

27 APRIL 2022, WEDNESDAY



NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Earth Day 2022: to Boost Climate Change Mitigation to Save Planet

by [Village Connect](#) about 18 hours ago



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampilna urged businesses to step up efforts in switching to sustainable actions to combat the effects of climate change and environmental destruction in celebration of the Earth Day on April 22.

With this year's theme "#InvestInOurPlanet," Sampilna encouraged manufacturing companies, food businesses, and market vendors to join efforts to minimize the use of non-biodegradable and single-use plastics for packaging, which are the major contributor to the country's residual and solid waste.

Sampilna emphasized that small actions, such as recycling and re-using materials, are helpful, however, industries should also take part as they are also producers of plastic waste.



"Using small plastic packaging like sachets and plastic bottles is still rampant in our country today. I am urging all manufacturing firms to come up with their own recovery project where they will retrieve and buy back these plastic wastes from their consumers for cash or even food items like rice and groceries," said Sampilna.

Likewise, the DENR chief called on food companies to switch to food packaging that is reusable or biodegradable, as these wastes, when not properly disposed of, end up in creeks, rivers, and oceans.

"I am appealing to our restaurants and food businesses not to use plastic utensils, styrofoam materials and single-use plastic containers. Instead, use eco-friendly or reusable food packages," Sampilna said.



Sampulna also encouraged market vendors and small store owners to change their customary ways of packaging retail items using single-use plastics, which include placing cooking oil, condiments such as vinegar and soy sauce, in plastic for “tingi” or retail purchases.

He recommended the use of old newspapers and magazines for wrapping dried fish instead of using plastics.

“I suggest that when the public buys from your stores, ask or encourage them to bring reusable bags and containers,” Sampulna said.

“This Earth Day 2022, I urge both businesses and individuals to rethink the customary ways on how to sell and consume products. Let us all take sustainable actions to heal the planet Earth,” he pointed out.

Earth Day, celebrated annually on April 22, is a global movement where over 190 countries take part through the promotion of sustainable environmental actions and behavioral change.

This year, the DENR celebrated Earth Day highlighted by the recognition of four DENR environmental heroes or workers of the department who have dedicated their lives protecting the environment.

DENR to turn over land to RITM

April 26, 2022



RITM 37th Anniversary Research Forum | Photo Courtesy of Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

By Myris Lee

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will turn over a parcel of land to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in support of the institute's research work advancement.

The 9,077-square-meter land is adjacent to the RITM facility in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

"This deed of conveyance is the DENR's simple gift and contribution for RITM to further advance their research work, and prepare to address the current pandemic and health concerns that may arise in the future," said DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna.

The Department of Health's main research arm has been responding to outbreaks of infectious diseases for the last 20 years including the COVID-19.

RITM houses 18 national reference laboratories in infectious diseases, which allow healthcare workers and professionals to perform confirmatory tests and implement quality assurance.

DENR said the additional parcel of land will help the expansion of the facility's healthcare services and technologies. – gb



DENR holds info drive on environmental laws



ZAMBOANGA. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conducts information campaign on ENR Laws in Zamboanga del Sur to gain the support of the residents in the protection of the environment. (SunStar Zamboanga)

April 25, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has conducted information campaign on ENR Laws in Zamboanga del Sur to gain the support of the residents in the protection of the environment.

Rosevirico Tan, DENR regional information officer, said the information campaign was conducted by the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) of Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur in Balongbalong village, Pitogo municipality.

Tan said the campaign held last week was part of the lined-up activities of Cenro-Guipos in line with the celebration of 2022 Philippine Earth Month this April.

Tan said the Cenro-Guipos personnel presented and discussed environmental laws, specifically on those that pertains to the cutting of trees, transporting forest products, chainsaw registration Act, as well as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

"These topics were discussed to raise awareness to the public and in order to mobilize our citizenry in the protection and conservation of our environment and natural resources," Tan said.

He said the Cenro-Guipos also included in the information campaign the Gender and Development (GAD), where specific law on sexual harassment or the "Bawal Bastos Bill" was highlighted.

He said various activities that will further engage the public in observance of this celebration will still be conducted throughout the month such as Clean-ups, Information, Education and Communication campaigns and many others.

The DENR urged the public to join in any environmental activities in their localities for this celebration and together let us "Invest In our Planet." **(SunStar Zamboanga)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1927296/zamboanga/local-news/denr-holds-info-drive-on-environmental-laws>



Cenro: Segregate trash or be penalized



Contributed photo

RALPH LAWRENCE G. LLEMIT

April 25, 2022

THE Davao City Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) will be strictly apprehending individuals and establishments that will not properly segregate their garbage after penalties were increased.

Cenro Head Marivic Reyes said in a radio interview on Monday, April 25 that this in accordance with Ordinance 0706-21 passed last year, amending the penalty clause of the Davao City Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance of 2009.

The amended ordinance has provided an increase in the penalties from P300 to P500 for erring individuals, while fines for establishments have been raised to P5,000 from P1,000.

Reyes said they resumed issuing citation tickets beginning early this year.

"Padayon among pag-implement para lang ma-improve ug ma-enhance atong pamaagi sa pag-manage sa basura. Nagapadayon mi sa pagpanakop sa mga violators nga dili musunod sa oras sa paglabay, ug dili naga-segregate (We continue to implement it to improve and enhance our waste management. We continue to apprehend violators who will not follow the hours of throwing garbage at the designated collection point, and those who throw their unsegregated wastes)," the Cenro official said in an interview on 87.5 FM Davao City Disaster Radio.

The official, meanwhile, told SunStar Davao in a phone interview that the increased penalty aims to instill discipline among Dabawenyos in segregating their wastes.

"Ang purpose ani is not just (This is not just) for income purpose, but also for the people na madisiplina sila kay mahal naman ang bayad (to be disciplined since the penalties are now increased)," Reyes said.

She said both Cenro and the barangay will be issuing citation tickets to violators who will be caught violating the waste segregation in the designated collection point by the barangays.

"Naa ta (There are) collection point designated by the barangay, wherein enforcers will be assigned. Usually si barangay naga-monitor. Pag-ma-caught in the act namo sila na maglabay, diha namo sila isyuhan og citation ticket (it's the barangay who should be monitoring it. If we would be able to catch them in the act throwing their wastes improperly, that's the time we will issue them a citation ticket)," Reyes said.



Admittedly, she said not all barangays will be deployed with Cenro enforcers who will be monitoring the waste segregation due to lack of manpower.

"For now, hinay-hinay pero kinahanglan namo ang effort sa barangay kay sila naman ang magfully enforce sa issuehan og citation ticket (we will be steadily be deploying personnels in the barangays, but we need the barangays to exert more effort since they will be the ones enforcing the citation ticket)," Reyes said, citing the barangay's role in the Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

Meanwhile, Reyes said they are currently participating in the crafting of the implementing rules and regulation for the "No to Single-Use Plastics Ordinance of 2021," which was enacted into law in the city in June 2021. The ordinance aims to regulate the sale, distribution, and use of single-use plastics in the city.

She added that information dissemination is also being conducted to inform Dabawenyos on the ordinance, which aims to reduce the plastic consumption in the city.

Reyes also reminded residents living in nearby bodies of waters to practice waste segregation and stop dumping their wastes in the riverbanks.



Palace orders DENR probe on illegal activities in Rizal watershed

By Azer Parrocha [April 26, 2022, 4:49 pm](#)



MANILA – Malacañang on Tuesday directed a task force in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to investigate alleged illegal activities within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape (UMRBPL) in Rizal province.

This, after environmentalists and concerned citizens asked the government to cancel quarrying agreements within the 26,126-hectare UMRBPL over concerns that these activities could worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal Province.

Acting presidential spokesperson and Communications secretary Martin Andanar acknowledged the need for the government to protect the country's natural resources.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development," he said in a press statement.

He expressed concern over reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed.

"We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental law," he added.

In a joint letter to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and acting Environment chief Jim Sampulna, over 30 environment and education leaders said the DENR has not issued a formal cancellation of Mineral Production Sharing agreements despite pronouncements of former Environment secretary Roy Cimatu, who resigned in February.

"The imperative to put environmental conservation first and to work with different sectors to protect and restore the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Masungi landscape is clear. Quarrying must be stopped. Conservation must proceed," the letter read.

They said the ecosystem restoration efforts of Masungi and other non-government organizations must be fully supported and expanded as they play a crucial role in providing vital oversight in forest and biodiversity protection.

Signatories of the letter include environmental lawyer Tony Oposa, former Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn, and De La Salle Brothers provincial superior Bro. Armin Luistro.



Earlier, the conservation group Masungi Georeserve Foundation raised the alarm about the construction and expansion of resorts and a number of fires within the protected landscape.

The Masungi Georeserve, which is located around 47 kilometers east of Metro Manila, is a conservation area and a rustic rock garden that is part of the UMRBPL.

The UMRBPL, which covers 26,126 hectares in Rizal province, plays an important role in regulating the flow of water towards the highly urbanized National Capital Region.

