

04 MAY 2022, WEDNESDAY



NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR beefs up rehab, clean-up of Manila Bay tributaries

Published May 3, 2022, 1:58 PM

by [Aaron Recuenco](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has partnered with the Parañaque City local government to fast track the rehabilitation in the southern part of Manila Bay region and the clean-up of its tributaries.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has already provided the dredging equipment for the activity that started in April.

“Such partnerships highlight the importance of our partnership with the private sector and local government unit (LGU) in the realization and success of our programs, especially a priority program such as the Manila Bay Rehabilitation,” Sampulna said.



photo: DENR

Aside from the three government agencies, the move is also backed by the Aseana City's business establishments and lot owners.

Aseana City is a 107-hectare business district in a reclaimed area that hosts several establishments, such as the Ayala Malls Manila Bay, City of Dreams, and the Passport Center of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Sampulna said the Aseana City, through ABPEA – the official organization of locators or lot owners in Aseana City – adopted the 1,404-meter stretch of the Redemptorist Water Channel in June 2013 in response to the government's call for assistance from the private sector to improve the state of waterways across the country.

The artificial channel, which spans barangays Baclaran and Tambo in Parañaque City, was created to ease flooding, particularly in reclaimed areas.

Aside from the dredging, the ABPEA has been working towards having more establishments within its complex join the government's Adopt-a-Waterbody program to improve water quality in the tributaries of Manila Bay and speed up its rehabilitation.

Under the program, adopters commit to start coordination with other sectors, the community, and other government agencies in conducting cleanup activities and putting up interventions to improve water quality in the adopted water body.



With Aseana City, interventions have included providing boats and setting up steel floaters and biofences as aid in collecting trash trapped in waterways, to complement the cleanups by its environmental and security personnel.

As a result, the DENR observed a significant decrease in annual fecal coliform levels from 716 million in 2017 to 132 million most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpN/100mL) in 2021. It was further down to 54,000 in the first quarter of 2022.

“Cleanup and dredging the Redemptorist Water Channel would not only improve the quality of the water, but also reduce, if not prevent, flooding in the area and in surrounding communities especially when rains come,” said Assistant Secretary Gilbert Gonzales, who supervises the DENR’s Metropolitan Environmental Offices or MEOs.



DENR, Parañaque, private sector to rehab Manila Bay

May 3, 2022, 6:04 pm



FUN AT THE BAY. Children play at the water's edge in a portion of Manila Bay in this undated photo. Government efforts to clean the bay continue with the help of local government units and the private sector. *(File photo)*

MANILA – Efforts to fast track the rehabilitation of the southern part of Manila Bay are now underway following the sealing of a partnership between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Parañaque City.

The stakeholders include Aseana City's business establishments and lot owners, who will endeavor to clean up the bay's tributaries.

As part of its commitment under the DENR's Adopt-a-Waterbody or Adopt-an-Estero Program, the Aseana City - through its Aseana Business Park Estate Association (ABPEA) - has been leading dredging activities along the Redemptorist Water Channel in Parañaque City.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) provided the dredging equipment for the activity that started in April.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampilna welcomed the dredging efforts showing continuous environmental cooperation with Aseana City and the city government of Parañaque.

"Such partnerships highlight the importance of our partnership with the private sector and local government unit (LGU) in the realization and success of our programs, especially a priority program such as the Manila Bay Rehabilitation," Sampilna said in a statement on Tuesday.

Aseana City is a 107-hectare business district in a reclaimed area that hosts several establishments, such as the Ayala Malls Manila Bay, City of Dreams, and the Passport Center of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Aseana City, through ABPEA - the official organization of locators or lot owners in Aseana City - adopted the 1,404-meter stretch of the Redemptorist Water Channel in June 2013 in response to the government's call for assistance from the private sector to improve the state of waterways across the country.

The artificial channel, which spans Barangays Baclaran and Tambo in Parañaque City, was created to ease flooding, particularly in reclaimed areas.

Assistant Secretary Gilbert Gonzales, who supervises the DENR's Metropolitan Environmental Offices or MEOs, said the channel was considered a priority waterway in the area since it is a tributary of Manila Bay.



“Cleanup and dredging the Redemptorist Water Channel would not only improve the quality of the water, but also reduce, if not prevent, flooding in the area and in surrounding communities especially when rains come,” he said.

Aside from the dredging, the ABPEA has been working towards having more establishments within its complex join the government’s Adopt-a-Waterbody program to improve water quality in the tributaries of Manila Bay and speed up its rehabilitation.

Under the program, adopters commit to starting coordination with other sectors, the community, and other government agencies in conducting cleanup activities and putting up interventions to improve water quality in the adopted water body.

With Aseana City, interventions have included providing boats and setting up steel floaters and biofences as aid in collecting trash trapped in waterways, to complement the cleanups by its environmental and security personnel.

Its efforts in the Channel have paid off, as the DENR observed a significant decrease in annual fecal coliform levels from 716 million in 2017 to 132 million most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpN/100mL) in 2021.

It was further down to 54,000 in the first quarter of 2022.

The developer has also been coordinating with the DENR’s Metropolitan Environmental Office (MEO)-South for other areas of collaboration within Parañaque City.

In one of their meetings, which was also attended by the LGU, over 50 pollution control officers (PCOs) of different locator establishments within the business park were able to clarify requirements and policies related to wastewater discharge and compliance with environmental laws.

The Adopt-a-Waterbody Program was also presented to the PCOs. **(PR)**



Aseana City joins Manila Bay rehabilitation campaign

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA MAY 3, 2022

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Parañaque City, and Aseana City's business establishments and lot owners recently forged a deal to boost the ongoing Manila Bay rehabilitation.

The partnership was forged as part of the DENR's Adopt-a-Waterbody, or Adopt-an-Estero Program, wherein Aseana City, through its Aseana Business Park Estate Association (ABPEA), will take care of dredging activities along the Redemptorist Water Channel in Parañaque City.

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) provided the dredging equipment for the activity that started in April.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna welcomed the dredging efforts showing continuous environmental cooperation with Aseana City and the city government of Parañaque.

"Such partnerships highlight the importance of our partnership with the private sector and local government unit [LGU] in the realization and success of our programs, especially a priority program such as the Manila Bay Rehabilitation," Sampulna said in a news statement.

Aseana City is a 107-hectare business district in a reclaimed area that hosts several establishments, such as the Ayala Malls Manila Bay, City of Dreams, and the Passport Center of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Aseana City, through ABPEA—the official organization of locators or lot owners in Aseana City—adopted the 1,404-meter stretch of the Redemptorist Water Channel in June 2013 in response to the government's call for assistance from the private sector to improve the state of waterways across the country.

The artificial channel, which spans barangays Baclaran and Tambo in Parañaque City, was created to ease flooding, particularly in reclaimed areas.

Assistant Secretary Gilbert Gonzales, who supervises the DENR's Metropolitan Environmental Offices or MEOs, said that the channel was considered as a priority waterway in the area since it is a tributary of Manila Bay.

"Cleanup and dredging of the Redemptorist Water Channel would not only improve the quality of the water, but also reduce, if not prevent, flooding in the area and in surrounding communities especially when rains come," he said.

Aside from the dredging, the ABPEA has been working towards having more establishments within its complex join the government's Adopt-a-Waterbody program to improve water quality in the tributaries of Manila Bay and speed up its rehabilitation.

Under the program, adopters commit to starting coordination with other sectors, the community, and other government agencies in conducting cleanup activities and putting up interventions to improve water quality in the adopted water body.

With Aseana City, interventions have included providing boats and setting up steel floaters and biofences as an aid in collecting trash trapped in waterways, to complement the cleanups by its environmental and security personnel.



Its efforts in the channel have paid off, as the DENR observed a significant decrease in annual fecal coliform levels from 716 million in 2017 to 132 million most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpN/100mL) in 2021. It was further down to 54,000 in the first quarter of 2022.

