

30 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



# NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





## DENR Execs Open Environmental Laboratory

Wednesday, June 29, 2022 Journal Online



**Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Officer-in-Charge Secretary Joselin Marcus E. Fragada Jr. and Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Director William P. Cuñado (5th and 6th from left, respectively) lead the launch of the upgraded environmental laboratory at the Environmental Research and Laboratory Services Division (ERLSD) Building on June 24, 2022. The facility houses the Organics Laboratory and Bacteriological Laboratory, Air Laboratory, and Inorganics Laboratory that [offer environmental laboratory services](#) required to effectively implement environmental laws. Others in photo are (left to right): ERLSD Chief Ma. Fatima Anneglo R. Molina, EMB Assistant Director Vizmindia A. Osorio, and Undersecretary for Field Operations Luzon, Visayas and Environment Juan Miguel T. Cuna. The three-storey ERLSD Building is located at the [DENR](#) Central Office compound in Quezon City.**





# Interim Storage Facility for Confiscated Chemicals

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**Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)** Assistant Director Vizmindia Osorio (3rd from left) and Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS) Director Khalil Bayam (4th from left) lead the [groundbreaking ceremony for the interim storage facility](#) for confiscated chemicals at the San Mateo Sanitary Landfill, Pintong Bukawe, San Mateo, Rizal on June 25, 2022. The facility will serve as a temporary storage for confiscated chemicals before these are permanently disposed of in compliance with Republic Act 6969 or the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990. The construction of the facility will be funded by the Pollution Adjudication Board. Also in the photo are the [EMB](#) division chiefs (left to right): Juvy Serafin, Edwin Navaluna, Graciolo Torre, and Karen Pacpaco.



## DENR urges Marawi, LDS public to employ ‘3Rs’ in households

Published on: June 29, 2022

By Claire Gigje

MARAWI CITY, Lanao del Sur (PIA)--The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has appealed to the general populace of the city and the province of Lanao del Sur to uphold the 3Rs initiative which is to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Such a call was echoed amid the celebration of Environment Month this June which was marked by the inauguration of the new engineered sanitary landfill (category IV) here Tuesday, June 28.

“We are asking the locals to love the environment by pursuing the 3Rs with vigor, passion, and determination, or else, everything that we have done so far will not come into fruition. We need your help,” said DENR Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs Lawyer Michelle Angelica Go.

Go underlined that everything starts at home when talking about the environment.

She stated that if people themselves will not bring about change in their everyday lives such as doing the 3Rs, it will be very tough for the government to sustain environmental projects such as the sanitary landfill.

As the city and the province now have their solid waste facility, Go hoped that what will be dumped will only be the ones called residual waste and those only necessary to be placed there because the 3Rs were already done.

The assistant secretary has earlier conveyed that the inauguration of the engineered sanitary landfill was timely as the country celebrates Environment Month which upholds the constitutional right of the Filipino people to a balanced and healthful ecology.

She then detailed that the sanitary landfill was just one of the efforts under the implemented Solid Waste Management Program as other projects of the Department in Marawi included social cartography and debris monitoring.

Go explained that they want the people of Marawi to have a sanitary landfill so that they will be able to breathe clean air, their beautiful Lake Lanao will be free from marine litter and other solid waste, and there will be an action against land degradation



“Sana [I hope] we remember everyday, not just during Environment Month, that an ordinary Filipino citizen has a big contribution to this environmental objective. That would be sufficient for us to ensure the constitutional right of every citizen to a balanced and healthful ecology. Kailangan natin ng tulong ng lahat ng [We need the help of the] Filipino people. Hindi kaya ng gobyerno na ibigay lahat ng [The government cannot give all the] needs ng [of the] society. There is so much that needs to be done,” said Go. (CRG/PIA-10/Lanao del Sur)





# DENR, National Solid Waste Management Commission, Nestlé PHL push education on climate change, solid waste management

BYBMPPLUS nJUNE 29, 2022



Solid waste management (SWM) is one of the most pressing environmental challenges in the world today. In the Philippines, 18 million tons of waste are generated every year; the country is the third biggest source of solid waste in Southeast Asia and the third largest contributor to ocean plastic pollution worldwide.

Given this reality, Nestlé Philippines is committed to help shape a waste-free future with plastic waste as a top priority. Pursuing a leadership role, it is the first multinational fast-moving consumer goods company in the country to achieve plastic neutrality, recovering volumes of plastic equivalent to what it puts out in the market in its packaging. Nestlé PH has collected 48 million kilos of plastic waste from August 2020 to May 2022. It has also transitioned to the use of paper straws for its locally manufactured ready-to-drink products, becoming the first food and beverage manufacturer in the country to do so.

Alongside developing more sustainable packaging and delivery innovations, and increasing collection and recycling initiatives, Nestlé PH is focusing on driving new behaviors and understanding through SWM education. It has produced the country's first SWM education modules to be rolled out in 20,000 public schools nationwide, with separate modules for parents, teens and communities.

Most recently, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), and Nestlé PH conducted the first leg of the No Time To Waste: Climate Change and SWM Talks attended by employees of local government units (LGUs) and government agencies, SWM officers, and community leaders. Attendance of close to 700 participants exceeded expectations, indicating increasing awareness and interest in environmental issues.



*“Sa pamamagitan ng ating webinar ngayong umaga, layunin na makapagbahagi ng kaalaman at tools kagaya ng social media cards, presentations at mga posters upang epektibo nating maiparating sa ating komunidad kung paano ang tamang pagtatapon ng basura. Malaki ang papel ng mga komunidad sa pagtugon sa mga problemang ating kinakaharap,” said DENR Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change Atty. Analiza Teh.*

*(Today’s webinar aims to provide LGUs additional knowledge and tools such as social media cards, presentations and posters that they can use to effectively educate their communities about proper solid waste management. These communities play a key role in finding a solution for our solid waste management problems.)*

The DENR, NSWMC and Nestlé PH developed five modules for the webinar series: Module 1 – What does waste have to do with climate change and the environment; Module 2 – Climate change and R.A. 9003; Module 3 – Action planning for solid waste management; Module 4 – How to design a materials recovery facility and addressing limitations with alternative steps; and Module 5 – A citizen’s guide to proper waste management. The modules were discussed by Mr. Dave Albao, Executive Director of the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation, and Mr. Robert Guevara, Vice President of the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Material Sustainability (PARMS).

NSWMC Vice Chairman Crispian Lao emphasized the key role of education and collaboration to achieve an efficient and effective SWM system: “We need to educate the youth and integrate it in the curriculum. More importantly, we need to educate the local government units from the cities and municipalities down to the barangays. Collaboration is equally important and here, we would like to thank Nestlé for developing these modules that can be a good tool for LGUs not only to learn but to implement a SWM system for their communities.”

Nestlé PH Chairman and CEO Kais Marzouki said: “We recognize that partnering with other stakeholders is imperative. Our collaboration with the DENR and the NSWMC enables us to help empower consumers and communities to do their share in practicing effective solid waste management and in particular tackling plastic waste. We welcome our cooperation with local government units in extending education on these pressing environmental concerns.”

The No Time To Waste: Climate Change and SWM Talks will be presented across the country, with webinars in the Visayas and Mindanao to be conducted in the vernacular.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2022/06/29/denr-national-solid-waste-management-commission-nestle-ph-push-education-on-climate-change-solid-waste-management/>

# 'Safe Water Project' rolled out in Palawan, Negros Occidental

June 30, 2022



Negros Occidental Rep. Kiko Benitez listens to a presentation on the Safe Water Project. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE United States-funded Safe Water Project (SWP) will be implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to give access to safe drinking water and sanitation services to 350,000 individuals in Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

Project components include technical assistance (TA) on water chlorination for LGUs and water districts and TA to Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) on septage management.

The septage management covers the Supreme Court Mandamus for the Manila Bay area. Other components are exploration on diversifying surface bulk water supply in Negros Occidental and assistance in water security plans for Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAid) has been prompted by water security challenges in the Philippines, including a "growing population, unsustainable land uses and deficient wastewater management."

"At the center of these challenges are the need for an adequate supply of clean drinking water, which has become increasingly elusive in many parts of the country, elimination of open defecation, especially in poorer communities, and increased access to safely managed sanitation services," reported DENR Project Evaluation Officer Israel Helios Inocencio.

Climate change, typhoons, droughts and diseases like Covid 19 are further worsening the level of stress from these water supply threats. These threaten watersheds and the integrity of water and sanitation infrastructure.

Total project cost is P922 million — equivalent to a grant of \$18 million from the United States Agency for International Development. The Philippine government shoulders a fund equivalent to not less than one-third (P307 million) of the USAid grant.

The project employs the Integrated and Inclusive Water Security (IIWS) framework. This is part of the long-term goal to protect the upstream water resources — the forests — where the water comes from. The National Economic Development Authority is a co-implementor of the project.

The project will empower local government units (LGUs), water service providers and watershed councils on the sustainable management of water resources.





Other beneficiaries are communities in Region 4B Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan), Region 6 (Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo and Negros Occidental) and Region 12 (Cotabato, Sarangani and Sultan Kudarat).

The Safe Water Project is being implemented over five years until 2024.

# Green wishlist: Climate, environment issues that Marcos needs to address

[Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) - Philstar.com June 29, 2022 | 2:25pm



Philippines presidential candidate Ferdinand Marcos Jr greets his supporters during the last day of campaign rally at Paranaque City, suburban Manila on May 7, 2022.

AFP/Ted Aljibe

MANILA, Philippines — President-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr. will face the mammoth tasks of protecting the environment and its defenders, and responding to the climate crisis during a crucial period that will determine who survives and thrives once he takes over the country's top government job on Thursday.

But Marcos, who won last month's election by a landslide, was seen as the "least green" presidential bet, according to anti-mining group Alyansa Tigil Mina. The group cited the absence of clear climate and environment programs that his administration will implement. Marcos shunned the media, debates, and forums during the 90-day campaign period.

"Having the environment and climate portfolios as a blind or weak spot in the new administration is unacceptable," ATM said.

Marcos has yet to appoint a secretary who will head the department mandated to manage the country's natural resources and ensure a healthful ecology for all Filipinos. Groups urged the president-elect to designate a passionate champion for conservation and protector of environment defenders as the next environment chief.

Ahead of his inauguration, climate and environment groups identified what they want Marcos to prioritize in the next six years.

## **Make climate action a priority**

Climate action should be on top of the incoming administration's agenda amid warnings that time is running out to ensure a liveable future for humanity.

The Philippines is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change impacts such as strong cyclones, flooding, and sea level rise.

"If he is sincere in his pronouncements on climate action and promoting renewable energy, Ferdinand Marcos Jr. must drop all plans for nuclear energy and fossil gas," Lea Guerrero, Greenpeace Philippines country director, said.

The president is backing the inclusion of nuclear energy—which environmentalists say is expensive and dangerous—in the power mix. He also said he will look into reviving the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant.





As the Philippines begins to kick its coal habit, fossil gas has emerged as the government's preferred fuel. According to the energy department, increasing the share of liquefied natural gas infrastructure will be significant in ensuring the operations of the existing gas plants in the archipelago. But environmental groups like the Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development warn that this blocks the transition to cleaner and cheaper renewable energy.

Marcos has discussed the development of renewable energy sources with several envoys, who have expressed support for the country's energy transition.

Greenpeace also said the Marcos government should make climate justice a top priority by holding fossil fuel companies accountable for pollution and human rights abuses from their business operations.

### **Address waste problem**

Pollution watchdog EcoWaste Coalition called on Marcos to implement "sustainable and socially just" waste policies and programs, and suspend the shift to waste-to-energy to address the country's problems with garbage and pollution.

EcoWaste Coalition national coordinator Aileen Lucero said that Marcos needs to issue an executive order that will fast track the phase-out of non-environmentally acceptable products and packaging (NEAPP), with single-use plastics as an immediate priority.

In 2021, the National Solid Waste Management Commission released a resolution declaring plastic coffee stirrers and softdrink straws as NEAPP, a move criticized for not being enough.

Lucero also urged the incoming administration to hasten the government ratification of the Basel Convention Ban Amendment, which bans waste exports from developed to developing countries.

Marcos should also command the "faithful implementation" of the two decade-old Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, said Sonia Mendoza, chairperson of the Mother Earth Foundation.

### **Save ailing seas**

For marine conservation organization Oceana Philippines, the next administration should address overfishing and illegal commercial fishing in the municipal waters, which are reserved for artisanal fisherfolk.

"The target is for 100% compliance by commercial fishing vessel operators of the vessel monitoring equipment, with criminal and civil sanctions imposed against violators of our fisheries laws and regulations," said lawyer Gloria Estenzo-Ramos, Oceana Philippines vice president.

Fisherfolk and conservation groups stressed that the full implementation of vessel monitoring measures will protect the rights of small-scale fishers and to ensure the seas will restore their bounty.

"The tide will turn if this is complied with by all," Estenzo-Ramos added.

### **Stop extractive, destructive projects**

Grizelda Mayo-Anda, an environmental lawyer based in Puerto Princesa, called on the government to stop mining, and other extractive and destructive infrastructure projects such as roads and reclamation in all natural forests, watersheds, and protected areas.

Alyansa Tigil Mina suggested that the incoming administration convene a multi-stakeholder dialogue to tackle current mining issues, and prioritize the enactment of green bills such as those concerning alternative minerals management, sustainable forestry management, and land use.



