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DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Recycling ng mga face shield tiniyak ng DENR



November 16, 2021 @ 7:45 PM 10 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Ngayong opsiyonal na lamang ang paggamit ng face shield tiniyak ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na iko-convert ito para i-recycle gawing construction materials.

Ito ang sinabi ni DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management (SWM) and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda at nanawagan na ‘wag basta itatapon ang mga face shield ngayong opsiyonal na lamang ang paggamit nito.

Sa virtual press conference, sinabi ni Antiporda na walang dapat ikaalarma dahil kasabay nito, unti-unti nang bumababa ang mga kaso ng coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

“Maaari pa ring gamitin ang face shield sa mga susunod panahon,” ayon kay Antiporda.

Sinabi pa ni Antiporda na ngayong opsiyonal na ang paggamit ng face shield kinakailangan ang recycling strategy ng waste management para sa pagtatapon ng face shield.

“Recycling strategy of the waste management for the disposing face shield,” ani Antiporda.

Samantala, kaugnay nito ay sinabi naman ni Crispian Lao vice-chair ng National Solid Waste Management Commission na kung maaaring itago ang face shield.

Ayon pa kay Lao maaari ring gamitin ang mga face shield bilang construction materials at maaaring i-recycle din ang mga ito.

“We can recycle the face shield and it can turn construction materials,” sabi niya.

Kaugnay nito nanawagan ang DENR na ngayong opsiyonal na ang paggamit ng face shield hindi dapat ito itapon kung saan-saan na maaaring makadagdag sa problema ng basura. **Santi Celario**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/recycling-ng-mga-face-shield-tiniyak-ng-denr/>



Sotto questions DENR for seeking P1.2-B for travel expenses in 2022

Published November 16, 2021, 4:24 PM

by [Mario Casayuran](#)

Senate President Vicente C. Sotto III has questioned the allocation of P1.2 billion in traveling expenses in the 2022 budget of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Sotto raised his question during a debate on the proposed P25 billion budget of DENR in 2022.

The Senate chief asked why DENR has this huge traveling expenses when it has many regional offices and its personnel are spread out throughout the archipelago.

Through Senator Cynthia A. Villar, vice chairman of the Senate Finance committee, DENR explained that the P1.2 billion would be shared among the 275 offices and attached agencies of DENR.

If the P1.2 billion is split among these offices, each would be given an average of P4.7 million each, she pointed out.

DENR also needs the budget for its monitoring and enforcement of laws on environment and in coordination monitoring, evaluation and validation of programs and activities of the entire DENR.

Sotto was not satisfied. He pointed out that DENR could use telephones and the internet for coordination and based on what DENR had said, it has many offices in the provinces.

In the end, Sotto threw the problem to the Senate to decide whether it would reduce the DENR budget or not.

This will be decided when the budgets of the national government departments and offices go through the period of amendments.



Citing trees cut down, advocates renew call to save Manila's Arroceros Forest Park

By Catalina Ricci S. Madarang - November 16, 2021 - 6:20 PM
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A photo of the current construction at the Arroceros Forest Park in Manila (Facebook/Chiqui Sy-Quia Mabanta)

A group of environmental advocates urged the Manila City government to stop the current redevelopment of Arroceros Forest Park, so-called “Manila’s last lung,” after they saw its worsened state because of the project.

The Save Arroceros Movement, comprising environmental and civil society groups, expressed this in a manifesto of unity on Tuesday, November 16.

“We are calling on the Manila LGU to STOP the Arroceros Urban Forest Park Redevelopment Project and come out with a REVISED design and construction approach that will minimize further destruction of the forest area and help to start restoration of the forest environment inside the park, in CONSULTATION with environmental partners and civil society,” they said.

They said that some of their members visited the forest park on November 12 to see the progress of the city government’s plans for it.



Citing trees cut down, advocates renew call to save Manila's Arroceros Forest Park

They were dismayed and shocked over how much flora and fauna of the park had been destroyed.

“On November 12, 2021, several environmental groups under the Save Arroceros Movement visited the forest park and were shocked to see many cemented paths and several cemented plazas inside the forest, covering an estimated one-fifth of the total area of the park, undoubtedly killing trees, plants and other wildlife in the process,” they said.

The movement further cited Manila Ordinance 8607 that was signed last March 2020.

The ordinance declared the site as a “permanent forest park” rather than the previous “property” label.

“We are not against any redevelopment effort being undertaken by the local government, however this should’ve been done in consultation with concerned groups as mandated by Ordinance 8607, and within the parameters of what makes it a FOREST park,” they said.

Chiqui Sy-Quia Mabanta, head of the park’s guardian Winner Foundation, also shared photos of the ongoing construction on the park.

In a separate post, Mabanta detailed that the workers installed pavement over a former picnic ground and playground for children.

“Sad there was no consultation with us, the stakeholders, and no Park Management Team was created (as was agreed on in the ordinance) or with any environmental experts. We are sad and angry,” she said.

Similar call from Greenpeace

Greenpeace Philippines on November 15 re-shared a post that juxtaposed before and after photos of the place.

It was from environmental advocate Bea Dolores, also a member of heritage group Renacimiento Manila.



Citing trees cut down, advocates renew call to save Manila's Arroceros Forest Park



In her post, one photo showed a path in the park surrounded by trees. The other showed the same path but it looked neglected with fewer trees.

In its own post, the group then called on the public to choose leaders who will prioritize the environment and the climate crisis for the people.

“From COP26 to Halalan 2022, all eyes (eyes emoji) are set on our current & future leaders to see if they will stay TRUE to their promises,” it said.

“We must choose leaders who will genuinely prioritize the protection of our remaining green spaces (tree emoji), address the climate crisis, and ensure a better future for every Filipino,” it added.



Citing trees cut down, advocates renew call to save Manila's Arroceros Forest Park

Dolores also decried Arroceros' worsened situation on her post.

