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**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## [Cimatu-led task force aims to fully dredge Cagayan River's 'mega' sandbar by 1st Quarter 2022](#)

NOV 1, 2021, 6:40 PM



Santiago Celario  
Writer

*The Department of Environment and Natural Resources credited the ongoing dredging works at the Cagayan River to the fact that only localized floods were reported in Cagayan during typhoon "Maring" last October.*

**ENVIRONMENT** Secretary and Task Force Build Back Better (TF-BBB) chair Roy Cimatu is hoping to complete the dredging of a "mega" island sandbar along the Cagayan River by early next year.

Cimatu said that so far 81,807 cubic meters or 8.43 percent of the targeted 970,962 cubic meters of sandbar has been dredged since operations in Barangay Dummun, Gattaran, Cagayan started in June.

"With its sheer size measuring 134.7 hectares, it is practically an island which is why this sandbar is a priority of the task force like the Magapit Narrows in (barangay) Lallo, Bangag (town) to widen the Cagayan River," the secretary said in a press release.

He added that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines have expressed commitment to deploy additional equipment and workforce to complement the dredging operations.



## [Cimatu-led task force aims to fully dredge Cagayan River's 'mega' sandbar by 1st Quarter 2022](#)

The dredged materials are being transferred to the eroded portion of Cagayan riverbanks in Barangay Dummun to restore the ideal alignment and speed up the water flow toward the river mouth in Aparri, Cagayan.

Effective

According to DENR-Region 2 Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan, the Cagayan River did not overflow during the passage of severe tropical storm "Maring" (Kompasu) in October.

In a report to Cimatu dated October 14, Bambalan said only localized floods were reported in Cagayan as a result of the overflowing of lakes and rivers that drain into the Cagayan River

“Despite the massive flooding in different locations, the Cagayan River did not overflow. It did not reach its maximum capacity,” Bambalan noted.

“In Sta. Teresita, Cagayan, a flash flood was reported due to the overflow of Mission, Bulasing and Luga rivers, Pacac creek and irrigation canals. Flood height reached to 1 to 2 meters at Barangay Simpatuyo, while the flooding in other municipalities were localized flooding only affecting agricultural lands,” said Bambalan.

The Phase 1 of Cagayan River dredging activities, which focused on the constricted section of the river, called the "Magapit Narrows," started in February and was completed on October 4.

A total of 364,143 cubic meters of materials have been dredged, which occupied some 11 hectares along the riverbank and restored Magapit Narrows' riverbank depth by three meters.

This has exceeded the target of 344,304 cubic meters of dredged materials.



## Task Force 'BBB' steps up Cagayan River rehabilitation drive



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2 MINUTE READ

The Task Force Build Back Better (TFBBB) is stepping up the rehabilitation of the Cagayan River with the removal of huge sandbar that formed a mini island within the country's largest river.

Environment Secretary and TFBBB Chairman Roy A. Cimatu is hopeful of completing the dredging of the "mega" island sandbar along the Cagayan River next year.

So far, a total of 81,807 cubic meters or 8.43 percent of the targeted 970,962 cubic meters of sandbar has been dredged since the rehab operation in Barangay Dummun, Gattaran town, Cagayan province started in June.

"With its sheer size measuring 134.7 hectares, it is practically an island which is why this sandbar is a priority of the task force like the Magapit Narrows in [barangay] Lallo, Bangag [town] to widen the Cagayan River," Cimatu said.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have committed to deploying additional equipment and work force to complement the dredging operations in these areas, said Cimatu.

The dredged materials are being transferred to the eroded portion of Cagayan riverbanks in Barangay Dummun to restore the ideal alignment and speed up the water flow toward the river mouth in Aparri, Cagayan.

Because of the continuous rehabilitation effort, DENR-Region 2 Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan said the Cagayan River did not overflow during the passage of severe tropical storm "Maring" (Kompasu) in October.

In a report to Cimatu dated October 14, Bambalan said only localized floods were reported in Cagayan as a result of the overflowing of lakes and rivers that drain into the Cagayan River.

"Despite the massive flooding in different locations, the Cagayan River did not overflow. It did not reach its maximum capacity," Bambalan noted.

"In Sta. Teresita Cagayan, a flash flood was reported due to the overflow of Mission, Bulasing and Luga rivers, Pacac creek and irrigation canals. Flood height reached to one to two meters at Barangay Simpatuyo, while the flooding in other municipalities was localized flooding only affecting agricultural lands," said Bambalan.

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The TFBBB, co-chaired by the DPWH was created on November 18, 2020, under Executive Order 120. It is an inter-agency body that conducts post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation efforts in areas ravaged by typhoons "Rolly" and "Ulysses."

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/11/01/task-force-bbb-steps-up-cagayan-river-rehabilitation-drive/>



## Bagong crowd commander sa dolomite beach, itinalaga ni Cimatú



November 1, 2021 @ 8:50 AM 20 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tiniyak ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na paiigtingin ang pagpapatupad ng crowd management measures upang masiguro na masusunod ang health protocols ng mga bibisita sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach, habang ito ay sarado hanggang Nobyembre 3.

Kaugnay nito habang inaanyayahan ng DENR ang publiko na makita ang ganda ng dolomite beach project, binigyang-diin ni Secretary Roy Cimatú na prayoridad ng ahensiya ang kaligtasan ng mga tao mula sa coronavirus.

“The public’s health is still of paramount concern for us. This is the reason why we at the DENR are studying the guidelines to make sure that the public can still appreciate the beauty of the dolomite beach while keeping them free from sickness,” ani Cimatú.

“I would like to put on record that the Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) will conduct an investigation on the said incident to assure the people that this will not happen again in the future,” sabi ni Cimatú sa kanyang opening statement sa press conference na ginanap noong Oktubre 27 ukol sa naganap na crowding incident noong Oktubre 24.

Kaugnay nito humingi din ng paumanhin ang DENR chief at sinabi na ang ahensiya: “will confront the things that need to be corrected.”



## Bagong crowd commander sa dolomite beach, itinalaga ni Cimatú

Upang maiwasan din ang overcrowding sa dolomite beach, nagdesisyon ang DENR na isara ang lugar simula noong Oktubre 29 hanggang Nobyembre 3 kasabay ng long holiday weekend.

Samantala, siniguro ni Cimatú na magkakaroon ng imbestigasyon habang sarado ang beach upang madesisyonan kung bubuksan itong muli sa publiko matapos ang Nobyembre 3.

Kung hindi man, sinabi ng DENR chief na ang dolomite beach ay mananatiling sarado hanggang matapos ang second phase ng rehabilitation at expansion nito.

Kaugnay nito, itinalaga rin ni Cimatú si retired Philippine Army Brigadier General Reuel Sorilla bilang bagong MBTF Ground Commander sa dolomite beach.

Si Sorilla ay kasalukuyang DENR OIC Director ng Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS).

“I will immediately start the ground dashing. I’m grateful for the trust and confidence given by our Secretary. I feel excited to contribute not only in the enforcement of environmental laws but also of crowd control here in the dolomite beach,” ani Sorilla.

“My initial plan is to ensure security and safety of all stakeholder and identify ways on how to improve emplaced system,” dagdag niya.

Ipinag-utos din ni Sorilla ang pagtalaga ng ELEPS personnel bilang dagdag na manpower para sa mas mahigpit na pagbabantay ng seguridad at pag-monitor sa lugar.

Ayon kay Leones, ipinatutupad na rin ng DENR ang pansamantalang pagbabawal sa mga menor de edad na papasukin sa dolomite beach bilang pagsunod sa COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases’ protocols.

Binigyang diin nito na ang mga batang may edad na 11 pababa ay hindi papayagang makapasok sa dolomite beach. **Santi Celario**



## DENR still studying closure of P389-million dolomite beach



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2 MINUTE READ

AMID the clamor for its closure to prevent the spread of the dreaded coronavirus, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is still contemplating closing the dolomite beach until the completion of the second phase of the project after November 3.

