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# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



## DENR presides over 2nd PH-UK dialogue on climate change

FEB 8, 2022, 5:24 PM

Santiago Celario  
Writer

### ***DENR-led Cabinet cluster to host dialogue on climate change and environment***

TO prepare for climate and environmental change the Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCAM-DRR), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will be hosting the 2nd United Kingdom-Philippines Climate Change and Environment Dialogue on February 10, 2022.

CCAM-DRR Cabinet Cluster chairperson and DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the second dialogue will be a "crucial" event for the Philippines as it focuses on the pledges made at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021.

*"Climate change has been a necessary topic for the Philippines especially that every year, the country experiences harsh weather conditions such as the devastation of typhoon Odette," Cimatu said.*

The DENR said the first dialogue was conducted to set out the climate and environment priorities of the Philippines and the UK.

It also focused on energy transition and nature-based solutions and adaptation.

Meanwhile, the second dialogue will focus on opportunities to take stock of the progress made and agree on future priorities and work plans.

In line with the agreement with the first dialogue and with the outcomes of the COP26, the UK and the Philippines will focus on four strategic objectives for 2022.

These are to build the resilience of the economy, ecosystems and communities in the context of climate change; establish a development pathway towards net-zero; mobilize sustainable finance and greening the financial sector; and strengthen collaboration and increase awareness of institutions and communities in tackling climate change.

Meanwhile DENR Undersecretary for Finance Atty. Analiza Rebueta-Teh said the dialogue "serves as a platform to facilitate discussion on climate change and environment priorities between the UK and Philippine governments."



*"This dialogue is also an opportunity to take stock of progress made and agree on future priorities and work plan," Rebuelta-Teh said.*

She added that dialogue will also "pave the way for the Philippines to sustain the goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius and abide by the pledges made during the Paris Agreement which was reiterated by 200 parties on the Glasgow Climate Pact during the COP26."



## DENR backs bill extending producers' plastic waste responsibility

Published on: February 08, 2022

By DENR

QUEZON CITY -- Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu has expressed support for a recently passed Senate bill that aims to make manufacturers and producers accountable for proper management of their plastic packaging waste.

Cimatu said that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is in full support of the move to include Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in the two-decade-old Republic Act (RA) 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

Senate Bill (SB) 2425 was passed on third and final reading on January 31 to institutionalize EPR, which will in effect amend RA 9003.

"We are supporting moves in Congress to amend the RA 9003, to institutionalize the practice of extended producer responsibility on plastic packaging wastes," Cimatu said during the celebration of the 21st anniversary of the signing of RA 9003.

The DENR chief explained that the amendment of the law would define EPR as a "practical approach on efficient waste management, waste reduction and development of environmentally-friendly packaging products to promote sustainable consumption and production and the principles of a circular economy, and to emphasize the full responsibility of the producer throughout the products life cycle."

Moreover, he pointed out that "obliged companies" will also be required to observe suitable and effective "recovery, treatment, recycling or disposal" of their products which are sold to and used by the consumers.

He also underscored the importance of including EPR in hazardous waste.

"We are also advocating the extension of producer responsibility to waste electrical and electronic equipment, which is another form of hazardous waste," Cimatu said.

He noted that the DENR also supports initiatives in the legislature and promotes multi-stakeholder participation that would reduce marine litter towards a circular economy.



"We are also supporting initiatives in Congress to reduce plastic wastes in our water bodies and to transition to a circular economy," he said.

"We need not just a whole-of-government but also a whole-of-society approach to reduce the residual waste stream to zero in the circular economy that we are pushing for," he added.  
(DENR)



## NSWMC NAKIPAGSANIB-PWERSA SA DOTR SA COVID-GENERATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SA PUBLIC TRANSPORT

written by [Drew Nacino](#) February 8, 2022



Nakipagsanib-pwersa ang National Solid Waste Management Commission sa pamamagitan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources sa Department of Transportation upang mapangasiwaan nang maigi ang covid-generated waste.

Layunin nitong matiyak na maihihiwalay ang mga gámit na Covid-19 waste sa pamamagitan ng paglalagay ng yellow bins at bags sa lahat ng pampublikong sasakyan sa bansa.

Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, magiging konbinyente ang “yellow bins at bags” para sa mga commuter upang itapon ang kanilang mga gámit na face masks upang hindi maihalo sa ibang basura.

Dapat anyang i-segregate nang maayos at itapon ang mga facemask na posibleng may dalang mga virus kahit sino ang gumamit nito o saan man nanggaling ang mga ito.

Nag-issue naman ang NSWMC ng Resolution 1469 na nag-aatas sa DOTr na maglagay ng yellow bins at bags sa lahat ng pampublikong sasakyan para sa tamang pag-iimbak ng mga basura na may kaugnayan sa covid-19 habang nasa biyahe.



# DENR donates trash boats for Manila Bay rehabilitation



TRASH BOAT. Department of Environment and Natural Resources donates mini trash boats to five municipalities in Bulacan to boost and rehabilitation activities of major river systems directly draining to the greater portion of Manila Bay. (DENR)

IAN OCAMPO FLORA

February 07, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the City of San Fernando recently donated mini trash boats to five municipalities in Bulacan in an effort to boost cleanup and rehabilitation activities of major river systems directly draining to the greater portion of the Manila Bay.

Emelita Lingat, chief of the DENR office in Bulacan, reported that four mini trash boats were given to the City of Meycauayan, while the City of Malolos and towns of Calumpit, Hagonoy, and Paombong received one unit each.

“The distribution of these trash boats would be supplemental in our cleanup efforts, as well as in our waterway patrolling and monitoring activities especially in the Marilao-Meycauayan-Obando River System,” Lingat said.

Said trash boats would be added to 13 motorized banca, which had been doled out to cities of Meycauayan and Malolos and towns of Marilao, Obando, Paombong, and Hagonoy since 2018.

For his part, DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr. noted that the endowment of trash boats to local government units (LGUs) would not only fast-track collection of floating trash in river systems connected to the Manila Bay, but would likewise strengthen the implementation of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act in each municipality.

“The magnitude of our waste problem can only be minimized through our collective efforts with the LGUs and the citizens. Local communities play a critical role in environmental sustainability, as waste management starts at home,” Moreno ended.

Since the Manila Bay cleanup and rehabilitation program commenced on 2019, the DENR in the City of San Fernando has collected more than 85,600 tons of wastes from 3,900 cleanup activities conducted in Bulacan.

