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DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



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Manila Standard

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Two tarsiers saved in Koronadal

COTABATO CITY—A group of children rescued a male tarsier in Koronadal City, environment officials in South-Central Mindanao said on Wednesday.

The male tarsier (scientific name *Tarsiidae*) was turned over to the Region 12 office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on Jan. 23, after it was recovered from the children by a concerned resident of Barangay Assumption in Koronadal City.

The creature was immediately released to the wild, as it appeared to be in good shape and health, environment officials said. The tarsier found on Jan. 23 has been the second of its kind rescued in South Cotabato. The first was found in Barangay Linan in Tupi town last year.

Arnel Alvarez of Barangay Assumption said he saw a group of children apparently toying with the endangered specie in Sitio Elalám last on Jan. 23.

Alvarez said he took the tarsier from the children and brought to Brigada News FM Station in Koronadal City to inform authorities on its rescue.

Dr. Sabdullah C. Abubacar, regional executive director of DENR-12 lauded Alvarez's act of informing environment officials, who were equally cited for promptly taking protective custody of the tarsier.

"The protection and conservation of wildlife species is one of the main mandates of the DENR," Dr. Abubacar said. **Nash B. Maulana**



'New' Boracay becomes a turtle haven



Sixty-six Olive Ridley hatchlings were released back to their home in the early morning of Jan. 10. This was after the 65 days of incubation period. The eggs were found last Nov. 5 in front of Movenpick Resort & Spa Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 6 was thankful for the turtle release in the island of Boracay, and the vigilance on turtle conservation sworn by stakeholders in the island.

"This hatchlings release and the

recent visitation of a whale shark last November in Boracay are good signs that the island (Boracay) is getting better because of the ongoing rehabilitation that the government and the stakeholders are doing," said DENR 6 Regional executive director Francisco Milla, Jr.

"Sea turtles and other marine life are fundamental creatures that are helpful in maintaining the health of our corals reefs and the whole marine life as well. With that, I would like to call on the public to avoid throwing your garbage anywhere, specifically in the bodies of water,"



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he stressed.

Marine lives are now affected by the environmental conditions such as temperature, clean water, and the deaths of their home – coral reefs.

“It’s a call for us to act now. Let us not be the reason for marine lives to suffer or die.”

The name Olive Ridley is taken from the color of its shell, olive green hue. They are currently the

most abundant of all sea turtles.

Their vulnerable status, however, comes from the fact that they nest in very small number of places. Therefore, any disturbances to even one nesting site can have huge repercussions on their entire population, making them face a vulnerable extinction risk.

The Community ENR Office in Boracay Island is currently monitor-

ing other two turtle nesting in the island, which are expected to hatch anytime soon.

Such releases and additional sightings of the marine life in coastal areas in the region demands for stricter protection of these precious marine animals. Waters around the region are indeed rich grounds which can sustainably support diverse marine wildlife.



The turtle hatchlings release is a good sign that the 'health' of Boracay Island is getting better



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SHOOTING STRAIGHT

BOBIT S. AVILA

The clean-up of Manila Bay: A year after

Wow! How time flies indeed, I didn't realize that a year has already passed when I challenged then newly installed Commodore of the Manila Yacht Club... Sir Bobby Joseph to create a lasting impact on his appointment as Commodore of this very prestigious club and he told me that he would support the proposal to clean up Manila Bay. Toward the end of January 2019, the so-called Battle of Manila Bay began with almost all the Cabinet members of Pres. Rodrigo Duterte in full attendance for the formal launching by DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu. I was in Manila Hotel at the start of that program and walked all the way to the Manila Yacht Club, the longest time I walked since my kidney operation.



When this great clean up project kicked off on Jan. 26, 2019, the DENR recorded extremely high fecal coliform levels from major Manila Bay outfalls. However, today Sec. Cimatu revealed that the most recent data from the DENR's Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) showed that the coliform levels have "drastically decreased." Citing EMB data, Cimatu said the fecal coliform count at the Padre Faura outfall is now down to 920,000 most probable numbers per 100 milliliter (mpn/100ml) from its pre-rehab record of 7.21 million mpn/100ml.

To show his interest in this project, which began with 10,000 volunteers in January last year, President Duterte allocated P42.95 billion for the implementation of the Manila Bay rehabilitation project within three years and at least 13 government agencies are working together to carry out the mission. The government targets the source of water pollution in an effort to rehabilitate, restore and maintain the historic bay to a level fit for swimming, as mandated in the mandamus issued by the Supreme Court in 2008. This week, Sec. Cimatu with Bobby Joseph witnessed the operation of the DENR's Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) located near the Manila Yacht Club. This just goes to show that if government officials get serious in pursuing their goals... they can move things.