During the second phase of the P389-million “beach nourishment” project, more crushed dolomite from Cebu will be shipped to Roxas Boulevard to expand the “Boracay-like” white-sand beach along the Manila Baywalk area.

This as officials of the DENR reiterated that public health remains the top concern in the dolomite beach crowd management.

In a statement issued on Sunday, the DENR said measures of either closing the beach on weekends or closing it until the second phase of the rehabilitation is completed shall be carefully examined and will be based on the decision of the Manila Bay Task Force and the Alert Level status in Metro Manila.

The DENR said that it is putting in place adequate crowd management measures to ensure visitors’ adherence to the health protocols should the agency decides to keep the controversial white sand beach along Roxas Boulevard open after November 3.

“The public’s health is still of paramount concern for us. This is the reason why we at the DENR are studying the guidelines to make sure that the public can still appreciate the beauty of the dolomite beach while keeping them free from sickness,” DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said in a statement.

During an online news conference last October 27, Cimatu announced that the Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) will conduct an investigation on the October-24 overcrowding incident to assure the people that the incident will not happen again in the future.

A total of 121,744 people visited the dolomite beach nine days after its “soft reopening.”

The DENR chief also apologized, saying that the agency “will confront the things that need to be corrected.”

To prevent overcrowding at the dolomite beach, the DENR has decided to close the area from October 29 to November 3 in conjunction with the long holiday weekend.

Aside from these measures, the DENR is also considering several strategies to help ease the crowding situation in the dolomite beach.

“We are aware that if this [overcrowding] situation continues and the minimum health standards are ignored, this may bring us to a scenario of a possible super spreader event,” DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones said.

According to Leones, the DENR has already “implemented the temporary ban on minors to enter the dolomite beach, consistent with Covid-19 Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases’ protocols.”



## DENR still studying closure of Pts389-million dolomite beach

Children 11 years old and below will not be allowed at the dolomite beach.

The DENR is also considering the “cinema approach” for those who want to visit the dolomite beach, he pointed out.

Visitors may be given “stubs” just like in movie houses, which will then give a “fair chance for everyone to enjoy the beach.”

Also recommended is the designation of a special lane for persons with disabilities, pregnant women and senior citizens.





## **MINING APPLICATIONS | Duterte reverses mining ban; DENR assures environment protection in new mining projects**

November 1, 2021, 06:41 PM  
By Clarist Zablan

(November 1, 2021) – President Rodrigo Duterte is reversing a policy on banning open pit mining and would start awarding new minerals contracts to boost economic recovery after the economy plunged into recession due to strict lockdowns after the coronavirus outbreak.

But the government said the sudden change in the country’s mining policy will not result in massive environmental destruction, Undersecretary Jonas Leones of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said.

The late environment secretary, Regina Lopez, banned open pit mining in the country and cracked down on mines early in the Duterte administration, Leones said, adding the government has relaxed the rules and would award more minerals contracts. The country has the largest untapped mineral deposits, like the Tampakan copper and gold mines in Mindanao.

Miners in the past were not interested in investing in environmental compliance as it was costly, but mining chambers have been starting to set aside money on environmental protection recognizing that these initiatives will ultimately spur economic growth, he said.

“If we believe that there are a lot of methods that we can adopt that are less destructive in extracting our mineral resources and if we pursue that kind of direction, I think we can address the environmental concerns of our NGOs,” Leones said in BusinessWorld Live.

The official said DENR secretary Roy Cimatu created a new interim office, namely the Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) earlier this year, to make sure the already existing policies will be enforced, which the government was previously lax about.

According to a report from Manila Bulletin, President Rodrigo Duterte’s administration has been mulling to lift the ban on open-pit mining, which Lopez put in place in 2017 due to its adverse effects on the environment.

This followed after Duterte lifted a nine-year moratorium on mining permits earlier this year in a bid to raise revenues after businesses took hit from the coronavirus pandemic.

The move to end a ban on new mining permits raised alarm bells for indigenous people’s groups of possible worsening of killings and attacks in the country considered to be the deadliest for environmental defenders, the International Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation said last April.

The Philippines has big mining projects coming up, largely concentrated in Mindanao, Leones said. Currently, DENR has identified about 30 legitimate mining applications, whose approvals will depend on their speedy submission of requirements.



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## **MINING APPLICATIONS | Duterte reverses mining ban; DENR assures environment protection in new mining projects**

He estimates that it will take two to three years before new mining applications can start operations in the Philippines.

“Because of the pandemic we need to identify sources of revenue so that our economy can recover, and one source that we are looking into is the tapping of our mineral resources,” Leones said.

(MM)



## DENR launches save watershed campaign

[IAN OCAMPO FLORA](#)

November 01, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga launched recently the “Save Our Watershed” advocacy campaign in a bid to intensify the protection and conservation of forests and watersheds in Central Luzon.

In his message during the provincial launch in Palayan City, the executive director of DENR regional office Nueva Ecija, Paquito Moreno, Jr., said the watershed is an important source of water for power generation including domestic and irrigation use. It also provides numerous ecosystem services like clean air, water and protection against disasters and calamities like typhoons, landslides, flooding, and even global warming and climate change.

“We must sustain these important benefits and functions of our watershed to maintain ecological balance. Our collaborative efforts are much needed now to protect and conserve this ecosystem,” he said.

He emphasized that the “Save Our Watershed” advocacy campaign calls for the active collaboration and cooperation of various stakeholders of the environment to stop environmental crimes and abuses on forests and natural resources.

“We need to change the public perception and attitude that watershed is not only a source of resources to be extracted. It has also life that is crucial to our survival,” he said, adding that more than reforestation, social-behavioral change is crucial in this campaign to save the watershed.

Moreno also expressed his gratitude to the DENR’s partners in the region including the people’s organization, non-government organization and the private sector for implementing projects for watershed rehabilitation and have been supporting them in their programs and whose activities contributed so much to watershed rehabilitation.

He also extended his appreciation to the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Asian Development Bank and local government units, who have facilitated the organization of watershed management councils.

For her part, Mayor Mary Abad of Carranglan town vowed to support the advocacy campaign including the forestland management project (FMP) of the DENR in the more than 44,000-hectare Pantabangan-Carranglan Watershed.

She also underscored the importance of strengthening the collaboration with the different stakeholders and partners to ensure safer and more resilient communities through sustainable watershed management.



## DENR launches save watershed campaign

The launching also witnessed the forging of the Memorandum of Agreement between the DENR-Central Luzon and the Prime Water Corporation for the active collaboration on the "Save our Watershed" campaign, the maintenance and adoption of watershed and alliance with people's organization and local communities to intensify watershed protection.

It has also recognized five environmental organizations for their valuable contributions in the protection and conservation of the environment and branded them as "Save Our Watershed Champions." These include the Philippine Taxonomic Initiative, Bambuhay, Binbin Igorot Association, Inc., Barangay Salazar Tribal Planting Association, Inc., Kadangdanglaan Farmers Association, Inc., and Sitio Tubong Upland Farmers Association, Inc., all in Nueva Ecija.



## Group cites potential backlash of Lingayen Gulf mining project



[BYJASPER Y. ARCALAS](#)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2 MINUTE READ

A food advocacy group on Monday urged President Duterte anew to recall his approval of an offshore mining project in Lingayen Gulf, Pangasinan, pointing out that it would be detrimental to domestic tourism industry and fish production.

Citing marine experts and other industry stakeholders, Tugon Kabuhayan claimed that the impact of the proposed offshore mining project by the Iron Ore, Gold, Vanadium Resources (Phils.) Inc. will do more harm than good to the industries surrounding Lingayen Gulf.

The group said Duterte must recall the project's Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) No. 07-2020-IOMR, which he approved last year, before the potential adverse impacts of the project materialize.

The project seeks to extract 25 million dry metric tons of black sand per year in Lingayen Gulf.

University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute scientist Dr. Fernando P. Siringan explained that the seabed mining would cause several negative consequences to the environment such as resuspension and dispersal of fine-grained materials, which will disturb the habitat of marine organisms around the gulf.

