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DENR implements healthcare waste management as infectious medical waste hits 280 tons/day since COVID-19 outbreak

posted August 16, 2021 at 03:47 pm by Manila Standard

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will be implementing a healthcare waste management project in light of the huge waste problem brought about by the Covid 19 pandemic that can cause detrimental effects to human health.



COVID-19 waste management chart. Credit - SPREP

It may not have been earlier predicted, but medical waste brought about by the Covid 19 pandemic is now estimated to be accumulating by 280 metric tons (MT) per day.

This has prompted DENR to cooperate with international agencies including governments from developing countries Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Nepal.

The project, with an allocation of \$1.076 million for the Philippines, will be financed by China's South South Cooperation Fund, Floradema C. Eleazar., United Nations Development Program team leader said in a launch of the project Friday (August 13).

China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) is co-funding the project which totals to \$5 million for five countries.

Eleazar said two waste treatment facilities will be put up in the Philippines.





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One treatment facility will be put up in cooperation with the Pasig local government unit (LGU) where several hospitals (Pasig City General Hospital, Rizal Medical Center) are run by the government.

Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto said during the project's launch that the waste management project will bring about expertise in medical waste management in Pasig.

"The problem has reached critical level. The city government does not have a capacity to deal with this infectious waste (that has been piling up) in the past few months. It is an urgent concern that seeks to be addressed." Sotto said.

"We look forward to the exchange of information, transfer of technology, technical support, , and training of people. We look forward to the use autoclave shredder to process and treat up to 50 kilo per hour of waste."

Samuel C. Sumilang, chief nurse of Dr. Jose Rodriguez Memorial Hospital and Sanitarium in Tala, Caloocan City, also expressed gratitude for having been chosen as pilot site for the project.

The waste management project will emulate the success experienced by China in its response to the Covid 19 medical waste problem.

A UNIDO publication indicated that Infectious waste refers to medical waste that "carries pathogenic microorganisms and has the hazard of leading to the spread of infectious diseases.

Infectious waste mainly includes articles contaminated by patients' blood, body fluid or excrement; and household garbage generated by isolated infectious patients or suspected infectious patients treated by medical institutions."

There are other types of medical waste health authorities are concerned of which are the following

- 1. Drug waste
- 2. Injury waste refers to discarded sharp medical instruments that could stab or cut human body. Injury waste mainly includes: medical needles, suture needles, scalpels, surgical knives, skin preparation knives, surgical saws, glass slides, glass test tubes, and glass ampoules.
- 3. Chemical waste refers to waste chemical articles that are toxic, corrosive, flammable and explosive. Chemical waste mainly includes: discarded chemical reagents from medical imaging department, pathology department and laboratories, discarded chemical disinfectants such as peroxyacetic acid and glutaraldehyde, as well as discarded medical instruments and articles containing heavy metals such as mercury sphygmomanometer and mercury thermometer.
- 4. Pathogen culture medium and specimens, preservation solution of strains and virus seed discarded by pathogenic microorganism laboratories, as well as various discarded medical specimens; discarded blood and serum; used disposable medical supplies and disposable medical devices.

Source: https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/362482





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CEMEX recognized for its waste to energy co-processing of residual waste





Builders of a better, sustainable nation: From L-R: CEMEX's Solid Cement leaders: Production Manager Carl Merencillo, Solid Plant Director Santiago Ortiz, Plant Leader Jowel Casimiro, Environmental Engineer Rochelle Vicencio, and QA Manager Banjo Eraldo received the plaque of recognition from DENR-EMB for their initiative in Small Scale – Waste to Energy for Co-Processing of Residual Waste.

CEMEX Philippines' Solid Cement Plant in San Jose, Antipolo was recently recognized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR's) Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) for its *Small Scale – Waste to Energy for Co-processing of Residual Wastes (RDF)*. This is in keeping with the cement company's commitment to act for the climate, with proper environmental management being one of the concrete action steps taken.

The recognition serves as another validation that CEMEX has, for many years, been true to its commitment towards sustainability and environmental management. This further fulfills CEMEX's 'Future in Action' global strategy to address Climate Change which centers on reducing its CO 2 emissions by 35% by 2025 and around 40% by 2030.

At the core of CEMEX's environmental management initiative is co-processing, which is a sustainable way of processing wastes, specifically single-use plastics, using a cement kiln. This industrial method helps in effectively reducing wastes being dumped on landfills and water bodies. It also helps in recycling the materials as additional energy source (alternative fuel) during cement production.





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CEMEX recognized for its waste to energy co-processing of residual waste

Solid Cement Plant Director Santiago Ortiz received the plaque of recognition from DENR-EMB CALABARZON Regional Director Noemi Paranada through a recent virtual awarding ceremony. "This recognition is a testament to our commitment that we must continuously push for the reduction of our CO2 emissions and protect our environment," Ortiz said.

CEMEX's steadfast campaigns towards climate change earned them different awards from DENR. This includes DENR-EMB's recognition of Solid Cement plant in 2017 for its commitment to the government's Adopt-a-River Program. It also received Best Environmental Technology and Best Available Practice for exemplifying best practices in implementing the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 under Republic Act (RA) 9003. In 2019, the DENR-EMB conferred an award for its innovative waste management solutions such as co-processing and for TSeK (Tamang Segregasyon Para Sa Kalikasan) program services.

Source: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/08/16/cemex-recognized-for-its-waste-to-energy-co-processing-of-residual-waste/





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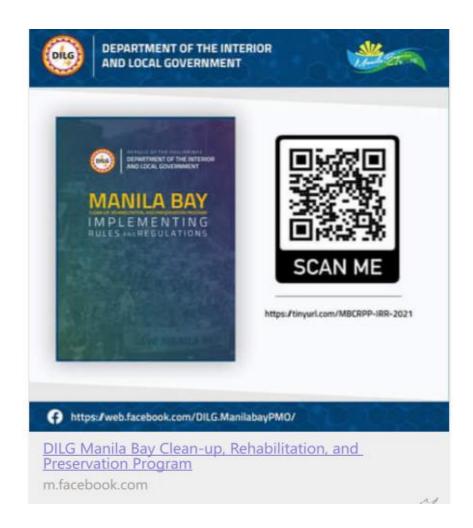


ILLEGAL MINING EQUIPMENT NAKUMPISKA NG DENR, MGB REGION 2. Nilalansag ng mga miyembro ng task force ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) Region 2, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office-Nueva Vizcaya, at Community Environment and Natural Resources Office-Aritao ang ball mills na ginagamit sa illegal small-scale mining activities sa Barangay Runruno, Quezon, Nueva Vizcaya noong nakaraang buwan. Binigyan na rin ng cease-and-desist orders ang mga minero upang ihinto ang kanilang pagmimina sa lugar na sakop ng FCF Minerals Corporation na nakapaloob sa Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement at hindi rin ito itinuturing n Minahang Bayan site. Kabilang din sa task force ang National Bureau of Investigation Region 2, Philippine National Police at Armed Forces of the Philippines.





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Reclamation and corals 'like mixing oil and water' — experts

August 16, 2021 | 2:45 pm



DUMAGUETECITY.GOV.PH

By Brontë H. Lacsamana

Amid suggestions of relocating and restoring corals to offset the environmental damage of the controversial 174-hectare "smart city" reclamation project in Dumaguete City, marine scientists have deemed any efforts impossible given the scale of destruction that the current known plans will wreak on existing ecosystems in the area.

"Integrating corals into the reclamation project will be impossible, like mixing oil and water," said Dr. Wilfredo "Al" Y. Licuanan, director of the Br. Alfred Shields Ocean Research (SHORE) Center at De La Salle University, in a virtual forum in August. "Modern construction techniques are unfortunately very damaging to water quality and consequently anything in those waters."

The seven islets of reclaimed land will run along the coastal Rizal Boulevard, about 30 meters off the present coastline, connected by a bridge. Its aim is to optimize the use of information technology to build a "green", livable city that will include two wastewater treatment facilities, according to Dumaguete City Mayor Felipe Antonio B. Remollo, who entertained a virtual Q&A that same week.

A major concern has been <u>transparency regarding the plans</u>, raised by the National Academy of Science and Technology, Dumaguete-based Silliman University, and other institutions and organizations, which have emphasized that it's important to consider the project's impact on marine protected areas (MPA) in the region.





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RELOCATION AND RESTORATION

In response to these concerns, Mr. Remollo promised preparations for a marine survey to be conducted so that, with modern technology, corals could be transferred and propagated in a different place. He also cited <u>Jamaica's same efforts</u> that can be replicated in the Philippines.

"To be honest, I have no idea what the mayor is talking about. I have no idea what modern technologies he is referring to," responded Dr. Laurie J. Raymundo, director of the University of Guam's Marine Laboratory, in her part of the forum later that week. "My team and I would have bags of cement, hammers and chisels, our strength, and our time underwater. There isn't any such technology that exists to my knowledge."

Even in Jamaica, she shared that the same techniques are used, where divers go down, hammer and chisel away, put the corals into a boat, then cement them back later in the new location. In Dumaguete, the issue is the size of the corals, which are massive and will require a crane or barge plus engineering expertise, all of which will be costly.

Mr. Licuanan agreed with this as well, adding that the marine biodiversity in Jamaica is incomparable to the Philippines, with Philippine reefs boasting 100 to 200 species of coral compared to the 50 species in Caribbean reefs. This would entail plenty more elements to consider when touching any ecosystem.

Application for reclamation, which Mr. Remollo shared will take the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) about three years to process, involves study of the four MPAs affected by the project. With these plans, he posted the question to critics: "Is it not possible that we can create a reasonable balance between economic growth and the preservation and the protection of the environment? It can't be just black or white."

IMPORTANCE OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY

Disturbing the ecosystem built around a coral reef will take intensive research and careful consideration given the biodiversity that will be lost no matter the efforts, according to both scientists in the forum. They also clarified that relocation involves saving just the select living layer of a reef, with its coral skeleton and the accumulation of its body left behind, especially for massive reefs like in Dumaguete.

"Reefs are important for the food security in the country. They are feeding grounds and nursery grounds even for deep sea fishes," said Mr. Licuanan, stressing that reefs support 25% of marine life. He added that the destruction of life in Dumaguete could affect ecosystems in the rest of Negros due to the interconnectedness of marine life, with another important role being the protection of the coast from waves during typhoons, especially when also backed by mangroves and seagrass beds.





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Citing cases of Philippine reefs that have been <u>able to recover from bleaching</u> from climate change, Ms. Raymundo also shared that Caribbean reefs have undergone enormous amounts of mortality, with one hypothesis being their lack of diversity. In that case, Philippine reefs benefit from richer marine life.