Marcos is also urged to revoke the withdrawal of the Philippines from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, a global coalition that works to improve accountability in the management of revenues from oil, gas, metals, and minerals. Finance chief Carlos Dominguez said the country withdrew from the initiative over what he called a "subjective, biased and unfair" quality assurance assessment.

The Duterte administration was criticized for lifting the nationwide ban on open-pit mining and the nine-year-old ban on new mining agreements.

Project feared to harm the environment and communities such as the New Manila International Airport in Bulacan and the Kaliwa Dam in Quezon province were approved during Duterte's term.

### **Protect the defenders**

The promotion and protection of the rights of the people and civil society organizations must be pursued, environmental groups said.

"The key to a healthy environment is a healthy democracy. To promote this, Marcos Jr. must support people's participation in governance, strengthen democratic institutions, and advance and protect justice and human rights," Guerrero said.

The Philippines has been consistently identified as one of the dangerous places to stand up for the environment. From the election of Duterte in 2016 until the end of 2020, a total of 166 land and environment activists were killed, according to watchdog Global Witness.

EcoWaste's Lucero said the incoming government should stop the practice of labeling environmental defenders as communist rebels or supporters, and ensure an open and safe space for civil society groups.





## Environmental group to President-elect Marcos: Prioritize environmental issues

Wednesday, June 29, 2022 Journal Online



JUNE 29 – BAN Toxics urged President-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to prioritize ratification of the Basel Ban Amendment and take action for proper chemicals and wastes management in time for his upcoming inauguration.

*“We call on President-elect Marcos to prioritize the ratification of the Basel Ban Amendment, implement measures for sound chemicals and wastes management, and the total ban of waste importation to protect our nation from becoming the world’s dump site again,”* says Reynaldo San Juan Jr., executive director of BAN Toxics.

The Basel Convention on Hazardous Wastes Management and Disposal was established to protect human health as well as the environment from the harmful effects of improper hazardous waste management worldwide.

The Basel Ban Amendment prohibits member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Union (EU), and Liechtenstein from exporting hazardous wastes to developing nations, whether or not for recycling. The objective of the Ban Amendment is to protect both human health and the global environment from the negative effects of improper hazardous waste management.

As of June 2022, the Philippines has yet to ratify the Basel Ban Amendment despite being a Signatory to the Basel Convention since 1989.

Since the organization’s formation in 2006, BAN Toxics has been advocating for environmental justice through the promotion of sound chemicals and wastes management. Together with allied environmental groups, the organizations campaigned for the immediate repatriation of the Canadian waste and the ratification of the Basel Ban Amendment.

The group further recommends to the new government to give priority on sound chemicals and wastes management, plastic reduction, climate change mitigation and promotion of toxics-free schools program. BAN Toxics spearheaded the Toxics-Free Schools Program in 2014 with the goal to make schools safe for children and faculty members and to increase public awareness on toxic and waste pollution in schools and homes.

“It’s high time for the government to stop taking a back seat when it comes to childrens’ health and environmental protection and start making environmental issues a priority. It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health and to a balanced and healthy ecology of the Filipino people.” BAN Toxics added.

Source: <https://journal.com.ph/environmental-group-to-president-elect-marcos-prioritize-environmental-issues/>



## NVizcaya mine workers fear losing jobs soon

By [Leander C. Domingo](#) June 30, 2022



Members of the Runruno Friends of Highland Group Union, most of them belonging to the Indigenous peoples, stage a peaceful demonstration to express support for the British-based FCF Minerals Corp. in Quezon town, Nueva Vizcaya on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, amid a contention with some settlers on the mining contract area in Runruno village. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**QUEZON, Nueva Vizcaya:** More than 1,500 workers mostly from different tribal groups working for the Runruno mining operations staged a peaceful rally on June 28 to express their fear that they might lose their jobs as the company is on the verge of closing down operations because of some resistance from Indigenous people (IP) and other land settlers within the mining area.

Joey Dulnuan, Runruno Friends of Highland Group Union president, said FCF Minerals Corp. has about 90 percent of its workforce belonging to the IP sector and has expressed intention to shut down its operations which, in turn, could also displace its workers, including those contractors and subcontractors.

Dulnuan noted that the company could not work on the stage three access area of Runruno because of the land dispute that has yet to be settled recently.

He said mining operations in stages one and two, according to the mining department, have been completed except for a small part of stage two where stage three is strategic access to complete the company's operation in stage two.

In a letter dated June 27, the union brought to the attention of Mayor Dolores Binwag their concern for fear of a possible closure of FCF's operation because the company has exhausted all its remedies to proceed in its mining area, particularly stage three being occupied by the claimant IP family.

"We would like to bring to your attention our concern that we are terrified of the possible effect [if] the FCF mining company [closes]. The local workers are worried [of] what will happen [to us] if the company will close since stage one and stage two [are] mined out already," Dulnuan said.

He said this is the reason why they are conducting the "peaceful demonstration" on June 28 to show their support for the continued operation of FCF Minerals for the development of their community as well as the provision of employment.

"Some 5,000 individuals, mostly belonging to the Indigenous peoples' group, composed of workers and their families including contractors and subcontractors, will lose jobs and livelihood, children deprived of education and will stop community development if the company closes as an option," Dulnuan said.





According to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), FCF Minerals Corp. is a holder of a 25-year financial or technical assistance agreement (FTAA) issued in 2009, giving it the exclusive right over the mine contract area consisting of more than 3,000 hectares located in Runruno village.

Meanwhile, James Carmichael, FCF Minerals country manager, affirmed that they have been delayed for more than two years now and couldn't proceed with their operation because of the resistance at stage three of the mining area.

In a statement, FCF noted that despite compliance with all the requirements by the company allowing it to enter the lands within the contract area under its FTAA, the settlers still refuse to vacate, leaving the company no option but to halt its operation if remedies have been exhausted and that nothing more can be done.

Engineer Mario Ancheta, Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) director, said FCF has been in the commercial operation period of its FTAA and needed to use stage three within the contract area for its continued mining operations.

As early as 2015, the FCF Minerals commenced negotiations with the settlers for compensation, but the company claims the settlers are demanding "exorbitant fees."

Because of the failure of the negotiations, FCF Minerals in the same year requested MGB Region 2 to allow its entry into the mining contract area where stage three is located to conduct its mining operations.

On Jan. 8, 2019, FCF Minerals applied for the bond to enter the said area, which is a public land, by posting the amount of P500,000 which the MGB Region 2 approved.

Ancheta explained that the approval of the bond allows FCF Mineral's entry to operate within the subject public land, particularly at stage three, which is occupied by the settlers.

The land valuation and assessment made by the Mine Management Division dated Aug. 3, 2015 on the settlers' property placed it at P320,010 which makes the bond of P500,000 more than enough to cover the possible damage to the pieces of property and compensation for the settlers, according to the MGB.

The union said despite FCF Minerals' compliance with all the requirements of the government-led MGB, the settlers still refuse to vacate the contested mining area.

"This is what we, Indigenous Peoples, who work at FCF fear. If the company stops, we will lose our jobs and we don't want our village to turn into a ghost town, slowing down economic development," Dulnuan said.



## Panawagang pagkansela ng mga quarry sa Masungi, sinuportahan ni Belmonte

[hataw tabloid](#) June 29, 2022 [Front Page](#), [Metro](#), [News](#)

SUPPORTADO ni QC Mayor “Joy” Belmonte ang panawagan na tuluyan nang kanselahin ang mga kasunduan sa quarrying sa Masungi Geopark Project at sa Upper Marikina Watershed.

Matatandaang apat na alkalde ng mga siyudad sa Metro Manila at iba pang mga opisyal ang nagpahayag ng matinding pagkabahala sa hindi pagkansela ng DENR ng tatlong Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) na sumasaklaw sa protektadong watershed.

Labis nilang ikinabahala ang DENR ay mistulang hindi kumikilos sa pagkansela ng mga MPSA dahil “hindi gumagana” at “malapit nang mag-expire.”

Nakiisa ang mga alkalde sa panawagan ng mga eksperto, katutubo, at civil society groups na makialam si Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte dahil hindi kinansela at bagkus ay sinuspende lamang ni DENR Secretary Jim Sampulna ang mga nasabing MPSA.

Kahit ang 25-taon termino ng mga MPSA ay nakatakdang mag-expire sa 2023 at 2024, ang DENR ay hindi nagtiyak at hindi makatitiyak na ang suspensiyon ay hindi aalisin anumang oras o na ang pag-renew ng mga kontrata ay hindi ipagkakaloob.

Nangako si dating DENR Secretary Cimatu, dalawang taon na ang nakararaan, noong Marso 2020, na kakanselahin na ang nasabing mga quarry agreements. Hindi ito kailanman ipinatupad ng DENR.

Giit ng environmentalists, habang sinuspende o wala pang quarry operations, ang kawalan ng aksiyon ng gobyerno ay naghihikayat sa ilegal na pagtatayo ng mga esktruktura, pagpuputol ng puno, at pagkasira ng mga daluyan ng tubig sa lugar.

Gayondin, ang buhay ng mga park ranger at mga nagsisikap na muling mag-reforest ang lugar ay mananatiling nasa panganib hanggang hindi pa tuluyang ipinapasawalang-bisa ang mga MPSA.

Ipinagbabawal ng e-NIPAS Law at Philippine Mining Act ang quarrying at mineral exploration sa mga pambansang parke, protektadong lugar, at proclaimed watershed reserves. Ang mga pribadong karapatan, kung mayroon man, ay hindi maaaring maging katwiran para sa paglabag ng mga batas.



Samantala, sa panayam ng Veritas Philippines, pinuri ni Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco ang hakbang ng mga alkalde.

Hinimok din niya ang gobyerno na muling suriin ang mga MPSA at iwasan ang pagbibigay ng mga permit para sa mga ilegal na operasyon na nagpapalala sa epekto ng pagbabago ng klima at nagdaragdag sa pagdurusa ng mga tao.

Kaugnay nito, ayon sa DENR Region 4A, walang nagaganap na quarrying sa lugar. (ALMAR DANGUILAN)





# EDITORIAL - DENR, inutil sa quarrying sa Marikina Watershed

Pang-masa June 29, 2022 | 12:00am



MARAMI nang nangyaring trahedyang pagguho ng lupa at malawakang pagbaha na isinisasi sa quarrying. Bukod sa quarrying, mayroon ding mga pagmimina at resort construction. Pati ang mga protected areas at watershed ay sinisira dahil sa mga gawaing ito. At bago pa makakilos para pigilan ang quarrying at pagmimina, butas-butang ang bundok.

Ang pagkasira ng mga bundok ang dahilan ng grabeng baha na nararanasan ngayon sa maraming bahagi ng bansa. Maraming panat na bundok ang nabibiyak at aagos dito ang putik at mga bato at sasagasa sa mga barangay na nasa paanan. Ililibing nang buhay ang mga residente.

Ganito ang kahaharapin kapag hindi napigilan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang quarrying operations sa Masungi Upper Marikina Watershed sa Baras, Rizal. Nakalulunog ang baha na maaaring mangyari. Ang Marikina watershed ay napagkalooban ng proteksiyon sa ilalim ng Republic Act No. 7586 o ang National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992.

Ang large scale quarrying sa lugar ang labis na pinangangambahan ngayon. Umaabot sa 1,300 hektarya ng watershed protected area ang nasakop na ng quarrying operations. Noong nakaraang Lunes, nanawagan sa DENR ang mayor ng Quezon City, Marikina City, Muntinlupa at Pasig City na kanselahin ang mineral production sharing agreements (MPSA) na inisyu sa quarrying firms. Walang pagkilos ang DENR.

Noong nakaraang Abril, ang Masungi Georeserve Foundation sa Baras ay umapela na kay President Duterte at kay DENR Sec. Jim Sapulna na kanselahin ang MPSA sa Upper Marikina Watershed upang mapigilan ang panganib na idudulot ng mga ginagawang aktibidad sa lugar. Ang grupo ng Masungi ang nagre-rehabilitate sa portion ng watershed.



Payo ni Duterte sa Masungi Foundation, sampahan ng kaso ang mga sumisira sa Marikina Watershed. Ipinag-utos niya ito sa kalihim ng DENR at sa Anti-illegal logging Task Force. Ayon sa Presidente, nangangamba sila sa nangyayaring illegal activities sa watershed.

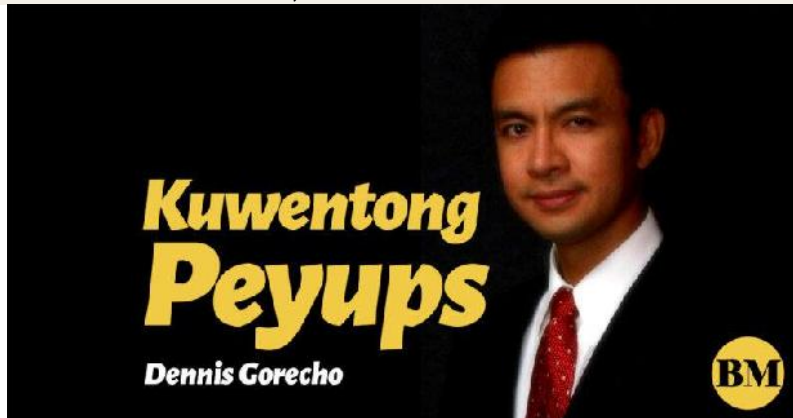
Bagama't may direktiba na ang presidente, hindi kumikilos ang DENR para mapigil ang quarrying operations sa lugar. Ayon sa report, "malalaking pulitiko" ang may-ari ng quarrying kaya hindi maipatigil.