The province is part of the 190-length of the Manila Bay area in Central Luzon. Of this, 43 kilometers is part of the coastline of Bulacan.

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1920310/pampanga/local-news/denr-donates-trash-boats-for-manila-bay-rehabilitation>



# Angat water level lower than expected – NWRB

Rhodina Villanueva - The Philippine Star February 9, 2022 | 12:00am



“We are actually expecting Angat water level to be at 212 meters. However, our monitoring showed that (from) Dec. 31 to Jan. 1, the dam’s water level was at 202 meters only. There is a 10-meter difference. This was not the case in previous years,” NWRB executive director Sevilla David said.

Ernie Peñaredondo / File

MANILA, Philippines — Concerned government agencies must be prepared to alleviate a water supply shortage in Metro Manila during the summer months, the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) said yesterday.

“We are actually expecting Angat water level to be at 212 meters. However, our monitoring showed that (from) Dec. 31 to Jan. 1, the dam’s water level was at 202 meters only. There is a 10-meter difference. This was not the case in previous years,” NWRB executive director Sevilla David said.

As of 6 a.m. yesterday, the water level in Angat Dam was at 196.24 meters.

David said it would be “better if contingency measures are already put in place. What we are avoiding is for the water to reach the 180-meter minimum operating level.”

The Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System and water concessionaires have established around 100 deep wells and water treatment plants in Marikina and Cavite to prepare for the projected shortage, according to David.

He reminded the general public to conserve water, especially during this pandemic when there is a need to frequently wash hands and clean homes and surroundings.

“Hopefully, occasional rains will help increase Angat’s water elevation. At the same time, let us conserve water whenever possible,” David said.

He noted that the allocation of 48 cubic meters per second for Metro Manila will be maintained.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/02/09/2159470/ang-at-water-level-lower-expected-nwr-b>





# Imee: Observe proper disposal of medical wastes linked to COVID-19 pandemic or face heavy penalties

Published February 8, 2022, 3:48 PM

by [Mario Casayuran](#)

Senator Imee Marcos on Tuesday, January 8 appealed to hospitals, diagnostic centers, and other health facilities to observe the proper disposal of medical waste linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Marcos made the appeal after eight children tested positive for COVID-19 after playing along the seaside of Virac, Catanduanes, where used syringes, face masks, antigen test kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), and vials of blood and urine samples were illegally dumped.

The municipal office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) found that a diagnostic center in Barangay Concepcion in Virac committed numerous violations of waste disposal protocols.

Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, requires local governments down to the barangay level to properly collect, recycle, or dispose of trash, especially hazardous medical waste.

Marcos, chairwoman of the Senate Economic Affairs committee, said that violators could face court cases and heavy penalties, according to the degree of the offense.

“Any person who violates Section 48, paragraphs 14 to 16, shall upon conviction be punished with a fine of not less than P100,000 but not more than P1 million,” she said.

Marcos stressed that imprisonment of not less than one year but not more than six years could come with the heavy fines.

The lady lawmaker warned the public, especially children, against picking up or playing with medical waste to avoid catching the COVID-19 virus.

Instead, the dumping of life-threatening medical waste should be reported to the authorities, the senator added.

Marcos cited that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) collects about 1,000 tons of medical waste from hospitals, laboratories and diagnostic centers each day.

Global analysis of health care waste by the World Health Organization (WHO) shows that some 87,000 tons of PPE alone were produced and sold worldwide from March 2020 to November last year.



## Imee: Dispose medical waste properly

by [Macon Ramos-Araneta](#) [February 8, 2022, 11:15 pm](#)

Senator Imee Marcos on Tuesday urged hospitals, diagnostic centers, and other health facilities to observe the proper disposal of medical waste linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## MALING PAGTATAPON NG MEDICAL WASTE, MAY MABIGAT NA PARUSA

7 hours ago [jake](#)



UMAPELA si Senador Imee Marcos sa mga health facilities, gaya ng diagnostic centers at hospitals na sundin ang wastong disposal protocols ng mga medical waste na ginagamit sa paglaban sa COVID-19.

Ginawa ni Marcos ang apela matapos magpositibo ang walong kabataang naglaro sa tabing dagat ng Virac, Catanduanes, kung saan iligal na itinapon ang mga nagamit nang hirlinggilya o syringe, face masks, antigen test kits, lagayan ng dugo at ihi, at PPEs.

Sa report ng Municipal Environment and Natural Resources, nakitaan ng maraming paglabag sa batas ang isang diagnostic center na iligal na nagtapon ng hazardous wastes sa baybayin ng Barangay Concepcion, Virac, Catanduanes.

Sa Republic Act Republic Act 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, inatasan ang mga Barangay at LGUs sa wastong pagkolekta, recycling at pagtatapon ng mga basura, lalo na ang mga nakalalason at hazardous medical wastes.

Ang sinumang lumabag dito, ayon kay Marcos ay maaaring makasuhan at mapatawan ng mabigat na parusa depende sa pagkakasala..

“Any person who violates Sec. 48, pars. (14), (15) and (16) shall, upon conviction, be punished with a fine not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), or imprisonment not less than one (1) year but not more than six (6) years, or both,” babala ni Marcos.

Binalaan ni Marcos ang publiko, lalo ang mga kabataan na wag pulutin o paglaruan ang mga medical waste upang hindi sila mahawa ng virus.

Giit pa ni Marcos na mas makabubuti anyang ipaalam sa mga otoridad ang iligal na pagtatapon ng mga delikadong basura dahil mapanganib ito sa kalusugan at kapaligiran.

Tinukoy ni Marcos na may 1,000 toneladang medical wastes ang nahahakot ng DENR kada araw mula sa iba't-ibang laboratoryo o diagnostic centers at hospitals.

