

16 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



# DENR management, employees union inks CNA for 2022-2025

June 15, 2022 min read

By Rjhay E. Laurea

MANILA — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) management has renewed its commitment to its employees' union for the institutionalization of progressive workplace benefits.

The DENR management and the Kalipunan ng mga Kawani sa Kagawaran ng Kalikasan (K4)—the national governing body of all the DENR employee associations and unions nationwide—signed recently the collective negotiation agreement (CNA) for 2022-2025, highlighting additional privileges for the workers.

Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said the DENR management recognizes the hard work and rights of its employees.

“The CNA signing is a way of thanking and recognizing the hard work of all the rank-and-file employees of the DENR,” Sampulna said in his message delivered by Undersecretary for Legal, Administration, Human Resources and Legislative Affairs Ernesto D. Adobo Jr.

The three-year agreement includes gender-fair and gender-inclusive workplace measures, such as the construction of all-gender comfort rooms and the use of uniforms consistent with the employees' sexual orientation and gender identity. Using gender-neutral language and conducting training on gender sensitivity and fair language are also included in the CNA to support gender and development.

Meanwhile, alternative work arrangements for pregnant women, senior citizens, and persons undergoing medical treatment for cancer or other life-threatening diseases are also among the benefits provided in the agreement.

Other new conditions are the establishment of spiritual rooms or spaces, lactation stations, and affiliate union offices. The provision of review sessions for civil service and career executive service eligibility, assistance in healthcare programs, and establishment of health and wellness programs in all regional offices are also part of the CNA package.

“We enter into this agreement to safeguard our employees. Their rights and welfare are also a priority that deserves protection and promotion,” Sampulna said.



The CNA renegotiation between the DENR negotiating team and its employees' unions was done in May 2022, when the 2019-2022 agreement lapsed.

The signing of the agreement was part of the “Gabi ng Parangal at Pagpupugay” of the Leadership and Environmental Sustainability Summit held in celebration of the Environment Month and the DENR 35th founding anniversary in Iloilo City. (ai/mtvn)



# DENR fetes personnel in environmental protection efforts



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (File Photo)

IAN OCAMPO FLORA June 15, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Central Luzon recognized the efforts of its regional and field officials in the implementation of environment programs during the “Gawad Parangal sa Pangangalaga ng Kalikasan” awarding ceremony.

The event aimed to recognize efforts of personnel, who have been in the frontline of implementing ENR programs that uphold environmental conservation and stewardship.

In his message, DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno, Jr. thanked provincial and community environment and natural resources officers, including division chiefs from its bureaus and regional and field offices, for their hardwork and commitment to bring the office's thrusts and mandates into a realization.

“You all embody the characteristics of a *lingkod-bayani* in your field. This recognition is just a small token of appreciation for your efforts and sacrifices, knowing that you do your work out of your desire to truly serve the people,” Moreno said.

Among the awardees were DENR provincial chiefs; community environment and natural resources officers; chiefs of management and technical services divisions both in the regional and field offices; and directors and division chiefs of the Environmental Management Bureau and Mines and Geosciences Bureau.

The awarding ceremony was part of the 35th anniversary celebration of the DENR, with theme “Pistang Pamilyang DENR para sa Tuloy-tuloy na Pagkakaisa at Tagumpay.”

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1931972/pampanga/local-news/denr-fetes-personnel-in-environmental-protection-efforts>



## DENR holds 3-day sports festival



ZAMBOANGA. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is holding a three-day Physical Fitness and Sports Activities to build rapport, foster teamwork, and healthy and unified DENR team. A photo handout shows Ronald Gadot (in red baseball cap), in charge of the Office of the Regional Executive Director leading the opening ceremonies Tuesday, June 14, in Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte. (SunStar Zamboanga)

June 15, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is holding a three-day Physical Fitness and Sports Activities to build rapport, foster teamwork, and healthy and unified DENR team.

The three-day event kicked off Tuesday, June 14, in Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte with Ronald Gadot, in-charge of the Office of the Regional Executive Director, leading the opening ceremonies.

The participants of the event are personnel of the DENR regional office and its bureaus like the Environment Management Bureau and Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau, as well as from provincial environment and natural resources offices and community environment and resources offices.

An opening parade was held from the Jose Rizal Memorial landing site to Dapitan Cultural Center with all teams, drum and bugle band with the special appearance of Pinoy Basura Buster (PBB) mascot.

“Sports will teach us two fundamental taxonomy of life. If we win, the response should be humility and modesty, and if we lose the response is patience and tolerance,” Cidur Julsadjiri said in a message during the opening program as he welcomed delegates to the sporting event.

Dionisio Rago, head of City Environment and Natural Resources Office-Liloy and sports committee chairperson administered the oath of sportsmanship.

DENR Regional Information Officer Rosevirico Tan said that several activities such as hataw dancing, basketball, beach volleyball, table tennis, badminton, dart, board games, marathon, executive run, other pistang pinoy games, TikTok competition and battle of the bands are to be participated by its personnel.

Tan said the event is in celebration of the agency’s 35th anniversary on June 10, as well as the Philippine Environment Month with the theme “Aksyon Para Sa Natatanging Mundo”. **(SunStar Zamboanga)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1932115/zamboanga/local-news/denr-holds-3-day-sports-festival>



# PENRO Agusan Del Sur Among Top Performing DENR Field Officials

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 Journal Online



Department of Environment and Natural Resources Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (DENR **PENRO**) – Agusan del Sur Forester Jose Flavio V. Concha (5th from left) is conferred the Environmental Awards for Governance and Leadership Excellence (EAGLE) Supervising PENRO on June 7, 2022 in Iloilo City in celebration of the Environment Month. DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna takes pride in EAGLE awardees who are recognized for their exemplary leadership and major accomplishments in the attainment of **DENR** goals and objectives. Handing the award is Undersecretary for Field Operations-Luzon, Visayas and Environment Juan Miguel T. Cuna (4th from left).

Source: <https://journal.com.ph/penro-agusan-del-sur-among-top-performing-denr-field-officials/>



## PENRO Sorsogon Named Eagle Awardee

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 Journal Online



Provincial Environmental and Natural Resources Officer (**PENRO**) Sorsogon Forester Tito R. Migo (5th from left) receives the top honor in the Implementing PENRO category in the 2021 Environmental Awards for Governance and Leadership Excellence or EAGLE held on June 7, 2022 in Iloilo City. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said the award is a fitting recognition of hard work and dedication that contribute to the agency's success. The award was handed by **DENR** Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones (3rd from left).



## Best DENR CENRO Recognized

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 Journal Online



Forester Jerome H. Albia (4th from left), Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) of Bunawan, Agusan del Sur is recipient of the 2021 Environmental Awards for Governance and Leadership Excellence (**EAGLE**) CENRO award for exhibiting organizational and leadership excellence. Albia received a trophy and P50,000 during the Gabing Parangal at Pagpupugay which recognized the best performing field officials of **DENR** described by DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna as contributors to the attainment of the agency's targets. The EAGLE was held in Iloilo City on June 7, 2022.



## Mag-inang Villar, Usec. Antiporda ginawaran ng 'Manila Bay-ani Award' ng DENR



June 15, 2022 @ 4:26 PM 15 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tumanggap ng 'Manila Bay-Ani Award' mula sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mag-inang sina Sen. Cynthia A. Villar at Senator-elect Mark Villar kasama si Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, at Villar SIPAG Foundation sa pagdiriwang ng Philippine Environment Month.

Ang parangal ay ipinagkaloob bilang pasasalamat sa kanilang walang kapagurang dedikasyon at commitment sa pagbibigay proteksiyon sa Manila Bay.

Bilang chairperson ng Senate Committee on Environment, nangunguna si Senator Villar sa environmental protection and preservation sa kabila ng climate change at iba pang hamon na kinahaharap ng ating "Mother Earth."

Ang awarding ceremony ay ginanap ng DENR-NCR sa Diamond Hotel nitong June 14, 2022.

Nakatutok ang selebrasyon sa taong ito sa pagpapalawig sa environmental awareness ng mga Pilipino.





Kasama sa larawan ang tumanggap ng parangal na sila former DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, Atty. Rita Linda Jimeno, former DENR USec Antiporda, Atty. Antonio Oposa, Jr. at Congressman-Elect Edward Hagedorn. **Ernie Reyes**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/mag-inang-villar-usec-antiporda-ginawaran-ng-manila-bay-ani-award-ng-denr/>



## DENR confers ‘Manila Bay-ani Award’ to Villars

June 15, 2022 1 min read

By Ernie Reyes

MANILA – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conferred recently the “Manila Bay-ani Award” the Senator Cynthia Villar, her son Senator-elect Mark Villar and Villar SIPAG during the celebration of the Philippine Environment Month.

In a statement, DENR said that the award was given to the Villars and their foundation due to their steadfast commitment and tireless efforts in protecting Manila Bay.

As chairman of the Senate environment committee, Sen. Villar, also Villar SIPAG director, has been at the forefront of environmental protection and preservation amid the climate change and other challenges faced by Mother Earth.

The awarding ceremonies were held by the DENR-National Capital Region at Diamond Hotel in Manila on June 14, 2022.

This year’s celebration focuses on furthering environmental awareness among Filipinos.

Those who also received the same awards are former DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, Atty. Rita Linda Jimeno, former DENR USec Benny Antiporda, Atty. Antonio Oposa, Jr. and Congressman-Elect Edward Hagedorn. (ai/mtvn)

Source: [https://maharlika.tv/2022/06/15/denr-confers-manila-bay-ani-award-to-villars/?fbclid=IwAR3R\\_rAbhoBfsATQeRdmjAhlIkisT6lw753S3iQvHH8Zn4ZCvoDh9Qd1kYo](https://maharlika.tv/2022/06/15/denr-confers-manila-bay-ani-award-to-villars/?fbclid=IwAR3R_rAbhoBfsATQeRdmjAhlIkisT6lw753S3iQvHH8Zn4ZCvoDh9Qd1kYo)



# Bilibid ililipat sa Tanay JVA HOUSING PROJECT BUBUWAGIN – DENR

9 hours ago [jp admin](#)



INIIMBESTIGAHAN ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang JVA Housing Project sa lupa na inilaan ng lokal na pamahalaan para paglipatan ng New Bilibid Prison at Regional Office ng DENR sa Tanay Rizal.

Ayon sa kagawaran, ang nabanggit na lupa ay bahagi ng Lot 10 na nakapangalan sa Republika ng Pilipinas at may lawak na 300 ektarya, 270 dito ay nakalaan sa NBP at ang 30 hectares ay tatayuan naman ng DENR-Regional Office ng Calabarzon 4A.

Ngunit nakapaloob ito sa isang joint venture agreement sa pagitan ng DENR at Blue Star Development Corporation na ngayon ay tinaguriang Garden Cottages, Masungi Georeserve Foundation.

Ayon kay kay Ramil Limpiada, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources (PENRO), mayroon nang binuo na investigating body ang kagawaran.

Direkta umano itong pamumunuan ni Usec. Ernesto Adobo para rebisahin ang Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) kabilang ang assistant secretary ng Legal Biodiversity Management at iba pang miyembro ng komite.

Anya, ang pagkadeklara sa lupain na paglipatan ng New Bilibid Prison (NBP) at DENR-Regional Office ay sa bisa ng Proclamation 1158 ni President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo noong Setyembre 2006.

Dagdag ni Limpiada, ito ay nakapaloob sa JVA noong panahon ni Sec. Heherson Alvarez.