Wala pang inihahayag na DENR secretary si president-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr. Harinawang ang itatalaga niya ay hindi inutil. Sana, taong may malasakit sa kapaligiran at kalikasan.



## There is no pride on a dead planet

BYATTY. DENNIS GORECHO JUNE 29, 2022



“There is no pride on a dead planet.” Thus says a poster by Greenpeace that I saw last Saturday during the celebration of Pride month in Pasay City, carrying with them the iconic rainbow flag interposed with their peace signage.

“Climate justice is queer justice. Our fight must go beyond the usual “green”; rather, it should be multi-perspective and multi-colored. At the end of the day, we all deserve to live on an Earth we can be proud of, where we don’t have to wait for the rain just to see the rainbow,” Greenpeace said in a statement.

Pride Month commemorates the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan, New York where LGBTQ+ individuals protested against police harassment and persecution commonly experienced by the community.

I covered Greenpeace in the mid-1990s when I was still connected with a major newspaper where I was assigned on the environment beat. Climate change at that time was already one of their campaigns.

Climate change is driven by factors such as changes in the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases and aerosols, land cover and radiation, and their combinations, which then result in what is called radiative forcing (warming and cooling effect).

The Philippines is already in the path of major weather disturbances that damage property and critical infrastructure.

Climate change is expected to lead to more intense typhoons, higher sea levels, and storm surges.

Storm surges are projected to affect about 14 percent of the population and 42 percent of coastal populations. These weather patterns frequently jeopardize the welfare of communities in high-risk areas.

Greenpeace said that the fight for genuine climate justice intersects with queer justice.

Climate action and policy must be inclusive, it said, adding that the connection of the climate struggle with the liberation of various minority groups from outdated systems must be recognized.

Climate change can only be addressed through a vibrant democracy where communities play a key role in policy—and decision-making—regardless of region, class, or gender.

The LGBTQIA+ community is considered one of the strongest allies of the climate movement—a community that knows what it means to liberate themselves from oppressive practices and give voice to the vulnerable.





Greenpeace calls for the government to enact policies that promote inclusivity and reject discrimination, such as the long-debated Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Expression Equality (SOGIE) Bill.

In her virtual speech, reelected opposition Senator Risa Hontiveros said that she will push anew for the passage of the bill, as its principal author and sponsor, which seeks to ban discrimination based on an individual's SOGIE.

The bill lists the practices to be considered discriminatory and unlawful, which include the denial of rights to LGBTQ+ community on the basis of their SOGIE, such as their right to access public services, right to use establishments and services including housing, and right to apply for a professional license, among others.

The bill also deems as discriminatory the differential treatment of an employee or anyone engaged to render services, denial of admission to or expulsion from an educational institution, refusal or revocation of accreditation to any organization due to an individual's SOGIE.

The act of forcing any person to undertake any medical or psychological examination to alter his SOGIE, the publication of information intending to "out" a person without his or her consent, public speech meant to vilify LGBTQ+, the harassment and coercion of the latter by anyone especially those involved in law enforcement, and gender profiling will also be penalized.

"It is time we forge a country that includes all, loves all," Hontiveros said. "You are more than Pride Day or Pride Month. You have every right to exist as you are in the day to day. You deserve these grand celebrations, these spaces of resistance; but you also deserve the ordinary moments."

Akbayan's Perci Cendaña holds the historical distinction of being the first openly gay chairperson of the UP Diliman University Student Council in the mid 1990s. He was part of UP's LGBT group Babaylan, UP SAMASA, and was also a former head of the National Youth Commission.

"The Philippine youth development plan states that youth development is defined as enabled, involved, patriotic youth realizing their aspirations. Discrimination leads to stigma that is a deterrent to development," Cendana said in one of the Senate hearings. "Discrimination is an issue not just of human rights but a development issue because it deters our young people from realizing their aspirations."

*Peyups is the moniker of University of the Philippines. Atty. Dennis R. Gorecho heads the seafarers' division of the Sapalo Velez Bundang Bulilan law offices. For comments, e-mail [info@sapalovelez.com](mailto:info@sapalovelez.com), or call 0917-5025808 or 0908-8665786.*



## Mt. Kanlaon flora expedition set in July

By Nanette Guadalquiver June 29, 2022, 7:57 pm



**PROTECTED AREA.** The twin falls inside the Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park. A team led by Filipino botanist Shiella Mae Olimpos, a flora specialist of the Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc., will launch a flora expedition inside the protected area on Negros Island in July. *(Photo courtesy of DENR-Western Visayas)*

**BACOLOD CITY** – A flora expedition will be held in the Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park (MKNP) in July to update the database on the various plant species found inside the protected area on Negros Island.

As of Wednesday, the team led by Filipino botanist Shiella Mae Olimpos, a flora specialist of the Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc. (PhilBio) and a Master of Science student at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, has been gearing up for the project.

“I’m very happy that Shiella will lead this initiative. She is a PhilBio staff and her thesis is about the Mt. Kanlaon flora,” PhilBio president Errol Gatumbato said in an interview over the Provincial Capitol’s Radyo Negrense.

Gatumbato, the pioneering protected area superintendent of the MKNP, said surveys have been done in the past but no extensive undertaking that focused on the flora inside the MKNP.

The natural park is one of the 18 centers of plant diversity in the Philippines identified by the Threatened Plant Unit of Kew, England.

Two types of grass – the *Isache vulcanica* and the *Miscanthus depauperatus* – are considered endemic or can only be found in Mt. Kanlaon, according to the Guidebook to Protected Areas of the Philippines published by the Biodiversity Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Researchers have also found the *Rafflesia*, a parasitic flowering plant considered to be very rare, in the buffer zone of the MKNP.

“Mt. Kanlaon is still under study and we’re hoping that through this expedition, we will know the various plant species that can be found there. Not only to record or know that it can only be found in the area, but to know their uses and how to protect them as well,” Gatumbato added.

Olimpos will be joined by plant taxonomists, wildlife biologists, and foresters from the DENR, University of San Carlos, Silliman University, Negros Oriental State University, University of the Philippines, Central Mindanao University, and PhilBio. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1177852>



## Marawi, LDS execs call for unity to keep sanitary landfill

Published on: June 29, 2022

By Claire Gigje

MARAWI CITY, Lanao del Sur (PIA)--Following the inauguration of the new engineered sanitary landfill (category IV) Tuesday, June 28, the local chief executives of the city and the province of Lanao del Sur urged the public to cooperate to sustain the purpose of the established solid waste facility.

City Mayor Majul Gandamra emphasized the crucial role of all the constituents in ending the issue of solid waste management as he cited that the needed discipline in managing the waste begins at home.

Noting the capability of the sanitary landfill to hold solid waste for 20 to 25 years, he stressed that there is still a need to have an excellent management of the facility by observing a segregation policy to sustain the purpose of the project.

Gandamra stated that if people will not practice the segregation policy, the issue of solid waste management will still return.

“Hindi lang sa atin ang responsibility but also sa constituents na dapat talaga magkaroon din ng cooperation sa ating households, ayusin ang kanilang pagtapon and they have to learn how to segregate sa mga hindi dapat itapon sa sanitary landfill. Naiiwasan din natin ang degradation ng ating environment,” he said.

[The responsibility is not only with us but also with the constituents, that there really has to be cooperation from households, their disposal must be proper and they have to learn how to segregate those that need not be thrown at the landfill. We can also avoid the degradation of our environment.]

Lanao del Sur Provincial Governor Mamintal Alonto Adiong Jr., on the other hand, likewise firmly called on the benefitting constituents to take care of the project as he highlighted that the province extremely needs this facility.

He underlined that if such a landfill would be destructed, there can be no more hope in ending their concern on solid waste management.

“Kapag ito ay nasira, wala na tayong aasahan pa. Malaking proyekto ito kaya gusto kong ipaabot na huwag nating pabayaang ito. Kailangan ng Lanao del Sur ng ganitong proyekto. Gandahan lang natin ang trabaho. Nandito ang provincial government para tumulong sa inyo hanggang sa masustain natin ang programang ito,” said Adiong.





[If this will be destroyed, we can no longer hope for something. This is a big project which is why I want to convey that we have to take care of this. Lanao del Sur needs this kind of project. Let us work properly. The provincial government is here to help you until we sustain this program.] (CRG/PIA-10/Lanao del Sur)



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16h · 🌐

**SETYEMBRE, IDINEKLARA BILANG 'PHILIPPINE BAMBOO MONTH'**

Idineklara ang buwan ng Setyembre bilang "Philippine Bamboo Month" matapos lagdaan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang Proclamation No. 1401.

Layunin nito na maitanim sa diwang makabayan ng bawat Pilipino ang pagpapahalaga sa kawayan o bamboo.

Ito'y dahil marami sa kabuhayan ng mga magsasaka at mangingisda sa bansa ang nakaasa sa kawayan, lalo na sa mga probinsya kung saan madalas na kinakain ang bamboo shoots o labong at ginagawa namang construction materials ang iba pang bahagi nito.

Tinukoy rin ng Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) ang kawayan bilang ika-walong priority industry clusters.

Sa ilalim ng proklamasyong ito, inatasan ng Pangulo ang lahat ng ahensya ng pamahalaan, government-owned and controlled corporations, state universities and colleges, local government units, relevant non-government offices, civil society groups, gayundin ang private sector na suportahan ang Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC) na siyang pangunahing magsasagawa ng programa at proyekto para sa pagdiriwang ng Philippine Bamboo Month. /fsg

See Translation



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# 'Tropical cyclones' decline a climate change sign'

By Xinhua News Agency June 29, 2022



**FORCE OF NATURE** This Jan. 31, 2021 file photo shows tree branches that had fallen after Tropical Cyclone Ana made landfall in Fiji's capital Suva. XINHUA PHOTO

**SYDNEY:** A team of researchers charting the frequency of tropical cyclones since the mid-19th century has found that these weather disturbances' accelerating decline may be another warning sign of climate change.

Their paper on the finding, published in the *Nature Climate Change* journal on Tuesday, said tropical cyclones had declined by approximately 13 percent in the 20th century, a trend that had been accelerating since the 1950s.

Savin Chand, the paper's lead author and a meteorologist from Federation University Australia, told the state-run Xinhua News Agency on Tuesday it was the first time modern and historical data had been combined to chart global cyclone trends.

"We have reconstructed tropical cyclone numbers back to the 1850s using the 'Twentieth Century Reanalysis' dataset, and together with high-resolution climate model experiments, we have quantified for the first time how cyclone numbers have changed over the past century," he said.

The findings were unexpected as changes in sea surface temperatures normally intensify storms, but Chand said associated changes in atmospheric circulations could also prevent them from forming.

"As the climate has warmed over the 20th century, underlying atmospheric conditions...have created an environment that is less conducive for tropical cyclone formation globally," he said.

The problem arises in the intensity and location of tropical cyclones. Chand's team found that tropical cyclones had been getting closer to coastal areas in parts of the world and growing more intense in recent decades.

Chand said that while this study focused on the frequency of cyclones over time, his team hoped to look at how other characteristics of cyclones had been evolving over the past century.

"Going forward, it is anticipated that continued improvement in climate model products and in observational datasets can help identify attributable anthropogenic climate change signals on other metrics such as tropical cyclone intensity and landfalling activities," he added.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/06/29/news/world/tropical-cyclones-decline-a-climate-change-sign/1849064>



# Curb deforestation or you won't hit net-zero targets, U.N. group tells firms

By TOMMY WILKES

Published June 29, 2022 2:48pm



Karl Malakunas/ AFP/ File photo

Companies critical to reducing tropical deforestation have no chance of meeting their greenhouse gas emission targets unless they make much faster progress on ending deforestation in their supply chains, a new study found on Wednesday.

Deforestation from land, forest, and agricultural industries contributes around 11% of annual global greenhouse gas emissions, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Getting companies in these sectors to curb emissions is deemed crucial to limiting global warming.

Dozens of these companies have recently committed to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 or sooner, or they have committed to alignment with keeping global temperature rises to 1.5°Celsius.

But to reach net zero, a deforestation-free supply chain is a "scientific necessity," according to a new analysis commissioned by the UN-backed Race to Zero.

Of nearly 150 firms, just nine are making strong progress on deforestation, the study found. Deforestation accounts for half the total emissions from firms in these industries.

The analysis indicates that more than 90% of the companies risk missing their net-zero targets.

Wednesday's study did not name any company failing to act. But it said some firms had made tackling deforestation a key part of their net-zero transition plans. These include consumer goods giants Nestlé SA NESN.S, PepsiCo Inc PEP.O, Unilever ULVR.L, Mars and Colgate-Palmolive CL.N, and Brazilian paper and pulp producer Suzano SUZB3.SA.

"This research is a wake-up call," Nigel Topping, High Level Climate Action Champion COP26, said in a statement.

"Companies need to go further and faster on tackling deforestation in their supply chains as a core part of delivering on their net-zero commitments if we're to have any chance of fulfilling the goals of the Paris Agreement and keeping warming to a maximum of 1.5°C."