Despite being declared a protected landscape, threats such as illegal logging, quarrying and mining activities, and construction of establishments such as resorts persist. **(PNA)**



Palace orders DENR to look into illegal activities in Masungi

Published April 26, 2022, 3:49 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

Malacañang on Tuesday urged the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to look into alleged illegal quarrying and mining activities inside the protected area of Masungi Georeserve in Rizal.

In a statement on Tuesday, April 26, Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said the Palace is concerned about the reports of “alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed.”

This came after protectors of Masungi Georeserve and other environmentalists called on President Duterte and DENR to cancel a mining agreement in Upper Marikina River Basin and order to stop activities there, including the building of resorts.

“Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development,” Andanar said.

The Palace, he added, is also therefore calling on DENR’s Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to file necessary charges against violators of environmental laws.



Palace: DENR should probe violations at Marikina Watershed, file charges

By [Alexis Romero](#)(Philstar.com) - April 26, 2022 - 6:59pm



This February 7, 2021 photo shows the forest around Masungi Georeserve in Baras, Rizal.

MANILA, Philippines — Malacañang on Tuesday asked the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to file charges against violators of environmental laws following claims that there are harmful activities inside the Masungi and Upper Marikina Watershed.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development. We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed," acting presidential spokesman Martin Andanar said in a statement.

"We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources anti-illegal logging task force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," he added.

On Monday, more than 30 environmentalists and concerned citizens, including De La Salle Brothers provincial superior and former Education Secretary Armin Luistro, Manila Observatory executive director Fr. Jose Ramon Villarin, and former Puerto Princesa City mayor Edward Hagedorn, urged Duterte and acting environment chief Jim Sampulna to immediately cancel the mineral production sharing agreements found within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal.

They noted that under the Extended National Integrated Protected Areas System Act, mineral exploration, mining, and quarrying are prohibited inside protected areas. Citing documents from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, quarry companies have committed "gross violations constituting breach in their contracts."

"We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said MPSAs (mineral production sharing agreements)," they said in a joint letter to Duterte and Sampulna.

The concerned citizens said the DENR has not issued a formal cancellation despite the order by former Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu to cancel the agreements.

"We condemn the reported moves of certain officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the watershed," the letter read.



"It is ironic and disheartening that instead of canceling the quarrying agreements and removing illegal permanent structures, there are now threats of removing the award-winning reforestation works of the Masungi Georeserve Foundation in the area."

The concerned citizens said there has been a persistent decline in the tree-covered areas of the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape even if it was proclaimed as a protected area in 2011.

"This dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal province," they said.

The environmentalists and concerned citizens called on Duterte and Sampulna to prioritize the "well-being of millions over the interests of the few."

"Quarrying must be stopped. Conservation must proceed. The ecosystem restoration efforts of Masungi and other non-government organizations must be fully supported and expanded. They have a critical role in augmenting management gaps and providing vital oversight in forest and biodiversity protection," they added.



Gov't urged to cancel quarry permits in Upper Marikina Watershed, support Masungi's conservation work

[Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) - Philstar.com April 26, 2022 | 10:10am



A sign indicating the Masungi Geopark Project is a restricted area is seen in this February 6, 2021 photo. [Philstar.com/EC Toledo IV](#)

MANILA, Philippines — Environmentalists and concerned citizens called on President Rodrigo Duterte and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to protect the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Masungi landscape, which play a vital role in providing resilience against disasters.

In a joint letter to Duterte and acting environment chief Jim Sampulna, over 30 environment and education leaders asked them to immediately cancel quarrying agreements within the 26,126-hectare Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal province.

They noted that no formal cancellation of Mineral Production Sharing Agreements has been issued by the DENR despite the pronouncements of former environment secretary Roy Cimatu, who resigned in February due to health reasons.

According to Section 18 of Republic Act 11038 or the Extended National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018, undertaking mineral exploration or extraction are prohibited within the protected area.

“The imperative to put environmental conservation first and to work with different sectors to protect and restore the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Masungi landscape is clear. Quarrying must be stopped. Conservation must proceed,” the letter read.

“The ecosystem restoration efforts of Masungi and other non-government organizations must be fully supported and expanded. They have a critical role in augmenting management gaps and providing vital oversight in forest and biodiversity protection,” it added.

Signatories of the letter include environmental lawyer Tony Oposa, former Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn, and De La Salle Brothers provincial superior Bro. Armin Luistro.

Conservation work

Masungi Georeserve Foundation is restoring 2,700 hectares of severely degraded watershed areas around the Masungi limestones.



Under an agreement signed with the DENR in 2017, Masungi will plant and maintain trees to help heal the abused watershed, while the DENR will be in charge of ejecting illegal occupants from the project site and canceling tenurial instruments with violations.

Studies estimate that Upper Marikina Watershed had 19.4% of forest cover left in 2006 and only 11% of forest cover left in 2021. The integrity of the watershed has been degraded by decades of illegal logging, quarrying and mining activities, and construction of establishments such as resorts

“The dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal Province,” the environmental advocates said.

They also decried the reported moves to approve construction of resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the critical watershed, and threats to remove the award-winning reforestation work of the foundation.

Environment undersecretary Jonas Leones earlier said the agency was reviewing its memorandum of agreement with Masungi Georeserve Foundation to determine what needs to be strengthened and changed.

In mid-February Masungi’s forest rangers were mauled by people suspected to be working for resorts inside the watershed.

Source: https://www.philstar.com/headlines/climate-and-environment/2022/04/26/2176894/govt-urged-cancel-quarry-permits-upper-marikina-watershed-support-masungis-conservation-work?fbclid=IwAR3lcq60Vqkh2Qblw3HMZHzdyjHYIVBMded_kCGStlwuKJ7Ws7pfttNLxGQ



Gov't urged to crack down on quarries, other works around Masungi reserve

April 26, 2022 | 8:02 pm



MASUNGI GEORESERVE FOUNDATION, HANDOUT

THE GOVERNMENT needs to cancel quarrying agreements and halt illegal construction around the Masungi Georeserve in Baras, Rizal, and focus on conserving the area, civil society organizations said.

Over 30 heads of environmental organizations and educational institutions signed a joint statement seeking an end to such activity at Masungi and the Upper Marikina Watershed, which they said risks degrading the environment around the portion of the Sierra Madre range to the east of Metro Manila.

“The conservation project, spanning 2,700 hectares of severely degraded and abused watershed areas around the Masungi limestone, seeks to stop illegal activities such as land grabbing, quarrying, and illegal construction, and rewild the landscape crucial to Metro Manila’s disaster and water resilience,” according to the joint statement.

Apart from being a conservation area and park, the Masungi project also aims to protect the Upper Marikina Watershed.

The joint statement urged the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to immediately cancel Mineral Production Sharing Agreements (MPSA) in force within the Upper Marikina Watershed.

The group cited Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems Act, which bans mineral exploration, mining, and quarrying inside protected areas.

“We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said MPSAs. We condemn the reported moves of certain officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the critical watershed,” according to the statement.

“It is ironic and disheartening that instead of canceling the quarrying agreements and removing illegal permanent structures, there are now threats of removing the award-winning reforestation work of the Masungi Georeserve Foundation in the area,” it added.



The group said that studies estimate the remaining forest cover of the Upper Marikina Watershed at 11% as of 2021.

“This dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal Province,” according to the statement.

Among the signatories are environmental lawyer Antonio A. Oposa, former Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn, Manila Observatory Executive Director Jose Ramon T. Villarín, Wild Bird Club President Michael C. Lu, and United Nations Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador Antoinette F. Taus, among others.

In a separate statement, Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin M. Andanar also urged the DENR to look into environmental degradation in the area.

“Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development,” he said.

“We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed. We urge the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws,” he added. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**



Palace: Sue mines, resorts in watershed

[Alexis Romero](#) - The Philippine Star April 27, 2022 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Malacañang yesterday ordered the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to file charges against violators of environmental laws following claims that people have been setting up mines and resorts in the Masungi and Upper Marikina Watershed.

“Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development. We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed,” acting presidential spokesman Martin Andanar said in a statement.

“We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) anti-illegal logging task force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws,” he added.

Last Monday, more than 30 environmentalists and concerned citizens – including De La Salle Brothers provincial superior and former education secretary Armin Luistro, Manila Observatory executive director Fr. Jose Ramon Villarín and former Puerto Princesa City mayor Edward Hagedorn – urged Duterte and acting environment chief Jim Sampulna to immediately cancel the mineral production sharing agreements found within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal.

They noted that under the Extended National Integrated Protected Areas System Act, mineral exploration, mining and quarrying are prohibited inside protected areas. Citing documents from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, they alleged that quarry companies have committed “gross violations constituting breach in their contracts.”

“We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said MPSAs,” they said in a joint letter to Duterte and Sampulna, referring to mineral production sharing agreements.

The concerned citizens said the DENR has not issued a formal cancellation despite an order by former environment secretary Roy Cimatú to cancel the agreements.

“We condemn the reported moves of certain officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the watershed,” the letter read.

“It is ironic and disheartening that instead of canceling the quarrying agreements and removing illegal permanent structures, there are now threats of removing the award-winning reforestation works of the Masungi Georeserve Foundation in the area,” it added.

The concerned citizens said there has been a persistent decline in the tree-covered areas of the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape even if it was proclaimed as a protected area in 2011.