Malinaw rin umano na ang orihinal na laman ng JVA ay ang kabuuang Proclamation 776 na inisyu noong Abril 2, 1996 na naglalaan ng pabahay sa mga empleyado ng DENR, DILG, DND, DECS at DOTC.

Ayon pa rito, sa parehong petsa, ang Proclamation 776 ay inamyendahan ng Proclamation 564 na isinama na bilang benepisyaryo ng pabahay ang mga empleyado ng Office of the President at Presidential Management Staff.

Sa huli, lumilitaw na ang kabuuan ng JVA na 130 ektarya at Lot 10 na 300 hectares kasama ang buong PD 324, ay ipinaloob sa MOA noon ni Gina Lopez at ng Masungi Georeserve Foundation, dating Blue Star at Garden Cottages, na may kabuuan o lawak na 2,700 ektarya at pilit pa ring sinasakop ang ilang bahagi ng Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT). (ENOCK ECHAGUE)

Source: <https://saksingayon.com/balita/bilibid-ililipat-sa-tanay-jva-housing-project-bubuwagin-dnr/?fbclid=IwAR2kZ8Eok0awJcNZNI6G3MqaYZ9JuhTOg26CCKzFPOXPt2fZcrtygwidKaU>



# Usa na 'Philippine Sambar' na inakalang extinct na sa Marinduque, muling nasilayan

Hunyo 15, 2022 9:50pm GMT+08:00

Mula pa noong 1990s, pinapaniwalaan na extinct o naubos na ang "Philippine Sambar," o Marinduque brown deer sa nabanggit na lalawigan. Pero ngayon, muling nagbalik ang naturang uri ng usa sa kabundukan ng Marinduque.

Sa ulat ni Dianne Loquillano sa GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog nitong Miyerkules, sinabing isang residente ang nagbigay ng impormasyon na nakuha ng Marinduque Animal and Wildlife Rescue Emergency Response Team, tungkol sa usa na inakalang naubos na sa kabundukan ng lalawigan.

Nakita raw ng residente ang usa nang magawi ang hayop sa kanilang taniman sa kabunduan.

Ayon kay Dr. Jose M, Victoria, Provincial Veterinarian ng Mariduque, inakalang naglaho na sa lalawigan ang naturang uri ng usa kaya nakikiusap siya sa mga tao na huwag itong gagalawin at papatayin.

"Mula kalagitnaan ng 1990's hanggang sa huling bahagi ng 1990's, napaulat na extinct na raw yung ganyang uri ng hayop dito sa Marinduque," ani Voctoria.

"Iyan ay pagpapatunay na yung hinala nila na extinct na yung usa dito sa Marinduque ay kabaligtaran," dagdag niya.

Pinakiusapan ng Marinduque Animal and Wildlife Rescue Emergency Response Team, ang mga residente sa lugar na huwag huhulihin o sasaktan ang naturang hayop at bugawin lang ang mga ito palayo kapag nasa kanilang taniman.

Hindi rin ipinapayo na hulihin at ilipat sa ibang lugar ang usa dahil liliit umano ang tiyansa nitong mabuhay kapag inalis sila sa kanilang natural na tirahan.

"Kung maaari bugawin na lang. Hindi namin ina-advise na yung mga ganoong uri ng hayop ay hulihin at i-relocate. Kasi 'yon yung kanilang natural na pamahayan. Kung huhulihin sila, lumiliit yung tiyansa na mag-survive sila sa paglilipatan," paliwanag ni Victoria.

Nakipag-ugnayan na ang lokal na pamahalaan at DENR para magkaroon ng masusing pag-aaral sa lugar para mapangalagaan ang mga usa sa kabundukan ng Marinduque.

Ayon sa ilang nagmamalasakit na residente, may mga nanghuhuli ng usa sa ibang barangay kahit nasasakop ng wildlife sanctuary.

Kaya nanawagan si Victoria sa publiko na huwag hulihin o patayin ang anumang wildlife na makikita sa kabundukan ng Marique katulad ng nasabing mga usa, maging ang mga baboy ramo at mga hindi pagkaraniwang ibon gaya ng kalaw. --**FRJ, GMA News**

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/balitambayan/umg/835049/usa-na-philippine-sambar-na-inakalang-extinct-na-sa-marinduque-muling-nasilayan/story/?fbclid=IwAR1HimMfZMfl0mudNwWYkAeKlFekauBRBicWIP2ZYW6YXokvo\\_IheJ3-FKg](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/balitambayan/umg/835049/usa-na-philippine-sambar-na-inakalang-extinct-na-sa-marinduque-muling-nasilayan/story/?fbclid=IwAR1HimMfZMfl0mudNwWYkAeKlFekauBRBicWIP2ZYW6YXokvo_IheJ3-FKg)



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#EagleNews

### Rescued Philippine eagle released to Mt. Busa

20 views • Jun 16, 2022

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Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) released on Monday, June 13, rescued Philippine Eagle "Salagbanog" back to its natural home in Mount Busa in Barangay Upo, Maitum, Sarangani Province.

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# PH, JICA set 5-year roadmap to improve response to protect coastal communities from disasters

Published June 15, 2022, 10:47 AM

by [Aaron Recuenco](#)

Officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) met with representatives of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and discussed a project that would improve the country's coastal condition for disaster risk resiliency and infrastructure.

DPWH Undersecretary for Unified Project Management Office (UPMO) Operations Emil K. Sadain said the DPWH-JICA project, with focus on resilience of coastal communities against disasters, will enable the Philippines to increase its capacity in coping with climate change through engineering interventions.



photo: DPWH

Sadain said the June 12 meeting discussed the timeline and roadmap of the five-year technical cooperation project that aims to develop DPWH's capacity on coastal engineering through human resource development and formulation of technical guidelines under the coastal expertise of JICA.

JICA Philippines Office Senior Representative Masanari Yanaguichi and his team stated that government engineers and specialists will be trained to better understand coastal hazards, formulate much-needed coastal-related guidelines as well as plan, design and implement pilot projects towards a more sustainable approach to coastal management.

Sadain said the meeting was also participated by representatives from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), PAG-ASA, Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), and the University of the Philippines (UP).



photo: DPWH



“As we have seen in recent years, the widespread decline of our coastline is without a doubt a vital and increasingly urgent issue that needs to be addressed. DPWH takes this both as a challenge and an opportunity to pursue the integrated approach to coastal management with the primary aim of protecting coastal communities and equally protecting the ecosystem,” said Sadain.

“We would also like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Japan through JICA for all the support and assistance given not only from the technical cooperation perspective but as well as in helping rebuilding the Philippine economy and our nation,” he added.





## BBM receives more envoys; 50K jobs from green energy sector eyed

June 15, 2022 [Ryan Ponce Pacpaco](#)

**WITH** barely two weeks before he formally assumes office, incoming President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos, Jr. continues to receive more members of the diplomatic community holding productive meetings with foreign dignitaries from different parts of the globe.

On Wednesday, the highlights of the round of courtesy calls included cooperation on climate change responses, renewable energy, and improving food production through agricultural developments, and education.

During a media briefing after his courtesy call, Bjorn Jahnsen, Chargé d'Affaires of Norway, disclosed that the main topic of their discussion was climate change and renewable energy, adding that he invited Marcos to a conference they are organizing on Maritime and Energy issues.

"So, the main topic of our conversation was climate change and renewable energy, Norway has taken investments in the Philippines in renewable energy, and more companies and more investments will come in the coming years," he said.

The envoy further bared that Norway plans to increase its imprint on renewable energy in the country by bringing in technology for harnessing energy sources such as offshore winds, floating solar, and hydro.

"I mentioned to the President-elect that according to a study by the World Bank, the world map on offshore winds in the Philippines, which we think will be an important new sector in the country, presents great opportunities for the Philippines in the future," he said.

"The World Bank talks about up to 50,000 jobs, well-paid jobs for Filipinos, if you are successful in developing this new sector," the envoy added.

"Offshore wind is basically, the best wind resources in the Philippines...Norway had one of the biggest projects of this... and this is a great opportunity for the Philippines for a plenty supply of energy," he elaborated.

"As you know, the country is growing in the economy, and energy consumption is increasing so, offshore wind is really one of your best bets for the future," he continued.

Bjorn also said Norway is bringing a 100-year-old sailing ship to the Philippines in October.

He added the trip of the said ship, which will include Filipino cadets among its crew, is part of an expedition around the world that will focus on climate change, sustainability of the oceans, and plastic in the oceans.

For his part, Juha Markus Pyykko, Ambassador of Finland, said he and the incoming President had a "very, very useful constructive fruitful meeting".

They discussed issues like the economy, human rights, the situation in the Indo-Pacific region, climate change, digitalization, education, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, among others.

Aside from expressing gratitude for the contribution of the Filipino community in Finland to their society, the ambassador also proposed reviving bilateral dialogue on educational policies and digitalization, especially in education.



Meanwhile, Dr. Titanilla Toth, Ambassador of Hungary, said she is looking forward to expanding the cooperation between Hungary and the Philippines in the field of agriculture, water technology, and education, adding they could provide more scholarships for Filipinos.

She added Hungary is also looking forward to opening more employment opportunities for skilled Filipino workers in the hospitality sector like hotels and also in factories.

On the other hand, Raduta Dana Matache, Ambassador of Romania, expressed great appreciation in her meeting with Marcos, adding that his warm reception of the diplomatic corps send a strong message that the Philippines is open to cooperation all over the world.

Matache said that with the Philippines and Romania are celebrating an important milestone this year – 50 years of having diplomatic relations, and that he and the President-elect discussed areas where cooperation could be further enhanced.

These included, she added, agriculture to address the looming food crisis; energy; education; and culture, among others.

“Everybody in the world is interested in how to expand the use of clean energies, and I believe we have agreed that there is ample room for cooperation in this area. We touched upon several other issues like the regional context in the Philippines and Romania,” the ambassador said.

Bartinah Ntombizodwa Radebe-Netshitenzhe, Ambassador of South Africa, also had a courtesy call with Marcos on Wednesday.



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[10 hours ago](#) [jp admin](#)



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# PH to join climate change coalition but needs financing

By ... -June 16, 2022

The Philippines has expressed support to the vision of creating a Coalition of Trade Ministers plotting response to climate change.

At the sidelines of the 12th World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference, Trade Undersecretary Ceferino Rodolfo told a Mini Ministerial meeting focused on combating climate change that the Philippines, as a climate vulnerable country, “supports revitalizing plurilateral engagement on environmental goods and services that builds on work in other fora...

The Coalition can provide guidance on the scope and approach to future negotiations.”

But Rodolfo cautioned that “for us to meet these ambitions, developing countries must forge partnerships with the developed world on financing, technology transfer and technical assistance.”

Rodolfo joined WTO director-general Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and ministers from 21 delegations from other countries that included the United States, Canada, Japan, Fiji, Nigeria, Colombia, Singapore and Vietnam, in an informal exchange of views on how to strengthen the environmental sustainability agenda in the WTO.

During the meeting, ministers committed to strengthen engagement and dialogue with a view to creating a Coalition of Trade Ministers to address climate change.

Ministers had a candid exchange of views on how trade could support a clean energy transition where the Philippines noted that its high-level ambition is reflected in recent private sector investments, including the recent announcement of a 4,500 MW solar farm, the world’s largest once it is constructed.

The Philippines is pursuing a Sustainable Finance Roadmap and has just enacted a law to develop the electric vehicle industry.

