

DATE : 23 APR 2019

DAY : Tuesday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



Earth Day is time to think of little things to make world a better place – Cimatu

By **ELLALYN DE VERA-RUIZ**

As the Philippines joined the rest of the world in the celebration of Earth Day (April 22), Filipinos were encouraged to ponder on what they can do to help address recurring ecological problems, especially the declining population of animal species.

"We have an obligation to take care of this planet we all share and Earth Day is a great time to start thinking more about the environment and all the little things we can do to make the world a better place," Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

Over one billion people in more than 190 countries were expected to take part in the celebration of the 49th anniversary of Earth Day, making it the largest civic observance in the world. This year's theme is "Protect Our Species."

Cimatu said that the Earth Day 2019 theme was a reminder that keeping the planet from destruction also means actively working on slowing down the decline of the country's threatened and endangered species such as the

Philippine monkey, flying lemur, giant flying fox and tarsier.

He pointed out that this was indeed timely as the country just witnessed a series of law enforcement operations that resulted in massive seizures of live wild animals and arrest of wildlife criminals — proof that the Philippines remains steadfast on its commitment to fighting illegal wildlife trade that is driving endangered species to the brink of extinction.

According to Cimatu, protecting the environment was not the sole responsibility of the government because the general public, too, must also do their part.

He noted that there were simple ways people can help to protect the environment like conserving water and energy, patronizing cleaner fuel or taking public transport, and practicing proper waste management.

The local celebration of Earth Day 2019 will be held on April 24 and 28. The first one will take place at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center in Quezon City with DENR and Earth Day Network Philippines Inc. (EDNPI) organizing the event.



DENR chief to Filipinos: Help save planet Earth

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Roy A. Cimatu on Monday urged Filipinos to reflect on the most pressing ecological problems facing the world today and think of what they can do to save the planet.

In a statement released in time for the celebration of Earth Day on Monday (April 22), Cimatu said Filipinos are obliged to take care of the planet.

Over 1 billion people in more than 190 countries were expected to take part in the celebration of the 49th anniversary of Earth Day, making it the largest civic observance in the world. This year's theme is "Protect Our Species."

"We have an obligation to take care of this planet we all share and Earth Day is a great time to start thinking more about the environment and all the little things we can do to make the world a better place," Cimatu said.

Cimatu said the Earth Day 2019 theme is a reminder that keeping the planet from destruction also means actively working on slowing down the decline of the country's threatened and endangered species such as the Philippine monkey, flying lemur, giant flying fox and tarsier.

The DENR chief said the Philippines remains steadfast on its commitment to fight illegal wildlife trade that is driving endangered species to the brink of extinction.

According to Cimatu, protecting the environment is not the sole responsibility of the government because the gen-

eral public, too, must also do their part.

He noted that there are simple ways people can help to protect the environment like conserving water and energy, patronizing cleaner fuel or taking public transport, and practicing proper waste management.

"Being more environmentally conscious is the right thing to do. Living a more eco-friendly lifestyle could help create a sustainable planet and mitigate the effects of climate change and global warming," Cimatu said.

Marking the celebration of Earth Day with protest action, the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) and Kalikasan-People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan-PNE) on Monday trooped to the DENR to protest what they describe as "silence" on the part of the DENR chief on the alleged massive destruction of ecosystem by China in the disputed West Philippine Sea.

The massive destruction, in forms of land reclamation, came side by side with the alleged destruction of thousands of acres of coral reefs via giant clams harvesting in the disputed territory.

During the protest, Pamalakaya National Chairman Fernando Hicap said the DENR, through Cimatu, should be in the frontline of protecting the resource-rich West Philippine Sea from foreign-instigated environmental plunder.

Instead, Pamalakaya lamented that the DENR has kept mum amid reports

of continuing Chinese reclamation and illegal poaching as part of its occupation of almost the entire South China Sea, including 80 percent of the West Philippine Sea.

"40,000 acres of reefs have already been decimated courtesy of China's aggressive usurpation of our marine waters, and yet, the DENR is not doing anything to impose its existing conservation laws and policies to protect the West Philippine Sea and its biodiversity. We haven't even heard any single statement of condemnation from Secretary Roy Cimatu who fails to fulfill the mandates entrusted to him," Hicap said.

Pamalakaya said Cimatu is lawfully and politically obliged to issue a strong statement lambasting the People's Republic of China (PRC), as well as President Duterte for inflicting environmental catastrophe in the West Philippine Sea.

"As a top environment chief, we expect Cimatu to be the most vocal critic of environmental plunder brought about by Chinese incursion and the Duterte government's defeatist stand, but apparently, Cimatu doesn't have the courage to assert our sovereign rights to China in the name of defending the rich ecosystem of West Philippine Sea," added Hicap.

"We are not just being robbed of our precious yet endangered giant clams, Filipino fishers are also being curtailed of right to livelihood and freedom of access to their common fishing grounds," he said. *Jonathan L. Mayuga*



23 APR 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

DENR prods Pinoys to protect animals

As the Philippines joined the rest of the world in the celebration of Earth Day yesterday, Filipinos were encouraged to ponder on what they can do to help address recurring ecological problems, especially the declining population of animal species.

"We have an obligation to take care of this planet we all share and Earth Day is a great time to start thinking more about the environment and all the little things we can do to make the world a better place," Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

Over one billion people in more than 190 countries were expected to take part in the celebration of the 49th anniversary of Earth Day, making it the largest civic

observance in the world. This year's theme is "Protect Our Species."

Cimatu said the Earth Day 2019 theme is a reminder that keeping the planet from destruction also means actively working on slowing down the decline of the country's threatened and endangered species such as the Philippine monkey, flying lemur, giant flying fox, and tarsier.

He pointed out that this is indeed timely as the country just witnessed series of law enforcement operations that resulted in massive seizures of live wild animals and arrest of wildlife criminals – proof that the Philippines remains steadfast on its commitment to fighting illegal wildlife trade that is driving endangered species to the brink of extinction. **(Ellalyn Ruiz)**



23 APR 2019

DATE

Protect marine life, ecosystems — Oceana

THE Philippines is practically an ocean, a body of water with only about 10 percent of its territory in groups of islands. The country stands as the center of the world's marine biodiversity.

In observance of the Earth Day commemoration today, international non-government advocacy group, Oceana Philippines exhorted government and stakeholders to continue to work for the protection of marine life and other ecosystems connected to it.

"Let's observe Earth Day in the Philippines with the end in view of stopping all dump-and-fill projects on our coasts that will expand our land area for so-called development projects that harm ecosystems and impair the quality of life of Filipino communities. These projects will kill mangroves and bury our coral reefs, sea grass and other marine habitats that millions of our fisherfolk are dependent on for their livelihood," said Atty. Gloria Estenzo Ramos, Oceana Philippines Vice President.