The analysis, which was commissioned in partnership with Global Canopy, the Science Based Targets initiative and the Accountability Framework Initiative, also found that 58% of firms critical for addressing deforestation have yet to even make a net-zero commitment. — **REUTERS**

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/836472/curb-deforestation-or-you-won-t-hit-net-zero-targets-u-n-group-tells-firms/story/?utm\\_source=GMANews&utm\\_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR0j\\_7z80Tk9LtnkAl6yWAmV\\_v\\_v8EwiAyKpWNyLZy6710MCbRtCvo1gMzs](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/836472/curb-deforestation-or-you-won-t-hit-net-zero-targets-u-n-group-tells-firms/story/?utm_source=GMANews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR0j_7z80Tk9LtnkAl6yWAmV_v_v8EwiAyKpWNyLZy6710MCbRtCvo1gMzs)





# Pollution linked to 10% of cancer cases in Europe: report

Agence France-Presse June 28, 2022 | 8:09am



Photo from Pixabay shows a coal-fired power plant.  
Pexels via Pixabay

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Pollution is linked to more than 10 percent of cancer cases in Europe, a report by the European Environment Agency said Tuesday.

Most of these cases are preventable, it said.

"Exposure to air pollution, carcinogenic chemicals, radon, UV (ultraviolet) radiation and second-hand smoke together may contribute over 10 percent of the cancer burden in Europe," the agency said in a statement.

But EEA expert Gerardo Sanchez said "all environmental and occupational cancer risks can be reduced".

"Environmentally determined cancers due to radiation or chemical carcinogens can be reduced to an almost negligible level," he told journalists last week before the release of the report, the agency's first on the link between cancer and the environment.

In the European Union, 2.7 million people are diagnosed with cancer each year and 1.3 million die from it.

The continent, which accounts for less than 10 percent of the world's population, reports almost a quarter of new cases and a fifth of deaths.

Air pollution is linked to around one percent of all cancer cases in Europe, and causes around two percent of all cancer deaths, the agency said.

Indoor exposure to radon is linked to up to two percent of all cancer cases, and one in ten lung cancer cases in Europe.

Natural UV radiation may be responsible for up to four percent of all cancer cases in Europe, the agency said.

Exposure to second-hand smoke may increase the overall risk for all cancers by up to 16 percent for people who have never been smokers, it added.

The agency warned that some chemicals used in European workplaces contribute to causing cancer, including lead, arsenic, chromium, cadmium, acrylamide, and pesticides.



Asbestos, a well-known carcinogen, is estimated to account for 55 to 88 percent of occupational lung cancers. The EU banned asbestos in 2005, but it is still present in some buildings and workers involved in renovation and demolition work are still exposed, the agency said.

"Environmental and occupational cancer risks can be reduced by cleaning up pollution and changing behaviours," it added.

"Decreasing these risks will lead to a fall in the numbers of cancer cases and deaths."

# 'Cut emission of nitrogen oxides to raise crop yields'

Reducing NOx pollution can mitigate crop decline caused by climate change, according to researchers.



Reducing NOx pollution can mitigate crop decline caused by climate change, according to researchers. Image: [Anne Race, CC BY-SA 3.0](#), via [Flickr](#).

[SciDev Net](#)

3 minute read June 29, 2022

Reducing nitrogen oxides emitted by vehicles and industries could significantly improve crop yields in major agricultural countries like China and India, according to a new analysis based on satellite imagery.

Nitrogen oxides, or NOx, are known to directly attack plant cells. They also help in the formation of the toxic gas ozone that reduces crop yields and in the creation of aerosols in the atmosphere that block sunlight which is vital for photosynthesis.

The analysis, [published](#) June in *Science Advances*, says that reducing NOx emissions by half could improve the yields of winter crops in China by about 25 per cent and summer crops by 15 per cent. In India, the increase in crop productivity could be eight and six per cent for summer and winter crops, respectively.

In the Western European region, the gains from halving NOx emissions were nearly 10 per cent for both winter and summer crops, says the analysis which also found the Americas to be the region with the least exposure to NOx. Regions found to be most affected were those likely to have NOx driving ozone formation.

The analysis focused on the influence of NOx on the world's major staples like rice, wheat and maize. Its findings have major implications for improving [agricultural](#) production and evaluating [climate change](#) alleviation costs and benefits across the globe, according to [Stanford University](#), US, which led the analysis.

India, a major agricultural producer, could consider the potential benefits to [farming](#) of decisions about [energy](#) and industry [policy](#) that affect local air [pollution](#), says [David Lobell](#), lead author of the study and professor at the Department of Earth System Science, Stanford University.

Reducing pollution is one near-term strategy that can help almost immediately to support high crop productivity. This could be especially needed in the face of climate change and water scarcity.

[David Lobell, professor, Stanford University Department of Earth System Science](#)

"Reducing pollution is one near-term strategy that can help almost immediately to support high crop productivity. This could be especially needed in the face of climate change and water scarcity," Lobell tells *SciDev.Net*.



Lobell said that although NO<sub>x</sub> gases are invisible to humans it is possible to map them using high-precision cameras on board satellites. “Since we can also measure crop production from space, this opened up the chance to rapidly improve our knowledge of how these gases affect agriculture in different regions.”

As [per](#) the European Environment Agency, NO<sub>x</sub> generally refers to a mix of nitric oxide (NO), a colourless and odourless gas, and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), a gas that turns reddish-brown gas at higher temperatures and has a pungent odour. Both NO and NO<sub>2</sub> are phytotoxins that can directly damage plant growth and reduce yields.

The study focuses on nitrogen dioxide because it can be measured more precisely than most pollutants and because it is a ‘primary pollutant’ and directly emitted by pollution sources — unlike secondary pollutants that are formed in the atmosphere such as ozone, says [Jennifer Burney](#), study co-author and associate professor of environmental science at the [University of California, San Diego](#), US.

“The main point is that actions that address air pollution and improve air quality would also be expected to benefit food security by raising crop yields,” Burney explains.

In general, the estimated sensitivities to nitrogen dioxide are higher in summer than in winter. Although there are differences between the two seasons that could explain this pattern, it is likely that the indirect effects via ozone are stronger in the summer because ozone concentrations are typically higher in summer, the researchers said.

“This study gives an additional justification for policymakers to take action to lower environmental pollution,” commented [Samarendu Mohanty](#), Asia regional director of the [International Potato Center](#).

Mohanty told *SciDev.Net* that the study was particularly relevant for developing countries like India because these countries are required to produce more [food](#) for expanding populations on land that is becoming increasingly less arable.

Burney said that the key take-home from the study was that the agricultural benefits of actions to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> could be “really substantial and ease the challenge of feeding a growing population”.

*This article was originally published on [SciDev.Net](#). Read the [original article](#).*



# Canada turns 155: Environment top of mind

[DIPLOMATIC POUCH](#) - [Peter Macarthur](#) - The Philippine Star June 30, 2022 | 12:00am

Tomorrow, July 1, the Canadian confederation celebrates 155 years, one of the oldest constitutional democracies. This year also marks 50 years since the establishment of a full service embassy in the Philippines and 45 years of our connection across the Pacific through the ASEAN Dialogue Partnership. As the world's second largest country featuring three ocean coastlines, thousands of lakes, mountains and extensive boreal forests, protecting our vast natural environment is an increasing preoccupation. Just as it is here in the Philippines because we all share the same air and water and feel nature's wrath through extreme weather.

President Marcos, who will be sworn-in today, has made clear that increasing the deployment of renewable energy technologies across the Philippines beyond 20 percent of the energy mix is a top priority of his new administration. This builds on the existing commitment to a moratorium on future coal-based power plants and the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory to track emissions. We applaud these initial strides towards a Nationally Determined Contribution of 75 percent reductions as we look continuously for ways to be supportive of such efforts in the Philippines. Our two countries share a commitment to a balanced approach to climate adaptation and mitigation. It is encouraging to see corporations such as Ayala, Aboitiz and First Gen stepping up to pursue job-creating green power opportunities.

Through its development assistance, Canada is supporting a new initiative in the Philippines to help mobilize financing for nature-based climate solutions and biodiversity conservation, and to position the country's financial institutions to better integrate climate and disaster risks in loan appraisals. Protected and renewed forests, mangroves and coastal areas can help store carbon to slow global warming and reduce the frequency and intensity of climate change disasters in the Philippines. Healthy oceans are integral to the biosphere as sources of oxygen, so this demands enhanced global maritime governance and scientific cooperation. Access to climate finance and to new technology is crucial for us all to succeed.

Countering climate change is one of the great issues of our time. The Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh COP work program is pivotal to global cooperation through burden sharing. As G7 Development Ministers declared this May: "The unprecedented scale and interdependence of climate change, water insecurity, land degradation, biodiversity loss and global pollution poses an existential threat and puts the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement at risk. We recognize that overcoming these interdependent challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss needs to be addressed by all states and collectively."

Because of our northerly location, Canada experiences climate change at twice the world's average – three times as much in the Arctic where glaciers and the sea ice are melting. Canada is therefore doing its part in shifting to a low carbon economy aiming to achieve 32-40 percent reductions in emissions below 2005 levels by 2030. A price has been put on carbon pollution, rising to \$15 per ton after 2022 with proceeds being returned to households. To reach net zero emissions by 2050 the government is investing in new technologies such as carbon capture and storage, hydrogen, biocrude, renewable natural gas and cellulosic ethanol. Methane emissions are expected to be reduced through collection and treatment. We are turning to nature to win this fight by planting 2 billion trees to trap and store carbon while enhancing wetlands, peatlands and grasslands to boost carbon sequestration.

Canada knows that increased cooperation with emerging economies is pivotal. This is particularly true for the energy sector as the largest source of global greenhouse gas emissions. A fast growing economy such as the Philippines needs reliable energy, particularly as the



Malampaya offshore gas field runs out. Energy security, like food security, is national security.

The multi-billion dollar LNG Canada project being developed by an international consortium on Canada's Pacific coast holds the potential to be able to supply Asia with LNG as a stepping stone from coal to cleaner power sources. Canada is already the largest supplier of oil and gas to the United States.

Over the past few decades Canada has developed and operates heavy water nuclear reactors to generate electricity in combination with hydro power and natural gas as the country powers past coal. Nuclear offers Canada an excellent back up to more intermittent solar and wind energy.

There is therefore scope for Canadian cooperation with the Philippines on small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) in tandem with the experience of our independent nuclear regulatory regime for health and safety and our capacity to supply the uranium nuclear fuel. Canada's successful experience in the underground disposal of waste could also support this switch away from dirty coal. SMRs are right-sized to archipelago communities, ranging from 20 MW to 300 MW. Canada is expected to be among the first countries to link a functioning SMR to the public electricity grid.

Both our countries recognize the role of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities in addressing the interdependent challenges of biodiversity loss, global health and climate change. There is clearly a role for local communities in countering climate change so respect for the Free, Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples is another way to save the environment. Their traditional knowledge and wisdom deserve to be factored into strategies.

Canada and the Philippines are in the top ten countries afflicted by adverse climate change impact. Your coral reefs and our glaciers are at risk of disappearing. As Canadians reflect on 155 years as a country, our positive relationships with the Philippines persuade us that to counter climate change, together we can achieve so much more and faster.

\* \* \*

Peter MacArthur is Canada's Ambassador to the Philippines.





## Indian reptile smugglers nabbed at Thai airport

By Agence France-Presse June 30, 2022



**RESCUED ME** This handout photo taken on June 27, 2022 and released by Thailand's Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNPWPC) on Tuesday, June 28, shows an armadillo rescued after being found in a passenger's luggage at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok. DNPWPC PHOTO VIA AFP

**BANGKOK:** Two Indian women have been arrested at a Thai airport after attempting to smuggle more than 100 live animals, including armadillos, porcupines and snakes, wildlife protection officers said on Tuesday.

Thailand is a major transit hub for wildlife smugglers, with the animals often bound for Vietnam or China, where they are used in traditional medicines.

The creatures were discovered when Nithya Raja, 38, and Zakia Sulthana, 24, passed through X-ray machines at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport on Sunday night en route to the Indian city of Chennai, officials said.

"This kind of case has happened many times because the animals have expensive price tags in India," Sathon Konggoen, chief of the airport's wildlife inspection office, told Agence France-Presse (AFP).

He estimated that the animals, believed to have been bred in Thailand, would be worth about 200,000 baht (\$5,600).

"Animal trafficking is usually detected at the Thai-Myanmar borders and domestic airports to a certain extent," he added.

Officers discovered two armadillos, two porcupines, 20 snakes, 35 turtles and 50 chameleons stuffed into a pair of bags belonging to the women.

Two dead iguanas were also found, while all of the reptiles were suffering from dehydration, according to a Facebook post from the Southeast Asian country's Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation.

The creatures are being treated and will be moved to an animal center or breeding facility, the department said.

The two women have been charged with violations of the Wildlife Preservation and Protection, Animal Epidemics and Customs acts. They are being detained at a police station at the airport.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/06/30/news/world/indian-reptile-smugglers-nabbed-at-thai-airport/1849198>



# Pinakamalaking bacteria sa buong mundo, natuklasan ng mga scientist sa Caribbean!

[MGA PANGYAYARING KAGILA-GILALAS](#) - [Arnel Medina](#) - Pang-masa June 29, 2022 | 12:00am

NATAGPUAN ng mga marine biologist ang tinaguriang “world’s largest bacterium” sa isang mangrove swamp sa Caribbean.

Halos lahat ng mga bacteria ay microscopic o sobrang liit at hindi makikita gamit lamang ang ating mga mata. Kinakailangan ng microscope upang makita ang mga ito.