On the question of what amount of destruction would be acceptable, she added, "The people of Dumaguete will have to decide what they're willing to live without. The fact that this [talk] series is taking place is already a statement that this project is too much."

Source: https://www.facebook.com/115158345163134/posts/4551616321517292/?app=fbl





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Empleyado ng DENR timbog sa boga, bala

By Abante News Online - On Aug 16, 2021

METRO



Kinilala ni GPS chief-of-police P/Maj. Gerry Macadangdang ang suspek na si Dinemark Camit, 31, may-asawa, empleyado ng Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) Cagayan, ng Barangay San Jose, Gonzaga.

ARESTADO ang isang empleyado ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) matapos mahulihan ng baril at mga bala sa isinagawang search operation ng Gonzaga Police Station (GPS) sa Cagayan noong Linggo.

Ayon kay Macadangdang, nakatanggap umano sila ng intelligence report nagtatago ng mga baril at mga bala si Camit sa kanyang bahay.





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Empleyado ng DENR timbog sa boga, bala

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Sa pamamagitan ng search warrant na ibinaba ng korte, agad na sinalakay ang bahay ng suspek.

Nasamsam sa pag-iingat nito ang ilang piraso ng granada, isang piraso ng magazine M-16 rifle, 11 bala ng 5.56 caliber at 6 pirasong bala ng .45 pistol.

Nakakulong ngayon sa GPS jail ang suspek at nahaharap sa kaukulang kaso. (Allan Bergonia)





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Used face masks found in watershed cleanup

By Ruth Palo August 17, 2021

DAVAO CITY: Several disposable face masks and other solid waste materials were collected during a cleanup drive by environmental groups here at the Panigan-Tamugan Watershed on Friday.

In a statement, the Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability (IDIS) Inc. said the group was able to collect 80 disposable masks along with one bottle of fungicide, 36 plastic cups, cigarette packs and large amounts of various sachets of shampoo, junk food and detergents at the Panigan-Tamugan Watershed.

Bantay Bukid volunteers joined the cleanup drive.

The IDIS statement said the volume of waste collected on Friday was greater than the one collected in a similar cleanup drive last month where the face mask count was only 21.

"These types of [waste] have a significant impact on the environment and the communities nearby," the statement added.

According to the IDIS, the majority of the waste was made from nonbiodegradable materials that, if discarded, would survive for hundreds of years in the environment.

The group believed that the turnout of improperly disposed solid waste in the water source of the city was an issue that needed urgent solutions.

The group said while it commended the actions of the Watershed Management Council and the city government, regarding the first reported improper disposal of face masks and other waste materials in the river, recreational activities in the area remained unregulated and unmonitored.

"We owe it to our Bantay Bukid volunteers, who regularly conduct river monitoring and [cleanup drives] in the area to maintain the cleanliness and protection of our watersheds," the IDIS statement continued.





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The statement further said, "But as consumers of our natural resources, we are also responsible and accountable for [its] degradation."

IDIS asked consumers to also do their part by being mindful of their waste and ensure that they dispose of these properly because nature is not a trash bin, particularly not the watershed that was a water source of the city.





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Volunteers collect face masks, plastic waste along Panigan-Tamugan Watershed



Photo credit to Idis

RALPH LAWRENCE G. LLEMIT

August 15, 2021

AMID the issuance of regulations and policies, local environmental groups were alarmed with the recent recovery of disposable face masks and plastic wastes along Panigan-Tamugan Watershed during a clean-up drive recently.

In a Facebook post on Friday, August 13, Interface Development Intervention for Sustainability (Idis) said their group and Bantay Bukid Volunteers collected 80 disposable masks, 36 plastic cups, cigarette packs, one bottle of fungicide, and a large number of various sachets of shampoo, junk foods, and detergents along the watershed.

Idis Executive Director lawyer Mark Peñalver told SunStar Davao on Sunday, August 15, that the number of wastes collected is higher than the previously conducted river clean-up in July. He said the facemask count was only 21.

This is despite the recent Watershed Management Council (WMC) resolution, prohibiting trekking activities in watershed areas in the city, while recreational activities in these areas will be regulated.

These are Resolution No. 3 - A Resolution Declaring that Trekking Activities are Prohibited in the Watershed Areas of Davao City; and Resolution No. 4 - A Resolution Adopting the Proposed Guidelines on the Conduct of Recreational Activities Within the Watershed Areas of Davao City and Forwarding the same to the Sangguniang Panlungsod.





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Volunteers collect face masks, plastic waste along Panigan-Tamugan Watershed

Prior to the two resolutions, WMC released a resolution in 2020 mandating barangays within watershed areas to strictly regulate recreational activities within their territorial jurisdiction.

The WMC resolution was made into an ordinance, which was passed on Tuesday, August 10.

The "Watershed-Conservation Area Protection Ordinance of 2021," authored by Councilor Diosdado Mahipus Jr., committee chairperson on the environment, regulating recreational activities within the watershed areas of the city for the protection, conservation, and preservation of the natural environment.

"However, same scenario gihapon. In fact, nitaas pa. Based sa atong interview with the Bantay Bukid, every Saturday and Sunday, daghan gihapon daw gihapon tao ang nagaligo sa Panigan-Tamugan na area," Peñalver said.

(However, it is still the same scenario. In fact, the wastes recovered increased. Based on our interview with the Bantay Bukid, every Saturday and Sunday, many people still go to the Panigan-Tamugan area to swim.)

Peñalver said they commended the actions of the city government for making the appropriate actions. The area remains unregulated and unmonitored.

He said the city should strengthen its mechanisms in regulating the entry of people to the Panigan-Tamugan Watershed.

"Karon, sa atong nakita, wala pa'y ingon ana nga lakang nga gibuhat. Except sa mga nakapa-skill nga mga ginabawal. Siguro kailangan pa og active na role na buhaton ang city government kung gusto gyud nato protektahan ato watershed," the Idis official said.

(Based on what we saw, there are no actions that have been made. Except that they posted signage on the prohibited items within watershed areas. Maybe the city government should play a more active role if they want to protect the watershed.)

He added that deploying police personnel within the watershed as the area is also reported to be a drinking area despite the existence of the 24-hour liquor ban in the city.

The environmentalist said they are alarmed with the recent wastes recovered as these are made from long-lasting materials that, if discarded, will survive for hundreds of years in the environment.





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He said the turnout of improperly disposed of solid wastes in the next source of water in Davao City is an issue that needs urgent solutions.

"I think the city government should ensure the protection of these areas from any kinds of pollution. Be it plastic pollution, wastewater pollution, or chemical-based pollution," Peñalver said.

He also reminded the public to be "responsible and accountable" in the preservation of natural resources.

Source: https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1904132/Davao/Local-News/Volunteers-collect-face-masks-plastic-waste-along-Panigan-Tamugan-Watershed





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Coastal cleanup continues with Rotary Club Bacolod

August 17, 2021



Marapara Rotary President Roberto Corona with fellow volunteers CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT was another Sunday morning where members of the <u>Rotary Club</u> of Bacolod Marapara and <u>Barangay 35 Council</u> had their hands full, picking up mountains of trash at the reclamation area of <u>Bacolod City</u>, Negros Occidental. This was the second activity in the clubs' coastal cleanup drive, which will see cleanup events in coastal areas over the next 12 months.

"If we hope to keep our oceans clean, it's necessary to keep the coastlines clean," said <u>Rolando Corona</u>, president of Marapara Rotary. "Not only is trash on our shorelines unsightly, it's also unhealthy and a threat to marine life."

Corona hopes projects such as the club's cleanup will create more awareness of the environment and encourage others to join the fight against pollution.



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Published on: August 16, 2021 By ACB





Amidst environmental crises, including the emergence of diseases linked to the loss of nature, a simple tree planting, when done right, can make a huge difference.

The recently launched ASEAN Green Initiative (AGI) is expected to usher in a tree-planting movement in the region and build the momentum for more coordinated efforts that are anchored on sound scientific principles.





Formally launched on 6 August led by the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), the AGI will recognise outstanding tree planting and reforestation activities across the region.

Why 10 million?

Under this programme, the ASEAN committed to planting at least 10 million native trees across 10 ASEAN Member States in a span of 10 years.

"Planting 10 million native trees and vegetation is just a start. Through the AGI, we hope to encourage and inspire people and organisations so that we can expand this target within and beyond 10 years," said Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim, executive director of the ACB.

The AGI puts emphasis on planting native tree species as they are likely to regenerate faster in their natural environment and are more sustainable in the long term. Native trees are well adapted to the climate and soil, hence they are more resilient and have a higher rate of survival. Planting and growing native trees enrich biodiversity and help revive the natural interactions between organisms and species of both flora and fauna.

ASEAN Deputy Secretary-General (DSG) for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Kung Phoak, in his opening message, noted that the AGI takes "a multi-faceted approach in addressing emerging biodiversity issues" and tackling the region's post-pandemic recovery.

"The launch of AGI is indeed timely as it complements many national greening plans and programmes of ASEAN countries. We hope to continue to build momentum, strengthen ownership, and raise awareness," DSG Kung said.

Criteria and selection process

What does it take to be recognised as an AGI?

Small, medium, and large-scale tree planting and reforestation may be nominated to the AGI. Some examples are reforesting deforested areas; enrichment planting of degraded forest areas, coastal and mangrove habitats; and urban tree planting, which includes planting in parks and along streets.

All nominated projects will be evaluated and recognised based on a set of criteria that target to assess possible environmental, societal, and economic trade-offs and impacts on the health, resilience and well-being of both nature and the people. These criteria are ecological soundness, socio-economic impact, sustainability, and compliance with governance and institutional mechanisms.

Dr. Lim emphasised that all interventions in restoring and conserving the ecosystem should not harm the environment and have meaningful participation from the people and communities so that the conservation outcomes are able to adequately benefit people's health, livelihood and overall well-being.



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Tree planting and reforestation efforts should have long-term impacts, along with compliance to national environmental policies and contributions to national reforestation programmes, as well as international commitments such as the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The AGI evaluation process may affect how organisations, governments, companies, local and grassroots communities plan, implement, and innovate existing and future projects and programmes related to biodiversity conservation and ecological restoration.

"Tree planting and restoration activities are just initial steps to a comprehensive and holistic approach to renewing ecosystems, minimising environmental pressures while securing the socioeconomic condition of the people and the state," Dr. Lim said.

Stories from the ground

The virtual launch was brimming with inspiring stories on how governments, private sectors, local communities, and ordinary citizens are making meaningful change towards a more resilient and more sustainable future. People and groups at every level are leading the way in planting seeds that hopefully will not only grow into trees, but seeds that will pave the way for new ways for living, working, and growing together.

