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**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





## After Election Day, what to do with campaign materials

Published May 11, 2022, 12:18 AM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

Now that Election Day is over, what do we do with the campaign materials that we still have at home – the tarps, comics, ballers, fans, t-shirts – or hanging in public places?

The easiest would be to put them in a bag and then pass on the responsibility of disposing them to the garbage collectors who pass by our houses at least three times a week.

That action would just add to the mountains of solid waste that we now have. According to the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), 59,846 tons of solid waste per day is generated around the country. The figure was taken before the election campaign season so we can expect a huge increase in our solid waste per day, a simple observation of all the campaign posters and leaflets show.



Hanging campaign posters.  
(Manila Bulletin file photo)

In a 2019 report, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) disclosed that it had collected 29 truckloads equivalent to 200.37 tons or 705.34 cubic meters of campaign-generated waste from the May 13 midterm elections campaign season (from March 1 to May 16, 2019).

Then MMDA Chairman Danilo Lim said that the agency did not throw the discarded campaign materials in landfills. Instead, these materials were converted to reusable bags, placemats, baskets, and school supplies.

Aside from causing pollution, experts from the environmental group EWC said that they found campaign tarpaulins contain cadmium from the 2013 and 2016 elections — a highly toxic and cancer-causing chemical.



## After Election Day, what to do with campaign materials

### What to do with discarded campaign materials

In a May 10 press statement, EWC shared ways to repurpose campaign materials. EWC National Coordinator Aileen Lucero said that reusing campaign-generated trash will lessen the country's solid waste.

"While reusing and repurposing is surely not a perfect solution, especially for campaign materials laden with harmful chemicals, it will undoubtedly lessen the volume of trash collected and hauled to disposal facilities or spilled into the natural environment, including water bodies," Lucero said.

She added that this alternative would reduce disposal costs, prevent releases of chemical pollutants into the environment, conserve resources and instill environmental awareness and responsibility among our people, the EWC said.

Lucero suggested alternatives and shared that the group has repurposed sample ballots into notepads by using binding glue, fastener, ribbon, or string. At the same time, cardboard posters were created into bookmarks, envelopes, folders, nameplates, and other school supplies.

She said that polyethylene plastic posters were reused as book and notebook covers. On the other hand, sturdier polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic tarpaulin posters were sewn into carry bags of various sizes. The group also turned the materials into other items like laundry and toiletry bags, aprons, and tool organizers.

However, EWC advised "to only reuse or repurpose tarps for non-food and non-child applications as tarps may contain hazardous chemicals, particularly cadmium and phthalates, which can contaminate food or expose children to chemical risks."

### Solid waste in the country

According to DENR-Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Assistant Director Vizmindia Osorio, the country generates 59,846 tons of solid waste per day this year.

To address this issue, the department closed 335 open and illegal dumpsites in 2021 for violating the environment and health standards stated in Republic Act (RA) 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The DENR-EMB data also showed that from eight sanitary landfills (SLFs) in 2006, the country now has 245 SLFs serving 478 local government units (LGUs), only 29 percent of the nation's cities and municipalities.

### Solid waste initiatives

In line with its goal to address all issues surrounding solid waste, the DENR vowed to strengthen the implementation of its solid waste management plans in line with the 21st anniversary RA 9003 this year.

RA 9003 covers proper segregation, collection, transport, treatment, and disposal of solid waste to protect public health and the environment. In line with this, the agency will coordinate with LGUs nationwide to ensure the rehabilitation of 335 closed dumpsites.



## After Election Day, what to do with campaign materials

Leones explained that the department continuously helps LGUs implement proper waste disposal by monitoring them.

"The barangays collect the waste and put them in a temporary transfer station. The municipality will then collect and bring the wastes to treatment facilities to sanitize them before throwing them to final disposal sites," Leones said in Pilipino.

Aside from monitoring LGUs, the DENR, through EMB, had also initiated the hiring of geologists and civil and sanitary engineers to assist LGUs in finding suitable areas for SLFs in line with the implementation of 1,171 ongoing solid waste management plans, which was approved last year Dec. 7.

The agency and the Department of Transportation (DOTr) have also partnered to install yellow bins or bags in all public utility vehicles nationwide to ensure the proper segregation of health care waste and other solid waste.





## Clean up campaign materials in 3 days, LGUs told

By [Romina Cabrera](#) (The Philippine Star)  
- May 12, 2022 - 12:00am



Two civilians walking past an abandoned building in Potrero, Malabon covered with campaign tarps

Philstar.com / Deejae Dumlao

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has ordered all cities, municipalities and provinces to clean up all campaign materials by Friday.

Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said that local government units (LGUs) and candidates must remove and dispose of all campaign materials within three days.

“Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials,” he said yesterday in a statement.

The DILG said that proper disposal of election materials should be ensured to follow environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning and littering.

Año said that barangays and LGUs should follow proper waste collection practices and try to restore or recycle campaign waste materials.

He urged the public to join clean-up drives in their communities.

“We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let’s continue to participate in governance through our simple way of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter,” he said.

During the 2019 midterm elections, over 168.84 tons of campaign materials were collected, the DILG said.

Environmental watchdog EcoWaste Coalition has urged both winning and losing candidates to take the lead in reusing and repurposing their campaign materials.



## Clean up campaign materials in 3 days, LGUs told

“Regardless of your poll standing, we appeal to all candidates to exemplify your concern for Mother Earth and for public welfare by finding ways to prevent your publicity materials from ending up in waste dumps and furnaces and, God forbid, the oceans,” EcoWaste national coordinator Aileen Lucero said in a press statement.

The group said that in addition to decreased garbage volume, reusing and repurposing campaign materials “would reduce disposal costs, prevent releases of chemical pollutants into the environment, conserve resources and instill environmental awareness and responsibility among our people.”

“Dumping and burning campaign materials will be a huge waste of resources including energy consumed in making the seemingly incalculable number of posters, leaflets and other popular paraphernalia used for the May 2022 national and local polls. It will further result in environmental pollution,” Lucero said.

At an event in Quezon City yesterday, the group, together with the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), showed how paper-based campaign materials can be reused or repurposed.

Sample ballots were turned into notepads with the use of binding glue, fasteners, ribbons or strings. Cardboard posters were cut to make bookmarks, envelopes, folders, name plates and other school needs.

Polyethylene plastic posters were reused as book and notebook covers, and the sturdier polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic tarpaulin posters were cut and sewn into tote bags of various sizes.

Tarpaulins were also made into shoe parts, strings, laundry and toiletry bags, as well as waist bags for electricians and janitors. They were also transformed into aprons, letter and tool organizers and waste sorters.?

EcoWaste said the tarps could also be repurposed as awnings or canopies for homes and stores, upholstery material and as a protective shield against sun and rain for jeepneys, pedicabs and tricycles.

It advised the public to only reuse or repurpose tarps for non-food and non-child applications, warning that tarps may contain hazardous chemicals such as cadmium and phthalates, which may leach and contaminate the food or expose children to chemical risks.? – Elizabeth Marcelo



## DILG urges LGUs, candidates to remove campaign materials within 3 days

By JAMIL SANTOS, GMA News  
Published May 11, 2022 3:51pm

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on Wednesday urged local government units (LGUs) and candidates in the May 9 elections to dispose of any campaign waste materials in their areas within three days.

“Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials,” DILG Secretary Eduardo Año said in a statement.

In an advisory to the local chief executives, Año urged them to implement proper disposal of election propaganda paraphernalia in accordance with environmental laws, as well as local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering.

Año also encouraged them to use the barangay and LGU material recovery facilities to collect and restore reusable materials and to come up with innovative and safe ways of recycling or upcycling reusable campaign waste materials.

“Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of,” he said.

“Hinihimok din po natin ang ating mga kababayan na makiisa sa clean-up drive ng kanilang LGUs at barangay (We also urge our countrymen to join the clean-up drive of their LGUs and barangays). We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let’s continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter.”

The DILG chief pointed out that campaign materials made of plastics and other non-biodegradable materials may have detrimental effects on public health and the environment if improperly disposed of.

Año said that at least 168.84 tons of campaign materials were collected in the 2019 midterm elections. — VBL, GMA News

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/831336/dilg-urges-lgus-candidates-to-remove-campaign-materials-within-3-days/story/?utm\\_source=GMAnews&utm\\_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR07ct2s3mdk5zFvgdbXp3jlgxRS8uzF7WOO\\_m9QumJm5kz9jfpftoqJtDo](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/831336/dilg-urges-lgus-candidates-to-remove-campaign-materials-within-3-days/story/?utm_source=GMAnews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR07ct2s3mdk5zFvgdbXp3jlgxRS8uzF7WOO_m9QumJm5kz9jfpftoqJtDo)



## Palugit ng DILG sa LGUs, mga kandidato CAMPAIGN MATERIALS BAKLASIN SA LOOB NG 3-ARAW

[7 hours ago jake](#)



(JESSE KABEL)

BINIGYAN ng Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) ng tatlong araw ang lahat ng mga lokal na pamahalaan at mga kandidato, nanalo man o natalo sa katatapos na halalan para linisin ang kanilang campaign waste materials.

Sa isang advisory, sinabi ni DILG Secretary Eduardo Año na ang pagtatapon ng election propaganda materials ay dapat nakasunod sa mga umiiral na environmental laws para maiwasan ang illegal dumping, open burning, at littering.

Inatasan ng Kalihim ang mga barangay na gamitin ang kanilang material recovery facilities para kolektahin ang mga maaari pang pakinabangan at reusable materials.

Ani Ano, dapat atasan ng local chief executives ang mga organizer ng mga politiko na ilagay sa tamang lalagyan ang mga basurang iniwan ng kanilang political activities.

Hinimok din ng DILG ang publiko na makiisa sa clean up drive ng kanilang Local Government Units (LGUs) at barangay.

Nabatid na sa Quezon City pa lamang, umabot na sa 40 tonelada ng basura ang nakolekta ng Department of Public Order and Safety (DPOS) mula nang simulan nila ang pagbabaklas ng campaign posters sa lungsod.





## Palugit ng DILG sa LGUs, mga kandidato CAMPAIGN MATERIALS BAKLASIN SA LOOB NG 3-ARAW

Ayon kay Retired General Elmo San Diego, head ng QC-DPOS, nasa tatlong truck ng basura ang kanilang napuno mula sa pinagbabaklas na posters at campaign materials sa ilang lugar sa lungsod.

Posibleng mas maraming basura umano mula sa campaign materials ang mahakot sa Metro Manila ngayong 2022 kumpara noong 2019, ayon na rin sa pagtataya ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

Mula Mayo 7, nakalikom na umano ang MMDA ng 180.87 tonelada ng campaign materials sa National Capital Region. Magpapatuloy ang paghakat hanggang sa susunod na linggo.

“Tingin ko mas marami ngayon,” ani Francis Martinez ng MMDA Metro Parkway Clearing Group..

Noong 2019 midterm elections, aabot sa 168.84 tons ng campaign materials ang nakolekta.