Pero may isang bacteria na sa sobrang laki, hindi na kailangan ng microscope para makita ito. Tinawag ang bagong tuklas na bacteria na, “Thiomargarita magnifica”.

Ayon sa nakatuklas nito na si Olivier Gros, maihalintulad ang laki ng Thiomargarita magnifica sa isang hibla ng pilikmata.

Unang natuklasan ito ni Gros sa archipelago ng Guadeloupe. Natagpuan niya ito na nakadikit sa mangrove leaves at hindi niya inakala na isa itong bacteria dahil sa laki nito. Sa tulong ng genetic analysis, napag-alaman nila na isa itong single bacterial cell.

Maraming namangha na mga siyentipiko sa natuklasang bacteria dahil makakatulong ito sa mga pagsasaliksik kung ano ang limitasyon ng isang cell sa sukat na maaari nitong ikalaki.

Hanggang ngayon, walang malinaw na kasagutan kung bakit malaki ang Thiomargarita magnifica ngunit may hypothesis si Gros na maaaring isa itong adaptation ng bacteria upang makaiwas ito na makain ng ibang mga maliit na organism.



30 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



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**RODRIGO**  
R o d r i g o  
Duterte,  
the 16th  
President



ON THE  
CONTRARY

**ANTONIO  
CONTRERAS**

of the Republic of the Philippines, whose term ends at noon today, earned an important place in our country's history. He will be remembered as the president whose term saw a fundamental shift in the way presidential politics is done.

He did not attend his own proclamation. He wore the barong in a way that challenged decorum.

► ContrerasA11

## The presidency that trolled, rocked and lopsidedly divided the country

He cursed the Pope, heads of states and governments, and even God. He made fun of women's anatomy, publicly attempted to touch a house helper even as he confessed actually touching one in his youth. He openly quarreled with his enemies, and his will to punish found manifestation in a senator landing in jail, a critic being convicted of libel and ABS-CBN denied its franchise even if he may not have openly ordered his people to exact revenge on his behalf. He is also willing to defend his friends and allies who may be in trouble.

He made promises which he actually did not keep, not for lack of will, but simply because the problems were too big that his bravado was not enough. He promised to end corruption and the drug problem. He managed to apprehend smaller players in both leagues, from the petty drug dealers to the corrupt officials at the lower echelons of power. But he was not able to snare the bigger fish.

He promised to adopt a federal system of government that he even appointed a committee to prepare the draft for changing the Constitution, but he later abandoned the move. He vowed to end labor contractualization but vetoed a law that precisely wanted to do that.

He said that he would fight for our rights in the West Philippine Sea, and even threatened to ride a jetski bearing the Philippine

flag toward the Chinese vessels entering our exclusive economic zone. He later did a 180-degree turn and called the arbitral ruling issued at The Hague as a useless piece of paper. For a man so used to declaring war against drugs, corruption, Leila de Lima and ABS-CBN, he repeatedly used his fear of war against China as his justification for not being assertive enough in relation to our rights.

While I did not vote for him, I tried to give him my support early on in his presidency. However, I am a progressive liberal, and there are just too many policy directions and actions which Duterte adopted that I simply cannot tolerate. Foremost of this is his war on drugs which spawned a deadly trail of human rights abuses. While he may not have been directly involved in the atrocities, he has certainly created the impetus for a culture of impunity that regressed into abusive power that led to the unwarranted deaths of many. Another area where I had serious misgivings is Duterte's tepid reaction to, if not toleration of, China's incursions in the West Philippine Sea.

But despite my fundamental disagreements with Duterte, I must admit that there are areas where he performed well. There is no doubt that Duterte was able to navigate the Republic through the pandemic. While I was somewhat skeptical of the initial strategy, it is now

apparent that our country has somewhat outperformed other countries in our Covid-19 response. His accomplishments in the area of infrastructure are impressive. What he did to clean up Boracay is a powerful exhibit of the good his audacity can do.

Duterte is a president whose authenticity was easily loved by his supporters, but was also easily hated by his critics. I credit him for brutally confronting conventional elite practices. He practically trolled the entire nation with his transgressions of protocol. He rocked the foundations of elite politics with his open assault on his political enemies. I may have agreed with the substance of the politics of elite intellectuals and activists, but I cheered Duterte as he symbolically threw eggs on the faces of elite institutions and their holier than thou arrogance.

Unfortunately, Duterte's trolling of the elites and his undermining of their power base have engendered a kind of toxicity that lopsidedly divided the country. While he commanded loyalty from his solid and die-hard supporters that formed the majority that saw his popularity soar, he became the reincarnated Marcos to the eyes of the smaller but noisier political opposition that almost despised him.

It is not necessarily the fault of Duterte. In fact, it can even be argued that he is simply the embodiment of the political ramifications of an already divided polity that

cleaved along a privileged anti-Marcos minority and the larger half of society whose voices were excluded and silenced. Duterte ascended the presidency in 2016 as a form of vengeance by this greater half of the elites and the Liberal Party that represented them.

Duterte as president missed the golden opportunity to become an agent who could have mended the fracturing nation and country. Instead, he became the battering ram that further fueled the anger and resentment between the two sides of the unevenly divided political landscape that are at war with each other. This anger and resentment, now amplified by social media, further intensified, and became even more visible in the recently concluded elections.

Duterte is undoubtedly popular. One is therefore puzzled that Duterte's non-endorsement of Marcos Jr. did not dampen the latter's winnability. Apparently, the Marcos brand may be the only thing that can check Duterte's appeal.

There is no doubt that the political alignment of the narratives of the Dutertes and the Marcoses is a celebration of the numerical superiority of the forces against the elites that directed the post-Marcos and post-martial law narratives. One can either interpret Marcos Jr. as Duterte 2.0 or Duterte as the front act for Marcos Jr. And as Marcos Jr. inherited the political capital of his father, Duterte the father has bequeathed his to his daughter.





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## BREAKTHROUGH

ELFREN S. CRUZ

### Grim hunger games

Anyone who watches the news on tv will have by now seen all those heartbreaking images of hungry children in different parts of the world. Perhaps this is one of the worst tragedies that mankind has brought upon itself. On one hand, we see famine and children searching the garbage for something to eat. On the other hand, we see societies where there is so much food that plates with still a lot of food are cleaned with food thrown into the garbage. But now, we are witness to an increasingly terrifying scenario where millions of people face the prospects of food shortages and dramatic increases in food prices at the same time. This situation is increasingly becoming so bad that food security has now become a major issue.



Unfortunately, the poor and even the middle class are faced with the double threat of a soaring inflation of food prices together with looming food shortages. Hunger is now one of the world's most serious burdens for almost all economies. Even in the countries with thriving economies like the United States, there are people who go hungry every day.

In the Philippines, there are different reports on how high this percentage of hungry people there are on a daily basis. There are reports of at least 20 percent of the population going hungry daily.

But this is not the real story. Although I have not seen the figures, I am sure many of us are aware that even those that are claimed by statisticians not to be on the hunger list, should actually be part of this ever growing number. After all, if a family of five or six survive by sharing a couple of plates of rice and maybe one or two pieces of dried fish, is that not sufficient to be on the hunger list?

If your life revolves around the well-to-do enclaves of Makati, BGC, Alabang and Greenhills, this is a sight that may not be too common. But even in these places, we are already beginning to see poor people with their children, eating on the sidewalks with very little to share among themselves. One can imagine how much worse scenes would be like in the poverty-stricken areas or more commonly known as the squatter areas not only in Metro Manila in the Philippines but throughout the world. And yet, the food situation is not getting any better, but getting worse.

How did this happen? It is not overpopulation because even in countries with declining populations, these scenarios also exist. The main causes of this potential famine are wars, climate change and the worsening inequitable distribution of wealth.

In some estimates that I have seen, four-fifths of the world's population live in countries which are net importers of food. According to the World Food Programme, the number of people with "access to food so poor that their lives or livelihoods were at immediate risk had risen from 108 million to 193 million over the past five years."

It was believed before that this increase in food insecurity was due to the COVID-19 pandemic which reduced incomes and disrupted farm work and supply chains. However, now that the effects of the pandemic are wearing off, the incidence of hunger worldwide is not just continuing but even rising. And this is now coupled with rising prices. The immediate causes are the disruptions of farm work and supply chains.

It is worse in places like Yemen, the Middle East and parts of Africa that have brought this suffering to their population. But now, this has been exacerbated by the war between Russia and Ukraine, among the five biggest grain exporters in the world. The war has brought their exports to a halt.

For example, Ukraine used to be the fifth biggest exporter of grain in the world. But now thousands of tons of grains have been destroyed or left to rot. 98 percent of the grain exports passes through the port of Odessa, now blockaded by Russian troops. Before the war, Ukraine exported about 500 million tons of grains a month. Today, they are only managing to get 1 million tons of grains out and this is expected to get worse. So while millions go hungry, thousands of tons of grains have gone to waste. Ukrainian sources claim that Russia has targeted grain elevators and fertilizer plants precisely to destroy Ukraine's ability to grow more grain.

Another extreme cause of the food shortages which is not related to wars and will even outlast it are the erratic weather patterns due to climate change. Good harvests are at the very least dependent on good or moderate weather. Climate change has meant an increase in these global weather patterns. According to Britain's Meteorological Office, global warming has made the extreme heat wave like this year's temperature "100 times more likely." It has also been the main cause of the seesawing of La Niña and El Niño all over the world.

Coincidentally, the ongoing energy crisis has seriously increased the price and incidences of shortages of energy products. As a result, it has also increased certain inputs of the agriculture industry like fertilizers and pesticides. This has also caused serious decline in farm production.

The causes of looming food shortages and potential worldwide famine are clearly man-made. Even another major source of food, the ocean, is being seriously endangered by plastic pollution and other waste materials being thrown into the ocean.

Obviously, only a concerted action by the nations of the world can successfully address these problems. Realistically, greed seems to be overriding the need for actions that will address climate change and wars. Personally, I can only foresee that this looming food crisis will continue to plague humankind.

Email: [elfrencruz@gmail.com](mailto:elfrencruz@gmail.com)





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## Panawagang pagkansela ng mga quarry sa Masungi, suportado ni Joy

**SUPORTADO** ni QC Mayor "Joy" Belmonte ang panawagan na tuluyan nang kanselahin ang mga kasunduan sa quarrying sa Masungi Geopark Project at sa Upper Marikina Watershed.

Matatandaang apat na alkalde ng mga siyudad sa Metro Manila at iba pang mga opisyal ang nagpahayag ng matinding pagkabahala sa hindi pagkansela ng DENR ng tatlong Mineral Production Sharing Agreement na sumasaklaw sa protektadong watershed.

Labis namang ikinabahala ng mga ito ang "di pag-aksyon ng DENR sa pagkansela ng mga MPSA dahil ang mga ito umanc'y hindi gumagana" at "malapit nang mag-expire."

Nakiisa ang mga alkalde sa panawagan ng mga eksperto, katutubo, at civil society groups na makialam si Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte dahil sinuspinde lang ni DENR Acting Secretary Jim Sampulna ang mga nasabing MPSA sa halip na kanselahin.

Kahit na ang 25-taong termino ng mga MPSA ay nakatakdang mag-expire sa 2023 at 2024, ang DENR ay hindi nagtiyak at hindi makatitiyak na ang suspensyon ay hindi aaisin anomang oras o na ang pag-renew ng mga kontrata ay hindi ipagkaka-loob.

Nangako si dating DENR Secretary Cimatu dalawang taon ha ang nakaraan, no-

ong Marso 2020, na kakan-selahin na ang nasabing quarry agreements. Hindi ito kailanman ipinatupad ng DENR.

Giit pa ng mga environmentalist na habang wala pang quarry operations, ang kawalan ng aksyon ng gobyerno ay naghihikayat sa iligal na pagtatayo ng mga iskraktura, pagpuputol ng puno, at pagkasira ng mga daluyan ng tubig sa lugar.

Gayundin, ang buhay ng mga park ranger at mga nagsisikap na muling mag-reforest ang lugar ay mananatiling nasa panganib hanggang hindi pa tuluyang pinapasawalang-bisa ang mga MPSA.

Ipinagbabawal ng e-NIPAS Law at Philippine Mining

Act ang quarrying at mineral exploration sa mga pambansang parke, protektadong lugar, at proclaimed watershed reserves. Ang mga pribadong karapatan, kung mayroon man, ay hindi maaaring maging katwiran para sa paglabag ng mga batas.

Samanantalang, sa panayam ng Veritas Philippines,

pinuri ni Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco ang hakbang ng mga alkalde.

Hinimok din niya ang gobyerno na muling suriin ang mga MPSA at iwasan ang pagbibigay ng mga permit para sa mga iligal na operasyon na nagpapalala sa epekto ng pagbabago ng klima at nagdaragdag sa paggurusa ng mga tao.

**JAN SINOCRUZ**





## Setyembre idineklarang 'Buwan ng Kawayan'

IDINEKLARA ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang buwan ng Setyembre bilang Philippine Bamboo Month.

Ang deklaryon ay nakapaloob sa Proclamation No. 1401 na pinirmahan ng Pangulo bilang pagbibigay-diin sa kahalagahan ng tanim na kawayan at ang mga produktong nagagawa mula rito.

also in producing world-class Filipino furniture and handicrafts renowned in all parts of the globe," anang proklamasyon ng Pangulo.