Ramos emphasized that the fisheries management areas system is now in place with fisheries grounds delineated into 12 areas. These uphold comprehensive, science-based and people-centered fisheries management as conservation measures to protect key marine habitats and fight illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. These ensure that our rich but vastly threatened marine resources become effective and sustainable vehicles of national and local development. Allowing these destructive dump-and-fill projects within the fisheries management areas is anathema to the reasons why the FMA system was established.

Earlier, Oceana, along with private sector and civil society organizations including fisherfolk groups, launched a united action to stop dump and fill projects that are set to be built in the different parts of historic and biodiversity-rich Manila Bay.

Ramos emphasized that the fisheries management areas system is

now in place with fisheries grounds delineated into 12 areas. These uphold comprehensive, science-based and people-centered fisheries management as conservation measures to protect key marine habitats and fight illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. These ensure that our rich but vastly threatened marine resources become effective and sustainable vehicles of national and local development. Allowing

these destructive dump-and-fill projects within the fisheries management areas is anathema to the reasons why the FMA system was established.

Earlier, Oceana, along with private sector and civil society organizations including fisherfolk groups, launched a united action to stop dump and fill projects that are set to be built in the different parts of historic and biodiversity-rich Manila Bay.

"Let's echo our Earth Day message to reach the proponents of these dump-and-fill projects that undoubtedly are ecologically disastrous activities. They should listen to the voices of communities, environmental advocates, private and civil society sectors because these pose a food security issue and further deprive all of us especially our artisanal fisherfolk of their living and sustenance," added Ramos.



MAY MGA TIPS SI MAMANG PULIS

Ikaw, ano'ng ambag mo para sa Earth?

Nina Martin A. Sadongdong at Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz

Magtipid ng kuryente at tubig, magtanim ng puno, at itapon nang maayos ang inyong mga basura.

Ilan ito sa mga maliliit na gawain na iminungkahi ng Philippine National Police (PNP) na magagawa ng publiko bilang sariling ambag sa pagsasalba at pangangalaga sa Inang Kalikasan, kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng World Earth Day kahapon.

Sinabi ni Albayalde na ang naturang mga hakbangin ay matagal nang ginagawa ng pulisya.

"I think 3:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. wala nang tubig 'yan sa buong kampo, kaya 'yung gustong maligo sa kanila, maligo na dapat, dahil pinapatay na 'yung tubig dito. Just to help in conserving water. Alam naman natin na medyo mababa na 'yong supply ng ating tubig," aniya.

Sinabi naman ni PNP spokesman Col. Bernard Banac, na pagsapit ng tanghali ay pinapatay nila ang ilaw sa

kanilang kampo.

"The use of solar power is ongoing na dito sa camp. May mga solar panels na tayong naka-install as part of our commitment to support Earth Day. Energy conservation is ongoing and intensified. The awareness among our cops have also been strengthened," sabi ni Banac.

Kaugnay nito, hinikayat naman ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang publiko na pag-isipan na ang kanilang magiging kontribusyon upang matutukan ang mga problema sa kalikasan, lalo na sa pagkaunti ng populasyon ng animal species.

"We have an obligation to take care of this planet we all share and Earth Day is a great time to start thinking more about the environment and all the little things we can do to make the world a better place," ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

Manila Standard

U
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

1/2

23 APR 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

Life

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

EARTH DAY 2019: Going green with reusable products



NO PLASTIC ALLOWED. In celebration of Earth Day, international brands encourage the public to opt for reusable products to help mitigate plastic waste pollution.

PLASTIC waste is a growing concern in the Philippines, which is the third biggest contributor of unmanaged plastic in the ocean. The report found that on average, Filipinos release 2.7 million metric tons of plastic waste into the ocean every year, with 560,000 metric tons of plastic waste coming from Metro Manila alone.

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, many brands—big or small—continue to assist in the fight against plastic waste.

Meals in stainless steel

Stainless steel bento box brand Vaya offers everyday products that ensure people enjoy fresh meals on the go sans the need for disposable, flimsy, and non-biodegradable containers that can compromise the quality of food.

A lunchbox full of innovation, the Vaya Tyffyn allows users to pack a multi-course meal that stays fresh for up to six hours. Stylish and leak-resistant, it comes in three different sizes: 600ml (two containers), 1,000ml (three containers), and 1,300ml (four containers).

The brand also carries a reusable cup. Vaya Drynk is a sustainable and high-quality bottle that easily fits in a bag. It claims to be able to keep drinks hot for up to 12 hours, and cold for 18 hours. It is available in two sizes: 350ml and 600ml, and comes with two different lid options to enjoy a wide variety of beverages.

Finally, Vaya Preserve is a sleek vacuum-insulated food storage/carrying container that serves as a handy meal carrier for one-pot meals and can store ingredients to ensure freshness for a long time. It comes in two sizes, 300ml and 500ml.

Drinks in reusable cups

American coffeehouse chain Starbucks also encourages reusability and inspires its customers to make sustainable choices with the launch of reusable hot and cold cups in the Philippines starting April 22.

The reusable cup is nearly identical to Starbucks' iconic white cup and is made from polypropylene, a plastic which is widely accepted into global recycling infrastructure. The new reusable cups are designed to make the cup sturdier than paper and is a more sustainable approach to single-use packaging.

As Starbucks continues to work toward creating a more sustainable planet, it also empowers others to join the cause and help organizations with the same vision. Today until April 26, customers who bring in their reusable cups, personal tumblers or mugs of at least 16oz. in size or higher will be given the option to donate their P5 cup discount to their choice of environmental organization from the given NGO partners. Those who will donate will receive a complimentary upsize.

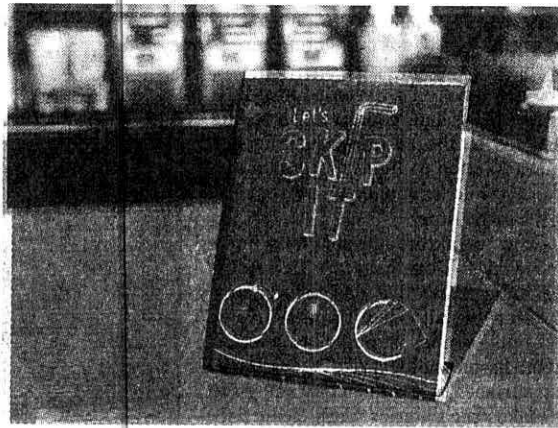
Customers may choose between the World Wildlife Fund Philippines or the Haribon Foundation, two organizations dedicated to preserving life and nature. By the end of the promo, Starbucks commits to shoulder the amount needed to match the donations between the two organizations.