"The resuspension and dispersion will also dig up cysts buried in the ocean sediment, which will lead to harmful algal bloom, or more commonly known as red tide," Siringan said during the bimonthly virtual news briefing organized by Tugon Kabuhayan.

Siringan added that the seabed mining may also potentially release undesired metals and other harmful compounds back into the water, which may pollute the food chain since the gulf is home to about a quarter of the country's bangus supply.

"The location of the project is covered in more than 10 meters deep of thick and muddy material which will be first extracted, then sorted and dumped back into the ocean," he said.

"The undesired materials will be carried onto the entire gulf, release harmful pollutants in the water columns and awaken organic materials that can go directly to the food chain," he added.

Siringan added that the offshore mining project might exacerbate coastal erosion in the area, leaving residents near the water more vulnerable to strong waves during typhoons.

Tugon Kabuhayan said Lingayen Gulf, which covers 2,064 square kilometers of water, has been declared as an environmentally critical area (ECA) in 1993 through Proclamation 156 signed by President Fidel Ramos.

"The proclamation's aims are to sustain production of fish and other marine products, preserve genetic diversity, protect natural features, and enhance outdoor recreation, among others," it said.



## Group cites potential backlash of Lingayen Gulf mining project

“The livelihood of 44,517 fisherfolk from the municipalities of Pangasinan and La Union surrounding the gulf are likely to be impacted by the proposed project; as well as the fish supply of the almost 4 million combined population of the said provinces,” it added.

The group earlier explained that the Lingayen Gulf has around 3,000 cages for bangus, thousands of hectares and fishponds, hundreds of fishpens with an estimated production from bangus cages alone at 125,000 to 150,000 metric tons.



## Group urges firms to adopt green packaging solutions



[BYTYRONE JASPER C. PIAD](#)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2 MINUTE READ



The business sector should adopt sustainable packaging solutions and invest in the recovery and recycling of these materials, the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Materials Sustainability (ParmS) said.

Parms Co-convenor and Founding President Crispian Lao, in a recent event hosted by the Supply Chain Management Association of the Philippines, stressed the importance of promoting sustainability and a circular economy.

A circular economy refers to sustainable means of production and consumption by reusing materials as much as possible.

“What industry needs to do is to design our packaging so that it becomes more circular and more importantly, to put infrastructure in place so that materials can be recovered and can be recycled,” he said.

If a material cannot be recycled, Lao said it should be treated or properly disposed of.

Still, the ParmS official said this should be accompanied by “behavioral change” in terms of using and disposing of plastic packaging.

“Plastics just don’t walk out and find themselves on river. It is the behavioral change that is challenging but something that we need to address,” he said. “Plastic, when it becomes waste, becomes a problem. And the way the plastic affects waste is when people start burning it or dispose of it indiscriminately.”



## Group urges firms to adopt green packaging solutions

Parms had developed a roadmap, dubbed “Ambisyon 2030: Zero Waste to Nature,” which aims to prevent plastic waste from ending up in nature.

Lao said it identifies how much volume of plastic is being used and the strategies need to be done in the short, medium and long term to make the packaging more sustainable and circular.

Personal Collection Direct Selling Inc. General Manager for Technical Operations Rolando Lazo said in the same event that making their packaging sustainable was challenging, particularly the sourcing of the needed materials that will allow them to make the shift.

“We are approaching this very carefully. One thing when we started this journey, we really found it difficult to secure the supply of the things that we need to make our packaging recyclable or biodegradable,” he said.

Lazo said the company includes additives in their packaging that make the plastic biodegradable. These are being tested to ensure that making their packaging sustainable does not compromise its functionality as well.

“The prices of the additives [can vary from] expensive to very expensive. While we are taking a hit in terms of finances, we really want to bring this to the Philippines,” he said.

In September, environmental groups called on e-commerce giants Lazada and Shopee to revamp their packaging scheme amid the expected plastic waste due to surge in Christmas orders.

“The rise of online shopping during pandemic has also shown us that e-commerce is now really part of the new normal. By heeding the people’s call to reveal, reduce and redesign, Lazada and Shopee can lead the way to provide Filipinos a better normal e-commerce experience,” Greenpeace Philippines Consultant Jefferson Chua said.





## Legarda: PH still waiting for results of global climate summit

Published November 1, 2021, 2:14 PM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)

House Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda has called on world leaders attending the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to help secure the lives and livelihoods of Filipinos affected by the global climate crisis.

“It’s COP season again. COP26—if it delivers—can help secure the lives and livelihoods of Filipinos today and in the future as we continue to deal with the consequences of global warming. Many climate vulnerable countries like ours are anxiously waiting for its results,” the Antique lone district representative said.

Almost 200 nations and territories are in Glasgow, Scotland for a 12-day global climate negotiation from October 31 to November 12. The COP was postponed last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last COP was held in 2019, in Madrid, Spain.

According to Legarda this year’s summit is considered a critical meeting given the need for urgent action to prevent the average global temperature from going beyond 1.5°C and avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change. The year 2021 shed adds has been described by scientists as humanity’s “last best chance” to reduce emissions enough to keep the planet below 1.5°C.

“This is a make-or-break point for all nations to get their act together and agree on how to effectively implement the Paris Agreement, which is meant to limit global warming and ramp up our ability to adapt to worsening climate risks. Our hope is that COP26 will bring major progress on those fronts,” added the former three-term senator.

“Today, we confront climate change along with COVID-19, and our resilience to both is intertwined with the growth of the world’s economy. If the world becomes an inhospitable place for living things, the very concept of economy will disintegrate and we will be left in a pit where it will be a struggle to survive,” Legarda said.

“Let us, therefore, work together as a community, as a nation, and as a planet—towards a better ending; towards a greener normal; towards a safer, sustainable, and resilient future for us and the next generation,” she stressed. (Melvin Sarangay)



## Locsin wants collective efforts vs climate change

The global think tank said the two issues will drive an increase in migration that would result in 'huge impacts' for both the developing and developed countries globally



Published 4 hours ago

on November 2, 2021 12:40 AM

By [Sundy Locus](#) [@tribunephil](#) [sndy](#)



Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. on Monday called for collective efforts in addressing climate change — warning that 1.2 billion individuals globally may be displaced in 2050 if it remains unresolved.

Speaking at the 26th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP26), Locsin said countries should work together in creating solutions to protect the planet and reverse the devastating effects of the raging climate crisis.

“Incontrovertible scientific findings have defined the current climate change landscape. These are cold hard facts not subject to divergent opinions,” the country’s top diplomat said.

“The rise in the earth’s average surface temperature by more than 1 degree Celsius since pre-industrial times equates to melting ice sheets, glaciers, and sea ice; sea-level rise; ocean warming and acidification; extreme weather disturbances — literally nature in spastic agony. Unlike past climate change we can credit to natural causes, present-day climate change and accelerated global warming were stirred by human hands,” he said.



## Locsin wants collective efforts vs climate change

“This is the world’s last-ditch effort to save the planet. Let’s get that Paris Rulebook done. Succeeding COPs will be fine-tuning solutions or accelerating them. Think of an airplane out of control on a downward spiral. The crash is coming; all we have is a thin hope that the same people responsible for this predicament, and now at COP26 will be the hands that land the plane safely,” he added.

Held in Glasgow, Scotland from 31 October to 12 November, COP26 is the first conference of the United Nations Framework Convention on climate change to take place since the coronavirus outbreak.

It is also the same response in ratifying the concrete means for implementing the commitments undertaken by the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Locsin also appealed for member countries not to use the event as a platform to criticize but to offer solutions.

“Here are no enemies, only friends in earnest for a common purpose: To keep everyone alive on a planet that offers a tolerable existence as opposed to none at all. We have each only ourselves to blame; unless we are blind to our reflection in the mirror before our face,” Locsin said.