“Wala man lang consultations with stakeholders and CSOs (civil society organizations), eh yun yung nasa ordinansa nila. LGU mismo di sumusunod sa sariling ordinansa?” she said.

In 2019, Mabanta and other environmental advocates met with Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso to discuss their plans for the rehabilitation of the forest park.



- Headline
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Masungi Georeserve

11 hrs · 🌐

The Upper Marikina Watershed is the metro's safety net against the growing impacts of climate change. Help us bring the forests that have suffered from decades of abuse and neglect back to the Filipino people!

Upper Marikina Watershed Coalition

Thank you to Philstar.com for this!

<https://youtu.be/JTcl3Zo8EA8> ✓



YOUTUBE.COM

Forrest protectors calls for government's help against attacks

The Masungi Georeserve is urging the government to take the protection ...



DPWH's Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement now on final stage

Published November 16, 2021, 7:39 PM
by [Waylon Galvez](#)

Expect the start of construction in the coming days for the final stage of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) project with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for the Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project (PMRCIP).

The Phase 4 of PMRCIP of the DPWH and JICA will complete a project that aims to lessen flooding in Metro Manila due to overflowing of both the Pasig and Marikina rivers.

DPWH Secretary Roger G. Mercado met with Ambassador of Japan to the Philippines, Kazuhiko Koshikawa on Tuesday, Nov. 16 during the groundbreaking ceremony of the project segment held at EFCOS Compound, in Barangay Manggahan, Pasig City.

Also present during the event were DPWH Undersecretary and Chief Implementer of Flagship Projects under "Build, Build, Build" (BBB) Program Emil K. Sadain, and JICA Chief Representative Eigo Azukizawa.

"When completed, this project will protect communities close to Pasig and Marikina River, specifically in areas of Pasig, Quezon and Marikina Cities, as well as Cainta and Taytay Municipalities, Rizal Province," said Mercado.

Under the fourth phase of PMRCIP, it will cover structural and non-structural measures that will mitigate flood damages in Metro Manila caused by channel overflow of the Pasig-Marikina River.

Sadain, who is also in-charge of DPWH UPMO Operations, said the scope of works under this phase include channel improvement works for Lower/Middle Marikina River, as well as the construction of Manggahan Control Gate Structure (MCGS), and one floodgate and one sluiceway at the joining sections of Cainta and Taytay rivers to Manggahan Floodway.

The improvement works will be undertaken along the 7.95-kilometer stretch of Lower/Middle Marikina River, with excavation/dredging works of about 2 million cubic meters, steel sheet pile revetment stretching 11.6 kilometers, and reinforced concrete flood wall along its 6.1-kilometer section.

As for the drainage improvement, it will also be undertaken that involves the construction of reinforced concrete pipe in 116 locations, manhole in 253 locations, collector pipes, and flap gates in 102 locations.

The Manggahan Control Gate Structure will be constructed 600 meters downstream from diversion point of Manggahan Floodway while the Cainta Floodgate and Taytay Sluiceway will be at the joining sections of Cainta and Taytay Rivers to the Manggahan Floodway Roller gate.

The 4-Phase Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project was formulated by the DPWH through the Master Plan for Flood-control and Drainage Improvement in Metro Manila, with JICA providing technical assistance.



DPWH's Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement now on final stage

Phase 1 covered the Detailed Design of the overall PMRCIP, which was completed in March 2002. Phase 2 had the Pasig River Channel improvement from Delpan Bridge to Napindan Hydraulic Control Gate Structure completed in May 2013, while Phase 3 covered the Lower Marikina Channel improvement from Napindan Channel to downstream Manggahan Floodway that included additional dredging completed in July 2020.

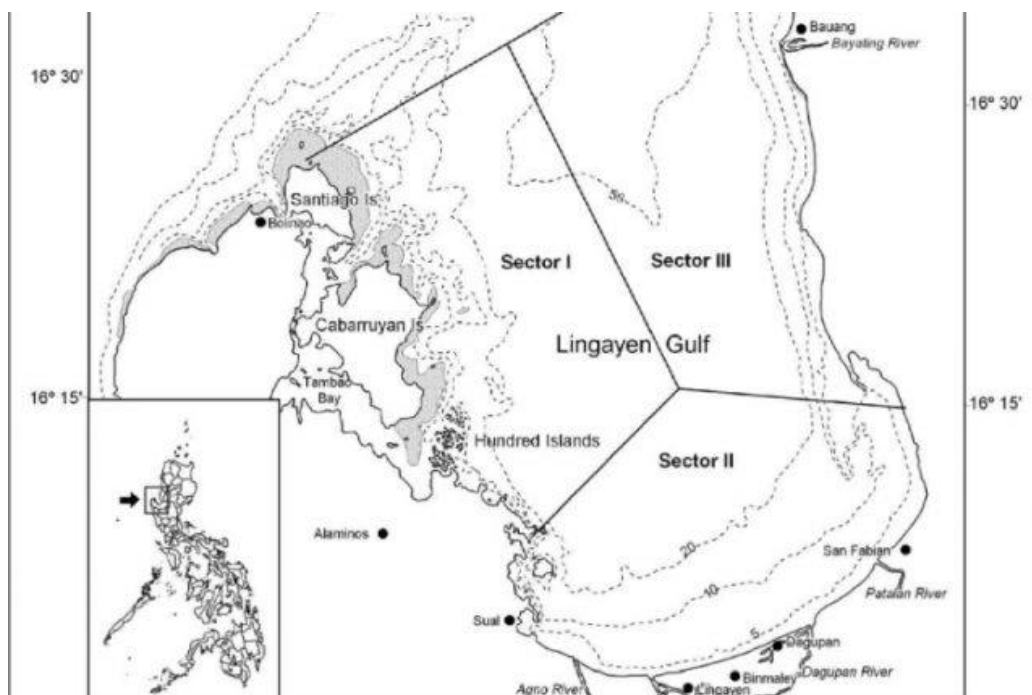
The entire project to protect Metro Manila from flooding to save lives and protect properties is funded under a loan agreement between the Philippine government through DPWH and the Japanese government through JICA.