## Toneladang campaign materials, hahakutin



Published 1 hour ago  
on May 12, 2022 06:00 AM  
By [Sebastian Navarro](#)



Inihayag nitong Miyerkules ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) na posible umanong mas maraming basura mula sa campaign materials ang mahakot sa Metro Manila ngayong 2022 kompara noong 2019.

Ayon sa MMDA, nakalikom na sila ng 180.87 tonelada ng campaign materials sa National Capital Region mula noong Mayo 7 at magpapatuloy ang paghakot ng basura hanggang sa susunod na linggo.

Noong 2019 midterm elections, aabot sa 200 tonelada ang nakalap na campaign materials.

"Tingin ko mas marami ngayon," sabi ni MMDA Metro Parkway Clearing Group member Francis Martinez.

"Ang inuuna muna namin ngayon [linisin] ay 'yon pong mga major roads then ang pangalawa namin, ang mga eskuwelahan na pinagdausan ng botohan," dagdag niya.

Karamihan sa mga nakuha ay tarpaulin, pero ayon kay Martinez ay nabawasan na ang campaign materials na gawa sa papel.

Dadalhin umano ang mga campaign material sa solid waste granulator ng MMDA sa Tondo, Maynila para gawing bricks o hollow blocks.



## Toneladang campaign materials, hahakutin

Hinikayat naman ng environmental group na EcoWaste Coalition na i-reuse at gawing kapaki-pakinabang ang mga campaign material dahil ang ilang campaign poster mula sa tarpaulin ang ginawang bag at puwede pang pagkakitaan.





## Ecowaste sa mga kumandidato: Maging responsible sa campaign materials



May 11, 2022 @ 1:05 PM 17 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Nanawagan ang environmental group na Ecowaste coalition sa lahat ng kumandidato nanalo man o natalo na maging responsible sa kanilang mga ginamit na campaign materials.





## Ecowaste sa mga kumandidato: Maging responsable sa campaign materials



Kuha ni Danny Querubin

Ayon sa grupo, isang malaking kasayangan kung mapupunta lang sa mga basurahan ang mga ginamit na campaign materials, at lalong hindi katanggap-tanggap kung didiretsyong naman ito sa mga karagatan sa bansa.

Giit ng Ecowaste na nararapat na mag-isip ng mga paraan para ma-recycle ang mga ito. RNT

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/ecowaste-sa-mga-kumandidato-maging-responsible-sa-campaign-materials/>





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[Maharlika TV - WATCH: EcoWaste Coalition w/ MMDARecycle...](#)

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2:47 PM

Source: <https://fb.watch/cX4RVICgK7/>





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Workers arrange campaign materials used for the May 9 election

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# Recycling in Payatas

- Danny Querubin



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## Ilocos Norte students recycle candidates' posters

By Leilanie Adriano May 11, 2022, 8:00 pm



**RECYCLING.** Students and teachers of Luzong National High School in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte wash collected campaign materials to be converted as eco-bricks on Wednesday (May 11, 2022). The Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office also announced they are accepting used tarpaulins for eco-bags making. *(Contributed photo)*

**LAOAG CITY** – Days after the 2022 national and local elections, student volunteers of Luzong National High School (LNHS) in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte took the time to remove posters of the candidates on Wednesday.

LNHS teacher Thelma Ruiz Sacsac said in an interview Wednesday that the collected plastic materials will be shredded and converted into eco-bricks while the tarpaulin posters will be recycled into eco-bags.

"This is part of their subject on physical education and health program where learning continues anytime and anywhere," Sacsac said after leading the activity that started along the national highway at 6 a.m.

After collecting hundreds of posters along the way, they proceeded to the river to wash the plastic materials. While waiting for the materials to dry up, Sacsac said the students also enjoyed swimming in the river.

The Pagudpud school is among the green advocacy schools in the province that supports the government's implementation of solid wastes management program.

"Our waste recycling project is in cooperation with the Salaknib program of the school headed by Dr. Gladys Acoba and our Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) led by Mr. Peps Morata," she said. The school is promoting the use of eco-bricks that have become a source of livelihood for some of the locals, including the students.



## Ilocos Norte students recycle candidates' posters

Sacsac said that one eco-tile brick is produced for every 50 to 100 pieces of plastic, which is about five to six times stronger than a regular brick made of sand and cement.

These eco-tile bricks measuring 15x15 inches are then sold at PHP80 to PHP100 each to gardeners and resort owners in Pagudpud town to beautify their landscape.

MENRO's Morata also announced Wednesday that they are still accepting used tarpaulins for eco-bag making. He, likewise, thank the students of LNHS for their cooperation in removing the campaign posters. (PNA)





## EDITORIAL - Clean up after yourself

The Philippine Star  
May 12, 2022 | 12:00am



As in previous elections, all candidates ignored Commission on Elections rules on the display of campaign materials in the just concluded race. Such attitude has always prevailed because of the Comelec's failure to impose penalties for violations of its own rules, and the inadequacy of common poster areas.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources took down campaign materials on trees but also did not pursue charges against anyone. So in the next elections, we can expect appeals to spare trees to continue falling on deaf ears, even among candidates who profess to be environment advocates.

In the meantime, with election day over, communities are now saddled with tons of campaign garbage that remain posted on many more trees, lampposts, power and telecommunication lines, and the walls even of government buildings.

People who were taught civic responsibility and good manners and right conduct should be mindful of the admonition to clean up after oneself. Candidates should not be reminded to tell their partisans to remove whatever materials they have posted, especially in spots outside common poster areas.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government had to tell local government units yesterday that they have three days to clean up the mess. Besides taking down the materials, the trash should be properly sorted out for recycling. Plastic, tarpaulins and even paper can be reused or turned into useful products.



## EDITORIAL - Clean up after yourself

After the three-day deadline lapses, the DILG should give due recognition to the most compliant and cleanest LGUs. If authorities cannot wield a stick in enforcing rules on common poster areas, perhaps carrots can work, even if the vote is over. Since many of those who posted the materials were incumbent local officials, they should lead by example in cleaning up after themselves.



Masungi Georeserve

13h · 🌐



Sharing words of solidarity from Eduardo Bata, Tamaraw Ranger and Field Operations Officer of the DENR-Tamaraw Conservation Program in Mindoro Island:

"Huwag sana tayong bibigay sa mga hamon ng buhay. Dahil ako, bilang isang Tamaraw Ranger ng 35 years, yung mga ganyan ay magsisilbi sating inspirasyon para sa bandang huli, tayo ang makikinabang. Tayo ang mananalo. Kaya sa Masungi park rangers, sa inyo ay saludo ako!"

#SaveMasungi #RestoreTogether



👍❤️ 59

8 Shares

Source: <https://fb.watch/cXlek-rhFh/>





## Climate change 'affects seriously' food supply, availability, accessibility — CHR

Published May 11, 2022, 12:30 PM

by [Czarina Nicole Ong Ki](#)



Commission-on-Human-Rights

The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) expressed concerns on the far-reaching effects of climate change that would also impact on the country's food supply, availability and accessibility if left unchecked.

In its National Inquiry on Climate Change Report, written by former Commissioner Roberto Eugenio Cadiz, the CHR cited the many reasons why addressing climate change is more crucial than ever.

Because of rising temperatures and the increased frequency of extreme weather events, the CHR said in its report that crop, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture activity will be negatively affected. This will, in turn, impact food availability, it said.

"Food accessibility will be more difficult — especially for the poor and socially-vulnerable groups — due to changes in food production and market prices," the report stated as it noted that "food distribution during emergencies will also become increasingly complicated because of more frequent and intense extreme weather events."

The CHR also cited the warning of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) that the number of people battling hunger and undernourishment will continue to rise if the Philippine government will continue to turn a blind eye towards climate change.



## Climate change 'affects seriously' food supply, availability, accessibility — CHR

As of now, it said that expert resource speakers have already lamented the dwindling fish catch and a reduction in agriculture produce due to climate change.

"Production of rice, the staple food of Filipinos, is reduced by 10 percent for every one-degree centigrade increase in night temperatures. For corn, there is a one-point seven percent yield reduction for each day above 30 degrees centigrade under drought conditions," it said in its report.

"Fruits and vegetables also have substantial yield reductions. As for livestock, aside from the negative impacts on animal fertility, there is a three to five percent reduction in feed intake for every one centigrade about 30 centigrade. These result in food supply challenges, higher food prices, higher malnutrition and food insecurity," it added.



## Every heatwave enhanced by climate change — experts

By MARLOWE HOOD, Agence France-Presse  
Published May 11, 2022 9:08pm



A man stands by fans spraying air mixed with water vapor deployed by donors to cool down pedestrians along a street in Iraq's capital Baghdad on June 30, 2021 amidst a severe heat wave. Ahmad Al-Rubaye/ AFP

PARIS — All heatwaves today bear the unmistakable and measurable fingerprint of global warming, top experts on quantifying the impact of climate change on extreme weather said Wednesday.

Burning fossil fuels and destroying forests have released enough greenhouse gases into the atmosphere to also boost the frequency and intensity of many floods, droughts, wildfires and tropical storms, they detailed in a state-of-science report.

"There is no doubt that climate change is a huge game changer when it comes to extreme heat," Friederike Otto, a scientist at Imperial College London's Grantham Institute, told AFP.

Extreme hot spells such as the heatwave that gripped South Asia in March and April are already the most deadly of extreme events, she added.

"Every heatwave in the world is now made stronger and more likely to happen because of human-caused climate change," Otto and co-author Ben Clarke of the University of Oxford said in the report, presented as a briefing paper for the news media.

Evidence of global warming's impact on extreme weather has been mounting for decades, but only recently has it been possible to answer the most obvious of questions: To what extent was a particular event caused by climate change?





## Every heatwave enhanced by climate change — experts

The most scientists could say before is that an unusually severe hurricane, flood or heatwave was consistent with general predictions of how global warming would eventually influence weather.

News media, meanwhile, sometimes left climate change out of the picture altogether or, at the other extreme, mistakenly attributed a weather disaster entirely to rising temperatures.

With more data and better tools, however, Otto and other pioneers of a field known as event attribution science have been able to calculate—sometimes in near-real time—how much more likely or intense a particular storm or hot spell has become due to global warming.

### Courtroom evidence

Otto and colleagues in the World Weather Attribution (WWA) consortium, for example, concluded that the heatwave that gripped western North America last June—sending temperatures in Canada to a record 49.6°C (121 F)—would have been "virtually impossible" without human-induced climate change.

A heatwave that scorched India and Pakistan last month is still under review, Otto told AFP, but the larger picture is frighteningly clear.

"What we see right now in terms of extreme heat will be very normal, if not cool, in a 2-degree to 3-degree Celsius world," she said, referring to average global temperatures above pre-industrial levels.

The world has warmed nearly 1.2°C so far.

That increase made record-setting rainfall and flooding last July in Germany and Belgium that left more than 200 dead up to nine times more likely, the WWA found.

But global warming is not always to blame.

A two-year drought in southern Madagascar leading to near famine conditions attributed by the UN to climate change was in fact a product of natural variability in the weather, experts reported.

Quantifying the impact of global warming on extreme weather events using peer-reviewed methods has real-world policy implications.