The developer has also been coordinating with the DENR's MEO-South for other areas of collaboration within Parañaque City.

In one of their meetings, which were also attended by the LGU, over 50 pollution control officers of different locator establishments within the business park were able to clarify requirements and policies related to wastewater discharge and compliance with environmental laws.



Radyo Pilipinas ✓

Philippines state-controlled media · 16h · 🌐

TINGNAN | Nakiisa ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Parañaque City kabilang na dito ang mga business establishments at lot owners sa Aseana City upang linisin ang mga daluyan ng tubig patungong Manila Bay para mapabilis ang mga pagsisikap sa rehabilitasyon ng timog na bahagi ng baybayin. | via Emmanuel John Lazaro

Photo: DENR



👍❤️ 301

5 Comments 9 Shares

SM, DENR partner for Earth Day 2022

May 4, 2022



SM Cares turns trash into cash. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SM Cares, the corporate social responsibility arm of SM Supermalls, recently joined this year's Earth Day celebrations by promoting the responsible disposal of recyclables and e-waste among its mall-goers and employees, highlighting the government's various efforts in helping preserve the country's waterways.

Among SM Cares Earth Day 2022 activities were the "Earth Day Trash-To-Cash," a special iteration of SM Cares' long-running Trash-To-Cash Recycling Market where customers and the community could drop off their recyclable waste such as paper and plastic containers in exchange for cash at designated collection points in all SM malls nationwide from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-National Capital Region (DENR-NCR), SM Cares also hosted a photo exhibit, centered on the winners of DENR's Gawad Taga-Ilog program, which recognized the efforts of local government units in ensuring the cleanliness of their waterways. The exhibit was held at the SM Mall of Asia from April 22 to 24.

On April 22, SM Cares also held the "SM Earth Day Challenge" wherein SM employees were encouraged to bring in items for recycling such as cardboard, paper, old books and newspapers, polyethylene terephthalate and other plastic bottles, tin and aluminum cans, old kitchen items, and small e-waste such as old mobile phones, chargers, earphones, computer cords, ink toner bottles and cartridges, and calculators, among others. In total, SM was able to gather more than 19 tons of recyclables and electronic waste from its Earth Day activities.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/05/04/public-square/sm-denr-partner-for-earth-day-2022/1842258>

Rare Visayan leopard cat spotted in Iloilo

May 3, 2022



Visayan leopard cat, locally known as 'maral' (Photo courtesy of DENR CENRO)

A rare Visayan leopard cat was spotted in Ajuy, Iloilo in April.

Locally called as "maral," the Visayan leopard cat is endemic to the islands of Panay and Negros and inhabits remnant forest fragments.

According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources City Environment & Natural Resources Office (DENR-CENRO), the Visayan leopard cat was turned over by Juvan Vencer Beloria, a resident of Brgy. Culasi in Ajuy, Iloilo.

 **DENR Western Visayas**
about 2 weeks ago 

FOR THE LOVE OF THE WILD:
A juvenile Visayan leopard cat (*Prionailurus javanensis sumatranus*) locally called as "maral" was turned-over to DENR-CENRO Sara by Juvan Vencer Beloria of Brgy. Culasi, Ajuy, Iloilo on April 20, 2022.

Beloria have rescued the "maral" from local folks who planned to kill the animal for food. He however buy it out from them for a Php 1000.00 as an exchange. He then turned it over to CENR Officer Rene Abordo of CENRO Sara, who was thankful for the good... See more



 74  9  68



Beloria said he rescued the Visayan leopard cat from local folks who initially planned to kill the animal for food, but he offered to buy it out from them for P1,000.

“The DENR 6 commends Beloria’s act of love for the wild,” DENR CENRO said.

The Visayan leopard cats are endangered as listed in the International Union for Conservation of Nature. – **ag**



MGB seeks geohazard map update of Leyte's landslide-prone areas

By Sarwell Meniano **May 3, 2022, 11:55 am** **Updated on May 3, 2022, 12:56 pm**



CATASTROPHE. Mudflow is seen in a village in Baybay City, Leyte in this April 11, 2022 photo after the onslaught of Tropical Depression Agaton. The Mines and Geosciences Bureau will update the geohazard map of areas in Leyte highly susceptible to landslides. *(Photo courtesy of Rep. Carl Cari)*

TACLOBAN CITY – The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) will come up with updated geohazard maps for areas highly vulnerable to landslides in Leyte, an official said on Tuesday.

MGB Eastern Visayas Regional Director Carlos Tayag said in a phone interview that he asked MGB geologists to update maps, especially in areas where there are requests from local government units.

“We cannot make updated maps in all areas. We will just carry it out through our regular activities. The focus is the proposed relocation sites,” Tayag said in a phone interview.

The latest geohazard map completed in 2014 became available online in 2016. It is the output of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-MGB National Geohazard Assessment Program.

The "Geohazard Web Portal" icon uses online base maps accessed from the Philippine Geoportal System of the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority, while the "Geohazard Map Visualization on Google" utilizes Google Street Map and Google Earth.

Printed copies of these maps were distributed to all local government units (LGUs) in 2016. In the past seven years, MGB has been explaining to the local communities how to use these maps.

“Through the use of these maps, communities at risk can better prepare for natural hazards and avoid disaster. We will see if these maps are being used as a reference for the preparation and updating of the Comprehensive Land Use Plans of our local government units,” Tayag added.

The MGB regional office initially identified eight villages in Baybay City as danger zones after showing early signs of landslides.

The MGB found the susceptibility of these communities after a thorough assessment of these areas in response to reports from residents of visible tension cracks.



These sites are in the villages of Mailhi, Kantagnos, Bunga, Maypatag, Makinhas, Cagumay, Mag-aso, and Kan-ipa.

The result of the assessment has been relayed to local government units for the enforcement of “no dwelling zones.”

On April 10, at least 128 people died due to several landslide incidents in Baybay City.

Two days later, a village in Abuyog, Leyte was wiped out by a landslide killing at least 58 residents. **(PNA)**

(Editor's note: Updated story from the earlier version that the latest geohazard map was completed in 2016. It was in 2014.)



NWRB ANG NAMAMAHALA SA LAHAT NG YAMANG-TUBIG NG PILIPINAS



May 3, 2022 @ 7:24 PM 12 hours ago

ANG ating bansa ay isang malaking arkipelagong binubuo ng 7,640 na maliliit at malalaking kapuluan na napapalibutan at napaghihiwalay ng mga karagatan. Kaya naman, akma lamang ang pagbibigay natin ng halaga, proteksiyon, konserbasyon at abot-kayang pag-iingat sa 1,830 square kilometer nating katubigan.

Sinimulang ipagdiwang ang “**Month of the Ocean**” noong 1999 sa bisa ng Presidential Proclamation No. 57 ni dating Pangulong Joseph Estrada matapos ipagdiwang noong 1998 ang “International Year of the Ocean” sa pangunguna ng United Nations General Assembly.

Ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources katuwang ang Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources at DAR o Department of Agriculture ang siyang mga ahensiyang nangunguna sa selebrasyon katuwang ang iba’t ibang samahan ng mga mangingisda at mga grupong maka-kalikasan.

Ilan sa mga pamosong katubigan na nasa ating bansa ang West Philippine Sea, Sulu Sea, Celebes Sea, Philippine Sea, Bohol Sea, Camotes Sea, Samar Sea, Sibutu Passage, Sibuyan Sea at ang Visayan Sea. Nasa ating bansa ang ikatlong pinakamalalim na bahagi ng dagat sa buong mundo, ang Philippine Deep o ang Mindanao Trench na may lalim na 10,497 meters na unang nadiskubre noong 1927.