“We are here because we do not want a future crippled by large-scale suffering — a tableau of death, homelessness, disease, hunger, thirst, famine and blistering weather. By 2050, at least 1.2 billion people could be displaced due to climate change. We are those people and their suffering will have no borders,” he added.

In September, the Institute for Economics and Peace reported that more than 1 billion people are facing displacement in 2050 due to the ill effects of the climate crisis and rapid population growth.

The global think tank said the two issues will drive an increase in migration that would result in “huge impacts” for both the developing and developed countries globally.



## Climate change, 'di base sa opinyon- Locsin



November 1, 2021 @ 2:14 PM 15 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Sinabi ni Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin, Jr. nitong Lunes na isang malamig na katotohanan ang pagbabago ng klima is at hindi ito nakabase sa opinyon, kasunod ang babalang babagsak ang planeta kagaya ng eroplano kung hindi kikilos ang mga bansa.

Ito ang naging pahayag ni Locsin sa 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) sa Glasgow, Scotland.

“Incontrovertible scientific findings have defined the current climate change landscape. These are cold hard facts not subject to divergent opinions. The rise in the earth’s average surface temperature by more than 1 degree Celsius since pre-industrial times equates to melting ice sheets, glaciers and sea ice; sea level rise; ocean warming and acidification; extreme weather disturbances: a nature in spastic agony. Unlike past climate change we can credit to natural causes, present-day climate change and accelerated global warming were stirred by human hands,” giit ni Locsin.

“This is the world’s last-ditch effort to save the planet. Let’s get that Paris Rulebook done. Succeeding COPs will be fine-tuning solutions or accelerating them. Think of an airplane out of control on a downward spiral. The crash is coming; all we have is a thin hope that the same people responsible for this predicament, and now at COP26 will be the hands that land the plane safely,” dagdag pa niya.

Binanggit din ni Locsin na hindi dapat gamitin ang pagpupulong upang maghanapan ng butas, sa halip ay makahanap ng praktikal na solusyon.



## Climate change, 'di base sa opinyon- Locsin

“Those who have greater capacity to absorb the brunt of hard solutions must take them and help those with less capacity, who even now are taking as much of the brunt as they can, without equivocation or purpose of evasion. Unlike past climate change we can credit to natural causes, present-day climate change and accelerated global warming were stirred by human hands,” punto ni Locsin.

“We are here because we do not want a future crippled by large-scale suffering — a tableau of death, homelessness, disease, hunger, thirst, famine, and blistering weather. Here are no enemies, only friends in earnest for a common purpose: to keep everyone alive on a planet that offers a tolerable existence as opposed to none at all,” dagdag niya.

Ang COP26 ay magaganap mula Oktubre 31 hanggang Nobyembre 12. Ang delegasyon ng Pilipinas ay pinamumunuan naman ni Finance Secretary Carlo Dominguez. **RNT/SA**



## PH reiterates call for urgent global climate action

November 1, 2021, 5:58 pm



DOF Secretary Carlos Dominguez III

**GLASGOW** – The Philippines has amplified the call of developing nations for urgent action and results on the climate change commitments of developed countries ahead of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) that opened here Sunday.

Prior to the COP26 meeting, Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Carlos Dominguez III and Department of Energy (DOE) Undersecretary Felix William Fuentebella underscored in separate international fora the need to accelerate the mobilization and provision of funds to assist the most climate-vulnerable countries in climate adaptation and mitigation.

Dominguez, who heads the Philippine delegation to COP26, first made the call at the opening of the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), where he asked Western economies largely responsible for most greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to act now in significantly reducing their carbon footprints.

He also emphasized the need for these economies to make good on their commitments to extend the financing needed by climate-vulnerable countries to transition to a clean energy future.

Dominguez said he expects the participants in this year's climate change meeting to stop talking and start acting now.



## PH reiterates call for urgent global climate action

“We want to see from the COP26 meeting a clear transition of the Paris Agreement from being a platform for discussion to a springboard for concrete action,” he said at the AIIB annual meeting last October 27.

At the meeting of the Group of 77 (G-77) and China held on October 29, Fuentebella restated the Philippines’ position, and cited the need for transparency and accountability on the use of funds for climate financing.

“We stated that every dollar or every peso spent should be quantified, as well as its impact towards our common goal, and reported to the people of the receiving country and the people of the participating country for full transparency,” he said.

The G-77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations (UN).

This Group advances the interests of developing countries; articulates and promotes their collective economic interests and enhances their joint negotiating capacity on all major issues within the UN system.

In both the AIIB and G-77 and China meetings, Dominguez and Fuentebella said that despite Western economies failing to meet their financing pledge to climate-vulnerable countries, the Philippines has moved with urgency in implementing its climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

The Philippines, one of the world’s most climate-vulnerable countries, contributes only 0.3 percent of the world’s total GHG emissions, but has made the bold commitment of reducing these emissions by 75 percent over the next decade as its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement.

At the G-77 and China meeting, Fuentebella stressed the need for countries to be prepared administratively in mobilizing the climate change fund, saying it is the reason why Dominguez himself is leading the Philippine delegation.

Dominguez leads the Philippine delegation to COP26 to emphasize the country’s serious stance of cooperation and mobilization of available financing that will effectively address the climate crisis.



## PH reiterates call for urgent global climate action

Among the expected outcomes of COP26 is the finalization of the rules to implement the 2015 Paris Agreement in which all countries of the world agreed to step up efforts to try and limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures, and boost climate action financing.

Signatories to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change that started the annual Conference of the Parties (COP) are classified into three groups: Annex I, Annex II and developing countries.

Annex I parties are those that agree to reduce their emissions below their 1990 emission levels, and if they cannot do so, they must buy emission credits or invest in conservation.

Annex II parties are required to provide financial resources for developing countries to undertake emissions reduction activities and help them adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

In addition, they have to "take all practicable steps" to promote the development and transfer of environmentally friendly technologies to EIT Parties (economies in transition) and developing countries.

The Philippines supports the call of G77 and China for a more robust delivery of support to developing countries.

This support should emphasize the value of concrete solutions like transformative technologies in the form of tangible results or pilot programs that would realize the goal of technology development and transfer, as well as capacity building, including strategic research, development, and demonstration, Fuentesbella said. (*PR*)





## The climate crisis is a game changer when it comes to migration

posted November 02, 2021 at 12:00 am

"How are we confronting the transformational impact that climate and environment-induced population movements are having?"

By Gustavo Gonzales and Kristin Dadey

Global migration dynamics constantly shift but one thing is certain: the adverse impacts of the climate crisis are shaping migration patterns everywhere, including here in the Philippines. Globally, tens of millions of people are displaced every year by extreme climate events, while many others look to migration as a deliberate strategy to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

President Rodrigo Duterte, in his address during the 76th United Nations (UN) General Assembly, acknowledged that "just as COVID-19 has had an uneven impact on peoples, climate change has also exposed the varying vulnerabilities of countries around the globe. The risks and burden of a warming climate are simply not the same for everyone. The greatest injustice here is that those who suffer the most are those the least responsible for this existential crisis. But here we are now at a critical tipping point, where failure to act leads to cataclysmic consequences for the whole of humankind."

Included in these 'cataclysmic consequences' are estimates from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that with a 1.5°C global temperature rise, 30 to 60 million people will be living in areas where the average heat in the hottest month will be too high for a human body to function. With a 2°C rise, that number increases to more than 100 million. The World Meteorological Organization reported that we are perilously close to hitting the internationally agreed threshold in 2020, with a global mean surface temperature (GMST) of 1.2°C warmer than the pre-industrial baseline (1850-1900). "The alarm bells are deafening," declared UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

Based on Global Climate Risk Index 2020, the Philippines ranked the second most vulnerable country in the world affected by climate change despite being one of the smallest contributors to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The recent Global Report on Internal Displacement also revealed that over 4 million Filipinos were displaced in 2020 alone, the majority of which was caused by typhoons. Further, more than 60 percent of the Filipino population resides in coastal areas and will be forced to move with one-meter sea rise brought about by global warming—that equates to 60 million people having to move by the end of this century. This stark reality demands that urgent actions be taken now to avert and minimize the adverse impacts of the climate crisis. The human costs are too high not to act.