Globally, an estimated 600 billion paper and plastic cups are distributed annually. According to the company, Starbucks cups only account for around 1 percent of that total, yet it is committed to bring more sustainable solutions to reduce waste.

Since 2014, Starbucks has offered the reusable cup in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. and so far the company has sold more than 25 million globally.

Last year, Starbucks also announced its goal of removing all plastic straws in its store globally by 2020.

In the Philippines, the coffee brand has also begun taking steps towards this goal with the Skip the Straw initiative. At local stores, customers are offered to skip the straws, disposable utensils and napkins for their orders and are provided more sustainable options including specially designed sipping lids and compostable straws.



Coffeehouse chain Starbucks' customers are offered to skip the straws, and disposable utensils and napkins.



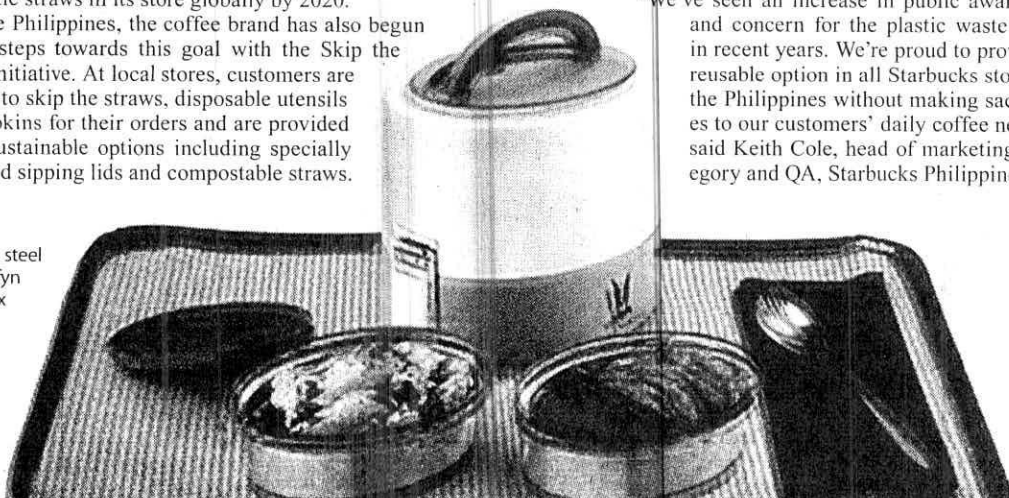
Starbucks reusable cold cup with reusable straw



Starbucks reusable cup for hot beverages

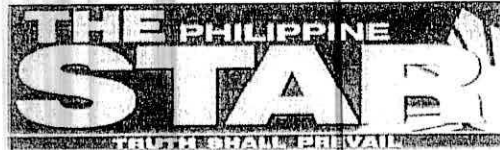
"We've seen an increase in public awareness and concern for the plastic waste issue in recent years. We're proud to provide a reusable option in all Starbucks stores in the Philippines without making sacrifices to our customers' daily coffee needs," said Keith Cole, head of marketing, category and QA, Starbucks Philippines.

Stainless steel Vaya Tyffyn lunchbox keeps meals fresh up to six hours.





STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE



23 APR 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

10 M trees planted to mark Earth Day

By DELON PORCALLA

An environmentalist party-list group initiated yesterday efforts to fight climate change by planting 10 million trees in celebration of this year's Earth Day as it reaffirmed its commitment "to invest in the ecological sustainability of future gen-

erations."

"We planted narra seedlings in Masbate that would take 100 years to fully mature or keep on growing, outliving most, if not all of us," said former journalist Michael Ubac, first nominee of Luntiang Pilipinas.

"The seedlings symbolize
Turn to Page 2

10 M From Page 1

Luntiang Pilipinas' commitment to pursue legislation that will have a positive impact on the country's environment and will benefit generations of Filipinos," the former reporter, who hails from the province, added.

The party-list group was established in 1998 by Sen. Loren Legarda, who is now on her third and last term as senator and who is running to represent the legislative district of Antique.

Ubac revealed they recently held two major tree-planting activities, one in Masbate City and another in the main campus of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Sta. Mesa, Manila.

He said Luntiang Pilipinas has shown that such a program is "doable," as the group is responsible for planting and growing two million trees in 33 provinces, 28 cities and 84 municipalities across the country.

"One of our four pillars that serve as a roadmap for achieving resiliency is a re-greening program that involves tree-growing, school-based vegetable gardening/gulayan sa paara-

lan and backyard gardening," Ubac explained.

"We should go beyond commemorating Earth Day; caring for the environment is a year-round commitment that requires us to be proactive in our efforts to restore ecological balance in our country – and Luntiang Pilipinas' program to plant 10 million trees in our country is our contribution to this effort."

Luntiang Pilipinas is vying to be the first green party in the House of Representatives. It has been endorsed by Senate President Vicente Sotto III and Aksyon Demokratiko, the party founded by the late senator Raul Roco.

Meanwhile, Secretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has urged the public to live a more eco-friendly lifestyle.

"Being more environmentally conscious is the right thing to do. Living a more eco-friendly lifestyle could help create a sustainable planet and mitigate the effects of climate change and global warming," he said.

He asked Filipinos to pause and reflect on the most pressing ecological problems facing the world today and think of what they can do to save the planet.

"We have an obligation to take care of this planet we all share, and Earth Day is a great time to start thinking more about the environment and all the little things we can do to make the world a better place," the DENR chief added.

Over one billion people in more than 190 countries were expected to take part in the celebration of the 49th anniversary of Earth Day, making it the largest civic observance in the world. This year's theme

is "Protect Our Species."

Cimatu said the Earth Day 2019 theme is a reminder that keeping the planet from destruction also means actively working on slowing down the decline of the country's threatened and endangered species such as the Philippine monkey, flying lemur, giant flying fox and tarsier.

This is timely, he added, as the country just witnessed a series of law enforcement operations that resulted in seizures of live wild animals and arrest of wildlife criminals, proof that the Philippines remains steadfast in its commitment to fighting illegal wildlife trade that is driving endangered species to the brink of extinction.

According to Cimatu, protecting the environment is not the sole responsibility of the government because the general public must also do its part, as he cited the simple things people can do to help protect the environment, which include conserving water and energy, patronizing cleaner fuel or taking public transport and practicing proper waste management.

