

DATE : 11 AUG 2019

DAY : Sunday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



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LAND AREA, INFORMAL SETTLERS CAUSE OF TRASH

Quezon City

studies waste

management

options

Quezon City has adopted innovations to reduce and reuse waste, a fact not mentioned in the report

By Alvin Murcia

The Quezon City (QC) government has introduced stop-gap measures to solve the bulk of garbage being collected daily within the city.

This, as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) named it as the top area in the metropolis that generates tons of trash.

In an interview, Ares Gutierrez, QC Public Information chief, said the DENR report is expected, because the city is the biggest in land area and population in Metro Manila.

"That is expected because Quezon City is the biggest city in land area and population in Metro Manila," said Gutierrez in response to the DENR data.

However, he disclosed, "DENR conveniently 'forgot' to report the trail-blazing initiatives done by the city government to reduce and reuse these wastes."

He added the city is constantly finding ways to improve on its waste management system, and many have recognized QC for this.

"That's not in the DENR report," Gutierrez added.

DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda in a recent interview said Metro Manila generates around 9.2 million kilograms of garbage per day, most of them from Quezon City and Manila.

He mentioned the top five cities in Metro Manila that generate the most waste in a single day, according to a list based on official DENR data.

Quezon City topped the list with 3,600 tons per day, followed by Manila at 1,174 tons per day; Caloocan City, 912 tons per day; Parañaque City, 634 tons per day; and Makati City, 474 tons per day.



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Quezon City Studios waste management options



Manila Bay cleanup Police and personnel of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority partner in the clean up of Manila Bay yesterday.

BOB DUNGO JR.



Do composting, Baguio residents told

Just cover the refuse with small amount of soil for drying and repeat the process. They compost can be used in one to two months for their backyard garden

By Aldwin Quitasol

BAGUIO CITY – Baguio General Services officer Eugene Buyucan is urging residents of the city to help in reducing the volume of biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste by processing their own garbage in their own households.

This was his recommendation amid efforts for proper waste management as the city is also utilizing the Environment Recycling System facility at the former Irisan dumpsite where the biodegradable wastes are being processed into fertilizer.

According to Buyucan, aside from collecting some 40 to 50 tons of biodegradable waste from the different collection points in the city's barangays, the local government is also collecting some 170 to 180 tons of non-biodegradable waste from the collection points daily.

Meanwhile, the generated residual waste is being hauled out of the city into the sanitary landfill of Urdaneta City, Pangasinan. According to Buyucan, the volume of garbage significantly increases every time there is an influx of tourists in the city especially during peak months.

Buyucan explained a simple composting method would only require any container, big or medium-sized and can be plastic, wood or cement where biodegradable wastes can be stored. "Just cover the refuse with small amount of soil for drying and repeat the process. They compost can be used in one to two months for their backyard garden," he explained.

He reminded residents that aside from waste segregation, home and backyard composting is the obligation of residents under the provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 to help the concerned government agencies and local governments address the garbage disposal concerns in their areas of jurisdiction.

Aside from composting, Buyucan encouraged the practice of urban gardening in their homes as well.

He said they will coordinate with the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the conduct of technical trainings on composting among residents.



Kamara di na gagamit ng papel

SUPPORTADO ng EcoWaste Coalition ang paglipat ng Kamara de Representantes sa paperless transaction.

Ayon kay Jovito Benosa, Zero Waste Campaigner ng EcoWaste, mababawasan ang paggamit ng papel ng Kamara na ginagamit sa pag-imprensa sa mga panukala na hindi naman lahat ay nagiging batas.

“This will reduce long-term resource use and associated costs and bring greater transparency to the lawmaking process,” ani Benosa.

Sinabi ni Senior Deputy Majority Leader at Cavite Rep. Crispin Remulla na umaabot sa P9 milyon kada taon ang ginagastos ng Kamara sa papel kaya plano ng kasalukuyang liderato na lumipat sa makabagong teknolohiya.

