11 DECEMBER 2021, Saturday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



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DENR suspends cutting of trees at Philippine Eagle nesting site

ABS@CBN

NEWS

ABS-CBN News Posted at Dec 10 2021 07:41 PM

DAVAO CITY - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) suspended the cutting of 121 native trees at a Philippine Eagle nesting site and watershed area in Davao City on Thursday.

The tree-cutting in Marilog District was suspended after environmental groups and the city government pushed for the forest's protection.

The Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability-Davao (IDIS) organized an online petition last month to stop the cutting of trees at the Mounts Makabol-Alikoson Conservation Area (MMACA). As of December 10, it had almost 5,000 signatures.

IDIS said that the MMACA is a home of the Philippine Eagle, a critically endangered species. It is also home to various vulnerable species of birds and other wildlife endemic to Mindanao. The forest also replenishes the aquifers of the Suawan-Kulafu sub-watershed within the Davao City river basin.

The Davao City government also wrote a letter to the DENR, stating that the LGU supports the appeals of the Philippine Eagle Foundation and the Sustainable Davao Movement for the cancellation of timber cutting permits in Sitio Falcata, Barangay Salaysay in Marilog.

DENR Davao said the Private Land Timber Permit (PLTP), issued August 18, 2021 to Ling-Ling Wu Lee, covered 121 trees. These were Agoho, Bagtikan, Lauan, Tanguile and Ulian trees.

DENR Davao Regional Executive Director Bagani Fidel Evasco said the issuance was based on the report and recommendation of the Provincial and Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO and CENRO) anchored on ground validation, assessment, timber inventory, and thorough review on the application requirements.

"At the time of PLTP approval, DENR-XI was not aware of any telemetric data pertaining to the nesting trees claimed by PEF inside the contested property," Evasco said in a statement.

He also said that though cutting naturally-grown trees was allowed, the person responsible had to strictly comply with a tree replacement ratio of 1:100. Lee was expected to plant 12,100 seedlings and a pay forest charges for every cubic meter of timber she harvested.

Lee voluntarily stopped the cutting of trees in the area since Purok Leader Oliver Ancapoy posted about the issue on social media in October.

Atty. Mark Peñalver, executive director of IDIS said they will continue with their calls against the cutting of the trees until the DENR ultimately issued a cease-and-desist order.

- report from Hernel Tocmo



2 bantay dinakma sa Bulacan illegal quarry ops



December 10, 2021 @ 4:35 PM 13 hours ago

Bulacan- Arestado ang dalawang pinaniniwalaang caretaker sa iligal na pagmimina sa ikanasang operasyon ng mga awtoridad sa bayan ng San Rafael.

Kinilala ang naarestong suspek na sina Mario Atienza at Pio Enriquez, kapwa residente ng Brgy. Marungko, Angat.

Sa ulat,magkasamang sumugod sa pinaghihinalaang illegal quarry operation bandang alas-3:30 nmg hapon nitong Huwebes ang puwersa ng Bulacan 2nd PMFC, San Rafael police, CENRO Baliuag, Mines and Geosciences Bureau Region at Environmental Law Enforcement Protection Service (DENR Main Office) sa Brgy. Pulo, San Rafael nang maaresto ang mga suspek.

Sinasabing walang maipakitang kaukulang dokumento at permit ang naturang quarry operation sa lugar.

Nakumpiska sa lugar ang dalawang backhoe at isang bulldozer na ginamit sa iligal na quarry operations ng mga hindi pa nakikilalang indibiduwal na nasa likod nito.

Nahaharap sa kaukulang kaso ang mga naarestong caretaker sa iligal na minahan. Dick Mirasol III





Smuggled spiders inside mail intercepted in Pasay – BOC

Robie de Guzman • December 10, 2021



MANILA, **Philippines** — Illegally imported spiders were seized by authorities in Pasay City, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) said.

In a statement released on Thursday, the BOC said the smuggled spiders were intercepted in the Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC).

Customs said the spiders were imported from Poland and consigned to an addressee from Olongapo City.

They were concealed in a postal envelope with scraps of paper and declared as origami.

When the package was inspected through x-ray scanning and physical examination, it was found to contain 10 pieces of smuggled spiders estimated to have a value of P₇₅,000.00.