One of the highlights of the launch is the kick-off of the BiodiversiTalks, a moderated panel discussion that features subject matter experts on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration in the region. On its pilot episode, representatives from the ASEAN Member States (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand); Metro Pacific Investments Corporation, representing the private sector; Communities Organized for Resource Allocation (CORA), a non-profit organisation focusing on addressing hunger, poverty, inequality, and the environment; and 2020 UNDP Equator Prize winner, Boon Rueang Wetland Forest Conservation Group, a community-based organisation in Thailand; shared their ongoing tree planting and reforestation efforts as part of their contributions to the ecosystem restoration movement.

Two of the voices of the ACB's #WeAreASEANBiodiversity campaign – UN Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador Antoinette Taus, singer, actor, environmental advocate, and Singapore-based actor, host, and environmental advocate Paul Foster – moderated the discussion and shared their involvement with various environmental protection activities and programmes.

As many efforts across the ASEAN to restore degraded forest ecosystems are already ongoing and more are pipelined, these are significant progress that need to be expanded, particularly in light of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Ongoing tree planting initiatives in Malaysia, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Singapore, and the Philippines, impressively surpass the target of at least 10 million trees in the region, with over 1.2 billion trees already in the pipeline. The challenge now is to ensure that these trees grow and reach their full potential. This requires shared long-term commitment and collective action to ensure that efforts foster both nature and people.





DSG Kung acknowledged how different stakeholders across sectors and levels support and take part in the AGI, including national and local governments, business sector, civil society, and global partners. He also highlighted the importance of recognising local and grassroots efforts to support regional biodiversity policies and programmes. "We believe that everyone in ASEAN is part of the solution," he said.

Contribution to ecosystem restoration

In her recorded video message, Executive Secretary Elizabeth Maruma Mrema of the Convention on Biological Diversity remarked that the AGI is "an incredible contribution to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, as well as the step towards achieving the 2050 Vision of Life in Harmony with Nature.

"The AGI, a recognition programme and mobilisation for action, including in urban areas, is a way to both advance restoration, as well as raise awareness amongst many stakeholders," she said, noting that the AGI joins other activities around the world, such as the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative, and the Great Green Wall Initiative in Africa.

With the continuous land degradation and biodiversity loss at dangerous rates, and our health and well-being threatened at a tremendous cost, Ms. Mrema declared, "This must be a decade of action and transformation in support of ecosystem restoration."

This was echoed by the European Union (EU) Ambassador to the ASEAN Igor Driesmans, mentioning that the "unprecedented decline in global biodiversity requires a renewed sense of urgency."

"We also know that biodiversity and forest-related challenges are inherently global and we are witnessing a continued and deeply worrying decline in biodiversity and forest globally. And hence, international cooperation is the only way to stop this decline. We need global action and we need it now," he said.

Charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Germany in Jakarta, Indonesia, Thomas Graf, urged everyone to "act together" and "act fast" in the face of global challenges.

The AGI is supported by the European Union and the German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP) Project, and the Institutional Strengthening of Biodiversity Sector in the ASEAN II Project, respectively.

Both the EU and the German government expressed their commitment to continue to support and be the ASEAN partner in building the region's new green agenda.

The timing of the AGI launch surfaced a more inherent and aggressive need for individuals, communities, societies to work collaboratively across boundaries to explore and implement integrated – whole-of-society – solutions as we are becoming increasingly interconnected and interdependent. (ACB)

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/press-releases/2021/08/16/asean-green-initiative-start-of-region-wide-

tree-planting-movement





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China pledges support to PH medical waste management

August 16, 20212 min read

MANILA – China Ambassador to the Philippines Huang Xilian on Monday said the Chinese government will provide USD1.07 million to support medical waste management efforts in the Philippines amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a Facebook post on Sunday, the envoy said the project, funded under the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund, aims to "effectively improve" the Philippines' response to Covid-19 in the areas of waste management and preparedness.

Specifically, he said the project would provide "appropriate health care waste treatment facilities" to two hospitals and provide capacity building on waste management and knowledge sharing from China's healthcare professionals, local government staff, and other essential service providers.

"I would like to extend my deep appreciation to UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and relevant government departments of the Philippines for all the efforts on this project," he said.

It was not mentioned yet which hospitals will benefit from the assistance, although Pasig Mayo Vico Sotto was part of the online meeting.

On July 29, Huang said China will "donate more and substantively increase" the supply of vaccines to the Philippines.

In 2010, the UNDP and Chinese government signed the agreement on strengthening South-South cooperation, marking the first time that China signed an agreement with a multilateral partner, according to the United Nations body that works in 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality. (PNA)

Source: https://www.facebook.com/2165747740135352/posts/4377625838947520/?app=fbl





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First Gen energizes WHI plant

BYLENIE LECTURA AUGUST 16, 2021 3 MINUTE READ



FIRST GEN Corp. is supplying Philippine Bio-Industries Inc. (PBI)—one of the country's biggest exporters of refined carrageenan blends—650 kilowatts of electricity to energize its production facilities in Calamba, Laguna.

PBI, through parent firm W Hydrocolloids Inc. (WHI), has sealed a one-year contract with First Gen's licensed retail electricity supplier Bac-Man Geothermal Inc. (BGI).

BGI will source power from its 150-megawatt Bacon-Manito geothermal power facilities in the Bicol Region.

WHI President John Wee said the company ventured into a partnership with First Gen to lower its carbon footprint and minimize carbon pollution's impact on environment.

"With this partnership, we are now using 100 percent renewable energy in our PBI facility in Laguna and are also in the process of executing it for our Carmona plant facility in Cavite. This partnership aims to achieve our commitment to a sustainable future, from supporting ecological seaweed communities for our raw materials to using 100 percent eco-clean energy on our plant facilities," said Wee.

First Gen Vice President Carlo Vega expressed gratitude towards the WHI Group for accepting First Gen's offer to shift to renewable energy (RE).





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First Gen energizes WHI plant

"This partnership validates our optimism that there are thousands of other companies out there that, like WHI, share with us a common desire to pursue a decarbonized and regenerative future," Vega said.

"Individually, our shift to RE might not make a dent in the fight against climate change; but together, the amount of carbon dioxide we displace with the use of clean energy can make a big difference in stopping climate change. We will redouble our mission to forge collaborative pathways with these groups," Vega added.

First Gen and parent firm First Philippine Holdings Corp. (FPH) recognize the risks from climate change due to the continued buildup in the atmosphere of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, including those from power plants using carbon-intensive fossil fuel.

This awareness explains the focus of Lopez-led FPH and First Gen on developing and operating power plants that run on renewable energy sources and emit minimal if not zero carbon dioxide, such as hydro, wind, solar and geothermal.

Aside from the RE projects, power plants of First Gen run on natural gas, considered the cleanest form of fossil fuel. In total, First Gen's portfolio of power plants has a combined capacity of 3,492 MW as of 2020.

At end-June this year, First Gen reported P7.1 billion in recurring net income attributable to equity holders. The numbers are 11 percent higher than last year's figures due to higher electricity sales and prices.

Also, the company benefited from lower interest expenses and taxes due to the recently enacted Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises Act Law.

"Power demand bounced back to pre-pandemic levels despite the limitations brought about by the persistently slow recovery of the economy. We are steadily progressing with constructing the country's first LNG [liquefied natural gas] terminal for delivery in the fourth quarter 2022. We are also working to deliver more power projects across our portfolio despite uncertainty surrounding the market and its accompanying business risks," said First Gen President Francis Giles Puno.

The company's natural gas platform brought in P5.2 billion in attributable net income for the first half, up from last year's P4.5-billion net income.

First Gen's hydro platform posted an increase in attributable earnings to P300 million in the first half from P200 million a year ago.

Source: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/08/16/first-gen-energizes-whi-plant/



	REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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"Climate Action Stories of Children, Written by Children"

Published on: August 16, 2021 By PIA-NCR



The 57th episode of "Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Change Pathways" featured the Department of Education (DepEd) learners and personnel that showcased inspiring stories on advocating climate action. The episode is in time for the celebration of International Youth Day last August 12.

The online conversation, conceptualized and hosted by three-term Senator, now Deputy Speaker and Antique Representative Loren Legarda, featured guests including Director Ronilda Co and Ms. Zherluck Shaen Rodriguez of the DepEd Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS); Joshua Villalobos of the Youth for Climate Hope (Division of Bacolod City), Ckyr Leonardo from Valencia National High School (Division of Valencia City), Raaina Hinay of Kids Who Farm (Division of Zamboanga City); and Amabelle Franchesca Boncato, a campus journalist from Congressional Integrated High School (Division of Cavite).

Director Co and Ms. Rodriguez introduced the "Stories of Children, Written by Children," a booklet developed by DepEd DRRMS that features learners who exemplified outstanding leadership in environmental initiatives related to CCAM-DRR in their schools and communities.

- "Children and youth are our present and future. Ang mga kabataan ang pag-asa ng bayan. Ngunit hindi lang sila pag-asa ng kinabukasan, kundi sa kasalukuyan din. That's why we have to engage them in meaningful activities. Ang ginagawa ng DRRMS ay hindi na lamang consultations sa mga kabataan, iniaangat din natin ang participation doon sa level ng co-collaboration sa mga bata. We hope that we are able to support the youth, our learners into leading programs. We are going in that direction," said Director Co.
- "We want to make sure na ang ating mga kabataan ay napapakinggan, kasi hindi lang sila mga bata. This is why in DepEd, we listen, support, empower, and enable them. We make sure that we listen to their voices and support their existing programs, rojects, and activities. We also want to empower our learners and create an enebling system na pwede silang magparticipate sa ating mga programa," said Rodriguez.



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"Climate Action Stories of Children, Written by Children"

Villalobos introduced the "Youth for Climate Hope", a coalition of youth organizations and individuals in Negros Occidental that engages the students in climate action, policy lobbying, creative mass action, and a culture and community that cares for the people and the environment. Their advocacies include the petition to amend the plastic bag regulation in Bacolod and campaign against plans on coal-fired power plant projects in the Negros region.

"Hindi naman po ibig sabihin na nag-climate strike tayo ay masasama na tayong mga kabataan, but it is a manifestation na naintindihan natin kung ano 'yung ibig sabihin ng climate science. Nagra-rally tayo behind sa kung ano ang panawagan ng mga scientists at ng maraming sector na kailangan na natin ng justice at rapid reduction of our greenhouse gases emissions, para hindi natin maabot ang mga threshold na unti-unti na nating naaabot," said Villalobos.