Attribution studies, for example, have been used as evidence in landmark climate litigation in the United States, Australia and Europe.

In one case set to resume later this month, *Saul Luciano Lliuya v. RWE AG*, a Peruvian farmer is suing the German energy giant for the costs of preventing harmful flooding from a glacial lake destabilized by climate change.

A scientific assessment entered into evidence concluded that human-caused global warming is directly responsible for creating a "critical threat" of a devastating outburst, putting a city of some 120,000 people in the path of potential floodwaters. — AFP

Source: [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/831375/every-heatwave-enhanced-by-climate-change-experts/story/?fbclid=IwAR2aqaPyyJ\\_N-EACjoyBmxI\\_rilQ1tbIn0PZzg3lkgJZ1oK7u7I8PKipS3c](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/831375/every-heatwave-enhanced-by-climate-change-experts/story/?fbclid=IwAR2aqaPyyJ_N-EACjoyBmxI_rilQ1tbIn0PZzg3lkgJZ1oK7u7I8PKipS3c)

## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'

Marine heatwaves – periods of exceptionally warm ocean temperature lasting from weeks to years – can be accurately predicted up to one year ahead of the event, new research finds.



A diver swims past bleached corals off the coast of Heron Island in Australia. Image: [The Ocean Agency/XL Catlin Seaview Survey/Richard Vevers, CC BY-SA 3.0](#), via [Flickr](#).

By Ayesha Tandon, Anastasiia Zagoruichyk, [Carbon Brief](#)  
8 minute read May 11, 2022

Heatwaves on both land and ocean can have [deadly](#) impacts. However, efforts to predict imminent ocean heatwaves still [lag behind](#) research predicting land-based extremes.

The new study, published in [Nature](#), provides the foundation for an operational marine-heatwave forecasting system that can predict oncoming marine heatwaves between one and 12 months before they hit.

The forecasts show the highest "skill" in the tropics, but are less promising for much of the Southern Ocean – which often experiences intense, but short-lived marine heatwaves – the authors find. The authors add that the "highest prediction skill" in the 30-year record was during the extreme 1997-98 and 2015-16 [El Niño](#) events.

Reliable marine heatwave forecast systems can be valuable tools for increasing the resilience of marine ecosystems. For example, advanced warning of heatwaves could allow fisheries to protect species from being overfished when high ocean temperatures reduce productivity.

## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'

"I think it is crucial that forecast developers work closely with the community that may use the forecasts – we can help in the decision making," a scientist not involved in the study tells Carbon Brief.

By comparing retrospective forecasts with past observations, researchers can assess the quality of the predictions, and determine to what extent they provide trustworthy information.

Dr. Markus Donat, climate scientist, Barcelona Supercomputing Center

### Marine heatwaves

As the climate warms, periods of [extreme heat](#) are becoming more common, frequent and long-lasting.

While the severe consequences of [land heatwaves](#) regularly attract [newspaper headlines](#) around the world, marine heatwaves are often less high profile. As such, global efforts to monitor ocean heatwaves still [lag behind](#) those of their land-based counterparts.

Nevertheless, the impacts from marine heatwaves can be stark. In 2015-16, "[the blob](#)" swept across the northern Pacific ocean. At its peak in 2015, this marine heatwave covered about [4m square kilometres](#) (km<sup>2</sup>) of ocean, stretching from Alaska to the Mexican state of Baja California.

The "[deadly](#)" event had "[huge](#)" consequences for marine ecosystems. The high temperatures caused a drop in primary production – the process by which marine plants produce food to live and grow – forcing [fish](#) and other organisms to move in search of cooler habitats. Meanwhile, harmful [algal blooms spread across the surface of the water](#).

[Disruption to the local ecosystem caused a mass die-off of fish, mussels and crabs, and thousands](#) of starving sea lion pups washed up on beaches. The "[ecological pileup of unprecedented changes](#)" also forced whales [closer to shore](#) to feed, leading to a record number becoming entangled in crab fishing nets. Meanwhile, a single coral bleaching event in 2016 saw [30 per cent of corals](#) in the Great Barrier Reef die.

Marine heatwaves have already driven direct [economic losses](#) of more than \$800m through damage to industries such as tourism and fishing.

### Seasonal forecasts

Scientists use [seasonal forecasting](#) to predict upcoming global weather events, such as unusually warm ocean temperatures. Today, such predictions are provided by a number of forecasting centres around the world.

[Dr Markus Donat](#) – a climate scientist at the [Barcelona Supercomputing Center](#) who was not involved in the study – wrote a [News and Views piece](#) for Nature on its findings. He explains that seasonal climate predictions "are made using numerical models that represent our understanding of the physical climate system". Donat adds:

## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'

"[Forecasting] centres also produce large sets of retrospective forecasts, which are initialised from conditions in the past. By comparing retrospective forecasts with past observations, researchers can assess the quality of the predictions, and determine to what extent they provide trustworthy information."

The new study uses seasonal forecasts to provide the foundation for an operational marine-heatwave forecasting system and then to predict how likely marine heatwaves were during 1991-2020. The authors define "marine heatwaves" as times when monthly average sea surface temperatures are in the warmest 10 per cent of those recorded over this time period.

To do this, they ran a collection of retrospective seasonal climate predictions, using six different [global climate models](#), with monthly sea surface temperature data. They then looked at forecasts for the entire globe, every month for the past 30 years, and assessed the "skill" of the forecast by comparing it to actual observations of heatwaves.

[Dr Michael Jacox](#) – a research oceanographer from the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) – is the lead author on the study. He tells Carbon Brief that the paper is "the first comprehensive analysis of how well models can predict marine heatwaves around the globe".

"This is a very exciting paper," [Dr Alistair Hobday](#) – a research scientist at the [Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation](#), who was not involved in the study – tells Carbon Brief. He adds:

"The use of multiple models in the paper makes the results stronger – and confidence in the results overall."

### 'Skilful' predictions

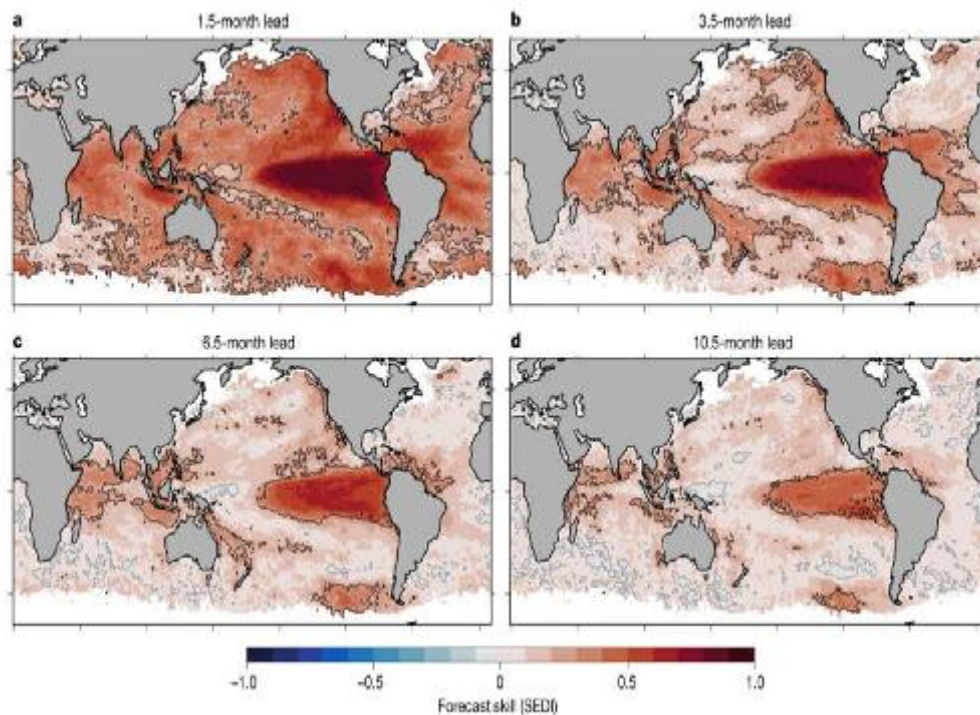
The study finds that the onset, intensity and duration of marine heatwaves is often predictable up to a year in advance, when using seasonal forecasts. However, factors including heatwave intensity, season and lead time – the time between the forecast being made and the event happening – affect the forecast skill.

For example, the authors find that shorter "lead times" offer more skilful predictions. This is similar to weather forecasts, which are generally more certain for the next day than they are for the next week.

The map below shows the forecast skill of the seasonal forecast system for four different "lead times" – 1.5, 3.5, 6.5 and 10.5 months. Scores range from –1 (blue), indicating no skill, to 1 (red), indicating perfect skill. Darker reds indicate higher level prediction skill.



## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'



Maps indicate marine heatwave MHW forecast skill of different lead time occurrence from six global climate forecast systems for the period 1991-2020. Scores range from  $-1$  (no skill) to  $1$  (perfect skill). Source: Jacox et al ([2022](#)).

Marine heatwave forecasts have "significant skills" in all regions of the global ocean at lead times up to two months, the authors find. And in large areas of the ocean, skillful predictions can still be made with lead times of three-to-six months.

However, the study finds that at 10.5 month lead times, "significant skill is confined primarily to the eastern tropical Pacific and portions of the Indian Ocean, Indo-Pacific region and high-latitude eastern Pacific".

Meanwhile, "relatively poor" forecast skill is seen in much of the Southern Ocean and in "western boundary current regions", where the marine heatwaves are short-lived, regardless of their intensity.

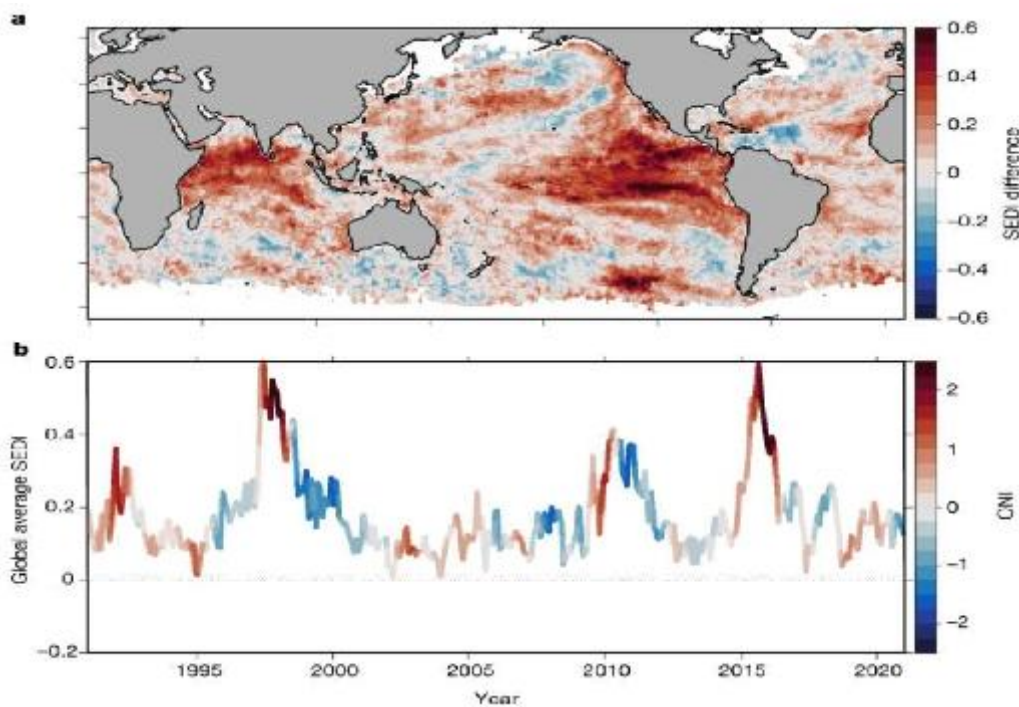
The researchers find that forecasts are most skilful when initialised in the northern-hemisphere winter for some regions – for example, the north-east Pacific and Indian Oceans. However, they tend to be more skilful when initialised in northern-hemisphere spring in the tropical Atlantic, and summer in the eastern tropical Pacific.