The BOC said the claimant was arrested by its NAIA Enforcement and Security Service Environmental Protection Compliance Division for violation of Section 1401 in relation to Republic Act (RA) 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) and RA 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

The BOC said the apprehended claimant has been turned over to the Philippine National Police for inquest proceedings.

The seized spiders, on the other hand, were turned over to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Unit (DENR WTMU) pursuant to Customs Administrative Order No. 10-2020, it added.



Remate Ang diaryo ng Masa

10 puslit na gagamba galing Poland nasabat ng BOC



December 10, 2021 @ 11:12 AM 19 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Nasabat ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) ang 10 puslit na gagamba galing sa Poland na nagkakahalaga ng P75,000 sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Ayon kay NAIA Customs District Collector CarmelitaTalusan, idineklara ang kargamento na "origami".

Sa X-ray scanning at physical examination, nakita rito ang 10 puslit na gagamba habang ang umaangkin naman sa package ay nahuli sa Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC) sa Pasay City.

Agad namang ibinigay ang mga nasabat sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Unit (DENR WTMU). **RNT/FGDC**



Iloilo builds 'Eco-Bahay' for IP community out of trashfilled bottles



ILOILO. Governor Arthur Defensor Jr. leads the groundbreaking of the "Eco-Bahay" project for the IP community in Barangay Pili, Calinog, Iloilo. The eco house was built out of plastic bottles stuffed with trash. (Capitol PIO)



ILOILO. Governor Arthur Defensor Jr. leads the groundbreaking of the "Eco-Bahay" project for the IP community in Barangay Pili, Calinog, Iloilo. The eco house was built out of plastic bottles stuffed with trash. (Capitol PIO)



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Iloilo builds 'Eco-Bahay' for IP community out of trashfilled bottles

December 06, 2021

WHAT we treat as trash could actually be converted into materials to build ecologically-friendly houses.

The Iloilo Provincial Government, in its campaign to reduce solid wastes, is building an "Eco-Bahay" made of trash-filled plastic bottles for the Indigenous People (IP) community in Barangay Pili, Calinog, Iloilo.

Governor Arthur Defensor Jr. led the groundbreaking of the project on December 6, 2021 as part of the Provincial Solid Waste Awareness Week Celebration from December 4 to 12 spearheaded by the Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office (PGENRO).

The Eco-Bahay Project was launched in 2018 in partnership with Eco-Youth Philippines using trash stuffed in plastic bottles as construction materials.

It is a realization of the three-year "Trash in a Bottle" Program of the Iloilo Provincial Government, which is an alternative recycling activity for plastic wastes.

PGENRO Senior Environmental Management Specialist Mitzi Peñaflorida said the eco house will serve as a training center for the IP community.

Peñaflorida said Barangay Pili is just a pilot area and they plan to expand the project to other IP communities.

She appealed for donations and support from stakeholders as the project is only a voluntary movement and does not have a budget.

"There are many IP communities in Calinog and they also wish to avail of the eco house. We look forward to providing them support and bringing government assistance closer to them," Peñaflorida said.

Meanwhile, the Provincial Solid Waste Awareness Week kicked off on December 4 with a Bike-Pick-Plant (BPP) Campaign for the Environment followed by a clean-up and mangrove tree growing in Barangay Nabitasan, Leganes.

On December 7, there will be a 4th Barangay Solid Waste Management Congress to get updates from barangays on their implementation of SWM program.



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Iloilo builds 'Eco-Bahay' for IP community out of trashfilled bottles

An Integrated Social Forestry (ISF) Congress will be held on December 8, which will serve as a venue for sharing successful projects in upland areas.

The 5th Provincial SWM Summit on December 9 will showcase LGU initiatives and best practices on solid waste management.

The highlight of the celebration is the awarding of outstanding LGUs on ecological and sustainable SWM system (E+3S) and Tanum Iloilo Challenge participants on December 10, 2011. (**PR**)



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'Only sustainability, cooperation will help us face environmental risks'

BYBMPLUS DECEMBER 9, 2021 4 MINUTE READ



Public and private institutions in the Philippines need to make sustainability part of their strategy and operations as the planet deals with environmental risks, and partnership with the European Union would enhance our efforts to go "green."