The local celebration of Earth Day 2019 will be held on April 24 and 28. The first one will take place at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center in Quezon City with DENR and Earth Day Network Philippines Inc., which have lined up the events that include the signing of an agreement for tree planting activities between the DENR and Couples for Christ; launching of the search for model barangays and "green" corporations; on-the-spot painting and poster-making contests and Earth Day festival bazaar and exhibit.

– With Rhodina Villanueva, Emmanuel Tupas



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

Manila Standard

K6
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

23 APR 2019
DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

On Earth Day, eco group vows to plant 10-m trees

By Maricel V. Cruz
and Rio N. Araja

A GROUP of environment advocates on Monday said it will start the planting of 10-million trees in the country's most denuded areas as its project for this year's celebration of Earth Day.

Luntiang Pilipinas convener Michael Ubac said the project is meant to reaffirm the group's commitment "to invest in the ecological sustainability of future generations."

Ubac said that the group organized in 1998 by Senator Loren Legarda recently held two major tree-planting activities, one in Masbate City in the Bicol Region and another in the main campus of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

"We planted Narra seedlings in Masbate that would take 100 years to fully mature or keep on growing, outliving most if not all of us," said Ubac.

"The seedlings symbolize Luntiang Pilipinas' commitment to pursue legislation that will have a positive impact on the country's environment and will benefit generations of Filipinos," he added.

Ubac said that such a program is "doable," and the group targets to plant and nourish two-million trees in 33 provinces, 28 cities, and 84 towns.

"One of our four pillars that serve as a roadmap for achieving resiliency is a greening program that involves tree-growing, school-based vegetable gardening/gulayan sa paaralan, and backyard gardening," said Ubac.

"We should go beyond commemorating Earth Day; caring for the environment is a year-round commitment that requires us to be proactive in our efforts to restore ecological balance in our country—and Luntiang Pilipinas' program to plant 10-million trees in our country is our contribution to this effort."

The local celebration of Earth Day 2019 will be held on April 24 and April 28.

Meanwhile, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu urged the people to think of ways to save the planet.

As the nation joined the rest of the world in observing Earth Day on Monday, he called on the Filipinos to pause and reflect on the most pressing ecological problems facing the world and think of what they can do to save the planet.



Target para sa next generation

Makapagtanim ng 10-M puno

TARGET ng Luntiang Pilipinas partylist na makapagtanim ng 10 milyong puno para sa mga susunod na henerasyon bilang bahagi ng pagdiriwang ng Earth Day.

Ayon kay Michael Ubac, first nominee ng partylist group, inilunsad nila ang tree planting activities sa Masbate City, Bicol at main campus ng Polytechnic University of the Philippines kamakailan.

"We planted Narra seedlings in Masbate that would take 100 years to fully mature or keep on

growing, outliving most if not all of us," ani Ubac. "The seedlings symbolize Luntiang Pilipinas' commitment to pursue legislation that will have a positive impact on the country's environment and will benefit generations of Filipinos."

Sinabi ni Ubac na bago pa man tumakbo ang Luntiang Pilipinas ay nakapagtanim na ito ng dalawang milyong puno sa 33 probinsya, 28 siyudad at 84 munisipalidad.

"We should go beyond commemorating Earth

Day; caring for the environment is a year-round commitment that requires us to be proactive in our efforts to restore ecological balance in our country—and Luntiang Pilipinas' program to plant ten million trees in our country is our contribution to this effort."

Ang Luntiang Pilipinas ay itinayo ni Sen. Loren Legarda noong 1998. Iniendorso ito ni Senate President Tito Sotto III at Aksyon Demokratiko, ang partido ni Sen. Raul Roco.
— *Leifbilly Begas*



Earth Day sisimulan sa pagtatanim ng 10M puno ng Luntiang Pilipinas

INIHAYAG ni Luntiang Pilipinas Party-list 1st nominee Michael Ubac ang kahandaang magtatanim ng sampung milyong puno sa bansa at mamarkahan ng party-list ang 'Earth Day' sa muling pagpapatibay sa pangako na mag-invest sa ecological sustainability ng future generation.

Ibinunyag din ni Ubac na ang grupo na itinatag noong 1998 ni Sen. Loren Legarda ay nagdaos kamakailan lamang ng dalawang malaking tree planting activity, isa sa Masbate City sa Bicol at sa main campus ng Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) sa Sta. Mesa, Maynila.

"We planted Narra seedlings in Masbate that would take 100

years to fully mature or keep on growing, outliving most if not all of us," ani Ubac.

"The seedlings symbolize Luntiang Pilipinas' commitment to pursue legislation that will have a positive impact on the country's environment and will benefit generations of Filipinos," dagdag ng multi-awarded journalist.

Sinabi pa ni Ubac na ipinakita ng Luntiang Pilipinas na kayangkayang gawin ang programa dahil ang grupo ay responsable sa pagtatanim at pagpapatubo sa may dalawang milyong puno sa 33 probinsya, 28 siyudad at 84 munisipalidad sa buong bansa.

"One of our four pillars that serve as



a roadmap for achieving resiliency is a re-greening program that involves tree-growing, school-based vegetable gardening/gulayan sa paaralan, and backyard gardening," paliwanag pa ni Ubac.

Ang Luntiang Pilipinas ang kauna-unahang green party sa Kamara at inindorso ni Senate President Vicente 'Tito' Sotto III at Aksyon Demokratiko na itinatag ng namayapang si Sen. Raul Roco.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

23 APR 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

Benguet joins Earth Day

By Aldwin Quitasol

TUBLAY, Benguet — A cleanup of the Bayokbok Falls in Tuel fired off activities for the nationwide celebration of Earth Day in this province.

A Holy Mass was also celebrated by the residents along with the officials of the municipal government on Monday as the caves of Paterno and Bengaongao were closed to public visitors and tourists.

Meanwhile, in relation to environment conservation efforts, the National Academy for Science and Technology and the Department of Science and Technology Cordillera will hold a Luzon Regional Scientific Meeting from 24 to 25 April in Alaminos, Pangasinan.

Participants will discuss ways to reduce plastic wastes, ensure sustainable marine food security and sustainable education, talent development and retention programs.





23 APR 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

DPWH set to dredge Manila Bay

THE Department of Public Works and Highways will deploy two huge amphibious dredging machines to beef up the cleaning operations of Manila bay which is expected to be completed by July 2019.