The study also finds that high global-forecasting skill is seen when the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in an "active" state – that is, when an El Niño or La Niña event is occurring, rather than ENSO's "neutral" state. The 30-year record saw the extreme 1991-92 and 2009-10 El Niño events and the 1998-2000 and 2010-11 La Niña events.

In the figure below, the map (top) shows the difference in 3.5-month lead forecast skill (SEDI) when ENSO is in an active state compared to a neutral state. Red indicates high skill and blue indicates low skill. The graph (bottom) shows a time series of globally averaged 3.5-month lead

## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'

forecast skill. Red indicates a high "[oceanic Niño index](#)" (ONI) and an El Niño event and blue indicates a low ONI and a La Niña event. A high value on the y-axis indicates high forecasting skill (SEDI).



The map (top) shows the difference in 3.5-month lead forecast skill (SEDI) when ENSO is in an active state compared to a neutral state. Red indicates high skill and blue indicates low skill. The graph (bottom) shows a time series of globally averaged 3.5-month lead forecast skill. Red indicates a high ONI and an El Niño event and blue indicates a low ONI and a La Niña event. A high value on the y-axis indicates high forecasting skill (SEDI) Source: Jacox et al ([2022](#)).

### Early warning

Accurately forecasting marine heatwaves has been described as, potentially, "[a major win](#)" for decision-makers. For fisheries, for example, advance warning could allow particular species to be protected from being overfished when heatwaves reduce productivity, writes Donat in his News & Views article, or "preparing to harvest more when productivity is enhanced". Meanwhile, forecasts could also inform the allocation of resources to monitor sensitive sites.

However, the actions taken by decision-makers depend on the level of risk that they are willing to tolerate in their decision to take action. In his article, Donat explains:

"Users with a high tolerance to the risks involved might wish to avoid action, taking into account the possibility that a predicted marine heatwave might not occur. Those with lower risk tolerance might prefer to take action even when the probability of a marine heatwave occurring is low.

"The most suitable decision threshold will be user-specific and will depend on balancing the cost of action with the cost of potential loss or damage in the case of inaction."

## Marine heatwaves can be predicted 'up to a year ahead'

As such, the study notes, end-users need to establish "thresholds" for when action should be taken, based on the level of risk that they are willing to accept.

A low threshold means that action is taken even when the likelihood of a marine heatwave occurring is low. This risk-averse approach means that the rate of false negatives – in which decision-makers fail to take action when a marine heatwave occurs – is low. However, it is also likely to result in more false positives – when action is taken, but a marine heatwave does not materialise.

By contrast, a higher temperature threshold makes it more likely that action will not be taken when a heatwave occurs, but it minimises the rate of false positives.

"Individual users must balance the risk of inaction with the risk of unnecessary action," the study says.

The test forecast system outlined in the paper "will give marine stakeholders a lot to think about", Hobday tells Carbon Brief.

"Now that we have developed the forecasts, we are eager to work with people who can benefit from using them," Jacox tells Carbon Brief. He adds:

"As a first step, we created a [website](#) where anyone can go and see forecasts of marine heatwaves for the next year."

The authors note that regionally tailored marine heatwave predictions can be generated – but "anticipate that they would supplement, rather than replace, global forecasts".

The study adds that in the future, marine heatwave forecasts could be expanded upon – for example, including coupled-climate forecasts from additional modelling centres, and collaborating internationally. Other methods – such as [machine-learning](#) techniques – could also be adopted, it says.





## Marine heatwave causes mass bleaching on Australia's Great Barrier Reef: report

Published May 11, 2022, 6:32 PM

by [Xinhua](#)

CANBERRA, Australia — Coral bleaching in Australia's iconic Great Barrier Reef has been linked to a "marine heatwave".

In a report published late on Tuesday, government scientists found that coral bleaching affected 91 percent of 719 reefs assessed along the Great Barrier Reef over the summer of 2021-22.

Coral bleaching is a phenomenon that occurs when coral become stressed due to changing conditions and expel the algae that live inside their tissue, causing the coral to become white.

Bleached coral face a higher risk of starvation and disease.

The summer of 2021-22 marked the sixth mass bleaching event on the Great Barrier Reef since 1998, four of which have occurred since 2016.

Tuesday's report from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority revealed the reef's mean sea surface temperature was 0.4 degrees Celsius above average in some parts.

"Above-average water temperatures led to a mass coral bleaching event late in the summer," it said.

"Compared to previous summers, cumulative impacts were limited this summer, with one major pressure, a marine heatwave, dominating."

The bleaching occurred despite Australia experiencing a milder summer than usual due to a La Nina event.

Tuesday's report noted that climate change "remains the greatest threat to the reef."

"The events that cause disturbances on the reef are becoming more frequent, leaving less time for coral recovery," it warned. Enditem



## It was this big! Cambodian fishermen hook giant endangered stingray



By Agence France-Presse

May 11, 2022



This handout photo taken on May 5, 2022 and released on May 10 by the [US](#)-funded Wonders of the Mekong project shows a female giant freshwater stingray — weighing 400 pounds (181 kg) and measuring 13 feet (3.96 metres) in length — that was caught and released in the [Mekong River](#) in [Cambodia](#)'s Stung Treng province. AFP PHOTO / WONDERS OF THE MEKONG / Chhut Chheana

PHNOM PENH: Cambodian fishermen on the Mekong River got a shock when they inadvertently hooked an endangered giant freshwater stingray four meters long and weighing 180 kilos, scientists said on Wednesday.

The female leviathan, one of Southeast Asia's largest and rarest species of fish, was caught by accident last week in Stung Treng province when it swallowed a smaller fish that had taken a baited hook.

An international team of experts on the US-funded Wonders of the Mekong project worked with the fishermen to unhook the ray before weighing and measuring it and returning it unharmed to the river.

The giant Mekong is a crucial habitat for a vast array of species large and small, but project leader [Zeb Hogan](#), a fish biologist from the [University of Nevada](#), said the river's underwater ecosystem was poorly understood.

"They are unseen worlds, underappreciated and out of sight," he said in a statement issued by his university.



## It was this big! Cambodian fishermen hook giant endangered stingray

More than 1,000 fish species call the Mekong home and the stingray is not the only giant lurking in the [muddy waters](#) — the giant catfish and giant barb also reach up to three metres long and 270 kilos in weight.

The study group said in the statement that the remote location where the ray was caught has pools up to 80 metres deep and could harbour even bigger specimens.

But they also warned that underwater video footage showed plastic waste even in the deepest stretches of the Mekong, along with "ghost nets" — abandoned by fishers but still able to snare fish.

Environmentalists have long voiced concerns about dam building along the Mekong River that will destroy fish stocks

The famous waterway starts in [China](#) and twists south through parts of [Thailand](#), [Laos](#), [Myanmar](#), Cambodia and [Vietnam](#), feeding 60 million people through its basin and tributaries.



12 MAY 2022, Thursday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

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**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





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## PHL adopts FSC certification to boost wood exports

**T**HE Philippines is adopting the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification system which is seen to open opportunities for export in Europe which demand forest products, paper, and wood from well-managed and sustainable forests.

An FSC certification is an assurance that forest goods come from legal sources as required by the European Union Timber Regulation and Lacey Act in the United States. It certifies that the goods come from forests that make least damaged to the environment and forest-dependent indigenous communities.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is mapping out an accreditation system for people's organizations (PO) to become certified under the FSC especially since POs want to export their forest products.

This is also aligned with Philippines's hopes of pursuing industrialization that will require excellent management of natural resources.

"PO accreditation is an important mechanism to transform POs into exemplary resource managers. POs are considered as 'de facto' managers, a partner rather than a contractor," according to DENR Assistant Secretary Marcial C. Amaro.

Amaro said there is a need to revisit the draft department administrative order on PO accreditation in order to put this policy in place.

"[We need] to conduct a national consultative meeting for possible institutionalization of PO accreditation with concerned CBFM [Community Based Forest Management] personnel by the fourth quarter of 2022," he said.

The PO accreditation will have a significant role in providing a sustainable livelihood for upland residents in order to discourage them from illegal logging and illegal wildlife hunting. The accreditation system was piloted as under DENR's project Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management Project (INREMP).

"The pervasive problems of pov-

erty and landlessness have driven people to using public lands. Inevitably, POs have become important players in the management of public land—timberland and multiple-use zones in protected areas," said Dr. Manuel L. Bonita, DENR INREMP consultant.

The accreditation under FSC standards will enable POs to have easier access to export markets that look for international forest management certification.

Some 20 POs operating in nine provinces in four regions have already been accredited through the piloted accreditation program in 2019-2021 of INREMP. Having gained the trust of INREMP, the POs were allowed to enjoy substantial cash advances as an intervention to natural resources management.

This allowed INREMP to accelerate lagging disbursement of the project's fund.

"In the future, forest products chain-of-custody must be added to the PO Accreditation System. This facilitates regulation of for-

est product harvesting and inhibit corrupt practices," said Bonita at an INREMP Exit Conference last April 21.

DENR wants to sustain the accreditation program even after the closure of INREMP which will run until June.

POs are beneficiaries of DENR's forest management contracts—CBFM and the National Greening Program (NGP). The success of CBFM and NGP depends on the transformation of POs into certified resource managers.

Being an accredited resource manager, one should abide by the principles, criteria, and indicators of good forest stewardship.

A PO applying for accreditation goes through an initial assessment and a series of annual assessments.

"An exemplary PO should not slide backward into an irresponsible resource manager," said Bonita.

PO certification can be a testing ground for forest certification and "ultimately as an alternative or precursor to forest certification."





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# LGUs, candidates told to clean up

BY CHRISTIAN CROW MAGHANOY

**A**LL local government units (LGUs) and candidates were reminded by the Department of the Interior and Local Government to remove and dispose of all campaign materials within three days.

"Cleanup of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and nonwinners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said Wednesday.

In an advisory to local chief executives (LCEs), Año urged the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering.