This was the meat of the discussion during the Pilipinas Conference 2021 entitled Strengthening Cooperation for a Green & Sustainable Recovery: A Part of EU-PH Trade & Sustainability Discussions held recently.

The online forum was organized by Stratbase ADR Institute in partnership with the EU Delegation.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Benjamin Diokno, speaking on behalf of the Philippine banking system, said they are keen to see sustainability principles integrated in the operations of our supervised entities and the entire financial system.

He underscored the need for banks to understand the impact of environmental and social risks on their business viability before they can fully heed the call for action.

Diokno said the BSP is committing to go green "by guiding the financial system and promote a conducive backdrop for sustainable finance to flourish; raising awareness and building capacity; enabling a regulatory environment through policy issuances; engaging all stakeholders as we recognize that the environmental and social risks are not just business risks, but risks that affect everyone and the future generations to come; and lastly, navigating the path towards a post-COVID-19 economy and Philippine financial system that is more stable, resilient, and inclusive."



'Only sustainability, cooperation will help us face environmental risks'

Maurizio Cellini, First Counsellor, Head of Trade & Economic Affairs, EU Delegation to the Philippines, said it is essential to bring together science, industry, and public donations to speed up the work and leverage all available resources to enable the EU to respond to these threats in anticipation of new variants, and other threats to public health.

"The EU will also invest environmentally friendly technology, roll out greener vehicles and public transport, and make our buildings and public spaces more energy efficient. In our cooperation with other partners, we will focus on green and sustainable economic recovery," he said.

With regard to the Philippines, two priority areas of cooperation have been agreed in close dialogue with the government.

"One is about a peaceful and just society and good governance, but the other one is about a green resilient economy and green jobs. This area in particular has three mutually reinforcing objective relating to circular economy and plastic waste management, digital connectivity, and green digital transformation and climate change adaptation and mitigation."

Cellini reiterated that it is fundamental that the Philippines complete the tax reform package and passes swiftly the bills for the liberalization of foreign investments: the amendment to the Public Services Act and the Retail Trade Liberalization Act.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems & Climate Change, Department of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR) Analiza Teh talked about the need to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The effect would lead to a collapse in ecosystem services that could result in a significant decline in global GDP: 2.7 trillion dollars by 2030.

"For the Philippines, we expect to incur about 177 billion pesos per year in loss to public and private assets due to typhoons and earthquakes. In the next 50 years, we have a 40% chance of experiencing a loss exceeding 989 billion pesos and a 20% chance of a loss exceeding 1.5 billion pesos. The estimated cost to implement our climate change mitigation programs is at 4.1 billion USD from 2015 to 2030." she said.

"We are pursuing the Philippine action plan for sustainable consumption and production. One of its major components is the promotion of circular economy where we aim to eliminate unnecessary plastic products, innovate for circularity by designing for re-use, recycling, repair and remanufacture. We also have to pursue sustainable financing."

Secretary Emmanuel De Guzman, Vice Chairperson & Executive Director, Climate Change Commission (CCC), said the Philippines is challenged to pursue a coordinated and effective transition to green and climate smart economy. "This is a transition that will drive decent and green jobs, livelihoods, and social justice, all crucial in the pursuit of sustainable growth." He proposed a five-point plan toward this aim.

"Partnerships and cooperation are key to resilience building," he said.

In his opening remarks for the session, Professor Dindo Manhit, President of Stratbase ADR Institute said that stakeholders across sectors need to become more aware of the long-term risks of



'Only sustainability, cooperation will help us face environmental risks'

failing to understand and incorporate sustainability as well as green and circular measures in their policies, frameworks, and operations.

"The EU has demonstrated its capability to become a global leader in mainstreaming and incorporating sustainable developmental agenda into its policies and frameworks, particularly on climate change. Together with the ASEAN, they are committed to forging stronger partnerships in pushing for circular economies, clean oceans, sustainable food systems, and sustainable finance. For us in the Philippines, we need multi-sectoral initiatives that should ensure its contribution in hastening recovery with a long-term environment agenda, spurring innovation needed in the new normal, and in reducing future climate risks," he said.

"Climate change cannot be addressed on a stand-alone basis."





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Farmers need anticipatory adaptation to survive accelerating climate impacts

(Philstar.com) - December 10, 2021 - 7:47am



This October 15, 2021 photo shows a rice field in Nueva Ecija.