Leonardo introduced his "One Man, One Tree" program which promotes that each individual must plant at least one tree to regenerate forests severely deforested due to illegal activities.

"Plant a tree today and enjoy reaping the fruits of a greener world in the future. It inspires me to continue doing my advocacy, kasi gusto ko po 'yung future generation ay maka-experience rin ng greener world at makalanghap ng sariwang hangin," said Leonardo.

Hinay introduced "Kids Who Farm," an initiative that aims to empower the youth and children as the next generation of food producers by making farming fun, easy to do, and sustainable. This program trains youth and women on urban container gardening, and established food community gardens in schools and micro-farm projects, and provides fresh and hyperlocal food access to local residents, especially in this time of the pandemic.

"Our vision is to reverse the persistent trend of aging Filipino farmers by building the expertise of the youth in agriculture and creating urban green jobs incubation opportunities to engage them in the business of farming to secure food for the future. Our goal is to inspire future farmers. As young as we are, we can be a source of inspiration to our fellow young people," said Hinay.

Boncato, one of the student journalists who completed "The Green Beat Initiative," an online environmental journalism training spearheaded by the DepEd DRRMS, is one of the writers of the said booklet.

"At this age, I am already experiencing the consequences of climate change through consecutive typhoons and extreme droughts. I know that many environmental problems and concerns need so much attention from the media, and they're the ones who are capable of putting those in the spotlight... I believe that one of the reasons why I am here doing environmental journalism is to amplify the voices of those unheard and to be the voice of our dear Mother Earth," said Boncato.

Legarda emphasized the need to further raise awareness on the current climate emergency and to share knowledge on how the children, youth, and the general public can contribute to climate action.





"Climate Action Stories of Children, Written by Children"

"Ngayong International Youth Day, sa lahat ng kabataan natin, kayo ang pag-asa ng bansa, hindi lamang sa kinabukasan, kundi sa ngayon. Claim the future now. Ang pag-ahon sa pandemya ay paglaban sa climate emergency. Pareho 'yan, magkasabay 'yan, hindi tayo dapat bumalik sa dating normal. Kaya I'm glad na kakampi ko kayong lahat and we are all on the same page," said Legarda.

As an online discussion to promote health, environmental consciousness, and climate-adaptive practices, "Stories for a Better Normal" aims to change the mindset of individuals, families, and communities by demonstrating ways in which a 'better normal' can be realized within our communities.

This online discussion is organized in partnership between the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda and the Climate Change Commission, with support from the Department of Education, Philippine Information Agency, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, The Climate Reality Project-Philippines and Mother Earth Foundation. ###

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/press-releases/2021/08/16/climate-action-stories-of-children-written-by-children





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WHAT if Earth's atmosphere was infused with extra carbon dioxide, mused amateur scientist <u>Funice</u> Foote in an 1856 research paper that concluded the gas was very good at absorbing heat.

"An atmosphere of that gas would give to our earth a high temperature," she wrote in the study, published in the <u>American Journal</u> of Science and Arts and then swiftly forgotten.

The American scientist and women's rights activist, who only wrote one more paper, could not have known the full significance of her extraordinary statement, said <u>Alice Bell</u>, author of a recent book on the climate crisis - Our Biggest Experiment - that features Foote.

This was the decade that the <u>United States</u> first began to drill for oil. It is also the baseline period of global temperatures we now use to chart the fossil fuel-driven warming of the planet.

Foote, whose work was rediscovered in recent years, is now seen as part of a multigenerational exploration, spanning some 200 years, unraveling the mysteries of how the climate works - and more recently how human activities have tipped it out of balance.

"There is no eureka moment with one great genius in climate change science," Bell told <u>Agence France-Presse</u> (AFP).

"Climate science is a story of people over centuries and different disciplines, different countries working together, incrementally learning more and more."

People have believed human activities like deforestation could alter the local climate since at least the ancient Greeks.

But in terms of the global climate, the story of our understanding of what we now call the greenhouse effect, arguably began in the 1820s with French scientist <u>Joseph Fourier</u>.

Greenhouse gases

Fourier calculated that Earth would be much colder if it was not enveloped in an insulating blanket of gases.

"He realized that the atmosphere was doing something to prevent heat immediately being radiated into space," said science historian <u>Roland Jackson</u>.





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A few decades later - in perhaps the first documented experiment of C02's warming potential - Foote filled glass cylinders with ordinary air, moist air and carbon dioxide to see how hot they became in sunlight compared to shade.

The container with C02 warmed more than the others and "was many times as long in cooling," she reported, although she was not able to make a distinction between Earth's outgoing infrared radiation -- which is behind the greenhouse effect - and incoming solar radiation.

"Carbon dioxide can absorb heat, that's her discovery," said Jackson, who co-authored an analysis of her work published by the Royal Society last year.

"And she made the supposition from that, that if you increase the amount of C02, it could change the climate. She needs to be recognized for that."

Cooling fears

A few years later, the Irish physicist <u>John Tyndall</u> performed a more rigorous study showing that water vapor and C02 absorbed infrared radiation - the mechanism of the greenhouse effect.

His discovery was taken seriously, but even then it was 20 years before his findings on water vapor were fully accepted, said Jackson, who is the author of a biography of Tyndall. "C02 didn't feature."

In December 1882, a letter to the editor published in Nature cited Tyndall's work on gases.

"From this we may conclude that the increasing pollution of the atmosphere will have a marked influence on the climate of the world," said the letter, signed H. A. Phillips, in one of the earliest published links between human-made emissions and a changing climate.

But it would be decades before there was wider concern that coal smoke belching from factories could one day heat the whole planet.

When Swedish scientist <u>Svante Arrhenius</u> - a distant relation of climate campaigner <u>Greta Thunberg</u> - suggested in the late 1800s that burning fossil fuels could influence the climate and calculated what would happen if C02 doubled, it was not seen as a cause for alarm.

This is not only because the amounts of CO2 being emitted at the time were considered negligible, but also because scientists were preoccupied with understanding the carbon cycle in relation to past ice ages, said *Robbie Andrew* of the *Cicero Center* for *International Climate Research*.

"Nothing survived in large parts of the planet during the Ice Age, that's kind of the thinking - 'We hope we're not going back there,'" he told AFP.

Even into the 1930s, when scientists said temperatures were already rising, they thought a little warming could be beneficial.

"The idea that it changed not only temperatures, but other aspects of climate might not have occurred to them," said Andrew, who has compiled a history of emissions predictions.





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'Life itself'

There are a few examples of public commentary linking emissions to the risks of warming, although Andrew said the burning of coal was largely seen as a "necessary evil" and health fears were put aside for the sake of progress.

In 1958, an American television show, "*The Bell Telephone Science Hour*," said C02 from factories and cars could be warming Earth's climate.

"We are not only dealing with forces of a far greater variety than even the atomic physicist encounters, but with life itself," the narrator said.

But fear of global cooling - centered on aerosol pollution and the nuclear winter that would follow atomic warfare - was dominant, and continued well into the 1970s and 1980s.

It was only in 1975 that the scientist <u>Wallace Broecker</u> wrote a paper asking "Are We on the Brink of a Pronounced Global Warming?" and the expression began to enter the popular lexicon.

And in 1988, amid record temperatures, US government scientist <u>James Hansen</u> told a congressional hearing "the greenhouse effect has been detected, and it is changing our climate now."

That same year, the United Nations formed the <u>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</u> (IPCC).

Since then climate science has become ever more sophisticated - IPCC reports detail in ever-greater urgency the pace of warming, while scientists can now say whether a particular deadly heat wave, storm or wildfire was amplified by climate change.

But this greater knowledge has been met with industry efforts to sow public confusion about the effects of fossil fuel pollution.

"It's a long history of scientists battling to get this out there. Just stop fighting us," said Andrew.

'Not fiction'

Bell, who co-runs the climate charity Possible, welcomed the recognition of Foote as part of that history.

But she said there are "an awful lot of other voices that have been lost along the way."

For example, she said the colonial era was in some ways a period of "unlearning" - when European settlers brutalized indigenous peoples and disregarded their knowledge.

Now it is widely recognized that these communities are often far better at managing their lands sustainably.

With the evidence of climate change and record temperatures now impossible to ignore, Bell said decades of scientific endeavor have armed us with both knowledge and technology - "we have a lot of the solutions."





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But societies must now act to avert the most catastrophic effects.

"It is especially hard to admit that the entire responsibility rests on the people who are active in this decade: that everything depends on us, here, now," said Spencer Weart in his history of climate change science.

"It's as if we have woken up in a science-fiction movie. But it's not fiction, it's physics."

Source: https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/08/17/opinion/columns/no-eureka-moment-the-evolution-of-climate-science/1811209

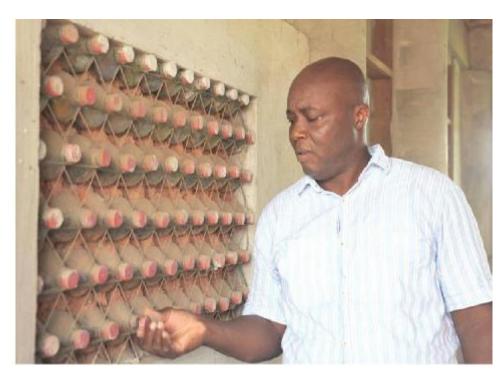




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Library built with plastic bottles

August 17, 2021



Martial Zohoungbogbo shows recycled plastic bottles filled with soil, which are used as bricks for building a community library, in Accra, Ghana. XINHUA PHOTO

SITTING at a campus in Kokrobite, a fishing community on the outskirts of Ghanaian capital of Accra, a newly-constructed building stood out from many humble structures around as it was built with 45,000 recycled plastic bottles.

Yet to be fully-decorated, the unique house has the mostly frequently visited place by locals, who have already been told that the building would be a free multi-media library for their children once completed.

Martial Zohoungbogbo built the "bottle house" with the money raised by himself and under the help of many locals. Standing in the middle of the house, he couldn't help envisaging the library's future.

"The kids will have access to the Internet, they will read books and have classes together, and they will finally have a place to entertain themselves," he told Xinhua.

Kokrobite is one of the most less-developed communities in the region, where most of the families rely on traditional fishing and can't afford better education for children.





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Library built with plastic bottles

Martial, who came to this community 30 years ago, picked up the technique of building architectures with plastic bottles from a German architect. After learning the fact that local children had long been struggling with inadequate spaces for learning, Martial made up his mind to use his architecture technique to make a change.