Isda ang pangunahing biyayang nakukuha sa karagatan at nagbibigay kabuhayan sa mahigit dalawang milyong mangingisda sa buong bansa. Sa ekonomiya, mahigit limang daang milyong dolyar (US\$500 Million) ang kinikita dito taun-taon buhat sa 2.4 million metric tons na nahuhuling 200 uri ng isdang puwedeng kainin.

Ayon sa Ocean Conservancy na nakabase sa Amerika, may 1.3 milyong basura ang nakuha sa mga karagatan na nasasakop ng Pilipinas. Tayo ang ikalawang bansa na may pinakamaraming nakolektang basura sa buong mundo, nangunguna ang USA. Hindi na tayo nakuntentong magkalat sa mga kalye at kalsada, maging sa mga dagat ay nakararating na ang ating mga basura.

Ang National Water Resources Board (**NWRB**) ang natatanging ahensiya ng pamahalaan para sa lahat ng mga yamang-tubig ng Pilipinas na naatasang mag-isyu ng water permits. Ibinibigay ang water permits sa mga indibidwal o grupong nag-aplay ng water permits para sa: domestikong gamit, patubig, suplay ng kuryente, pangingsda, pang-industriya, nag-aalaga ng hayop, libangan at komersyal na nakasaad sa Presidential Decree 1067 o kilala bilangang Water Code ng Pilipinas noong 1976, kung saan binibigyang karapatan o water rights ang water permittee sa naangkop na paggamit niya ng tubig.

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/nwrbsang-namamahala-salahat-ng-yamang-tubig-ng-pilipinas/>



Social enterprise aims to open more bamboo plantations

BY BUSINESSMIRROR MAY 2, 2022

Bambuhay, a social enterprise using bamboo farming and entrepreneurship, said it is working with a Canadian firm to ramp up bamboo planting in the Philippines to meet rising demand.

Mark Sultan Gersava, Bambuhay founder and chief executive farmer, said the sector is in the level of industrialization given the “very high” demand, according to a statement released by the Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (Philexport).

He said Bambuhay and the Canadian firm are stepping up 40,000 hectares of plantations of bamboo across the country. Gersava did not identify the Canadian firm.

“Actually that is just one portion of the business and the focus of this project on industrialization for a large-scale plantation and large industrialization production (is) basically in Pangasinan and in Davao Region and of course in Bukidnon. So that’s our direction,” Gersava said.

He said Bambuhay aims to establish one production facility in every region to localize the supply chain, specifically the raw materials.

“Within that, we can decrease the carbon dioxide (CO₂) that we are producing because it’s all locally-made.”

Gersava is encouraging more farmers to plant bamboo to earn more income, and for indigenous communities and illegal loggers to shift to a more sustainable livelihood program.

The social enterprise estimates it has eliminated 424,000 pounds of plastic, diminished 5.6 million pounds of CO₂, and reforested 542 hectares of forest.

Bambuhay’s 2030 goal is to reforest one million hectares of deforested land, and plant one billion bamboo trees.

Meanwhile, Enrique Tacbad, provincial director at Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Zambales said the government supports businesses that take concrete steps to protect the environment through climate-friendly investments.

Tacbad said the DTI also spearheads the revitalization of the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council across the country, and co-leads the regional bamboo councils along with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

“We recognize bamboo as a sustainable raw material, a wood substitute, and a rising industry with the help of the passionate bamboo advocates all over the country,” he said.

Most bamboo species are fast growing, but its use has not been increasing at the same pace.

Lack of investment, weak institutional framework, and limited skilled people in the bamboo craft are just some of the reasons blamed for the slow growth of the bamboo industry.

The absence of reliable raw material sources also discourages investments in bamboo processing, according to Philexport.

Source: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2022/05/02/social-enterprise-aims-to-open-more-bamboo-plantations/?fbclid=IwAR2_kRnSyZN4RNhoDd74IuW10Fq9HW5bsnKDEmD4SXIP7KAvHA47pxyZPos



Villar lauds passing of protected areas laws

[Paolo Romero](#) - The Philippine Star May 4, 2022 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Sen. Cynthia Villar recently welcomed President Duterte’s enactment into law of five measures, declaring Mt. Pulag and four other sites in the country as protected areas (PAs) that she all authored.

She thanked Duterte for signing Republic Acts 11684, 11685, 11686, 11687 and 11688, which added Mt. Arayat in Pampanga, Mt. Pulag in Benguet, Naga-Kabasalan in Zamboanga Sibugay, Tirad Pass in Ilocos Sur and Banao in Kalinga to the list of protected areas under the National Integrated Protected Areas System, established under RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018.

With these new laws, Villar, who chairs the Senate committee on environment and natural resources, said there are now 112 protected areas in the country that have been so declared through legislation.

Villar had pushed for the passage of the E-NIPAS Act of 2018, which strengthened the legal framework for the establishment, management and maintenance of all designated protected areas in the country or those that are identified to be ecologically rich and biologically important public lands.



'PHL business must be ready for EU green initiatives' impact'

BY **ANDREA E. SAN JUAN** MAY 2, 2022

AN International Trade Centre (ITC) expert has urged the Philippines to prepare its domestic business environment and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for the anticipated trade impacts amid the new European Union (EU) green initiatives.

Tobias Dolle of ITC stressed that it is critical that developing countries consult and coordinate with the EU on these green initiatives in order to enhance their respective domestic business environments and make them conducive to sustainable economic development, gender and diversity inclusion, and the effective participation in trade by MSMEs.

Dolle was quoted in a report by the Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (Philexport) on April 29.

In recent years, The EU has launched a number of broad and extensive green initiatives toward climate neutrality, all of which involve various specific regulatory initiatives. They are expected to result in major trade impacts for developing economies trading with the EU, including the Philippines.

In an online presentation, Dolle touched on three of these new initiatives, which are comprehensive, interconnected but distinct: European Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy, and Fit for 55 Package.

The European Green Deal, presented by the EU in December 2019, includes a set of policy initiatives meant to make the EU's economy sustainable, more circular and climate-neutral by 2050.

"It has massive implications for businesses, leading to both changes in production and supply chain strategies around the world," said Dolle.

The Fit for 55 strategy seeks to deliver the EU's 2030 climate target by reducing emissions by at least 55 percent by 2030 from 1990 levels on the way to climate neutrality by 2050.

This strategy covers a wide range of proposed legislative initiatives, such as but not limited to, revising the EU regulation on land use, revising the energy efficiency directive, and revising the renewable energy directive.

Particular initiatives under the Fit for 55 that will have a major impact on trade for businesses in developing countries in the future were highlighted by Dolle.

One of these is the EU Proposal for a Sustainable Products Regulation (EcodesignDirective), which anticipates rules to make almost all physical goods on the EU market friendlier to the environment, circular, and energy efficient throughout their whole lifecycle, from the design phase through to daily use, repurposing, and end-of-life.

Under this proposal, all regulated products will have Digital Product Passports, to make it easier to repair or recycle products and facilitate tracking of substances of concern along the supply chain.

The regulation will allow the EU to set new labeling requirements, for instance, on reparability.

The Fit for 55 Strategy was published in March 2022, and according to Dolle, a public consultation will be launched as the legislative process is now ongoing.



He said the ability of developing countries' policymakers and private sector operators to timely, effectively, and successfully engage in the relevant fora can be improved through dedicated capacity building and technical support from development partners.

"Consultation and coordination is also vital as it will serve to attract investment and support economic recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic," Dolle said.

Other examples of specific legislative initiatives under the European Green Deal are the EU Directive on Single-Use Plastics, EU strategy for sustainable textiles, legislative proposal for substantiating green claims made by companies, and a sustainable products policy initiative including a revision of the Ecodesign Directive.

Meanwhile, the EU's Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy, which is part of the EU Green Deal, aims to redesign current food systems to become fair, healthy and environmentally friendly. It will highlight good agricultural practices, food security, and food safety.