The Philippines is co-leading with Australia a work stream on promoting trade to tackle plastics pollution.

“We must continue to share our experiences in dealing with the plastics crisis and contribute to the multilateral treaty on plastics,” Rodolfo said, adding the need for further cooperation on strategies that would reduce single-use plastics and support sustainable plastic packaging. – **Irma Isip**

Source: [https://malaya.com.ph/news\\_business/ph-to-join-climate-change-coalition-but-needs-financing/](https://malaya.com.ph/news_business/ph-to-join-climate-change-coalition-but-needs-financing/)



# Tabuk bans use of plastic, styrofoam

By [Dexter A. See](#) June 16, 2022

**TABUK CITY, Kalinga:** Starting July 1, 2022, the city will ban the use of plastic bags and styrofoam as packaging materials with the full implementation of City Ordinance 3, Series of 2021.

The ordinance was signed into law in June 2021. A six-month moratorium that began in December 2021 was given to vendors and establishments to use their remaining supply in preparation for the implementation of the ordinance.

The moratorium will end on June 30, 2022, after which vendors and establishments will be prohibited from selling and using cellophane and sando bags as secondary packaging materials as well as styrofoam products as containers for food and beverages.

Violators of the law will face the following fines and penalties: First offense – P500 fine and confiscation and destruction of prohibited materials. Second offense – P1,000 fine and confiscation and destruction of prohibited materials. Third offense – P3,000 fine, confiscation and destruction of prohibited materials and revocation of license to operate for business establishments.

Meanwhile, customers are advised to get into the habit of bringing reusable and recyclable alternatives such as cloth bags, net bags, eco bags, jute bags and other recyclable containers when shopping.

Implementing agencies led by the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) are preparing for the implementation of the ordinance, with the technical working group meeting today to finalize its implementing rules and regulations.

The Cenro said key stakeholders have also been notified and are all set for the implementation of the plastic ban by July 1.



# COMPOSTING, ORGANIC FERTILIZER ITINUTULAK NA GAMITIN

June 14, 2022 Admin



**ISUSULONG** ni Senadora Cynthia A. Villar ang composting at paggamit ng organic fertilizer upang pangalagaan ang mga lupang taniman.

Sa kanyang video message sa 71st anniversary ng Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM), binigyan diin ni Villar ang paggawa ng organic fertilizer mula sa agricultural residues gaya ng tangkay ng palay at mais, dumi ng mga hayop, at iba pang bagay na maaaring ipalit sa inorganic/synthetic o chemical fertilizers.

“You are one with us in actively promoting organic farming methods especially producing organic fertilizer,” sabi ni Villar, chairperson ng Senate committee on agriculture and food, sa BSWM.

“Since we have many biodegradable wastes in our environment, I have been transforming them into useful things. We have many of them in our markets and in our own homes, so there is a need for a facility for them near our farms, trading posts and markets,” dagdag pa nito.

Ipinahayag ni Villar na puwedeng manggaling ang biodegradable wastes sa kusina at hardin ng bahay.

“We only need to collect and convert them into organic fertilizers or compost which can be used by our farmers most especially now that fertilizers are very expensive, and sometimes, they are not available for our farmers,” paliwanag niya.

Sinabi pa ng senador, chairperson din ng Senate committee on environment and natural resources na personal niyang ipinatayo ang 117 composting facilities sa buong kapuluan. Matatagpuan ang 67 sa mga ito sa kanyang bayan sa Las Pinas samantalang ang may 50 pa ay nasa Vista Land Communities.

“Villar SIPAG is included in this advocacy. We are distributing for free our organic production to our farmers plantitos/plantitas across the country,” ani Villar.

Sinimulan ng senadora ang adbokasiyang ito noong 2002 upang makatulong na mabawasan ang basura at maghikayat sa paggamit ng biodegradable wastes para sa malusog na lupa.

Binanggit din niya na layunin ng Republic Act 10068 o ang Organic Agriculture Act na naisabatas noong 2010, na palawakin ang organic agriculture sa Pilipinas. Nagtatakda naman ang RA 9003 o Ecological



Waste Management Act na paghiwalayin at bawasan ang basura sa pamamagitan ng recycling at composting.

Ayon pa rito, dahil sa mga tiwaling gawi o aktibidad sa lupa ay napapababa nito ng 38% ang sustansiya ng lupa.

“It is really important that we take care of our soil to have productive harvest and lower hunger, food insecurity in our country,” sabi pa ni Villar sa naturang okasyon na may temang, “Malusog na Lupa at Tubig na Sagana, Tungo sa Progresibong Agrikultura.” **VICKY CERVALES**





## OPEN PIT MINING NG FILMINERA IPATIGIL NA



June 15, 2022 @ 9:46 PM 10 hours ago

Kailangan ipatigil muna ng gobyerno ang Filminera Mining Company sa patuloy na paggiba nito ng kabundukan sa Aroroy, Masbate kung ang polisiya ni President-elect Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. ang masusunod.

Taliwas kasi sa makatao at makakalikasang programa ni Pangulong Bongbong ang ginagawa ng higanteng kompanya, kabilang na ang walang puknat na pagpapasabog nito sa Barangay Panique at iba pang lugar na malapit lang sa mga kabahayang matagal nang inirereklamo ng mga residenteng halos bingi na ang karamihan sa kanila.

"When it comes to open-pit mining, I think I'm a bit wary about that because it is very difficult to control, and the pollution that's caused by open-pit mining, the leeching that occurs in open-pit mining, there are many occurrences where even after the mine has been closed, they have covered it up, they have planted trees, built houses on it, lumalabas ang lason," ayon kay Pangulong Bongbong.

Ibig sabihin, 'yung walang tigil na pagpapaputok ng dinamita ng abusadong dayuhang kompanya sa itaas lamang ng kabahayan sa ilang barangay roon na nagdudulot ng pagkabingi ay hayagang noise pollution kaya nararapat lang na ipasara muna ito ng bagong pamahalaan.

Bukod pa ryan ang pagkalason ng mga palayan at palaisdaan dahil sa kemikal na ginagamit nito sa pagpoproseso ng tone-toneladang ginto may 10 taon na ang nakaraan subalit hindi matugunan ng kinauukulan bunsod sa kwartang itinatapal ng kompanya sa makakapal na mukha ng mga buwayang opisyal.

Nakupo, kung magsagawa lang ng malalimang imbestigasyon si Pangulong Bongbong, sibak sa puwesto ang ilang ganid sa kwartang mga opisyal dahil sila 'yung kakutsaba ng Filminera sa pagmamalabis nitong madalas ipinagmamayabang pa ng mga unggoy rito na walang makakapigil sa kanilang malawakang pag-araro sa mga kabundukan sa Aroroy.

Magkano nga ba ang kinikita ng pamahalaan sa excise taxes na ibinabayad ng kompanya kumpara sa libo-libong pobreng minerong itinaob ang kaldero nang simulan Filminera ang open-pit mining sa Masbate?

Sa totoo lang, kung pag-uusapan ang benepisyo, 'yung ilang buwayang opisyal lang yata ng lokal na pamahalaan at DENR ang yumaman nang husto dahil sa mga negosyo't patong nila sa kompanya samantalang gutom ang nakararaming kababayan kong umaasa pa ring matugunan ng gobyerno ang pangangailangan nila.

Sa madali't sabi, si Pangulong Bongbong lang ang inaasahang magtutuldok ng mga pang-aabuso ito ng Filminera.

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1932115/zamboanga/local-news/denr-holds-3-day-sports-festival>



## Rights group calls for release of environmental activist

June 15, 2022 | 6:41 pm



A HUMAN rights group on Wednesday called for the release of an environmental activist who was arrested in Pakil, Laguna on June 11 for alleged rebellion charges.

“We call for her immediate release, a victim of warrantless arrest and unjust detention based on false charges, which are seen as reprisals on her advocacy work for the environment and her community,” Karapatan Secretary General Cristina E. Palabay said in a statement.

“At this rate, this rebellion charge may be used repeatedly against activists in Southern Tagalog as the government continues its harassment against activists and government critics,” she said.

The 69-year-old Daisy Macapanan was arrested by joint military and police forces, who allegedly presented just a copy of a warrant for a 2008 rebellion case against her.

She had served as a speaker in a gathering of other environmental activists opposing the construction of the Ahunan Pumped-Storage Hydropower project in Pakil.

Karapatan, citing witness accounts, also condemned the way Ms. Macapanan was allegedly treated during the arrest as she was handcuffed and forced into a police vehicle.

As of Wednesday, Ms. Macapanan was detained at Camp General Nakar, Quezon. — **John Victor D. Ordoñez**



## Mining our waste

June 15, 2022 | 5:52 pm

### Static

By Marvin Tort



KJPARGETER-FREEPIK

Late last year my wireless printer at home broke down. It needed a new printer head. Other than that, everything else with the printer still worked well. But, given the pandemic, and its impact on global production of electronic parts, it took the service center almost eight months to get the necessary part in. And this was for a repair job — head replacement — that took only a few hours to complete.

I almost gave up on that wireless printer, having bought a cheaper wired replacement months ago as it was needed for work and school. But I felt it would have been a waste to simply throw the thing away. After all, it wasn't some cheap appliance at the time it was bought. Luckily, I chose to wait it out. Had I chucked that wireless printer, I may not have bothered to look for a recycling place for it. And, it would have simply gone out with the garbage.

I am sure that in the last two years or so, I am not the only consumer that has had to deal with broken electric appliances or electronic devices in need of repair, with replacement parts or components difficult to source. I am also sure that unlike me, a number of these consumers had opted to actually throw away whatever consumer durable that was, and instead bought cheaper replacements. And I mean cheaper as in disposable.

About three weeks ago, it was my washer's turn to break down. The front-load washer's door came off after the lock and the hinge broke. To date, there are no parts available for the thing. "Repair" is not exactly an option as the aluminum cast hinge broke into several pieces. All I need is the hinge, as the rest of the door — and the washer — is perfectly fine. Without the door, however, any front-load washer is practically useless.

I had some luck with the printer, although the wait was eight months. Will I have the same luck with the washer? Nobody knows, at this point. The thing is, for want of a single component, an entire appliance can be deemed broken and useless, and may actually end up going out with the garbage. On a daily basis, I can only wonder how many junked electric appliances and electronic devices ended up in dumps. Add to these junked cars, used batteries, and broken wind turbine blades and broken solar panels. Even renewable energy sources produce waste.

In June 2019, Time Magazine published a story titled, "The World Has an E-Waste Problem," written by Alana Semuels. The story noted that, 1.) less than a quarter of all US electronic waste is recycled, according to a United Nations estimate; and, 2.) the rest is incinerated or ends up in landfills. "That's bad news, as e-waste can contain harmful materials like mercury and beryllium that pose environmental risks," Semuels wrote.



She added, “Even when e-waste rules exist, it’s left up to consumers to handle their old devices properly. But recycling them can be a pain... Many consumers, paralyzed by the hassle or put off by the expense, simply throw their devices into the trash or stash them in a drawer, hoping they’ll just disappear.”

In my opinion, it is when people simply throw away these things that e-waste becomes truly problematic. As I noted in a previous column, as battery technology improves, and battery use ramps up as the world turns to electric from fossil fuel, who will handle battery disposal or battery recycling? The shift to electric cars will eventually lead to a crisis in disposal unless we also start working on new systems and technologies for disposal.