Why UPMSI is opposing offshore mining project in Lingayen Gulf

By [Catalina Ricci S. Madarang](#)

- November 16, 2021 - 5:27 PM



A photo of Lingayen Gulf and its divisions from the UPMSI website

An institute of marine research called for the protection of the **Lingayen Gulf** in northwestern Luzon amid the proposed offshore mining project set to start next year.

Reports [said](#) Palace approved it under the Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement No. 07-2020-IOMR last November.

This project aims to extract five million tons of magnetite per year for 25 years from the gulf.

In a statement written by Marine Science Institute Faculty on November 15, the **University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UPMSI)** stressed that the negative effects of mining magnetite in the gulf outweighs the supposed benefits it will bring to the people.

“Seabed magnetite mining threatens Lingayen Gulf. The proposed mining project plans to start in the second half of 2022 and is targeted to last 25 years. The negative impacts on natural resources, coastal communities and their livelihood, and even on tourism may last beyond the life of the project, and could be irreversible,” the institute said.

The UPMSI also said that mining the gulf will only benefit those who will profit from it.

“It will only serve the short-term interests of those who will profit from a misguided development that threatens the lifeblood of Pangasinan and La Union. The UP Marine Science Institute supports the people of Lingayen Gulf in protecting the habitats and resources of the Gulf for current and future generations,” it said.



Why UPMSI is opposing offshore mining project in Lingayen Gulf

The offshore mining project called the “Iron Ore Pangasinan Offshore Magnetite Mining Project” is [helmed](#) by an Australian company called Iron Ore, Gold, and Vanadium Resources (Phils) Inc.

The gulf is a 56-km stretch of inlet that covers coastal towns in Pangasinan and La Union.

The Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakya)-Central Luzon and some fisherfolk in Pangasinan [also voiced](#) strong opposition against this mining plan.

The possible consequences

According to the marine research institute, the gulf is a major fishing ground for both municipal and commercial fishing communities because of its rich marine biodiversity.

In 2019, total production from its aquaculture industry reached staggering figures—16,280 metric tons worth P1.792 billion for Pangasinan and 3,602 metric tons worth P458 million for La Union.

UPMSI also noted that thousands of Filipinos are engaged in fisheries and fishing-related activities in both provinces, citing data from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

“These include capture fishing, aquaculture, gleaning, fish processing, and other related activities. Given these services, any intense extractive, and manipulative activities in Lingayen Gulf could severely affect the fisheries that thrive on ecosystems in the Gulf as well as the livelihood of fishing families there,” it [said](#).

The UPMSI also detailed the effects of extracting seabed magnetite on organisms, the seafloor and the surrounding waters in the Lingayen Gulf.

Effects on benthic community and seafloor

The activity will lead to potential damage of the gulf’s seabed and affect organisms such as oysters (talaba), scallops (kabibi), and sea cucumbers (balat).

“This was seen in an offshore mining of placer gold in Alaska that significantly reduced benthic macrofauna such as molluscs and echinoderms. And even if recovery of benthic organisms is possible, this will depend on the degree and duration of the sediment alteration,” the UPMSI said.

Effects on the water column

Mining process of suctioning and discharge of materials close to the seabed can re-suspend “bottom sediments,” according to the UPMSI.

“The seabed sediments when resuspended are likely to remain afloat in the water column. This will cause an increase of turbidity in the water column, which in turn will decrease light penetration and thus reduce photosynthetic activity of phytoplankton resulting in lower primary productivity,” it said.

Moreover, it can also cause release some harmful organic materials from the bottom into the water column and contaminate marine creatures and other organisms.

Coca-Cola and Eco Rangers improving communities with Blastik Project

November 16, 2021 | 1:00 pm



Coca-Cola Foundation and PeacePond Farmers Association collected, processed and recycled approximately 15,422 kilos (or a little more than 17 tons) of mixed bottles, bottle caps, sachets, and plastic labels, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic.

The Philippines' plastic recycling rate stands at only 28%, according to a 2018 report by the National Solid Waste Management Commission. Of the 2.7 million tons of waste generated annually, a staggering 9,000 tons end up in landfills or at sea due to a lack of recycling facilities and improper disposal of waste.

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced many people to use disposables and rely more on e-commerce to get their essentials, the use of plastic became even more prevalent. To mitigate an impending waste crisis, improved collection and recycling of plastic have become even more critical.

Reducing the amount of plastic that reaches the landfills and the oceans is a key priority for Coca-Cola Philippines as aligned with its World Without Waste vision, where it aims to collect and recycle the equivalent of every bottle it sells by 2030.

The Blastik Project began as a component of a project launched in 2019 by the Philippines-based NGO Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI). The project piloted a village-scale plastic recycling center funded by The Coca-Cola Foundation, the international philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company, with the aim of boosting environmental awareness, providing livelihoods and financial assistance, and recycling more plastic.

After the project's successful pilot run, Coca-Cola Philippines — through its social investment arm Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines — took over the financing of the partnership with a grant that runs from 2020 until 2023 with PeacePond — an organization that advocates solid waste management, organic and natural farming, education, culture and the arts, livelihood opportunities, and women and child empowerment, taking the lead in sustaining and expanding



Coca-Cola and Eco Rangers improving communities with Blastik Project

the project. The continuation of the Blastik Project hopes to unlock and share this value to more people both in cities and in the countryside.

A Vehicle for Change

The PeacePond Farmers Association (PFA) in Binalbagan, Negros Occidental, is the main proponent of the Blastik Project in communities. These farmers', or as they call themselves, the Blastik Eco Rangers, main responsibility is to educate and empower the community about proper waste segregation, recycling, and livelihoods through community workshops/webinars and ensure the proper implementation of the project.