Sa halip na papel, ang mga kongresista ay gagamit na ng iPad sa pagtingin sa Order of Business, Journals at iba pang babasahin ng Kamara.

Bukod sa bond paper, makatitipid din ang Kamara sa folder, ink, toner at iba pang office supplies.

“The savings can be used instead for meaningful programs to meet our people’s basic needs,” ani Sonia Mendoza, chairman ng Mother Earth Foundation.

Ayon naman kay Rene Pineda, pangulo ng Consumer Rights for Safe Food, makatitipid din sa espasyo na pinagtatagan ng mga dokumento.

Maaari umanong sumunod dito ang iba pang sangay ng gobyerno, ayon kay Beau Baconguis, ng Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives-Asia.

— *Leifbilly Begas*



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BOC creates unit to monitor illegal entry of hazardous wastes

THE Bureau of Customs (BOC) has created a unit that will monitor the illegal shipment of hazardous wastes into the country.

In a statement Friday, Customs Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero signed Customs Memorandum Order No. 38-2019 which creates the

Environmental Protection and Compliance Division (EPCD).

The EPCD, which is under the BOC's Enforcement and Security Service, is tasked to handle "the processing of shipments of hazardous substances, waste products, nuclear wastes, recyclable products or sub-

stances under the regulatory control of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)."

The unit is also mandated to recommend the issuance of alert orders and pre-lodgment control orders against shipments which could contain items in violation of

the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) and environmental laws.

EPCD is also tasked to probe cases on the illegally shipped garbage and "make recommendations for prosecution" in violation of the CMTA and environmental rules and regulations.

To recall, 37 trash-filled container vans from Canada were illegally shipped to the Philippines in 2013 and 2014.

In May this year, 25,510 kilos of garbage from Hong Kong and Australia were discovered to have been shipped to the country.

— *Inquirer.net*



'Pag-asa sa Basura' launched

World Vision and Procter & Gamble (P&G) Philippines — together with Department of Education Malabon Division Office — recently launched the “Pag-asa sa Basura” campaign, a sustainable waste collection and recycling system targeting several schools in Metro Manila.

The project will be done in 25 chosen schools in Malabon and Quezon City and participating schools will be outfitted with school-based materials recovery facilities (MRF) for various solid waste materials including sachet packaging.

The students who will be participating in the campaign are encouraged to bring sachets to receive incentives such as school supplies and profits that will be collected from the MRF will be used for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) programs like improvements in their handwashing facilities and WaSH education.

Representatives from the Mayor's Office of Malabon City, Department of Education Malabon Division, World Vision Development Foundation Inc., and Procter & Gamble Philippines — together with the school principals from the participating schools in Malabon — were present at the launch.

For information on World Vision Philippines activities, visit www.worldvision.org.ph or follow/[worldvisionph](https://www.facebook.com/worldvisionph) on Facebook and [@worldvisionphl](https://www.instagram.com/worldvisionphl) on Instagram for updates.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

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Nilinis kahapon ng Lokal na Pamahalaan ng Maynila ang Estero de San Miguel sa Quiapo upang makatulong na mabawasan ang tumataas na bilang ng kaso ng dengue na sanhi ng mga lamok na nagpupugad sa maruming tubig. (Jonas Sulit)