Sa WHO Global analysis of health care waste ng COVID-19, tinatayang nasa 87,000 tonnes ng personal protective equipment (PPE) ang naproduce at naibenta sa buong mundo mula March 2020 hanggang November 2021. (DANG SAMSON-GARCIA)

Source: [https://saksingayon.com/nasyunal/maling-pagtatapon-ng-medical-waste-may-mabigat-na-parusa/?utm\\_source=ReviveOldPost&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR3vt2Q2UVpM8mgdby2S\\_SRKTDMD5xHV8Bxty2GDA380\\_I15RaH3-qOLAEQ](https://saksingayon.com/nasyunal/maling-pagtatapon-ng-medical-waste-may-mabigat-na-parusa/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR3vt2Q2UVpM8mgdby2S_SRKTDMD5xHV8Bxty2GDA380_I15RaH3-qOLAEQ)



## Arroceros Urban Forest Park opens to public

FEB 8, 2022, 6:19 PM

Heloise Diamante  
Writer

***You can now visit the Arroceros Urban Forest Park but with a koi pond, water fountains, and a coffee shop, is it still a “forest”?***

**AFTER** months of work, the Manila City Government formally opened the Arroceros Urban Forest Park, known as the capital’s “last lung” last February 4.

Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso led the inauguration on Friday night, two years after he signed Ordinance No. 8607 declaring the area as a permanent forest park.

*“Masaya po ako na kahit paano ay naisalba po natin ang Arroceros Park,” said Moreno in his speech inviting those who have physical and mental health concerns to unwind at the park.*

In 1992, the capital city purchased the 2.2-hectare land, home to more than 3,000 trees of 61 varieties, 8,000 ornamental plants, and 10 bird species.

As part of his developmental plans for the city, Moreno kick-started the redevelopment in September last year extending the space to 2.71 hectares and erecting new park features.

Such features include water fountains, elevated walkways, a coffee shop, trail bridge, Koi pond, meditation area, vertical garden, play areas for children, and improved comfort rooms.

However, a number of environmental advocates visited Arroceros Park in November during its construction and called for a revised design and approach to “minimize further destruction”.

During their visit, the Save Arroceros Movement comprised of environmental and civil society groups observed that cemented areas and walkways replaced the natural forest path.

Members shared photos of the park under development and compared them to old photos of the park.

*“This newly cemented area will be a playground?” wrote Chiqui Sy-Quia Mabanta remembering that the same area already had a natural flat land. “Shouldn’t playgrounds have soft ground? The forest was the playground.”*

The group also saw that a concrete chair donated by the National Artist for Sculpture was “ruined in the process of redevelopment”.

Their manifesto called to stop the redevelopment project and decided the lack of cooperation with them and other groups such as Winner Foundation, Manila Doctors Hospital, and Philippine Native Plants Conservation Society Inc.



According to the movement, because the city government did not coordinate with the concerned groups, the forest has become less of a forest and more of a “manicured park” with ornamental and exotic plants not native to the area.

Save Arroceros Movement has not made a new statement after the inauguration.

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/arroceros-urban-forest-park-opens-to-public?fbclid=IwAR2X8fySU8GXEIBiI4SYw0rd4wOggLjxUBRLUe7UynL3gD9Sz26DZkkDRIO>



## Groups urge ‘green agenda’ in 2022 polls

FEB 7, 2022, 3:39 PM

Opinyon News Team  
News Reporter

***In the statement, the coalition demanded that the next elected leaders must "take a stand and create opportunities to initiate a paradigm shift towards a model of sustainable development" that listens and responds to the cries of the earth and the poor.***

Civil society, faith-based, and people's organizations urged for a “pro-Filipino” climate and environment agenda for the upcoming national and local elections.

*“Above anything else, politics should endeavor to serve the poorest and most vulnerable sectors and not the other way around,” said Most Rev. Gerardo Alminaza, D.D. vice chairperson of Caritas Philippines, in a joint statement of over 100 civil society organizations and interfaith based groups issued Monday (February 7).*

*“Alminaza called on candidates, political leaders and those holding government offices to think about the future generations and the well-being of the environment.*

*“Leaders should be servants of the flock and should not take advantage of their positions to gain glory, power and money,” the prelate added.*

In the statement, the coalition demanded that the next elected leaders must "take a stand and create opportunities to initiate a paradigm shift towards a model of sustainable development" that listens and responds to the cries of the earth and the poor.

This includes protecting the Philippines' interests related to its natural resources and territorial sovereignty, as stated under the Constitution.

### **Economy and environment go together**

Greenresearch Executive Director and environmental sociologist Patria Gwen Borcena stated that many Philippine CSOs want the next administration to veer away from the flawed economic development paradigm and pursue a greener or more sustainable development path.

She stressed that the environment is not secondary to the economy, but rather, the management of the economy and care for the environment should be complementary.

Borcena emphasized a line from the CSOs’ collective statement:

*“The conservation, protection, and rehabilitation (CPR) of the environment and natural resources (ENR) should be prioritized over the agenda of further utilizing these for profit and short-term ends of humanity.”*

*“We do not want a repeat of our Yolanda experience. We want a new set of leaders that would promote policies and programs that can protect us from the harm and hazards brought about by strong typhoons, flash floods, drought and other natural disasters. We want leaders that would stop mining in our island,” said Gaeng Somooc of Protect Manicani Island Society*



*(PROMISI), a community based, anti-mining organization in Guiuan, Eastern Samar.*

The CSOs are pushing for twenty 20 policy recommendations that include strategic climate action, transition to renewable energy and phaseout of coal by 2030, protection of our territory and marine ecosystem in the West Philippine Sea and a shift away from extractivist economy.

Some of its recommendations highlighted includes an improvement on implementation, monitoring and evaluation of climate and environmental laws and policies, including a ban on single-use plastics, an end to coal, then oil and natural gas, a review of environmentally harmful activities and false solutions, such as mining, commercial logging, nuclear energy, waste-to-energy, large dams, and reclamation, until relevant laws are passed.

These demand a pursuit on a just transition to an economy dominated by more sustainable technologies and cultures, such as renewable energy, alternatives to plastics, and a zero-waste lifestyle; build adequate and green infrastructure for public transport and other non-motorized modes of traveling.

*"The upcoming polls provide our citizens with an opportunity to install leaders at the national and local levels who will pursue, together with our people, holistic and sustainable solutions, not band-aid schemes, to our country's garbage and pollution woes. Let us not waste this opportunity and pick leaders on May 9 who will steer our country toward a socially just, zero waste and toxics-free society," said Aileen Lucero, National Coordinator, EcoWaste Coalition.*

Lucero also stressed the importance for the nation's next leaders to uphold the ban on waste incineration, ban waste imports, ban single-use plastics and other non-environmentally acceptable products and packaging materials such as those containing harmful chemical additives, among other priorities.