Among the beneficiaries of the project are Jo Guanco, a 53-year-old solid waste management advocate and secretary of the PeacePond Farmers Association, and Junjun Gantes, a 54-year-old PeacePond farmer.



Through the Blastik Project, Junjun Gantes, a 54-year-old PeacePond farmer, found another way to earn money and support his family's everyday necessities.



Coca-Cola and Eco Rangers improving communities with Blastik Project



Through the Blastik Project, Eco Ranger Jo Guanco, a 53-year-old solid waste management advocate and secretary of PeacePond Farmers Association, found another way to earn money and support her family's everyday necessities.

Jo and Junjun have been part of the Blastik Project since 2019. The initiative helped them understand the value of collecting and recycling used and clean plastic bottles. As Blastik Eco Rangers, they look at these used recyclable plastic bottles not as trash but as materials that can be used over and over again. Recyclable plastic bottles, as they have seen in the past years working on the Blastik Project, are seen as a versatile, lightweight material and, therefore, can be collected, recycled and used repeatedly. With this new way of looking at used collected plastic bottles as a valuable resource material, Blastik Project was able to open more livelihood opportunities for the people in their community — ultimately, giving them another source of income and way of putting food on their tables.

“Sa Blastik Project po, itinuturo namin ang importansya ng segregation at recycling sa aming mga kapitbahay at kalapit na mga barangay. Kami po ang naka-assign na mangolekta at makipag-coordinate sa mga barangay para sa schedule ng pagkolekta at kung minsan ang mga offices na ng barangay ang kumukontak sa amin para kunin ang plastic bottles dahil alam na po nila ang tungkol sa Blastik Project,” shares Blastik Eco Ranger Jo Guanco.

(With the Blastik Project, we're able to impart our knowledge and educate our neighbors and people from nearby barangays on the importance of waste segregation and recycling. As a Blastik Eco



Coca-Cola and Eco Rangers improving communities with Blastik Project

Ranger, I manage and assign the schedule of recyclable collection per area. There are also instances where the barangay proactively contacts us to schedule the pickup in their area.)

Through the Blastik Project, plastic bottles and caps are collected and upcycled into wall tiles, desks, chairs, kitchen cabinets, bowls, plant pots, home décor and more. Some PET bottles, mixed with sachets and plastic bags, are turned into pavers for footwalks and garden footpaths. Other PET bottles were transformed into free-standing walls for six structures in PeacePond while some are used for bottle gardens in the organic farm. Plastic labels are turned into handcrafted wallets, purses, bags, gadget pouches, laptop sleeves and even face mask cases.

“Malaking tulong rin po ang Blastik Project (at Coca-Cola) sa aking pamilya, lalo sa pang araw-araw naming pamumuhay. Dahil dun sa organic garden, nakakakuha kami ng gulay na maaaring ipakain sa aming mga pamilya at binabahagi rin namin ito sa aming mga kapitbahay at kapwa Eco Rangers,” shares Blastik Eco Ranger and PeacePond farmer Junjun Gantes.

(The Blastik Project [and Coca-Cola] greatly helped my family, especially in supporting our daily needs. Through the organic garden in our backyard, we’re able to get fresh produce that we can cook for our family, and we also share the excess vegetables to our neighbors and other Eco Rangers like us.)

The Blastik Project is rapidly expanding because the program is effective and easy to replicate. In fact, the initiative is being replicated in several communities including, but not limited to, over 600 beneficiaries from Bakyas Community in Oringao, Kabankalan, Ellite Ads Corp. Parañaque, and Ellite Ads Corp. Carmona. The Blastik Project also has active partnerships with Seda Hotel in Bacolod City and Southland College in Kabankalan, Negros Occidental.

A Promising Future

Even with the challenges presented by the pandemic, the Blastik Project has collected, processed and recycled approximately 15,422 kilos (or a little more than 17 tons) of mixed bottles, bottle caps, sachets, and plastic labels.

Coca-Cola is a company known for its innovation, whether in product development, brand building, or facilitating positive change in the community. As the world evolves and modernizes, opportunities for environmental protection and innovation also arise. With projects like the Blastik Project and over 40 more zero-waste communities supported by the Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, communities are increasingly seeing the value of plastic waste segregation and recycling.

“We are happy and excited about the Blastik Project’s initial success,” shares Cecile Alcantara, president of Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines. “The Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines will continue to partner with like-minded organizations and communities, supporting initiatives towards a world without waste.”



Cebu City seeks ban on single use plastics

It is timely to prohibit the usage of single-use disposable materials to reduce waste by-products

BY RICO M. OSMEÑA

@tribunephil_rico

The Cebu City Council passed in its regular session an ordinance totally banning all single use plastic materials within a two-year transition and will also apply to all business establishments in the city including hotels, restaurants and fast-food chains.

“It is timely to prohibit the usage of single-use disposable materials to reduce waste by-products as this is one prudent ways in protecting and promoting the right to a balance and healthful ecology of the City’s constituents,” said South District city councilor Eduardo Rama, the principal sponsor of the ordinance.

The ban covers materials that are primarily made of plastics or other similar materials such as – but not limited to – plastic bags straws or stirrers. This also covers secondary packaging materials or any disposable materials like styro foam.

However, the passed ordinance still needs the signature of the sitting City Mayor.

Meantime, the Cebu City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CCENRO) is tasked to ensure the implementation of the ordinance and initiate programs that will promote use of environmentally friendly secondary packaging materials such as eco bags, woven bags or *bayongs* among others.

The CCENRO must also provide means on how to recycle wastes coming from the use of single- use disposable materials.

The ordinance imposes a fine ranging from P1,500 to P5,000 and possible cancellation of the business permit among violators.



5 places you can drop off your plastic waste

By KAELE MALIG, GMA News

Published November 16, 2021 4:27pm



With delivery packages coming in left and right and loosened restrictions on the wearing [face shields](#), you may find yourself surrounded with a lot of plastic waste.