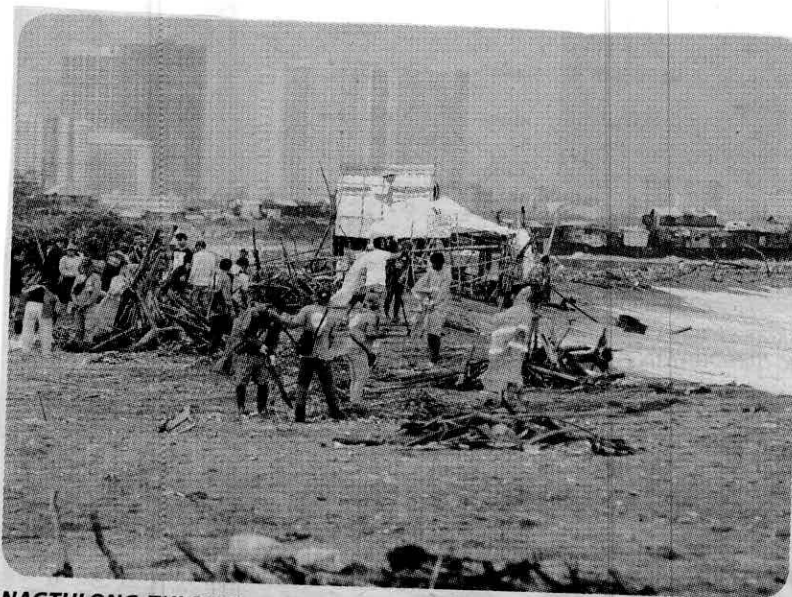


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NAGTULONG-TULONG ang mga tauhan ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) sa paglilinis ng mga basura sa baybayin ng Baseco Beach, Tondo, Manila kahapon.

Kuha ni **NORMAN ARAGA**

susancambri@gmail.com



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Boracay, nilinis na, balik sa dati, basura everywhere ulit!

MATAPOS sumailalim sa ilang buwang rehabilitasyon, muling nalinis at naibalik ang ganda ng Boracay Island kung saan nakatanggap ito ng magagandang komento mula sa mga turista at bakasyunista.

Dahil dito, muling dinagsa ang Isla ng Boracay ngunit, pagkalipas lang ng ilang buwan, mukhang balik na naman ito sa dati.

Isang balikbayan ang nagparating sa atin ng ilang concern niya matapos ang pagbisita sa naturang isla, kamakailan.

Imbes na mapuri ang isa sa mga itinuturing na tourist destinations sa Pili-

Para sa inyong opinyon, sumbong, hinaing o nais hingging tulong ito ang pagkakataong marinig ang inyong boses, sumulat lamang sa BOSES ni RYAN SISON at ipadala sa Bulgar Bldg, 538 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City o mag-email sa boSES.bulgar@gmail.com.

pinas, tila napasong inilahad nito ang ilang hindi magagandang karanasan sa isla na may kaugnayan sa kondisyon ng daanan at kalinisan nito.

Ayon sa balikbayan, kapansin-pansin umano ang pananamantala ng ilang establisimyento at maliliit na negosyante sa pamamagitan ng mga overpriced na pagkain at souvenirs kung saan pati silang mga kababayan mismo ay nabiktima rin.

Dagdag pa niya, halos lahat ng paligid sa isla ay puro basura, gayundin ang dalampasigan at kung ilarawan niya ito, mas malinis na umano ang Divisoria kay-sa sa Boracay Island.

Sa halip na mag-picture-taking para maging memorable ang kanilang bakasyon, huwag na lang dahil sa hindi kaaya-ayang paligid.

Sa rami ng bumibisita rito, posible talagang magkaroon ng kalat at basura sa paligid, pero kung magiging disiplinado ang mga turista, maiiwasan ang pagdami nito.

Huwag na nating hintayin na muling ipasara ito para maibalik ang ganda at kaayusan. Kaya panawagan sa mga kinauukulan, aksiyunan ang karumihan sa isla at pananamantala sa mga bakasyunista.



Papal Nuncio to bless 'Gallery of the Sea' exhibit

PAPAL NUNCIO Gabriele Caccia will be officiating the blessing of "Gallery of the Sea," an exhibit of 25 sail painting created by Angono Ateliers and Cuadra Manila. The blessing is scheduled on August 13, 8:30 a.m., at Manila Baywalk by the Yacht Club headed by Commodore Robert Joseph.

Former Senator Heherson Alvarez, currently Climate Institute Advisory Board Chair, confirmed the attendance of Caccia.

The 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a special focus on the care of the ocean, are the subject of the artworks. The SDG gallery is a virtual creative classroom dynamically applying the arts as a force for inclusive lifelong learning. Mayors Isko Moreno of Manila and Jerimae Calderon of Angono, who hosted the painting sessions at the Universidad de Manila and Lakeshore Park, will be in attendance.