“This dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal province,” they said.

The environmentalists and concerned citizens called on Duterte and Sampulna to prioritize the “well-being of millions over the interests of the few.”

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/04/27/2176981/palace-sue-mines-resorts-watershed>



'Probe Masungi illegal activities'

By [Catherine S. Valente](#) April 27, 2022



The Masungi Georeserve allows a limited number of guests to experience the trail and see the karst terrain, which may be compromised if a resort is built within its premises. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MALACAÑANG on Tuesday urged the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to investigate the alleged illegal development activities in the protected area of Masungi Georeserve in Rizal.

In a statement, acting Palace spokesman Martin Andanar said the DENR should file charges against violators of environmental laws.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development. We, therefore, express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed," Andanar said.

"We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," he added.

This came after protectors of Masungi Georeserve and other environmentalists called on Duterte and the DENR to cancel a mining agreement in the Upper Marikina River Basin and order to stop activities there, including the building of resorts.

Earlier, DENR Undersecretary Jonas Leones said the agency was reviewing its memorandum of agreement with Masungi Georeserve Foundation to determine what needs to be strengthened and changed.

Under Presidential Proclamation 296 issued in 2001, the Marikina Watershed Reservation has been declared a protected area and was renamed the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape.

It was granted protection under Republic Act 7586 or the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992." This means the area is "protected against destructive human exploitation."

The Marikina Watershed, with a total land area of 26,128 hectares, gives "ecosystem services" to the localities of Antipolo City, Baras, General Nakar, Rodriguez, San Mateo, and Tanay, the DENR website said.



'Conservation first': Cancellation of quarry permits in Marikina Watershed sought

Job Manahan, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Apr 26 2022 04:46 PM | Updated as of Apr 26 2022 05:02 PM



Photos from the Masungi Georeserve

MANILA - The Masungi Georeserve and some environmentalists have called on President Rodrigo Duterte and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to cancel quarry permits in the Upper Marikina Watershed and the nearby national park there.

A joint letter urged Duterte and Environment Secretary Jim Sapulna to cancel the mineral production sharing agreements in the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal and the unnamed national park, citing the dangers of activities stemming from the deals.

The award-winning Masungi team conserves and rehabilitates a portion of the watershed, which they said serves as a "first line of defense" against rainwater from strong storms.

"The imperative to put environmental conservation first and to work with different sectors to protect and restore the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Masungi landscape is clear. Quarrying must be stopped. Conservation must proceed," the letter read.

"We condemn the reported moves of certain officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the critical watershed," it added.

The signatories, which include Brother Armin Luistro, Ateneo President Fr. Jett Villarin, and ABS-CBN Foundation managing director Roberta Lopez-Feliciano, were "deeply concerned" that despite former Environment chief Roy Cimatu's order to cancel the mineral exploration deals, this has yet to be acted on.

"No formal cancellation has been issued by the DENR for two years hence and until his (Cimatu's) resignation," it read.

They also noted that none other than the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) said that some quarry firms made "gross violations" in their contracts.

Documents shared to the media showed that as of May last year, MGB already sent show-cause orders to a couple of contractors with mineral production sharing agreements in the watershed after committing violations.



"We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said [agreements]," the statement read.

"The ecosystem restoration efforts of Masungi and other non-government organizations must be fully supported and expanded. They have a critical role in augmenting management gaps and providing vital oversight in forest and biodiversity protection," it added.

PALACE: FILE RAPS IF NECESSARY

In a statement, Malacañang expressed concern on the reported illegal activities, which was why it urged the country's Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to investigate these.

"We urge the... Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental law," said acting Palace Spokesperson Martin Andanar.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development," he added.

ABS-CBN News sought comment from the DENR regarding the letter, but they have yet to issue a statement as of this story's posting.

Last year, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) recommended the filing of charges against several local officials and establishments in Baras, Rizal over supposed encroachment at the watershed.



DENR-Calabarzon also signed 43 cease and desist orders against the establishments due to violations in the protected areas.

Masungi trustee Billie Dumaliang last year revealed to ABS-CBN News the supposed expansion of resorts in the Marikina Watershed, and the spike of illegal activities, clearing and burning of areas included, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Marikina watershed was granted protection under Republic Act No. 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992. This means the area is “protected against destructive human exploitation.”

Source: https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/04/26/22/cancellation-of-quarry-permits-in-marikina-watershed-sought?fbclid=IwAR0SFOCUdV5jIID4TH7vk_uYh0Ui5gIaDJmInJHUeb9mMEQRMkTYdQ4Rdfo



DENR binoldyak ng Malacañang sa Marikina quarrying

By Abante Tonite Last updated Apr 26, 2022



Kinalampag ng Malacañang ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force na tingnan ang ulat ng umano'y quarrying at mining activities sa Upper Marikina Watershed at kalapit na mga lugar na itinuturing na national park.

Kasunod ito ng panawagan ng ilang grupo kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na kanselahin ang permit ng mga gumagawa ng aktibidad sa nabanggit na lugar.

Sinabi ni acting Presidential Spokesman Secretary Martin Andanar na nababahala ang Malacañang sa umano'y nabanggit na mga aktibidad at posibleng pagtatayo ng mga resort sa Marikina Watershed.

“We Urge the DENR Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws,” ani Andanar.

Sinabi ng kalihim na dapat mahigpit na mabantayan ang kalikasan at mga likas na yaman dahil mahalaga ito para sa kaunlaran. (Aileen Taliping)



PTV

Philippines state-controlled media · 14h · 🌐

BASAHIN: Acting Presidential Spokesperson Sec. Martin Andanar, naglabas ng pahayag ukol sa Masungi Georeserve.



Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development.

We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed.

We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws.



Acting Presidential Spokesperson Martin Andanar
On the Masungi Georeserve
April 26, 2022

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [@PTVph](#) [@PTVPhilippines](#) [www.ptni.gov.ph](#) [www.ptvnews.ph](#)

👍 30

1 Comment 9 Shares



No black sand mining in Cagayan river, assures Region 2 inter-agency monitoring team

Published April 26, 2022, 4:31 PM

by [Liezle Basa Inigo](#)

CAGAYAN — Representatives of different government agencies confirmed that the dredging activity at the mouth of the Cagayan River is part of the national government's river restoration project as initiated by Governor Manuel N. Mamba.

Before the confirmation, the Region 02 Inter-Agency Environmental Monitoring Team on Tuesday conducted a spot inspection of vessels being used to dredge the Cagayan River in barangay Toran, Aparri.

The inspection was conducted by the team after a group of fisherfolk held a "Walk Protest Rally" in the town to call the Team's attention to the alleged black sand mining operation.

The Cagayan Provincial Information Office said that among the agencies that took part in the inspection were the Department of Environment and Natural Resources(DENR), Mines and Geo-sciences Bureau (MGB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), all in region 2 and City Environment & Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Aparri.

The spot inspection of the dredging vessels lasted for almost an hour and it was confirmed that there was no black sand mining in the dredging activity in the Cagayan River.

Earlier, Governor Mamba explained that the Cagayan River is under rehabilitation and that the presence of large ships is due to the ongoing large-scale dredging activity to desilt the Cagayan River.

The provincial government added that the project is meant to control the flood and serve as a necessary "enabling activity for the reopening of the Aparri port and the establishment of an international seaport".



LEBEL NG TUBIG SA ANGAT DAM NANATILING NASA 195 METERS



April 26, 2022 @ 6:46 PM 13 hours ago

SA panayam ng inyong Agarang Serbisyo Lady, binanggit ni Dr. Seville “Bill” David, Executive Director ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) Director David na ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay nasa 195.07 noong April 18, 2022, bahagyang pagtaas kung ikukumpara noong ika-4 ng Abril 2022, (6:00am) na nasa 190.75 metro lamang.

Base sa ulat kahapon (April 25, 2021) ang dam elevation mula sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, nasa 195.54 meters ang level ng tubig sa Angat Dam, 100.13 meters sa Ipo Dam at 78.82 meters sa La Mesa Dam.

Dahil sa patuloy o paminsan-minsan ang pag-ulan sa may paligid ng Angat Dam nanatiling nasa 195 meters ang lebel ng tubig.

Sa pamumuno ni Dr. David, patuloy ang pamamahala at pagbabantay ng NWRB sa lahat ng water sources sa buong bansa. Layunin nito ang pagbibigay ng maayos na serbisyo ng patubig tungo sa mas magandang kalidad ng buhay para sa bawat Pilipino.

Hinihikayat niya na makiisa ang lahat sa paggamit nang tama ng tubig, “Napakahalaga ng tubig sa ating buhay. Huwag nating sayangin ang bawat patak para maseguro na may tubig pang magagamit ang mga susunod na henerasyon.”

Sa gitna ng pangamba na pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam, tiniyak ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna sa publiko na mananatili ang NWRB sa itaas ng sitwasyon dahil na rin sa mga isinasagawang hakbang upang maging sapat ang suplay ng tubig sa panahon ng tag-init.

“The NWRB will be in the forefront of monitoring the water level of the Angat Dam and putting contingency measures in place. While we are experiencing low water levels in the Angat Dam, the NWRB has already made its move to solve the looming problem,” saad ni Sampulna.