He proposed the utilization of *barangay* (village) and LGU material recovery facilities to collect and restore reusable materials as well as in coming up with innovative and safe

strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials.

Año pointed out that campaign propaganda made of plastic and other non-biodegradable materials, if improperly disposed of, may have detrimental effects on public health and the environment.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of," he said in the advisory to LCEs.

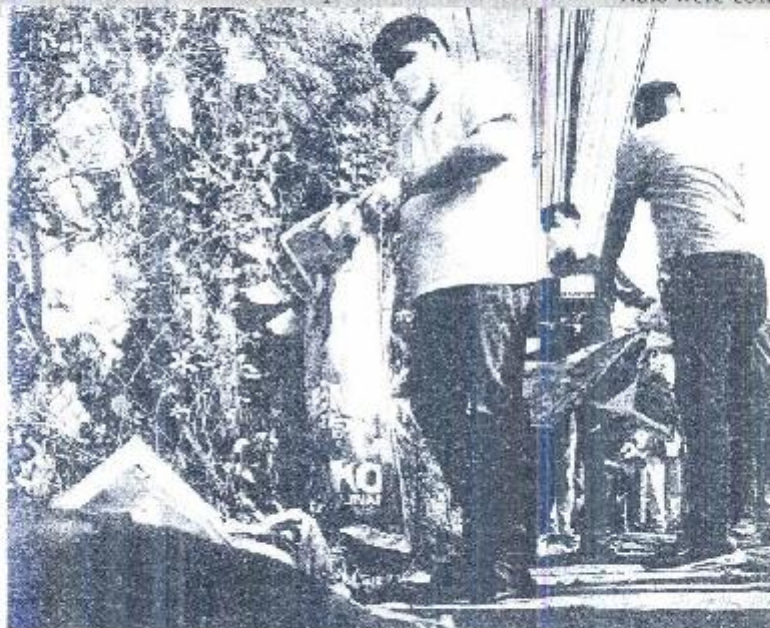
*"Hinihimok din po natin ang ating mga kababayan na makiisa sa cleanup drive ng kanilang LGUs at barangay* (We also urge our countrymen to join the clean up drive of the LGU and

*barangay*). We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," he said.

He said that section 10 of Republic Act (RA) 9003, known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act," provides that pursuant to Republic Act (RA) 7160 or the "Local Government Code," the LGUs shall be primarily responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of RA 9003 within their respective jurisdictions.

"Segregation and collection of solid waste shall be conducted at the *barangay* level specifically for biodegradable, compostable and reusable wastes, provided that the collection of nonrecyclable materials and special wastes shall be the responsibility of the municipality or city."

During the 2019 midterm elections, Año said more than 168.84 tons of campaign materials were collected.



**CLEANING TIME** Inos City congressman-elect Adlan Jay 'AJ' Advincula and father Inos City mayor-elect Alex 'AA' Advincula (partly hidden) lead the removal of campaign materials at the stretch of Buhay na Tubig road in Inos City on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, two days after the national and local elections. The Advinculas said this is part of their advocacy for a clean environment in the city. PHOTO BY DENNIS ABRINA





## News

# Metro cities' post-election cleanup yields trucks full of tarps, posters

By **KHRISCIELLE YALAO**  
and **AARON HOMER DIOQUINO**

Metro Manila cities have started their post-election cleanups, gathering tarpaulins and other election paraphernalia that filled up more than 20 dump trucks in Marikina City alone.

Marikina City's Environmental and Management Office (CEMO) spearheaded the clean-up drive to remove all election paraphernalia plastered all over the city on Tuesday, May 10.

Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año ordered all winning and losing candidates in the May 9 elections and the local government units (LGUs) to remove the campaign materials in their areas within three days.

Año urged the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering. "Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU

officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," said Año.

He also prodded the use of barangay and LGU material recovery facilities (MRF) to collect and restore reusable materials as well as in coming up with innovative and safe strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of," he said in the advisory to LCEs.

Año also appealed to the public to cooperate and help in the clean-up drive of the campaign material wastes in their respective LGUs and barangays.

### Marikina City

In an interview with DZBB, Marikina Mayor Marcelino "Marcy" Teodoro said that around 20 dump trucks of campaign paraphernalia were col-

lected the day after the elections.

Majority of the collected waste were the tarpaulins of both national and local candidates and party-lists posted on public areas and private residences all around the city.

He explained that they were taken to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in the city in order to be sorted and recycled.

In the MRF, the CEMO separates the biodegradable and compostable materials. The plywood stuck to some of the tarpaulins were removed and stored for later use.

The tarpaulins were shredded in a machine where the granules of plastics would be processed and turned into compact plastic blocks or "eco-bricks" that the local government plans to use for small infrastructure projects.

The CEMO aims to collect all the campaign-related waste in the city within the week.

Teodoro said he is planning to donate some of the recycled waste to local women's groups that sew bags and other items using plastic materials.

The newly re-elected mayor asked for the people's cooperation in maintaining the cleanliness and orderliness in the city.

"Aking pinakikiusapan ang lahat ng kapwa ko kandidatang tumakbo nitong nakaraang halalan, nanalo man o natalo, sama-sama nating linisin ang ating mga ikinabit na election paraphernalia (To my fellow candidates who ran in this election, whether



**POST-ELECTION CLEANUP**—A member of Marikina City Environmental Management Office segregates collected campaign paraphernalia at the Material Recovery Facility in Marikina City, on Tuesday, May 11, 2022. Collected wastes such as plastic pavers, tarpaulins, and sacks would be recycled into materials needed for the city's projects. (Noel Pabalato)





they won or lost, let's help each other remove all the election paraphernalia in the city," Teodoro added.

#### Valenzuela, Caloocan, QC

The cities of Valenzuela, Caloocan, and Quezon have started the removal of tarpaulins and other campaign materials used during the recent national and local elections.

Valenzuela City Public Sanitation and Cleanliness Office (PSCO) Clean and Green Division officer-in-charge Jojo Ignacio told the Manila Bulletin that they started their clearing operations on Tuesday, May 10, one day after Election Day, as ordered by incumbent Mayor Rex Gatchalian to maintain the city's cleanliness and orderliness.

He said the city deployed eight trucks with around 50 personnel tasked to remove all the campaign materials, including illegal advertisements posted on streetlights and other public areas, within seven days.

Ignacio added that once all the campaign materials are removed and collected, they will be coordinating with the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) for the proper disposal of the items.

The Quezon City Department of Public Order (DPOS) and Safety and Task Force for Transport and Traffic Management (TFTTM), and Department of Sanitation and Cleanup Works also began to remove posters in the city on Wednesday, May 11.

Dexter Cardenas, TFTTM officer-in-charge, said they have deployed around 150 personnel and four trucks on Wednesday to clear Maginhawa, Masaya, and Malingap Streets in Diliman of election campaign paraphernalia.

According to Cardenas, the city's Law and Order Cluster will also deploy around 1,000 personnel to remove the posters in the city's six districts.

He said the operations seek to prevent clogging of the city's drainage.

The collected materials will be brought to the Manila Seedling Bank in Quezon Boulevard for proper disposal.

Meanwhile, the Caloocan City Department of Public Safety and Traffic Management and the Caloocan Environmental Management Department also started the clearing operations in the city on Wednesday.

The DPSTM said the campaign

materials will be recycled.

"Ang ating mithiin na patuloy na mas mapaganda at mapaunlad ang Caloocan ay maisakatuparan natin basta't tayo ay nagkakaisa at nagtutulungan para sa ating mahal na lungsod (Our goal to continue to develop and beautify Caloocan will be achieved as long as we are united and we help each other)," Mayor Oscar "Oca" Malapitan said in a Facebook post.

#### Manila

Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso, in a Facebook live, said he has deployed members of the Department of Public Service and Order (DPOS) and the City Electrician to remove all election paraphernalia left in the city after Monday's elections.

He urged owners of private homes and establishments in the capital city to seek help from the city government in cleaning up their areas of tarpaulins and billboards.

"We will be happy to be of service," Domagoso said.

He said the election waste, if not collected immediately, will end up in the city's sewers and cause flooding during the rainy season.

#### Detrimental

The DILG chief noted that the "campaign propaganda made of plastics and other non-biodegradable materials, if improperly disposed of, may have detrimental effects on public health and the environment."

He said that based on "Section 10 of Republic Act (RA) No. 9003, known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act" pursuant to Republic Act (RA) 7160 or the Local Government Code, the LGUs shall be primarily responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of RA 9003 within their respective jurisdictions.

"Segregation and collection of solid waste shall be conducted at the barangay level specifically for biodegradable, compostable and reusable wastes: Provided, that the collection of non-recyclable materials and special wastes shall be the responsibility of the municipality or city."

In the 2019 midterm elections, Año said more than 168.82 tons of campaign materials were collected by the LGUs and clean-up groups. (With a report from Chito A. Chavez)



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#### NEWS BRIEFS

##### **Clean up poll mess, local gov'ts told**

The Department of the Interior and Local Government has given local governments and candidates three days to wipe out and dispose of all the campaign waste materials they produced in the recently concluded May 9 national and local elections. "Cleanup of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent [local government] officials, we urge all candidates, winners and nonwinners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said in a statement on Wednesday. In an advisory to local chief executives, he directed the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning and littering. Año also ordered barangays and local governments to utilize their material recovery facilities to collect and restore reusable materials, as well as in coming up with innovative and safe strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials. —DEXTER CABALZA





## DILG sa LGUs, kandidato: Alisin campaign materials sa loob ng 3 araw

UMAPELA ang Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) sa local government units (LGUs) at sa mga kandidato sa katapos na May 9 elections na tanggalin na ang kanilang campaign waste materials sa loob ng 3 araw.

"Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," sabi ni DILG Secretary Eduardo Año.

Sa kanyang advisory sa local chief executives, ginili ni Año na ipatupad ang tamang paglilis at paglita-pon ng election propaganda paraphernalia batay sa environmental laws, gayundin ng lokal na ordinansa at regulasyon laban sa illegal dumping, open burning, at littering.

Hinihikok sila ni Año na gamitin ang barangay at LGU material recovery facilities sa pagkolekta o pagtatabi ng reusable materials sa pamamagitan ng ligtas na paraan ng recycling o up-cycling ng reusable campaign waste materials.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of," sabi ni Año.

"Hinihikok din po natin ang ating mga kababayan na makiisa sa clean-up drive ng kanilang LGUs at barangay. We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," ang panawagan ng kalihim.





## Remove campaign materials in 3 days, Ano tells candidates

By Joel dela Torre

INTERIOR and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Ano reminded all candidates -- winners and non-winners -- to remove and dispose all campaign waste materials within three days.

Ano called on local government units (LGUs) to make it sure that their respective areas would be free from election garbage during the given dates.

"Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their

campaign materials," Ano said.

In an advisory, the DILG chief urged the local chief executives (LCEs) of the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering.

At the same time, Ano prodded the utilization of barangay and LGU material recovery facilities to collect and restore reusable materials as well as in coming up with innovative and safe strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be

properly managed and disposed of," he said in the advisory to LCEs.

The DILG head urged the people to help the LGUs in making their streets and schools clean.