The building mainly consists of two sizes of plastic bottles, according to Martial, the larger bottles filled with soil and tightly bound by ropes were used as "bricks" for walls, while the smaller ones were laid firmly layer by layer to be pillars.

Before getting stared to build the library, Martial has already had a project completed with the technique - a public school classroom. He spent almost four months on building the architecture, and it was applauded by many locals.

For Martial and his partners, besides money, the shortage of recycled bottles and labor was the largest obstacle when they started building the library. Fortunately, his idea was soon echoed by many, including a recycling company that agreed to sell bottles to them, and school kids from the community who volunteered to fill the bottles.

"We got the bottles refilled with different types of soil, even the soil from the gutter. Then press it and make it more compact, then the refilled bottle will be a solid brick you need for the construction. Then we use clay, cement and other materials to move on," he said.

Martial said the "bottle house" was not only environmental-friendly, but also strong and safe, and most importantly, easy to repair and affordable for ordinary citizens.

He said that some poverty-stricken parts in the West African country can't provide enough classrooms for kids so that some teachers still have to gather students to sit under trees for teaching and learning.

"We are worried about them, and it is time to use what we have to solve this problem," said Martial, adding he is confident that their teaching conditions will be improved on condition that such "bottle house" technique can be introduced there.





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Take precaution due to vog, high S02 emission in Taal: Phivolcs

By Ma. Cristina Arayata August 16, 2021, 1:55 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The public is advised to take extra precaution particularly those with certain health problems as volcanic smog (vog) and high emission of sulfur dioxide (S02) have been observed in the Taal Volcano for the past 24 hours, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs)

Said

Monday.

Vog is a type of air pollution caused by volcanoes. It consists of fine droplets containing volcanic gas such as SO2 which is acidic and can cause irritation of the eyes, throat, and respiratory tract in severities depending on the gas concentrations and durations of exposure.

Phivolcs earlier said that people particularly those near and in outlying areas of Taal with health conditions such as asthma, lung disease, and heart disease, as well as the elderly, pregnant women and children are sensitive to the ill effects of vog.

The S02 gas could irritate the skin, eyes, nose, throat. The aerosol particles in vog could also penetrate the lungs and could induce the symptoms of asthma. S02 emission averaged 5,675 tonnes on August 15, and vog was observed over Taal Volcano and its vicinity,

Phivolcs

Meanwhile, 74 volcanic earthquakes caused by movement or eruptions of magma from the volcano were recorded in the Taal Volcano for the past 24 hours. These lasted for 1 to 20 minutes.

Activity at the Main Crater was dominated by upwelling of hot volcanic fluids in its lake which generated plumes 1,800 meters tall that drifted south-southwest and northeast, Phivolcs said.





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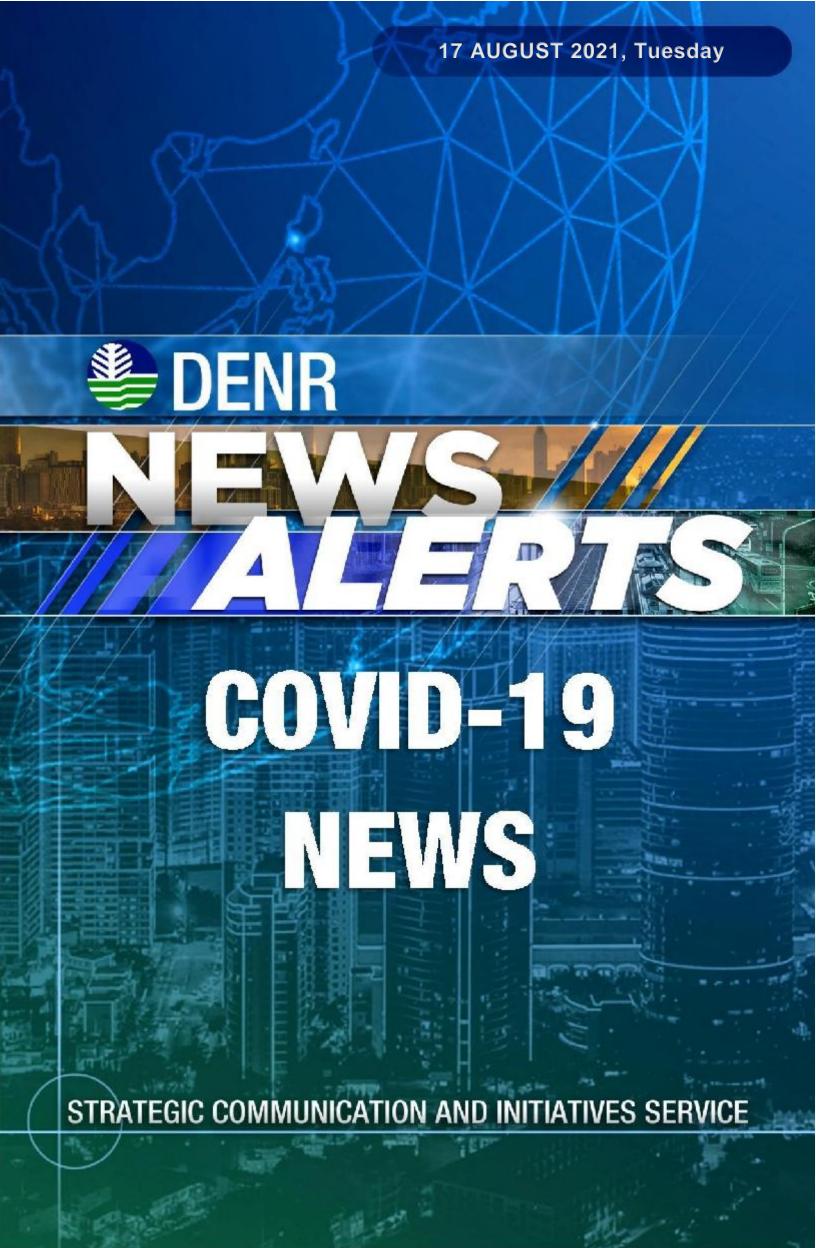
Take precaution due to vog, high S02 emission in Taal: Phivolcs

Taal Volcano has been on Alert Level 2 (decreased unrest) since July 23. Under this level, sudden steam or gas-driven explosions, volcanic earthquakes, minor ashfall, and lethal accumulations or expulsions of volcanic gas can occur and threaten areas within and around the Taal Volcano Island (TVI).

Phivolcs has advised that entry into TVI must be strictly prohibited.

It also advised local government officials to assess and strengthen the preparedness of previously evacuated barangays around Taal Lake in case of renewed unrest. (PNA)

Source: https://www.facebook.com/690282534387523/posts/4216088048473603/







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16K COVID-19 kada araw posible sa susunod na linggo - OCTA

By <u>Angie dela Cruz</u>(Pilipino Star Ngayon)

- August 17, 2021 - 12:00am



Commuters waiting for a ride at the hEDSA bus carousel at Bagong Barrio Station during teh Metro Manila-wide hard lockdown on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

MANILA, Philippines — Posibleng umabot sa 16,000 ang kaso ng COVID-19 kada araw sa bansa, batay sa pagtaya ng OCTA Research Group.

Ito ayon kay Dr. Guido David ng OCTA ay dahil sa pagtaas ng hawaan o reproduction number ng virus na umabot sa 1.5.

Noong August 8-14 ay umaabot sa 1.46 ang hawaan o may average new COVID-19 cases per day na 11,000.

"Unfortunately, puwede pa talagang tumaas 'yan, depende kung anong mangyayari between now and next week. Daily average natin tumataas sa buong bansa. Daily average is 11,800, almost 12,000. Tumaas 'yan ng 35% sa nakaraang linggo. Kung pagpatuloy itong 35%, baka almost 16,000 na ang daily average natin kasi bumibilis ang pagtaas sa ibang lugar," sabi ni David.

Gayunman, ayon kay David, hindi tumaas ang kaso sa Metro Manila. Noong Sabado ay 3,989 ang bagong kaso sa MM at nitong Linggo ay bumaba ng konti sa 3,640.

Pero habang may pagbaba ng kaso sa MM ay tumataas naman ang kaso sa labas ng NCR lalo na sa Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Pampanga, Rizal at Bulacan.





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COVID-19 Delta variant detected in all PH regions except Caraga

By: <u>Daphne Galvez</u> - Reporter / <u>@DYGalvezINO</u> <u>INQUIRER.net</u> / 01:08 PM August 16, 2021

MANILA, Philippines — The highly contagious COVID-19 Delta variant has already been detected in all regions in the country, except the Caraga region, the Department of Health (DOH) said Monday.

However, the health department is already assuming that the Delta variant has already invaded the said region since the genomic biosurveillance capability of the country does not cover "that much of the population," Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said.

"Sa ngayon, based on our specimen sample, all regions [have Delta variant] except Caraga. So lahat ng regions based on the recent run, mayroon na, pero ang Caraga wala pa kaming nade-detect but it does not mean that they don't have the variant," she said in an online media forum.

(For now, based on our specimen sample, all regions already have the Delta variant except Caraga. So all regions, based on the recent run, have the variant, but we have not yet detected it in Caraga. But this does not mean that they don't have the variant.)

"'Yung sampling na ginagamit natin, it doesn't really cover that much of the population for us to determine kung nasaan na siya sa mga regions. Sa ngayon, we still assume na mayroon na rin [sa Caraga]," she added.

(Our sampling does not really cover much of the population to determine where the variant already is in the regions. For now, we are assuming that it has also penetrated the Caraga region.)

The Philippines has so far detected a total of 8<u>09 Delta variant cases</u>, after the Department of Health announced the detection of additional 182 cases on Sunday.

The DOH earlier said the Delta variant has been detected in <u>all cities and the lone municipality in Metro Manila</u>.

Read more: <a href="https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1474206/covid-19-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph-delta-variant-detected-in-all-ph

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Josiah Antonio, ABS-CBN News Posted at Aug 16 2021 03:09 PM



Transmission electron micrograph of SARS-CoV-2 virus particles, isolated from a patient. Image captured and color-enhanced at the NIAID Integrated Research Facility (IRF) in Fort Detrick, Maryland. *Credit: NIAID*

MAYNILA — Sumisirit pa rin ang bilang ng coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases sa Pilipinas ngayong 2021 sa kabila ng lampas isang taong pagsasailalim ng bansa sa community quarantine.

Ang mga virus katulad ng SARS-CoV-2 na nagdudulot ng COVID-19 ay nagbabago at maaari itong makaapekto sa nauna nang katangian ng virus.

Batay sa <u>pananaliksik</u> ng Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ang mga variant ay mas mabilis kumalat ngunit may iba't iba itong dalang epekto sa kalusugan.