NUEVA ECIJA, Philippines — Menard Abalos, a rice farmer in San Jose City, is afraid of storms. While rainfall is vital for the growth of rice, heavy downpour and violent winds unleashed by tropical cyclones wreak havoc on crops.

Abalos lives in Nueva Ecija, the country's leading rice-producing province.

"Yung ulan saka bagyo talaga ang kinatatakutan ng magbubukid lalo pag maganda sanang nakatayo 'yung palay, nagpapalabas pa lang ng uhay. Kapag may bagyong dumarating, hinahampas ng hangin," he said.

(The rain and storms are what farmers fear most, especially when the rice is growing well and the stalks are up. When a storm comes, the wind flattens the rice.)

Extreme weather events driven by climate change make life harder for millions of small-scale farmers in the Philippines like Abalos. And as the planet continues to warm, scientists predict more frequent and intense floods, storms and droughts.

Climate shocks

In the Philippines, agriculture remains a major sector, contributing to approximately 12% of the country's gross domestic product.

The sector also provides employment to around 32% of the country's population. A large majority of Filipino farmers operate at the subsistence, small-scale level.







Farmers need anticipatory adaptation to survive accelerating climate impacts

Human-induced climate change is already disrupting crop productivity and compromising food security for millions of Filipinos, according to Alicia Ilaga, director of the Department of Agriculture's Climate Resilient Agriculture Office.

"When we talk about losses and damages in production or reduced production, pagkain na sana natin, naging bato pa (that would have been food but turned into nothing). And then there is the destruction of support facilities, storage, farm to market roads. 'Yung iba naaanod at nababaha (Some are destroyed by the flooding)," Ilaga said.

The Philippines is battered by around 20 tropical cyclone every year, and aid groups say the povertystricken communities—which include farmers and their families—are disproportionately affected.

Meanwhile, during the dry season, farmers cough up money for irrigation needs.

"Minsan kinakapos na lalo pag walang ulan kasi ang irrigation nanggagaling sa dam," Abalos said.

(Sometimes, we run out of money, especially when there is no rain. Because the irrigation water comes from the dam).

He said they sometimes have to rent water pumps to irrigate the fields better.

Ilaga also said that higher temperature will also increase spoilage.

"Pag mainit o may drought (When it is too hot, or when there is a drought), there is increase in incidents of pests and diseases. These all contribute to decrease in production, decrease in productivity in agriculture and fisheries sector," she said.

Outsmarting climate change

For Ilaga, anticipatory adaptation is the name of the game.

"We have to outsmart climate change. We have to do anticipatory adaption para di tayo pulutin sa kangkungan (so we don't end up with nothing)," she said.

The agriculture official said the department is already delivering accurate and timely climate information to farmers and fishers, and training them to use climate-based farm advisories.

To reduce the impacts of climate change on agriculture, the DA is also implementing crop diversification practices. Crop diversification refers to the addition of new crops or cropping systems to agricultural production in an area.

The department also has an Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative (AMIA) program, its flagship initiative for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The program envisions that all communities in the country "would become resilient to the increasing adverse effects of climate change."

A vital component of the push is the creation of model communities called AMIA villages, which would serve as go-to places for other communities to learn from and emulate, and where technological and institutional innovations are introduced.







Farmers need anticipatory adaptation to survive accelerating climate impacts

Currently, there are 116 AMIA villages set up in 34 sites across the country. Aliga said there are documented increase in productivity and income in the model communities.

Ways to adapt

Whatever happens, farmers will find ways to survive and thrive, as they always have, Reynaldo Mariano, a rice farmer in Zaragoza town, said.

Members of Ugat-Uhay Farmers Association, the farmer group which he leads, use "kwebo"—a low-cost, climate-resilient farm structure developed by the Philippine Rice Research Institute—to grow mushrooms.

Farmers also plant protein-rich mung bean or munggo after harvesting rice crops.

"Kung ano man ang dumating, kailangang gumawa ng paraan para makabuhay kami. Hindi naman uubrang pabayaan na lang," he said.

(Whatever comes, we need to find a way to survive. We cannot just do nothing and let things be.)