Individual lifestyle trends are moving toward eco-conscious choices from offsetting carbon to eating less meat, but how are we confronting the transformational impact that climate and environment-induced population movements are having and will have on peoples and societies across the globe?



## The climate crisis is a game changer when it comes to migration

According to the International Organization for Migration Philippines' recent report, Framing the Human Narrative of Migration in the Context of Climate Change, migration is one of the coping mechanisms of affected Filipinos facing climate crisis, either as a choice or a force of circumstance. Acknowledging that the protection of the most vulnerable should be at the forefront of our climate action, it is imperative to ensure that adaptive migration as a solution is safe, informed, and desired. For instance, planned relocation can be a pathway towards managing climate vulnerabilities when done in a contextually grounded manner and with strong community engagement.

To realign its capacities, knowledge, and resources in response to climate change and its impact on the most vulnerable sectors of society, the UN in the Philippines updated its Socio-economic and Peacebuilding Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in 2020 to facilitate coherent approaches to address the climate crisis and loss of biodiversity, as well as accelerate the low carbon transition while creating green jobs and improving human health. Guided by the Global Compact for Migration adopted in 2018, the UN Philippines Network on Migration highlights the need to take action at the local, national, and regional levels to avert, minimize, and address displacement, while also facilitating regular migration pathways. Such action will help key stakeholders to continue developing migrant-centered policies and programs. Nevertheless, we can and should do more.

At COP26, the international community should strive for a stronger commitment to recognize that human mobility is inextricably linked to climate change. More importantly, we need to advocate that national and regional policies include more migration adaptation measures, and that resources are allocated to address and prevent displacements while increasing people's resilience, especially in the most vulnerable countries.

As we see a devastating portrait of climate crisis unfold before our eyes, it is easy to walk away in despair and give up—but this is not an option. Our fight against climate change is far from over and we are not powerless in the face of this global threat. Robust scientific data point us to critical areas for climate action and offer doable solutions that include adaptive migration. As the cost of the climate crisis is reaching irreversible highs, we can only come out on top with nothing less than bold collective action.



## Climate change reshaped Earth with extreme weather this year



[BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS](#)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2 MINUTE READ



A man watches as wildfires approach Kochyli beach near Limni village on the island of Evia, about north of Athens, Greece on Aug. 6, 2021. (AP Photo/Thodoris Nikolaou)

Fires raged. Rivers flooded. Ice melted. Droughts baked. Storms brewed. Temperatures soared. And people died.

Climate change in 2021 reshaped life on planet Earth through extreme weather.

World leaders are gathering in Scotland to try to accelerate the fight to curb climate change. So far, it's not working, as the world keeps getting hotter and its weather more extreme, scientists and government officials say. They don't have to point far back in time or far off for examples.

There have been deadly floods in Belgium, Germany, China and Tennessee. Fire blazed in parts of the US West, Greece and even the Arctic.

Heat waves proved deadly and unprecedented, pushing temperatures in the Northwest and even reaching 116 degrees Fahrenheit (47 degrees Celsius) in Portland, Oregon, a city known for its mild climate. Hurricane Ida paralyzed New York City with record-breaking, deadly rain.

"These events would have been impossible without human-caused climate change," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said.



## Climate change reshaped Earth with extreme weather this year

In just the United States, there have been 18 weather or climate disasters this year with losses exceeding \$1 billion a year, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Those 18 disasters caused 538 deaths and nearly \$105 billion in damage. In the 1980s, the average year only saw three such disasters.

A report from AIR Worldwide, a global risk modeling firm, estimates that now each year extreme weather is costing \$320 billion around the world, with only about one-third of it insured.

“We now have five times the number of recorded weather disasters than we had in 1970, and they are seven times more costly,” Guterres said, speaking about global totals. “Even the most developed countries have become vulnerable.”



## COP26 begins as countries plan future actions on climate change

November 1, 2021, 5:39 pm



**COP26.** Photo taken on Oct. 31, 2021 shows a general view of the opening ceremony for COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, the United Kingdom. As the first conference after the five-year review cycle under the Paris Agreement inked in 2015, delegates are expected to review overall progress and plan future actions on climate change in the coming two weeks. (*Xinhua/Han Yan*)

**GLASGOW, Britain** – The 26th United Nations Conference of Parties on Climate Change (COP26), delayed by a year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, kicked off on Sunday in Glasgow, Scotland.

As the first conference after the five-year review cycle under the Paris Agreement inked in 2015, delegates are expected to review overall progress and plan future actions on climate change in the coming two weeks.

The conference comes at a time when the world has gone through a series of climate-change-related weather disasters, from severe flooding to wildfires.

Issues high on the agenda include finalizing the rules for the Paris Agreement's market mechanism and wealthy countries' unmet finance pledge to the developing countries to help them tackle climate-related challenges.

COP26 President Alok Sharma said in his speech at the opening ceremony: "We postponed COP26 by a year. But during that year, climate change did not take time off...And we know that the window to keep 1.5 degrees within reach is closing."

"We know that our shared planet is changing for the worse. And we can only address that together, through this international system...And if we act now, and we act together, we can protect our precious planet," he added. (*Xinhua*)



## G20 leaders agree on 1.5°C global warming target

November 1, 2021, 1:19 pm



**ANKARA** – Leaders of the world's 20 richest nations on Sunday reiterated their commitment to the 2015 Paris Agreement's goal of limiting the global average temperature to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

According to a communique after the summit of G20 leaders in Rome hosted by term president Italy, the leaders agreed that the "impacts of climate change at 1.5°C are much lower than at 2°C."

"Keeping 1.5°C within reach will require meaningful and effective actions and commitment by all countries," it said, adding they look forward to a successful 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland this week.

Although global economic activity has been "recovering at a solid pace, thanks to the roll-out of [coronavirus] vaccines and continued policy support," the recovery is "exposed to downside risks" due to new Covid-19 variants and uneven vaccination paces, it added.

"We remain vigilant to the global challenges that are impacting on our economies, such as disruptions in supply chains. We will work together to monitor and address these issues as our economies recover and to support the stability of the global economy," it added.

Noting that the effects of climate change are particularly affecting the poor and the vulnerable, the G20 leaders recalled and reaffirmed "the commitment made by developed countries to the goal of mobilizing jointly USD100 billion per year by 2020 and annually through 2025 to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and stress the importance of meeting that goal fully as soon as possible."

The statement also put "women and girls, who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic, at the core of our efforts to build forward better." (*Anadolu*)

## India Prime Minister pledges net-zero emissions by 2070

From CNN's Aditi Sangal



Alastair Grant/Pool/AFP/Getty Images

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi set a five-point climate agenda during his address at the COP26 summit in Glasgow, Scotland. Most notably, he pledged India will achieve net zero emissions by 2070.

With this, [all of the world's top 10 coal-power countries](#) have now committed to net-zero, according to climate think tank Ember.

However, India's goal of 2070 target is decades later than other polluter economies, and even later than China, which has targeted 2060.

"I'm happy to report that a developing country like India, which is working to lift millions out of poverty and working on their ease of living, accounts for 17% of the world's population but only 5% of the world's carbon emissions," Modi said Monday. "But it has not left any stone unturned in fulfilling its promise, and the whole world agrees that India is the only big economy that has delivered on the Paris Agreement in letter and spirit."

He also touted the Indian railway network for setting a goal to be net-zero by 2030, reducing emissions by 40 million tonnes by 2030.

Here are the promises Modi made in his five-point climate agenda:

- India's non-fossil energy capacity to reach 500 GW by 2030.
- Renewable energy will fulfill 50% of India's energy requirements by 2030.
- Its total projected carbon emissions will reduce by one billion tonnes by 2030.