Mind you, the DENR reported significant improvements in the water quality of major outfalls directly draining into Manila Bay a year after the pollution-challenged water body started undergoing rehabilitation.

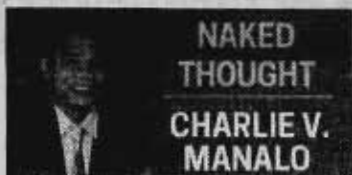
"There is reason to celebrate because a year after we launched the 'Battle for Manila Bay,' we have recorded significant improvements in the water quality from major drainage outfalls," according to DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Then of course there are the critics of this project who has dubbed it a dismal failure calling it a media blitz with hardly any results in the past 12 months. First of all... allow me to remind those critics that when this project was launched last January 2019, not a single Cabinet member ever said that Manila Bay would be clean in one year's time! They cited that Task Force chairman Roy Cimatu has no battle plan and no war or battle has been won without a plan. Really now? Don't this bright boys know that if the DENR were ordered to make a battle plan, I'm more than certain that they would still be in the middle of making this plan and there would be no small effort to clean Manila Bay! Yes it is so much easier to be a critic these days!

Indeed we are facing the reality that Manila Bay is just too enormous with its 200,000 hectares of water surrounded by 200 km of land. Remember how the government cleaned up Boracay Island, many establishments were closed so that the clean up process would proceed without fail. Now that this has been done, no one is saying that Boracay has been totally clean because this is a life long process.



What about the Bulacan Airport?



PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte recently made known his strong opposition to any reclamation projects within 100 kilometers of Manila Bay.

In his pronouncement, Duterte said it is unlikely he will approve the “mind-boggling” reclamation of Manila Bay, from Navotas City to Cavite province, “as long as there is no guarantee that the environment will be protected.” This was in response to the proposal of property developers for 25 projects which would reclaim 10,000 hectares of Manila Bay.

In fact, in February last year, Duterte stripped the National Economic and Development Authority of the power to approve reclamation projects and transferred it to the Philippine Reclamation Authority, which he also put directly under his office.

Duterte’s stance against reclamation earned the support of senior lawmaker Buhay Rep. Lito Atienza as he aired a warning it would demolish vital coastal ecosystems at a time when the National Capital Region is reeling from high fish prices amid declining harvests.

According to Atienza, former three-term mayor of Manila, “the proposed reclamation projects from the private sector are just meant to create large tracts of valuable new land and wealth for some oligarchs out there, at the grave expense of the environment.”

Worse, “these unwanted projects are bound to wipe out entire ecosystems, further degrade Manila Bay’s water quality and disrupt the food chain in a big way,” Atienza, one-time secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, added.

And once destroyed, these underwater biological communities and their physical environment can never be recovered.

“They will be gone forever if the

projects are allowed to push through,” Atienza laments.

So the question he raises is: “What is the point of rehabilitating Manila Bay if the government is just going to allow private developers to bulldoze entire reef areas?”

Nice point.

But what’s more disturbing is that besides reducing Manila Bay’s 190-kilometer coastline, Atienza warned that the reclamation projects would usher in new highly pollutive activities around the water body. And flooded communities.

“Think again.”

Which then brings us to the issue of the Bulacan Airport.

As former press attachè to the Philippine Embassy in Washington, Ado Paglinawan insists that the mega project touted to deliver us from the miseries of the overcrowded NAIA terminals will only spell disaster, not only for Bulacan but for the whole of Metro Manila and adjacent provinces.

Paglinawan says the project will cause adverse environmental impact because of the interconnecting over and underground river basin systems and network of river deltas behind the coastlines of the entire Manila Bay.

For as it is, the entire project will rest on 3,300 hectares of fishponds which will be reclaimed for the project.

And that is where the debate begins. Is the Bulacan Airport a reclamation project or not?

The proponents insist it is not. Ado says it’s otherwise.

Land reclamation, usually known as reclamation, and also known as land fill, is defined as the process of creating new land from bodies of water like oceans, seas, riverbeds or lake beds. The land reclaimed is known as reclamation ground or land fill. Where



What about...

From A4

does the Bulacan Airport qualify? Are the fishponds to be reclaimed, an extension of the riverbed or even that of Manila Bay?

Paglinawan says both as the fishponds concerned are again, interconnected over and underground river basin systems and network of river deltas behind the coastlines of the entire Manila Bay.