In organizing the project, Alvarez explained that "the ecological time bomb of global warming must be diffused today to save tomorrow. Every medium must be used for education, a crusade; the moral equivalent of war in confronting climate change must be waged effectively, swiftly. What it takes to save the earth is a change of attitude, lifestyle, consumption habits of thinking and viewing creation. We must pool efforts and resources together for sustainable development."

The 25 participating artists are Atoy Apostadero, Dolpee Alcantara, Aaron Bautista, Lito Balagtas, Cezar Hernandez, Boy Mata, Maia Magpantay, Ed Castor, Keiye Mirnda, Wire Tuazon, Pete Velasquez, Egay Fernandez, Cee Cadid, Roland Santos, Nik Masangkay, Andy Urag, Bing Sichuan, Peter Ng, Nan Molata, Raks Molata, Liza Opus, Cesar Del Mundo, Augusto Santiago, Jun Rocha and Nemi Miranda.

The steering committee includes Unesco Artist for Peace, Cecile Guidote-Alvarez, Director of Earthsavers and Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, President of the Philippine Center of the International Theatre Institute. In partnership with the Manila Bay Task Force led by DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, DILG Secretary Eduardo Año, DPWH Secretary Mark Villar, DoT Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat with the DFA Maritime and Ocean Affairs, NCCA, PIA, SMTV, and DZRH Radyo Balintataw.

Finally, in support of President Rodrigo Duterte's directive to clean-up polluted water bodies, the SDG Gallery of the Sea has been endorsed by relevant Senate Committee chairs, Senator Francis Tolentino of Local Government, Senator Cynthia Villar of Environment, Senator Bong Go of Health, Senator Koko Pimentel of Foreign Affairs and Red Cross Chair, Senator Richard Gordon.



What it takes to be sustainable

Companies inculcating sustainability into its system should think beyond the legal boundaries of its supply chain, which heavily employs the workforce of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME).

President for the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Peter Bakker said the only way to become sustainable as a company is to manage the whole supply chain towards sustainability.

"If you want to manage for sustainability, whether it's social or environmental, you need to think from raw

material to end product, and even end of life, so normally way beyond the legal boundaries of the company," Bakker said at the Ayala Integrated Summit in Makati on Friday, 9 August.

This is line with one of the 17 Sustainability Development Goals highlighted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 with targets set for by 2030. Some 193 member states, including the Philippines, have officially adopted the roadmap in 2015.

Under the roadmap's responsible consumption and production goal, companies should make use of sustainable practices as well as publish sustainability reports outlining their initiatives towards some of the goals.

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The item seeks to "urgently reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources," according to the United Nations.

Broadly speaking, the goal intends for industries, businesses and consumers to apply efficient management of natural resources as well as proper disposal of toxic waste and pollutants, among others.

AJ Bajo



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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Angat's water level may normalize this month - PAGASA

Angat Dam's water level may reach the 180-meter minimum operating level (MOL) as Luzon is expected to experience more rain, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said on Saturday.

PAGASA hydrologist Richard Orendain said the continuous rain can increase the volume of water in the reservoir.

"A daily average rise of 0.30 meter to 0.40 meter can bring Angat's water level to

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Angat's water level...

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the MOL by this month's end," he said, taking into account the 36 cubic meters per second water allocation of the dam for Metro Manila.

Orendain said tropical cyclones (TCs), low-pressure areas, the southwest monsoon (habagat) and thunderstorms can still bring rain to Luzon including the watershed

hosting Angat.

Angat Dam supplies water for irrigation, power generation, and Metro Manila's water needs.

The government earlier suspended the release of Angat water for irrigation, if its water level dips, to ensure a continuous water supply for Metro Manila.

This year, Angat Dam's water dipped below the MOL due to El Niño phenomenon or the prolonged dry spell.

For August, PAGASA has forecast two to four tropical cyclones in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), one of which became Typhoon Hanna (international name Lekima).

PAGASA reported that Angat's 6 a.m. water level on Saturday was at 172.31 meters, which is 1.43 meters higher than the 170.88 meters elevation 24 hours earlier.