Don't discard it carelessly — we don't need any more [plastics choking our oceans](#) or ending up in landfills. Help the environment out and throw it away properly. Here are five places you can drop your plastic waste off:

1. The Plastic Flamingo

The Plastic Flamingo (PLAF) is a social enterprise that turns plastic waste into eco-lumber that people can use to create furniture and even emergency shelters.

They collect all types of plastic — from used face shields to plastic makeup containers and hangers — as long as they are cleaned, washed, and dried.

[According to their Instagram page](#), PLAF can turn nine kilos of plastic waste into a 2-meter eco-plank, while they can make 21 kilos of plastic waste into a 3-meter eco-post. Not too bad, no?

Although only the HDPE, LDPE, PP, PET, and sachet plastics are the only materials turned to eco-lumbers, other unused products are sent to other recycling partners.

You can drop off your wastes in multiple PLAF drop-off points: Decathlon (Alabang, Masinag, an Tienesitas), Ayala UP Town Center, Eco-lution (Biliran province), Eco Folk PH (Bacolod City), Jollibee (Fairview, Metro Plaza Quirino, Zabarte Town Center). [Instagram](#). [Website](#)



5 places you can drop off your plastic waste

2. My Basurero

Created by Basic Environmental Systems and Technologies, Inc., [My Basurero is an app](#) that gives you cash back points in exchange for your plastic waste.

The points, also known as “environmental points” can be used to buy products made with recycled materials from the platform’s mobile redemption store or other partner outlets.

The “all-in-one app waste collection” app also allows users to have a “hassle-free” collection service, letting users book pickup dates for when they can come and pick up the waste from the user’s home.

Simply download the app, upload a photo of your waste, and they’ll give you a quotation. From pickup, they will deliver the waste to any of their recycling partner companies.

According to the My Basurero site, they accept not only recyclable wastes but also construction debris, garden waste, food, and bulky wastes. [Instagram](#). [Website](#).

3. Green Antz Builders

Green Antz Builders is an innovative waste management company that intertwines eco-friendly practices with housing solutions. The company collects clean and dry plastic materials and transforms them into ecobricks.

[According to its website](#), the company sorts out the collected plastic material and processes it into molds, which in turn will become bricks.

For November 19 to 30, you can drop off your recyclables at their drop off points in Ayala Feliz, Solenad, Cloverleaf, UP Town Center, Vertis North, Bonifacio High Street, and Salcedo Market among others. [Website](#).

4. Trash Panda

Created by startup company Circula Racoon, Trash Panda is an app that books recyclable waste collection.

Through the app, users can not only book services that will collect their segregated recyclable waste, but also possibly earn cash back from the direct sale of their collected items to recycling facilities.

Simply download the app, schedule a pick up (priced depending on how much waste you’ll dispose of and your location), and Trash Panda will inform you where your recyclables will go to.

Aside from plastic, this app also collects paper, metal and beverage boxes.

Currently, Trash Panda is only available in Las Piñas, Makati, Mandaluyong, Manila, Marikina, Muntinlupa, Parañaque, Pasay, Pasig, Pateros, Quezon City, San Juan, Taguig, Angono, Antipolo, Binangonan, Cainta, and Taytay. [Facebook](#). [Website](#).



5 places you can drop off your plastic waste

5. Trash Cash PH

Yet another app, Trash Cash PH helps citizens turn their trash into cash, but this time, with the help of Artificial intelligence.

Through an AI-based and data-driven waste segregation platform, Trash Cash PH helps you go through a hassle-free recycling process.

Download the app, scan the trash, and it will display the waste's value and its category.

With the information given, you can now properly collect and segregate your trash. You can then drop off your waste at Trash Cash PH's partner centers. For each kilo, you can get an equivalent amount of points which you can redeem using the app's partner reward provider. [Website](#).



What governments should learn from the climate activists



By [Inter Press Service](#)

November 17, 2021

"NOTHING about us without us" — that was the call from the indigenous rights advocate Ghazali Ohorella from the Alifuru people in the Maluku Islands, Indonesia during a panel at the climate summit in Glasgow.

This plea was echoed by many activists, from groups marginalized by systemic oppression, whom I met at COP26: young activists, women, people with disabilities, older people, refugees, people from the Global South — all of whom were the most affected but had contributed the least to the climate crisis.

These experts spoke firsthand of the impacts of the climate crisis on their communities, the ongoing struggle to have their voices heard and the concrete actions needed to solve this existential crisis, which affects us all.

Instead of shutting out these voices, governments should listen and learn from them.

The slogan I heard from Ohorella has long been used by disability rights advocates and the session reminded me of the negotiations toward the UN treaty on the rights of people with disabilities, which was adopted in 2006.

During that process, I saw firsthand the benefits of inclusion. Governments came to respect and recognize the expertise of people with lived disability experience, which led to major advancements on their rights. It also resulted in changed mindsets, where people with disabilities were no longer seen as objects of charity, but holders of rights.

Fifteen years later, climate activists at COP spoke about the disconnect between the knowledge held by those with lived experience and the governments seated at the table making decisions on their behalf. Activists like Gabriele Peters from British Columbia and Ayakha Melithafa from South Africa urged world leaders to work with them and learn from them.

We should listen to and incorporate this knowhow to build the kind of systems change we need to respond to the climate crisis, with equity. For example, involving women in local forest management has had positive effects for both livelihoods and conservation. This is already happening in Indonesia and Brazil.

Worldwide, women farmers make up nearly half of the agricultural labor force, and produce up to 80 percent of food crops in developing nations yet, in many countries, women have less access to resources, such as land rights, credit, markets, education and technology.



What governments should learn from the climate activists

By leveling the playing field through legal reforms, targeted investments, and increased women's meaningful participation, according to Project Drawdown, a resource for climate solutions, farm yields will rise and there is less pressure to deforest. Ensuring that women are included in the design and implementation of climate planning would heighten chances of success.