Ang NWRB ay attached agency ng DENR na responsable sa pamamahala at regulasyon ng lahat ng water resources at services sa bansa.

Magkasamang paalala at pakiusap ang iniwan ni Dr. David para sa lahat – tumulong sa wastong paggamit ng tubig, lalo na ngayong panahon ng tag-init. Sa patuloy na pagtaas ng water demand, maging mas responsable sa paggamit nito upang hindi danasin ang kakulangan sa tubig.

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/lebel-ng-tubig-sa-angat-dam-nanatiling-nasa-195-meters/>

Photo exhibit, earth protection campaign on



April 26, 2022

GOVERNOR Eugenio Jose Lacson and the Negros Occidental Provincial Environment Management Office (Pemo) spearheaded the launching of the "Galing Pook" photo exhibit earth conservation, protection and rehabilitation (CPR) campaign at SM City Bacolod Sunday, April 24.

The governor was joined by Provincial Administrator Rayfrando Diaz, PEM Officer Julie Ann Bedrio, Provincial Consultant Rafael Coscolluela, SM Mall Manager George Anthony Jardiolin, Dr. Jose Rene Gayo and Dr. Emma Porio.

The members of the 2021 Galing Pook Awards National Selection Committee were also present at the event.

Negros Occidental is a recipient of the Galing Pook Awards, one of the most sought-after and prestigious awards by local government units (LGUs) in the Philippines.

Of the 206 submitted entries, the province bagged the award as one of the 10 winners of 2022 Galing Pook Awards with its project entitled, "Network of Alliances for Coastal Conservation."

The exhibit, which will run from April 22 to 30, 2022, features the winners of Galing Pook Awards, and aims to increase public awareness, and inspire Negrenses to replicate the ten outstanding local governance programs of the winners.

"As we are celebrating Earth Day, today is an opportune time to be reminded that the movement to save the environment is a diverse social and political movement," Lacson said.

He said the need for the recovery of the ecosystems that have been degraded and destroyed, and the conservation of those that are still intact has gone beyond the question of choice, and has now become a necessity.

"We must espouse the just and sustainable management of resources and stewardship of the environment through changes, both in public policy and individual behavior," he added.

Meanwhile, the Provincial Education and Advocacy Center for Environment (Peace), as well as the Envi-talk Program of Pemo in Central Philippine State University (CPSU) Radyo Muscovado 100.5 Sweet FM, with CPSU president Dr. Aladino Moraca, were also launched as part of the activity. **(PR)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1927392/bacolod/lifestyle/photo-exhibit-earth-protection-campaign-on>



Taguig LGU nanawagan ng weekly clean-up drive

Jaja Garcia April 26, 2022 [Metro, News](#)

BILANG SUPORTA sa mga pagsisikap ng lungsod sa pangangalaga ng kapaligiran, hinihikayat ng pamahalaang lungsod ng Taguig, ang kanilang mga mamamayan na lumahok sa weekly open-age clean-up drive.

Ayon sa local government unit (LGU) sa pamamagitan ng City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), ang clean-up drive ay isang lingguhang aktibidad na sabay-sabay na gagawin sa ilang barangay sa Taguig upang mapanatili ang pagiging luntian at kalinisan ng lungsod.

Isa rin ito sa mga proyekto ng CENRO katuwang ang mga Taguigeños upang maiwasan ang mga pagbabara ng mga basura sa daluyan ng tubig na naging sanhi ng mga pagbaha sa mga lansangan sa tuwing panahon ng tag-ulan.

Paalala ng LGU sa mga residente ng Taguig, ugaliin ang pagiging disiplinado, habang nasa lansangan, kung walang malapit na tapunan ng basura tulad ng mga balot ng pagkain o balat ng Kendi ay dapat ibulsa na lamang ito o kaya ay ilagay sa bag. (GINA GARCIA)

Source: <https://hatawtabloid.com/2022/04/26/taguig-lgu-nanawagan-ng-weekly-clean-up-drive/?fbclid=IwAR13EDgSnNvycBpk7MqoyjeCoiUIfAGUh400Ovkv815xnnq6DaAyQYbfSrnM>



More reasons to love Boracay

BYBMPLUS APRIL 26, 2022



This Labor Day Weekend, Discovery Shores Boracay celebrates with **Love Boracay**, a four-day weekend of summer revelry filled with good food, cool drinks, great company, and beats from Manila's and Boracay's top DJs, with exciting themes for a festive celebration.

Kicking off on Friday, April 29, 2022 is **Love Boracay: White Shindig**, which transforms the resort's Sand Bar and the Lounge area into a fresh and dreamy white event. Everyone is invited to come dressed in white, enjoy beach eats and overflowing booze as they groove to the beats of guest DJ Knoxville.



DJ Mars Miranda and guest mixologist Ulysse Jounneaud

Saturday, April 30, 2022 is **Love Boracay: Bohemian Sunsets**, which marks the start of an unforgettable night. A bar take-over by guest mixologist, Ulysse Jounneaud of Buccaneers Rum & Cocktails is the evening's special highlight. Indulge in special Moët Hennessy cocktail concoctions, specially created for the evening's merriment. Get lost in the bohemian beats of guest DJ Marvin, one of the island's best artists!

1st day of May is **Love Boracay: Retro Wave**. Take a walk down memory lane and ride on the Retro Wave. Get ready to relive the best of the 80s and 90s on Labor Day! Bring your friends, grab a bottle and go back in time with the greatest retro hits from guest DJ Ace Ramos.



DJs Knoxville, Ace Ramos and Marvin



Extend the festivities to May 2, 2022 with **Love Boracay: Fiesta Divertida**, a culminating event featuring the pulsating music of guest DJs Knoxville, Mars Miranda and Ace Ramos. Hold on to your sombreros, and have a colorful fiesta with servings of tacos, tortillas and other Latin America treats, paired with Piña Colodas, Mojitos, Cuba Libre and other fun mixes.

The Love Boracay-themed nights are from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Sand Bar with a consumable fee of Php 1,000 nett per person. The event sponsors are Moët Hennessy, Heineken, Bacardi, Grey Goose, Pioneer DJ, DMG with Cebu Pacific as the official airline partner.



Aerial shot of Discovery Shores Boracay

Love Boracay is Discovery Shores Boracay's music and food festival this summer season. With a play button as the key element in the event logo, Love Boracay is a call to everyone to continue to love life and to remember that life is no longer on pause.

Happy Summer room packages are available until June 2022. To know more about the irresistible room offer, visit <https://bit.ly/dsb-happysummer>.

For inquiries and reservations, visit www.discoveryshoresboracay.com or call (632) 7720.8888.

Discovery Shores Boracay is owned by The Discovery World Corporation and is managed by the Discovery Hospitality Corporation.



Summit aids irrigation of GreenEarth's reforestation site in Bulacan

Philstar.com April 26, 2022 | 10:50am



Through the partnership, Summit Natural Drinking Water bottles will be used to provide irrigation for GreenEarth's 200,000 seedlings planted in San Miguel, Bulacan.

Photo Release

MANILA, Philippines — This year, Summit Natural Drinking Water partners with GreenEarth Heritage Foundation to help in the latter's reforestation efforts. Its bottles will be used to provide irrigation for the foundation's 200,000 seedlings planted in San Miguel, Bulacan.

These Summit PET bottles are to be maximized in the entire irrigation process that the seedlings require. First, the bottles will be used to gather water from the rivers to provide to the plants. Then, the bottles will be pricked until water droplets come out.

These bottles will then be set beside the seedlings to provide water for three days up to a week. Summit's initiative to provide PET bottles will help sustain GreenEarth's reforestation site, as the donated bottles can be used for years to come.

GreenEarth's advocacy to sustainability



Summit PET Bottles are used as an alternative irrigation system for GreenEarth's plantation.

Photo Release

The GreenEarth Heritage Foundation is a burgeoning reforestation site with a mission to preserve the environment, adhere to sound and sustainable agricultural practices and help in the alleviation of poverty through livelihood, education and community development.



The land that stretches over 100 hectares provides the potential to serve as an important food basket for the growing urban metropolis.

Its advocacies include showcase environmental restoration, livelihood opportunity and even education.

Summit for the environment

SCAN TO DONATE



About 200,000 seedlings will benefit from Summit's partnership with GreenEarth.

Photo Release

Summit Natural Drinking Water is helping GreenEarth achieve its vision to build a model eco-farming community on their land donation.

Whenever you purchase Summit, your bottles can be repurposed and used to aid the growth of about 200,000 seedlings and restore forests in San Miguel, Bulacan. You get to take part in supporting indigent farming families who are part of GreenEarth's mission and programs.

No effort is too small when it comes to making the world a better place to live in. Summit Natural Drinking Water has always believed in carving partnerships that support meaningful advocacies that provide Filipinos with a better, healthier and more sustainable lifestyle.

Make your mark in creating a greener world for many generations by choosing a brand that spearheads activities that lean towards sustainability.



Summit Natural Drinking Water and GreenEarth Foundation are working hand in hand to create a more sustainable environment through reforestation.

Photo Release

Summit Natural Drinking Water is available in 350ml, 500ml, 1L, 1.5L, 2L, 4L, 5L and 6L bottles in leading stores nationwide.