Nauna nang paalala ng doktor na si Eva Dela Paz, Executive Director ng National Institutes of Health ng University of the Philippines, na pag-iingat at pagsunod sa health protocols ang panangga sa mga variants katulad noon.

ALAMIN: Ano ang mga COVID-19 mutation at gaano sila kadelikado?

Kasama ang Technical Advisory Group on Viral Evolution ng World Health Organization (WHO), nagkaroon ng classification ang mga COVID-19 variant upang maitala ang mga pagbabago ng naturang virus.

Mayroong dalawang uri ng variants: ang variants of interest at variants of concern.





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Batay sa working definition ng WHO, ang variants of interest ay mga variant na may genetic changes na kilalang nakakaapekto sa mga katangian ng virus tulad ng mga sumusunod:

transmissibility

disease severity

immune escape,

diagnostic o therapeutic escape

Anila, nakilala ito bilang sanhi ng community transmission o multiple COVID-19 clusters pati na rin sa maraming bansa na may relatibong pagtaas ng kaso o iba pang epidemiological impact sa pampublikong kalusugan.

Ang variants of concern naman ay nakikitaan ng variants of interest sa pamamagitan ng comparative assessment at nakikitaan ng isa o higit pang pagbabago sa antas ng global public health significance ng mga sumusunod:

Pagtaas ng transmissibility o nakakapinsalang pagbabago sa COVID-19 epidemiology

Pagtaas ng virulence o pagbabago sa clinical disease presentation

Pagbawas ng bisa ng pampublikong kalusugan at mga social measures o magagamit na mga diagnostics, bakuna, at therapeutics

Ating iisa-isahin ang mga naitalang mga COVID-19 variant sa bansa at kung paano ba ito naiiba at nakakaapekto sa ating kalusugan.

Alpha variant

Ang B.1.1.7 o mas kilala bilang Alpha variant ay unang naitala sa United Kingdom noong Setyembre 2020. Naitala ang unang kaso ng variant of concern sa Pilipinas nitong Enero, 13, 2021.

UK COVID-19 variant now in the Philippines, says DOH

Ito ay kumakalat nang mas mabilis kaysa sa ibang variant at may potensyal na magdulot ng mas malalang sakit o pagpanaw sa mga nahawa, ayon sa CDC.

Anila, ang mga awtorisadong vaccines ay epektibo laban dito pati na rin ang mga kasalukuyang treatment.

"Some break through infections in fully vaccinated people are expected but remain rare. All vaccines are particularly effective against severe illness, hospitalization, and death," anila.

Beta variant

Ang B.1.351 naman mas kilala bilang Beta variant ay isa ring variant of concern na unang naitala sa South Africa noong Mayo 2020. Naitala ang unang kaso nito sa Pilipinas nitong Marso, 2, 2021.





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Philippines detects first cases of South Africa COVID-19 variant

Ayon sa CDC, maaari rin itong kumalat nang mas mabilis kaysa sa ibang variant ngunit batay naman sa kasalukuyang datos hindi ito nag-i-indicate ng mas malalang sakit o pagpanaw kumpara sa ibang variants.

Dagdag pa nila, epektibo rin ang mga awtorisadong vaccines sa variant ngunit may ilang mga monoclonal antibody treatments na mas mababa ang epekto sa naturang variant.

Gamma variant

Ang P.1 naman mas kilala bilang Gamma variant ay pangatlo sa mga variants of concern na unang naitala sa Brazil noong Nobyembre 2020.

Naitala ang unang kaso nito sa Pilipinas sa noong Marso 13, 2021, ilang araw matapos maitala ang unang kaso ng Beta variant at nagbunsod ng pagsasailalim muli sa ilang bahagi ng bansa sa enhanced community quarantine (ECQ).

DOH confirms new COVID-19 variant first detected in PH, first case of Brazil variant

Ang Gamma variant ay kumakalat nang mas mabilis kumpara sa ibang variant ngunit katulad ng Beta variant hindi ito nag-i-indicate ng mas malalang sakit o pagpanaw kumpara sa ibang variants batay na rin sa kasalukuyang datos.

Sinabi rin ng CDC na epektibo ang mga awtorisadong vaccines sa variant ngunit may ilang mga monoclonal antibody treatments na mas mababa ang epekto rito.

P.3 variant

Ang P.3 variant ay naglalaman ng "mutations of concern" na unang na-detect sa Pilipinas ngunit hindi pa ito dinedeklarang variant of concern ng health department ng bansa dahil sa umano'y kakulangan sa datos.

Kalaunan, nadiskubreng galing sa Pilipinas ang variant sa Japan na anila'y unang kumpirmasyon ng naturang kaso.

DOH confirms detection of 2 SARS-CoV-2 mutations in Region 7

New coronavirus variant found in traveler from Philippines: Japan

Kasabay naitala ang unang kaso ng P.3 variant sa unang kaso ng Gamma variant.

Delta variant

Ang B.1.617.2 na mas kilala bilang Delta variant naman ang ikaapat sa mga variants of concern na unang naitala sa India noong Oktubre 2020. Naitala ang unang kaso nito sa Pilipinas nitong Mayo, 11, 2021.

DOH confirms 2 cases of India's COVID-19 variant in PH

Ito ay kumakalat nang mas mabilis kaysa sa ibang variant at may potensyal na magdulot ng mas malalang sakit o pagpanaw sa mga nahawa, ayon sa CDC.





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Epektibo man ang lahat ng mga bakuna ngunit may ilang mga monoclonal antibody treatments na mas mababa ang epekto rito.

May paalala rin ang CDC hinggil sa naturang variant.

- "Infections happen in only a small proportion of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the Delta variant. Some breakthrough infections are expected, but remain rare," anila.
- "However, preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people who do become infected with the Delta variant can spread the virus to others."

Lambda variant

Isa namang variant of interest ang C.37 na mas kilala bilang Lambda variant na unang naitala sa Peru noong Disyembre 2020. Naitala ang unang kaso nito sa Pilipinas nitong Agosto, 15, 2021.

PH confirms first case of COVID-19 Lambda variant

May mga ulat man, wala pa umanong ebidensiyang mas nakakamatay ito kumpara sa ibang variants of concern at variants of interest, ayon sa mga awtoridad.

Ayon sa World Health Organization, pinag-aaralan pa ang transmissibility rate ng Lambda variant o kung gaano kabilis na kayang kumalat ng virus sa isang lugar kaya hindi pa nila masasabing variant of concern ito.

Source: https://www.facebook.com/27254475167/posts/10159710255115168/?app=fbl





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Palace to people seeking 'booster' shots: Let others get vaccinated first

By <u>Alexis Romero</u>(Philstar.com) - August 16, 2021 - 5:01pm



Senior citizens line up for their scheduled vaccination in Pateros on Friday.

MANILA, Philippines — Malacañang on Monday urged the public to wait until the majority of the population gets vaccinated for COVID-19 before seeking a booster shot as the Philippines contends with a limited supply of pandemic jabs.

Authorities have vowed to look into reports that a man was able to avail of a Moderna jab in Quezon City this month despite getting fully vaccinated with Sinovac shots in Mandaluyong last May.

The health department has not approved the administering of booster shots to fully vaccinated persons, citing the lack of data about its safety.

"We are not tolerating that (getting booster shots) because many remain unvaccinated. Our appeal is since all vaccines provide protection, so let us wait for the majority of our countrymen to be vaccinated before we seek booster shots," presidential spokesman Harry Roque said at a press briefing.

"The vaccine is the only way to end this pandemic. Let us allow everyone to achieve population protection before we get booster shots," he added.

Getting a booster shot would violate the Emergency Use Authorization issued by the Food and Drug Authority, which only allows two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Roque said exceptions can be made for overseas Filipino workers, including seafarers whose employers require specific vaccine brands.





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Palace to people seeking 'booster' shots: Let others get vaccinated first

"But at the same time, if you are a seafarer and you need a particular brand, do not get yourself injected with another brand. Get a brand required by your employers so we can give the other vaccines to others who also need them," the Palace spokesman said.

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte has ordered the filing of charges against persons who allegedly got third doses of pandemic jabs in the city.

A total of 27.8 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in the Philippines as of August 15. More than 15 million have received their first dose while 12.56 million have availed of their second shot.

Metro Manila mayors aim to administer 250,000 doses of COVID-19 jabs per day while the capital region is on a two-week lockdown, which started August 6 and will lapse on August 20 at the earliest.

The capital region, home to more than 12 million people, has been classified as "high risk" because of the rapid increase in COVID-19 infections.

Asked if the Palace is satisfied with the vaccine rollout in Metro Manila, Roque replied: "Cases are on the rise so many people are hesitant to go out. But it (number of vaccines administered daily) is not that low. If our target is (250,000), we are reaching about 230,000 a day. So, that is not bad at all."

"If we continue, we will achieve our goal to distribute four million (doses) in Metro Manila before the end of our ECQ (enhanced community quarantine). So we are on our way to vaccinating at least 50 percent of our population here in Metro Manila," he added.

The government aims to vaccinate at least 50 million people before the end of the year.





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BOOSTER SHOTS VS DELTA VARIANT AT KRISIS SA BAKUNA



August 16, 2021 @ 10:52 AM 18 hours ago

PASPASAN na ang booster shot o dagdag-turok laban sa COVID-19 sa Israel, France, Germany, United Kingdom at United States.

Booster shot ang ikalawang turok sa mga bakunang Janssen at Sputnik Lite na pang-single shot lang habang pangatlong turok ang para sa lahat ng ibang bakuna gaya ng Sinovac, AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, Sputnik V at iba pa.

MGA BENEPISYARYO

Sa United States, uunahing i-booster shot ang mga autoimmune o nasiraan ng mga kalamnan laban sa sakit gaya ng lapay laban sa diabetes o kaya'y may immune deficiency o kulang sa anti-bodies laban sa sakit gaya ng mga may human immuno virus-acquired immune-deficiency syndrome, napalitan ng puso, baga, kidney at iba pa.

Sa France, ibu-booster shot ang edad 60 pataas at iba pang may malalang sakit.

Sa Germany, tuturukan ang mga autoimmune at immune deficient, senior citizen at nasa mga alagaan ng mga maysakit.

Sa UK, may booster shot naman ang 16 anyos pataas na may problema sa immunity, matatandang maysakit sa mga bahay-bahay, lahat ng 70 anyos pataas, 16 anyos pataas na may malalalang sakit, at frontline at social worker.

Sa Israel, lahat ng 60 anyos pataas ang may booster shot.





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BOOSTER SHOTS NAGSIMULA NA

Nagsimula na ang booster shot sa Israel samantalang anomang araw, magsisimula na rin sa UK.