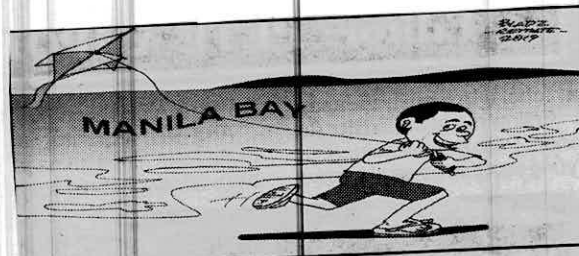
Public works undersecretary Emil Sadain said the department will also deploy four amphibious excavators and debris segregators to remove tons of debris, plastics and other solid wastes along the 1.5-kilometer area of Manila Bay.

Sadain, who is also head of the department's Technical Services and Unified Project Management Office Operations, said the two units of Watermaster Classic 5 with cutter suction will fast-track the "Sagip Manila Bay" cleanup works between the area of US Embassy to Manila Yacht Club in preparation for the upcoming rainy season.

"Improvements as a result of DPWH activities can now be seen but we will not relax and instead we beefed up our operation," he said.

Public Works Secretary Mark Villar recently launched the DPWH desilting operations in Manila Bay by deploying a fleet of equipment composed of amphibious excavators, dumping scows, dump trucks, debris segregator, street sweepers, and vacuum sewer jet cleaners.

Vito Barcelo



EDITORIAL

BALIK MANILA BAY

MALAKI ang ibinunga ng pagsisikap ng ating pamahalaan na baguhin ang mukha ng Manila Bay patungo sa dati nitong anyo na malinis at pupwedeng paghanapbuhayan nang walang basura, polusyon o lason.

Nang inalis ang mga bakod sa Baywalk, lumusong sa Manila Bay ang libo-libong namamasyal sa Luneta, Manila.

Kasama sa mga rilusungan na lugar ang dalampasigan din ng Baseco Beach.

Dating napakarumi ang mga lugar na ito. Bukod sa mga basurang plastik at iba pa na nakikita sa mga lugar na nabanggit, nakalalason at mapolusyon din ang tubig dahil sa dumi ng tao at kemikal na galing sa mga pabrika, ospital, restoran at iba pa.

Nanggagaling ang mga basura, polusyon at lason nang direkta mula sa mga tubo ng nasabing mga establisimyento at ilog, estero at drainage.

Iba pa ang mga direktang itinatapon ng libo-libong informal settler at mangingisda sa Manila Bay dahil nakatira ang mga ito sa ibabaw ng lawa o nakatayo sa mga dalampasigan nito.

Sa mga panimulang tagumpay ng pamahalaan, sa pangunguna ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources, nararamdaman na ng tao ang kahalagahan ng malinis na kapaligiran.

Nasimulan ito sa Boracay at sinundan ito sa iba pang tourist spots at dahil sa tagumpay rito, naririyang ang malaking tiwala ngayon ng tao na magtatagumpay rin ang bagong Battle of Manila Bay para maging malinis ito na pasyalan at paghanapbuhayan.

Sana, matutunan talaga ng lahat ang mapagtitulungan sa pamahalaan na malinis ang ating kapaligiran para na rin sa kapakanan ng lahat.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Balita

ANG NANGUNGUNANG PAHAYAGANG TAGALOG SA BANSA

4
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

23 APR 2019
DATE



MALASAKIT KAY MOTHER NATURE

Nagtipun-tipon kahapon, World Earth Day, ang mga environmental groups sa harap ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources upang igiit ang pagtukoy sa pagkakaroon ng mga "Special Protected Areas" sa mga kabundukan at karagatan sa bansa, at hilinging tugunan ang pagsira sa kalikasan ng paghahango ng China ng mga dambuhalang tulya sa West Philippine Sea. **ALVIN KASIBAN**



Boracay group seeks silence in bat habitat

Choppers, boats with loud music told to keep off flying foxes' roosting site

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
@nestorburgosINQ

ILOILO CITY—Helicopter tours and boats blaring music on Boracay Island should be regulated to avoid disrupting the bats' natural habitat, according to a group advocating the protection of endangered fruit bats.

Friends of the Flying Foxes (FFF) said bats needed a 200-meter buffer zone from their roosting site so human activity and loud noises would not disturb their sleeping and mating patterns, according to a letter that the group sent to the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu and the Malay municipal government in Aklan province.

The Boracay-based FFF, which is composed of conservation volunteers, also asked the government to conduct an environmental impact assessment to determine what caused the dramatic decline of the bat population on the resort island.

The helicopter tours, either for an aerial view of Boracay's beaches or the whole island, are offered online or direct booking by various operators to tourists, photographers and



DISAPPEARING ATTRACTION The number of fruit bats, once a main attraction in Boracay, is dwindling due to construction and tourism activities, a conservation group says. —PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF THE FLYING FOXES

videographers. The tours cost from P5,300 per person for a 10-minute flight to P40,000 per person for an hourlong trip.

Declining population

There were an estimated 15,000 bats in Boracay in 1986. But FFF said it counted only 347 bats this year, an 86-percent drop compared to the 2,425 bats counted in April 2017, and 1,608 in March 2018.

dangered species under the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List.

The two other species are the giant fruit bat (*Pteropus vampyrus*) and the small flying fox (*P. hypomelanus*).

Bats are essential to the regeneration of trees and the preservation of fast-dwindling forest cover, FFF said.

Hunting ban

In the letter, FFF president Julia Lervik asked the government to enforce a ban on the hunting and killing of bats.

FFF said development activities, including the clearing of trees, might have contributed to the sharp decline in the bat population in Boracay. It has been pushing for the declaration of the remaining forest cover in Yapak village as a critical habitat to ensure its protection.

"We need to stop anything that might cause us to lose even one more bat and collect data to support the reasons for this decline. A conclusive impact that will happen if we lose our bats or their numbers decline further is that we will have no potable water, as without the bats there will be no forest," Lervik said. INQ

The northern hills of the 1,032-hectare island at Barangay Yapak are home to fruit bats, commonly referred to as flying foxes because their features resemble miniature dogs or foxes.

Conservationists have identified three species of flying foxes on the island, including the golden-crowned flying fox (*Aceradon jubatus*), which is endemic to the country but has been categorized as among en-



23 APR 2019

DATE

Chinese business sa Boracay, sinisilip

BORACAY ISLAND -
Iniimbestigahan na ng pamahalaan
ang biglang pagdami ng mga
negosyong hawak ng mga Chinese
sa Boracay Island.

Sa pahayag ni Boracay Inter
Agency Rehabilitation Management
Group (BIARMG) chief, Natividad

Bernardino, nagsasagawa na sila ng
pag-aaral kaugnay ng usapin.

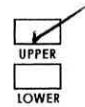
Posible aniyang isa sa dahilan
ng pagdami ng mga business
establishment ng mga Chinese ay ang
patuloy na pagdagsa ng mga turista sa
naturang tourist destination.