Inaatasan ang Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC) na pangunahan ang pagsulong ng Philippine Bamboo Month at magpatupad ng mga programa at mga



Sinabi ng Pangulo na mula ugat hanggang sa mismong puno ng kawayan ay napapakinabangan hindi lamang sa pagkain kundi sa mga imprastruktura at mga handicraft na maipagmamalaki sa buong mundo.

"Parts of the bamboo plant are now being used not only for the nourishment of people in rural areas and the construction of simple infrastructure, but

aktibidad para sa taunang selebrasyon.

Lahat ng mga ahensiya ng gobyerno, kabiling na ang mga government-owned and controlled corporations, mga unibersidad at kolehiyo, local government units at iba't ibang grupo ay hinimok na suportahan ang selebrasyon ng Philippine Bamboo Month kada taon. (Aileen Taliping)



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### **Dambuhalang lapu-lapu nahuli sa Antique**

**VIRAL** ang malaking lapu-lapu na nahuli ng isang mangingisda sa karagatan ng Barangay Idio sa Sebaste, Antique noong Linggo, Hunyo 26.

Ayon sa nag-post na si Reah Davidson, may timbang na 187 kilos ang nahuli ng kanyang pamangking mangingisda na si Rex Vego.

Dahil sa bigat nitong halos 200 kilos, pahirapan para kay Rex na mahuli ang nasabing isda kung kaya nangailangan na siya ng tulong mula sa iba pa niyang kasamahan.

Inabot ng halos limang oras bago naiangat ng mga ito ang lambat at laking gulat nila nang makita ang higanteng lapu-lapu na wala nang buhay.





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## FISH KILL SA BATANGAS

MATINDI ang epekto ng fish kill kamakailan sa Palico River, Lian, Batangas. Bumagsak ang kabuhayan ng ating mga kababayang umaasa sa yaman ng ilog doon.

Habang isinusulat ang kolum na ito, wala pa tayong masasabing matibay na dahilan ng pagkamatay ng maraming isda at pag-alingasaw ng masangsang na amoy mula sa ilog.

Hindi man ganu'n karami ang mga namatay na isda, naitala ang isang kaso ng fish kill sa isla ng Tingloy, Batangas noong September 2020. Nagdulot ito ng malaking pangamba para sa mga residente at mangingisda.

Noong July 2021, halos 100M tonelada ng isda na nagkakahalaga ng P9M ang nasayang sa fish kill sa Taal Lake na nasasakupan ng Talisay, Batangas. Ayon sa Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Calabarzon Region, walang direktang kinalaman sa fish kill ang ibinubugang asupre ng bulkan. Naobserbahang mataas ang level ng ammonia at may presensiya ng organic matter sa ilalim ng lawa.

Ayon sa mga eksperto, isa sa dahilan ng fish kill ang pagbaba ng oxygen level sa katubigan dulot ng pagdami ng lumot, overpopulation at pagtaas ng water temperature. Maaari ring ikamatay ng isda ang infectious diseases, parasites at pagkalason dulot ng aquatic pollution.

Tinatawag na aquatic pollution ang direkta o hindi direktang spillage o discharge ng mga substance tulad ng kemikal o enerhiya sa aquatic environment na magdudulot ng malaking panganib at masamang epekto sa



pangkabuhayan. Mababasa natin ang kumpletong depinisyon nito sa Republic Act No. 8550 o mas kilala sa tawag na Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 na ipinatutupad ng Department of Agriculture, Mayroon din tayong Republic Act 6969 o Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990 na ipinatutupad naman ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources. May nakalaang parusa at multa para sa mga susuway sa batas.

Mahalagang isagawa ang masusing imbestigasyon upang matukoy ang ugat ng problema at solusyon at upang mawala rin ang pagtuturuan at agam-agam ng mga residente at mangingisda sa mga katubigan ng lalawigan ng Batangas.

Pagbati para sa ating susunod na Pangulo at Pangalawang Pangulo ng Republika ng Pilipinas, Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. at Sara Duterte. MABUHAY!!!





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## World not on track to end hunger and cut farm emissions, UN says

**T**HE global agriculture sector won't eradicate hunger by the end of the decade or meet climate goals from the Paris Agreement without a major overhaul, key agencies cautioned Wednesday.

A United Nations pledge to eliminate hunger by 2030 appears out of reach, as low-income nations struggle to afford better diets, its Food and Agriculture Organization said in a joint report with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture are also seen continuing to rise on a business-as-usual path.

The challenges are two of the most vital issues facing the world's food sector. Reversing current trends to meet both goals would require a 28 percent increase in agricultural productivity this decade—triple the rate of the last ten years—highlighting the scale of

the problem.

Battling hunger has garnered heightened attention this year, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine choked exports from one of the world's biggest crop suppliers, stoking food inflation and potentially leaving millions more undernourished. Supply-chain hurdles and erratic weather are also straining global supply.

The run-up in crop prices may prove temporary, assuming an end to the war, the report said. Still, grain costs will likely remain high through 2023.

Improving food access through social safety nets and distribution programs, especially for the most vulnerable, is key to reducing global hunger, according to the report. Curbing emissions, reducing food waste and limiting calorie intake in rich countries are measures needed to meet climate goals, it said. *Bloomberg News*



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## Mt Bulusan yumanig ng 107 beses

MATAPOS manahimik ng ilang araw, muling nag-alboroto ang Mt. Bulusan nang magtala ito ng 107 pagyanig sa loob ng nakalipas na 24 oras.

Ayon sa Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Siesmology (PHIVOLCS), nakitaan din ito bahagyang pagbuga ng usok na may taas na 100 metro at 630 tonelada ng sulfur dioxide.

Dahil dito kung kaya't posible pa rin uma-no itong magkaroon ng phreatic explosion sa susunod na mga oras o araw.

Nakataas pa rin ang alert level 1 sa paligid ng bulkan simula nang pumutok ito noong Hunyo 5 at sinundan noong Hunyo 12.

Mahigpit ding ipinagbabawal ang pagpasok sa four-kilometer permanent danger zone habang pinaaalerto rin ang sinuman na papasok sa two-kilometer extended danger zone sa southeast sector ng bulkan. **(Tina Mendoza)**





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Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (Kagawaran ng Enerhiya)

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. DC2022-06-0018

ADOPTING THE GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES IN THE FUND SOURCING, ACCOUNTING, AND AUDIT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 28 OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 9513, otherwise known as the "Renewable Energy Act of 2008," declares as a policy of the State to, among others, increase the utilization of renewable energy by institutionalizing the development of national and local capabilities in the use of renewable energy (RE) systems, and promoting its efficient and cost-effective commercial application by providing fiscal and non-fiscal incentives;

WHEREAS, Section 28 of RA No. 9513 mandated the establishment of a RE Trust Fund (RETF) to enhance the development and greater utilization of RE;

WHEREAS, Section 32, Rule 11 of Department Circular (DC) No. DC2008-05-0008, also known as the "Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9513," provided the guidelines on the administration of the RETF. It states that the RETF shall be exclusively used to:

- (a) Finance the research, development, demonstration, and promotion of the widespread and productive use of RE systems for Power and Non-Power Applications;
(b) Provide funding to qualified research and development institutions engaged in RE studies undertaken jointly through public-private sector partnership, including provision for scholarship and fellowship for energy studies;
(c) Support the development and operation of new RE Resources to improve their competitiveness in the market;
(d) Conduct nationwide resource and market assessment studies for the Power and Non-Power Applications of RE Systems;
(e) Propagate RE knowledge by accelerating tapping, training, and providing benefits to institutions, entities, and organizations which can help widen the promotion and reach of RE benefits at the national and local levels; and
(f) Fund such other activities necessary or incidental to the attainment of the objectives of the Act.

WHEREAS, Sections 33 and 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC2008-05-0008 also provided the RETF general guidelines on fund utilization and source of funds;

WHEREAS, on 23 October 2018, the DOE issued Department Order (DO) No. DC2018-10-0018 entitled, "Adopting the Guidelines for the Operationalization of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund, and for other Purposes," which governed the collection, administration, and utilization of the RETF;

WHEREAS, on 11 January 2019, the DOE issued Special Order (SO) No. SO2019-01-0001 entitled, "Creating the Department of Energy Committee for the Administration of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund," which created the RETF Committee (RETFC), designated its respective members, and laid down their functions;

WHEREAS, pursuant to DO No. DC2018-10-0018, the RETFC shall:

- (a) Develop and implement a competitive and transparent method of selecting projects to be funded by the RETF;
(b) Recommend for the approval by the Secretary of hitherto authorized representative, the projects eligible to be funded by the RETF;
(c) Formulating the necessary mechanism for the transfer of funds to the RETF;
(d) Open with an existing Government Financial Institution a special trust account which shall be exclusively used for the RETF;
(e) Conduct regular meetings to monitor the implementation of the DO No. DC2018-10-0018; and
(f) Perform such other tasks as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing functions.

WHEREAS, to fully implement the RETF program, there is a need to set specific guidelines and procedures for the fund sourcing, accounting, and audit of the RETF;

NOW THEREFORE, after careful review by the members of the RETFC, and in consideration of the above premises, the DOE hereby adopts, issues, and promulgates this Circular.

Section 1. Title. This Circular shall be known as "Adopting the Guidelines and Procedures in the Fund Sourcing, Accounting, and Audit of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund" or the "RETF Guidelines."

Section 2. Definition of Terms. This Circular hereby adopts, by reference, the terms defined in RA No. 9513, its implementing Rules and Regulations, and other relevant laws and issuances. Furthermore, the following terms, as used in this Circular, shall be defined as follows:

- (a) Accounting Division (AD) - refers to the division under Financial Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the DOE's general accounting services and ensures effective implementation thereof and compliance with government rules and regulations;
(b) Audit - an objective examination and evaluation of the financial records and reports of the fund made by competent authorities vested with the mandate to make sure that the financial records and reports are a fair and accurate representation of the transactions of the fund;
(c) Billing - refers to the process of raising and sending statement of accounts to RETF Contributors and requesting them to settle their dues in compliance with Section 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC 2008-05-008;
(d) Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) - refers to the government agency created pursuant to Reorganization Act No. 1189;
(e) Bureau of the Treasury (BT) - refers to the government agency, created pursuant to RA No. 10763, that acts as the principal custodian of the financial assets of the National Government;
(f) BP 100-B Form - refers to Budget Preparation Form for the estimated revenues and expenditures of the Off-Budgetary Accounts and Custodial Funds;
(g) Collection - refers to the act or process of presenting a statement of account for payment by RETF Contributors and compelling them to remit such funds into the RETF;
(h) Conventional Energy Resource Compliance Division (CERCDC) - refers to the division under Financial Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the compliance of Conventional Energy service contractors with their financial obligations as provided for in their Conventional Energy service contracts and ensures effective implementation thereof in accordance with government rules and regulations, and evaluates the financial capabilities of prospective Conventional Energy service contractors;
(i) Department of Budget and Management (DBM) - refers to the government agency created under Executive Order No. 29, as amended;
(j) Department of Energy (DOE) - refers to the government agency created pursuant to RA No. 7638, and is the implementing agency of RA No. 9513 and all the rules and regulations related thereto Pursuant to Section 28 of RA No. 9513, it is the administrator of the RETF;
(k) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 192, and is the implementing agency of RA No. 8748, and all the rules and regulations related thereto;
(l) Disbursement - refers to a wide range of payment types made in a specific period from the RETF;
(m) Emission Fees - refers to the collection of the DENR from the industrial and motor vehicle categories based on the Section 13 of RA No. 8749, Emission Charge System;
(n) Estimated Revenues - refers to the estimated collection from various RETF sources;
(o) Financial Services (FS) - refers to the service under the DOE, which formulates and implements fiscal policies, programs and regulations, including those on indigenous energy resource service contractors; monitors the utilization of government-administered energy funds; and provides staff support services pertaining to budget and accounting;

- (p) Government Share - refers to the amount due the National Government and Local Government Units from the exploitation, development, and utilization of conventional and RE resources;
(q) Net Annual Dividends - refers to the annual cash dividends declared by the PNOC;
(r) Net Income - refers to the profit after tax and net assistance/subsidy/financial assistance/contribution to NGA&LGUs/NGOs/POs and others;
(s) Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) - refers to the government-owned and controlled corporation created pursuant to Presidential Decree (PD) Nos. 1067-A, 1067-B, 1067-C, as amended by PD Nos. 1399, 1632, 1869, and RA No. 9487;
(t) Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) - refers to the government-owned and -controlled corporation created pursuant to the RA No. 1189;
(u) Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) - refers to the government-owned and -controlled corporation created pursuant to PD No. 334, as amended;
(v) Power Compliance Division (PCD) - refers to the division under the FS of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the compliance of energy resource developers and/or power producer on the granting of benefit to the concerned local government units and ensures effective implementation thereof in accordance with government rules and regulations, monitors the DOE-administered energy funds as well as the utilization thereof;
(w) Remittance - refers to act or process of any payment made, sent and transferred to the RETF;
(x) Renewable Energy Management Bureau (REMB) - refers to bureau under the DOE, which is created for the implementation of RA No. 9513 to implement policies, plans and programs related to the accelerated development, transformation, utilization, and commercialization of RE resources including emerging energy technologies;
(y) Renewable Energy Trust Fund (RETF) - refers to the special account administered by the DOE, established to enhance the development and greater utilization of RE;
(z) RETF Account - refers to the Cash in Bank-Local Currency, Current Account opened in the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and maintained as Trust Fund by the DOE;
(aa) RETF Contributors or Source of Fund Agencies/Entities - identified as the RETF sources pursuant to Section 28 of RA No. 9513 and Section 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC 2008-05-0008;
(bb) Treasury Division (TD) - refers to the division under the Administrative Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the DOE's cashing services and fund management and ensures effective implementation thereof and compliance with government accounting and auditing rules and regulations; and
(cc) Technical Services Management Division (TSMDC) - refers to the division under the REMB tasked to perform as the Secretariat to the RETF Committee pursuant to SO No. SO2019-01-0003.