The CSOs further recommend to elevate climate action as a strategic national agenda through implementing a coherent strategy to address the climate crisis, including the country's Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris climate agreement; and the passage of other long-recommended green bills, including the National Land Use Act (NLAU), Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), Alternative Minerals Management Bill (AMMB), Indigenous Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Bill, nationwide ban on single-use plastics, Rights of Nature Bill, and others, with meaningful consultation involving civil society stakeholders.

*"The core of which is an economic system that will spur national development - ensures growth and competitiveness of economic sectors and development of its human and natural resources. The current system being perpetuated by the Philippine Government enables the continuing plunder of our resources, destroys the environment and marginalizes the people and labor. This system is glaring in the energy sector. The continuous use of expensive, dirty coal and fossil fuel despite the climate crisis, the closing gap towards climate catastrophe and the competitiveness of clean and renewables is blatant disregard of the lives and survival of the Filipino people," Ian Rivera, Executive Director of Philippine Movement for Climate Justice, said.*

Yolly Esguerra, National Coordinator of Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc., also emphasized "a new development paradigm that would recognize the rights of nature and would veer away from the current extractivist economy is urgent. We can't continue to live like nature is infinite. We need to transition to a more organic and circular economic system. And it should start from recognizing that all living beings have inherent dignity and rights and the source of all life. Only when we can change our relationship with nature can we effect real change in social systems."

Source: [https://opinyon.net/national/groups-urge-green-agenda-in-2022-polls?fbclid=IwAR1ionpMoq1R7DRxrtt84mL9MI624wkqL81k3D4nnA9\\_gU1PbSQB1C3V0S](https://opinyon.net/national/groups-urge-green-agenda-in-2022-polls?fbclid=IwAR1ionpMoq1R7DRxrtt84mL9MI624wkqL81k3D4nnA9_gU1PbSQB1C3V0S)  
[Y](#)



# Youth groups ask candidates to prioritize climate agenda

REYNALDO G. NAVALES

February 08, 2022

MORE than 30 youth organizations across the country have challenged the candidates for the upcoming 2022 national elections to put the issue of climate change as a priority in their platforms.

“The next leaders of the country need to recognize the urgency of the climate crisis for our country,” said Jon Bonifacio, national coordinator of Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (Yacap).

Yacap is the nationwide alliance behind the initiative.

“Especially after the devastation from Typhoon Odette, we need to start talking about how we can adapt to climate change,” he said.

The proposed climate agenda is a list of different policy suggestions that were drafted after consultation with various youth organizations and young individuals, including some directly impacted by Typhoon Odette last December, according to the group.

The document highlights different climate and environment issues, ranging from adaptation to typhoons to climate education, they said.

Yacap said the Philippines is one of the worst impacted countries when it comes to climate change, ranking fourth globally in terms of long-term climate risk according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021.

Last December 2021, Typhoon Odette (international name Rai) affected eight million people in the country, with 1.4 million houses destroyed or otherwise damaged, the youth organization said.

“The youth are coming together to call for a green and just leadership in the face of the ongoing climate and environment crisis,” said Bea Panlaqui, chairperson of Saribuhay, one of the youth organizations that joined Yacap in the campaign.

“Our present and future are at stake, and we have no time to lose,” she added.





## USAID, Nestlé PHL in climate change, waste management partnership

February 8, 2022 | 11:10 pm



PHILIPPINE STAR/ MICHAEL VARCAS

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Nestlé Philippines, Inc. have entered into a partnership to improve solid waste management practices and implement a climate change education program.

“Combatting ocean plastics pollution is a challenge that requires strong partnerships. USAID is pleased to partner with Nestlé Philippines in supporting local governments to reduce waste-linked contributions to ocean plastics and the climate crisis,” USAID Philippines Mission Director Ryan Washburn said in a statement.

The partnership will be undertaken via the Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO) program, with a focus on local solid waste management. The program will be conducted in conjunction with Nestlé Philippines’ Climate Change and Solid Waste Management Education Program.

Launched in 2019, CCBO is a P2.5-billion program that will run until 2024.

“As a food and beverage manufacturer with a major presence in the country, we are called upon to be at the forefront in helping tackle the urgent issues of climate change and plastic waste. As Nestlé Philippines sustains plastic neutrality, and other pioneering initiatives for the environment, it is important for us to help capacitate people at the grassroots level,” said Nestlé Philippines Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Kais Marzouki.

USAID said that the program is also intended to help local government units that struggle to implement and enforce regulations.

“By strengthening waste management systems and building circular economies city by city, the program builds sustainable solutions that reduce ocean plastics while empowering vulnerable populations and mitigating pollution that affects human health and the climate,” USAID said.  
— **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**

Source: [https://www.bworldonline.com/usaaid-nestle-phl-in-climate-change-waste-management-partnership/?fbclid=IwAR1KjudP5awemE\\_0VpgdPSfOXaZo-N\\_lb8j9uK9X0o6gGIyRdy5\\_uHSgQHg](https://www.bworldonline.com/usaaid-nestle-phl-in-climate-change-waste-management-partnership/?fbclid=IwAR1KjudP5awemE_0VpgdPSfOXaZo-N_lb8j9uK9X0o6gGIyRdy5_uHSgQHg)



# World must work together to tackle plastic ocean threat: WWF

Agence France-Presse / 08:11 AM February 08, 2022



The 2021 Oxford University's Our World in Data report says about 80 percent of global ocean plastic comes from Asian rivers, and the Philippines accounts for a third of that. Plastic waste literally covers some coastal areas as can be seen in this January 2019 photo of the shores of Baseco in Tondo, Manila. (GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE / INQUIRER)

PARIS – [Plastic has infiltrated all parts of the ocean](#) and is now found “in the smallest plankton up to the largest whale” wildlife group WWF said on Tuesday, calling for urgent efforts to create an international treaty on plastics.

Tiny [fragments of plastic have reached even the most remote](#) and seemingly-pristine regions of the planet: it peppers Arctic sea ice and has been found inside fish in the deepest recesses of the ocean, the Mariana Trench.

There is no international agreement in place to address the problem, although delegates meeting in Nairobi for a United Nations environment meeting this month are expected to launch talks on a worldwide plastics treaty.

WWF sought to bolster the case for action in its latest report, which synthesises more than 2,000 separate scientific studies on the impacts of plastic pollution on the oceans, biodiversity and marine ecosystems.