Aktibo rin umano ang mga travel

operator sa China kaya marami ring
Chinese na bumibisita sa Boracay.

Nangako naman si Bernardino na
maghihigpit sila sa implementasyon
ng mga batas sa isla para na rin sa
kapakanan ng mga bumibisita sa
lugar.

Jun N. Aguirre



23 APR 2019
DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

47 lang Chinese worker sa Boracay - Bello

ITINANGGI ni Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III ang ulat na bumabaha na ang mga manggagawang Chinese sa Boracay.

Sa ulat na ipinarating ni Bureau of Local Employment Director Dominique Tutay sa kalihim, mayroon lamang 151 na dayuhang manggagawa sa Boracay at 47 lamang dito ang Chinese.

Ayon kay Bello, pawang may alien employment permit, mga skilled at professional ang mga nasabing Tsino.

Hindi rin aniya alam kung

saan nagmumula ang balita na marami ang mga Chinese national na nagtrabaho sa Boracay.

Sinabi ni Bello na hindi payag ang kagawaran sa pag-employo ng Chinese o alinmang dayuhan na makapagtrabaho sa isla lalo na kung may available na manggagawang Pilipino na akma sa kailangang trabahoon.

Tiniyak naman ng kalihim na patuloy nilang mamanan ang mga Chinese establishment

sa Boracay kung binibigyan ng prayoridad ang mga Tsino kaysa sa mga Pilipino.

Sinabi ni Bello na kahit kapos sila sa mga labor inspector, ginagawa nila ang lahat ng paraan para maberipika ang mga natatanggap nilang ulat.

Hinikayat din niya ang publiko na i-report sa kanilang tanggapan kung may nakikita silang Chinese na nagtatrabaho sa isang pagawaan o establisimiyento na kaya namang gawin ng mga Pinoy. **(Mina Aquino)**



San Fernando fighting waste as well as mindsets

By **JANVIC MATEO**

SAN FERNANDO—For this city in the heart of Pampanga, addressing the growing waste problem goes beyond acquiring the latest innovation to hit the market.

Between 2012 and 2018, the city of San Fernando has decreased the

percentage of trash that goes to landfills from 88 percent to 20 percent, a feat many local governments can only dream about.

Instead of going to dumps or, worse, into waterways, most of the waste collected in the city now becomes compost or is sold for

Turn to Page 4



San Fernando

From Page 1

recycling.

But becoming an almost litter-free city was a long process, according to Regina Rodriguez, officer-in-charge of the city's environment and natural resources office.

"We are not just fighting waste," she tells **The STAR**. "We are fighting mindsets, culture."

A 2018 World Bank report revealed that nearly two billion tons of solid waste were generated worldwide in 2016 – a number that could increase to 3.4 billion tons by 2050, damaging mostly developing countries.

"In low-income countries, over 90 percent of waste is often disposed in unregulated dumps or openly burned. These practices create serious health, safety and environmental consequences," the report said.

The Philippines, one of the biggest contributors of plastic pollution in the oceans, produced over 14 million tons of waste in 2016. Only 28 percent was recycled.

Almost two decades since the country passed the Ecological Solid Waste

Management Act, which required the establishment of materials recovery facilities (MRF) in every barangay across the country, full compliance has yet to be achieved.

The MRFs were supposed to receive mixed waste for sorting, segregation, composting and recycling, with the residual waste transferred to a long-term storage, disposal facility or sanitary landfill.

But for some, such requirement was not economically viable, especially for low-income municipalities.

Froilan Grate, president of the Filipino nonprofit Mother Earth Foundation (MEF), feels otherwise. "What you need is support from all sectors," he says, stressing the importance of political will and commitment from local officials.

In 2012, the local government of San Fernando tapped the MEF to implement a zero-waste strategy in the city. It was a long and grueling effort.

Across the city, solid waste unceremoniously dumped in the streets was a common sight, recalled Rodriguez, saying that, at that time, many thought it was impossible to solve.

Six years later, the city is now touted as one of the country's model cities in terms of waste management.



23 APR 2019

DATE

Editorial

Walang disiplina sa pagtatapon ng basura

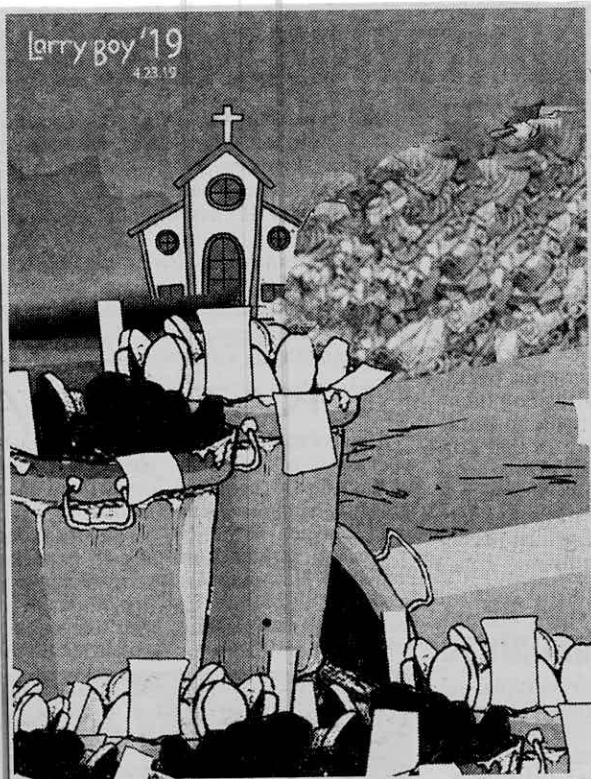
KAHIT kailan, kahit saan, marami pa rin ang walang disiplina sa pagtatapon ng basura. Tapon dito, tapon doon. Kahit ang mga nasa loob ng tumatakbong sasakyan, itinatapon sa labas ng bintana ang kanilang basura. Nagpapakita ng kawalan ng disiplina at kamangmangan sa epektong duot ng basura sa kapaligiran.

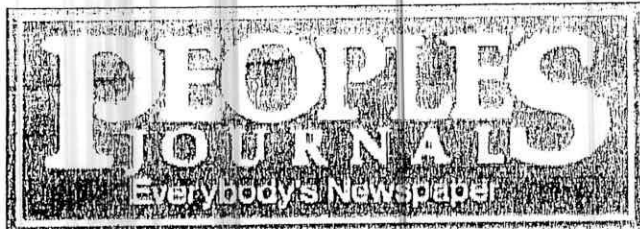
Nitong nakaraang Mahal na Araw, minsan na namang nakita ang kawalan ng disiplina nang maraming bumisita sa mga simbahan o nag-visitang Iglesia. Huwebes Santo at Biyernes Santo nang magtungo sa mga simbahan ang mga Katoliko. At sa bawat simbahan na kanilang binisita, nag-iwan din sila ng basura. Pawang mga plastic na supot ng pinaglagyan ng softdrink at tubig ang iniwang basura. Bukod sa plastic, nag-iwan din ng mga paper cup at styro na pinaglagyan ng kanin at ulam. Mayroon ding cup ng noodles at sachet ng kape.