Coca-Cola Beverages PHL ramps up recycling efforts

May 3, 2022 | 12:02 am



COCA-COLA Beverages Philippines, Inc. (CCBPI) is ramping up its plastic bottle collection program to include more communities.

Through its program “Tapon to Ipon: Basta Klaro, Panalo,” clear beverage plastic bottles made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET) material are collected and recycled by PETValue Philippines, the country’s first bottle-to-bottle recycling facility.

“Through Tapon to Ipon, we want to raise awareness about recycling and we want to do our part in ensuring that plastic packaging materials that are 100% recyclable are collected and used again,” Gareth McGeown, CEO and president of CCBPI, said.

All Tapon to Ipon collection hubs will now accept all types of clear post-consumer PET plastic beverage bottles, regardless of brands.

“At the same time, we’re starting a movement within local communities — World Without Waste is a collective movement and the contribution of every single individual is valuable,” he said, referring to Coca-Cola’s global goal to collect and recycle 100% of the bottles and cans it sells by 2030.

Coca-Cola developed an incentive-based strategy that would provide small business owners with additional income. Consumers can receive Coca-Cola products in exchange for the used plastic bottles that they will turn over at the Tapon to Ipon sari-sari store hubs.

It had a successful pilot program in Batangas City, followed by the expansion in Manila. There are plans to further expand the program throughout the country.

For consumers who use CCBPI’s Happiness on Demand (HOD) home delivery service in Las Piñas, Parañaque, Alabang, and Bonifacio Global City, they can turn over clear plastic bottles to the Coca-Cola HOD team upon delivery of their orders.

Source: https://www.bworldonline.com/property/2022/05/03/445851/coca-cola-beverages-phl-ramps-up-recycling-efforts/?fbclid=IwAR0f0fybvszndw_HGwRnvO6I8GLHN-Mcqubtf4_Ym450dIRVqzKBlhTZRTE

Climate leadership needs more women

Despite widespread recognition that women are underrepresented in climate and conservation fora, the problem persists. Given that women face the greatest risks from environmental crises and have been shown to deliver better environmental policy results, this status quo is both unjust and shortsighted.



Women head to a community well to fetch water in Khuri village in Rajasthan. Image: [Olivier SIMARD, CC BY-SA 3.0](#), via [Flickr](#).

By Yvonne Aki-Sawyer May 3, 2022

“The higher you go; the fewer women there are.” This [observation](#) by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and environmental trailblazer [Wangari Maathai](#), reflects a reality familiar to all women who have aspired to leadership positions, and it has gained a new meaning for me as the climate crisis has intensified. Though it is already clear that women and girls will face higher risks and greater burdens because of climate change, they remain significantly underrepresented in climate and environmental negotiations.

In 2019, the [United Nations Gender Composition Report](#) noted that the number of women represented in UN Framework Convention on Climate Change bodies was not in line with efforts to create gender balance. In response, member states adopted a [gender action plan](#) at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in 2019. The plan recognised that “full, meaningful, and equal participation and leadership of women in all aspects of the UNFCCC process and in national- and local-level climate policy and action is vital for achieving long-term climate goals.”

And yet, by the time COP26 rolled around two years later, little had changed. The United Kingdom’s COP26 presidency was predominantly [male-led](#), and just 11 of the 74 African national representatives were [women](#). Moreover, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity appears to be exhibiting a similar tendency, with male negotiators [outnumbering](#) women negotiators by around 60.

The failure to ensure equal representation and women’s participation in efforts to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss is short-sighted, at best, and potentially reckless. The problem is also increasingly urgent.

Last month, delegates from around the world gathered in Geneva for [one of the final rounds](#) of negotiations to [conclude](#) the new UN Global Biodiversity Framework. With the aim of accelerating action to halt further species loss and tackle climate change, these gatherings will shape the global response to both crises for years to come.



The latest [reports](#) from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have demonstrated the scale of these crises. The IPCC has documented unequivocally that human activities are warming our planet's surface, leading to rapidly changing weather systems, biodiversity loss, and increased resource insecurity.

By 2100, [50 per cent](#) of Africa's bird and mammal species could disappear. We are potentially entering a [sixth mass extinction](#), and if the problem is left unchecked, our sources of food, water, and medicine will be increasingly at risk.

[Though it is already clear that women and girls will face higher risks and greater burdens because of climate change, they remain significantly underrepresented in climate and environmental negotiations.](#)

Women comprise the majority of the [world's poor](#) and are disproportionately [affected](#) by these crises. In the developing world, they are overwhelmingly responsible for sourcing food and water for their families, and they often take the lead in fuel collection and household management. Women also make up nearly half of the world's smallholder farmers, [producing 70 per cent of Africa's food](#).

As such, women and girls are often the first to experience the harsh realities of climate change. But, owing to pervasive inequalities that limited their access to education and health care, unequal employment rates, and low rates of representation in public office, they are less likely than men to be able to participate in decision-making processes.

If the last two years have shown us anything, it is that women's leadership is critical in tumultuous times. According to a recent [study of 194 countries](#), the immediate responses to the COVID-19 pandemic were systematically better in countries with women leaders. Similarly, research has [found](#) that "female representation leads countries to adopt more stringent climate-change policies," and that a high degree of female representation in parliament makes it [more likely](#) that a country will ratify international environmental treaties.

Women bring not just ambition but also different perspectives and experiences to the table. As a result, their contributions ultimately lead to more nuanced and inclusive environmental policies.

In Africa, the importance of women's leadership in the face of climate change and biodiversity loss is evident to anyone who looks.

In Nigeria, Minister of State for Environment [Sharon Ikeazor](#) has advocated for the [High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People](#) and pushed for fossil-fuel subsidies to be [replaced by investments](#) in sustainable, low-carbon development. In Rwanda, Minister of Environment Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya has won praise for her inclusive [rainforest conservation efforts](#).

In Chad, the environmental activist Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim continues to champion Africa's local communities and indigenous peoples at the [highest levels of the UN](#). And here in Freetown, we are [planting one million trees](#) over three rainy seasons to promote climate resilience and green job creation.

All these women, including me, have championed "[30x30](#)," the global campaign to protect 30 per cent of the world's surface by 2030. Meeting this objective would prevent further ecosystem destruction, and the effort could lead to the first-ever global agreement to halt the destruction of nature.

Many more women are tackling biodiversity loss and climate change, including indigenous women who are using their unique knowledge of the land to farm more sustainably and protect fragile ecosystems, and aspiring politicians running on integrated policy platforms linking



reproductive health, education, and environmental protection. Those who are already in leadership positions must ensure that these women are given a chance to contribute.

Much has changed since 2004, when Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize for her [contributions](#) to sustainable development, democracy, and peace. Emissions have surged, and extreme weather events have increased in frequency and intensity. But much has also stayed the same: women continue to be excluded from leadership positions, and the world continues to pay the price for it.

As the final negotiations for the new Global Biodiversity Framework [continue](#), and as we approach this year's UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) in Kunming, China, we have a duty to address these failures. If we don't bring more women to the table, a climate disaster is almost certainly guaranteed.

Yvonne Aki-Sawyers is Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WblfoQIEBP0>

04 MAY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Aseana City joins Manila Bay rehabilitation campaign

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA
@jonlmayuga

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Parañaque City, and Aseana City's business establishments and lot owners recently forged a deal to boost the ongoing Manila Bay rehabilitation.

The partnership was forged as part of the DENR's Adopt-a-Waterbody, or Adopt-an-Estero Program, wherein Aseana City, through its Aseana Business Park Estate Association (ABPEA), will take care of dredging activities along the Redemptorist Water Channel in Parañaque City.

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) provided the dredging equipment for the activity that started in April.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna welcomed the dredging efforts showing continuous environmental cooperation with Aseana City and the city government of Parañaque.

"Such partnerships highlight the importance of our partnership with the private sector and local government unit [LGU] in the realization and success of our programs, especially a priority program such as the Manila Bay Rehabilitation," Sampulna said in a news statement.