Paglinawan says that even without the Bulacan Airport, there is already a warning of a clear and present danger to human lives and safety for all those in the areas affected by the interconnections.

And he has been proven right. The week-long rains that befell the metropolis in August last year inundated streets resulting in horrific traffic conditions and sent schools to close for several days.

And it is aside the fact that in its present condition, there are already areas in Bulacan where the municipalities have already raised streets and drainage canals by one meter, causing the inundation to seep and dwell on the ground floors of residential communities for months.

So, if Duterte is strongly against any form of reclamation within the scope of Manila Bay and Atienza is equally supportive of this, then they have to go beyond the immediate confines of the Bay and include the proposed Bulacan Airport as a major issue of concern.

To borrow Congressman Atienza's words, "once they are lost, they can never be recovered forever."



Bishops to DENR: Uphold people's right to clean a

By JOSE RODEL CLAPANO

Thirteen bishops from different dioceses across the Philippines on Tuesday sent a letter to Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu urging the department to raise its ambitions in securing clean air for all Filipinos.

The letter was written following the eruption of Taal Volcano, which brought with it a health panic that, the letter said, led to "a sense of solidarity toward the communities in our country who have long been suffering from toxic, polluted air."

"Secretary Cimatu and the DENR rightfully displayed much concern for the victims of Taal Volcano's eruption. We hope the same care could be extended to our brothers and sisters for whom breathing unclean air is a daily reality," said Bishop Gerry Alminaza, vice chairman of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines' Epis-

copal Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace.

"Pollution from coal and other dirty industries has further deepened the suffering of our country's most vulnerable. These industries are able to do so only because existing standards on our air's quality have allowed them," he said.

The letter was personally handed by Bishop Alminaza to the DENR head in a closed-door meeting.

Civil society organizations supported the bishops' concern, noting that placed side by side with volcanic ash, coal ash and other products of highly polluting industries are

just as or even more detrimental to human health.

CEED executive director Gerry Arances asserted the DENR's responsibility in preventing polluting industries such as coal to stop releasing toxins into the air.

"The standard on air quality implemented in the Philippines is already among the lowest in the world, but even its implementation is a cause for worry," Arances said.

The group said air quality standards employed by the DENR Environmental Management Bureau are lower than those recommended by the World Health Organization. The ambient air quality guideline value for PM 2.5 used by the EMB as of 2016, for example, is 75 micrograms per cubic meter for a 24-hour mean, whereas the WHO set it at 25 micrograms per cubic meter.

A report released by the WHO in

2018 showed that the Philippines had the third highest number of deaths in the world due to air pollution.

"It is questionable why the DENR has for so long relied on polluting companies themselves to monitor their emissions, without means to validate reports submitted to them. As such, how can the department perform its mandate of protecting the people and the environment from being harmed by these companies' destructive activities?" Arances said.

"We have faith that Secretary Cimatu, a fellow believer of the Creator, will take the demands we laid down seriously and prioritize the review and implementation of the country's air quality standards. It is air which sustains life; we hope the DENR will do its part in upholding human dignity by protecting it," Alminaza said.



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Church leaders to DENR: Uphold our people's right to clean air

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ity towards the communities in our country who have long been suffering from toxic, polluted air."

"The DENR rightfully displayed much concern for the victims of Taal Volcano's eruption. We hope the same care could be extended to our brothers and sisters for whom breathing unclean air is a daily reality," said Bishop Gerry Alminaza, Vice Chairman of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on Social Action, Justice,

and Peace.

"Pollution from coal and other dirty industries have further deepened the suffering of our country's most vulnerable. These industries are able to do so only because existing standards on our air's quality have allowed them," he said.

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zations supported the bishops' concern, noting that placed side by side with volcanic ash, coal ash and other products of highly polluting industries are just as or even more detrimental to human health.

CEED Executive Director Gerry Arances asserted the DENR's weighty responsibility in preventing polluting industries such as coal to stop releasing toxins into the air.

"The standards on air quality implemented in the Philippines is already among the lowest in the world, but even its implementation is a cause for worry," said Arances.

The group said, air quality standards employed by the DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) are lower than those recommended by the World Health organization (WHO).



Church leaders sa DENR: "Clean Air" karapatan ng sambayanan

HINILING ng 13 obispo mula sa iba't ibang dioceses sa bansa sa pamunuan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na ipagkaloob sa sambayanan ang karapatang makalanghap ng malinis na hangin at hindi ang nakalalasang polusyon.