Section 3. RETF Guidelines. All concerned government agencies shall be guided on the process of sourcing, billing, collection, and remittance, accounting, and audit of the RETF provided herein.

3.1. Estimates. The REMB, in coordination with the RETF Contributors, shall submit to the AD the estimated revenues and expenditures of the RETF account on or before February 15 of the following fiscal year.

3.1.1. All concerned government agencies and DOE units shall be guided by the process flow on the estimates on revenue and expenditure for the RETF provided below:

Table with 3 columns: Responsible Office/Division, Sequence, Procedures. Includes rows for REMB-TSMDC, RETF Contributor, FS-CERCDC, and FS-AD.

3.2. Billing, Collection and Remittance. The procedures of billing, collection, and remittance of the RETF shall apply to the three (3) RETF sources, namely: Collection from RETF Contributors; One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the Government Share collected from conventional energy service contractors; and Collection of the DOE on the contributions, grants, and donations in the form of cash, any revenue generated from the utilization of the RETF and proceeds from fines and penalties imposed under RA No. 9513.

3.2.1. All concerned government agencies and DOE units shall be guided by the process flows provided below:

(a) Collection from RETF Contributors;

Table with 3 columns: Responsible Office/Division, Sequence, Procedures. Includes rows for REMB-TSMDC and RETF Contributor.

REMB - TSMDC 2

Table with 2 columns: RETF Contributor, Basis. Lists DENR-EMB, PCSO, PAGCOR, and PNOC with their respective contribution bases.

REMB - TSMDC 3

- Transmit the billing statement to the RETF contributor. Coordinate with the RETF Contributor the mode of payment they may choose:
1. Direct Deposit to the RETF Account with the below account details:
- Account Number: 3082-1002-31
- Account Name: DOE-Renewable Energy Trust Fund (RETF)
2. Over the Counter Payment thru Check to the DOE Treasury Division (TD)

RETF Contributor 4

Pay the amount due within 15 days after the receipt of the billing statement. Coordinate with the REMB for the payment method.

REMB-TSMDC 5

Coordinate with the PCD for the issuance of the Order of Payment. Assist the RETF Contributor to the PCD.

FS-PCD 6

Issue Order of Payment and direct the RETF Contributor to the TD for the submission of the proof of payment or remittance of the check issued for payment.

AS-TD 7

Upon receipt of the order of payment and proof of payment, issue the Official Receipt (OR).

AS-TD 8

Submit the Report of Collections and Deposits, pink copy of OR and validated deposit slips to the AD.

FS-AD 9

Record the collection in the DOE Books of Accounts.

(b) One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the Government Share collected from conventional energy service contractors;

Table with 3 columns: Responsible Office/Division, Sequence, Procedures. Includes rows for AS-TD, FS-AD, FS-CERCDC, and FS-AD.

(c) Collection of the DOE on the contributions, grants, and donations in the form of cash, any revenue generated from the utilization of the RETF and proceeds from fines and penalties imposed under RA No. 9513.

Table with 3 columns: Responsible Office/Division, Sequence, Procedures. Includes rows for REMB-TSMDC, AS-TD, AS-TD, and FS-AD.

Section 4. Operations Manual. Within three (3) months from the effectivity of this Circular, the DOE shall issue the RETF Operations Manual, consistent with the objectives of the RETF under Section 28 of RA No. 9513. The manual shall include Qualifications of Eligible Organizations, Types of Financial Support, Institutional Structures and Mechanisms, and Application and Approval Process, among others.

Section 5. Accounting/Audit. All transactions pertaining to the RETF Account shall be recorded in the DOE Books of Accounts under Fund Cluster 07 as Custodial Funds following the government accounting procedures and auditing standards.

Section 6. Government Support. This Circular shall primarily be supported by the following government agencies, as mandated under Section 34 of DC No. DC2008-05-0008:

- (a) DBM;
(b) BIR;
(c) DENR;
(d) PCSO;
(e) PAGCOR; and
(f) PNOC.

Section 7. Repealing Clause. Any prior issuances, orders, or Circulars inconsistent with this Department Circular are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 8. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Circular is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions that are not affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

Section 9. Effectivity. This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. Copies of this DC shall be filed with the University of the Philippines Law Center - Office of the National Administrative Register.

Issued on JUN 10 2022 at the Department of Energy, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Metro Manila. Signature of Alfonso C. Cusi, Secretary.





Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
(Kagawaran ng Enerhiya)

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. DC2022-06-0018

**ADOPTING THE GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES IN THE FUND SOURCING, ACCOUNTING, AND AUDIT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 28 OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008**

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 9513, otherwise known as the "Renewable Energy Act of 2008," declares as a policy of the State to, among others, increase the utilization of renewable energy by institutionalizing the development of national and local capabilities in the use of renewable energy (RE) systems, and promoting its efficient and cost-effective commercial application by providing fiscal and non-fiscal incentives;

WHEREAS, Section 28 of RA No. 9513 mandated the establishment of a RE Trust Fund (RETF) to enhance the development and greater utilization of RE;

WHEREAS, Section 32, Rule 11 of Department Circular (DC) No. DC2009-05-0008, also known as the "Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9513," provided the guidelines on the administration of the RETF. It states that the RETF shall be exclusively used to:

- Finance the research, development, demonstration, and promotion of the widespread and productive use of RE systems for Power and Non-Power Applications;
- Provide funding to qualified research and development institutions engaged in RE studies undertaken jointly through public-private sector partnership, including provision for scholarship and fellowship for energy studies;
- Support the development and operation of new RE Resources to improve their competitiveness in the market. Provided, that the grant thereof shall be done through a competitive and transparent manner;
- Conduct nationwide resource and market assessment studies for the Power and Non-Power Applications of RE Systems;
- Propagate RE knowledge by accelerating, tapping, training, and providing benefits to institutions, entities, and organizations which can help widen the promotion and reach of RE benefits at the national and local levels; and
- Find such other activities necessary or incidental to the attainment of the objectives of the Act.

WHEREAS, Sections 33 and 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC2009-05-0008 also provided the RETF general guidelines on fund utilization and sources of fund;

WHEREAS, on 23 October 2016, the DOE issued Department Order (DO) No. DO2016-10-0018 entitled, "Adopting the Guidelines for the Operationalization of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund, and for other Purposes," which governed the collection, administration, and utilization of the RETF;

WHEREAS, on 11 January 2019, the DOE issued Special Order (SO) No. SO2019-01-0003 entitled, "Creating the Department of Energy Committee for the Administration of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund," which created the RETF Committee (RETFC), designated its respective members, and laid down their functions;

WHEREAS, pursuant to DO No. DO2016-10-0018, the RETFC shall:

- Develop and implement a competitive and transparent method of selecting projects to be funded by RETF;
- Recommend for the approval by the Secretary of higher authorized representative, the projects eligible to be funded by the RETF;
- Formulate the necessary mechanism for the transfer of funds to the RETF;
- Open with an existing Government Financial Institution a special trust account which shall be exclusively used for the RETF;
- Conduct regular meetings to monitor the implementation of the DO No. DO2016-10-0018; and
- Perform such other tasks as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing functions.

WHEREAS, to fully implement the RETF program, there is a need to set specific guidelines and procedures for the fund sourcing, accounting, and audit of the RETF;

NOW THEREFORE, after careful review by the members of the RETFC, and in consideration of the above premises, the DOE hereby adopts, issues, and promulgates this Circular.

Section 1. Title. This Circular shall be known as "Adopting the Guidelines and Procedures in the Fund Sourcing, Accounting, and Audit of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund" or the "RETF Guidelines."

Section 2. Definition of Terms. This Circular hereby adopts, by reference, the terms defined in RA No. 9513, its implementing Rules and Regulations, and other relevant laws and issuances. Furthermore, the following terms, as used in this Circular, shall be defined as follows:

- Accounting Division (AD)** – refers to the division under Financial Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the DOE's general accounting services and ensures effective implementation thereof and compliance with government rules and regulations;
- Audit** – an objective examination and evaluation of the financial records and reports of the fund made by competent authorities vested with the mandate to make sure that the financial records and reports are a fair and accurate representation of the transactions of the fund;
- Billing** – refers to the process of raising and sending statement of accounts to RETF Contributors and requesting them to settle their dues in compliance with Section 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC 2009-05-008;
- Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR)** – refers to the government agency created pursuant to Reorganization Act No. 1195;
- Bureau of the Treasury (BTR)** – refers to the government agency, created pursuant to Act No. 1675, that acts as the principal custodian of the financial assets of the National Government;
- BP 100-B Form** – refers to Budget Preparation Form for the estimated revenues and expenditures of the Off-Budgetary Accounts and Custodial Funds;
- Collection** – refers to the act or process of presenting a statement of account for payment by RETF Contributors and compelling them to remit such funds into the RETF;
- Conventional Energy Resource Compliance Division (CERCDD)** – refers to the division under Financial Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the compliance of Conventional Energy service contractors with their financial obligations as provided for in their Conventional Energy service contracts and ensures effective implementation thereof in accordance with government rules and regulations, and evaluates the financial capabilities of prospective Conventional Energy service contractors;
- Department of Budget and Management (DBM)** – refers to the government agency created under Executive Order No. 25, as amended;
- Department of Energy (DOE)** – refers to the government agency created pursuant to RA No. 7538, and is the implementing agency of RA No. 9513 and all the rules and regulations related thereto. Pursuant to Section 28 of RA No. 9513, it is the administrator of the RETF;
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)** – refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 192, and is the implementing agency of RA No. 9749, and all the rules and regulations related thereto;
- Disbursement** – refers to a wide range of payment types made in a specific period from the RETF;
- Emission Fees** – refers to the collection of the DENR from the industrial and motor vehicle discharges based on the Section 13 of RA No. 8749, Emission Charge System;
- Estimated Revenues** – refers to the estimated collection from various RETF sources;
- Financial Services (FS)** – refers to the service under the DOE, which formulates and implements fiscal policies, programs and regulations, including those on indigenous energy resource service contractors; monitors the utilization of government-administered energy funds; and provides staff support services pertaining to budget and accounting;

- Government Share** – refers to the amount due the National Government and Local Government Units from the exploitation, development, and utilization of conventional and RE resources;
- Net Annual Dividends** – refers to the annual cash dividends declared by the PNOC;
- Net Income** – refers to the profit after tax and net assistance/subsidy/financial assistance/contribution to NGOs/GU/NGOs/POs and others;
- Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR)** – refers to the government-owned and controlled corporation created pursuant to Presidential Decree (PD) Nos. 1057-A, 1067-B, 1067-C, as amended by PD Nos. 1398, 1632, 1659, and RA No. 9487;
- Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO)** – refers to the government-owned and -controlled corporation created pursuant to the RA No. 1159;
- Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC)** – refers to the government-owned and -controlled corporation created pursuant to PD No. 334, as amended;
- Power Compliance Division (PCD)** – refers to the division under the FS of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the compliance of energy resource developers and/or power producer on the granting of benefit to the concerned local government units and ensures effective implementation thereof in accordance with government rules and regulations, monitors the DOE-administered energy funds as well as the utilization thereof;
- Remittance** – refers to act or process of any payment made, sent and transferred to the RETF;
- Renewable Energy Management Bureau (REMB)** – refers to bureau under the DOE, which is created for the implementation of RA No. 9513 to implement policies, plans and programs related to the accelerated development, transformation, utilization, and commercialization of RE resources including emerging energy technologies;
- Renewable Energy Trust Fund (RETF)** – refers to the special account administered by the DOE, established to enhance the development and greater utilization of RE;
- RETF Account** – refers to the Cash in Bank-Local Currency, Current Account opened in the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and maintained as Trust Fund by the DOE;
- RETF Contributors or Sources of Fund Agencies/Entities** – identified as the RETF sources pursuant to Section 28 of RA No. 9513 and Section 34, Rule 11 of DC No. DC 2009-05-0008;
- Treasury Division (TD)** – refers to the division under the Administrative Services of the DOE, which formulates policies, plans and programs related to the DOE's cashing services and fund management and ensures effective implementation thereof and compliance with government accounting and auditing rules and regulations; and
- Technical Services Management Division (TSMD)** – refers to the division under the REMB tasked to perform as the Secretariat to the RETF Committee pursuant to SO No. SO2019-01-0003.

Section 3. RETF Guidelines. All concerned government agencies shall be guided on the process of sourcing, billing, collection, and remittance, accounting, and audit of the RETF provided herein.

3.1. Estimates. The REMB, in coordination with the RETF Contributors, shall submit to the AD the estimated revenues and expenditures of the RETF account on or before February 15 of the following fiscal year.

3.1.1. All concerned government agencies and DOE units shall be guided by the process flow on the estimates on revenue and expenditure for the RETF provided below.