Batteries as power sources eventually get spent. Over time, they degrade and require replacement. But, for every replacement, there will be an issue of disposal. I am uncertain if we have enough regulations — or legislation — to manage the disposal of batteries from electric vehicles. Or, for that matter, disposal of solar panels from solar farms and solar homes, and used turbines from wind farms. Over time, all these materials degrade, and are replaced.

The problem is that wind turbine blades from wind energy farms cannot be recycled and are now piling up in landfills. As for solar, the International Renewable Energy Agency estimates that by 2050, up to 78 million metric tons of solar panels will have reached the end of their life, and this will result in about six million metric tons of new solar e-waste annually. And with solar panels, when they break down, toxic waste does go into the soil.

As we require industries and businesses to clean their air emissions and their water discharge or general effluents, then we should also require electric car makers to recycle their own batteries; wind farms to recycle their own turbines; solar farms to recycle their own panels; and, computer makers and mobile phone makers to recycle their own e-waste. Their waste shouldn’t end up in landfills.

There is a call to actually start mining our e-waste. There is money in garbage. Landfills still attract scavengers, looking for items that can still be reused and sold for some profit. Surplus, as we used to refer to second-hand but reusable car and engine parts sold. The same goes for many other consumer durables. My old printer, for instance, could have yielded plenty of usable parts and components. The same goes for my old washer. That is, had I opted to throw them out.

“The proliferation of digital devices has already become a big problem for the planet, but it’s still not receiving the attention it should. Once they come to the end of their useful lives, electronics just get discarded. The recycling rate is still poor, despite the fact they contain valuable minerals that could be used once more and have economic value. Now, scientists are calling to ramp up the recycling of e-waste, describing the expansion of mining as unsustainable,” noted the recent article by Fermin Koop in ZME Science, an online science news site.

Koop cited a UN report that noted, “A record 53.6 million metric tons of electronic waste were generated worldwide in 2019, up 21% in just five years... E-waste is also predicted to reach 74 million metric tons by 2030, almost doubling its actual figures in 15 years. This makes e-waste the fastest-growing domestic waste stream on a global scale.”

He added, “The growing figures are triggered by the high consumption of electronic equipment, short life cycles, and limited options for repair. Only 17% of 2019’s e-waste was collected and recycled, the UN found. This means that high-value materials valued at \$57 billion were mostly dumped or burned rather than collected for treatment and reuse. So, recycling electronics is not only an environmental choice but one that could yield economic benefits.”



Koop also wrote that “electronics contain dozens of different elements, many of which are technically recoverable, though there are economic limits set by the market. E-waste has precious metals including gold, silver, copper, platinum, and palladium. It also has valuable bulky materials such as iron and aluminum, along with plastics that can be recycled.”

It is in this line that I encourage the incoming Congress to look into the possibility of legislating stronger and more practical policies and regulations on e-waste disposal and recycling. It should also consider the disposal of waste from renewable energy sources like solar panels and wind turbines and batteries.

Indeed, our greater reliance on electronics and computers, as well as the shift to renewable energy and other non-fossil fuel sources to save the environment, are the very things that will become the source of our environmental challenges in the future. We should start planning things better and looking into viable and more sustainable “clean up” options.

Marvin Tort is a former managing editor of BusinessWorld, and a former chairman of the Philippine Press Council

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## Science show returns, focuses on PH biodiversity

By [Kaithreen Cruz](#) June 16, 2022



TO bring science education closer to the Filipino youth and education stakeholders, "Mind S-Cool" is set to premiere its fourth season on biodiversity conservation with the message, "We are only OK if nature is OK."

The new set of six episodes will delve into what ails the Philippine biodiversity and how these affect Filipinos, as well as help its viewers discover treatments and cures to address those ailments.

"Mind S-Cool" aims to show its audience ways for them to save the country's biodiversity through powerful, creative and even fun ways which could be done with their families, friends and communities toward positive health for the Philippine biodiversity.

It also aims to promote citizen science initiatives and cooperation through technology for meaningful community participation in biodiversity conservation and promotion.

The program was developed by the Bonifacio Art Foundation Inc. (BAFI) which operates The Mind Museum and the Bonifacio Global City (BGC) Arts Center, in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development-Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscapes (USAid-Sibol).

"We may be splintered by many opinions in our politics and social lives, but no one will survive without nature. There should be no debate about that if you live, breathe and eat. Our health and lives are literally at stake if we do not have a shared understanding of how our human lives are intricately connected with biodiversity — which is the way nature is structured and how it works to serve our lives," BAFI Managing Director and curator Maria Isabel Garcia said.

USAid-Sibol Ecosystem Integration Specialist Dr. Aldrin Mallari recognized that lack of scientific information remained a problem and that the level of engagement on biodiversity is still low, which is why they hope the "Mind S-Cool" episodes could help bridge this gap, especially in the age of technology and an overly communicated world.

"We hope that the message of environmental conservation in oceans and landscapes facilitates a deeper understanding with a wider audience. We hope that they will value our biodiversity, oceans and landscapes and their inherent capacity to sustainably supply ecosystem services for their own benefit and the development of communities," Garcia added.



The fourth season of the science show premieres on June 26, Sunday, at 11 a.m. on Signal TV's ONE PH with a same-day replay at 4:30 p.m. It runs until July 31.

It is also available for streaming at [youtube.com/c/MindSCoolPh](https://youtube.com/c/MindSCoolPh).

The third season has reached 2.2 million views and was the only science show in Nielsen's rating top 5 educational shows.

The "Mind S-Cool" team assured continued efforts to partner with organizations and government agencies to expand the reach of the program, by bringing it closer to learners, especially those in far-flung areas, and aiding in distance learning modalities.

# Pride Month: WWF-Philippines holds virtual run, walk, move, ride event for LGBTQTQIA+ community

By Catalina Ricci S. Madarang - June 15, 2022 - 7:14 PM



World Wildlife Fund-Philippines invited the public for its "Pride for the Planet" fundraising event (Released by WWF-Philippines)

The **World Wildlife Fund-Philippines** invited the public to its “**Pride for the Planet**” initiative being held virtually for Pride Month this June.

Pride for the Planet has already started on June 1 and will close on June 30, 2022.

WWF-Philippines partnered with Runrio Inc., a running event planner, for this fundraiser for the LGBTQ+ community and their allies.

Given its virtual nature, participants will finish the distances they registered in the comforts of their own homes.

The organization first promoted this event on May 18 via social media.

“#PrideforthePlanet is a celebration and admiration of the #LGBTQIA+ community’s perseverance to create an inclusive world for all of us. They have continuously worked on the importance of social development and environmental preservation,” the post reads.

“#Pride for the Planet is a sparkling testament to this as this virtual, self-paced walk/run/ride/move will raise awareness of our conservation efforts this June. Register to move with pride today!” it added.

To encourage more participants, WWF posted an update that winners of their photo competition can win prizes from amazing brands such as The Gay Agenda and Milkwear.

In a statement, WWF-Philippines Ambassador **Pia Wurtzbach**, also Miss Universe 2015, said that Pride for the Planet initiative is a “small but significant step” toward both inclusivity and environmental conservation.

“With all that’s happening not just in our country but the entire world, all-embracing solidarity is what we need right now. Pride for the Planet is a small but significant step that we can all take as we advocate for both inclusivity, and environmental conservation,” Pia said.





“Each sector has diverse experiences and perspectives that can put forward innovative designs in restoring what was lost from nature and its protection. This is why we should all work together, be all-in for the sake of the country and planet we live in,” she added.

WWF-Philippines Individual Donor Program Manager Stephy Navarrete also said that this year’s Pride Month will hopefully raise awareness that anyone can contribute to help make the world a safe and sustainable place.

“Beyond this event, we should make this month a time to realize how everyone, regardless of one’s gender, age, and race, can contribute to making a safe and sustainable world that will continue to house the next generation,” Navarrete said.

Those interested can join through this link here: [2022 — WWF-Philippines’ Pride for the Planet — Race Roster — Registration, Marketing, Fundraising](#)

The mechanics for the event are also provided in the registration link.

The following are the categories and their prices:

Solo with medal – P695

Solo with medal and shirt – P1,095

Partner with two medals – P1,095

Partner with two medals and two shirts – P1,895

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/hobbies-interests/2022/06/15/219634/pride-month-wwf-philippines-holds-virtual-run-walk-move-ride-event-for-lgbtqia-community/>



# Climate and environment updates

June 14, 2022 | 3:41pm



1 day ago

Microscopic air pollution caused mostly by burning fossil fuels shortens lives worldwide by more than two years, researchers reported Tuesday.

Across South Asia, the average person would live five years longer if levels of fine particulate matter met World Health Organization standards, according to a report from the University of Chicago's Energy Policy Institute.

In the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, home to 300 million, crippling lung and heart disease caused by so-called PM2.5 pollution reduces life expectancy by eight years, and in the capital city of New Delhi by a decade.

PM2.5 pollution — 2.5 microns across or less, roughly the diameter of a human hair — penetrates deep into the lungs and enters the bloodstream.

In 2013, the United Nations classified it as a cancer-causing agent.

The WHO says PM2.5 density in the air should not top 15 micrograms per cubic meter in any 24-hour period, or 5 mcg/m<sup>3</sup> averaged across an entire year. — **AFP**



# US struggles with floods, fires, heat waves

By [Agence France-Presse](#) June 16, 2022



FROM A DISTANCE This June 12, 2022 file photo shows Janetka Kathleen, with her horse Squish, watching smoke rising above neighborhoods on the outskirts of Flagstaff, Arizona. AP PHOTO

LOS ANGELES: Raging floods, devastating fires, powerful thunderstorms and a dangerous heat wave affecting a third of the population: the United States was being walloped on Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila) by climate-related catastrophes.

A series of slow-motion disasters is gripping the country as it enters summer, with warnings of misery for months to come in some areas.

About 120 million people were under some sort of advisory as a heat wave scorched the upper Midwest and the Southeast.

"A dome of high pressure is expected to generate well-above-normal to record-breaking temperatures across the region both today and tomorrow," with heat indices "well into the triple digits in many locations," the National Weather Service (NWS) said.

Parts of Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio were warned to expect temperatures to reach 109 degrees Fahrenheit (43 degrees Celsius).

NWS meteorologist Alex Lamers said the high-pressure dome was sparking extreme events around its periphery.

"A lot of times you get a pretty big heat wave and if you look around the edges of that you'll see thunderstorms and tornadoes, flash flooding, extreme rainfall," he told Agence France-Presse (AFP).

The heat dome's northern edge, where high temperatures collided with colder air, saw some violent storms on Monday.

Hundreds of thousands of people were without power in the Midwest after thunderstorms tore through the area.

That cold front was expected to bring more unsettled weather, with hail and damaging winds forecast.

Further west, dramatic photographs and videos published by the National Park Service (NPS) showed the devastation wreaked by flooding in Yellowstone, the country's oldest national park.

The 3,400-square-mile (8,900-square-kilometer) park in Wyoming, home to the famous Old Faithful geyser, was shuttered on Monday after a flooded river swept away roads and cut off a nearby community.



Rangers warned of "extremely hazardous conditions" and told anyone still in the park to get out.

"Flood levels measured on the Yellowstone River are beyond record levels," the NPS said on its website. "Preliminary assessments show multiple sections of roads throughout the park have been either washed out or covered in mud or rocks, and multiple bridges may be affected."

The small community of Gardiner, which sits just outside the park boundary in Montana, was cut off, with water and power out to several properties, the NPS said.

There were also warnings of excessive heat for parts of California and Arizona, which were blasted by furnace-like conditions over the weekend.