The report acknowledged that there is currently insufficient evidence to estimate the potential repercussions on humans.

But it found that the fossil-fuel derived substance “has reached every part of the ocean, from the sea surface to the deep ocean floor, from the poles to coastlines of the most remote islands and is detectable in the smallest plankton up to the largest whale”.

## ‘Saturation point’

According to some estimates, between 19 to 23 million tons of plastic waste is washed into the world's waterways every year, the WWF report said.

This is largely from single-use plastics, which still constitute more than 60 percent of marine pollution, although more and more countries are acting to ban their use.

“In many places (we are) reaching some kind of saturation point for marine ecosystems, where we're approaching levels that pose a significant threat,” said Eirik Lindebjerg, Global Plastics Policy Manager at WWF.



In some places there is a risk of “ecosystem collapse”, he said.

Many people have seen images of seabirds choking on plastic straws or turtles wrapped in discarded fishing nets, but he said the danger is across the entire marine food web.

It “will affect not only the whale and the seal and the turtle, but huge fish stocks and the animals that depend on those”, he added.

In one 2021 study, 386 fish species were found to have ingested plastic, out of 555 tested.

Separate research, looking at the major commercially fished species, found up to 30 percent of cod in a sample caught in the North Sea had microplastics in their stomach.

Once in the water, the plastic begins to degrade, becoming smaller and smaller until it is a “nanoplastic”, invisible to the naked eye.

So even if all plastic pollution stopped completely, the volume of microplastics in the oceans could still double by 2050.

But plastic production continues to rise, potentially doubling by 2040, according to projections cited by WWF, with ocean plastic pollution expected to triple during the same period.

### **Enduring risk**

Lindebjerg compares the situation to the climate crisis — and the concept of a “carbon budget”, that caps the maximum amount of CO2 that can be released into the atmosphere before a global warming cap is exceeded.

“There is actually a limit to how much plastic pollution our marine ecosystems can absorb,” he said.

Those limits have already been reached for microplastics in several parts of the world, according to WWF, particularly in the Mediterranean, the Yellow and East China Seas (between China, Taiwan and the Korean Peninsula) and in the Arctic sea ice.

“We need to treat it as a fixed system that doesn’t absorb plastic, and that’s why we need to go towards zero emissions, zero pollution as fast as possible,” said Lindebjerg.

WWF is calling for talks aimed at drawing up an international agreement on plastics at the UN environment meeting, from February 28 to March 2 in Nairobi.

It wants any treaty to lead to global standards of production and real “recyclability”.

Trying to clean up the oceans is “extremely difficult and extremely expensive”, Lindebjerg said, adding that it was better on all metrics not to pollute in the first place.

*gsg*

# Can ‘plastic credits’ help solve the waste crisis?

Experts are both optimistic and wary about the emerging plastic waste economy.



Collecting and sorting waste in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Plastic removed from the environment is starting to be sold as ‘credits’ to companies wishing to offset their footprint. Image: Richard Atrero de Guzman / Greenpeace

By Emma Bryce, [China Dialogue](#)  
Feb. 8, 2022

Ranong is Thailand’s least-populated province, yet it battles a steady stream of plastic waste. Like many coastal parts of the country, Ranong’s turquoise waters are at the receiving end of some of the approximately [50,000 tonnes](#) of plastic pollution that enters Thailand’s seas annually. This figure includes a portion of the [several hundred thousand tonnes](#) of plastic that are imported into the country from the rest of the world each year.

But since 2019, a team of Ranong residents have been intercepting plastic pollution on its path from land to sea. With the support of a social enterprise called [Second Life Thailand](#), they gather 120 tonnes of plastic annually, which is mostly recycled into plastic chips to make new products. Then, for every ton removed from the environment, Second Life generates a “plastic credit”, which it sells on to purchasing companies who wish to offset their own waste footprint.

The Thai-based project is now one of dozens of global waste collection and recycling efforts that sell plastic credits. Echoing the principles of [carbon emissions trading](#), these credits give companies an opportunity to indirectly tackle their own plastic pollution by funding initiatives that clear plastic pollution from the environment, recycle it, or do both.

This emerging marketplace now includes dozens of global companies which can purchase from about [32 credit schemes](#), each incorporating several plastic collection projects worldwide like the one in Thailand. Proponents say this credit mechanism could clear millions of tonnes of plastic pollution and curtail its hazardous impact on the environment. On the other hand, some are concerned plastic credits could encourage greenwashing and distract from the systemic solutions the industry requires to truly solve the crisis of plastic waste.

## **A new standard**

To their proponents, plastic credits can help address the industry’s most intractable problems. Removing pollution from the environment ton-by-ton gives companies a way to account for the share of plastic they say they must produce because there aren’t alternatives to the material yet. They also help companies take responsibility for the share of plastic they generate that, beyond their control, leaks into the environment. Meanwhile, by charging companies for credits, in principle, these schemes steer more funding into systems that capture and recycle waste.

Another possible benefit is that plastic credits could speed up action on pollution. In many countries, governments are establishing [extended producer responsibility](#) (EPR) schemes that require packaging producers to pay for the collection, sorting and recycling of pollution downstream. There's widespread agreement that these are needed, but financing and enforcing EPR regulation can take decades to roll out. Meanwhile, private-sector-driven plastic credits offer companies a route to immediately extract and recycle waste through existing projects.

Yet this swiftly evolving credits marketplace is new and still unwieldy, with no overarching mechanism in place for plastic credit projects. "It has the potential to become a new financial instrument that is completely unregulated. It's very immature now; it's very volatile," says Ina Ballik, senior manager at Yunus Environment Hub, a global social business network that is part of the consortium ValuCred, which was established to help streamline plastic credit systems.

However, awareness of the need for some controls began growing in 2019 when industry and NGO stakeholders came together to [launch](#) the [3R Initiative](#). This was established to draw up standards for how businesses should use plastic credits and how projects should sell them. The initiative's biggest output so far is the [Plastic Waste Reduction Standard](#), launched in February 2021 and now managed by international environmental standard-setting [Verra](#), which first made its name by creating emissions trading standards in 2005.

Verra's Plastic Standard is the first to officially define a plastic credit as one ton of plastic waste removed or recycled. The organisation works with independent auditing companies that check plastic credit projects on the ground to ensure they comply with the standard's requirements.