11 DECEMBER 2021, Saturday

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

COVID-19

NEWS





Aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas, patuloy ang pagbaba

By Angellic JordanDecember 10, 2021 - 04:05 PM



Nasa 379 ang panibagong napaulat na kaso ng Coronavirus Disease o COVID-19 sa Pilipinas.

Sa huling datos ng Department of Health (DOH) bandang araw ng Biyernes (December 10), pumalo na sa 2,836,200 ang confirmed cases ng nakakahawang sakit sa bansa.

Sa nasabing bilang, 11,905 0 0.4 porsyento ang aktibong kaso.

4,860 sa active COVID-19 cases ang mild; 757 ang asymptomatic; 3,797 pasyente ang moderate; 2,060 ang severe habang 431 ang nasa kritikal na kondisyon.





Aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas, patuloy ang pagbaba

Nasa 25 naman ang napaulat na nasawi.

Dahil dito, umakyat na sa 49,961 o 1.76 porsyento ang COVID-19 related deaths sa bansa.

Ayon pa sa DOH, 631 naman ang gumaling pa sa COVID-19.

Dahil dito, umakyat na sa 2,774,334 o 97.8 porsyento ang total recoveries ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas.





DOH: No new COVID-19 admissions in nearly half of hospitals in Phl

(Philstar.com) - December 10, 2021 - 4:48pm



This photo taken on April 6, 2021 shows a man wearing personal protective equipment walking into a makeshift ward built for COVID-19 patients at a hospital in Manila. AFP/Jam Sta. Rosa

MANILA, Philippines — Nearly half of the 1,232 health facilities in the Philippines reported no admissions of COVID-19 patients in the last five days as the country sees a continued decline in infections, the Department of Health said Friday.

DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said 48.5% of all hospitals in the country had no new patients seeking treatment for COVID-19 from December 5 to 9.

SOCCSKSARGEN recorded the highest zero COVID-19 admissions at 75.4%, followed by the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao at 73.1% and Northern Mindanao at 65.7%.

In Metro Manila, 11% of Level 3 hospitals reported no new COVID-19 infections in the past five days, Vergeire added.

Currently, the entire country remains at minimal risk classification for COVID-19.

"All major island groups and NCR Plus areas show flat case trend in recent week," Vergeire said.

The DOH reported Friday 379 new COVID-19 cases.

Since the start of the pandemic, the Philippines has so far logged over 2.83 million infections. Of the total, only 0.4% were active cases. — Gaea Katreena Cabico

11 DECEMBER 2021, Saturday



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VLOGS





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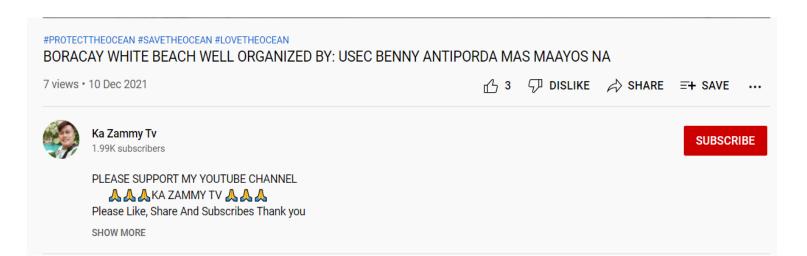


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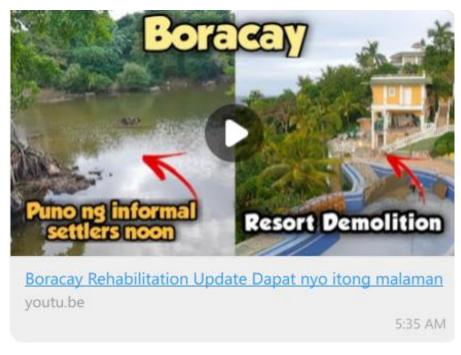
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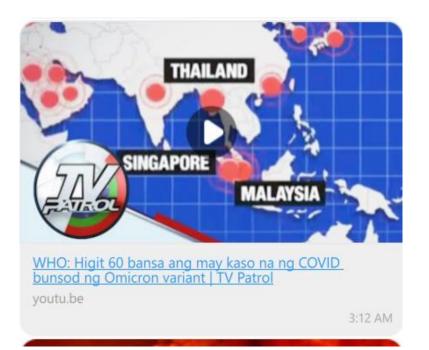
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