Aseana City is a 107-hectare business district in a reclaimed area that hosts several establishments, such as the Ayala Malls Manila Bay, City of Dreams, and the Passport Center of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Aseana City, through ABPEA—the official organization of locators or lot owners in Aseana City—adopted the 1,404-meter stretch of the Redemptorist Water Channel in June 2013 in response to the government's call for assistance from the private sector to improve the state of waterways across the country.

The artificial channel, which spans barangays Baclaran and Tambo in Parañaque City, was created to ease flooding, particularly in reclaimed areas.

Assistant Secretary Gilbert Gonzales, who supervises the DENR's Metropolitan Environmental Offices or MEOs, said that the channel was considered as a priority waterway in the area since it is a tributary of Manila Bay.

"Cleanup and dredging of the Redemptorist Water Channel would not only improve the quality of the water, but also reduce, if not prevent, flooding in the area and in surrounding communities especially when rains come," he said.

Aside from the dredging, the ABPEA has been working towards having more establishments within its complex join the government's Adopt-a-Waterbody program to improve water quality in the tributaries of Manila Bay and speed up its rehabilitation.

Under the program, adopters commit to starting coordination with other sectors, the community, and other government agencies in conducting cleanup activities and putting up interventions to improve water quality in the adopted water body.

With Aseana City, interventions have included providing boats and setting up steel floaters and biofences as an aid in collecting trash trapped in waterways, to complement the cleanups by its environmental and security personnel.

Its efforts in the channel have paid off, as the DENR observed a significant decrease in annual fecal coliform levels from 716 million in 2017 to 132 million most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpN/100mL) in 2021. It was further down to 54,000 in the first quarter of 2022.

The developer has also been coordinating with the DENR's MEO-South for other areas of collaboration within Parañaque City.

In one of their meetings, which were also attended by the LGU, over 50 pollution control officers of different locator establishments within the business park were able to clarify requirements and policies related to wastewater discharge and compliance with environmental laws.



SM, DENR partner for Earth Day 2022

SM Cares, the corporate social responsibility arm of SM Supermalls, recently joined this year's Earth Day celebrations by promoting the responsible disposal of recyclables and e-waste among its mall-goers and employees, highlighting the government's various efforts in helping preserve the country's waterways.

Among SM Cares Earth Day 2022 activities were the "Earth Day Trash-To-Cash," a special iteration of SM Cares' long-running Trash-To-Cash Recycling Market where customers and the community

could drop off their recyclable waste such as paper and plastic containers in exchange for cash at designated collection points in all SM malls nationwide from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-National Capital Region (DENR-NCR), SM Cares also hosted a photo exhibit, centered on the winners of DENR's Gawad Tagalog program, which recognized the efforts of local government units in ensuring the cleanliness of their waterways. The exhibit was

held at the SM Mall of Asia from April 22 to 24.

On April 22, SM Cares also held the "SM Earth Day Challenge" wherein SM employees were encouraged to bring in items for recycling such as cardboard, paper, old books and newspapers, polyethylene terephthalate and other plastic bottles, tin and aluminum cans, old kitchen items, and small e-waste such as old mobile phones, chargers, earphones, computer cords, ink toner bottles and cartridges, and calculators, among others. In total, SM was able to



■ SM Cares turns trash into cash. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO gather more than 19 tons of recyclables and electronic waste from its Earth Day activities.



Villar lauds passing of protected areas laws

Sen. Cynthia Villar recently welcomed President Duterte's enactment into law of five measures, declaring Mt. Pulag and four other sites in the country as protected areas (PAs) that she all authored.

She thanked Duterte for signing Republic Acts 11684, 11685, 11686, 11687 and 11688, which added Mt. Arayat in Pampanga, Mt. Pulag in Benguet, Naga-Kabasalan in Zamboanga Sibugay, Tirad Pass in Ilocos Sur and Banao in Kalinga to the list of protected areas under the National Integrated Protected Areas System, established under RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038 or the

Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018.

With these new laws, Villar, who chairs the Senate committee on environment and natural resources, said there are now 112 protected areas in the country that have been so declared through legislation.

Villar had pushed for the passage of the E-NIPAS Act of 2018, which strengthened the legal framework for the establishment, management and maintenance of all designated protected areas in the country or those that are identified to be ecologically rich and biologically important public lands.

- Paolo Romero



05-04-22

PAGE

DATE

TITLE:

New law on e-vehicle industry dev't a big push for green mobility

Republic Act (RA) 11697 or the Electric Vehicle Industry Development Act could be one of the most important laws that the Duterte administration would leave behind.

The EV Act seeks to develop the Philippine electric vehicle (EV) industry and create a Comprehensive Roadmap for the EV Industry (CREVI). The law covers the manufacture, assembly, construction, import, trade and regulation of EVs, related equipment and their charging stations, and the tax incentives accompanying these projects.

The law also requires companies, public transport operators and government agencies to ensure that at least five percent of their fleet should comprise of EVs.

The law is unique in itself because it marks the Philippine government's resolve to participate in the global push to save our planet with the use of cleaner energy and away from the fossil fuel.

The consolidated bill, which lapsed into law on April 15, comes at a time when prices of fuel are at its highest.

Various government agencies including the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, among others, are mandated to carry out the law's implementation.

To jumpstart, DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez already fired the first salvo to start the ball rolling with hearings by the Tariff Commission for zero tariff on imported completely built-up EVs from the current 30 percent rate.

Under the law, imported EVs shall be exempt from payment of duties for eight years from its effectivity. This is to encourage the use of more

EVs and subsequently develop the EV infrastructure in the country. This would be the most immediate impact of the law.

SM, the country's largest shopping center-chain, has launched initial EV charging stations in select malls free of use for their customers.

Mandated under the law as the primary government agency in the promotion and development of the local EV manufacturing industry, DTI has already started meeting potential investors in battery production for EVs utilizing local nickel and other minerals, which are currently exported raw and imported as finished materials.

The EV Act will also give more impetus to the country's Public Utility Modernization Program.

In addition, the EV sector will benefit from the P9-billion maximum tax incentives being offered under the Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program of the Board of Investments.

Lopez vowed to work on the draft executive order that will make the EV sector part of the CARS program and ensure its signing by President Duterte before he steps down from office on June 30.

Aside from the CARS program, EV is now listed in the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP) to ensure that EV projects, including EV infrastructure, will receive government support.

Industries in the SIPP can avail of fiscal incentives of 4 to 7 years of income tax holiday (ITH) for manufacturers, and even a special corporate income tax after the ITH.

The new EV industry will create more jobs and bring in new technology. The full impact of this law is not expected to be immediate, but it certainly ushers in a new era of awareness among Filipinos towards green mobility.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

4
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

05-04-22

DATE

TITLE:

New law on e-vehicle . . .

PAGE

2/8





TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

EDITORIAL

New law on e-vehicle industry dev't a big push for green mobility

Republic Act (RA) 11697 or the Electric Vehicle Industry Development Act could be one of the most important laws that the Duterte administration would leave behind.

The EV Act seeks to develop the Philippine electric vehicle (EV) industry and create a Comprehensive Roadmap for the EV Industry (CREVI). The law covers the manufacture, assembly, construction, import, trade and regulation of EVs, related equipment and their charging stations, and the tax incentives accompanying these projects.

The law also requires companies, public transport operators and government agencies to ensure that at least five percent of their fleet should comprise of EVs.

The law is unique in itself because it marks the Philippine government's resolve to participate in the global push to save our planet with the use of cleaner energy and away from the fossil fuel.

The consolidated bill, which lapsed into law on April 15, comes at a time when prices of fuel are at its highest.

Various government agencies including the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, among others, are mandated to carry out the law's implementation.

To jumpstart, DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez already fired the first salvo to start the ball rolling with hearings by the Tariff Commission for zero tariff on imported completely built-up EVs from the current 30 percent rate.