Responsible Office/Division	Sequence	Procedures								
REMB-TSMD	1	Submit a request letter to the following RETF Contributors on January 20 of the following fiscal year:  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>RETF Contributor</th> <th>Data to be requested</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DENR</td> <td>Actual Collection of Emission Fees of the reporting year and the estimated collection of Emission Fees for the next four (4) succeeding years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCSO, PAGCOR</td> <td>Actual Net Income of the reporting year and estimated Net Income for the next four (4) succeeding years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PNOC</td> <td>Actual Net Annual Dividend of the reporting year and estimated Net Annual Dividend for the next four (4) succeeding years</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	RETF Contributor	Data to be requested	DENR	Actual Collection of Emission Fees of the reporting year and the estimated collection of Emission Fees for the next four (4) succeeding years	PCSO, PAGCOR	Actual Net Income of the reporting year and estimated Net Income for the next four (4) succeeding years	PNOC	Actual Net Annual Dividend of the reporting year and estimated Net Annual Dividend for the next four (4) succeeding years
RETF Contributor	Data to be requested									
DENR	Actual Collection of Emission Fees of the reporting year and the estimated collection of Emission Fees for the next four (4) succeeding years									
PCSO, PAGCOR	Actual Net Income of the reporting year and estimated Net Income for the next four (4) succeeding years									
PNOC	Actual Net Annual Dividend of the reporting year and estimated Net Annual Dividend for the next four (4) succeeding years									
RETF Contributor	2	Provide data requested by the REMB on or before February 10.								
FS-CERCDD	3	Provides the REMB on or before February 10 the estimated collections for government share for the next succeeding four (4) years.								
REMB-TSMD	4	Consolidate all the data gathered and add the estimated collections aside from the collections from RETF Contributors and the one and one-half (1.5%) portion of the RETF from the Government Share. Submit to the AD the Estimated Revenue and Expenditures (fund transfers) on or before February 15.								
FS-AD	5	Verify further the data provided by the REMB. Encode the estimated revenues and expenditures in the SP 100-B Form.								

3.2. Billing, Collection and Remittance. The procedures of billing, collection, and remittance of the RETF shall apply to the three (3) RETF sources, namely: Collection from RETF Contributors; One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the Government Share collected from conventional energy service contractors; and Collection of the DOE on the contributions, grants, and donations in the form of cash, any revenue generated from the utilization of the RETF and proceeds from fines and penalties imposed under RA No. 9513.

3.2.1. All concerned government agencies and DOE units shall be guided by the process flow provided below.

(a) Collection to RETF Contributors;

Responsible Office/Division	Sequence	Procedures															
REMB-TSMD	1	Send a request letter at least 15 days before the prescribed deadline of submission, to the DENR, PCSO, PAGCOR, and PNOC for the following documents:  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>RETF Contributor</th> <th>Documents</th> <th>Deadline of submission</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DENR</td> <td>Copy of the Notice of Cash Allocation (NCA), in cases where the DOE did not receive the document from the DBM</td> <td>15 days after receipt of notification from the AD/TO for the unfiled receipt in the RETF Account</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCSO</td> <td>Statement of Comprehensive Income signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG</td> <td>15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAGCOR</td> <td>Statement of Comprehensive Income signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG</td> <td>15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PNOC</td> <td>Statement of Changes in Equity signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG</td> <td>15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	RETF Contributor	Documents	Deadline of submission	DENR	Copy of the Notice of Cash Allocation (NCA), in cases where the DOE did not receive the document from the DBM	15 days after receipt of notification from the AD/TO for the unfiled receipt in the RETF Account	PCSO	Statement of Comprehensive Income signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG	15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)	PAGCOR	Statement of Comprehensive Income signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG	15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)	PNOC	Statement of Changes in Equity signed by the Head of the Accounting and Head of the GOCG	15 days after the publication of the Commission of Audit Annual Audit Report (COA AAR)
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RETF Contributor	Basils
DENR-EMB	Total amount of collection per the submitted report
PCSO	1.5% of the Net Income per Statement of Comprehensive Income
PAGCOR	1.5% of the Net Income per Statement of Comprehensive Income
PNOC	1.5% of the Dividends per the Retained Earnings/Deficit Column of the Statement of Changes in Equity

REMB-TSMD 3  
Transmit the billing statement to the RETF contributor. Coordinate with the RETF Contributor the mode of payment they may choose:  
1. Direct Deposit to the RETF Account with the below account details:  
• Account Number: 3982-1002-31  
• Account Name: DOE-Renewable Energy Trust Fund (RETF)  
2. Over the Counter Payment thru Check to the DOE Treasury Division (TD)

RETF Contributor 4  
Pay the amount due within 15 days after the receipt of the billing statement. Coordinate with the REMB for the payment method.

REMB-TSMD 5  
Coordinate with the PCD for the issuance of the Order of Payment. Assist the RETF Contributor to the PCD.

FS-PCD 6  
Issue Order of Payment and direct the RETF Contributor to the TD for the submission of the proof of payment or remittance of the check issued for payment.

AS-TD 7  
Upon receipt of the order of payment and proof of payment, issue the Official Receipt (OR).

AS-TD 8  
Submit the Report of Collections and Deposits, pink copy of OR and validated deposit slips to the AD.

FS-AD 9  
Record the collection in the DOE Books of Accounts.

(b) One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the Government Share collected from conventional energy service contractors;

Responsible Office/Division	Sequence	Procedures
AS-TD	1	Deposit government share collections from conventional energy service contractors to the BTR thru the following clearing account: • 1.5% - BTR - Other than Interagency Transferred Funds (IATF)
FS-AD	2	Records the deposits in the DOE Books of Accounts. Prepare a request for certification of deposits to the BTR every quarter.
FS-CERCDD	3	Submit to the AD a schedule of Government Share collections from all Conventional Energy service contractors for the year. The basis of the allocation of Government Share is net of the 1.5% RETF share. The said report must be submitted to the AD on or before March 15 of the following year.
FS-AD	4	Upon receipt of all the required documents prepare a request letter for release of the NCA to DENR. After the approval of the Secretary, insert all documents to the DENR.
AS-TD	5	Monitor the balance of the RETF account and notify the AD if the NCA was already credited.
FS-AD	6	Record the receipt of the NCA in the DOE Books of Accounts.

(c) Collection of the DOE on the contributions, grants, and donations in the form of cash, any revenue generated from the utilization of the RETF and proceeds from fines and penalties imposed under RA No. 9513.

Responsible Office/Division	Sequence	Procedures
REMB-TSMD	1	Issue Order of Payment for the collections derived from contributions, grants, and donations in form of cash, miscellaneous income, fines and penalties. Assist the contributors/payable entity for the remittance of the payment to the TD.
AS-TD	2	Upon receipt of the order of payment and proof of payment, issue the OR. Deposit all collections in the RETF account on the next banking day, following the date of collection.
AS-TD	3	Submit the Report of Collections and Deposits, pink copies of OR and validated deposit slips to the AD.
FS-AD	4	Record the collection in the DOE Books of Accounts.

Section 4. Operations Manual. Within three (3) months from the effectivity of this Circular, the DOE shall issue the RETF Operations Manual, consistent with the objectives of the RETF under Section 28 of RA No. 9513. The manual shall include Qualifications of Eligible Institutions, Types of Financial Support, Institutional Structures and Mechanisms, and Application and Approval Process, among others.

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- DBM;
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Section 9. Effectivity. This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. Copies of this DC shall be filed with the University of the Philippines Law Center – Office of the National Administrative Register.



Issued on **JUN 10 2022** at the Department of Energy,  
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Metro Manila.





STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
AND  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



PAGE



UPPER  
LOWER



PAGE 1  
STORY



BANNER  
STORY



EDITORIAL



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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

ABREEZA RESIDENCES CONDOMINIUM  
CORPORATION,

Applicant.

Case No. 22-3335

x-----x

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Abreeza Residences Condominium, Barangay 20-B, Poblacion West, Davao City, Davao del Sur, with the following proposed rates:

**PROPOSED TARIFF**

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	₱422.00	105.50	126.60	147.70	168.80	253.10

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **18 July 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least **fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing**, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of **Davao del Sur** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 27th day of May 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

(Sgd.) **Dr. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III**  
Executive Director

*Affected Parties:*

The Secretary  
Sangguniang Panlungsod  
Davao City, Davao del Sur

The Barangay Chairman  
Barangay 20-B, Poblacion West  
Davao City, Davao del Sur

The Homeowners Assn. President  
Abreeza Residences Condominium  
Barangay 20-B, Poblacion West  
Davao City, Davao del Sur

The General Manager  
Davao City Water District  
McArthur Highway, Matina  
Davao City 8000

(PDI - June 30, 2022)



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

ESCALA SALCEDO CONDOMINIUM  
CORPORATION,

Applicant.

Case No. 22-3334

x-----x

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Escala Salcedo Condominium, Barangay Bel-Air, Makati City, Metro Manila, with the following proposed rates:

**PROPOSED TARIFF**

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	₱142.50	35.70	42.80	49.90	57.10	85.60

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At least **fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing**, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in **Metro Manila** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 26th day of May 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

(Sgd.) **Dr. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III**  
Executive Director

*Affected Parties:*

The Secretary  
Sangguniang Panlungsod  
Makati City, Metro Manila

The Barangay Chairman  
Barangay Bel-Air  
Makati City, Metro Manila

The Homeowners Assn. President  
Escala Salcedo Condominium  
Barangay Bel-Air  
Makati City, Metro Manila

The Administrator  
Metropolitan Waterworks & Sewerage System  
MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road  
Balara, Quezon City

(PDI - June 30, 2022)



30 JUNE 2022, THURSDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





# Alert level system metrics revised

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor **June 29, 2022, 5:01 pm**



(PNA file photo by Avito Dalan)

**MANILA** – The two-week positive growth rate from the alert level system has been scrapped in determining the country's alert level system.

In a televised public briefing, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said the two-week growth rate "is no longer sensitive to the logging of cases and reflection of the complete picture of the country" despite the increase in the number of infections in the past two weeks.

"So, we removed the two-week growth rate, what we have right now is to measure the average daily attack rate which is a measure of new cases in an area plus healthcare utilization," she said. "We cross tabulated this where we gave more weight to hospitalization, the healthcare utilization".

There will be no escalation of alert level even though cases reach "high risk" based on the average daily attack rate, as long as hospitals are only 50 percent occupied, she added.

The alert levels system is applied on a regional level.

In the National Capital Region (NCR), some areas are being monitored because their hospital admissions -- both for intensive care unit beds and Covid-19 beds -- are increasing.

When asked if some NCR areas will be downgraded to "low risk" classification, Vergeire confirmed that "moderate risk" areas with an average daily attack rate of less than six and healthcare utilization of less than 50 percent would undergo the downgrade.

The change in the alert level system metrics coincides with the update made on the Covid-19 case bulletin which aims to shift the mindset of Filipinos -- from focusing on the case numbers to understanding the importance of vaccination coverage, the number of severe and critical cases, and the number of hospital admissions, she said.

As infections continue to rise across regions due to a 21 percent decrease in the compliance with minimum public health standards (MPHS), the DOH has urged the Department of Interior and Local Government to strengthen the implementation of the health protocols and monitoring of the people's compliance to them.

"We have reached a point, not just here in the Philippines, but all over the world, people had burnout with this very long situation that we had with the pandemic but we need to remain vigilant. *Kailangan susunod pa rin tayo dun sa ating* (We still need to observe our) MPHS because it is the only way we are able to protect ourselves," Vergeire said. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1177837>





# Vergeire to push redefining fully vaccinated under Marcos admin

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jun 30, 2022 12:24:26 AM



**Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, June 30)** — Health undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, who will be heading the National COVID-19 Vaccination Operations Center under the incoming government, said she will propose redefining "fully vaccinated" to include the first booster shot.

In an interview with CNN Philippines, Vergeire said this is one of the ways to address the country's problem in the administration of booster doses, which is currently at 26% of 15 million from the eligible population.

"We are really having a challenge with these booster shots... So we are going to propose to the incoming administration that first, if we can redefine the definition of fully vaccinated to include the first booster shot so that we can get more uptake," she said.

The idea was first raised early this year to hopefully address inoculation backlogs. However, [Vergeire](#) said in a previous briefing that authorities were not keen on supporting the proposal.

Aside from booster shots, another way to increase immunization in country is by looking into issues that people face that prevent them from getting their booster dose, she said.

"Hopefully, now that we are having these higher cases in our country, that our people would be more encouraged to receive their booster shots because this will protect them from severe and critical illnesses," Vergeire added

The incoming NVOC Incident Manager also reminded the public that efficacy of the primary doses has been affected by the variants of concern in the country that is why it is important to get an additional dose.

"We have enough evidence to show that our primary series or the first and second doses that we have received have already been affected by the variants of concern that we have in the country, and has lowered your immunity against severe and critical infections of COVID-19," Vergeire said.

"That's why the government really is doing its best efforts so that everybody can receive the first booster shot. This is the only way for us to up our immunity again here in the country so that we can prevent further transmission of the virus, and also, we can prevent more severe and critical cases in the country," she added.



Under the Duterte administration, over 70.5 million individuals received full protection from COVID-19 since vaccination started in March 2021.

Vergeire said under the incoming Marcos leadership, they will aim to reach 80% by the end of the year, which is around 88 million people.

Authorities are already looking for ways how to further improve the immunization program, she added.



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