Chief among these is that plastic being collected or recycled on behalf of credit-buying companies has to be additional to what's usually removed, explains Sinclair Vincent, director of sustainable development innovations and markets at Verra. That's crucial for ensuring that investment in plastic credit schemes measurably reduces pollution. Then, with information from those audits, Verra conducts a review. If a project meets the standard, Verra issues credits, representing its stamp of approval.

So far, Verra has [listed four plastic credit projects](#), which is the first stage of the registration and verification process: "Another two dozen are looking to enter the system within the next 12 months. Of those projects, a good number are in Asia," Vincent says. Second Life in Thailand is one of the companies now seeking approval with Verra for their plastic credit.

Such standards could become necessary to govern a marketplace that seems bound to grow: "For the foreseeable future, [companies] are still going to be using plastic, and plastic will still escape the system and end up in the environment," Vincent says.

### **The risks**

Others observing this growing momentum are starting to weigh up the risks. Plastic credits are designed to tackle the symptoms of the plastic crisis, not the cause, which is the ongoing production of virgin, single-use plastic. There's currently no formal safeguard to stop companies producing more and more plastic and plastic waste. So there is a contradiction at the heart of the schemes: companies can keep producing more plastic while also benefitting from the green image associated with credit schemes.

The 3R Initiative's [Corporate Plastic Stewardship Guidelines](#), which it drafted alongside the Plastic Waste Reduction Standard, have tried to tackle this, stipulating that companies should only use plastic credits after first reducing and reusing plastic waste. "It all goes back to making sure that companies are taking action inside their value chains rather than only using plastic credits to balance things out," Vincent says. But currently these are just guidelines and adopting them is voluntary: the onus is on projects to comply with Verra's standards, while participating companies still have some wiggle room in how they use the schemes.

Some have approached this problem by attempting to offset their entire plastic footprint – like Nestlé, the world’s largest food and beverage company. The company is transparent about the scale of its plastic contribution, disclosing that in 2020 it used [269 billion pieces of plastic](#) in its product packaging. Along with Danone and Tetra Pak, in 2019 Nestlé backed the 3R Initiative, but it does not currently purchase plastic credits. Instead, it works more directly to remove plastic pollution: the company partners with projects in several countries to gather and recycle equivalent amounts of plastic to the quantity its operations produce in each country.

Its biggest success so far has been [in the Philippines](#). “We achieved plastic neutrality in August 2020,” says Georgios Galanos, Nestlé’s global head of packaging sustainability. “Which means that Nestlé Philippines collected and co-processed the equivalent amount of plastic as contained in the products sold.”

The company calls this strategy “one ton in, one ton out” and says it will use it to achieve plastic neutrality in 12 other countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. That’s combined with Nestlé’s commitment to reduce the use of virgin plastics in its products by a third by 2025, Galanos says.

Even if more companies took this full-offset approach, the principle of one-in, one-out, which also underpins plastic credit schemes, oversimplifies the complexity of plastic waste, experts believe. Plastic might create dire environmental and social impacts in one country that can’t be accounted for by gathering it from a different place. Meanwhile, offsetting the production of certain single-use plastics, which are almost impossible to recycle, by gathering reusable plastic bottles, isn’t an equal trade.

What’s more, organisations like the WWF worry that despite these complexities, some companies are overstating the environmental benefits of plastic credits – a slippery slope to greenwashing. That’s illustrated by claims of “plastic neutrality” or “offsetting” that typically accompany these schemes and may mislead consumers. These may imply that a company’s impact is erased, yet removing plastic waste doesn’t account for the emissions involved in making it from oil and gas, for example.

“As long as a company uses or sells plastic, it cannot be plastic neutral,” says Kori Goldberg, a plastic waste specialist at WWF and co-author of a recent [WWF position statement](#) on plastic credits. She adds: “This is especially dangerous when companies prioritise this marketing tactic over more impactful plastic waste mitigation activities” – like reducing the production and use of virgin plastic. Vincent adds that Verra is against this terminology, too. “We’ve seen what these types of terms can do in the carbon space. It allows for greenwashing claims to seep in and cause uncertainty in the market.”

Meanwhile, plastic credits are dogged by another challenge: deciding the appropriate price per ton. A central selling point of credit schemes is that they can push investment into waste management infrastructure. But some are sceptical about how they will do that without formal mechanisms to build the cost of that infrastructure into the price of the credit itself.

For example, a project might exist in a city where there’s the capacity to gather waste but no infrastructure to safely dispose of or recycle it, Ballik of ValuCred explains. Without credits that reflect the cost of building a waste management system, these schemes will be limited in what they can achieve. “This is an end-of-pipe solution because we will keep on sponsoring beach clean-ups but never actually invest in the infrastructure that prevents plastic going into the environment,” Ballik says.

The question of how to price plastic credits has a social element, too. In many countries – especially in Asia – waste management often depends on the services of millions of [informal waste pickers](#) who trade waste for cash in lieu of a wage. This informal economy provides an essential service: a 2019 report found that in nine Southeast Asian cities, informal waste



pickers are [responsible for 97 per cent of plastic bottle recycling](#). Ballik fears that if plastic credit schemes don't factor in the costs of fairly supporting these essential workers, they risk entrenching this inequity.

### *A place for credits?*

Against this backdrop of pros and cons, the question remains whether plastic credit schemes can play a meaningful role in reducing pollution, or whether they're too riddled with risk. The reality is that humanity generates [several hundred million tonnes of plastic waste](#) each year, and plastic credits are among a very limited number of tools we have to curtail that. "[Plastic credits] have a legitimate value. We have to bridge the years from today until fully fledged EPR systems will be rolled out," Ballik says.

But to play this critical intermediary role, we will need to design them better. The first step is making them reflect the true infrastructural and social cost of managing waste. For the past year, ValuCred has [researched](#) this: "We're trying to build, from the bottom up, the price it would actually be if you pay for the people, the infrastructure, the bins, the collection, the recycling, the planning, the overheads, the risks," Ballik says. In August 2022, they will publish their result: the Standards Process Model for plastic credits, which they hope will guide schemes, in part, on how to price these tokens appropriately.

Ideally, credit schemes should also gradually ratchet up these costs over time so that, instead of being a cheap and easy offset for companies that want to maintain business-as-usual, they deter companies from producing plastic and encourage them to seek alternatives. Even so, a question hangs over how effective these schemes can really be at their current scales, and considering that they're voluntary. Ballik believes the only way the "polluter pays" principle will truly become entrenched is if it is governed by treaties or conventions that compel companies to take full responsibility for their waste. That means going beyond just gathering and recycling plastic from the environment, to tackling plastic production and pollution along the entire supply chain. "It needs to be mandatory if you really want to instil this," she says.