Overall, lands securely held and managed by indigenous peoples also have lower rates of deforestation than comparable areas, evidencing their successful forest management practices. Advancing the rights of marginalized groups – an urgency in and of itself — has major climate benefits for the planet.

Not every impact of climate change can be solved with new technologies. Front line communities with deep knowledge of their lands are also carrying out successful adaptation strategies. In Australia, first responders are learning from aboriginal people, who lower the risk of bushfires by reducing fuel levels on the forest floor. In Mexico, farmers hit by increasingly long droughts and diminishing crop yields are developing groundbreaking solutions to restore degraded land to productivity.

In Canada, some First Nations maintain strong traditional food sharing networks that have helped address climate-driven loss of food through sharing harvests with at-risk members of the community, while others have built up community science programs that monitor climate change impacts on their environment.

Frontline communities are also developing healing practices to process grief caused by the permanent loss or alteration of ecological features that once sustained livelihoods and cultural practices. Artists are also leading the movement from artistic expression to policy change. As the climate crisis increasingly takes a toll on mental health, particularly among youth, we should support the arts, culture, and healing advanced by climate and environmental justice and Indigenous rights movements.

Meaningful participation in decision-making processes that affect citizens' lives is not only a demand, it's a right. While the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement recognize the importance of participation, including "a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach" for adaptation, states (and COP organizers) aren't meeting these requirements. For Indigenous people, their free, prior and informed consent is required for implementation to be successful.

As Ridhima Pandey, a youth climate activist from India, told us this week: "If we really want to treat the climate crisis as a crisis, it's really important for the governments, organizations and activists to all come together, to start taking concrete action."

Deforestation can raise local temperatures by up to 4.5°C — and heat untouched areas 6km away

Forests directly cool the planet, like natural evaporative air conditioners. So what happens when you cut them down?



Deforestation in Victoria, Australia. Image: [crustmania](#), [CC BY 2.0](#).

By Sally Thompson, *The Conversation*

Nov. 16, 2021

Forests directly cool the planet, like natural evaporative air conditioners. So what happens when you cut them down?

In tropical countries such as Indonesia, Brazil and the Congo, rapid deforestation [may have accounted for](#) up to 75 per cent of the observed surface warming between 1950 and 2010. [Our new research](#) took a closer look at this phenomenon.

Using satellite data over Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea, we found deforestation can heat a local area by as much as 4.5°C, and can even raise temperatures in undisturbed forests up to 6km away.

More than 40 per cent of the world's population live in the tropics and, under climate change, rising heat and humidity could push them into [lethal conditions](#). Keeping forests intact is vital to protect those who live in and around them as the planet warms.

Deforestation can raise local temperatures by up to 4.5°C — and heat untouched areas 6km away

Deforestation hot spots

At the recent climate change summit in Glasgow, world leaders representing 85 per cent of Earth's remaining forests committed to ending, and reversing, [deforestation by 2030](#).

This is a crucial measure in our fight to stop the planet warming beyond the internationally agreed limit of 1.5°C, because forests store vast amounts of carbon. Deforestation releases this carbon — [approximately 5.2](#) billion tonnes of carbon dioxide per year — back into the atmosphere. This accounts for nearly 10 per cent of the global emissions from 2009-2016.

Deforestation is [particularly prevalent](#) in Southeast Asia. [We calculate](#) that between 2000 and 2019, Indonesia lost 17 per cent of its forested area (26.8 million hectares of land), and Malaysia 28 per cent of its forest cover (8.12 million hectares). Others in the region, such as Papua New Guinea, are considered “[deforestation hot spots](#)”, as they're at high risk of losing their forest cover in the coming decade.

Forests in this region are cut down for a variety of reasons, including for expanding palm oil and timber plantations, logging, mining and small-scale farms. And these new types of land uses produce different spatial patterns of forest loss, which we can see and measure using satellites.

What we found

We already know forests cool the climate directly, and losing forests causes local temperatures to rise. But we wanted to learn whether the different patterns of forest loss influenced how much temperatures increased by, and how far warming spread from the deforested site into neighbouring, unchanged areas.

To find out, [we used](#) satellite images that measure the temperature of the land surface. As the illustration below shows, we measured this by averaging forest loss in rings of different widths and radius, and looking at the average temperature change of the forest inside the ring.

For example, if you consider a circle of forest that's 4km wide, and there's a completely deforested, 2km-wide ring around it, the inner circle would warm on average by 1.2°C.

The closer the forest loss, the higher the warming. If the ring was 1-2km away, the circle would warm by 3.1°C, while at 4-6km away, it's 0.75°C.

These might not sound like big increases in temperature, but global studies show [for each 1°C increase in temperature](#), yields of major crops would decline by around 3-7 per cent. Retaining forest within 1km of agricultural land in Southeast Asia could therefore avoid crop losses of 10-20 per cent.

These estimates are conservative, because we only measured the effect of forest loss on average yearly temperatures. But another important factor is that higher average temperatures [usually create](#) higher temperature extremes, like those during heatwaves. And those really high temperatures in heatwaves are what put people and crops at most risk.

Of course, forests aren't normally cut down in rings. This analysis was designed to exclude other causes of temperature change, putting the effect of non-local forest loss in focus.

Deforestation can raise local temperatures by up to 4.5°C — and heat untouched areas 6km away

Why is this happening?

Forests cool the land because trees draw water from the soil to their leaves, where it then evaporates. The energy needed to evaporate the water comes from sunshine and heat in the air, the same reason you feel colder when you get out of a pool with water on your skin.

A single tree in a tropical forest can cause [local surface cooling equivalent](#) to 70 kilowatt hours for every 100 litres of water used from the soil — as much cooling as two household air conditioners.

Forests are particularly good at cooling the land because their canopies have large surface area, which can evaporate a lot of water. When forests in tropical regions are cut down, this evaporative cooling stops, and the land surface warms up.

This is not news to the people of Borneo. In 2018, researchers surveyed [people in 477 villages](#), and found they're well aware nearby forest loss has caused them to live with hotter temperatures. When asked why forests were important to their health and the health of their families, the ability for trees to regulate temperature was the most frequent response.