Angat Dam rises anew; DSWD gives aid

By Korinah Saromines

The water level at the Angat Dam continued to rise as monsoon rains brought about by Typhoon "Hanna" poured over parts of Luzon over the past few days. As of 6 a.m. yesterday, it stood at 172.31 meters which was higher than the 170.88 meters recorded at the same time on Friday.

According to state weather bureau PAGASA, La Mesa Dam's water level also slightly went up on Saturday to 76.34 meters from the 76.05 meters recorded on Friday.

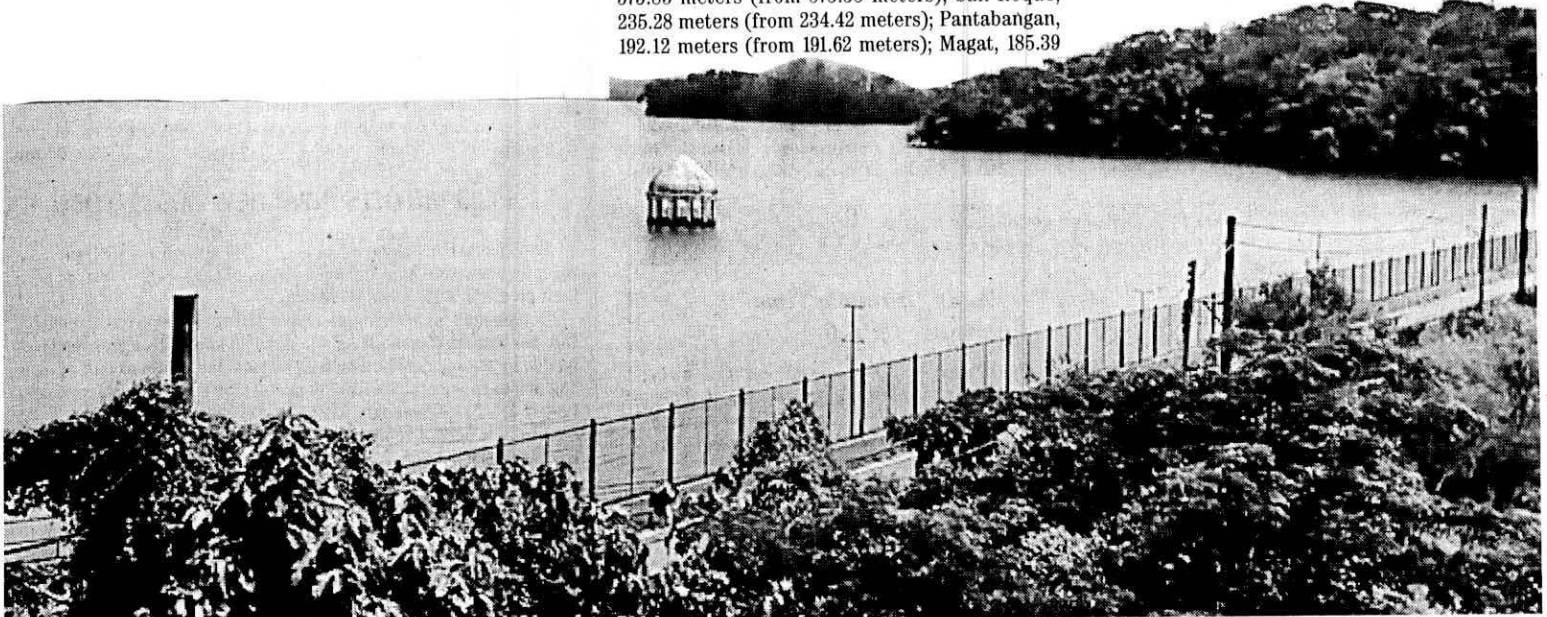
PAGASA also reported status of the following dams — Ipo, 100.96 meters (from 110.93 m on Friday); Ambuklao, 749.97 meters (from 748.60 meters); Binga, 573.85 meters (from 573.35 meters); San Roque, 235.28 meters (from 234.42 meters); Pantabangan, 192.12 meters (from 191.62 meters); Magat, 185.39

meters (from 185.46 meters) and Caliraya, 286.31 meters (from 286.24 meters).