Ballik also believes we're now at a critical inflection point where plastic credits could quickly evolve into something that does more harm than good. We should take the opportunity now to forge them into tools that can support real progress towards environmental and social change. "They've not yet made a mark. But before they get there, let's do it right."

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# Report: Corporate climate pledges are weaker than they seem

BY BUSINESSMIRROR FEBRUARY 8, 2022

By Cathy Bussewitz | AP Business Writer

NEW YORK—Many of the world's largest companies are failing to take significant enough steps to meet their pledges to vastly reduce the impact of their greenhouse gas emissions in the decades ahead.

That's the conclusion of a new report by the NewClimate Institute, an environmental organization that works to combat global warming. Its researchers, who examined the actions of 25 companies, concluded that many of them are misleading consumers by using accounting practices that make their environmental goals relatively meaningless or are excluding key parts of their businesses in their calculations.

The companies have pledged to make their emissions reductions or to offset their emissions through such techniques as planting carbon-capturing forests over self-imposed periods ranging from 2030 to 2050.

The authors chose to study corporate giants, including Amazon and Walmart, which made bold climate pledges and who, because of their size, are seen as especially influential. In recent years, large corporations have increasingly adopted pledges to significantly reduce their carbon footprints—a priority of growing importance to many of their customers, employees and investors.

NewClimate Institute concluded that even though many companies have pledged to reach net-zero emissions, the 25 companies they studied have collectively committed to reduce emissions by about 40 percent—not the 100 percent that people might be led to believe from the companies' net-zero or carbon-neutral pledges.

“We were frankly surprised and disappointed at the overall integrity of the companies' claims” said Thomas Day of NewClimate Institute, one of the study's lead authors. “Their ambitious-sounding headline claims all-too-often lack real substance, which can mislead both consumers and the regulators that are core to guiding their strategic direction. Even companies that are doing relatively well exaggerate their actions.”

Among the 25 companies the researchers studied, 24 relied too heavily on carbon offsets, which are rife with problems, the report said. That's because carbon offsets often rely on carbon removal ventures such as reforestation projects. These projects suck up carbon but are not ideal solutions because forests can be razed or destroyed by wildfires, re-releasing carbon into the air.

Most of the companies, the report said, presented vague information on the scale and potential impact of their emissions-reduction measures or might have exaggerated their use of renewable energy.

The report called Amazon's goal of net-zero carbon by 2040 unsubstantiated. It said it was unclear whether Amazon's goal referred solely to carbon dioxide emissions or to all greenhouse gases. The report also said it was not clear to what degree Amazon planned to reduce its own emissions, as opposed to buying carbon offset credits which rely on nature-based solutions.





In response, Amazon said it has been transparent about its investments in nature-based solutions, and disputed that its net-zero goals are based on offsets. The company said it's on a path toward powering its operations with 100 percent renewable energy by 2025, five years ahead of its original target of 2030. It also highlighted other initiatives including deploying 100,000 electric delivery vehicles by 2030.

As an example of a misleading goal, the report said CVS Health could potentially achieve its 2030 emissions target with little effort because it compared that target with a base year that included extraordinarily high emissions.

A CVS spokeswoman responded that after the company's merger with Aetna in late 2018, 2019 was the first full year of data the company could use as a baseline for the new combined entity.

"By 2030, we plan to reduce our environmental impact by more than 50%, including a reduction in our energy consumption and use of paper and plastic," the company said.

The NewClimate report said that Nestle, among the companies with the lowest marks, had emissions-reduction plans that covered only portions of its business and that its net-zero targets relied upon carbon offsets. The company also provided little detail on the renewable electricity sources it was pursuing, it said.

Nestle responded that its emissions reduction targets do cover all its activities, that it's reducing greenhouse gas emissions 50 percent by 2030 and that its factories and offices are switching to renewable electricity.

Jonathan Overpeck, dean of the school for environment and sustainability at the University of Michigan, who had no role in the NewClimate report, said: "Far too many companies are coming up short when it comes to meaningful decarbonization. Corporate decarbonization goals and plans for meeting them are generally far less compelling than needed for success in halting climate change."

Some other outside experts suggested that the NewClimate report was too critical of carbon offsets.

"Forest-based offsets are challenging, but they can be real and important," said Christopher Field, director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University. "A too-strong emphasis on decarbonization paths that don't include offsets will slow overall progress and raise costs."

The report did note some things it said the companies are doing well. Shipping company Maersk received the best ratings despite the challenges its industry faces in reducing emissions. The authors noted that Maersk is pursuing alternative fuels and has partnered with a renewable energy company to establish a factory for e-methanol. Maersk did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Most of the companies studied, 15 of them, have outlined plans to reduce their "Scope 1" and "Scope 2" emissions, which are emissions released directly by the company or by its using electricity, the report said. But those companies didn't address their "Scope 3" emissions; these include emissions released by suppliers or customers that use their products. Scope 3 emissions account for, on average, 87 percent of all emissions for the 25 companies studied, the group said.

The report commended Walmart, which pledged to be net-zero by 2040, for following good practice by committing to reduce its operational emissions to zero without the use of offsets and setting near-term goals for those reductions which include using 100% renewable energy by 2035. But Walmart was faulted for not including Scope 3 emissions. Walmart does have a



voluntary program that guides its product suppliers to reduce emissions, and nearly a quarter of its suppliers have joined, the report said.

Walmart responded that it does have a goal to reduce or avoid one billion metric tons of Scope 3 emissions and that it reports its progress openly.

The report stressed that companies should take more responsibility to reduce Scope 3 emissions. Yet it can be challenging to track those emissions across supply chains, especially when working with smaller companies, said Maggie Peloso, a lawyer involved in climate change risk management and environmental litigation.

“It’s not always as easy as calling someone up and saying, ‘Hey, I want to know what your emissions were from the factory when you produced that 100 boxes of stuff that you sent to my stores and I sold them,’ “ Peloso said.

Among the suggestions for improvement that the NewClimate Institute offered were that companies focus on shorter-term emissions reduction targets for the next five to 10 years. It also suggested that companies set specific emissions-reduction targets with transparent accounting, instead of ambiguous net-zero goals.