"We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," he said.

He pointed out that campaign propaganda made of plastics and other non-biodegradable materials, if improperly disposed of, may have detrimental effects on public health and the environment.

In the 2019 midterm elections, Ano said over 168.84 tons of campaign materials were collected.



## DILG to poll bets: Clear campaign materials in 3 days

By JUN I.  
LEGASPI

THE Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) reminds all local government units (LGUs) and candidates to remove and dispose of all campaign waste materials within three days.

"Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU [local government unit] of-

ficials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," said DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año.

In an advisory to local chief executives (LCEs), he urged the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering.

He also prods the utilization of barangay and

LGU material recovery facilities to collect and restore reusable materials and come up with innovative and safe strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities to ensure that waste generated by their activities and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of," he said in the advisory to LCEs.

"Hinuhumok din po natin ang ating mga kababay-

an na makiusap sa clean up drive ng kanilang LGUs at barangay. We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," he said.

Año pointed out that campaign propaganda made of plastics and other non-biodegradable materials may have detrimental effects on public health and the environment if not properly disposed of.



## Año orders removal of campaign materials

Winning and losing candidates in the May 9 elections and the local government units (LGUs) must remove the campaign materials properly within three days, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año stressed yesterday.

In an advisory to the local chief executives (LCEs), Año urged the proper disposal of election propaganda materials in line with environmental laws and local ordinances and regulations against illegal dumping, open burning, and littering.

"Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," said Año.

He also prodded the use of barangay and LGU material

recovery facilities (MRF) to collect and restore reusable materials as well as in coming up with innovative and safe strategies to recycle or upcycle reusable campaign waste materials.

"Impose the responsibility to the organizers of political activities, to ensure that waste generated by their activities, and their attendees will be properly managed and disposed of," he said in the advisory to LCEs.

At the same time, Año appealed to the public to cooperate and help in the clean-up drive of the campaign material wastes in their respective LGUs and barangays.

"We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," Año pointed out. (Chito A. Chavez)





## **DILG SA LGUs, KANDIDATO- Campaign materials, linisin sa loob ng 3 araw**

Tatlong araw ang ibinigay na taling ni Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año ang lahat ng local government units (LGUs) at mga kandidato para alisin at i-dispose ang lahat ng campaign waste materials sa kanilang nasasakupan ...

"Clean-up of election litter is the first order of business after the polls. Aside from incumbent LGU officials, we urge all candidates, winners and non-winners alike, to take it upon themselves to lead in the removal of their campaign materials," ayon pa

kay Año, sa isang pahayag.

Sa kanyang paabiso sa mga local chief executives (LCEs), hinikayat niya ang mga ito na i-dispose ng lama ang mga election propagan-da materials, alinsunod sa environmental laws at local ordinances at regulations laban sa illegal dumping, open burning, at littering.

Hinikayat din niya ang paggamit ng barangay at LGU material recovery facilities para mangolekta at mag-restore ng mga reusable materials gayundin sa pagbuo ng mga makabago at ligtas na estratehiya sa

pag-recycle o pag-upcycle ng reusable campaign waste materials.

"Hinihimok din po natin ang ating mga kababayan na makisasa sa clean up drive ng kanilang LGUs at barangay. We have done our part in exercising our right to vote. Let's continue to participate in governance through our simple ways of cleaning up our neighborhood from election litter," anang DILG chief.

Binanggit pa nito na noong 2019 midterm elections, mahigit sa 168.84 tonelada ng campaign materials ang nakolekta. (Mer Layson)





## Higit 180 toneladang campaign materials nahakot sa Metro Manila

**POSIBLENG** mas maraming basura mula sa campaign materials ang nahakot sa Metro Manila ngayong 2022 kumpara noong 2019, ayon sa Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

Mula Mayo 7, nakalisom na ang MMDA ng 180.87 tonelada ng campaign materials sa National Capital Region. Magpapaluoy ang paghakot hanggang sa susunod na linggo.

Noong 2019 midtem elections, abot sa 200 tonelada ang nakalap na campaign materials.

"Tingin ko mas marami ngayon," ani Francis Martinez ng MMDA Metro Parkway Cleaning Group.

Karantinan sa mga naku-

na ay tarpaulin, pero ayon kay Martinez ay nabawasan na ang campaign materials na gawa sa papel.

Dadalhin ang campaign materials sa solid waste granulator ng MMDA sa Tondo, Maynila para gawing bricks o hollow blocks.

Hinikayat naman ng environmental group na EcoWaste Coalition na i-reuse at gawing kapaki-pakinabang ang mga campaign material.

Ilang campaign poster mula sa tarpaulin ang ginawang bag at puwede pang pagkakitaan.

Kasama ang MMDA, panawagan ni EcoWaste Coalition National Coordinator Aileen Lucero sa mga kandidato na magkusang ligpit ng kanilang mga ikinabit.



## Malvar taps ecoloop on sustainable waste disposal

THE town Malvar in Batangas has signed a partnership with ecoloop to address the municipality's need for a sustainable and efficient waste disposal solution.

Ecoloop is the official resource recovery and co-processing arm of Republic Cement.

Co-processing helps reduce wastes that end up in landfills and bodies of water, providing total and complete disposal with no byproducts. Moreover, co-processing reduces the consumption of non-renewable resources of energy, thereby also lowering carbon footprint in the cement manufacturing process.

Ecoloop's "Waste for Cement" program in Malvar is a way for the town to dispose of residual plastic wastes in exchange for cement that can be used for environment or social development projects.

Since partnering with Republic Cement in 2014, the Municipality of Malvar has been able to divert over 335 truckloads of baled plastic wastes away from landfills and waterways. The success of this partnership highlights the critical role of barangays in ensuring proper segregation of wastes at source.

4Ps beneficiaries also provided a significant contribution to proper waste segregation and collection, through its community service component. Strong LGU support coupled with consistent information, education, and communication campaigns helped ensure successful implementation at the grassroots level.

The LGU also further supported this initiative by hosting contests among participants to raise awareness and encourage residents to participate in proper waste segregation.



### **Ecowaste umapela sa mga kandidato**

Hiniling ng environmentalist group Ecowaste Coalition sa mga kandidato na maging responsable sa kanilang mga campaign materials na ginamit sa nagdaang halalan sa bansa.

Dapat sana ay magkanya kanyang tanggal ang mga kandidato ng kanilang mga campaign materials at umisip ng paraan kung paano ito mapapakinabangan pa sa pagrecycle.

Ayon sa Ecowaste coalition na kailangan ding makiusap ang mga kandidato sa paglilinis ng mga naglipanang campaign materials, nanalo man o natalo upang maging malinis ang kapaligiran.

Maaari anilang ma-recycle ang mga campaign materials sa pamamagitan ng paggawa mula dito ng bag na lalagyan ng mga gulay at isda sa pamamalengke at maaari ring magamit na mantel sa upuan at lamesa.

Ang tambak na basura anila na iniwan ng nagdaang halalan ay malaking hamon sa mga kandidato para makipagtulungan sa pamahalaan na malinis ang kapaligiran.

Dapat umanong isaisip ng mga kandidato ang kanilang responsibilidad makaraan ang bawat halalan sa bansa.  
*(Angie dela Cruz)*





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Environmentalists hold placards calling to recycle campaign materials in this handout photo provided by EcoWaste Coalition.





UMAPELA ang Ecowaste Coalition advocacy group sa mga nanalo at natalong kandidato na manguna sa pagpigil sa kanilang mga supporter na pagtapon sa mga ginamit nilang campaign materials sa mga landfill, pag-sunog sa mga tapahan ng semento at incinerator o pag-hagis sa karagatan at sa halip ay maayos na i-recycle ang mga ito para muling mapakinabangan. (Patrick Adalin)



Editorial

Larry Goy '22  
5.12.22

## Daming basura

**T**AMBAK ang basura sa mga eskuwelahang pinagdausan ng election. Dalawang araw na ang nakalilipas pero wala pang kumkilos para linisin ang mga basura na kinabibilangan ng mga papel, plastic bottle, cup, straws, face mask, at marami pa.

Hindi lang sa loob ng school na pinagbotohan nagkalat ang basura kundi pati na sa kalsada na pinilahan ng mga tao. Nagmistulang malawak na basurahan ang bisinidad ng voting centers. Wala nang nagpaalala sa mga botante na huwag iwanan ang mga kodigo nila at ang mga plastic ng inumin. Nawalan na ng disiplina.

Tiyak na problema kung sino ang maglilinis. At wala namang ibang kikilos dito kundi ang mga guro na namahala rin sa botohan. Kawawa naman sila. Sana atasan ng Comelec ang mga kandidato na tumulong sa paglilinis dahil sangkot sila sa pagdami ng basura. Sila ang dapat na unang obligahin.



Sa Quezon City, ipinag-utos na ng proklamadong Mayor Joy Belmonte na linisin ang mga basurang naiwan ng election. Tanggalin na rin ang mga campaign posters at iba pa.

Basura ang dahilan kaya laging bumabaha partikular sa Metro Manila. Ilang dekada na ang problema ito sa subalit hanggang ngayon, problema pa rin at mas malala dahil kaunting ulan, baha agad.

Inamin na noon ng Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) na mga basura ang dahilan nang pagbaha na karamihan ay pawang plastic na hindi nabubulok. Hindi raw kaya ng pumping stations na pabilisin ang pagliit ng baha dahil sa mga basurang plastic. Ngayong malapit na ang tag-ulan, tiyak na baha na naman ang kalahan sa Metro Manila at kung hindi maillinis ang mga basura sa nagdaang election, problemang malaki. Ngayong may pandemya, nadagdag ang mga ginamit na face masks, face shields sa mga basura.

Noong nakaraang Marso 2, lumahok ang Pilipinas at ba pang bansa sa UN resolution para wakasan ang plastic pollution. Naganap ang historic resolution sa UN Environmental Assembly sa Nairobi, Kenya. Sa resolution, ipinaliwanag ang full life cycle ng plastic products - mula sa produksiyon at design disposal ng mga ito. Inaasahan na ang resolution ang magwawakas sa problema sa plastic pollution sa buong mundo.

Maraming basura ang iniwan ng election at sana magkusa ang mga kandidato na tumulong sa paglilinis, partikular ang pagtanggap sa kanilang campaign posters.





**Editorial EDITORIAL Editorial**

**MGA KANDIDATONG PANALO AT TALO,  
MAGLIGPIT NG MGA GINAMIT SA KAMPANYA**

**G**RABE ang iniwang basura ng nagdaang kampanya hanggang mismong araw ng halalan.

Posible umanong mas maraming basura mula sa campaign materials ang mahakot sa Metro Manila ngayong 2022 kumpara noong 2019

Ayon sa Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), mula Mayo 7, nakalikom na ng 180.87 tonelada ng campaign materials sa National Capital Region at tuloy ang paghakot hanggang sa susunod na linggo.

Noong 2019 midterm elections, aabot sa 200 tonelada ang nakalap na campaign materials.

Karamihan sa mga nakuha ay tarpaulin, bagama't nabawasan na umano ang campaign materials na gawa sa papel.