## India Prime Minister pledges net-zero emissions by 2070

- India will also reduce the carbon intensity of its economy to less than 45% by 2030.
- India will achieve the target of net zero emissions by 2070.

Modi also called on developed nations to contribute \$1 trillion in climate financing to help developing countries transition to green energy and adapt to the climate crisis. He said he believes those contributions should be tracked.

"Climate finance ambitions cannot remain at the same levels as they were during the Paris Climate Agreement. Now that India has made a new commitment, the need for climate finance and low-cost technology transfer has become even more important," he said.





## Extreme Greenland ice melt raised global flood risk —study

By PATRICK GALEY, Agence France-Presse

Published November 1, 2021 8:24pm



Icebergs are seen from NASA's Oceans Melting Greenland (OMG) research aircraft on September 7, 2021 near Upernavik, Greenland. NASA's 6-year campaign studied the ocean and glaciers along Greenland's 24,000-mile remote coastline with airborne and shipborne instruments—data which cannot be captured by satellite—with the goal 'to figure out how much of Greenland's ice melt is caused by warming oceans.' Greenland's massive ice sheet holds enough water to raise sea levels by around 25 feet worldwide. Mario Tama/ Getty Images/ AFP

PARIS — The 3.5 trillion tonnes of Greenland's ice sheet that has melted over the past decade has raised global sea levels by one centimeter and is heightening worldwide flood risks, new research showed on Monday.

The ice sheet atop the world's largest island contains enough frozen water to lift oceans some six meters (20 feet) globally, and extreme melting events there have been increasing in frequency for at least 40 years.

Although it is one of the most studied places on Earth by climatologists, Monday's research is the first to use satellite data to detect Greenland ice sheet runoff.

Writing in the journal *Nature Communications*, researchers said that Greenland's meltwater runoff had risen by 21 percent over the past four decades.

More strikingly, the data provided by the European Space Agency showed that the ice sheet had lost 3.5 trillion tonnes of ice since 2011, producing enough water to raise oceans globally and put coastal communities at higher risk of flood events.

One-third of the ice lost in the past decade came in just two hot summers— 2012 and 2019—the research showed.



## Extreme Greenland ice melt raised global flood risk —study

The images showed significant annual variation in ice melt and, combined with temperature data, showed that heatwaves were increasingly a major cause of ice loss—above and beyond global temperature rises.

In 2012, for example, when changes in atmospheric patterns caused unusually warm air to hover over the ice sheet for weeks, 527 billion tonnes of ice was lost.

"As we've seen with other parts of the world, Greenland is also vulnerable to an increase in extreme weather events," said Thomas Slater, from the University of Leeds Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling and lead author.

"As our climate warms, it's reasonable to expect that the instances of extreme melting in Greenland will happen more often."

Predicting how much Greenland's melt will contribute to rising sea levels is notoriously tricky for scientists who also need to factor in the potential rise caused by other land-based glacier melt.

And, as oceans warm, water expands, and also contributes to higher seas.

Monday's authors said that the satellite data had allowed them to quickly and accurately estimate how much ice Greenland had lost in a given year, and convert that into sea-level rise equivalent.

"Model estimates suggest that the Greenland ice sheet will contribute between 3-23 cm to global sea-level rise by 2100," said co-author Amber Leeson, senior lecturer in Environmental Data Science at Britain's Lancaster University.

"These new spaceborne estimates of runoff will help us to understand complex ice melt processes better... and just enable us to refine our estimates of future sea-level rise." — **AFP**



## ‘Health and environment must go together for healthy citizens’



[BYRIZAL RAOUL REYES](#)

OCTOBER 31, 2021

3 MINUTE READ

Health and the environment must go together to produce a healthy citizenry in order to ensure the country and the world as well will have a sustainable future, as environmental degradation remains a huge threat that cause many deaths, according to a medical doctor and cultural anthropologist.

“The environment needs to be healthy. Without a healthy environment, there would be no healthy people,” Dr. Gideon Lasco said during a webinar on the launching of the Healthy Pilipinas web site on October 26.

Lasco, also a medical anthropologist, pointed out that it is important for the country to put premium both on the environment and health as it continues to grapple with the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

He added that environmental degradation will also cause deaths, especially among the poor, the children, people with disabilities and the immigrants.

“Filipinos need health information that is accurate, accessible and culturally contextualized. Healthy Pilipinas is a platform that can cater to this need. This launch is just the beginning, and I hope we can collaborate with institutions and individuals within and beyond the public-health community to realize the web site’s full potential,” added Lasco, also a consultant of the Healthy Pilipinas editorial team.

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), it is of paramount importance for countries to invest in environmental sustainability because this can serve as an insurance for health and human well-being.

“The degradation of the environment—the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, and the ecosystems which sustain us—is estimated to be responsible for at least a quarter of the global total burden of disease,” the UNEP said in its latest report titled, “Healthy Environment, Healthy People.”

Furthermore, the UNEP pointed out that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) articulate the universal understanding that a healthy environment is essential to the full enjoyment of basic human rights, including the rights to life, health, food, water and sanitation and quality of life.

Dr. Beverly Lorraine Ho, Director IV of the Health Promotion Bureau and Disease Prevention and Control Bureau, said the vision of the web site is to become a “unified data platform for health promotion” for the Filipino digital public, backed by the guiding principles of accuracy, inclusivity, collaboration, responsiveness, and user-friendliness.”

Internet use, Ho said, continues to be one of the biggest pastimes in the country, which underscores the need to reach Filipinos online in a world becoming more and more digital.

Ho added that the Healthy Pilipinas web site will be aligned with existing and future Department of Health (DOH) efforts.



## ‘Health and environment must go together for healthy citizens’

One section featured is the Seven Healthy Habits campaign that teaches the public different health-promoting actions and behaviors. It is also linked to the Covid-19 and ResBakuna campaign pages of the main DOH web site for unified messaging and information regarding the pandemic and vaccination efforts.

“There is a need to provide timely and accurate health information, especially now, not just because of the pandemic, but because it is too easy to be misinformed on social media,” Ho explained. “The Healthy Pilipinas web site will be a credible source that you can turn to. I envision this endeavor to reach even more Filipinos as it expands and becomes part of our everyday life.”

The web site will also leverage social media to allow the sharing of long-form articles on existing platforms like the Healthy Pilipinas Facebook page, DOH Twitter account and DOH Viber community among others.

Ho noted that the web site will also enable supportive environments for health promotion. This would include tips, articles and downloadable materials for local implementers

“PHAP [Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines] is honored to collaborate with the [DOH] in its efforts to provide the Filipino people with verified information and slow the spread of misinformation,” PHAP Executive Director Teodoro Padilla.

He said that health misinformation is a serious threat to public health as it can cause confusion, harm people’s health and undermine public health efforts.



## Conservation task force orders gov't agencies to upgrade cooling systems

November 1, 2021 | 7:19 pm



PHILSTAR

THE Inter-Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee (IAEECC) said it will require government agencies to install upgraded cooling systems that are in compliance with the prevailing MEPP standard.

“All government entities shall ensure that only energy-efficient inverter type air-conditioning units that are compliant with the Minimum Energy Performance for Products (MEPP) shall be installed or used in their buildings, facilities and air-conditioning retrofit projects,” the committee said in a recent resolution posted on the Department of Energy’s (DoE) website.

MEPP-compliant cooling systems must have a minimum cooling seasonal performance factor (CSPF) of 3.08 for those that consume less than 3.3 kilowatts (kW); and a CSPF of 2.8 for those consuming 3.3 kW to 9.9 kW.

The DoE has said that inverter-type cooling units use up 30% less power compared to conventional air-conditioning units.

The resolution put the trade and science departments in charge of issuing the guidelines on certifying energy-efficient inverter type air-conditioning units, and undertaking research on better cooling technologies, respectively.

“All government entities shall observe... waste management collection, recycling and disposal under Republic Act No. 11285 (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act) to prevent any negative impacts



## Conservation task force orders gov't agencies to upgrade cooling systems

on the environment brought about by the replacement of non-energy efficient air-conditioning units," it added.