Under the law, imported EVs shall be exempt from payment of duties for eight years from its effectivity. This is to encourage the use of more EVs and subsequently develop the EV infrastructure in the country. This would be the most immediate impact of the law.

SM, the country's largest shopping center-chain, has launched initial EV charging stations in select malls free of use for their customers.

Mandated under the law as the primary government agency in the promotion and development

of the local EV manufacturing industry, DTI has already started meeting potential investors in battery production for EVs utilizing local nickel and other minerals, which are currently exported raw and imported as finished materials.

The EV Act will also give more impetus to the country's Public Utility Modernization Program.

In addition, the EV sector will benefit from the P9-billion maximum tax incentives being offered under the Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program of the Board of Investments.

Lopez vowed to work on the draft executive order that will make the EV sector part of the CARS program and ensure its signing by President Duterte before he steps down from office on June 30.

Aside from the CARS program, EV is now listed in the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP) to ensure that EV projects, including EV infrastructure, will receive government support.

Industries in the SIPP can avail of fiscal incentives of 4 to 7 years of income tax holiday (ITH) for manufacturers, and even a special corporate income tax after the ITH.

The new EV industry will create more jobs and bring in new technology. The full impact of this law is not expected to be immediate, but it certainly ushers in a new era of awareness among Filipinos towards green mobility.





TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

Range is perhaps the most pervasive customer pain point - and, for sure, the biggest source of anxiety - in electric vehicles (EVs). Indeed, who wants to be caught in the middle of nowhere with a dead battery?



DESIGNATED DRIVER By KAP MACEDA AGUILA

ELECTRIC NOW

Photos by KAP MACEDA AGUILA

SM Supermalls opens free charging service for EVs

Thankfully, the chances of that worst case scenario happening today has never been more remote. Cognizant that this is a significant hurdle to more widespread adoption, carmakers worth their salt in the EV frontier continue to address the concern through increased battery capacities, and more efficient energy consumption and recovery - in tandem with expanding charging infrastructure.

Even if these are admittedly still early EV days in the Philippines, we need to acknowledge the earnest work that has been put out by both public- and private-sector EV champions. Even local distributors of many brands have jumped into the electric pool head-first even without a guarantee for success and acceptance.

More than a decade ago, Toyota Motor Philippines brought in the Prius hybrid when, to be honest, electrification was but a novelty here. But Toyota has been used to being a first mover anyway; and you could even say that the company eventually realized the fruits of its hybrid gamble not in the Prius per se but through the robust sales of hybrid models of its luxe arm Lexus.

Other brands have followed suit, ranging from plug-in hybrids of Range Rover and Volvo, to the high-profile launch of the all-electric Nissan Leaf in May of last year. And again, while electrified models cannot (at least for a moment), hold a candle against conventional ICE-powered offerings in terms of sales, there's a reward for brands and people willing to play the electric long game.

That certainly seems to be what PGA Cars is thinking. The local distributor of Audi, Bentley, Lamborghini, and Porsche dove in headfirst by bringing in the all-electric Taycan in the middle of 2020 (in the throes of the pandemic no less), and then the e-tron SUV, e-tron GT, and RS e-tron GT just last February.

Verily, it's a matter of reading the electric writing on the wall, not trying to make sense of tea leaves.

For PGA Cars, the two electric releases are neither symbolic nor half-hearted. There are big bucks behind this. In a release, the company said it "has already poured an initial investment of more than P300 million for the construction of facilities specifically designed and equipped to address the unique requirements and safety standards of electric vehicles." This initial outlay also went into acquiring "manufacturer-approved equipment, tools and software, as well as an inventory of genuine parts." More investments are expected to be plunked down to "further support the domestic adoption of electric vehicles."

PGA Cars boasted that "Porsche and Audi are the only global carmakers to have sold in any significant number fully electric-powered vehicles in the Philippines." And the firm isn't done just yet - promising to expand these two nameplates' offerings, as well as bring in more electric models, this time from Bentley (later in the year), and Lamborghini in 2023.

And the EV snowball effect continued via another breakthrough last week.

The country's largest shopping brand, SM Supermalls, formally inaugurated EV charging facilities at four of its locations: SM Aura in Taguig City, SM North Edsa in Quezon City, SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City, and SM Megamall in Mandaluyong.



Leading the inauguration ceremony of the SM Supermalls EV charging stations are Department of Trade and Industry Secretary Ramon Lopez (5th from right) with SM Supermalls President Steven Tan (3rd from right). Also in photo are (from left) Department of Energy Undersecretary Jesusito Sulit, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Assistant Secretary Gilbert Gonzales, Porsche Philippines Managing Director William Angsiy, SM Engineering and Design Development President Hans Sy Jr., Department of Science and Technology Assistant Secretary Teodoro Gatchalian, PGA Cars Chairman Roberto Coyiuto III, Audi Philippines Managing Director Christopher Chan, and I-ACT Chief Charlie del Rosario.



Two Wallbox Pulsar Plus 7.4KW AC chargers with Type 2 connectors are deployed at each of four SM Supermall locations.

SM Supermalls President Steven Tan said that the move is in line with the company's "commitment (to) building a greener environment for everyone," and reflects a to drive sustainability in the chain's 79 malls nationwide. "We want to urge everyone to consider more sustainable options in their everyday life, and shifting to e-vehicles is a giant leap toward a greener future for all of us," he added in a statement.

SM's EV charging stations are a product of the mall chain's partnership with the Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Science and Technology, and Department of Trade and Industry - and are seen to "(assist) the government accelerate its renewable energy and sustainability initiatives." If you recall, in 2018, an EV charging station for public vehicles opened at SM North Edsa. This latest development represents SM reaching out to the private sector in support of EVs.

"SM Supermalls will continue our staunch support of the government's new EV law and the National Renewable Energy Program to promote a more eco-friendly society for all Filipinos. We remain steadfast in our goal of increasing our share of renewable energy sources by 50 percent by the end of 2022," Tan continued, and promised to roll out more chargers. "Within the next few months you'll more of these coming up in Clark, Baguio, Tagaytay... the objective is really to put it in destination malls like (these and) Tuguegarao and Bicol."

On display at the SM Aura for the

program launch were an Audi e-tron and Porsche Taycan - fully electric offerings from PGA Cars. Both can be plugged into the Wallbox Pulsar Plus 7.4KW AC chargers with Type 2 connectors deployed at the aforementioned SM malls.

As the Philippines marches forward toward electrification, the insurance industry is also keenly watching the goings on. Prudential Guarantee President and CEO Anthony Sy said to this writer: "We see the EV industry as being in its early stages here in the country, so the insurance will be the same. Fire insurance should be enough to cover potential risks with a home charger. For now, there's no exclusion for the charger, and we anticipate that will be a necessity in the future. The underwriting is the same as of today."

As for underwriting the EV itself, there's a "minimally higher" fee owing to the prohibitive cost of high-voltage batteries on these fossil fuel-free vehicles.

While the recently passed EV Law addresses the infrastructure side of the EV equation, Department of Trade and Industry Secretary Ramon Lopez, who attended the launch and delivered a speech, promised to do his part to help with the sales side as well. Lopez proposed to entirely do away with tariff for EV vehicles, which currently stands at 30% percent. This will obviously result in lower prices for EVs here, helping remove their cost premium over their internal combustion engine-powered counterparts.

He also said that The Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program, first implemented under the late President Noynoy Aquino's watch in 2015, can be looked into to accommodate a third participant - this time to distinctly help to jumpstart the EV industry here. If the government is able to name or identify that third entity, the government will be able to channel P9 billion in support. Lopez expressed hope that President Rodrigo Duterte can approve this proposal before stepping down at the end of June.

Back to the SM charging facility, any compatible EV vehicle may avail of the service for free - except for a standard parking fee. Here's hoping that the snowball will continue to get bigger and gain commensurate momentum as electric continues to transition from a novelty to commonplace in the country.



