struck with disbelief when the cashier told me that I couldn't use the plastic bag that I had brought with me since plastic bags weren't allowed. I could get a free paper bag or buy a reusable shopping bag. Instead of arguing with the cashier, whose strange logic was obviously not of her own making, I chose to ignore it and quickly put the groceries inside my old plastic bag. I bought it at a supermarket in Denmark years ago and use it for groceries almost every week. The purpose of the "no plastic bag" policy of SM Hypermarket had apparently not been explained to its employees.

Fast food outlets such as McDonald's and Shakey's too have well-intentioned policies meant to help reduce the use of plastics. Yes, I confess, my household regularly orders food from these establishments. They offer convenience and value for money. Both companies have an option in their online ordering systems to say "no" to plastics. However, even when checking this button, one still more often than not gets a plastic fork with the pasta, and spoon and fork with the fried chicken! Again, maybe the purpose of the policy has not been explained to the employees, who prepare the deliveries.

And even if these and similar initiatives work the way they were intended to, it won't save the planet — and us — from the deluge of plastic waste that is choking us to death. Says Janice Brahney, an environmental scientist at Utah University: "The amount of plastics that are in our ocean is just overwhelming compared to anything that we produce in any given year in the terrestrial environment" (quoted by Matt Simon on WIRED, April 13, 2021). Brahney is talking about "legacy pollution" and its cumulative role "in the atmospheric burden of plastic." Plastics "spiral around the globe with distinct atmospheric, oceanic, cryospheric and terrestrial residence times" ("Constraining the atmospheric limb of the plastic cycle," April 20, 2021).

"We live on a ball inside a bubble," Steve Allen, a microplastic researcher, explains. "There is no stopping (plastic) once it's out." The plastic, the disintegrated, smaller pieces in particular, gets blown into the air, falls in the sea or on land with the rain, then gets blown up in the air again.

The world is wallowing in plastic. The Covid-19 pandemic has made it worse with disposable personal protective equipment, including face masks and the boom in online shopping and food deliveries (resulting in mountains of plastic packaging and containers).

Asia — as a testimony to its large population and economic growth — leads the way in terms of plastic consumption, plastic production and plastic waste. This prompted the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Hong Kong office, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and #BreakFreeFromPlastic, to come up with an Asia edition of the Plastic Atlas. It was formally launched on April 22 — Earth Day.



## We are killing ourselves with plastic

An indication that plastic pollution is worse in Asia is that salts used in products from Asia have been found to contain more microplastics than salts from other parts of the world, according to the Plastic Atlas, quoting the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization — with Indonesian sea salt having the highest amount of microplastics. Creepy, right?

The Plastic Atlas (<http://hk.boell.org>) also reveals that Coca-Cola is the top global producer of plastic bottles with 88 billion bottles a year. Laid end to end, these 88 billion bottles “would reach to the moon and back 31 times.” Coca-Cola also leads in generation of plastic packaging waste — the company generates about 3 million tons with Nestlé coming second with 1.7 million tons.

We are running out of landfill space, even as much of the trash remains uncollected and ends up in water bodies or vacant lots. And no, incineration is still not a sustainable, long-term solution to this problem. Plastic may disintegrate into millions of tiny parts but it doesn't disappear even when incinerated. The most toxic elements of plastic are not destroyed, but escape into to the air with the smoke or — if filters and scrubbers work — end up as toxic residues.

The report from Heinrich Böll Stiftung cautions against so-called bio plastics where fossil fuel is replaced with sugarcane, cassava, corn or potatoes. Considering the huge and growing demand for disposable packaging, the competition for agricultural land and water — which is getting scarcer — would threaten the food security of already food-insecure populations.

The planet is choking in plastic. We eat, breathe, drink and wear plastic. Recycling obviously isn't working. Saying no to plastic straws and single-use utensils, banning plastic bags is too little, too late. More drastic measures are needed. Our toxic love affair with plastic must end if we are to save the planet and ourselves.