The IAEECC is chaired by Energy Secretary Alfonso G. Cusi. Its eight members include representatives from the Departments of Finance, Trade and Industry and Science and Technology.  
— **Angelica Y. Yang**



## Senate urged: Pass 2022 budget early

By [Delon Porcalla](#) (The Philippine Star)  
- November 2, 2021 - 12:00am



“We appeal to our senators to swiftly pass the 2022 national budget that is expected to help the country recover and emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic,” Deputy Speaker Bernadette Herrera yesterday said.

MANILA, Philippines — With the House of Representatives having “done its job” and passed the P5.024-trillion national budget for 2022, a congresswoman said senators must do the same as soon as possible so that President Duterte can sign the measure before the year ends to hasten the country’s recovery from the pandemic.

“We appeal to our senators to swiftly pass the 2022 national budget that is expected to help the country recover and emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic,” Deputy Speaker Bernadette Herrera yesterday said.

“The House of the People has done its job. We now await our friends from the Senate to do theirs,” the Henerasyon party-list representative said.

Led by Speaker Lord Allan Velasco, the House transmitted its version of the General Appropriations Bill to the Senate last Oct. 25, two days ahead of the target date set by the lower chamber.

Herrera thanked Velasco, House appropriations committee chairman Rep. Eric Go Yap of ACT-CIS and the rest of her House colleagues for the swift passage of the budget bill.

“This really shows the collective commitment and resolve of the House to help Filipinos and the economy recover from the devastating impacts of the pandemic by ensuring uninterrupted delivery of government services,” she said.

Herrera expressed optimism that “the Senate, under the able leadership of finance committee chairman Sen. Juan Edgardo Angara, will be able to pass its own version in a timely manner.”



## Senate urged: Pass 2022 budget early

“The ideal timeline is for President Duterte to sign the budget bill into law before Christmas,” she added.

In an interview with reporters yesterday, Senate President Vicente Sotto III said the chamber expects to pass the budget measure by the first week of December.

Angara’s panel is now preparing its committee report on the proposed budget, for presentation before the plenary shortly after the Nov. 8 resumption of session.

Herrera echoed an earlier statement by the Speaker about the importance of enacting the national budget before January 2022, as a reenacted budget would surely dampen the country’s recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

The government’s pandemic response and economic recovery plan for the country remain the top priority in the proposed 2022 General Appropriations Bill (GAB), the last budget under the Duterte administration. – **Paolo Romero**



02 NOVEMBER 2021, Tuesday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## DOH: COVID-19 tally up by 3,117 new cases, but 8 labs without data

(Philstar.com)

- November 1, 2021 - 4:00pm



Vendors prepare bouquets and other flower arrangements at the Dangwa Flower Market in Manila on Oct. 26, 2021 for people who will visit their departed loved ones at various cemeteries before All Souls' Day.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Health authorities reported 3,117 more coronavirus infections on Monday, bringing the national caseload to 2,790,375.

In its latest bulletin released Monday afternoon, the DOH reported a positivity rate of 7.5% out of 41,712 tests.

- **Active cases:** 43,185 or 1.5% of the total
- **Recoveries:** 5,124 new additions, bringing the number to 2,703,914.
- **Deaths:** 104, now 43,276 in total

According to the Department of Health, eight labs were not able to submit their tallies for Monday's final count.

However, the DOH added that the eight labs only accounted for 0.8% of all samples tested and 1.1% of all positive individuals.

It has been 594 days since the first enhanced community quarantine was hoisted over some parts of Luzon.

### What's new today?

- It is safe to reopen more businesses in Metro Manila now that the capital region is at "low risk" for COVID-19, OCTA Research said Monday.



## DOH: COVID-19 tally up by 3,117 new cases, but 8 labs without data

- The Department of Tourism on Monday announced that it will start subsidizing free RT-PCR tests for local travelers.
- President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday urged Filipinos to pray for healthcare frontliners and each other as they commemorated All Saints Day and All Souls Day.
- Per data from the Philippine National Police, 482 areas around the country are under granular lockdown, leading to 7,967 households or 33,726 individuals placed under lockdown.
- As of the latest figures from the coronavirus task force, some 27.27 million Filipinos have been fully inoculated against COVID-19 since the government launched its vaccination campaign eight months ago.
- The chief of the Philippine National Police directed the PNP-Highway Patrol Group to assist and coordinate with the Department of Transportation regarding the 30-day pilot study of the gradual increase in the number of passengers allowed in public utility vehicles.
- The PNP also directed all police units to sustain their enhanced visibility and regularly conduct anti-crime patrols to prevent street crimes as the holiday season nears.



## EDITORIAL - Huwag munang magkampante

(Pang-Masa)

- November 2, 2021 - 12:00am



PABABA nang pababa ang kaso ng COVID-19. Ayon sa Department of Health (DOH) ang arawang kaso ay naglalaro na lamang sa mahigit 3,000. Hindi katulad sa mga nakaraan na umaabot sa mahigit 20,000. Malaki na ang ibinaba kaya nagpanukala si Presidential adviser for entrepreneurship at Go Negosyo founder Joey Concepcion na isailalim na sa Alert Level 2 ang Metro Manila sa Nobyembre 15. Sa kasalukuyan, nasa Alert Level 3 ang Metro Manila hanggang Nobyembre 15. Sabi ni Concepcion, masyadong dadapa ang ekonomiya kapag hindi binago ang Alert Level sa Metro Manila. Dapat isailalim na sa Alert Level 2 ang MM dahil 85 percent ng population ay vaccinated na. Mababa na ang panganib, ayon kay Concepcion.

Noong isang araw, dinagdagan na ang kapasidad ng pasahero ng mga public utility vehicles sa Metro Manila. Puwede nang dagdagan ang sakay at maaari nang alisin ang mga plastic barriers. Maski sa mga simbahan ay dinagdagan na rin ang mga taong pinapapasok para magsimba. Pinapayagan na ring magbukas ang iba pang establimento.

Nararamdaman na ang pagbaba ng kaso ng COVID sa bansa particular sa Metro Manila. Sabi ng OCTA Research, magpapatuloy pa ang pagbaba ng kaso ngayong buwan na ito. Isa sa mga dahilan nang pagbaba ng kaso ay ang pagiging bakunado ng nakararaming residente sa Metro Manila.

Ganunman, sabi ng Department of Health (DOH) hindi pa rin nila lubos na nararamdaman ang pag-unti ng kaso sapagkat punuan pa rin ang COVID patients sa mga ospital. Bagamat nag-decrease meron pa rin anilang dinadalang mga pasyente.

Nagbabala rin naman ang mga senador na huwag magre-relaks sa nakikitang pagbaba ng kaso. Kailangan pa rin daw maging vigilance at ipagpatuloy ang pag-iingat.

Tama ang paalala na huwag magrelaks o magkampante. Bumababa ang kaso pero narito pa rin ang virus. Kapag hindi nag-ingat at sinuway ang health protocols, posibleng dumami muli ang kaso. Huwag munang buksan ang matataong lugar gaya ng dolomite beach. Sa ganitong matataong lugar, nagsisimula ang hawahan. Kapag nasigurong wala na ang virus, saka lang buksan sa publiko.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pang-masa/punto-mo/2021/11/02/2138387/editorial-huwag-munang-magkampante/amp/>



## Global Covid-19 deaths surpass 5M in less than 2 years

November 1, 2021, 6:41 pm



**ANKARA** – The number of people who have died from the coronavirus has exceeded 5 million worldwide in less than two years, according to Johns Hopkins University on Monday.

Data from the US-based school showed more than 246.7 million have been infected by the virus that emerged in China in December 2019, and has since spread to every corner of the world.

With nearly 46 million infections and over 745,800 deaths, the US remains the country with the highest number of infections and deaths. It is followed by India with 34.2 million and Brazil with 21.8 million infections.