The soaring temperatures, coupled with a lengthy drought, are worsening seasonal wildfires.

Two huge blazes, each of more than 300,000 acres (120,000 hectares), continued to rage on Tuesday in New Mexico.

Firefighters battling the Black Fire and the Hermits Peak blaze are working to contain flames that are fueled by exceedingly dry undergrowth.

New Mexico and much of the Southwest have been gripped by a punishing drought that has left rainfall levels below normal for years.

Dozens of other fires have sprung up throughout the region.

Wildfires are an expected part of the natural cycle, which helps remove dead plants and eliminate disease while promoting new growth.

But their size and ferocity have increased in recent years, firefighters say, as the effects of the crippling drought make themselves felt.

"Dry conditions and gusty winds are expected to produce another day of elevated to critical fire weather conditions across portions of the Southwest into the central and southern High Plains," NWS said on its website.

Fire chiefs are warning that 2022 looks set to be a terrible year for wildfires.

"Given the fuel conditions, the fire conditions that we're here talking about, I foresee a very tough four, five, six months in front of us," Orange County, California Fire Chief Brian Fennessy said last week.

16 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



# NEWS ALERTS

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# Norway investing in energy

*Envoy assures BBM of 50,000 Pinoy jobs*

Offshore wind is basically, the best wind resource in the Philippines... Norway had one of the biggest projects of this... and this is a great opportunity for the Philippines for a plenty supply of energy

BY MICHELLE GUILLAN  
@tribunephil\_mish

More Norwegian renewable energy companies are set to invest in the Philippines which is expected to generate 50,000 high-paying jobs for Filipinos, Ambassador of Norway Bjorn Jahnsen assured President-elect Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. on Wednesday.

Jahnsen made the commitment during his courtesy call to Marcos at his headquarters in Mandaluyong City.

Their meeting focused on discussions about climate change and renewable energy, adding that he invited Marcos to a conference they are organizing on maritime and energy issues.

"So, the main topic of our conversation was climate change and renewable energy, Norway has taken investments in the Philippines in renewable energy, and more

Turn to page A2



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BBM MEDIA BUREAU

NORWAY Ambassador to the Philippines Bjorn Jahnsen pays courtesy call on President-elect Bongbong Marcos in Mandaluyong City.

# Norway investing in energy

From page 1

companies and more investments will come in the coming years," Jahnsen told the press in a briefing following his meeting with Marcos.

He added that Norway eyes to increase its imprint on renewable energy in the Philippines by bringing in technology for harnessing energy sources such as "offshore winds, floating solar and hydro."

"I mentioned to the President-elect that according to a study by the World Bank, the world map on offshore winds in the Philippines, which we think will be an important new sector in the country, presents great opportunities for the Philippines in the future," he said.

"The World Bank talks about up to 50,000 jobs, well-paid jobs for Filipinos if you are successful in developing this new sector."

"Offshore wind is basically, the best wind resource in the Philippines... Norway had one of the biggest projects of this... and this is a great opportunity for the Philippines for a plenty supply of energy," he explained.

Lowering electricity costs is one of the campaign promises of Marcos. He is pushing for the use of nuclear power and the establishment of wind farms, and renewable energy plants.

### Offshore wind

Like Marcos, Jahnsen believes that offshore wind will help decrease energy consumption.

"As you know, the country is growing in the economy, and the energy consumption is increasing so offshore wind is really one of your best bets for the future," he added.

Jahnsen disclosed that Norway is bringing a 100-year-old sailing ship to the Philippines in October this year.

He said the trip of the said ship, which will include Filipino cadets among its crew, is part of an expedition around the world that will focus on climate change, sustainability of the oceans, and plastic in the oceans.

Barely two weeks before he officially ascends to the highest seat of power, Marcos continues to receive more members of the diplomatic community holding productive meetings with foreign dignitaries from different parts of the globe.

Aside from Jahnsen, Marcos also met Juha Markus Pykkö, Ambassador of Finland, who described their meeting as a "very, very useful constructive fruitful meeting."

Pykkö said he discussed with Marcos issues like the economy, human rights, the situation in the Indo-Pacific region, climate change, digitalization, education, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, among others.

Aside from expressing gratitude for the contribution

of the Filipino community in Finland to their society, the ambassador also proposed reviving bilateral dialogue on educational policies and digitalization, especially in education.

**Norway eyes to increase its imprint on renewable energy in the Philippines by bringing in technology for harnessing energy sources such as 'offshore winds, floating solar and hydro.'**

Pykkö also disclosed that he expressed to Marcos his hope that his administration would condemn Russia's attacks against Ukraine, stressing that his country is directly affected by the ongoing conflict.

"The Philippines has been in the group of countries condemning the aggression, and what I conveyed to the President-elect is that I hope his administration will continue to appreciate and respect this approach from the Philippine side in the future as well," he said.

He lamented that the security situation in Finland has "changed" due to the "act of aggression by Russia," which he argued is already a "breach of international law."

### Global issue

"It's not a European issue. It's a global international issue — this was what I underlined

to the President-elect," he said.

In March this year, the Philippines voted in favor of a United Nations General Assembly resolution condemning Russia's actions against its neighboring country.

Earlier, however, incoming National Security Adviser Clarita Carlos said she would advise Marcos to take a "neutral stand" on the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine.

For the retired political science professor, the Philippine government can benefit from Moscow's oil and petroleum products since Russia has among the world's biggest oil and gas reserves.

Meanwhile, Dr. Titanilla Toth, Ambassador of Hungary, said she is looking forward to expanding the cooperation between Hungary and the Philippines in the field of agriculture, water, technology, and education, adding they could provide more scholarships for Filipinos.

She added Hungary is also looking forward to opening more employment opportunities for skilled Filipino workers in the hospitality sector like hotels and also in factories.

Raduta Dana Matache, Ambassador of Romania, expressed great appreciation in her meeting with Marcos, adding that his warm reception of the diplomatic corps send a strong message that the Philippines is open

to cooperation all over the world.

Matache said that the Philippines and Romania are celebrating an important milestone this year — 50 years of having diplomatic relations and that he and the President-elect discussed areas where cooperation could be further enhanced.

These included, she added, agriculture to address the looming food crisis; energy; education; and culture, among others.

### Clean energy

"Everybody in the world is interested in how to expand the use of clean energies, and I believe we have agreed that there is ample room for cooperation in this area. We touched upon several other issues like the regional context in the Philippines and Romania," Matache said.

Bartinah Ntombizodwa Radebe-Netshitenzhe, Ambassador of South Africa, also had a courtesy call with Marcos and expressed her country's readiness to assist the Marcos administration in the supply of oil and petroleum products.

"Angola is already a big supplier in Southern Africa. So, what we said to the President-elect is we are open to assist, to facilitate that but what is important is that Angola has more than 10,000 Filipinos working offshore," she told the media.



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## Norway to boost wind power in PH

Norway on Wednesday assured the Philippines it would expand its renewable energy investments in the country, particularly in offshore wind power. At a briefing following his meeting with President-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr., Norwegian Ambassador Bjorn Jahnsen said "more companies and more investments will come in the coming years—offshore wind, floating solar and also hydro."

—STORY BY NESTOR CORRALES

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## NORWAY EYES OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN PH

By Nestor Corrales  
@NCorralesINQ

Norway on Wednesday assured the Philippines it would expand its renewable energy investments in the country particularly in offshore wind power, according to Norwegian Ambassador Bjorn Jahnsen.

"Norway has made investments in the Philippines in renewable energy, and more companies and more investments will come in the coming years—offshore wind, floating solar and also hydro," Jahnsen said at a press briefing after his meeting with President-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr. in Mandaluyong City.

"So that's the plan for the future for Norway and the Philippines—really to increase our imprint on renewable energy in the country," he added.

Jahnsen said he cited a World Bank Study on offshore wind energy in the Philippines, which he said would be "an important new sector in the country that presents great opportunities for the Philippines in the future."

Jahnsen said offshore wind was basically "the best wind resource in the Philippines."

### Policies need adjustment

While the new sector could create thousands of new jobs, he said there should be "some adjustments" in the country's policies.

"For instance, foreign companies should be able to own a majority of the equity in these types of investments as they often are investments with several billions of dollars and foreign investors would like to have a certainty of having a majority stake in their investment," he said.

"This is a great opportunity for the Philippines for a plenty supply of energy. As you know, the country is growing in economy and energy consumption is increasing so offshore wind is really one of your best bets for the future," he added.

Aside from energy resources, the Norwegian envoy also assured Marcos of Norway's commitment to the country's peace process.

Norway is the third-party facilitator of the peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the communists rebels.

Jahnsen also said the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl is set to dock in Manila in October, and a conference on climate change, ocean sustainability and renewable energy is also scheduled as part of the ship's port call. nq



## BBM receives more envoys; 50,000 jobs from green energy sector eyed

**W**ITH barely two weeks before he formally assumes office, incoming President Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos Jr. continues to receive more members of the diplomatic community holding productive meetings with foreign dignitaries from different parts of the globe.

On Wednesday, the highlights of the round of courtesy calls included cooperation on climate change responses, renewable energy (RE), and improving food production through agricultural developments, and education.

During a media briefing after his courtesy call, Bjorn Jahnsen, Ambassador of Norway, disclosed that the main topic of their discussion was climate change and renewable energy, adding that he invited Marcos Jr. to a conference they are organizing on Maritime and Energy issues.

"So, the main topic of our conversation was climate change and renewable energy, Norway has taken investments in the Philippines in renewable energy, and more companies and more investments will come in the coming years," he said.

The envoy further bared that

Norway plans to increase its imprint on RE in the country by bringing in technology for harnessing energy sources such as offshore winds, floating solar, and hydro.

"I mentioned to the President-elect that according to a study by the World Bank, the world map on offshore winds in the Philippines, which we think will be an important new sector in the country, presents great opportunities for the Philippines in the future," he said.

"The World Bank talks about up to 50,000 jobs, well-paid jobs for Filipinos, if you are successful in developing this new sector," the envoy added.

"Offshore wind is basically, the best wind resources in the Philippines...Norway had one of the biggest projects of this...and this is a great opportunity for the Philippines for a plenty supply of energy," he elaborated.

"As you know, the country is growing in the economy, and energy consumption is increasing so, offshore wind is really one of your best bets for the future," he continued.

Bjorn also said Norway is bringing a 100-year-old sailing ship to the Philippines in October.

He added the trip of the said ship, which will include Filipino cadets among its crew, is part of an expedition around the world that will focus on climate change, sustainability of the oceans, and plastic in the oceans.

For his part, Juha Markus Pyyko, Ambassador of Finland, said he and the incoming President had a "very, very useful constructive fruitful meeting."

They discussed issues like the economy, human rights, the situation in the Indo-Pacific region, climate change, digitalization, education, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, among others.

Aside from expressing gratitude for the contribution of the Filipino community in Finland to their society, the ambassador also proposed reviving bilateral dialogue on educational policies and digitalization, especially in education.

Meanwhile, Dr. Titanilla Toth, Ambassador of Hungary, said she is looking forward to expanding the cooperation between Hungary and the Philippines in the field of agriculture, water technology, and education, adding they could provide more scholarships for Filipinos.

She added Hungary is also looking forward to opening more employment opportunities for skilled Filipino workers in the hospitality sector like hotels and also in factories.

On the other hand, Raduta Dana Matache, Ambassador of Romania, expressed great appreciation in her meeting with Marcos, adding that his warm reception of the diplomatic corps send a strong message that the Philippines is open to cooperation all over the world.