If national governments created policies and regulations to meet the targets they have set, it would be far more effective, suggested John Reilly, who served as co-director of the Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change at MIT. “On the hopeful side, perhaps there is ongoing effort within companies to create rules, procedures, and strategies to achieve their ambitious targets,” he said.

09 FEBRUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



## Only 6 NCR areas remain under granular lockdown

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan February 8, 2022, 12:59 pm



(File photo)

**MANILA** – Only six areas in the National Capital Region are currently placed under granular lockdown as the country continues to see a decline in coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) infections, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año said Monday night.

Speaking to President Rodrigo Duterte during his Talk to the People briefing, Año said Metro Manila has the least number of areas under granular lockdown which has reached a total of 605.

*“Sa atin naman pong updates sa ating buong bansa sa pagko-conduct ng ating granular lockdown, makikita po na higit 126,600 po ang ating mga aktibong kaso sa ngayon sa buong bansa. Subalit makikita po natin sa ating alert level system, 26 lamang na city at municipality ang apektado o kabuuan ay 210 barangays at 605 lamang ang under granular lockdown at ang anim dito ay nasa National Capital Region na nakakaaapekto sa 744 households or 1,233 individuals (In our updates throughout the country regarding the conduct of our granular lockdown, you can see that we have more than 126,600 active cases so far throughout the country. But we can see in our alert level system, only 26 cities and municipalities are affected or a total of 210 barangays and only 605 are under granular lockdown and six in the National Capital Region affect 744 households or 1,233 individuals),”* Año said.

Last week, the Department of Health (DOH) said Metro Manila is now at "moderate risk" for Covid-19 from a high-risk case classification.

Meanwhile, the Cordillera Administrative Region still has the most number of areas under granular lockdown with 384, followed by the Ilocos Region with 132; Cagayan Valley, 77 and Mimaropa, nine.

*“Sabi nga po magandang balita ngayon sapagkat tuluy-tuloy naman ang pagbaba ng ating mga kaso pero asahan po natin na aagapan pa rin natin kung magkakaroon po ng mga transmission sa mga komunidad (it is good news because our cases continue to decrease but we hope that we will still prepared if there will be community transmissions),”* he added.

Meanwhile, Año said local government units (LGUs) have been advised to prepare for the third edition of the 'Bayanihan, Bakunahan' on February 10 and 11.

He said the government aims to vaccinate 6 million individuals against Covid-19 during these days -- 2 million with primary doses and 4 million with booster shots.



To vaccinate more individuals, Año noted that walk-ins are allowed in vaccination centers.

*“Pumunta ka lamang sa pinakamalapit na vaccination site at ikaw ay babakunahan o bibigyan ng booster (shot). At nakahanda rin po ang ating mga unipormadong hanay upang tulungan ang ating LGUs (local government units) na dalhin ang mga bakuna sa malalayong lugar o hakutin ang ating mga kababayan at dalhin sa vaccination sites (Just proceed to the nearest vaccination site and you will be inoculated or will be given the booster dose. Our uniformed personnel are ready to assist the LGUs in delivering the vaccines in far-flung areas or ferry our countrymen and take them to the vaccination sites),”* Año stressed.

### 'Odette' response

In the same briefing, Año disclosed that PHP4.85 billion was earmarked for the 27 provinces in six regions affected by Typhoon Odette.

He pointed out that delivering the assistance to the affected LGUs was severely affected by the poor signal and power interruptions aside from the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the affected areas, specifically those in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Despite these unfavorable circumstances, Año said that local chief executives reported the distribution of around PHP495.5 million worth of financial aid.

He also commended governors Arthur Defensor Jr. of Iloilo, Arthur Yap of Bohol, Gwendolyn Garcia of Cebu, Damian Mercado of Southern Leyte, Francisco Matugas of Surigao del Norte and Arlene Bag-ao of Dinagat Islands for promptly submitting their respective aid distribution reports to the DILG.

Año warned that show-cause orders will be issued against LGUs for their failure to distribute on time the cash aid to their constituents who are reeling from the effects of Typhoon Odette. **(PNA)**



## Stats prove vaccines work

Vergeire noted that 71.8 percent of individuals with severe or critical Covid-19 were not fully vaccinated or partially vaccinated

Published 7 hours ago on February 9, 2022 12:28 AM

By [TDT](#) [@tribuneph](#)



The majority of the 6,254 people who died in the country due to Covid-19 in the last three months were either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, the Department of Health (DoH) said Tuesday.

Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said 77.4 percent of the Covid-19 deaths recorded from 5 November 2021 and 6 February this year fell under the categories.

“Death from Covid-19 is 2.08 times more likely to occur among non-fully vaccinated individuals compared to fully vaccinated individuals,” Vergeire said.

She noted that 71.8 percent of individuals with severe or critical Covid-19 were not fully vaccinated or partially vaccinated.

Vergeire said this proves that unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals are 1.63 times more likely to get severe or critical Covid-19 symptoms compared to those who have already completed their primary series.

As of 8 February, the country has administered a total of 128,516,818 doses of various Covid-19 vaccines, of which 59,845,474 are fully vaccinated individuals, 60,659,350 have had their first doses, while 8,011,994 already had booster shots.



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**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**



# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 696

## PEBRERO 8, 2022

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,  
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:  
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PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 2.9%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
**105,550**

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 95.6%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
**3,459,462**

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.51%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
**54,621**

MGA BAGONG KASO **3,574**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **14,644**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **83**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,619,633**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING PEBRERO 6  
DATOS NGAYONG PEBRERO 8  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG PEBRERO 6

# 16.3%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 23,754

BILANG NG  
TINIST

HALOS  
**95.5%**  
ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**SANITIZE ANG  
KAMAY AT IWASAN  
ANG KULOB NA LUGAR**

KABUANG PILIPINAS  
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION  
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA  
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>41%</b> Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (20.6K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>36%</b> Utilized
WARD BEDS (15.3K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>35%</b> Utilized
VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	<b>20%</b> Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>35%</b> Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (4.6K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>29%</b> Utilized
WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)	<b>31%</b> Utilized
VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	<b>18%</b> Utilized

4,059 Asymptomatic
96,722 Mild
3,007 Moderate
1,446 Severe
316 Critical

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VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH  
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH  
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MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

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




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