In terms of confirmed Covid-19-related deaths, however, Brazil follows the US with 607,824 fatalities, while India has the third-highest death toll with 458,437.

Meanwhile, Mexico remains among the countries with the high death toll from the pandemic, with 288,365 fatalities reported to date.

Over the past month, Russia kept registering record-high daily Covid-19 deaths, while over 50 million people have been fully vaccinated in the country, according to the health authorities.

Over 6.94 billion vaccine doses have been administered so far, the Johns Hopkins data showed.

The mRNA vaccines have shown remarkable efficacy in combating infection. However, new variants emerging worldwide have scientists on edge about whether the vaccines will remain as effective in combatting mutations. (*Anadolu*)



## Global Covid-19 situation likely to be under control in months

November 1, 2021, 3:15 pm



Dmitry Medvedev, Deputy Chairman of the Russian Security Council

**MOSCOW** – The epidemiological situation all over the world can be brought under control in the next few months, however, one needs to be ready to deter such threats in the future, Deputy Chairman of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev said in his article published by the Rossiyskaya Gazeta newspaper.

"There are strong indicators that the (coronavirus disease 2019) situation will be generally brought under control in the next few months. But what is also obvious is the need to be constantly prepared to repel such threats in the future," he said.

Medvedev said the global community needs to focus on all systems responsible for the life, health, and well-being of citizens.

"Also, it is crucial to introduce new technologies, eliminate inequalities in society, support the most vulnerable groups of people and prepare emergency fund. Everyone should be safeguarded access to quality healthcare services, both emergency and planned, to medicines, vaccines, means of protection, which allow people not only to survive in such challenging times but also to live their full lives every day," he added.

Medvedev said the Covid-19 was likely to persist for a very long time.



## Global Covid-19 situation likely to be under control in months

"Even after mass vaccination and the development of the herd immunity, the possibility of new local (coronavirus) outbreaks remains," he said.

Medvedev highlighted the fact that the events of the past two years had already left an indelible mark on the history of civilization.

He referred to the words of Russian writer Fyodor Dostoyevsky "everyone is really responsible to all men for all men and for everything."

"Currently, each of us needs to rethink the degree of personal responsibility for their own health and also for (the) safety of other people. For everything that happens to our world, and, in general, for the fate of all mankind," Medvedev said. (*TASS*)



**#OneDENR**

**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**





# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 597

## NOBYEMBRE 1, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 1.5%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
43,185

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 96.9%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
2,703,914

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.55%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
43,276

MGA BAGONG KASO **3,117**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **5,124**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **104**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,790,375**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING OKTUBRE 30

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 1  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG OKTUBRE 30

# 7.5%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 41,712

BILANG NG  
TINEST

HALOS

# 77.5%

ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**A**LAMIN  
ANG TAMANG  
IMPORMASYON

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 (4.1K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **45%** Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.4K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **39%** Utilized

Mild 72.6%

ISOLATION BEDS (20.6K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **34%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **27%** Utilized

4.9% Asymptomatic

WARD BEDS (14.5K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **31%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.1K TOTAL BEDS)  
 **30%** Utilized

3.0% Critical

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
 **31%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
 **29%** Utilized

7.2% Severe

12.32% Moderate



## UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ngayong Undas, panatilihin natin ang ating kaligtasan sa pamamagitan ng masusing pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards** saan man tayo maparoon. Kasabay nito, sa oras na makaramdam ng sintomas, agad na makpag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS o One COVID Referral Center**, para sa karampaang gabay sa mga susunod na gagawin. Maabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**.

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  
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH  
KONTRACOVID PH: [kontracovid.ph](http://kontracovid.ph)



Manatiling ligtas!  
I-download ang StaySafe App  
O Gamiting ang WEBAPP  
at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](http://Staysafe.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

[doh.gov.ph](http://doh.gov.ph)

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

02 NOVEMBER 2021, Tuesday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **VLOGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



**Please click this link:**

Source: <https://youtu.be/mKnxlJZyzi8>

MANILA  
DOLOMITE BEACH MANILA BAY PANG WORLD CLASS

7,587 views • Nov 1, 2021

284 7 SHARE SAVE ...

**RONSTV VLOG**  
90.7K subscribers

**SUBSCRIBE**

PANG WORLD CLASS DOLOMITE BEACH MANILA BAY  
[#manilabay](#)  
[#dolomitesand](#)  
SHOW MORE






Please click this link:

Source: <https://youtu.be/d6XBG1zcUQU>

#manilaBayupdate #Dolomitesand #manilaBayupdatetoday

MANILA BAY UPDATE TODAY/NOVEMBER 01 2021

860 views • Nov 1, 2021

 62  1  SHARE  SAVE ...



TROPANG ILONGGO

9.15K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

whut's up mga kababayan welcome back to my Youtube channel Tropang Ilonggo.  
ito mga ka tropa may bago na naman tayong update please support may update today and like and  
subscribe

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Please click this link:

Source: <https://youtu.be/y7LnCj-vLEE>

MANILA

LIVE DOLOMITE BEACH ABOT TANAW MANILA BAY 11-01-2021

5,945 views • Streamed live 13 hours ago

👍 214    💬 2    ➦ SHARE    ⌵ SAVE    ...



**RONSTV VLOG**  
90.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

LIVE DOLOMITE BEACH ABOT TANAW 11-01-2021 MANILA BAY TODAY #manilabay  
#dolomitebeach #manilabayupdate #dolomite



Please click this link:

Source: <https://youtu.be/n68ZuL-V1o>

Manila Bay Live Update: November 1, 2021

1,959 views • Streamed live 20 hours ago

116 2 SHARE SAVE ...



PINOY BLOGGER PH  
21.1K subscribers

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SUBSCRIBE



**Please click this link:**

Source: <https://youtu.be/xBx1N2fKado>

MANILA BAY WHITE BEACH

MANILA BAY NOVEMBER 01,2021,HALA PINAG FIESTAHAN ANG SUNSET SA MAY MYC! Miz July

707 views • Nov 1, 2021

43 0 SHARE SAVE ...



**Miz July**

64.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay UPDATE NOVEMBER 01,2021

late upload po maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone

[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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**Please click this link:**

Source: [https://youtu.be/unOlu7f\\_aKs](https://youtu.be/unOlu7f_aKs)

manila bay dolomite beach update november 1.2021 mga tao nabigla nagpaalis ang mga pulis.

285 views • Nov 1, 2021

👍 35    🗨️ 0    ➦ SHARE    ⌵ SAVE    ...



**BOSS MARLON OCAMPO VLOG**  
3.68K subscribers

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#manilaBayupdate #Dolomitesand #manilaBayupdatetoday

MANILA BAY UPDATE TODAY/NOVEMBER 01 2021

475 views • Nov 1, 2021

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9.15K subscribers

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ito mga ka tropa may bago na naman tayong update please support may update today and like and  
subscribe

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**Please click this link:**

Source: [https://youtu.be/D\\_p1LIDTDKw](https://youtu.be/D_p1LIDTDKw)

#DuterteLegacy #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay

REKLAMO NG MGA NETIZENS MAY AKSYON NA!

17,334 views · Oct 31, 2021

681 8 SHARE SAVE ...



engr. berto

182K subscribers

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#DuterteLegacy #DolomiteBeach  
#BattleForManilaBay

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**Please click this link:**

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#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay  
**WAGI NA NAMAN! NAGLABASAN ANG MGA ISDA!**  
 15,812 views • Nov 1, 2021

👍 746 🗨️ 7 ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ...

 **engr. berto**  
 182K subscribers SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach  
 #BattleForManilaBay

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**Please click this link:**

Source: <https://youtu.be/vFGLNVSypPQ>

Ilang indbidwal, nagpunta ngayong Undas sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach kahit na sarado

4,318 views • Nov 1, 2021

54 2 SHARE SAVE ...



PTV ✓

1.28M subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Ilang indbidwal, nagpunta ngayong Undas sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach kahit na sarado; Ilang pasyalan sa Metro Manila, sarado din

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