## Climate change, disaster risk reduction and insurance

By [Michael F. Rellosa](#)

April 26, 2021

WE just finished commemorating, albeit somewhat low key, Earth Day 2021 (actually, a three-day event celebrated from April 20 to 22). In recent years, Earth Day's primary objective has morphed into raising awareness about global climate changes. It is very apt for a country such as the Philippines, which by most accounts, is the country most prone to climate change and the disasters it spawns such as typhoons, floods and drought. These disasters, in turn, create a plethora of issues such as stronger storm surges, higher sea levels, bleached coral reefs, dwindling fish stocks, denuded mangroves and disappearing sea grass meadows, just to name a few, which in turn, have deleterious effects on coastal fish stocks, crops, coastal properties, etc., a veritable domino effect of negatives on all areas of our life.

Enter the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), an agreement whose objective is to substantially reduce disaster risks and losses in lives, livelihood and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries. The goal is to "prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks, through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience."

The guiding institution behind this is the United Nations Office for Disasters and Risk Reduction and the private sector partner is an international network known as the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster- resilient Societies with a very active and pioneering partner in Arise Philippines organized through the initiatives of SM Prime Holdings Inc. Other notable members of the alliance are the Aboitiz Group, Belle Corp., Meralco, GMA, Atlas Mining, Ateneo de Manila University, the Asian Institute of Management, Price Waterhouse Coopers, the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association, Philippine Business for the Environment just to name a few.

The Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association, or PIRA, a relatively late addition to the alliance has added its muscle to the initiatives of ARISE Philippines. In a recent meeting with ARISE Global and the UNDRR, it presented the various initiatives the PIRA, in collaboration with the Insurance Commission and its woke commissioner lawyer Dennis Funa and his deputy, lawyer Erickson Balmes (whose academic credentials include higher studies in disaster risk management), together with other multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, the GIZ and Earth Security, an international NGO working to recognize the value of natural ecosystems.

The initiatives currently being worked on include the Philippine Catastrophe Insurance Facility which is being created to increase Philippine financial resilience toward natural disasters to hasten economic recovery after a disaster strikes, address the catastrophic insurance gap, create a more risk-appropriate rating environment that would ensure sustainable premium rates and coverages, increase the catastrophe resilience of the local insurance industry and its capacity to retain such risks and be able to provide the populace with more inclusive access to catastrophic insurance protection.





## Climate change, disaster risk reduction and insurance

Another is a project to create and introduce parametric micro-insurance product for micro, small and medium enterprises, as they are among the most underserved and least protected of the populace. The triggers for this product would be heavy rainfall and windstorm or typhoons. This is done in collaboration with the GIZ.

Yet another initiative, this time under the auspices of the ADB, is to increase the agriculture insurance capacity in the country by getting the private insurance companies involved initially by way of reinsurance whereby local companies offer their capacity to the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. which holds the mandate to write this type of cover.

Finally, the project with Earth Security, in collaboration with other institutions such as the Asian Institute of Management and Business for Sustainable Development, is meant to catalyze models and partnerships for insurance to support nature-based climate solutions for adaptation. The research phase is the next step and results of this research will dictate the next steps forward.

The local insurance industry recognizes the value of disaster risk management and that insurance, though part of the solution in rigid and traditionally defined roles, can do much more and go beyond accepted ways of addressing the burning issues of the day. We make ourselves available to join forces with like-minded groups and alliances with the end in mind of making the world a better place for all, especially for future generations.

## PH Covid-19 tally hits 1M mark but recoveries almost 915K

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor April 26, 2021, 5:05 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – The country's recovery tally from the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) further increased to 914,952, with 11,333 new recoveries reported on Monday.

In its latest case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) said the number is equivalent to a 90.9 percent recovery rate from a cumulative total of 1,006,428 Covid-19 cases.

The agency also logged 8,929 new infections, bringing the total number of active cases to 74,623.

Of the active cases, about 95.4 percent are mild, 1.4 percent are asymptomatic, 1.3 percent are severe, 0.87 are moderate, and 1.0 percent are in critical condition.

There were also 70 new deaths, pushing the death toll to 16,853 or 1.67 percent of total cases.

Data submitted on April 24 likewise showed that 16.7 percent of 45,863 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

"Some 23 duplicates were removed from the total case count, and of these, 18 were recovered cases. Moreover, 27 cases that were previously tagged as recovered were reclassified as deaths after final validation," the DOH said.

Two laboratories were not operational on April 24 while nine laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

Currently, 64 percent of 1,900 intensive care unit beds, 47 percent of 13,500 isolation beds, 52 percent of 6,000 ward beds, and 45 percent of 2,000 ventilators nationwide are utilized by patients with Covid-19.