As many have been affected by Hanna, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) on Saturday distributed some 3,500 food packs to residents isolated by bad weather conditions in Iloilo after its personnel arrived at the Gigantes Island port on Saturday morning.

In a statement, the DSWD said that Philippine Coast Guard ship *BRP Cape Engaño* delivered the relief goods from Iloilo City.

Previously, local maritime authorities have halted all sea travel to the island affected by days of continuous heavy rains and inclement weather in the province of Iloilo in Western Visayas. **With Lella Rodriguez**



glass half full Our water supply woes may be over soon as our dams refill anew.



ANGAT DAM'S WATER LEVEL UP

ANGAT Dam's water level might reach the 180-meter minimum operating level (MOL) this month, as Luzon is expected to have more rain, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said on Saturday.

Pagasa hydrologist Richard Orendain said the continuous downpour could increase the

volume of water in the reservoir.

"A daily average rise of 0.30 meter to 0.40 meter can bring Angat's water level to the MOL by this month's end," he said, taking into account the 36 cubic meters per second water allocation of the dam for Metro Manila.

On Saturday, Angat's water level was at 172.31 meters, which was

1.43 meters higher than the 170.88 meters elevation 24 hours earlier.

Orendain said tropical cyclones, low-pressure areas, the southwest monsoon (*habagat*) and thunderstorms can bring rain to Luzon, including the watershed hosting Angat.

The reservoir supplies Metro Manila's water needs.

The government earlier sus-

pending the release of Angat water for irrigation to ensure continuous water supply for Metro Manila.

For August, the weather bureau forecast two to four tropical cyclones.

Orendain said typhoon "Hanna," which left the country on Friday, helped raise the dam's water level.

PNA



LPA, MONSOON RAIN BOOST ANGAT DAM WATER LEVEL

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PAGASA reported that Angat's 6 a.m. water level on Saturday was at 172.31 meters, which is 1.43 meters higher than the 170.88 meters elevation 24 hours earlier.

Orendain said 'Hanna', which exited the PAR, helped Angat recover by enhancing "*habagat*."

"Even if TCs don't landfall, these weather systems can still enable "*habagat*" to bring more rain," he said. **PNA**



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NICKEL ASIA ADOPTS DOST'S SOIL TECHNOLOGY

THE Department of Science and Technology's bioreactor at the Rio Tuba Nickel facility can process 500 kilograms of waste materials to produce the same amount of fertilizers and soil conditioners.

Rio Tuba Nickel became the first mining company to use the Department of Science and Technology's bioreactor that converts biodegradable wastes into organic fertilizers and soil conditioners.

RTN, a subsidiary of Nickel Asia Corp., adopted the innovative soil conditioning technology through DOST's technology transfer program.

"RTN is proud to be first in the mining industry to run this bioreactor. It gives us the integrity to compel the community to segregate household wastes. We are committed to educate the barangays on how solid wastes from their homes and backyards, when handled properly, can contribute to the protection of the environment and help reduce environment degradation," said Wilbern Blitz Paeste, RTN's mining technology and geosciences coordinator.

DOST project supervisor Dr. Myra Tansengco said the principle behind the bioreactor developed by DOST-ITDI is to promote efficient solid waste management practices in the communities to comply with RA9003.

"RTN is the first mining company to use the fertilizer and soil conditioner from this bioreactor for their rehabilitation programs and for use in the communities," said Tansengco.

The Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 or RA 9003 was signed into law in 2001. It is the legal framework for a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological solid waste management program in the Philippines.

Almost 20 years after RA 9003 became a law, the challenge continues to be on how to enforce proper waste segregation in the communities.

Engr. David Herrera, a senior science specialist at DOST, said the challenge is still for the barangay-level folks to visualize how solid waste can be useful, for the individual and for the community as a whole.