For more information, visit Summit Natural Drinking on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/lifestyle/business-life/2022/04/26/2169873/summit-aids-irrigation-greenearths-reforestation-site-bulacan>



INVENTORY NG MGA PUNO, LATIAN, BAKAWAN, PANIKI AT IBA PA SA SUBIC BAY

8 hours ago [jp admin](#)

Ito Ang Totoo ni VIC V. VIZCOCHO, JR.



NAPAKAGANDA, walang duda, ng Subic Bay, kasama na ang kapaligiran nito, lalong-lalo na ang bahagi na dating sakop ng Base Naval ng mga Amerikano hanggang 1992.

Ito Ang Totoo: na-preserba ang Subic sa panahon ng base ng mga Amerikano dahil limitado ang galaw sa loob ng base militar, at hindi basta magalaw ang kalikasan, mapa-puno, hayop, dagat, at iba pa.

Bukod sa ganda, importante rin ang pangangalaga sa kalikasan para sa kapakanan ng mamamayan, at mundong ating ginagalawan, ngayon at sa kinabukasan.

Ito Ang Totoo: pag-alis ng mga Amerikano, nagsimula nang magalaw ang mga latian o wetlands kung saan naroon ang mga bakawan.

Ginawa na kasing yarda ng mga used truck at heavy equipment traders na may dala pang mapanganib na mga kemikal na nakasisira sa kalikasan, tulad ng langis, asbestos, etc. Malaking bahagi rin ang ginawa nang mga “warehouse” o bodega.

Pati ang mga puno sa tinatawag na “Virgin Forest” ay nangangawala na, halimbawa sa bahagi ng ginawang malaking gusali para sa noo’y pabahay sa mga Koreanong opisyaes ng ngayo’y bangkarote nang Hanjin Shipyard.

Kahit sa may Kalayaan, Binictican at Cubi Housing areas ay kita ang pagkawala ng maraming puno sa iba’t ibang dahilan, kapwa gawa ng tao at kalikasan.

Ito Ang Totoo: pati ang mga naglalakihang paniki na bukod sa atraksiyon kapwa sa mga turista at lokal na residente ay hindi na rin kasing dami tulad ng dati kapag nagliliparan tungo sa kanilang “feeding grounds” tuwing dapit-hapon at pabalik naman bago pa sumikat ang araw.

Hindi maitatwa na ang mga paniki ay may ginagampanan ding papel sa balanseng ekolohiya (ecosystem) at kapaligiran.

Ito Ang Totoo: sa pag-upo ng bagong Chairman at Administrator ng Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) Rolen C. Paulino, maaaring magkaroon ng ibayong pagtuon ng pansin sa pangangalaga ng ekolohiya at kapaligiran ng Subic Bay Freeport Zone.



Una sa lahat ay maaaring ipa-imbentaryo ni Chairman Paulino ang natitira pang bakawan at latian, ang bilang ng mga paniki at puno, at tukuyin ang nawala na mula nang umalis ang mga Amerikano.

Marapat din na alamin ang panahon kung kailan nangawala ang mga bakawan at latian, paniki, mga puno at matumbok ang mga may kinalaman, kapwa sa loob at labas ng hanay ng mga opisyaes ng SBMA.

Ito ang isang magandang hakbang na maaaring magawa ni Chairman Paulino bilang taga-taguyod ng pangangalaga ng kalikasan. Sana gawin niya. Ito Ang Totoo!



Coal still top threat to global climate goals — report

By MARLOWE HOOD, Agence France-Presse

Published April 26, 2022 4:48pm



A record-low 34 countries have new coal plants under consideration, down from 41 in January 2021, according to the annual Global Energy Monitor report, Tracking the Global Coal Plant Pipeline. REUTERS/ Aly Song

PARIS — The number of coal-fired power plants in the pipeline worldwide declined in 2021, according to research released Tuesday, but the fossil fuel most responsible for global warming still generated record CO2 emissions, threatening Paris climate goals.

Since the 195-nation treaty was inked in 2015, coal power capacity under construction or slated for development has dropped by three-quarters, including a 13-percent year-on-year decrease in 2021 to 457 gigawatts (GW).

Globally, there are more than 2,400 coal-fired power plants operating in 79 countries, with a total capacity of 2,100 GW.

A record-low 34 countries have new coal plants under consideration, down from 41 in January 2021, according to the annual Global Energy Monitor report, Tracking the Global Coal Plant Pipeline.

China, Japan and South Korea—all historical backers of coal development outside their borders—have pledged to stop funding new coal plants in other countries, though there remain concerns about possible loopholes in China's commitment.

And yet the worldwide operational fleet of coal-fired power grew in 2021 by 18 GW, and as of December an additional 176 GW of coal capacity was under construction—about the same as the year before.

Most of that growth is in China, which accounts for just over half of new coal-fired power in the pipeline. South and Southeast Asia are responsible for another 37 percent.

Three-quarters of the new coal power plants that broke ground last year were in China, where newly commissioned capacity offset coal plant retirements in all other nations combined.

Coal-free

"The coal plant pipeline is shrinking, but there is simply no carbon budget left to be building new coal plants," said Flora Champenois of Global Energy Monitor. "We need to stop, now."



The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the International Energy Agency have warned that having a fighting chance of capping global warming at liveable levels means no new coal plants and a rapid phase-out of existing ones.

Rich countries must do so by 2030 and most of the rest of the world by 2040, they said.

Many emerging economies—India, Vietnam, Bangladesh—have cut back on plans for new coal-fired capacity.

"In China, plans for new coal-fired power plants have continued to be announced," said Lauri Myllyvirta, lead analyst for the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air and a co-author of the report.

By far the world's biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, China has vowed to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and become carbon-neutral by 2060.

In the United States, efforts to curtail coal use have slowed, the report showed.

The amount of US coal capacity retired in 2021 declined for the second year in a row, from 16.1 GW in 2019, to 11.6 GW in 2020, to an estimated 6.4 to 9.0 GW last year.

To meet its own climate goals, the United States would need to retire 25 GW annually between now and 2030.

The European Union retired a record 12.9 GW in 2021, including 5.8 GW in Germany, 1.7 GW in Spain and 1.9 GW in Portugal, which became coal-free in November 2021—nine years before its target phase-out date. — **AFP**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/829760/coal-still-top-threat-to-global-climate-goals-report/story/?utm_source=GMANews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR2KBSqzuOUKL-PF51gxYIosWjO7-I4LDLSpK0fSdQ_d3Dxtdgc28_ZkMzA

27 APRIL 2022, WEDNESDAY



NEWS ALERTS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



04-27-22
DATE

TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

DENR URGED TO SUE VIOLATORS

MALACAÑANG: PROBE MASUNGI RESORTS

By Nestor Corrales
@NCorralesINQ

Malacañang on Tuesday called on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to probe the reported construction and expansion of resort facilities in the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Masungi Georeserve.

Acting presidential spokesperson Martin Andanar said the DENR should also investigate the alleged illegal quarrying and mining activities at the protected area of the Masungi Georeserve in Rizal province.

“Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development,” Andanar said in a statement.

He added that Malacañang was “concerned” about the reported illegal development activities in the area.

“We urge the (DENR) Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws,” he said.

Malacañang’s call came after environmentalists and educators, in a joint letter,

urged President Duterte and acting Environment Secretary Jim Sampulna to suspend the quarrying activities at the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal.

Last Feb. 18, two forest rangers were injured after they were attacked by alleged residents of Baras, Rizal.

The Masungi Georeserve Foundation (MGF) said one of the attackers was an employee of a resort that has received a cease-and-desist order from the DENR for building illegal structures inside the protected area.



In Congress, Bayan Muna lawmakers Carlos Isagani Zarate, Eufemia Cullamat and Ferdinand Gaité filed a House resolution to condemn the attack and sought a congressional investigation.

Neutral stance

MGF called on the DENR to make a clear stand and condemn the violent attacks against park rangers and threats against other members of the community allegedly committed by resort owners in the reforestation area.

“Our lives are in danger,” Ann Dumaliang, trustee and project manager of the foundation, told the Inquirer in February, lamenting the lack of “proactive action” from the DENR.

Dumaliang said the DENR had been taking a “neutral” stand on the illegal occupation of a forest reservation, telling the foundation that they would not intervene in what the department referred to as a “land dispute.”

The foundation signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the DENR in 2017 under the late Environment Secretary Gina Lopez.

The MOA was intended to continue efforts to protect and

conserve the 2,700-hectare land around Masungi Georeserve, which is largely in Baras, Rizal, but includes some parts of the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape, Dumaliang said.

According to Dumaliang, the DENR has the “contractual obligation” to evict the “illegal resorts, quarry companies and other illegal occupants” within the conservation project area.

She said seven Masungi park rangers, who were eating in a canteen, had been assaulted by around 30 people believed to be working for owners of allegedly illegal resorts in the area. Two rangers had to be hospitalized.

“This would not have hap-

pened if the DENR had just removed them [illegal occupants]. This somehow drove these people to become violent rioters,” Dumaliang said. “[The DENR] is very concerned in keeping a neutral position and weighing things on this issue.”