Magpapatupad naman ng programa ang US, France at Germany sa unang linggo ng Setyembre 2021.

Milyon-milyong ang benepisyaryo sa booster shot at isa ito sa mga dahilan ng lalong pagliit ng suplay ng bakuna sa buong mundo.

Sa UK lang, may 32 milyon ang magkakaroon ng booster shot.

Ang Germany na may 84 milyong populasyon at France na may 66M populasyon ay nakapagbakuna na ng buo ng kalahati ng kani-kanilang populasyon at kung gayon may 70 milyon silang ibu-booster shot.

Ang US, may 333 milyong populasyon at 160M na ang may doble bakuna na ibu-booster shot at maaaring pwera pa ang nasa 7M edad-12-17 na may doble bakuna na rin.

KRISIS SA BAKUNA LALALA

Mariing hinihiling ng World Health Organization sa mga bansang nabanggit na tumigil muna sa pagbubu-booster shot at ibigay ang mga sobra nilang bakuna sa ibang bansang mahihirap para hindi lalong lalala ang pandemya sa buong mundo sa pagdating ng Delta variant.

Paliwanag ng WHO, nanatiling nasa mayayamang bansa ang 80 porsyento ng kabuuang mahigit sa apat bilyong nagawa nang bakuna at pinag-aagawan ng higit na nakararaming bansa sa Africa, Asia at ilan sa Europa ang nalalabing 20 porsyento.

Kabilang sa mga bansang wala naman ni isang dose na bakuna ang Burundi, North Korea at Eritrea,

Subalit tumanggi ang nasabing mga bansa sabay pakunswelong sabi na "tumutulong" naman sila kasabay ng pagbu-booster shot nila.

Ayon sa Germany, isasabay nila ang pamimigay ng 30 milyong dose sa ibang bansa samantalang sinasabi naman ng US na sila na ang pinakamalaking namimigay ng bakuna sa iba't ibang bansa.

Ang UK, nagsimula na ring mamigay ng 9M dose sa iba at 5M dito ang ipinaraan sa Covax facility ng WHO.

Nangako naman ang China ng 550M dose ng Sinovac at Sinopharm sa Covax facility hanggang kalagitnaan ng taong 2022 at nasimula na ito sa pamamagitan ng pagdadala ng kulang-kulang sa isang milyong dose sa Pakistan at mahigit isang milyong donasyon sa Bangladesh na kagaya ng donasyon nito sa Pilipinas.

Nakapagbakuna na rin ang China ng nasa isang bilyon mula sa 1.4 bilyong populasyon nito.





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PINAS NAKIKIPAG-AGAWAN SA BAKUNA

Kung iisipin, talagang kailangang makipagbalyahan ang pamahalaang Pilipinas sa ibang bansa sa pagbili ng bakuna upang magkaroon tayo nito.

Lalo ngayong pinasok na ng Delta variant ang ating bansa at parami nang parami na ang natatagpuang biktima nito.

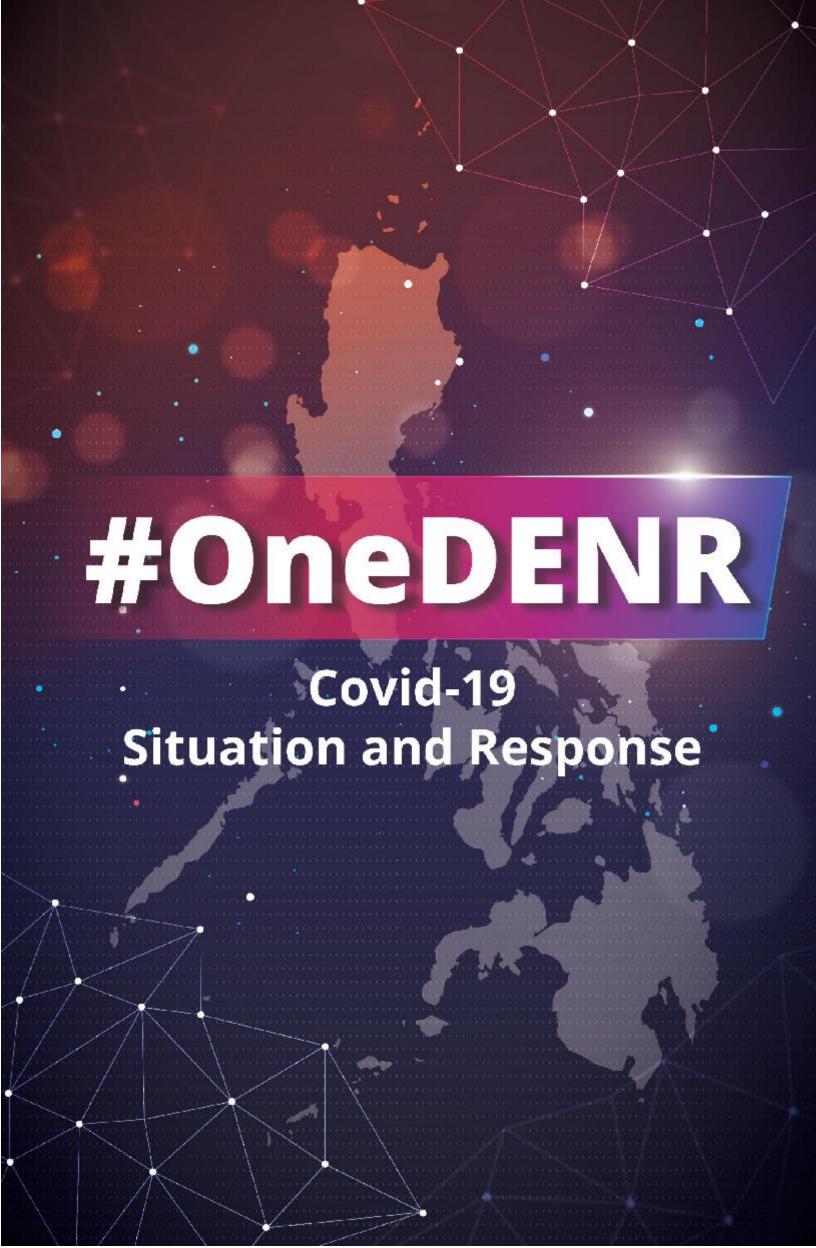
Mabilis na hinahabol ng Delta variant ang ilang libo pa lang na may Alpha o UK variant at Beta o South Africa variant sa Pinas at nakatatakot isiping isang araw ay matulad na tayo sa US at UK na Delta variant na ang 80-90 porsyento ng kasong COVID-19 nila.

Sa ngayon, bumabalik ang US sa libong patay araw-araw sa Delta variant habang naglalaro sa 1,000-2,000 ang patay sa Indonesia.

Sa atin naman, nasa libo na araw-araw ang nadaragdag sa maysakit na nagsimula sa 10,000 kamakailan lang at nakatatakot isiping umaabot na tayo sa kulang-kulang sa 300 patay araw-araw

Kaya kapag may bakuna na nang nakasalang sa atin, magpabakuna tayo at huwag nang magpatumpik-tumpik pa.

Source: https://www.remate.ph/booster-shots-vs-delta-variant-at-krisis-sa-bakuna/





AGOSTO 16, 2021

106.672

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

2.2%

TOTAL NG GUMALING 1,618,808

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

30,366

мба вабоне казо **14,610**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING 10,674

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY 27

KABUUANG BILANG NG KASO 1,755,846

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING AGOSTO 14

23.0% PORSYENTO NG MGA NAGPOSITIBO 58,47
BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS 97.1% ANG MILD AT ASYMPTOMATIC NA KASO!



KABUUANG PILIPINAS PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

71% Utilized have been been been be-ISOLATION BEDS (20.1K TOTAL BEDS)

59 Utilized WARD BEDS (13.7% TOTAL BEI 63% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3 ON TOTAL VENTIL 50 Utilized NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

72 Utilized ISOLATION BEDS (4.7K TOTAL BEDS) 62 Utiliz ا د د د د WARD BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS 67% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1 1H TOTAL VENTIL 53° KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

0.9% Asymptomatic 0.7% Critical

1.3% Severe 0.89% Moderate

KASANGGA NG BIDA

UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

KASANGGA NG BIDA

Kritikal ang ating nagkakaisang kilos upang pigilan ang higit pang pagkalat ng COVID-19 at anumang variant nito sa ating bansa.
Responsibilidad nating lahat ang kaligtasan ng ating bayan, kaya't ipagpatuloy natin ang mahusay na pagsunod sa ating Minimum
Public Health Standards sa lahat ng oras at sitwasyon, at maging alisto tayo sa mga sintomas ng COVID-19. Sa oras na
makaramdam ng sintomas, agad na makipag-ugnayan sa ating BHERTS o One COVID Referral Center para sa karampatang gabay.
Maaabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa 1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, nariyan din ang mga hotline ng ating mga pasilidad. Puntahan ang http://bit.ly/DOHT elemedicine upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating Telemedicine Service Providers, at ang http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod: SMART: 0919 977 3333 GLOBE: 0915 777 7777 TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ulkol sa COVID-19?
I-chat na si KIRA!
VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH
KONTRACOVID PH: kontracovid ph





f OfficialDOHgov 💆 @DOHgovph 🌐 doh.gov.ph 📞 (02) 894-COVID / 1555



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



bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines



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

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph TelAventusMD Email:

Messenger: TelAventusMD

SeeYouDoc Website: www.seeyoudoc.com

Mobile App: SeeYouDoc

MedCheck Website: https://www.medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/

Medgate

Website: www.konsulta.md Mobile App: KonsultaMD

CloudPx https://cloudpx.ph/ Website:

Website:

HealthNow Website: https://www.healthnow.ph/

Email: help@healthnow.ph

Mobile App: HealthNow

← OfficialDOHgov

Telimed and

KonsultaMD





(02) 894-COVID / 1555

https://medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase







Getting ill with COVID-19 after you are vaccinated is possible, but rare. Your symptoms are more likely to be mild.

Why?

Breakthrough cases of COVID-19 after vaccination usually happen before the body has had time to develop maximum immunity. Even with a highly effective vaccine, a small number of people will still get ill — no vaccine protects 100% of people.

Get vaccinated as soon as it is your turn.









Vaccines are highly effective against severe illness and death caused by the COVID-19 variants, including Delta.

Why?

COVID-19 vaccines may be slightly less effective at preventing infection and mild symptoms caused by the Delta variant, but they are highly effective at preventing severe illness and death. Some variants spread more easily.

Getting vaccinated can save your life and protect you from severe COVID-19.