Pinakamaraming basurang iniwan sa isang grotto sa San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. Sa paligid ng grotto ay makikita ang tambak ng basura. Sobrang dumi ng paligid na para bang hindi bahay ng Diyos ang lugar. Malayung-malayo sa dating tanawin ang grotto noong hindi pa dumarating ang mga nagbi-visitang Iglesia. Ipinakita ang kawalan ng disiplina at kamangmangan ng mga nagtungo sa grotto. Nawalan ng saysay ang pagtungo sa lugar sapagkat naghatid lamang nang maraming basura.

Bago ang Semana Santa, nag-viral naman sa social media ang isang van na tumatakbo sa boundary ng Mandaluyong at Makati na hinabol ng isang German cyclist. Bitbit ng cyclist ang isang plastic ng basura na itinatapon ng mga sakay ng van. Nang abutan ng dayuhan ang van na naipit sa trapik, kinatok niya ang pinto at nang buksan, ibinigay niya ang basura na itinatapon ng mga sakay nito.

Kahit saan, kahit kailan, maraming Pilipino ang walang disiplina sa pagtatapon ng kanilang basura. Hindi na nakapagtataka kung dumating ang panahon na pawang basura ang makikita sa kalsada, simbahan, parke at iba pang lugar. Kakahiya na kung sino pa ang mga dayuhan, sila pa ang nagpapamukha sa kawalan ng disiplina at kamangmangan sa pagtatapon ng basura. Kailan matututo ang mga Pilipino sa tamang pagtatapon ng basura.





23 APR 2019

DATE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Tradisyon na rin ba ang pagkakalat ng basura?

TAON-TAON pagkaraan ng Mahal na Araw, laging hinaing ng mga kasapi ng Ecowaste Coalition ang mga basurang ikinalat ng mga nagpupunta sa simbahan ng Antipolo.

Mahigit isang dekada nang gani-to lagi ang tila sumbong sa media ng grupo. Wala namang tumatalima sa taon-taon ding panawagan ng coalition hinggil sa pagiging malinis ng kapaligiran sa mahal na araw.

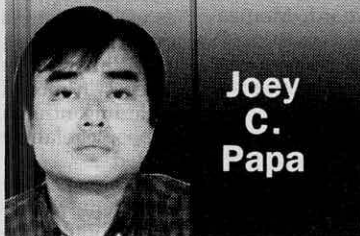
Tila bingi na at manhid na ang mga kababayan nating nagsisimba sa Antipolo sa Mahal na Araw. Di nila pansin kung ang pinuntahan nilang simbahan ay isang sagra-dong lugar ng mga Katoliko at ipinaubaya na lamang ang paglilinis sa pamahalaang lunsod nito.

Tila hindi iginagalang ng mga nagkakalat ng basura sa mga di-naang lugar ng mga "deboto" ng pagsisimba sa lugar na ito. Kailangan lang bang maidaos ang tradisyon ng pagsisimba sa Antipolo taon-taon kahit na masalaula ang mga daraanan papunta hanggang sa lugar ng simbahan?

Kahabag-habag ang itsura ng lugar pagkaraan ng pagsisimba sa lunsod na ito. Tila isang malawak na tambakan ng basura ang simbahan.

Matagal ko nang iminungkahi sa Coalition na dapat ay tukuyin nila ang mga barangay ng mga

BANGON KALIKASAN



Joey C. Papa

"deboto" na nagsisimba sa Antipolo tuwing Mahal na Araw katulad din ng tradisyon ng pista ng Quia-po.

Araw ng mga patay, Pasko at Bagong Taon, at iba pang tradisyong ginugunita taon-taon.

Kung matutukoy ang kahit ilan man lamang sa mga barangay na taunang nagsisimba sa Antipolo tuwing Mahal na Araw, mainam na makausap ang mga pamunuan ng kanilang barangay at ipaunawa ang batas sa kalikasan at ang pagmamahal sa ating kapaligiran.

Ano ang saysay ng pagsisimba kung sinasalaula naman ang kapaligirang likha ng Dakilang Lumalalang?

Mainam ding kausapin ang mga barangay sa Antipolo upang ipatupad ang RA 9003 o Ecological Solid Waste Management o Maka-kalikasang pamamahala ng mga tirang bagay na nagiging basura. Dapat malaman ng pamunuan ng

mga barangay na ito na may kaparusahan ang paglabag sa batas na ito.

Dapat itong mahigpit na ipatupad ng DILG at DENR.

Napakapangit tingnan at isipin na ritwal na lamang at hindi na isipiritwal ang paggunita sa Mahal na Araw lalo na sa lunsod ng Antipolo at iba pang taunang paggunita sa mga yumao natin at mga pista sa bansa.

Kung ritwal na lamang ang paggunita sa mga okasyong ito, pangit itong tradisyon. Tila pakitang-tao na lamang ito.

Nakalulungkot isipin na lumalala lalo ang pagsasalaula ng maraming Pilipino sa ating kapaligiran kahit na damang-dama na ang painit na painit na mundo. Lahat ay nagdurusa ngayon sa napakainit na panahon. Tila lagi tayong nasa loob ng pugon sabing isang kakilala kong nakausap ko sa cell phone habang nagbabakasyon sa lalawigan. Dati raw ay malamig ang lalawigan 'yon ngunit hindi na ngayon.

Dapat maging responsible ang bawat isa sa atin sa pangangalaga sa Inang Kalikasan. Ang mga ikinalat na basura ay tiyak na hahantong sa mga karagatan tulad ng Manila Bay o kaya'y sa mga tambakan ng basura na nagbubuga ng carbon sa atmospera na lalong magpapainit sa ating mundo.

(bangonkalikasan@yahoo.com)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

23 APR 2019

DATE

As Angat Dam nears critical level

MWC warns of new supply shortage

By **MADELAINE B. MIRAFLORE**

Ayala-led Manila Water Company, Inc. (MWC) yesterday sounded the alarm over the possibility of a water crisis throughout Metro Manila — not just within the East Zone concession — as Angat Dam is about to hit its critical level.