Matache said that with the Philippines and Romania are celebrating an important milestone this year—50 years of having diplomatic relations—and that he and the President-elect discussed areas where cooperation could be further enhanced.

These included, she added, agriculture to address the looming food crisis; energy; education; and culture, among others.

"Everybody in the world is interested in how to expand the use of clean energies, and I believe we have agreed that there is ample room for cooperation in this area. We touched upon several other issues like the regional context in the Philippines and Romania," the ambassador said.





## Philippines ready to join coalition of WTO trade ministers to address climate change

THE Trade department said on Wednesday that the Philippines is ready to join the coalition to be formed by the members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) working to address the impact of climate change.

Trade Undersecretary Ceferino S. Rodolfo represented the Philippines at a mini ministerial meeting on climate change in Geneva on June 13, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said in a statement.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of the 12<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference, which took place from June 12 to 15, in which ministers reviewed the functioning of the multilateral trading system.

"During the meeting, ministers committed to strengthen engagement and dialogue with a view to creating a Coalition of Trade Ministers to address climate change," the DTI said.

Mr. Rodolfo said the Philippines, a climate vulnerable country, "supports the vision of a coalition of Trade Ministers to respond to climate change and supports revitalizing plurilateral engagement on environmental goods and services that builds on work in other fora like APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)."

The department noted that the coalition can provide guidance on the "scope and approach" to future negotiations.

Mr. Rodolfo also said during the meeting that the Philippines has aggressive goals in terms of supporting the transition to clean energy.

"For us to meet these ambitions, developing countries must forge partnerships with the developed world on financing, technology transfer, and technical assistance," he noted.

The Philippines is following a sustainable finance roadmap, the DTI said, adding that it has just enacted a law aimed at developing the electric vehicle industry.

"The Philippines is now co-leading with Australia a work stream on promoting trade to tackle plastics pollution," it added.

Mr. Rodolfo said countries must continue to share experiences in dealing with the problem and contribute to the multilateral treaty on plastics.

"He called for further cooperation on this front to pursue strategies that would reduce single-use plastics and support sustainable plastic packaging," the DTI said.

It noted that packaging accounts for almost 50% of the plastics market in the Philippines. — **Arjay L. Balinbin**



## ADB urged anew to ditch 'dirty' fossil fuel projects

By CAI U. ORDINARIO [@cauordinario](#)

**I**F the region will meet the targets set under the Paris Climate accord, countries should avoid gas, which is considered to be a "false solution," according to civil society organizations.

The Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ) and Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD) said multilateral development institutions such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) should do better in terms of financing renewables instead of projects such as fossil gas financing.

This, PMCJ said, includes gas transmission and distribution pipelines, LNG terminals, storage facilities, gas-fired power plants, gas for heating and cooking, and midstream and downstream gas and oil projects subject to conditions.

"Gas is a false solution to meet the energy needs of ADB developing member countries. It is not a transition fuel, and investing in it will hinder, rather than hasten the shift to reliance on non-resource-intensive, sustainable renewable energy. CCUS technologies, large-scale dams, and waste-to-energy incineration are also false solutions to the climate crisis," PMCJ National Coordinator Ian Rivera said.

APMDD said among multilateral development banks, ADB stands out as one of the biggest lenders to the region's fossil fuel-dominated energy sector.

From 2009 to 2019, it poured \$42.5 billion into the sector with sovereign loans, grants and technical assistance accounting for three-fourths of the total (\$32.1 billion) and the rest financing non-sovereign (private sector) projects.

The Manila-based multilateral development bank has also spent over \$4.7 billion on gas since the adoption of the Paris Agreement. Its gas finance accounts for over 96 percent of its fossil fuel financing from 2016 to 2020.

"We demand a just transition to 100 percent renewable energy before 2050. This will

involve commitment from stakeholders like ACEF [Asia Clean Energy Forum] to align financing and policies to phase out fossil fuels and enable the accelerated deployment of renewable technologies," APMDD Coordinator Lidy Nacpil said.

Nacpil said the conditions the policy laid out for supporting these projects do not guarantee a phase out of all fossil fuels in a timeline that is consistent with the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping global temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) shows the need to stop carbon dioxide emissions globally by 2050 to keep global average temperature rise below 1.5°C and avoid a "catastrophic" climate change.

To keep global temperature rise within the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold, APMDD cited the IPCC report, adding the world would need to use about 95 percent less coal, 60 percent less oil, and 45 percent less gas in 2050.

"It is deplorable that the ADB continues to support fossil fuel projects. Here in the Philippines and the rest of Asia, the climate crisis is worsening. We are facing massive deaths and damage to communities and livelihoods if ADB and the ACEF clean energy community continues with business as usual," said Flora Santos, President of Oriang Women's Movement.

ACEF is one of the largest international events covering key aspects of clean energy promotion in Asia. High-level decision makers, investors, businesses and experts from Asia and throughout the world attend the event. It is hosted and co-organized annually by the ADB.

This will be the 17th ACEF since its inception in 2006 and it is happening from June 14 to 17. According to the ADB, "ACEF 2022 operationalizes ADB's 2021 Energy Policy of promoting the low-carbon transition in the region while supporting universal access to reliable and affordable energy services."



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
AND  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# Manila Standard



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**CLIMATE CHANGE PROTEST.** Climate campaigners stage a protest in front of the Asian Development Bank headquarters in Mandaluyong City on June 15 to call on the participants of the 2022 Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) to commit to make low-carbon energy transition in Asia and the Pacific. **Jimmy A. Domingo**



# Tangkang pagpuslit ng mga tarantula napigil ng BoC-NAIA

## TINGNAN NATIN



By VIC REYES

**PANAHO** na para magpasa ang Kongreso ng batas na magpapataw ng mas mabigat na parusa sa mga ismagler ng "wildlife."

Ito ay kung gusto nating matigil ang walang tigil na "wildlife smuggling" sa bansa.

Dahil sa kagagawan ng mga ismagler na ito ay baka dumating ang araw na sa mga museum at libro na lang natin makita ang mga ipinagmamalaki nating "rare wildlife."

Kamakailan lang kasi ay nakasabat na naman ang Bureau of Customs (BOC) sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) ng 198 na buhay na tarantulas na tangkang ipuslit palabas ng bansa.

Mabuti na lang at alisto at masisipag ang mga opisyal at tauhan ni BOC-NAIA District Collector Carmelita "Mimel" M. Talusan.

Nakita ng mga taga-BOC-NAIA ang mga tarantula, mga "hairy" at mala-

laking gagamba, sa BOC-DHL Warehouse noong Hunyo 7.

Ang shipment, na idineklarang naglalaman ng "Thermos Mug," ay ipinapadala ng isang residente ng Pasay City sa Italy.

Natuklasan ang mga buhay na tarantula nang idaan ang pakete sa X-ray at isubject sa 100 percent physical examination.

Ibinigay naman ng BOC-NAIA ang mga gagamba sa wildlife enforcement officer mula sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) "proper handling."

Madalas ngang pinupuri ng Southeast Asia TRAFFIC ang BOC-NAIA dahil sa kanilang "tremendous efforts in intercepting illegal wildlife" na ipinupuslit sa bansa.

Sina Customs Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero at Collector Talusan, na anak ni dating BOC Deputy Commissioner Julie Singson-Manahan, ay maganda ang ugnyayan sa DENR.

Tulong-tulong sila para walang makapasok o makalabas ng bansa na puslit na wildlife.

Talaga namang nakababahala ang dumaraming kaso ng coronavirus disease o COVID-19 sa ilang parte ng bansa, kasama na ang Metro Manila.

Pero ang magandang balita ay hindi naman daw magreresulta sa crippling lockdown ang nangyayari.

Ang kailangan lang daw ay magpabakuna (booster) at sumunod sa mga health protocol na kagaya ng pagsusuot ng maskara, paghuhugas ng kamay at pagsunod ng social distancing policy ng gobyerno.

Huwag na tayong gumaya sa ibang bansa na matitigas ang ulo ng mga tao, nagresulta sa panibagong surge ng COVID-19 cases sa kani-kanilang bansa.

Kapag nangyari ito sa atin ay baka hindi na makabangon ang ating lugmok na ekonomiya.

Ubos na ang pera natin. Hindi basta makakalikom ng malaking pera ang Bureau of Customs (BOC) at Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) dahil nga ang negosyo ay matumal pa rin.

Oo nga't maganda pa rin ang revenue collection performance ng BOC kahit nandiyan pa ang COVID-19 pero kailangang madagdagan pa ang nakokolektang buwis at taripa.

At kapag nagkaroon ng panibagong surge ng COVID-19 ay siguradong maaapektuhan ang trabaho ng BOC.

Tiyak 'yon!  
Mabuti na lang hindi pa dumaraming ang mga

malalakas na pag-ulan sa bansa, lalo na sa Metro Manila na siyang sentrong kalakal at negosyo.

Huwag natin kalimutan na maraming parte ng bansa ang madalas binabaha.

Ang problema, mabababa na ngang lugar ang mga ito, barado pa ang mga daanan ng tubig kaya madaling bumaha.

Isa pang pangunahing problema ay ang dumaraming kaso ng dengue sa maraming parte ng bansa.

Ang nakakamatay na dengue ay dulot ng kagat ng lamok na ang paboritong tirahan ay ang mga matutubig na lugar. Nandiyan din ang mga nagkalat na bote, lata at iba pang basura na may tubig.

Malaking maitutulong ng mga opisyal at tauhan ng barangay para malinis ang mga daluyan ng tubig sa mga barangay.

Ang mga paaralan din ay dapat panatilihin malinis, lalo na ang mga kwarto, canteen at paboritong puntahan ng mga bata kapag sila'y nasa paaralan.

Dapat obligahin ng DILG ang mga opisyal ng barangay na panatilihin malinis ang kani-kanilang lugar.

(Para sa inyong komento at suhestiyon, tumawag o mag-text sa #0917-8624484 / email: tingnannatin08@gmail.com. Hagay lang ang buong pangalan at tirahan.)



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## TOP 5 NANGANGANIB NA HAYOP SA 'PINAS

MARAMING mga hayop sa Pilipinas ang unti-unti nang nauubos dahil na rin sa pagkasira ng kanilang natural na tirahan tulad ng mga kagubatan bukod pa sa talamak na ilegal na paghuli sa kaniila para ibenta, kainin, o kaya naman gawing iba't ibang mga produkto.

Pero anuman ang rason, sinasabing hindi ito lisen-siya para ubusin ang kanilang lahi, kaya naman narito't alamin ang listahan ng ilan sa mga nanganganib nang maubos na mga hayop sa bansa.

Una ang Philippine eagle o *Pithecophaga jefferyi*. Ito ang National Bird ng Pilipinas. Kilala ito sa tawag na, monkey-eating eagle. Ang tipikal na laki ng ibon na ito ay may sukat na 86-102 cm (2 ft 10 in to 3ft 4 in) at bigat na naglalaro sa 4.7kg hanggang 8kg. Isa ito sa itinuturing na pinakamalaking ibon sa bansa. Bukod dito, isa rin ito sa pinakapambihira at pinakamalakas na ibon sa mundo.



Pangalawa ay ang Philippine Spotted Deer o *Rusa alfredi*. Mas kilala ito sa tawag na Visayan spotted deer. Isa na itong endangered species ng usa na karaniwang matatagpuan sa isla ng Negros at Panay.