DENR endorsement

Dumaliang also said resort owners were flaunting what they claimed was an endorsement from the DENR that somehow solidified their occupancy of parts of the protected area, despite the department’s own cease-and-desist orders against their “continued harmful operation.”

“Emboldened by the ques-

tionable endorsements and advised that only Masungi [Foundation] stands in the way of their businesses, the resort owners embarked on a comprehensive disinformation, hate and violent campaign to stop the conservation project of Masungi and DENR in the area,” Dumaliang added.

“Anarchy and lawlessness rule the day,” Ben Dumaliang, Ann’s father and president of MGF, said in an earlier letter to Philippine National Police chief Dionardo Carlos obtained by the Inquirer. “There is a convenient—but mistaken—police excuse not to intervene claiming it is a land dispute issue.”

“Neither is Masungi [Foun-

ation] engaged in land grabbing or in business as the illegal quarries and resorts falsely portray,” he wrote.

Ann Dumaliang also said that her community had been receiving threats allegedly from owners of resorts and illegal structures in the area.

Early last year, a cardboard box containing bullets was left outside the foundation’s office, a form of grave threat. Months later, two park rangers were wounded after they were shot at by men suspected to be working for the resorts.

“Violence is never okay here,” she said. “We need to hold these people accountable already.” INQ



TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

Gov't urged to crack down on quarries, other works around Masungi reserve

THE GOVERNMENT needs to cancel quarrying agreements and halt illegal construction around the Masungi Georeserve in Baras, Rizal, and focus on conserving the area, civil society organizations said.

Over 30 heads of environmental organizations and educational institutions signed a joint statement seeking an end to such activity at Masungi and the Upper Marikina Watershed, which they said risks degrading the environment around the portion of the Sierra Madre range to the east of Metro Manila.

"The conservation project, spanning 2,700 hectares of severely degraded and abused watershed areas around the Masungi limestone, seeks to stop illegal activities such as land grabbing, quarrying, and illegal construction, and rewild the landscape crucial to Metro Manila's disaster and water resilience," according to the joint statement.

Apart from being a conservation area and park, the Masungi project also aims to protect the Upper Marikina Watershed.

The joint statement urged the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to immediately cancel Mineral Production Sharing

Agreements (MPSA) in force within the Upper Marikina Watershed.

The group cited Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems Act, which bans mineral exploration, mining, and quarrying inside protected areas.

"We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said MPSAs. We condemn the reported moves of certain officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the critical watershed," according to the statement.

"It is ironic and disheartening that instead of canceling the quarrying agreements and removing illegal permanent structures, there are now threats of removing the award-winning reforestation work of the Masungi Georeserve Foundation in the area," it added.

The group said that studies estimate the remaining forest cover of the Upper Marikina Watershed at 11% as of 2021.

"This dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in

low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal Province," according to the statement.

Among the signatories are environmental lawyer Antonio A. Oposa, former Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn, Manila Observatory Executive Director Jose Ramon T. Villarin, Wild Bird Club President Michael C. Lu, and United Nations Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador Antoinette F. Taus, among others.

In a separate statement, Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin M. Andanar also urged the DENR to look into environmental degradation in the area.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development," he said.

"We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed. We urge the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," he added.

Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

04-27-22
DATE

DENR binoldyak ng Malacañang sa Marikina quarrying

Kinalampag ng Malacañang ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force na tingnan ang ulat ng umano'y quarrying at mining activities sa Upper Marikina Watershed at kalapit na mga lugar na idnuturing na national park.

Kasunod ito ng panawagan ng ilang grupo kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na kanselahin ang permit ng mga gumagawa ng aktibidad sa nabanggit na lugar.

Sinabi ni acting Presidential Spokes-

man Secretary Martin Andanar na nababaha ang Malacañang sa umano'y nabanggit na mga aktibidad at posibleng pagtatayo ng mga resort sa Marikina Watershed.

"We Urge the DENR Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," ani Andanar.

Sinabi ng kalihim na dapat mahigpit na mabantayan ang kalikasan at mga likas na yaman dahil mahalaga ito para sa kaunlaran. **(Aileen Taliping)**



04-27-22

TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

Temporary shelters to be built for 'Agaton' victims in Leyte

BY VICTOR REYES

GOVERNMENT agencies led by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) will construct temporary shelters for Leyte families whose houses were destroyed by tropical storm "Agaton."

OCD administrator Ricardo Jalad yesterday said 160 temporary shelters will be prioritized for construction in Baybay City and Abuyog town which were severely hit by landslides.

"The timetable for their completion is June 10," said Jalad, concurrent executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

NDRRMC chairman and Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana presided over a meeting of the NDRRMC on Monday and discussed proposals for the construction of the temporary shelters.

The Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development is finalizing a permanent and standard shelter program for the victims of Agaton. The program will be submitted to the NDRRMC for approval.

The OCD will provide construction materials and funding for the construction while the local

government units of Baybay and Abuyog will provide sites of the temporary shelters.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is tasked to conduct site assessment while the Department of Public Works and Highways will handle site inspection, preparation and site development.

The Armed Forces will deploy personnel for the actual construction of the temporary shelters while the Department of Social Welfare and Development will provide food and cash-for-work for volunteers.

The Department of Interior and Local Government will ensure the compliance of the Baybay and Abuyog governments with the relocation program.

Jalad said heavy equipment of the DPWH are already prepositioned for preparation of the site. "Once that is finished, that will be time our carpenters will come in for the construction," said Jalad.

The NDRRMC said that as of last Sunday, at least 332 houses were reported destroyed by Agaton in Baybay City and Abuyog town and 340 others were damaged.



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

DENR partners with Japan to 'decarbonize' society

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources has strengthened its partnership with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) for the reduction of greenhouse gas emission toward a "decarbonized" society and "Asia zero emissions community."

During the recent Philippines-Japan Bilateral Environmental Policy Dialogue, DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said the Bilateral Environmental Policy Dialogue served as an avenue for DENR and MOEJ to partner in protection against the impact of climate change.

Through a joint statement, the DENR and the MOEJ agreed to take actions to tackle climate change. The two countries would work on advancing the life cycle management of fluorocarbons in the Philippines and Japan to contribute to the Philippines' hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) emissions reduction.

"The Philippines, being an archipelago, is one of the most vulnerable countries to the effects of climate change. Our country has faced several typhoons for as long as we can remember. Partnering with Japan in terms of technology and know-how on measures to

mitigate climate change is indeed vital at this time," Sampulna said.

DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones said the country remains committed to the "projected greenhouse gas emission reduction and avoidance of 75 percent."

MOEJ Vice Minister Tokutaro Nakai said the agency was deepening its cooperation with the DENR through strategies such as Initiative on Fluorocarbons Life Cycle Management, Joint Crediting Mechanism.

Other initiatives are transparency reporting on greenhouse gas emissions, city-to-city collaboration, and knowledge and tools sharing on climate adaptation projects and waste management technology support.

Nakai said that the MOEJ would accelerate its effort to decarbonize Asia for the establishment of the so-called "Asia zero-emissions community."

The Bilateral Environment Dialogue was part of the first-ever Philippines-Japan Environmental Week organized by DENR and MOEJ.



Electric vehicle roadmap crafted soon as measure lapses into law

BY SAMUEL P. MEDENILLA

[@sam_medenilla](#)

ELECTRIC vehicles are now expected to become more accessible to the public after Republic Act (RA) No. 11697 finally lapsed into law earlier this month.

Under the new law, an interagency technical working group (TWG) will be established to develop the Comprehensive Roadmap for the Electric Vehicle Industry (CREVI).

The TWG will include members of the Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the National Economic

and Development Authority (NEDA).

The CREVI will contain the consolidated government policies to develop, promote, and manufacture Electric Vehicles (EV) and charging stations as well as the supporting research and training of the personnel to operate it.

It will be integrated in the Philippine Energy Plan and the National Transport Policy.

Regulation and demand

DOE was tasked by the new law with promoting the adoption of EVs and the development of charging stations, which it will accredit.

For its part, DOTr will be responsible for the demand generation for EVs as well as its regulation.

Among its mandates is to include EVs in its Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Plan and the inclusion of so-called "green routes" for public

transportations.

It will also require private firms and governments to have at least 5 percent of their vehicle fleets to be EVs "within the time frame indicated in the CREVI."

Fiscal incentives

MEANWHILE, DTI will set the policies for the manufacturing of EV, particularly the regulation of its components.

This includes coming out with an EV incentive strategy to the Fiscal Incentive Review Board for the local manufacturing and assembly of such vehicles.

Any violation of the provision of RA 11697 will be punishable with a fine ranging from P50,000 to a maximum of P500,000 and suspension or revocation of permits.

DOE, DOTr, DTI and other concerned government agencies are re-

quired to come out with implementing rules and regulations (IRR) for RA 11697, 120 days after it lapsed into law on April 15, 2022.

The new legislation will take effect 15 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

04-27-22

TITLE:

Palace: Sue mines, resorts in watershed

By ALEXIS ROMERO

Malacañang yesterday ordered the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to file charges against violators of environmental laws following claims that people have been setting up mines and resorts in the Masungi and Upper Marikina Watershed.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development. We therefore express concern on reports of alleged development activities, which include resort expansion, in the Marikina Watershed," acting presidential spokesman Martin Andanar said in a statement.