Manila Water President and Chief Executive Officer Ferdinand Dela Cruz said on Monday that the "only critical concern" the company is now watching closely is "the sharper decline of Angat Dam (water level)."

"We are working very closely with the government about this," Dela Cruz said. "[A supply disruption from Angat] will not just affect us but the entire Metro Manila."

Angat Dam currently supplies 97 percent of Metro Manila's water needs, releasing about 4 million liters of water

per day (mld). Of this, Manila Water gets an allocation of 1,600 mld, while West Zone concessionaire Maynilad Water Services, Inc. is allowed to get the rest or about 2,400 mld.

As of Monday, Angat Dam's water level was at 182.93 meters, which is way below its spilling level of 212 meters.

"We are already alarmed by the level of Angat Dam," Dela Cruz said. "The critical level of 180 meters is already coming and we are in coordination with the government about this."

Dela Cruz said that National Water Resources Board (NWRB) is now on top of the "balancing" efforts when it comes to water allocation that should go to Metro Manila.

"We are raising the issue of Angat Dam to make sure that Metro Manila's allocation of 4,000 mld, of which 1,600 mld is ours, continues. And we've already had collaborative discussion with NWRB

and they have been very responsive," he further said.

Right now, NWRB is now studying the possibility of reducing Angat Dam's water allocation that goes to irrigation in order to save it for household consumption.

For her part, Jennifer Rufo, Maynilad's head for stakeholders communications office, agreed with Dela Cruz, saying that as long as Maynilad's raw water allocation from Angat Dam remains the same, there's no need to worry about water supply interruption in the West Zone concession.

"Our raw water allocation from Angat Dam remains the same, so water supply for the West Zone is still enough to sustain customer needs. In case there will be a reduction, we are preparing our facilities for possible pressure management," Rufo said in a text message.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) recently ap-

pealed to consumers to conserve water as the country continues to experience mild El Niño.

Last month, Manila Water partly blamed the phenomenon for its water shortage supply issue as most parts of the country continues to receive below normal rainfall.

La Mesa Dam, where Manila Water gets its reserve water, is still currently 12 meters short of its spilling level, being at 68.5 meters versus the normal level of 80.15 meters.

The dam's depletion forced Manila Water to look for other ways to pump its supply, which includes the signing a cross-border water deal with Maynilad, and the activation of more deep wells. The firm also had to work double time to finish the phase one of its Cardona Water Treatment Plant, which recently started contributing additional 50 mld to the east zone concession.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PEOPLES
JOURNAL
Tonight

7
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

23 APR 2019

DATE

2 nabbed in Ecija sting vs illegal logging

By **STEVE A. GOSUICO**

SAN ANTONIO, Nueva Ecija -- Two suspected illegal loggers were nabbed while their alleged cohort escaped during a sting conducted by the police here on

Sunday night.

Town police head Maj. Arnel V. Aguilar identified the two arrested suspects as Eddie Datig and Dennis Atienza and the escaped suspect as Wilfredo Villamayor alias Long Hair.

The suspects were allegedly caught while doing

illegal logging activities in Bgy. Luyos at 6:30 p.m.

When they accosted the suspects, Aguilar said they failed to show pertinent documents regarding their operation.

Seized during the operation were a chainsaw and nine pieces of acacia tree

wood flitches.

Aguilar said Villamayor managed to escape to unknown direction.

Charges for violation of P.D.705 and Republic Act 9175 are already filed against the three suspects before the provincial prosecutor's.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE



4
PAGE

IPPEK
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

23 APR 2019

DATE

FILE:

PAGE 1/

MGA KOOPERATIBA SA BULACAN, KUMILOS KONTRA CLIMATE CHANGE

CITY OF MALOLOS – Sa layuning makapag-ambag upang maagapan ang lumalalang epekto ng climate change, inilunsad ng Provincial Cooperative Development Council-Bulacan, sa pakikipagtulungan sa Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office (PCEDO) at Municipal Cooperative Development Council (MCDC) ng Hagonoy

ang “Mangrove Tree Planting and Coastal Vegetation Project” noong Abril 16, 2019 sa Hagonoy, Bulacan.

Bilang panimula, 500 mangrove seedlings at 300 mangrove propagules ang itinanim sa 10-ektaryang bakawan sa Brgy. Tibaguin sa bayan ng Hagonoy bilang bahagi ng mas malaking proyekto na “Cooperative Crusade to Curb Climate Change” o ang “C5 Project”.

Naisakatuparan ang proyekto sa pagtutulungan ng PCDC-Bulacan, PCEDO at MCDC-Hagonoy na sinuportahan ng Sangguniang Barangay ng Tibaguin, na naglalayong pagtibayin ang isa sa pitong prinsipyo ng kooperatiba na nagpapahalaga sa komunidad bilang bahagi ng mahalagang adbokasiya na buhayin, i-rehabilitate ang mga bakawan, pagyamanin ang biodiversity pro-

tection at pagtatanim sa mga coastal area.

Ayon kay Jerry Caguingin, pinuno ng dibisyon ng Cooperative Development ng PCEDO, isang malawak na palaisdaan ang mangrove sanctuary dati bago ito masira ng bagyo noong taong 2011 at ang muling pagsasaayos ng buong lugar ay makatutulong hindi lang sa mga mangingisda pati na rin sa mga taong nakatira malapit sa mga

bakawan.

“Malaki ang maitutulong ng mangroves. Bukod sa nagsisilbing tirahan ito ng crabs, reefs, oysters, mga isda at iba pang marine animals, nade-delay nito ang takbo ng hangin, kontrolado nito ang tides at maging ang carbon dioxide,” ani Caguingin.

Samantala, sinabi ni Gobernador Wilhelmino M. Sy-Alvarado na dapat magtutulong at kumilos ang

mga Bulakenyo, kahit saan mang sektor sa lipunan o antas sa komunidad nabibilang, upang mapigilan ang epekto ng pabagong panahon.

“Ang climate change ay isang problemang hinaharap ng bawat isa, ano man ang katayuan sa komunidad o saang lokasyon man sa mapa. Isa itong isyu na dapat nating tugunan, lahat tayo ay dapat makipagtulungan upang makontrol

ang mga epekto nito sa atin. Kaya naman aking pinupuri ang mga kooperatiba sa ating probinsiya sa pagsasagawa ng ganitong proyekto,” ani Alvarado.

Sa pagpapatuloy ng adbokasiyang ito, libo-libo pang mangrove propagules ang inaasahang maitatanim pagpasok ng Nobyembre o Disyembre 2019 kung saan kasama ang lahat ng mga kooperatiba sa Bulacan.

A. BORLONGAN