Sa liham na ipinadala ng mga lider ng simbahan kay Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, kasunod ng nangyaring pagputok ng bulkang Taal, marami ang nag-panic sa kanilang kalusugan nang magsaboy ng makapal na ashfall.

"Secretary Cimatu and the DENR rightfully displayed much concern for the victims of Taal volcano's eruption. We hope the same care could be extended to our brothers and sisters for whom breathing unclean air is a daily reality," ayon sa liham ni Bishop Gerry Alminaza, Vice Chairman ng CBCP Episcopal Commission on Social Action, Justice, and Peace.

"Pollution from coal and

other dirty industries have further deepened the suffering of our country's most vulnerable. These industries are able to do so only because existing standards on our air's quality have allowed them," nakasaad sa liham na personal na iniabot ni Bishop Alminaza kay Cimatu sa ginanap na closed-door meeting.

Nagpahayag ng todo-suporta ang civil society organizations sa mga Obispo, dahil anila'y ang volcanic ash, coal ash at iba pang industriya na nagbuga ng nakalalasang usok ay labis na nakapipinsala sa kalusugan at maaaring ikamatay ng bawat indibidwal na makalanghap nito.

Iginiit ni Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development (CEED) Executive Director Gerry Arances na responsibilidad

ng DENR na sawatain at pigilan ang polluting industries partikular ang mga nagbuga ng coal o karbon dahil ito ay nakalalason sa hangin.

"The standards on air quality implemented in the Philippines is already among the lowest in the world, but even its implementation is a cause for worry," ani Arances.

Ayon sa environmentalist, ang 'air quality standards' na dapat na ipatupad ng DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) ay mas mababa sa inirekomenda ng World Health organization (WHO).

"It is questionable why the DENR has for so long relied on polluting companies themselves to monitor their emissions, without means to validate reports submitted to them. As such, how can the department perform its mandate of protecting the people and the environment from being harmed by these companies' destructive activities?" dagdag ng CEED executive.



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**'PROJECT: KUBETA KO
MOVEMENT' SUPORTADO
NG MAYNILAD WATER**



ANG INYONG LINGKOD

DR. HILDA C. ONG

Kaugnay sa patuloy na paglilinis ng Manila Bay alinsunod sa mandamus order ng Supreme Court, lumagda ang Maynilad Water Services, Incorporated (Maynilad Water) sa isang Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) para sa implementasyon ng 'Project: Kubeta Ko' Movement sa pangunguna ng president and chief executive officer nitong si Ramoncito Fernandez na ginanap sa Diamond Hotel.

Kasama rin sa kasunduan ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na kinatawan ni Secretary Roy Cimatu, Manila Mayor Francisco 'Isko

Moreno' Domagoso, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) administrator Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Salamat, MWSS chief regulator Atty. Patrick Lester Ty at Loowatt Limited founder and CEO Virginia Gardiner.

Sa ilalim ng MOA, maglalagay ng 400 na portable, container-based toilet na puwedeng magamit ng mga informal settlers families (ISFs) sa Parola na nasa Binondo at Tondo sa Maynila. Gawa ito ng Loowatt Limited at donasyon buhat naman sa Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Layunin na sa paglalagay

ng mga kubetang ito ay matitigil na ang ginagawang direktang pagdumi o pagtatapon ng dumi ng tao o hayop sa Manila Bay kung kaya tumataas ang faecal colibacterium.

Ang Maynilad Water ang siyang in-charge sa treatment ng mga makokolektang dumi alinsunod sa umiiral na wastewater and solid waste management.

Sa mga kababayan natin sa Parola, Tondo at iba pang ISF community, tandaan palagi, hindi porke't mahirap ay madumi na sa katawan at sa kapaligiran. Bigyan natin ng dignidad ang ating sektor.



KORYENTE, GASOLINA MULA SA BASURA

**SUNDAN
SA
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MAY pakinabang sa basura. Ito ang nakapaloob sa panukalang batas na inihain ni Senador Francis Tolentino na naglalayong gamitin ang garbage o basura bilang source ng koryente at gasolina.

Isinusulong sa Senado

Mula sa pahina 16

Sa kanyang Senate Bill 4010 o ang 'An Act Allowing the Use of Waste to Energy Technology in Electricity, Fuel and Heat Generation, and for Other Purposes', binigyang-diin ni Tolentino na ang problema sa hindi tamang pagtatapon ng basura ang nakadagdag sa environmental

problem ng bansa.

Batay sa pag-aaral ng Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), 10 porsiyento lang ng mga local government unit (LGU) ang talagang sumusunod sa sanitary landfill method na alinsunod sa R.A. No. 9003.