Dadalhin ang mga ito sa solid waste granulator ng MMDA sa Tondo, Maynila para gawing bricks o hollow blocks.

Mainam lang na muling napapakinabangan ang mga ito – ilang campaign poster mula sa tarpaulin ang ginagawang bag at puwede pang pagkakitaan.

Samantala, ang patuloy na panawagan sa mga kandidato, magkusang iligpit ang mga ikinabit. Huwag nang iasa sa MMDA o sa ibang ahensiya.

Dapat nga, lahat ng kandidato, panalo o talo, ay tumulong sa pagtatanggal ng posters.

At sana sa mga susunod na halalan, may iba nang paraan ng pangangampanya, 'yung iwas-kalat at hindi na masakit sa mata.





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**MOUNTAIN OF TRASH** Workers gather campaign posters at a recycling facility in Marikina City on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. PHOTO BY JOHN ORVEN VERDOTE



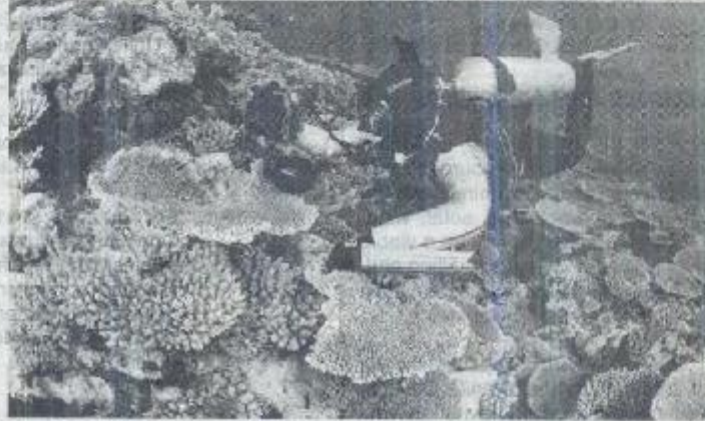


**ELECTION TRASH.** Workers of Marikina City Environmental Management Office segregate collected campaign materials at the material recovery facility in Marikina to recycle them into plastic pavers, sacks, and other materials needed for the city's construction projects. (Noel B. Pabalate)





# Heat wave bleaches 91% of Great Barrier Reef



**UNDER THE SEA** This Oct. 18, 2016 file photo from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) shows a diver swimming near corals on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. GBRMPA PHOTO VIA AP

**SYDNEY:** A prolonged summer heat wave in Australia left 91 percent of the Great Barrier Reef's corals damaged by bleaching, according to a new government monitoring report.

It was the first time on record the reef had suffered bleaching during a La Niña weather cycle, when cooler temperatures would normally be expected.

The Reef Snapshot report offered new details of the damage caused by the fourth "mass bleaching" the world's largest coral reef system has experienced since 2016, which was first revealed in March.

"Climate change is escalating, and the Reef is already experiencing the consequences of this," the report warned.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, which published the report on Tuesday night, conducted extensive surveys of the World Heritage-listed reef between September 2021 and March 2022.

It found that after waters began to warm last December, all three major regions of the reef experienced bleaching, a phenomenon that occurs when coral is stressed and expels brightly colored algae living in it.

Although bleached corals are still alive, and moderately affected sec-

tions of the reef may recover, "severely bleached corals have higher mortality rates," the report said.

Of the 719 reefs surveyed, 654 — or 91 percent — showed some level of coral bleaching.

The report was published 10 days before Australia's May 21 federal election, in which climate change policy has emerged as a key issue for voters.

Australia's 2019-2020 "Black Summer" bushfires and deadly east coast floods that swept away cars and engulfed homes this year have highlighted the country's growing climate risks.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has, however, resisted calls to make the country's 2030 emissions reduction target more ambitious, while vowing to mine and export coal for as long as there are buyers.

The opposition Labor Party has promised to boost renewables and commit to a 43-percent cut in greenhouse gases by 2030 but made no mention of phasing out coal burning.

"Although bleaching is becoming

more and more frequent, this is not normal, and we should not accept that this is the way things are," Australian Marine Conservation Society campaigner Lissa Schindler said. "Both major political parties need to face up to the fact that their climate goals are not enough for the reef."

During Australia's election campaign, there has been another force in favor of climate action at play, with more than 20 climate-focused independent candidates running for key seats.

These independents, mostly women, are being financed to stand for election by a fund, Climate 200, set up by activist-philanthropist Simon Holmes à Court.

Most of them are standing in urban, conservative seats against ruling Liberal Party candidates, seeking to sway voters who want stronger climate action.

Next month, the United Nations' World Heritage Committee will decide whether to list the reef as "in danger."

Australia was able to avoid a threatened U.N. downgrade of the reef's World Heritage status in 2015 by creating a "Reef 2050" plan and pouring billions of dollars into protection. AFP





## Proposed top governance agendas for the next administration

*Second of two parts*

THE first part of this essay noted that the topmost governance agenda for the next administration is managing our precarious fiscal position well as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has been ravaging the world economy for two years now. As we emphasized, this agenda has a cascading effect on subsequent agendas because without the financial means to respond to them, there is no way we can adequately address the remaining seven challenges below.

The second obvious agenda for the next administration is the continuing health challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Complete economic recovery cannot proceed if people are afraid to go out of their house to buy basic needs, report to their workplaces or simply take a leisure trip. Constraining people's mobility will affect overall economic demand and, as such, many of our shops are still closed to this day.

### Food and nutrition security

The pandemic, aggravated by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, has threatened our food and nutrition security partly as a result of transport-related bottlenecks. More importantly, the pandemic has led to many of our workers losing their jobs and in the process their income. Consequently, incidences of poverty, hunger and malnutrition have significantly risen over the last two years.

While the availability of adequate supply of nutritious food is critical, their affordability is equally important. Hunger and malnutrition incidences cannot be reduced if ordinary consumers can hardly afford to buy nutritious food despite having ample supply. This point is lost to some of our legislators who believe in protecting our local producers and maintaining high prices of food commodities at the expense of the vast majority of our people who are consumers.



FINER POINTS

FERMIN ADRIANO, PhD

many people will lose their properties and tragically, their lives. It is for this reason why addressing the challenges of climate change form part of our top governance agendas for the next administration.

### West Philippine Sea

Undeniably, the competing ownership claims over the vast expanse of the West Philippine Sea serve as an immediate national security threat to the country. Our military is inadequately prepared to meet external challenges over our territorial claim as its development was designed to meet internal, rather than an external, threat to our national security. Thus, our investments in our navy and maritime capability pale in comparison to building and maintaining a standing army. This is indeed ironic because our coastal areas are far greater in physical size than our land area.

While we maintain a good relationship with China, we should not lose our sense of urgency in strengthening our naval forces as a deterrent to any further incursion by foreign parties to our territory. We should learn lessons from the current Russia-Ukraine conflict wherein the latter smaller country made sure that despite its mammoth size and military capability, Russia's invasion proved to be exorbitantly costly.

### Maintaining Bangsamoro peace

To be able to free our military from its focus on internal threats and save and divert resources to addressing the external one, the next government should ensure that the Bangsamoro peace agreement is maintained and fulfilled. The Moro Islamic Liberation Front has proven to be a reliable partner in the peace process and, hence, its capability to govern should be supported and upgraded by the national government.





TITLE: *Proposed top governance*

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If malnutrition and hunger worsened into starvation, expect social unrest to immediately spill on our streets and other public places. This was what happened in Egypt more than a decade ago when a wheat shortage (as bread is the staple food of Egyptians) happened there, and this is what is happening now in Sri Lanka as its government defaulted on its loans.

### Education crisis

The vast majority of our school age children practically lost two years of schooling during the pandemic. This will have severe implications on their cognitive and skills development. In fact, even before the Covid-19 pandemic, our student examination results in the "Program for International Student Assessment" (PISA)-administered test are woeful. This is a clear indication that our educational system is in crisis.

The medium- and long-term development of a country depends on the quality of its human capital resource, which is a product of the educational system. Unfortunately, the future of this nation will be uncertain if we do not drastically reform our educational system. It is for this reason why we ranked improving our educational system as our fourth topmost governance priority.

### Climate resilience

The negative impacts of climate change are expected to worsen in the very near future if efforts to arrest global warming are stymied. In agriculture alone, losses and damages already amount to P20 to P25 billion a year depending on the intensity of typhoons that regularly visit the country. Plant and animal pests and diseases are expected to proliferate and become more virulent as they find the warm environment more conducive to their rapid reproduction.

Climate change will not only impact agriculture but the other sectors of the economy as well. If we do not prepare for its challenges,

Besides the dividend from a secured internal security, there is the added bonus that peace will foster the development of this poverty-stricken region and thus help in the overall national economic development effort. It is for this reason why upholding the Bangsamoro peace process constitutes the seventh topmost governance agendas for the next administration.

### Digital technology

Occupying the eight imperative is the rapid adoption of digital technology across the various economic sectors of the country. A massive technological revolution, particularly in the developed economies, is taking place through the application of digital technology in various economic fields. It has increased the productivity of their labor force, improved their product quality and cheapened their final output prices.

The country will be left out in the development race if we do not promote the adoption of digital technology in our economic and business activities. Other more advanced neighboring countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam are now doing so with positive results on their efficiency and competitiveness. To be able to attain this goal, we need a true information technology or IT professional/expert to head our Department of Information and Communication Technology. The country will never make headway on this agenda if we appoint a politician to perform a job so important for the advancement of our economy, but for which he or she is unfit to discharge successfully.

In fact, the same can be said to the other topmost governance agendas on the list who will be assigned to take the leadership role in addressing these challenges if the country is to weather the looming crisis that confronts us.

*Idadriano88@gmail.com*





## Experts: Climate change enhances every heatwave

PARIS—All heatwaves today bear the unmistakable and measurable fingerprint of global warming, top experts on quantifying the impact of climate change on extreme weather said Wednesday.

Burning fossil fuels and destroying forests have released enough greenhouse gases into the atmosphere to also boost the frequency and intensity of many floods, droughts, wildfires, and tropical storms, they detailed in a state-of-science report.

"There is no doubt that climate change is a huge game changer when it comes to extreme heat," Friederike Otto, a scientist at Imperial College London's Grantham Institute, told AFP.

Extreme hot spells such as the heatwave that gripped South Asia in March and April are already the deadliest of extreme events, she added.

"Every heatwave in the world is now made stronger and more likely to happen because of human-caused climate change," Otto and co-author Ben Clarke of the University of Oxford said in the report, presented as a briefing paper for the news media.

Evidence of global warming's impact on extreme weather has been mounting for decades, but only recently has it been possible to answer the most obvious of questions: To what extent was a particular event caused by climate change?

The most scientists could say before is that an unusually severe hurricane, flood, or heatwave was consistent with general predictions of how global warming would eventually influence weather.