Getting vaccinated can help protect you and those around you from COVID-19.

Why?

New data shows that COVID-19 vaccines help to stop you picking up the virus and spreading it to others.

Your decision to get vaccinated helps others, too.

This protection is not 100%; continue to take precautions to protect yourself, friends and family, even after vaccination.







Even after getting vaccinated, keep taking precautions to protect yourself, family and friends

Why?

The COVID-19 vaccine is highly effective, but a small percentage of people will still get ill from COVID-19 after vaccination. You could also pass the virus on to others who are not vaccinated. Everyone should continue to distance, wear a mask, clean hands frequently, cover a cough or sneeze and avoid poorly ventilated areas.





Take all recommended doses of your COVID-19 vaccine to get the maximum level of protection

Why?

The maximum protection is not reached until several weeks after full vaccination.

If you have a two-dose vaccine, this means that you don't get full immunity until 2-4 weeks after the second dose.







COVID-19 vaccines are halal.

Why?

COVID-19 vaccines <u>do not contain</u>
animal products of any kind.
The Medical Figh Symposium has ruled
vaccines are <u>permissible according to Sharia law.</u>









The mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are as safe as other vaccines.

Why?

The mRNA vaccines <u>cannot change your DNA</u>,
they only deliver information. The vaccines teach
your body how to make a protein
that triggers an immune response.







All ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines are safe.

Why?

Ingredients help keep the vaccine blended together, stable and even at the injection site a little longer.

All tests have confirmed that these components are safe for people.









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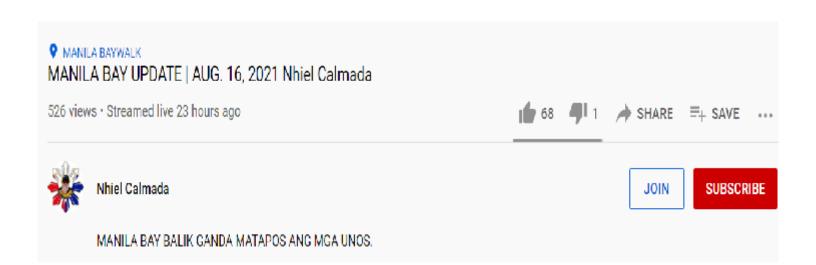




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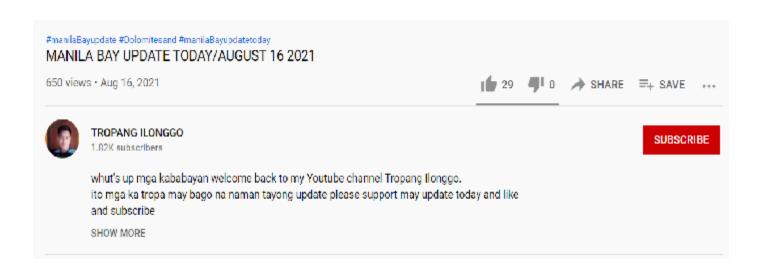




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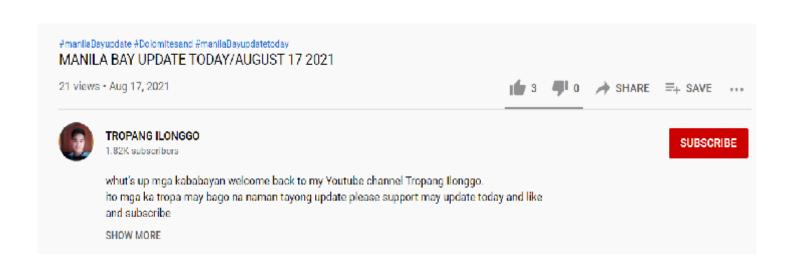




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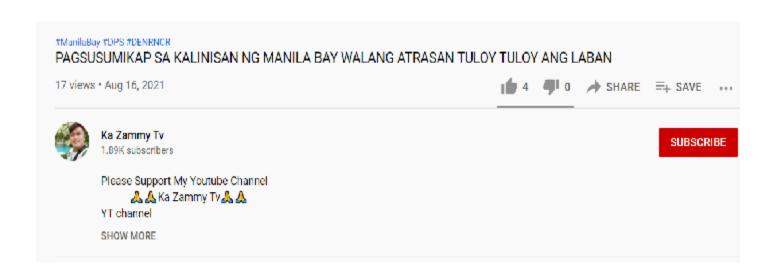




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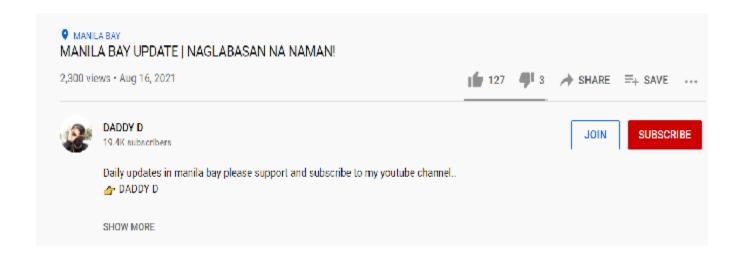




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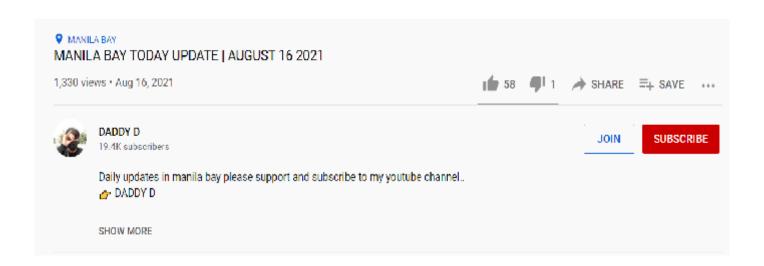




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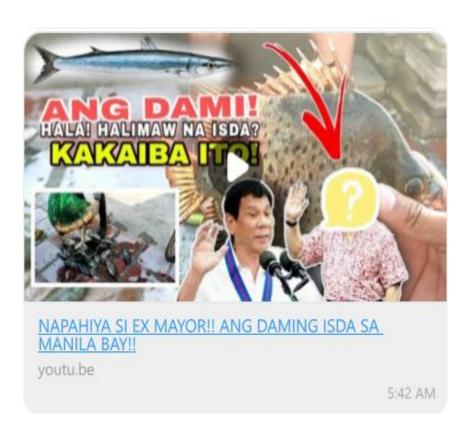
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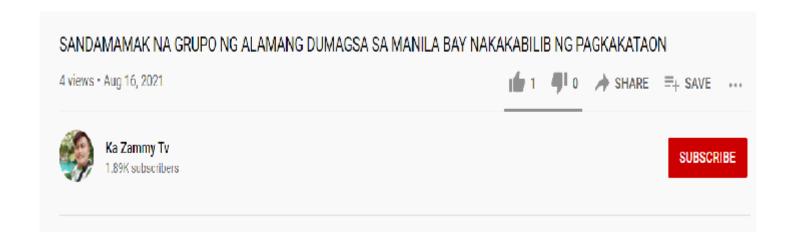




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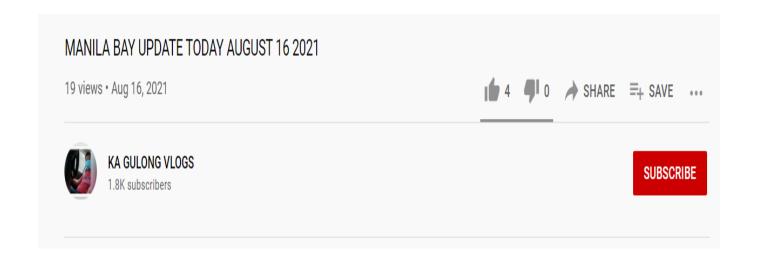




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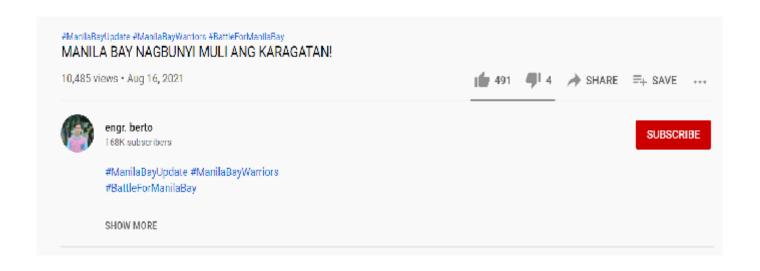




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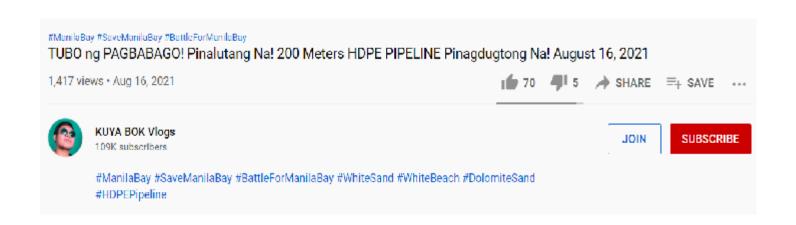




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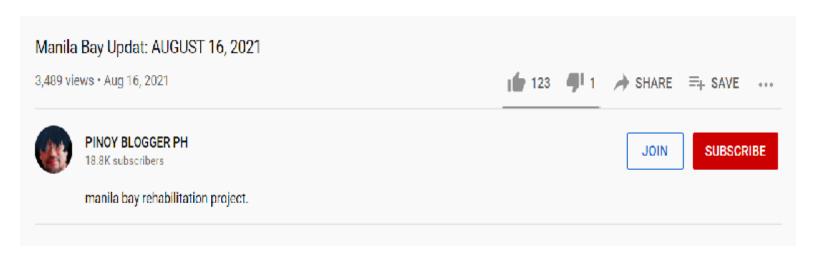




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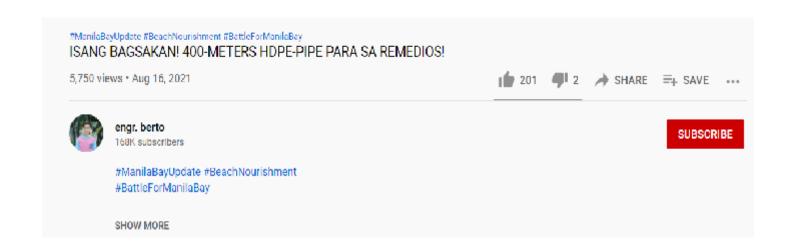




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Source: https://youtu.be/yUgDv04Zb80