## PH Covid-19 tally hits 1M mark but recoveries almost 915K

Meanwhile, 71 percent of 800 intensive care unit beds, 57 percent of 3,800 isolation beds, 64 percent of 2,200 ward beds, and 58 percent of 800 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use in the National Capital Region.

The public is reminded to stay at home and to observe minimum health standards when going out.

The DOH urged those experiencing Covid-19 symptoms to immediately isolate and contact the Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams or One Hospital Command. (PNA)



## BAGONG QUARANTINE STATUS SA BANSA PARA SA MAYO INAASAHANG IDEDEKLARA NG PANGULO SA MIYERKULES

written by [Ashley Jose](#) April 27, 2021



Inaasahan nang i-anunsiyo, bukas ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang ipatutupad na bagong quarantine classification para sa buwan ng Mayo.

Ayon kay Presidential Spokesman Atty. Harry Roque, naging mabunga kasi ang ipinatupad na Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) sa NCR plus bubble o greater Manila area, pati na ang kasalukuyang umiiral na Modified ECO sa NCR plus bubble ngayong Abril.

Aniya, kahapon dinesisyunan ng Metro Manila Mayors ang karapat-dapat na quarantine classification sa susunod na buwan.

Sa ngayon, sinabi naman ng Department Of Health (DOH) na patuloy pa rin ang pagtaas ng kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa kung saan pumalo na sa higit isang milyong ang kabuuang kaso ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas.

Umaapela rin naman ang mga grupo ng mga healthcare workers sa pamahalaan na palawigin pa ang MECQ dahil sa hirap na ang healthcare system dahil sa dami ng pasyenteng tinatamaan ng sakit.

Source: <https://www.dwiz882am.com/index.php/bagong-quarantine-status-sa-bansa-para-sa-mayo-inaasahang-idedeklara-ng-pangulo-sa-miyerkules/>



## 121 COVID PATIENTS PATAY SA SUNOG SA OSPITAL



April 26, 2021 @ 12:44 AM 1 day ago

HABANG tinitipa natin ito, mga Bro, nakapangingilabot ang naganap na sunog sa isang ospital sa Baghdad City, Iraq.

Naganap ang sunog mismo sa intensive care unit ng Ibn al-Khatib hospital sa Baghdad na puno ng mga pasyenteng nasa severe at critical na coronavirus disease o COVID-19.

Sa ulat mismo ng Ministry of Health ng Iraq, anak ng tokwa, halos naubos ang nasa 30 na pasyente sa sunog at dalawa lang ang naligtas ng mga sumaklolong paramedic.

Nasa 82 lahat ang namatay at karamihan sa mga ito sa sunog at usok habang ang iba ay namatay sa stampede.

Hindi lang mga pasyente umano ang nadamay kundi pamilya ng mga maysakit na bantay.

Inaalam pa kung may nadamay ring mga health worker gaya ng mga doktor, nars, midwife at iba pa.

### PINAGSISIBAK AT KAKASUHAN

Pinagsisibak naman sa pwesto makaraan lang ng ilang oras ang mga matataas na opisyal-pangkalusugan sa lugar.

Sinibak mismo ni Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi ang director-general ng Baghdad Health Department sa al-Rusafa na kinatatayuan ng ospital.

Gayundin, tinanggal sa pwesto ang direktor ng Ibn al-Khatib Hospital, kasama ang direktor ng engineering and maintenance.



## 121 COVID PATIENTS PATAY SA SUNOG SA OSPITAL

Sinabi ni Al-Kadhimi na may nagkasala sa malagim na pangyayari at kapabayaang krimen na kanilang kahaharapin.

Ewan lang natin kung hanggang saan ang parusa na ipapataw sa mga matatagpuan nagkaroon ng labis na kapabayaang pangyayari.

### SA INDIA RIN

Bago naganap ang sunog sa Iraq, may apat ding magkakasunod na sunog sa India.

Karamihan din sa mga namatay ang mga pasyenteng may sakit na COVID-19.

May 13 patay sa sunog nitong Abril 23 sa ICU of Vijay Vallabh Hospital, Mumbai at pawang mga may COVID-19.

Dalawang araw bago nito, 22 COVID-19 patients din ang namatay sa sunog makaraang mag-leak ang oxygen tank sa Dr Zakir Hussain Municipal Hospital, Nashik City, Maharashtra state.