"The situation would worsen as around 80 to 90 percent of the capac-

ity of the constructed sanitary landfills have already been utilized and is projected to be at full capacity within the next five years," sabi ni Tolentino.

Kasabay ng problema sa pagtatapon ng basura, ayon sa senador, ay ang paparating na krisis sa enerhiya.

Aniya, ramdam ito

sa pamamagitan ng rotational brownouts na ipinatutupad ng mga electric supplier sa ilang bahagi ng bansa at sa tumataas na halaga ng koryente bunsod ng kakulangan ng suplay nito.

Para maresolba ang problema sa pagtatapon ng basura at kakepusan ng suplay ng enerhiya, iminungkahi ni Tolentino

ang paggamit ng 'waste to energy technologies' kasunod ng desisyon ng Supreme Court sa kaso ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority vs Jacorn Environmental Corporation kung saan sinabi rito na hindi ipinagbabawal sa ilalim ng RA 8749 o Clear Air Act ang paggamit ng incineration bilang paraan

ng waste disposal.

"There have been several attempts to establish waste to energy facilities which were even backed by the national government and local government units but which ever pushed through because of legal impediments," sabi ni Tolentino.

VICKY CERVALES



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Solid waste mgmt practices of Ilagan West District pupils

BY ROXALYN A. AGUSTIN

A survey conducted among pupils of Ilagan West District in Isabela province showed that they are responsive to environmental concerns.

The environment awareness and attitudes on solid waste management practices of the pupils of Ilagan West District was studied for protection of the community.

The research design used was the descriptive statistics and normative survey method among randomly selected schools of Ilagan West District.

Majority of the respondents were 10 to 11 years old and female, with almost all of them first-borns. Almost all their parents finished elementary education, and were farmers and housekeepers earning from P3,000 to P6,000 every month.

Respondents said they were "aware" of the "loss of biodiversity, ozone layer depletion, air pollution, pollution in land, climate change effect and climate change causes. But they rated "moderately agree" to waste reduction, waste recycling and waste reuse.

They were, however, responsive to the environmental problems like the loss of biodiversity. They were aware of the effect of the ozone layer reduction to their health. They were also conscious of the effect of pollution to air, land and people's health.

The pupils have shown good attitudes on solid waste management practices and there was no significant relationship between occupation of father and mother, monthly income and ordinal position in the family on solid waste management practices.

There was significant relationship, however, between the pupils' age, gender, educational attainment of parents, and environmental awareness and attitudes on solid waste management practices.

Based on the conclusions of the study, it could be recommended that pupils are to be encouraged to participate in all activities

adopting climate change and global warming.

Administrators should device a program that would enhance how teachers and pupils could become responsive on the environmental problems such as loss of biodiversity, ozone layer depletion, air and land pollution, and climate change effect and causes.

Meanwhile, teachers should improve the awareness and attitudes of the pupils on solid waste management practices along waste reduction, waste recycling and waste reuse.

Modern approach in improving the awareness and attitudes of the pupils on solid waste management practices along waste reduction, waste recycling and waste reuse should be introduced.

Additional, administrators should look into possible ways and means to improve the maintenance and rehabilitation of equipment used in ecological solid waste management and climate change. Parents should learn that their cooperation would enhance the greeting effort of the school by guiding their children.

The government administration should implement and carry out policies and programs for the conservation of the environment and at the same time sound solid waste management practice.

The community can do its share, too, by should cooperating in the implementation of the policies for the success of the program and for a healthier, greener and garbage-free community.

The health sector should be aware of the different effects of the environmental problems in the health of human beings in order to come up with a sound program that will protect them from any harmful diseases.

More research of this kind should be conducted to enrich the finding of the study.

The author is teacher in charge of Carikkikan Elementary School, City of Ilagan, Isabela.



BASURA PALIT-PAGKAIN PROGRAM INILUNSA

BILANG bahagi ng proyekto ni Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso na "pagkain sa basura", inilunsad ang kauna-unahang "AlasKalikasan Wrapper Redemption Project" bilang pagtutulungan ng pamahalaang lungsod ng Maynila at ng Alaska Milk Corp.

Batay sa ilalim ng nasabing programa, sa bawat limang kilo na maiipong "flexible plastic" ay maaari itong ipalit para sa isang kilo ng Alaska Fortified Powdered Milk Drink.

Ayon sa alkalde, layunin umano ng nasabing programa na matulungan ang mga nangangailangan partikular na ang mga maralitang Maniheryo bukod pa sa pag-susulong ng tama at responsableng pagtatapon ng basura.