Ayon sa survey ng IUCN noong 1996, may humigit-kumulang 2,500 species

nito sa buong mundo noon subalit ngayong 2022, ay 'di na sila sigurado kung ilan na lamang ang mga natitira.

Pangatlo ang Philippine Freshwater Crocodile o *Crocodylus mindorensis*. Kilala ito sa tawag na Mindoro crocodile. Itinuturing na itong endangered dahil sa unsustainable na uri ng pangangisda. Ang buwayang ito ay kayang lumaki sa haba na 1.5 meters o halos 4.9 feet at kayang bu-

migat ng 15 kilos. Karaniwan namang mas malaki ang mga lalaking crocodile kaysa mga babae.

Kasunod naman nito ang tamaraw o *Bubalus mindorensis*. Mas kilala ito sa tawag na Mindoro dwarf buffalo. Sila ay itinuturing na ring endangered animal dahil sa marahas na pangangaso at pagkasira ng kanilang tirahan. Mangilan-ilan na lang din ang kanilang populasyon sa kasalukuyan.

At pang-lima ay ang Philippine Tarsier o *Carlito syrichta*. Matatagpuan ito sa Timog-Silangang rehiyon. Ang sukat ng mga tarsier ay nasa 118 hanggang 149 mm at may bigat na nasa 113 hanggang 142 grams.



Panawagan ng mga eksperto, hangga't maaari ay iwasan natin ang akribidad na maaaring makasama sa kanila o sa kahit anumang uri ng hayop dahil baka sa susunod na mga taon ay sa mga libro at internet na lamang natin sila makikita. **(Moises Caleon)**



# Duterte team calls for revival of mining industry

## MICC review shows 'significant' contributions to host communities, local economies

By Ben O. de Vera  
@bendeveraINQ

Outgoing President Duterte's economic team has pushed for the revival of the mining industry—sidelined these past few years by the lack of a fiscal regime as well as policy continuity—to generate more jobs and develop rural areas hosting mines.

In a joint report published on Wednesday, the National Economic and Development Authority, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Finance and the Development Academy of the Philippines said their analysis done as part of the initial review showed that mining and quarrying "contributed significantly to the regional gross domestic product (GDP) in regions where there are mining operations."

This technical paper contained the findings of the inter-agency Mining Industry Coordinating Council's (MICC) review of large-scale metallic mines conducted from 2018 to 2020. The MICC review was jump-started following a controversial order by the late former Environment Secretary Gina Lopez in 2017 to close down or suspend

23 mining operations, mainly over environmental concerns.

Lopez's closure orders were later on lifted, with President Duterte himself lifting a ban on new mining permits last year. Before 2021 ended, the DENR also removed the four-year prohibition on open-pit mining put in place by its former chief Lopez.

The report based on the MICC review said "there is no doubt that mining has contributed substantially to the local economy, as evidenced by the economic progress of communities relative to other non-mining communities in the same area."

"[Mining] brought employment, and the demand for labor helped increase the local population, which became the driver of the surge in economic activities. An increase in services comes with rapid population growth, promoting business growth, including the backward and forward linkages of the mining operation," the report added.

The MICC review findings nonetheless said environmental issues should be taken into consideration alongside countryside development.

"Growing consumption demand, theoretically, translates to additional pressure to exploit

natural capital. This scenario brings a dilemma, which pits conserving biodiversity against land development. Otherwise, the communities will have to outsource their consumption demand," the report said.

The report also urged more inclusive mines development so that the host-communities themselves benefit from mining activities.

"While, to some extent, mining contributes to regional GDP, experts saw initial indications of slow local economic growth because most of the commercial transactions by residents or the use of their factor income are often done outside the host-municipality. The expenditure of mining income is captured by highly urbanized cities or municipalities that provide for the consumption needs of nearby host-community residents," it noted.

"Thus, mining companies are advised to invest part of their CSR (corporate social responsibility) in promoting enterprise development to promote local business development that will capture residents' mining income expenditures. Further, a social development and management program must also support local enterprises leading to



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REGIONS

## Reclamation still a go for next mayor

CEBU CITY—The incoming mayor of Consolacion, Cebu, is pushing through with the local government's 235.8-hectare reclamation project despite a March 31 order by President Duterte stopping similar applications due to allegations of corruption. For Vice Mayor Teresa Alegado, the project, which was proposed in 2019, was "exempted" from the Palace directive since it covered only new applications. —STORY BY ADOR VINCENT MAYOL

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# For Cebu town exec, reclamation still a go

### Incoming Consolacion mayor believes President Duterte's halt order does not cover 235.8-hectare project of local gov't

By Ador Vincent Mayol  
@InqNational

CEBU CITY—The mayor-elect of Consolacion town in Cebu province is pushing through with the local government's 235.8-hectare reclamation project despite an order by President Duterte stopping similar applications due to reports of alleged corruption.

Vice Mayor Teresa Alegado on Tuesday said she believed that the town's project was "exempted" from the directive since only new applications were stopped by the President in March.

"Our application dates back to March 22, 2019. I think we are exempted from the President's order," said Alegado, who will take over from her son, outgoing Mayor Joannes Alegado, as the town's chief executive starting July.

The municipal government's partner in the project—La Consolacion Seafront Development Corp.—was incorporated in October 2019 with a capital investment of P10 million, based on records of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

During his visit to Cebu

on March 31, Mr. Duterte announced that he stopped the processing of all applications for reclamation projects in the country, citing reports of corruption in these projects.

"All applications for reclamation, all—and it could include Cebu and Mindanao—I told the acting secretary to stop all of it," he said, referring to acting Environment Secretary Jim Sampulna.

#### Consultation

Lawyer Rose Liza Eisma Osorio, legal and policy director of Oceana Philippines, a nonprofit ocean conservation organization, said the group would verify the extent of the President's statement with the Philippine Reclamation Authority.

In the meantime, she said Oceana would continue opposing the project due to its impact on the environment.

Oceana was among the 50 stakeholders from different government and private organizations who attended the 10-hour public hearing on Tuesday at the Consolacion municipal amphitheater.

The hearing was conducted by the Environment Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to verify the accuracy of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), a tool that will help the government, the proponent, and the affected communities assess whether the benefits of the reclamation project would outweigh the negative consequences or risks to the environment.

Consolacion officials said around 17 million cubic meters of backfilling materials, which would be taken "from other islands," would be needed for the project.

Environmentalists, Osorio said, were anxious about the impact of the project which would not only destroy marine resources in the area, but also the mountains where rocks and soil that would be used as filling materials would be taken.

"Just imagine the impact of that project to the environment. The damage here is irreversible. Maybe for the short term, we can benefit from this project, but in the long term, we will lose

the productivity of the marine resources," she said.

#### Scientific studies

During the public hearing, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) called the attention of the local government for lack of scientific studies that would back the project.

Rene Zaldy Porlaje, who represented the BFAR central office, said their office could not issue a "letter of no objection" because the EIA should be done scientifically.

"We cannot support this project if your study is not evidence-based. The EIA should identify and eliminate impact on the environment, people and governance," he told the proponents.

"Apparently the EIA study has not yet been conducted properly. Convince us that this project has minimal impact on environment," Porlaje added.

The BFAR office in Central Visayas earlier withdrew its "letter of no objection" on March 2 for application of area clearance, saying it had no authority to do so due to the scope of the project.

INQ



## Southeast Asia's recycling woes

**E**nvironmental sustainability has been top of mind in recent years, especially in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, as we witnessed the positive effects brought about by a reduction in travel and activity. In parallel, considerable pressure has mounted on corporations—not only to operate in a sustainable manner but to go above and beyond what is required of them with their environmental actions.

In the same vein, consumers are showing greater awareness of their environmental footprint and increasingly say they prefer brands that embrace sustainability. A global study by Deloitte revealed that close to a quarter of respondents will switch to buying products from an organization that shares their values on environmental issues. However, a frustrating paradox is hampering progress. Despite growing positive attitudes, few consumers are following through with their actions. An obvious case in point is the stagnation of recycling rates.

About 80 percent of post-consumer waste should, technically, be recyclable; however, global figures have languished at around 9 percent. Southeast Asia, in particular, continues to suffer from low recycling rates despite the rapid growth of consumption.

While poor waste management infrastructure is one of the leading contributors to the problem, especially in developing markets, inadequate and lackluster recycling practices must also shoulder some of the blame.

In Singapore, a country with an established recycling infrastructure, the National Environment Agency found that around 40 percent of contents found in recycling bins cannot be recycled owing to leakage from food and liquid waste, as well as e-waste and styrofoam.

These behaviors must change and do so rapidly if we are to prevent plastic leakage into the ocean in a sustainable way. As investment into improving recycling infrastructure and processes grows, the same, if not more effort, must be directed to narrowing consumers' intention-action gap and facilitating positive behavioral change.

Behavior change is highly challenging. Adopting new habits requires individuals to embrace unfamiliarity and disrupt ingrained patterns of thinking. However, new research has revealed that appeals to emotional motivations, coupled with personal engagement, can have a catalyzing and enduring impact when it comes to getting people to change their recycling habits.

These interventions are particularly effective in the first two stages of the behavior change journey—awareness and ability—where barriers include a lack of knowledge of existing recycling programs and the ingrained belief that recycling is too tedious. To overcome these obstacles, first and foremost, more thought must be put into uncovering why individuals in each community would be motivated to recycle, and tailor campaigns to speak to this unique context.

In our analysis of local recycling projects, we found that standard warnings highlighting the environmental impact of plastic waste were ineffective in engaging communities in Bali. Residents on this tourist-destination island had been inundated with messaging about plastic pollution and were desensitized to the issue.

On the flip side, messaging that was aligned to Bali's tight-knit, hierarchical culture was more effective. Informational letters carrying stamps from two important authorities—the official local government and religious *adat* (customary law community)—helped to build trust and achieve greater community engagement and more consistent recycling behaviors.

Mass communication campaigns will continue to play a critical role in raising awareness and providing legitimacy to recycling programs. These campaigns lay the foundations, but alone they are not sufficient to create real change.

To drive home the message and push consumers to act, personalized bottom-up interactions are also needed. Put simply, people must feel that these outreach programs are supporting them to make the change and without much hassle.

Shifting to a circular economy across Asia is essential to addressing the region's plastic waste crisis. Consensus on a first-of-its-kind global plastics agreement reached earlier this year will only accelerate the growth of a sector that is already seeing significant investment.

While excitement is often focused on the innovative technologies and materials that are transforming global plastic supply chains, it is crucial to remember the role of individuals and households in enabling large-scale societal transformation. We will only see success if investment into improving the system is supported by a commitment—from governments, investors, and corporations—to shift individual practices. *The Jakarta Post/Asia News Network*

Ellen Martin is director of impact and insights, The Circulate Initiative. Jeremy Douglas is director of partnership, Delterra.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer is a member of the Asia News Network, an alliance of 22 media titles in the region.





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## GLOBAL WIND DAY

**NAKIKIISA** ang inyong Agarang Serbisyo Lady at ang ating programa sa obserbasyon ngayong araw na ito bilang "Global Wind Day" na pinangunahan ng Global Wind Energy Council.

Layon ng paggunita na bigyan ng importansya ang kahalagahan ng hangin bilang isang "renewable energy".

Sa buong mundo sa kasalukuyan, nasa 4.8% na ang gumagamit ng wind energy o katumbas ng 824,874 GW.

Pangunahin ang mga bansang China, United States of America, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, India, Brazil, Canada, France at Turkey.