Electric dreams

**MOTERING
TODAY**



By **RAY BUTCH
GAMBOA**

The dream of the electric vehicle industry for a law supporting its development is now a reality.

According to news reports, **Republic Act No. 11697, or An Act Providing for the Development of the Electric Vehicle Industry**, has either become a law or was expressly approved by the President.

No matter how it came into being, RA 11697 is now in place to promote and govern "the manufacture, assembly, importation, construction, installation, maintenance, trade and utilization, research and development, and regulation of electric vehicles."

This should be a happy moment for members of the **Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines (EVAP)** who have long been lobbying for such a law.

Under the new law, a **Comprehensive Roadmap for the Electric Vehicle Industry (CREVI)**, to be incorporated in the **Philippine Energy Plan** and the **National Transport Policy**, will serve to accelerate the development, commercialization and utilization of EVs in the country.

Another thing that should make EVAP members happy is one provision of the RA 11697 which will make it mandatory for establishments involved in such industries or sectors as cargo logistics, food delivery, tour agencies, hotels, power utilities, and water utilities to have at least 5 percent of their motor pool or vehicle fleet made up of EVs.

Automakers and distributors who now have EVs in their local lineup should be elated by government mandating establishments with 20 or more parking slots to dedicate at least, again that magic number or ratio, 5 percent of the slots for use of battery powered vehicles.

Parking lots should also have charging points for EVs.

This should help convince more people to acquire battery powered vehicles for their daily use which should elate global automakers who are betting on EVs as the future of the automotive industry.

Of course this would not happen overnight, various government agencies like the energy and transport departments are tasked to implement these and other mandates of RA 11697.

Timetables still have to be set, the CREVI formulated, policies and manufacturing standards established for "EVs, batteries, and facilities, including recycling facilities, parts and components, and charging stations and related equipment."

But the EVAP now has RA 11697 to push and cajole government agencies to actively support the industry's progress.

Meanwhile, makers and distributors of electric vehicles are now dreaming of zero tariff and other fiscal incentives that would make EVs more affordable.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

BusinessWorld™

MSI
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

05-04-22

TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

Manila Mining plans P519-million stock rights offer

MANILA Mining Corp. said it is eyeing a stock rights offering amounting to P519.2 million to fund its exploration program, administrative costs, and settle trade payables and accruals.

It plans to offer 51,917,357,740 common shares of the company, with a par value of P0.01 per share, consisting of 31,159,217,274 class A shares and 20,758,140,466 class B shares.

"The net proceeds from the offer, after costs and fees of about P11.75 million, will be used by the company to fund its exploration program, administration costs,

and settle trade payables and accruals," it said in its prospectus.

The offer period will run from May 16 to 20, with a listing date of June 20.

The company tapped Penta Capital & Investment Corp. as the underwriter.

"The offer shares shall be considered issued upon approval of Manila Mining's application for increase of authorized capital stock with the Securities and Exchange Commission," the company added.

According to its prospectus, the company is currently not in operation.

"It stopped its mining and milling operations on July 25, 2001 due to the expiration of the Temporary Authority to construct and operate Tailings Pond issued by the Environmental Management Bureau. Thereafter, activities have been limited to exploration and to securing the company's assets," it read.

Manila Mining was incorporated in 1949 to primarily engage in the mining and exploration of metals.

The firm had two mining lease contracts with the government

located in Surigao del Norte and currently has three other mineral production sharing agreement applications covering locations in Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Norte.

It is an affiliate of Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. and has one subsidiary, the Kalayaan Copper-Gold Resources, Inc., which it owns 95% with Philex Mining Corp. owning the rest.

At the stock exchange on Monday, Manila Mining shares ended lower by 3% at P0.0097 apiece. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jacson**



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE



05-04-22

TITLE :

PAGE

DATE

Provincial government employees participate in a coastal cleanup drive in Lingayen, Pangasinan on Monday.

CESAR RAMIREZ



04 MAY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

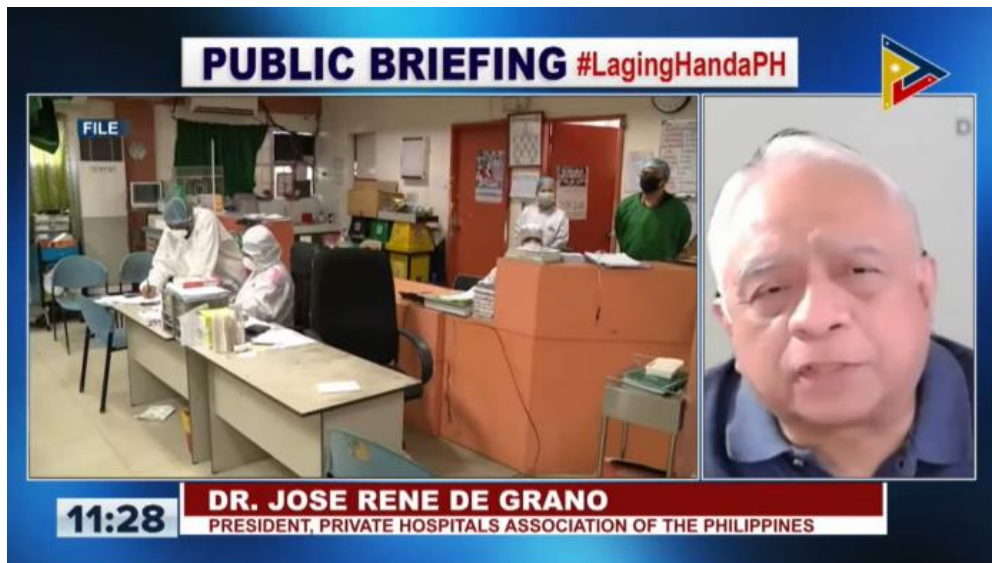
NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

COVID-19 hospital admissions still low – hospital group

May 3, 2022



PHAPi President Dr. Jose De Grano during the May 3, 2022 Laging Handa briefing. (Screenshot of PTV live)

The Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines (PHAPi) is supporting the decision to place more areas across the country under COVID-19 Alert Level 1 so long as minimum public health standards are observed.

In the May 3 Laging Handa briefing, PHAPi President Dr. Jose De Grano said the number of individuals being admitted to hospitals due to COVID-19 remains low.

“Hindi naman natin mapigilan iyong mga tao sa paglabas lalo po sa mga rallies. But ang pinaka-importante po ay sundin po nila iyong pagwi-wear po ng mask at nang sa ganun po ay hindi po sila masyadong makahawa at manghawa kung mayroon man silang sakit,” he said.

“Sa private hospitals po halos kakaunti ang mga nagpa-positive at ito pong nagpa-positive talaga karamihan dito ay yung mga immunocompromised na nagkakaroon lang po, siguro nahahawa,” he added.

With lower hospital admissions, De Grano said they are prepared to send medical teams to local government units on Election Day to respond to voters’ medical concerns, including heat stroke incidents.

The group also assured that it is ready to respond to a possible COVID-19 case resurgence following the conduct of campaign rallies.

The Department of Health (DOH) said the country remains as minimal risk case classification for COVID-19, while Regions 4B, 5, and 8 are under low risk.

“Ang naitalang bahagyang pagtaas ng mga kaso ay hindi pa nakakaapekto. Malayo pa po ito sa ating healthcare utilization rate ng bansa maging sa mga rehiyon na nananatiling low risk or low healthcare utilization rate,” DOH Sec. Francisco Duque III said.

Vaccination, BA.2.12

With more than half of private schools opening for face-to-face classes, Duque said the government is set to conduct massive vaccination for individuals aged five to 11 years old.

The National Task Force Against COVID-19 said around 10 million doses are available for administration for the younger age group.