"We urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) anti-illegal logging task force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," he added.

Last Monday, more than 30 environmentalists and concerned citizens – including De La Salle Brothers provincial superior and former educa-

tion secretary Armin Luistro, Manila Observatory executive director Fr. Jose Ramon Villarin and former Puerto Princesa City mayor Edward Hagedorn – urged Duterte and acting environment chief Jim Sampulna to immediately cancel the mineral production sharing agreements found within the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape in Rizal.

They noted that under the Extended National Integrated Protected Areas System Act, mineral exploration, mining and quarrying are prohibited inside protected areas. Citing documents from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, they alleged that quarry companies have committed "gross violations constituting breach in their contracts."

"We believe these are more than enough grounds to merit the expeditious cancellation of the said MPSAs," they said in a joint letter to Duterte and Sampulna, referring to mineral production sharing agreements.

The concerned citizens said the DENR has not issued a formal cancellation despite an order by former environment secretary Roy Cimatu to cancel the agreements.

"We condemn the reported moves of certain

officials to approve similarly harmful and contradictory activities inside the protected area, such as the construction and operation of certain swimming pool resorts that disrupt and divert waterways inside the watershed," the letter read.

"It is ironic and disheartening that instead of canceling the quarrying agreements and removing illegal permanent structures, there are now threats of removing the award-winning reforestation works of the Masungi Georeserve Foundation in the area," it added.

The concerned citizens said there has been a persistent decline in the tree-covered areas of the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape even if it was proclaimed as a protected area in 2011.

"This dire situation could significantly worsen the extent of flooding in low-lying reaches of the Upper Marikina Watershed, including the cities and communities of Metro Manila and Rizal province," they said.

The environmentalists and concerned citizens called on Duterte and Sampulna to prioritize the "well-being of millions over the interests of the few."



WB-backed scheme's unintended results: More deforestation

By CAI U. ORDINARIO

[@caiordinario](#)

COMMUNITIES deemed eligible to be part of the KalahicidSS (KC) program caused greater deforestation compared to communities that were not part of the program, according to a study by a researcher at the London School of Economics (LSE).

In a study titled, "Aid Against Trees? Evidence from a Community-Driven Development Program in the Philippines," LSE Grantham Research Institute Research Officer Jeffrey Pagel said that on average, KC-eligible municipalities deforested 220 percent more per year than ineligible municipalities.

Pagel said eligible communities for the World Bank-backed KC program on average deforested approximately 79 hectares more per year than ineligible communities.

"Community-driven development (CDD) programs are becoming integral components in the portfolios of international development agencies, but little is known about the environmental effects stemming from such programs," Pagel said. "These results indicate that more focus should be placed on the sustainability of CDD programs."

Pagel said a regression discontinuity design (RDD) and a randomized control trial (RCT) was used to test whether CDD programs like KC have unintended environmental effects with respect to deforestation.

The CDD in the Philippines, in this case the KC, identified infrastructure-related subprojects that led to deforestation. Majority of these included constructed trails, bridges and roads, economic support subprojects, education and health facilities, and water and electricity subprojects.

"If we scale up the total effect over the treated municipalities and years of the program, the KC program leads to 44,556 hectares of

deforestation, about seven-tenths the size of Manila," Pagel said.

In order to prevent further damage to the environment, Pagel said, international development agencies such as the World Bank should focus more on the sustainability of CDD programs, particularly in terms of being more aligned to forest conservation efforts.

Pagel said development agencies must develop mitigation strategies to deter municipalities included in CDD programs from contributing to deforestation.

As of June 2019, the paper listed 219 active CDD projects in 79 countries, including 57 countries supported by the International Development Association (IDA).

"If international development agencies are able to successfully implement the parallel strategies of CDD programs, i.e., poverty reduction and environmental sustainability, such programs can offer a potentially powerful intervention for development agencies and practitioners," Pagel said.

The dataset employed in the analysis contains information on all 5,304 subproject interventions implemented from 2003 to 2008 for a total funding amount of approximately P4.27 billion or \$86,600,000.

Participating municipalities received an average of \$448,773 of KC funding, with the average grant at the village level of \$16,335.

The KC was a government-run CDD implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The program received support from the World Bank and, later, the US-backed Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

The World Bank loans to more than 4,000 villages in 184 municipalities across 42 provinces, thus making KC the largest development program in the country between 2003 and 2008.



MGen eyes offshore wind projects

MERALCO PowerGen Corp. (MGen) has signified its interest to develop offshore wind power projects and team up with foreign investors.

"Yes, we are very interested in offshore wind. These are huge investments. These are huge tracks of offshore wind that is available in the Philippines. We are seriously looking at it. Most likely we will be tapping some foreign investors," said MGen President Jaime Azurin.

The company said it has yet to work on the project details. "First and foremost, you still have to do your wind mast, which will take one to two years and then you decide investment."

The power generation arm of the Manila Electric Co. continues to ramp up its renewable energy (RE) investments, targeting 1,500MW of RE capacity in the next seven years.

"After the first quarter of next year, we would have ramped up about 240MW of renewable projects online," Azurin said.

The RE projects that are already ongoing construction are the 75MWac solar in Baras, Rizal, in partnership with Mitsui; 68MWac solar Ilocos Norte, in partnership with Vena; and the 45MWac solar in Cordon, Isabela, in partnership with Mitsui. These are about 190MW, in addition to MGen's existing 50MW Bulacan Sol, which has been operating since May last year.

"There are still a lot more on the construction of large scale wind farm as well as other storage energy projects in the coming years."

Other RE projects under pre-development includes large-scale wind farm and solar-energy storage. "We'll have a better report sometime maybe in the middle of next year when we have finalized the plan for the large-scale wind farm as well as battery energy storage system."

A new roadmap released recently by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the World Bank Group shows that the Philippines has the potential to install 40 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind power.

The Philippines Offshore Wind Roadmap charts out the potential for developing a robust offshore wind industry in the Philippines in two potential scenarios. The low-growth scenario provides a roadmap for installing offshore wind at levels in line with the DOE's national renewable energy program, and the high-growth scenario provides a roadmap for installing much higher levels that could be sufficient to drive competition, investments, and more cost reduction.

Analysis of the low-growth scenario suggests that the Philippines has the potential to install 6GW of offshore wind by 2050, making up 5 percent of the country's electricity supply. Analysis of the high-growth scenario shows the potential to install 40GW making up 45 percent of its electricity supply. To achieve these scenarios, the roadmap provides guidance on actions that must be taken by the government in collaboration with the stakeholders, including putting in place a long-term plan for offshore wind until 2050 as part of a decarbonized energy mix; establishing offshore wind development zones through further marine spatial planning; investment in transmission, port and other energy infrastructure upgrades; and increasing collaboration with industry and other relevant government agencies.

The other day, AC Energy Corp. (ACEN) said it has already identified possible sites for offshore wind power projects.

"We have identified possible sites in the Philippines and Vietnam while we're currently pursuing studies through pre-development work.

In our home market, ACEN has already secured wind energy service contracts for sites in Batangas and Manila Bay. These are, however, medium to large term initiatives that will depend on commercial and financial and technical feasibility of potential projects," said ACEN Chief Development Officer Jose Maria Zabaleta. *Lenie Lectura*



TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

Weary of many disasters? UN says worse to come

By SETH BORENSTEIN | AP Science Writer

A DISASTER-WEARY globe will be hit harder in the coming years by even more catastrophes colliding in an interconnected world, a United Nations report issued Monday says.

If current trends continue the world will go from around 400 disasters per year in 2015 to an onslaught of about 560 catastrophes a year by 2030, the scientific report by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction said. By comparison from 1970 to 2000, the world suffered just 90 to 100 medium to large scale disasters a year, the report said.

The number of extreme heat waves in 2030 will be three times what it was in 2001 and there will be 30 percent more droughts, the report predicted. It's not just natural disasters amplified by climate change, it's Covid-19, economic meltdowns and food shortages. Climate change has a huge footprint in the number of disasters, report authors said.

People have not grasped how much disasters already cost today, said Mami Mizutori, chief of the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction, "If we don't get ahead of the curve it will reach a point where we cannot manage the consequences of disaster," she said. "We're just in this vicious cycle."

That means society needs to re-think how it finances, handles and talks about the risk of disasters and what it values the most, the report said. About 90 percent of the spending on disasters currently is emergency relief with only 6 percent on reconstruction and 4 percent on prevention, Mizutori said in an interview Monday.

Not every hurricane or earthquake has to turn into a disaster, Mizutori said. A lot of damage is avoided with planning and prevention.

In 1990, disasters cost the world about \$70 billion a year. Now they cost more than \$170 billion a year, and that's after adjusting for inflation, according to report authors. Nor does that include indirect costs we seldom think about that add up, Mizutori said.

For years disaster deaths were steadily decreasing because of better warnings and prevention, Mizutori said. But in the last five years, disaster deaths are "way more" than the

recovery costs taking a bigger chunk out of the economy in nations that can't afford it, co-author Markus Enenkel of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative said.