Mahalagang alternatibo ang wind energy sa nakanayang fossil fuels dahil ito ay -

- Napakaliit lamang ng nagagawang carbon footprint ng mga wind turbine kumpara sa mga coal and natural gas power plant;

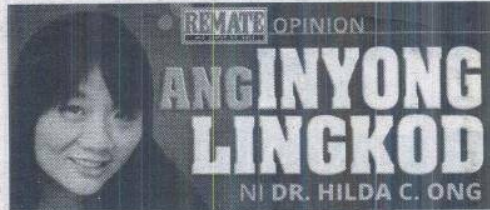
- Zero pollution;

- Mabuti sa kalusugan ang enerhiya mula sa hangin;

- Konti lamang ang tubig na kinakailangan para sa operasyon ng mga wind turbine;

- Lumilikha ito ng trabahong lalong-lalo na sa mga kanyunan o rural area;

- Malaki ang matitipid sa wind energy; at



- Madaling makabit sa mga lugar na napakahirap malagyan ng elektrisidad katulad ng mga isla;

Dito sa Pilipinas, alinsunod sa itinatadhana ng Republic Act No. 9513 o ang Renewable Energy Act of 2008, unti-unti nang naggamit ang wind energy.

Ayon sa mga pag-aaral, aabot sa 76GW ang wind energy capacity ng bansa.

Dalawa sa pinakamalaking wind energy project sa bansa ang matatagpuan sa Burgos, Ilocos Norte na mayroong 50 wind turbines na siyang pinakamalaki rin sa buong ASEAN region, at ang

Pililla wind farm sa lalawigan ng Rizal na mayroon namang 27 wind turbines.

Mayroon ding wind farm sa Bangui, Ilocos Norte na may 20 wind turbines; Caparispisan wind farm sa Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, may 27 wind turbines; sa Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro; San Lorenzo wind farm sa Guimaras; at Nabas wind farm sa Aklan.

Inaasahan na sa direksyon ng bansa na pagbababansa ang matatagpuan sa fossil fuels ay lalo pang tataas ang magiging paggamit natin sa wind energy na libre at akmang-akma sa Pilipinas.



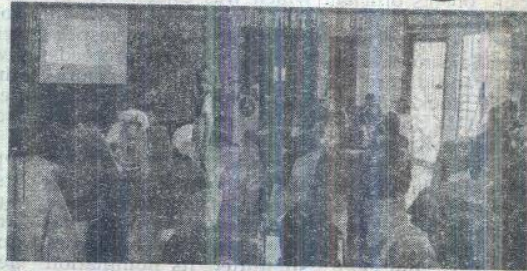
## Or. Mindoro 'prepared' for climate change challenges

By JOJO CESAR MAGSOMBOL

**ORIENTAL MINDORO**—The province of Oriental Mindoro is now "prepared" after provincial government officials, staff, and representatives from various towns underwent a four-day training session to learn about the "Climate Vulnerability and Risk Information System" (CVRIS).

The CVRIS will provide more knowledge about the impending dangers in the province caused by climate change.

CVRIS is a digital tool that will help to plan "continuously and effectively" and provide reliable and timely planning data for the province's preparedness for climate change.



Oriental Mindoro provincial government personnel attends a training session on climate change preparedness. Photo courtesy of Or. Mindoro PIO

At the training attended by hundreds of officials and staff of the concerned government agency, climate change factors were discussed, especially the environmental impact and how to prepare for it.

Also, the system of gathering the necessary data on the climate, social, economic, and agricultural (data) of the province is now highly prioritized to study the level of risk caused by climate change facing the province today.

These hazards include flooding and drought — which can be predicted or measured where they can happen.

The system developed by the Global Green Growth Institute Philippines in col-

laboration with an artificial intelligence company and data analysis experts funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), CVRIS aims to use geospatial analysis and mapping of various sets of data.

It is part of the multi-year "Climate Resilient and Inclusive Green Growth" project that was approved under the current administration of Governor Hummerlito "Bonz" Dolor.

"As a civil servant, CVRIS training is important to develop my knowledge of using modern methods of recording and inventorying data related to climate change," said Pinaralayan MPDC Officer Virgilio King, one of the participants.



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## CLEAN AND GREEN NA MUNDO

Mula pang noong nilalang ang mundo sa kapanahunan nina Eba at Adan, ang mamuhay sa masagana at malinis na kapaligiran ay hindi pribilehiyo, bagkus ay karapatan ng bawat indibidwal.

Noon pa man, ang malinis na hangin at kalikasan ay biyaya na mula pa sa langit.

Kalaunan dahil sa kalupitan at pagmamalabis ng mga tao ay naglaho ang malapraisong mundo. Kailangan pang dumayo sa Boracay, Cebu, at ibang lupalok ng mundo upang makalangoy sa mala-asul at kristal na karagatan. Ang hangin ay hindi lamang naging masangsang ang amoy, bagkus may banta na ito sa ating kalusugan dahil sa polusyon at kemikal mula sa mga pabrika at usok ng mga sasakyan. Dagdagan pa ng mga nagkalat na mga basura sa kung saan.

Kaya patuloy na isinusulong ang temang "Clean and Green a healthier world we live in."

Bilang paghimok sa bansa na piliin at magkaroon ng disiplina na mamuhay sa mas maayos na kapaligiran. Dahil wala na tayong higit pang ipamamana sa susunod na henerasyon na magkaroon ng mas 'healthy' at malinis na ecosystem sa ating mundong ginagalawan. — **Lanie B. Mate**

16 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



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## COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



# PH records 16 more Omicron subvariant cases

By Joyce Ann L. Rocamora June 15, 2022, 4:05 pm



**MANILA** – The Philippines has detected 16 more cases of Omicron subvariants, the Department of Health (DOH) reported Wednesday.

In a virtual presser, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said six tested positive for the BA.5 subvariant-- two from Metro Manila, one each from Cagayan Valley, Western Visayas, and Northern Mindanao, and another one whose address is still being verified.

Meanwhile, the 10 others tested positive for BA.2.12.1.

At least four of them are from Metro Manila, two are from Calabarzon, one each from Cagayan Valley, Bicol, Western Visayas, and one is a returning overseas Filipino.

Vergeire said the exposure of these persons is currently unknown and travel histories are being verified.

Of the new BA.5 cases, two had mild symptoms while the symptoms of the other four and close contacts are still under verification. Five of them are now tagged as recovered, while one is still undergoing home isolation.

As for the additional BA.2.12.1 cases, two also exhibited mild symptoms, three are asymptomatic, while the five remaining are still being verified.

Out of the 10, one is still undergoing treatment while eight have already recovered. The remaining one is likewise being verified, said Vergeire.

She clarified that the increase in Covid-19 cases in Metro Manila and other parts of the country "is not directly related" to the entry of the new subvariants.

*"Upang hindi na po tumuloy ang pagtaas at upang manatili tayo sa low risk, patuloy tayong sumunod sa minimum public health standards at magpabakuna (To prevent the cases from further increasing, we should continue to follow the minimum public health standards and get vaccinated)," she said. (PNA)*



# Metro Manila to stay under Alert Level 1 until end June

Philstar.com June 15, 2022 | 6:01pm



Daily commuters pay for their jeepney fare in Marikina on Thursday, June 9, 2022.

The STAR / Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — Metro Manila will remain under the laxest quarantine classification until the end of June despite an uptick in COVID-19 cases that the Department of Health says has barely impacted hospital and intensive care utilization rates.

COVID-19 infections are steadily increasing, with private think tank OCTA Research flagging the rise of the reproduction rate in the capital region to 1.59. This is the number of people a person with the coronavirus can infect and should ideally be less than one.

The positivity rate in Metro Manila also increased to 2.7%, although the figure is still below the 5-percent threshold of the World Health Organization to indicate that the spread of the coronavirus is under control.

The seven-day average of COVID-19 infections also grew by 53% to 131 from 86.

On Monday, the Department of Health said that the capital region could go back to a more stringent Alert Level 2 if the rise in cases leads to a significant increase in hospital admissions.

DOH recorded 1,682 additional infections from June 6 to 12, 30% higher than a week earlier. — **Xave Gregorio** with a report from **Gaea Katreena Cabico**



# Sa pagbaba nang bisa ng bakuna bilang ng COVID-19 severe at critical cases, tataas sa Agosto

[Danilo Garcia](#) - Pang-masa June 16, 2022 | 12:00am



“There is this projection that maybe by, it might happen, that by August, our hospitalizations will increase and there would be more severe and critical cases because of the waning immunity of the population,” ayon kay Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire.

AFP / Joseph Prezioso

MANILA, Philippines — May posibilidad na tumaas ang bilang ng mga pasyenteng may severe at critical cases ng COVID-19 sa Agosto dahil sa pagbaba na ng bisa ng bakuna.

“There is this projection that maybe by, it might happen, that by August, our hospitalizations will increase and there would be more severe and critical cases because of the waning immunity of the population,” ayon kay Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire.

Pero sa kasalukuyan ay sinabi ni Vergeire na ‘stable’ pa naman ang bilang ng mga pasyente na ang mga kaso ay severe at kritikal.

Ang dahilan ay sa pagbaba ng immunity ng publiko, ang mababang bilang ng mga nagpapa-booster shot.

Sa ngayon, nasa 14.56 milyon pa lamang ang nakatatanggap ng booster shot habang 557,000 ang naturukan ng ikalawang booster.

Idagdag pa dito ang banta rin umano ang paglitawan ng mga mas nakakahawang Omicron variants lalo na sa mga ayaw pang magpa-booster.

16 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



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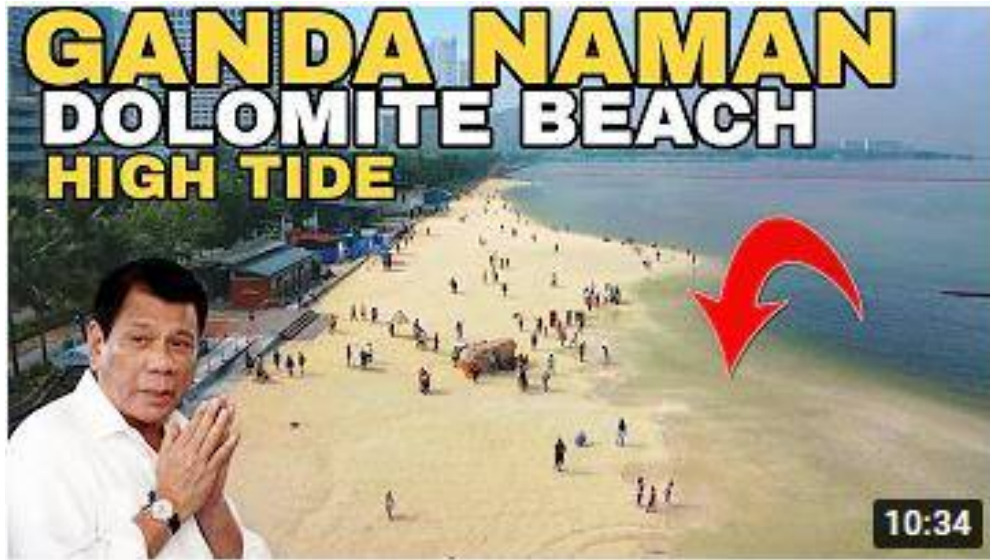
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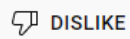
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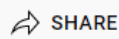
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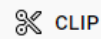
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