“Pagka um-attend sila, parang ‘yung dati nung mga bata tayo, i-injection-an na tayo ng kanilang mga infirmery ng mga iba’t ibang bakuna like measles, ‘yung sa polio. So, gagawin din natin ‘to for COVID for the basic learners from five to 11 years of age,” Duque told President Rodrigo Duterte.

Meanwhile, the DOH urged the public to be cautious amid the threat of the highly transmissible Omicron sub-variant BA.2.12 which has not yet been detected in the country.

However, the DOH confirmed that 15 fully vaccinated foreign tourists in Palawan are being monitored after testing positive for COVID-19, including two who experienced mild symptoms on April 27 and 28.

Fourteen are under isolation and one is admitted to a hospital.

“It’s an isolated case. Hindi po natin alam kung anong klaseng variant pa ang makikita sa kanila dahil ise-sequence pa lang, di pa naproseso ang kanilang samples,” DOH USec. Maria Rosario Vergeire said.

“They were all immediately isolated, hindi na gumawa ng activity sa pinuntahanang lugar. Sila ay nag-submit sa management ng local government kung saan nasa isolation facility po sila,” she added. – **Report from Mark Fetalco/AG**



Kaso ng COVID-19 sa Metro Manila, mabilis ang pagtaas — OCTA

[Angie dela Cruz](#) - Pang-masa May 4, 2022 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Inihayag ng OCTA Research Team na mabilis umano ang pagtaas ng kaso ng COVID-19 Metro Manila nang dumami ang mga nahawaan ng virus na pumalo sa 0.83 reproduction number.

Iniulat din ng grupo na bumaba naman ang one-week growth rate sa -4 percent sa Metro Manila.

Ayon kay Octa Research fellow Guido David, noong nagdaang linggo ang reproduction number ay umaabot sa 0.70, pero ngayon ito ay umaabot na sa 0.83.

Ang naturang bilang ay nagpapakita ng 75 bagong kaso na nahawahan ng COVID-19 nitong nagdaang lunes lamang.

Bahagya rin anyang tumaas ang healthcare utilization rate sa NCR na mula 21 percent ay naging 22 percent ngayon.



COVID worsens asthma in children

By **Reuters** -May 4, 2022

THE following is a summary of some recent studies on COVID-19. They include research that warrants further study to corroborate the findings and that has yet to be certified by peer review.

Asthma in children may worsen after an infection with the coronavirus, doctors warn.

They studied nearly 62,000 US children with asthma who had PCR tests for the virus in the first year of the pandemic, including more than 7,700 who tested positive. Infected children had significantly more asthma visits, hospitalizations, emergency inhaler use, and steroid treatments during the six months after their illness compared to children who tested negative and to their own prior history, researchers reported in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*. Children who tested negative for the virus “had improved asthma control for the next six months, meaning fewer emergency department visits and hospitalizations for asthma, and less asthma treatment,” said Dr. Christine Chou of Children’s Health of Orange County, in California.

Results of earlier studies showing improvement in asthma control in the early part of the pandemic were likely due to public health measures like staying home and masking, which curbed exposure to asthma triggers, she said. Despite the overall impression that children with asthma did well during the first year of the pandemic, Chou added, the new study shows “longer lasting harm of COVID on children’s asthma control.”

Booster after infection adds little extra benefit vs Omicron

Among people who were previously infected with the coronavirus, a third dose of an mRNA vaccine from Pfizer /BioNTech or Moderna may not boost their protection against the Omicron variant of the virus, according to new data.

Researchers studied nearly 130,000 people tested for COVID in Connecticut from November 2021 through January 2022, including 10,676 with Omicron infections. Roughly 6% to 8% had been infected with previous versions of the coronavirus, according to a report posted on medRxiv ahead of peer review. Two doses of an mRNA vaccine did help protect against Omicron among people with prior infections, but “we did not detect an additional benefit of receiving a third booster dose among this population,” said Margaret Lind of Yale University. –

Reuters

04 MAY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MEE1_QX7f_4

DOLOMITE BEACH NALALAPIT NA PAGBUBUKAS!

4,610 views • Streamed live 18 hours ago

406 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...



engr. berto
196K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8ywinZ7Ie4>

MANILA

PANG WORLDCLASS DOLOMITE BEACH SALAMAT PRRD

1,187 views • May 3, 2022

65 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...



KUYARONS TV
101K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

PANG WORLDCLASS DOLOMITE BEACH SALAMAT PRRD

#manilabay

#dolomitebeach

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoWd0NEL1BI>

#manilabay #4k

SEKRETO NG LUMOT | MANILA BAY UPDATE MAY 3, 2022 [4K]

19,859 views • May 3, 2022



552



DISLIKE



SHARE



THANKS



SAVE



BTV Pinas

76.1K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay

#4k

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_VkafY0lqM

#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay

DOLOMITE BEACH NANAMPAL NG RESIBO! RESIBO NG PAGBABAGO!

4,807 views • May 3, 2022

306 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...



engr. berto
196K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach
#BattleForManilaBay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNMOMK8hCIA>

PHILIPPINES

PRRD GRABE TRANSFORMATION NG BEACH NA ITO

635 views • May 3, 2022

34 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...



KUYARONS TV
101K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

prrd political will magtutuloy-tuloy sa kaniyang nasimulan

#prrd

#philippines

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DhEUed3dRs>

PHILIPPINES

RESIDENTS COOPERATION CLEAN-UP DRIVE DUTERTE LEGACY

3,073 views • May 3, 2022

150 DISLIKE SHARE CLIP SAVE ...

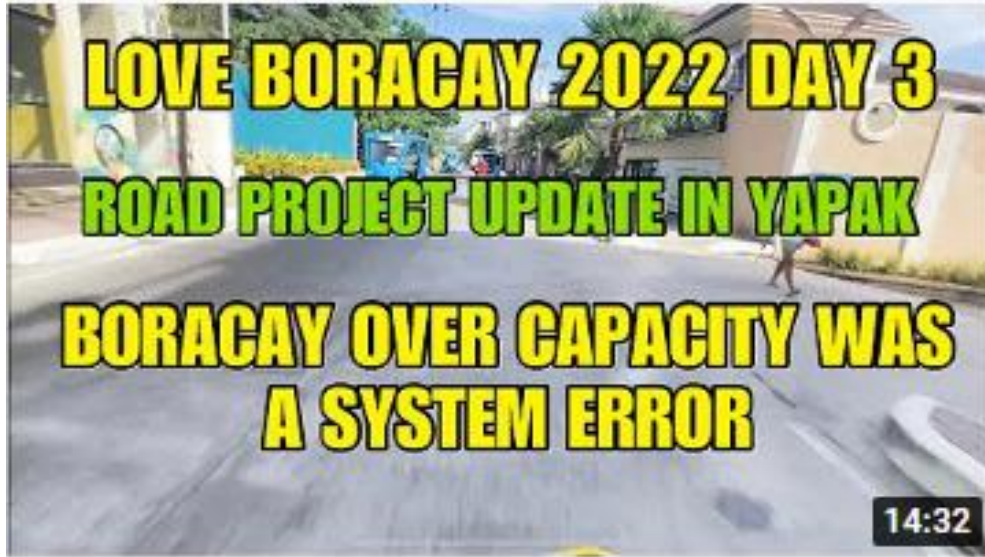


KUYARONS TV
101K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

boracay beach clean up drive

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXMfPVzzxVk>

LOVE BORACAY 2022 DAY 3 ROAD UPDATE | OVER CAPACITY WAS A SYSTEM ERROR

1,651 views • May 2, 2022

👍 25 🗨 DISLIKE ➦ SHARE 💰 THANKS ✂ CLIP ≡+ SAVE ...



Mr. Benj @ Amazing Boracay
27.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

LOVE BORACAY 2022, DAY 3 ROAD UPDATE

LaBoracay is actually a summer party Event celebrated in the island. An event that is becoming a

SHOW MORE