A climate change double whammy

In many parts of the world, including the tropics and Australia, expanding farmland is a major reason for cutting down forests. But given hotter temperatures also reduce the productivity of farms, conserving forests might prove a better strategy for food security and for the livelihoods of farmers.

If forests must be removed, there may be ways to avoid the worst possible temperature increases. For example, we found that keeping at least 10 per cent of forest cover helped reduce the associated warming by an average of 0.2°C.

Similarly, temperatures did not increase as much when the area of forest loss was smaller. This means if deforestation occurs in smaller, discontinuous blocks rather than uniformly, then the temperature impacts will be less severe.

To help share these findings, [we've built a web mapping tool](#) that lets users explore the effects of different patterns and areas of forest loss on local temperatures in maritime South East Asia. It helps show why protecting forests in the tropics offers a climate change double whammy — lowering carbon dioxide emissions and local temperatures together.



Pollution among Europe's biggest killers

By [Agence France-Presse and Global Times](#)

November 17, 2021

MAASTRICHT: Premature deaths caused by fine particle air pollution have fallen 10 percent annually across Europe, but the invisible killer still accounts for 307,000 premature deaths a year, the European Environment Agency (EEA) said on Monday (Tuesday in Manila).

If the latest air quality guidelines from the World Health Organization (WHO) were followed by European Union members, the latest number of fatalities recorded in 2019 could be cut in half, according to an EEA report.

Deaths linked to fine particulate matter — with a diameter below 2.5 micrometers or PM_{2.5} — were estimated at 346,000 for 2018.

The clear reduction in deaths for the following year were put down partly to favorable weather but above all to a progressive improvement in air quality across the continent, the European Union's air pollution data center said.

In the early 1990s, fine particles, which penetrate deeply into the lungs, led to nearly a million premature deaths in the 27 EU member nations, according to the report.

That figure had been more than halved to 450,000 by 2005. In 2019, fine particulate matter caused 53,800 premature deaths in Germany; 49,900 in Italy; 29,800 in France; and 23,300 in Spain.

The EEA also registers premature deaths linked to two other leading pollutants, but said it does not count them in its overall toll to avoid doubling up. Deaths caused by nitrogen dioxide — mainly from cars, trucks and thermal power stations — fell by a quarter to 40,000 between 2018 and 2019. Fatalities linked to ground-level ozone in 2019 also dropped 13 percent to 16,800 dead.

Heart disease and strokes cause most premature deaths blamed on air pollution, followed by lung ailments including cancer.

Even if the situation is improving, the EEA warned in September that most EU countries were still above the recommended pollution limits, be they European guidelines or more ambitious WHO targets.

In September, the alarming statistics led the WHO to tighten its recommended limits on major air pollutants for the first time since 2005.

"Investing in cleaner heating, mobility, agriculture and industry improves health, productivity and quality of life for all Europeans, and particularly the most vulnerable," said EEA director Hans Bruyninck.



Observe political neutrality ‘at all times,’ gov’t workers told

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos November 16, 2021, 9:56 pm



MANILA – Malacañang has reminded all government workers, including public officials, to refrain from engaging in partisan political activities amid election season.

Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, in a memorandum dated Nov. 8, directed the heads, officers, and employees of all state departments and offices to “uphold the principle of political neutrality in government at all times.”

The order also covers the officials and personnel of government-owned or -controlled corporations, government financial institutions, and state universities and colleges, and uniformed agencies.

“As we approach the 2022 national and local elections, public officials and employees must all the more uphold political neutrality in the government service, maintain professionalism in the discharge of their duties, and guarantee that government programs are administered in a nonpartisan manner,” the memorandum read.

Citing the 1987 Constitution, Medialdea said any officer or employee in the civil service, regardless of the nature of appointment, as well as members of the armed forces, are prohibited from “engaging, directly or indirectly, in any partisan political activity.”

Partisan political activity, according to Batas Pambansa 881 or the Omnibus Election Code, is an act “designed to promote the election or defeat of a particular candidate or candidates to a public office.”

“Any government official or employee who acted in violation of the aforementioned restrictions shall be dealt with in accordance with civil service laws, the Omnibus Election Code and other relevant laws, policies and regulations,” the Palace memorandum said.



Observe political neutrality ‘at all times,’ gov’t workers told

Under the memorandum, officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines may also be disciplined, consistent with the military due process under Commonwealth Act 408 or the Articles of War.

Medialdea also cited Republic Act 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees which mandates every public official and employee to provide service to everyone “without discrimination and regardless of party affiliation and preference.”

He said the prohibition on electioneering and partisan political activities shall be applied without regard to the supported candidate or party, and shall extend to any conduct of government workers whether in traditional or new media.

“The foregoing notwithstanding, all public officials and employees are encouraged to exercise fully and freely, and to the extent not prohibited by the Constitution and laws, their right to participate in the electoral exercise, consistent with the democratic processes of the country,” Medialdea said. *(PNA)*

17 NOVEMBER 2021, Wednesday



DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DOH nangangambang tataas ulit ang COVID-19 cases habang papalapit ang Pasko

By [Bombo Dave Vincent Pasit](#)

-November 16, 2021 | 11:47 AM

Nangangamba ang Department of Health (DOH) na tumaas ulit ang maitatalang mga bagong kaso ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas ngayong papalapit na ang Pasko.

Sa briefing ng House Committee on Trade and Industry, binigyan diin ni DOH Epidemiology Bureau Dir. Alatheia de Guzman na hindi dapat nagpapakampante ang publiko sa kabila nang pagbaba ng mga naitatalang nagong COVID-19 cases sa mga nakalipas na linggo.

Ipinapaala niya na nariyan pa rin ang banta ng coronavirus 2019 kaya dapat pa rin ang ibayong pagsunod sa minimum health protocols kahit pa niluluwagan na ang mobility restrictions.