Hinimok naman ni Domagoso ang lahat na makiisa at tangkilikin ang mga proyekto ng pamahalaang lungsod tungo sa mas malinis na Maynila.

JAY REYES



Website for Green Climate Fund Philippines

In order to raise awareness on the Green Climate Fund (GCF) — the world's largest climate fund meant to serve developing countries — the 'Green Climate Fund Philippines' website was developed and can now be accessed via www.gov.ph/web/green-climate-fund/home.

Deputy Speaker and Antique Congresswoman Loren Legarda said the website aims to inform the public on the GCF processes and policies, as well as provide timely advisories and updates relative to our country's activities to access the Fund.

The country continues to experience extreme weather events like flooding, landslides, and drought, which we are also seeing worldwide such as in the catastrophic wildfires. The stakes have never been higher. Through this website, we hope to reach more people, communities, and organizations who may need to access the Fund,' said Legarda, who is also a member of the GCF Board.

Legarda noted that the international community established the GCF to deliver equal amounts of funding to mitigation and adaptation, adding that the Fund is meant to serve the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius and even



further to 1.5 degrees.

To date, the GCF has approved a total of 124 projects amounting to US\$5.6 billion, with an estimated total of 348 million people with increased resilience and 1.6 billion tons of CO2 equivalent avoided.

At the last GCF board meeting in Songdo, South Korea in November last year, the Philippines successfully secured a grant of US\$10 million for a project led by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and Land Bank of the Philippines, to establish a multi-hazard impact-based early warning system (MHI-BEWS) in the country.

'We invite the public to visit the GCF-Philippines website to be informed of important announcements and events as we strive to secure more climate finance for our vulnerable communities,' Legarda concluded.



Green fund made more accessible to communities

The government has launched a website that will allow more communities to avail themselves of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which was created to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change.

The Green Climate Fund Philippines website can be accessed via <https://www.gov.ph/web/green-climate-fund/home>.

The website aims to inform the public on the GCF processes and policies, as well as provide timely advisories and updates relative to the country's activities to access the fund, according to Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda.

"Through this website, we hope to reach more people, communities, and organizations who may need to access the Fund," said Legarda, Antique representative and member of the GCF Board.

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"The country continues to experience extreme weather events like flooding, landslides and drought, which we are also seeing worldwide such as in the catastrophic wildfires. The stakes have never been higher," Legarda said.

In November last year, the Philippines secured a \$10-million grant from the GCF for the establishment of an impact-based forecasting and early warning system to communities at risk of natural hazards.

The GCF funding will be channeled to the Land Bank of the Philippines, while the project will be implemented by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

"We invite the public to visit the GCF-Philippines website to be informed of important announcements and events as we strive to secure more climate finance for our vulnerable communities," Legarda said.

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The GCF was set up by 194 countries that are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

- Helen Flores



GREEN IS IN

Company continues watershed programs

The Alsons Power Group, Mindanao's first private sector power generator, is poised to continue its various corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects for 2020.

"The core focus for all of our CSR projects has always been to preserve the environment and advance the education of the young people in all of the communities where we operate. Thus, all our flagship community projects are centered on the twin pillars of advancing education and preserving the environment," said Ruben Tungpalan, the Group's VP for corporate affairs and community relations.

This year, Alsons Power plans to commemorate the completion of its

centerpiece environmental preservation project – the 7,500-hectare Sarangani Energy Watershed Protection Project (WPP) located within the vicinity of the Group's 210-megawatt (MW) Sarangani Energy Corporation (SEC) power plant in Maasim, Sarangani Province.

The project, which encompasses an area larger than the City of Manila and almost twice the size of Makati City, is the largest one of its kind in the country.

Alsons Power embarked on the Sarangani Energy WPP a few months before the start of the construction of the SEC power plant with the purposes of preserving the Siguil and Kamanga river watersheds, providing

forest cover to the area, and providing livelihood for the Blaan and T'boli indigenous communities residing in the area.

The Sarangani Energy WPP area is currently managed by the Conrado and Ladislawa Alcantara Foundation (Alcantara Foundation) – the CSR arm of the Alcantara Group. The Group aims to mark the WPP's completion through an onsite ceremony with the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and key local government and community officials by the middle of this year.

Photos show the tree nursery of the Sarangani Energy Corporation Watershed Protection Project in Maasim, Sarangani.





MABILIS na dumarami ang mga pinagsususpetsahang tinamaan ng Novel-Corona Virus sa mahal kong Pinas.