News media, meanwhile, sometimes left climate change out of the picture altogether or, at the other extreme, mistakenly attributed a weather disaster entirely to rising temperatures. AFP



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE  
CENRO ROO, Bangkal, Davao City  
Telephone No. (882) 287-2695

**PAGPAPAUPA NG LUPANG PUBLIKO**

Ipanatibigay alam sa media na ang Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City ay talagang ng seyado o nakasulat na alok sa ika alas 10:00 ng umaga sa ika 14 ng Hunyo 2022 para paupahan ang isang suklat na lupang publiko na inilarawan sa ibaba nito:

Lugar	Paraisan, Davao City
Deskripsyon	Lot 1, Mlc-11-001242-D
Sukat	5,340 square meter
Tasahan ng lupa	Php 11,990.00 kada metro kwadrado o Kabuuang Php. 54,026,600.00
Halaga ng nakalayo At italayong Proyekto	Php. 52,364,621.15
Aplikante	DAVAO MODERN FORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

Ang karapatan na upahan ng nasabing lupa ay ibibigay sa tao o partido na maaapegibigay ng pinakamataas na upa sa isang taon na hindi bababa sa tatlong porsyento (3%) sa halaga ng lupa at isang porsyento (1%) sa halaga ng italayong estruktura. Upang ang isang tao ay makakasama sa isasagawang subasta, kailangang siya ay karapaidapat na aplikante at kailangan bago magsimula ang subasta ay nakadeposito siya ng halagang katumbas ng tatlong buwang upa. Ang deposito ay kailangang salaping papel, money order, cashier's or manager's check, ang siya lamang tatanggapin. Ang isang tao na sumali sa subasta na nagrepresenta ng isang tao ay makakasali lamang kung mayroon siyang pahintulot na ibinigay sa pamamagitan ng kaakibateng pahintulot na itatagpuan ng Notaryo Publiko. Sa panahon ng subasta, ang itong sumali ay makaroon ng dagdag na deposito kapag ang kayang alok ay itinatasa para makuolet ang kabuuang tatlong buwang upa. Ang karapatang tumanggap o tanggihan ang anumang alok o sa lahat ng alok ay palaging nakalain para sa mapahalaan.

Ang magwawagi sa alok na ito kung hindi siya ang aplikante ay kinakailangang tumubasan ang kabeyarang naguulat sa pagpapataha ng panawagang ito at sa pagpapasukat ng lupa.

Lungsod ng Dabaw, **Abril 28, 2022.**

**JUVY C. HOFILEÑA**  
CIC, CENRO Officer



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
CENRO RD, Bangkal, Davao City  
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

## LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

Notice is hereby given that Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten (10:00) o'clock A.M. on **June 14, 2022** for the lease for **commercial** purposes of the tract of land herein below described:

Location	Panacan, Davao City
Description	Lot 2-A, Mlc-11-001241-D
Area	2,310 square meter
Appraisal of Land	Php 11,590.00 kada metro kwadrado o Kabuuang Php. 27,696,900.00
Value of Existing & Proposed Improvements	Php. 385,200.00
Applied for by	DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

The successful bidder if other than the applicant must reimburse the latter of the expenses for the publication of the notice of lease and the survey of the land.

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed/existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be a qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) months rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified checks, cashier's or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise such bid as raised shall not be accepted. The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Davao City, Philippines, April 28, 2022

JOVY C. HOFILERA  
OIC, CENRO Officer





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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE  
CENRO RO, Bangkal, Davao City  
Telephone No. (082) 297-2695

**LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND**

Notice is hereby given that Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten (10.00) o'clock A.M. on **June 14, 2022** for the lease for **commercial** purposes of the tract of land herein below described:

Location	: Panacan, Davao City
Description	: Lot 1, Mc-11-001242-D
Area	: 5,340 square meter
Appraisal of Land	: Php 11,960.00 kada metro kwadrado o Kabuuang Php. 64,026,600.00
Value of Existing & Proposed Improvements	: Php. 52,364,621.15
Applied for by	: DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

The successful bidder if other than the applicant must reimburse the latter of the expenses for the publication of the notice of lease and the survey of the land.

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed/existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be a qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) months rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified checks, cashier's or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise such bid as raised shall not be accepted. The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Davao City, Philippines, April 28, 2022

JUVY C. HOFLENA  
OIC, CENRO Officer



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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
CENRO RX, Bangkal, Davao City  
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

**PAGPAPAUPA NG LUPANG PUBLIKO**

Ipanatibigay lam sa media na ang Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City ay talagang ng solyado o nakasulat na alok sa ika-14 ng umaga sa ika-14 ng Hulyo 2022 para paupahan ang isang suklat na lupang publiko na inilarawan sa ibaba nito:

Lugar	Paraisan, Davao City
Deskripsyon	Lot 2-A, Mfo-11-001241-D
Sukat	2,310 square meter
Tasahan ng lupa	Php 11,890.00 kada metro kwadrado o Kabuuang Php. 27,696,000.00
Halaga ng nakalayo At talayong Proyeto	Php. 365,200.00
Aplikante	DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

Ang karapatan na upahan ng kinasabing lupa ay ibibigay sa tao o partido na makapagbibigay ng pinakamataas na upa sa isang taon na hindi bababa sa tatlong porsyento (3%) sa halaga ng lupa at isang porsyento (1%) sa halaga ng statyong estruktura. Upang ang isang tao ay makakasama sa isasagawang subasta, kailangang siya ay karapat dapat na aplikante at kailangan bago magsumala ang subasta ay nakadeposito siya ng halagang kulumbas ng tatlong buwang upa. Ang deposito ay kailangang kalaping papel, money order, cashier's or manager's check, ang siya lamang tatanggapin. Ang isang tao na sumali sa subasta na nagrepresenta ng ibang tao ay makakasali lamang kung mayroon siyang pahintulot na ibinigay sa pamamagitan ng kaukulang pahintulot na nilagdaan ng Notaryo Publiko. Sa panahon ng subasta, ang taong sumali ay nakaroon ng dagdag na deposito kapag ang kanyang alok ay rinatasa para makapinto ang kabuuang tatlong buwang upa. Ang karapatang tumanggi o tanghan ang anumang alok o sa lahat ng alok ay palaging nakalaan para sa mapahalain.

Ang magwawag sa alok na ito kung hindi siya ang aplikante ay kinakatangang lutumban ang kabayaranang nanggol sa pagpapalihala ng panawagang ito at sa pagpapacukul ng lupa.

Lungsod ng Dabaw, April 28, 2022.

**JUVY C. HOFILERA**  
OIC, CENR Officer



12 MAY 2022, Thursday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





## Extensive lockdown not option vs. Covid-19 surge: expert

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor May 11, 2022, 4:42 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – A health expert said extensive lockdown is no longer being considered an option to curb possible surge of Covid-19 cases when highly transmissible subvariants of Omicron enter the country.

In a televised public briefing Wednesday, Dr. Rontgene Solante, Vaccine Experts Panel member, said monitoring of the hospital utilization rate nationwide is more important than lockdowns.

Department of Health data on May 9 showed that only 14.5 percent or 4,546 out of 26,811 hospital beds dedicated for Covid-19 patients are utilized nationwide.

Apart from monitoring healthcare facilities, Solante said it was important to encourage people to be tested for Covid-19 when they have symptoms.

"If we don't do the test *'di natin alam kung ano ang nangyayari, ano ang mga kaso natin kagaya ng nangyari* for the past week *na mababa talaga ang testing natin* (We won't know what's happening, our cases, like what happened in the past we really have low testing [rate])," he said.

Testing provides pertinent data that could protect the healthcare facilities.

"*Yun naman ang objective natin ngayon na* (That's our objective now that) healthcare facilities should always be ready," Solante added.

There were 12,066 individuals tested in 297 testing laboratories nationwide on May 9.

To date, the total tally of individuals tested for Covid-19 in the 340 testing laboratories nationwide already reached 28,006,9714.

The country's cumulative positivity rate is 14.2 percent. (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1174203>



## 9-M booster shots target attainable before end of Duterte's term

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor May 11, 2022, 4:01 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The administration of 8 to 9 million booster shots is possible to achieve before President Rodrigo Duterte's term ends on June 30, an infectious disease expert said Wednesday.

*"Sa tingin ko attainable 'yan kasi medyo bumagal lang nang konti during the election at saka mga campaign period (I think that's attainable because the vaccination activities slowed down a bit during the election and campaign period),"* Vaccine Experts Panel member Dr. Rontgene Solante said during a televised public briefing.

As of May 9, Department of Health (DOH) data showed that about 13.5 million fully vaccinated individuals have received their booster shots.

There are 37.8 million eligible individuals who have not received their additional dose of protection against Covid-19.

Solante said the DOH would focus again on its advocacy to encourage more people to get their booster doses "in preparation for possible surge of infections" in the midst of Omicron subvariants.

Omicron subvariants BA.2.1.2.1, B.4 and B.5 are known for their high transmissibility rate.

The BA.2.1.2.1 subvariant was responsible for the recent spike of cases in the United States while the B.4 and B.5 subvariants in South Africa.



## 9-M booster shots target attainable before end of Duterte's term

The current Covid-19 vaccines have low effectivity rate against these subvariants.

*"Gayunpaman, ang purpose natin dito, ang objective natin dito, mapaingting natin ang first booster sa population because based on data, kapag meron kang first booster or third dose, malaki ang chance natin ng (Our purpose, our objective, to strengthen first booster administration because based on data, if you have first booster or third dose, we have a big chance for) protection even when with these subvariants, especially against severe disease," Solante said. (PNA)*





## Uptick in Covid-19 cases after poll week expected: expert

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor May 11, 2022, 3:18 pm



(PNA photo by Robert Alfiler)

MANILA – An infectious diseases expert is not discounting the possible rise in the number of Covid-19 infections after the election week.

In a televised public briefing Wednesday, Dr. Rontgene Solante, Vaccine Experts Panel member, said there had been super spreader events prior to the election day such as political sorties where minimum public health standards were violated.

"In fact, *meron tayo mga nakitaan ngayon na ibang mga pasyente na merong mga mild symptoms lang naman, and they are positive, so, ibig sabihin dun nakuha 'yan, either sa presinto or before siya bumoto at bumoto siya nakuha niya* (We've seen patients with mild symptoms, and they're positive, so it means, they got it either at the precinct or before they voted) so, those are the possible scenarios," he added.

Earlier, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said some 31 voters nationwide were sent home on election day to self-isolate due to Covid-19-related symptoms.

Health experts say the country has high protection against the BA.2 Omicron variant from the Covid-19 vaccines available in the country.

"*Sana naman hindi ganun kataas...Ang medyo nangagamba tayo kapag pumasok dito 'yung BA.4 at saka BA.5* ([I] hope the [case surge] won't be that high...We'll be concerned if the BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants enter the country)," Solante said.

The incubation period of the virus from exposure to the first symptoms usually averages three to five days, he said.



## Uptick in Covid-19 cases after poll week expected: expert

"So, *halimbawa, kung lahat mataas ang exposure noong May 9, magbilang tayo ng mga seven days or five to seven days, magre-reflect yan* (for example, if everyone has high exposure on May 9, let's count seven days or five to seven days, it will reflect), most likely next week," he added. (PNA)



12 MAY 2022, Thursday



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




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