Sa kanyang ulat sa komite, ibinahagi ni De Guzman na sa ngayon ay nasa 1 percent na lamang ng total caseload ang bilang ng mga pasyenteng nagpapagaling pa sa COVID-19 o iyong mga maituturing pang active cases.

Ang recovery rate naman aniya ay pumapalo na sa 97.38 percent, habang ang fatality rate naman ay 1.62 percent.

Source: <https://www.bomboradyo.com/doh-nangangambang-tataas-ulit-ang-covid-19-cases-habang-papalapit-ang-pasko/>



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 612

NOBYEMBRE 16, 2021

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

0.9%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
25,464

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

97.5%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,748,069

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.62%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
45,808

MGA BAGONG KASO **849**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **2,393**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **99**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,819,341**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING NOBYEMBRE 14

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 16
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG NOBYEMBRE 14

3.2%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

28,128

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
65.0%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

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

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.7K TOTAL BEDS)
34% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.4K TOTAL BEDS)
29% Utilized

WARD BEDS (13.7K TOTAL BEDS)
21% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
22% Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)
33% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)
27% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS)
25% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
22% Utilized

Mild **59.1%**

5.9% Asymptomatic

4.9% Critical

11.5% Severe

18.61% Moderate



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Kung maari, iwasan ang mga matataong lugar, at paglabas ng bahay kung hindi naman kailangan. Isaisip ang pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards**, at magpabakuna na ang mga hindi pa nababakunahan. Kasabay nito ang ating pagiging alisto sa mga sintomas. Sa oras na makaramdam ay agad makipag-ugnayan sa **BHERTS** o sa **One COVID Referral Center** na maabot sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**, para sa karampatang gabay.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, puntahan ang <http://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine> upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating **Telemedicine Service Providers**, at ang <http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines> para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod:

SMART: 0919 977 3333
GLOBE: 0915 777 7777
TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: kontracovid.ph



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP
at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

doh.gov.ph

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

17 NOVEMBER 2021, Wednesday



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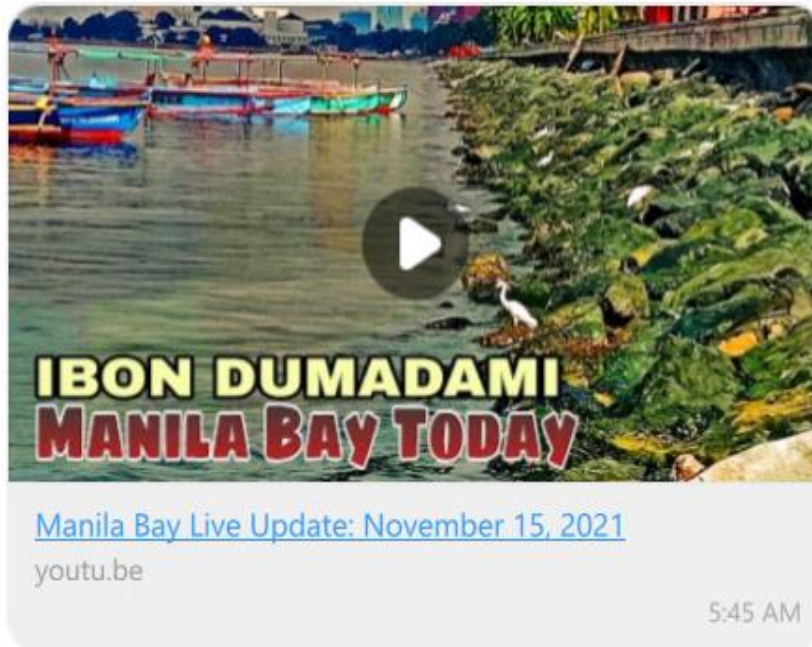
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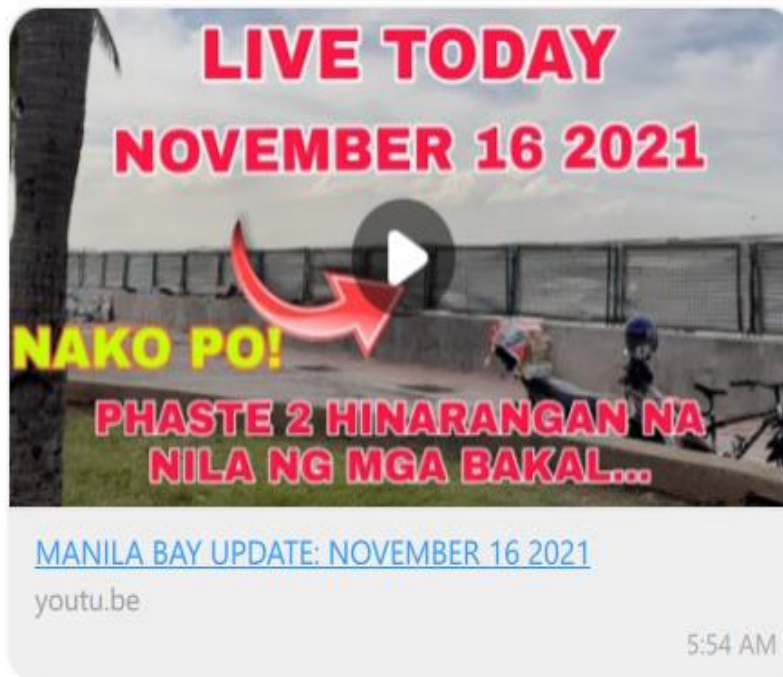
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The DENR expressed concern that used face shields would pile up in dumpsites, further threatening the environment.



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12:06 AM

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Pinangunahan ng 2nd Company Davao del Sur Provincial Mobile Force Company sa lamamagitan ng Commander na si Lt. Col. Rey Santillan ang ginawang tree planting activity sa Sitio Bagong Silang, Balutakay Managa Bansalan, Davao del Sur.

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