Mula sa isang tao, naging 27 na sa nakalipas na dalawang linggo.

Ngayon ay hindi mapigilan ang pagdating ng mga Filipino mula sa Tsina, maging ang mga dayuhang may rekord nang tinamaan ang kanilang mga bansa dahil wala tayong travel ban.

Ang kritikal pa, paano kung mapwersa ang pamahalaan na iwi ang daan-daang nasa gitna o sentro ng tinatamaan ng N-Cov.

Alalahaning gumagawa na ang Japan, Amerika, France, Germany, Britain at iba pa na iwi ang kanilang mga mamamayan.

Hindi naman natin pupwedeng tanggihan ang mga Filipino na gustong umuwi.

Kaya naman, nandiyan ang posibilidad na mapasukan tayo ng mabilis na nakahahawa at nakamamatay na sakit.

PINAKAMASAMANG KALAGAYAN

Ipinangalob sa pinakamasamang kalagayan ang malaking bahagi ng Tsina at tinatayang mahigit 65 milyong katao ang apektado.

Pinairal ang lockdown o katulad ng ginawa ng gobyerno sa sumabog na Taal Volcano.

Pero kung pinalabas ang mga tao sa mga danger zone sa Taal, sa Tsina iba ang ginawa.

Pinigilan ang paglabas ng mga tao sa mga sinasalakay ng N-CoV, gayundin ang pagpasok ng mga mamamayan doon.

Sa labas ng Wuhan City, ang buong lalawigan ng Hubei na nakasasakop sa Wuhan at mga karatig na pook, isinara rin ang lahat ng mga lugar na pinagkukumpulan ng mga tao.

Simbahan, eskwela, tourist spots, maging ang great Wall of China.

Pinigilan ding tumakbo ang mga tren, bus, eroplano, private cars, ferry at iba pa.

Isinara rin ang ilang paliparan, mga istasyon ng transportasyon at maging ang mga kalsada.

Habang ginagawa ito, mga Bro, mabilis na dumarami ang mga namamatay at naoospital.

Ang sabi, mahigit na sa 106 ang namatay habang daang libo na ang nahawa at lumuluwa na ang mga ospital at klini-



WORST SITUATION SA N-COV, PAGHANDAAN

ka sa rami ng mga taong magpatsekap o magpagamot kaya.

Ito ang worst case na senaryo o kalagayan.

IBA PANG KRISIS

Ayon sa mga ulat, kulang na ang mga ospital kaya mabilis na nagtatayo ang pamahalaan ng mga ito.

Kulang din ang mga doktor kaya umaasiste na ang mga military doktor, maging ang mga naipadala laban sa ebola virus noon sa Africa at Merscove naman sa Gitnang Silangan.

Malaking krisis din ang kawalan ng saktong bakuna laban sa N-Cov kaya kung tinamaan ang mga dating maysakit na sa baga gaya ng hika at tuberculosis, anak ng tokwa, yari sila.

Inaabot na rin ng maraming oras at ang iba, mahigit 24 oras sa paghintay ng tsekap.

Pinigilan na rin ang mga group tour sa loob at palabas ng Tsina.

Nagsara ang maraming palengke at mga mall na lang karaniwan ang bukas pero maaaring maubusan sila ng suplay para sa mga mamamayan.

Nagsara rin ang maraming bangko at nagkandalugi-lugi ngayon ang maraming negosyo.

PAGHAHANDA NASAAN?

Nasaan ang mga doktor, ang mga nars at iba pang mga medical professional na isasabak kung sakaling magkaroon tayo ng mga may N-CoV?

Paano kung libo-libo ang magiging biktima?

Nasaan ang mga espesyal na ospital na pagdalan sa mga maysakit?

Paano ang suplay ng mga gamot na makatutulong para malabanan ng mga pasyente ang sakit na wala pang saktong bakuna?

Paano ang paglilibing ng mga namatay dahil maaaring makahawa pa ring ang mga ito?

Kung may lockdown, paano ang mga suplay ng pagkain at iba pang batayang mga pangangailangan, gaya ng tubig?

Paano ang mga mahihirap na walang mailimbak na pagkain at pipigilan silang lumabas ng

mga tahanan upang maghanapbuhay sana?

Paano kung magtagal ang epidemya at sabihin nating kahit limang buwan lamang gaya ng nangyaring SARS na mabilis na tumigok sa nasa 800 katao noong 2002-2003?

MAY SAPAT PANG PANAHON

May sapat pang panahon upang maghanda ang gobyerno para sa worst case scenario o pinakamasamang kalagayan.