"These are the events that can wipe out hard-earned development gains, leading already vulnerable communities or entire regions into a downward spiral," he said.

The sheer onslaught of disasters just add up, like little illnesses attacking and weakening the body's immune system, Pulwarty said.

The report calls for an overhaul in how we speak about risk. For example, instead of asking about the chances of a disaster happening this year, say 5 percent, officials should think about the chances over a 25-year period, which makes it quite likely. Talking about 100-year floods or chances of something happening a couple times in 100 years makes it seem distant, Mizutori said.

"In a world of distrust and misinformation, this is a key to moving forward," said University of South Carolina Hazards Vulnerability and Resilience Institute Co-Director Susan Cutter, who wasn't part of the report. "We can move forward to reduce the underlying drivers of risk: Inequality, poverty and most significantly climate change."

People have not grasped how much disasters already cost today, said Mami Mizutori, chief of the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction, "If we don't get ahead of the curve it will reach a point where we cannot manage the consequences of disaster," she said. "We're just in this vicious cycle."

previous five years, said report co-author Roger Pulwarty, a US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration climate and social scientist. That's because both Covid-19 and climate change disasters have come to places that didn't used to get them, like tropical cyclones hitting Mozambique, Mizutori said. It's also the way disasters interact with each other, compounding damage, like wildfires plus heatwaves or a war in Ukraine plus food and fuel shortages, Pulwarty said.

Pulwarty said if society changes the way it thinks about risk and prepares for disasters, then the recent increase in yearly disaster deaths could be temporary, otherwise it's probably "the new abnormal."

Disasters are hitting poorer countries harder than richer ones, with



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE

04-27-22

Loren asks bets on their climate plan

ANTIQUÉ Rep. Loren Legarda on Tuesday urged all candidates in the May 9 elections to lay down their plans for climate adaptation and mitigation.

“I urge all my fellow candidates, from the national level to the cities and municipalities, to present their environmental agenda to the voters,” Legarda said.

She is giving it another try for the Senate in the forthcoming election.

“We can start by focusing on three things: Managing risks instead of managing disasters, protecting our ecosystems, and improving rural livelihoods,” Legarda said.

Legarda made the call as the world marks the 52nd celebration of Earth Day, an annual global observance aiming to raise awareness and drum up support for

planetary action and protection.

The theme for this year’s Earth Day is “Invest in Our Planet,” which calls on everyone to “act boldly, innovate broadly, and implement equitably in order to preserve and protect our health, our families, and our livelihoods.”

“Our people need to know how we, as public servants, plan to invest in our planet in order to address the climate emergency we are in. I know that regardless of our parties and colors, we all agree that we need to save our planet—and I hope we all campaign just as hard for our climate, and lead much-needed discussions on climate change,” Legarda stressed.

She also underscored the important role that elected officials play in addressing the climate crisis, especially at the local government level. **Macon Ramos-Araneta**



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

KALAGAYAN NG ATING INANG KALIKASAN (PART 2)

HAGUPIT ni Super Typhoon Yolanda noong ika-8 ng Nobyembre 2013 ay hindi malilimutan sa ma-tagal na panahon ng mga Pilipino.

Sa araw na ito, ang Super Typhoon Yolanda (International name – Haiyan), ay humagupit sa mga lalawigan nasa kapuluan ng Samar at Leyte. Ito ang sinasabing “strongest storm recorded at landfall”.

Pinayuko rin ng malakas na bagyong ito ang mga lalawigan sa Central Visayas, Zamboanga peninsula, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Bi-

col, at CARAGA.

Matapos ipalaspas ang lubhang malakas na hangin, pagbuhos ng ulan, at storm surge na kasing taas ng mga gusali, nag-iwan ito ng 6,300 na patay, may 28,689 na nasugatan, at may 1,061 pa ring nawawala hanggang sa kasalukuyan. Umabot sa US\$ 2.05 billion o Php 89.59 bilyong piso ang pinsala nito sa imprastruktura at agrikultura.

Sa matinding pinsala at epekto ni Super Typhoon Yolanda, isinailalim ni Pangulong Aquino ang buong bansa sa “State of National Calamity” sa bisa ng Presidential Proclamation No. 682.

Pagbisita ni Pope Francis sa Tacloban City:
Hindi napigilan ng bag-



REIMATE OPINION

ANGINYONG LINGKOD

NI DR. HILDA C. ONG

yong Amang si Pope Francis sa kanyang pagbisita sa Tacloban City noong Enero 17, 2015. Ani Luis Cardinal Tagle, Archdiocese of Manila, hindi inalintana ng Santo Papa ang panganib ng kanyang magiging pagbiyahe dahil ang pagdamay sa mga naulila at nabiktima ng Super Typhoon Yolanda ang siyang sentro ng pagdalaw niya sa Pilipinas.

Sa gitna ng masungit na panahon, idinaos ang isang madamdaming Misa na dinaluhan ng daang libo katao. Bagama’t inamin ng Santo Papa na wala siyang konkretong salitang masasa-

bi sa kanila, nauunawaan niya ang damdamin at pinagdaanan ng mga nakaligtas.

Binigyang-diin niya na “The Lord from the cross is there for you ... That is why we have a Lord who cries with us and walks with us in the most difficult moments of life.”

Kasunod ng polusyon sa hangin at tubig, at walang limitasyong paggamit sa mga likas-yaman, ang mga may buhay na nilalang gaya ng mga hayop at sangkatauhan ang siyang dumaranas ng matinding epekto nito.

27 APRIL 2022, WEDNESDAY



NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



83% approve of Duterte's COVID-19 response – OCTA

[Janvic Mateo](#) - The Philippine Star April 27, 2022 | 12:00am



Residents queue up at a Covid-19 coronavirus vaccination centre in Mandaluyong City, suburban Manila on July 15, 2021.

AFP / Ted Aljibe

MANILA, Philippines — Eight in every 10 Filipinos approve of the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, results of an OCTA Research survey released yesterday showed.

The survey, conducted from March 5 to 10, found that 83 percent of the respondents approve of what the government has done or is currently doing to prevent the spread of the viral illness.

Forty-two percent said they "truly approve," while 40 percent said they "somewhat approve."

Meanwhile, two percent said they "truly disapprove" of the government's COVID-19 response, while four percent said they "somewhat disapprove." Eleven percent cannot say whether they approve or disapprove.

Based on the survey, approval of the government's response to the pandemic was highest among respondents from the Visayas at 92 percent (49 percent truly approve, 42 percent somewhat approve).

It was followed by those in Metro Manila with 88 percent (60 percent truly approve, 28 percent somewhat approve), Mindanao at 80 percent (42 percent truly approved, 38 percent somewhat approve) and the rest of Luzon at 79 percent (35 percent truly approve, 44 percent somewhat approve).

Across socio-economic classes, approval of the government's response was lowest among those in Class E at 68 percent (44 percent truly approve, 24 somewhat approve).

Approval was 82 percent (33 percent truly approve, 49 percent somewhat approve) among respondents from Class ABC, while it was 85 percent (43 percent truly and somewhat approve) for those in class D.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/04/27/2176971/83-approve-dutertes-covid-19-response-octa>



New Covid-19 cases in NCR still below 100 on April 25: OCTA

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor [April 26, 2022, 2:03 pm](#)



(PNA photo by Robert Alfiler)

MANILA – The number of new cases of Covid-19 in the National Capital Region (NCR) remain under 100 as of April 25, the OCTA Research Group said Tuesday.

NCR logged 99 new infections, slightly higher than the 95 infections recorded the previous day, OCTA Research Group fellow Dr. Guido David said over Twitter.

Next to NCR in the list is the province of Cavite with 13 cases; Batangas, eight; Negros Occidental, eight; Davao del Sur, six; and Rizal, six.

For the local government units in the NCR, Makati City recorded the most number of new cases at 17. It was followed by Manila City with 16 cases; Quezon City, 14; and Caloocan City, eight.

On Monday, the Department of Health reported 213 new Covid-19 infections, bringing the total tally of active cases to 12,639. **(PNA)**

27 APRIL 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS

ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





Please click this link:


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnSQW5IgiYY>


ASUL NA ASUL ANG DAGAT! TAGAS KAMUSTA NA?


3,995 views • Streamed live 23 hours ago

 271

 DISLIKE

 SHARE

 CLIP

 SAVE

...



engr. berto

196K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tO4sOiOWU14>

#manilabay #4k

NAKU PO! BAKIT GANITO? MANILA BAY UPDATE APRIL 26, 2022 [4K]

6,667 views • Apr 26, 2022

142

DISLIKE

SHARE

THANKS

SAVE

...



BTV Pinas

75.3K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay

#4k

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bC-0M6-ieW8>

#manilabay #4k

MANILA BAY UPDATE APRIL 26, 2022 [4K]

2,523 views · Apr 26, 2022



98



DISLIKE



SHARE



THANKS



SAVE



BTV Pinas

75.3K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay

#4k

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pQFGrC6xWM>

MANILA

LIVE DOLOMITE BEACH 04-26-2022 MANILA BAY

2,593 views • Streamed live 21 hours ago

135 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...



KUYARONS TV
100K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Live 04-26-2022 dolomite beach manila bay

SHOW MORE