Sa ICU rin nagsimula ang sunog na kumalat sa iba pang bahagi ng ospital.

Apat na pasyente rin ng COVID-19 ang namatay ICU ng isang private hospital sa Raipur City sa Chhattisgarh.

Nag-overheat namang electric fan ang naging sanhi ng sunog at ikinalitson ng isa habang sa suffocation ang tatlong iba pa.

### SA PILIPINAS?

Sa pagkakatanda ng ating Uzi, mga Bro, wala pa namang ganitong kaso na nagaganap.

Pero hindi tayo pupwedeng hindi mag-alala.

Hindi imposibleng may maganap ding sunog, lalo na mula sa mga oxygen tank.

Sa rami ba naman ng mga peke at lumang tangke na gamit ng mga suplayer ng oxygen tanks.

Baka madamay ang mga oxygen tank sa mga kailigalan ng ilang suplayer.

Batay sa mga nagaganap sa Iraq at India, dapat na maging mapagbantay ang lahat ng may hawak ng mga oxygen tank.

Baka nga naman may sumabog o mag-leak din.

Pati appliances dapat na matsek nang husto kung hindi pagmumulan ng sunog dahil may appliances naman talaga na sirain.

Maging ang mga kapasidad ng mga ospital sa kuryente at mga saksakan, dapat ding suriin nang husto.



## 121 COVID PATIENTS PATAY SA SUNOG SA OSPITAL

### TOWERING INFERNO

Marami sa mga ospital natin, mga Bro, ang may napakatataas na gusali.

Hindi na lang tayo magbabanggit ng ngalan ng mga ito pero kitang-kita naman ang mga ito, lalo na sa Metro Manila.

Upang maiwasan ang isang towering inferno, dapat na matsek nang husto ang mga ito.

Hindi dapat hayaan ang mga kilalang fire inspector na pera-pera lang ang lakad ang magsagawa ng mga pagtatasa at paglalagom sa lahat ng usaping fire safety.

Paano makatakas, makatakbo, makalundag ang mga maysakit sa napakatataas na gusali ng mga ospital sakaling may sunog?

Isang tanong: Mayroon bang malapit na istasyon ng mga bumbero sa mga ospital?

Isa pang tanong: Paano ang mga hydrant ng mga ospital na dapat magpaulan ng tubig kahit nakaamoy lang ang mga ito ng usok?

May sapat bang tauhan ang mga ospital na mabilis at propesyunal ang pagresponde sa mga sunog.

Hindi dapat iasa sa mga bumbero ang mga unang sigwada ng sunog kundi sa mismo sa mga kaukulang tauhan ng mga ospital.

Alam naman natin ang mabagal na trapik sa ating bansa na dahilan kung bakit mabagal ang pagdating ng mga bumbero.

Sana naman at ipagdasal nating lahat, na walang masusunog na ospital kahit kailan.

Lalo ngayong punuan at umaapaw ng pasyente sa COVID-19 ang mga ito.

Mag-ingat tayong lahat sa sunog sa mga ospital.



## Asia to drive rapid rise in carbon emissions this year

As developing Asia emerges from last year's economic downturn, it is set to be the driving force behind the second-steepest annual increase in carbon emissions in history, predicts a new IEA report.



The IEA predicts that coal demand will increase by 4.5 per cent this year, bringing it above 2019 levels and close to its 2014 peak. Image: [Piqsels, CC0.1.0](#) via Piqsels

By [Tim Ha](#)  
April 26, 2021

One year after Covid-19 caused emissions to dip globally, the direction energy demand is now taking suggests that energy-related carbon dioxide emissions are headed for their second-biggest annual rise in history this year — and Asia is set to be behind the bulk of the increase.

In its new [Global Energy Review](#), the International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts that while the pandemic continues to throttle the world's thirst for energy, stimulus packages and vaccine rollouts will push economic output 2 per cent above 2019 levels in 2021.

The jump in demand for goods and services will lead to a 4.6 per cent increase in global energy use, surpassing pre-pandemic levels and more than offsetting last year's 4 per cent contraction, estimates the study.

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/asia-to-drive-rapid-rise-in-carbon-emissions-this-year/>



27 APRIL 2021, Tuesday



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