Sapat na suplay ng pagkain, tubig, gamot ang dapat na tiyakin.

Dapat na ring may nakahandang mga gamit at makinarya para sa mabilisang pagtayo ng emergency hospital.

Mga mabililis na transportasyon para sa mabilis na aksyon.

Mga doktor at iba pang health professionals na handang magsakripisyo at magtaya ng buhay.

Alalahaning isa nang doktor ang namatay sa Hubei hospital at halos 20 na ang iba pang doktor, nars at iba nahawa.

Paano rin ang mga hindi apektado ng sakit ngunit matatamaan naman ng mga lockdown at mapapasama ang kanilang pamumuhay?

PAKILUSIN NA

Ang canned goods, noodles at iba pang pagkain na hindi masisira sa loob ng kahit anim na buwan ay kailangan.

Pupuwede bang pagganahin na ang mga pabrika ng mga ito upang gumawa in advance ng mga matagalan at hindi napapanis na pagkain at inumin?

Dapat nakahanda na rin ang mga buong pwersa ng gobyerno mula sa pulisya at militar hanggang sa mga elected at appointed officials na magsilbi sa buong panahon ng kalamidad, paghihirap, pagkakasakit at kamatayan.

oOo

Anomang reaksyon o reklamo, maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa bantiporda@yahoo.com.



01-30 20

DATE



Republic of the Philippines
LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

National Ecology Center, East Ave., Diliman 1100 Quezon City
Tel Nos. (02)376-4072, (02) 376-4039, (02) 376-4044, (02) 376-5433
Website: <http://www.llda.gov.ph/> E-mail: info@llda.gov.ph

11 November 2019

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 02 s.2019

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR VERIFICATION OF THE
REGLEMENTARY 12.50-METER ELEVATION OF AREAS WITHIN
LAKESHORE BARANGAYS**


In the interest of service and to effectively determine areas lying at and below elevation 12.50 meters, as referred to a datum 10.00 meters below mean lower low water (M.L.L.W.) of Manila Bay, otherwise known as the Laguna Lake shoreland areas, the following shall serve as guidelines in applications for the verification of the reglementary 12.50-meter elevation of areas within Laguna Lakeshore barangays:

- I. **SCOPE AND COVERAGE.** These guidelines shall apply to all applications for verification of the reglementary 12.50-meter elevation filed by any person, natural or juridical, Local Government Units and other government agencies or instrumentalities concerning areas located in Laguna Lakeshore barangays; for whatever legal purpose intended.
- II. **REQUIREMENTS.** As a general rule, all applications must be submitted with complete documentary requirements as follows:
 1. Duly accomplished application form for the verification of the reglementary 12.50-meter elevation;
 2. Location plan with clear technical descriptions, signed and sealed by a licensed Geodetic Engineer;
 3. Vicinity map with coordinates. Print out of Google Maps is preferred;
 4. During submission of application and claiming of Letter and/or Certification, through a representative, the following requirements are needed:
 - a. Authorization letter from the authorizing signatory;
 - b. Photocopy of one (1) valid ID of the applicant who issued the authorization letter;
 - c. Photocopy of one (1) valid ID of the authorized representative.

Application form and its supporting documents shall be filed in **TWO (2) COPIES** in LONG WHITE FOLDERS.

- III. **VERIFICATION RESULTS.** The Shoreland Management Office (SMO) shall issue a letter and/or a certification stating the result of the verification of the 12.50-meter elevation on the demarcated 1967-BCGS topographic map using the submitted location plan executed by a licensed Geodetic Engineer. A certification will be issued to the applicant if the result of the said verification shows that the subject area falls **ABOVE** the reglementary 12.50-meter elevation while a letter will be issued for area falling **BELOW** thereof.
- IV. **PROCESS.** The process for application for the verification of the 12.50-meter elevation shall be in accordance with the LLDA Citizen's Charter.
- V. **FEES AND CHARGES.** Pursuant to LLDA Board Resolution No. 329, Series of 2007, the rate of the survey fee is **Four Thousand Pesos (Php 4,000.00)**. This is without prejudice to any change in the rates of fees and charges that the LLDA Board of Directors may issue.
- VI. **REPEALING CLAUSE.** All existing circulars, orders, and other related issuances that are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Circular are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
- VII. **EFFECTIVITY.** This Memorandum Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation, posting in the LLDA official website and upon acknowledgment of receipt of a copy by the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).

For strict compliance.


JAIME C. MEDINA
General Manager