

DATE : MAR 09 2020

DAY : Monday

**DENR**

**IN THE NEWS**

**Strategic Communication and Initiative Service**



## Cimatu steps up campaign vs. wildlife crime

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources vows to continue the fight against wildlife crime while recognizing close to 100 frontline wildlife enforcement officers in a recent celebration of the World Wildlife Day.

Undersecretary Ernesto Adobo Jr. said the DENR has never wavered in its commitment to stop illegal wildlife trade, which is "one of the most important and urgent part of our work" to protect the iconic Philippine Eagle and other endemic wildlife species that are facing threat of extinction.

"The DENR, especially the

Biodiversity Management Bureau, has been consistent in its mandate to protect the rich biodiversity of this country, and it is our commitment to not let this intensive consistency waive," he said.

A total of 98 wildlife law enforcement officers from various agencies and organization—National Bureau Investigation-Environmental Crime Division (19), Bureau of Customs (21), Philippine National Police (46), 28th Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army (nine), non-government organization (one), and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Protection Group (two)—

were recognized during the Wildlife Law Enforcement Awards 2020.

"Let it not be forgotten lest disregarded the valiant efforts of wildlife enforcers, and we see their lives to protect our wildlife resources on poaching, trafficking and overexploitation so that the future generations to come will be able to see the rich biodiversity we still enjoy today," Adobo said.

Assistant Secretary and concurrent BMB Director Ricardo Calderon said wildlife crime, including wildlife trafficking and poaching, is "a crime against nature." **Rio Araja**



### AGAINST QUARRYING.

Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu (right) orders the immediate removal of the barbed wires that were put up by a quarry firm to delineate quarrying operations at the Masungi Geopark Project in Baras, Rizal during his inspection of the project on March 4.

The wires were hammered to Tibig trees, a species native to the Philippines that can help conserve water when planted near freshwater, and is considered a good tree species for reforestation near springs and creeks. The freshly-cut stem of a Tibig can also be a source of drinkable water. Cimatu ordered the closure, and cancellation of the quarry permit of the company and a review of its Mineral Production Sharing Agreement.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



03 09 20

WIRE:

PAGE 17

DATE

## UNTV FINALS DENR seeks title sweep

**Games Today**  
(Smart Araneta Coliseum)  
7 p.m. - 3x3 semis I  
8 p.m. - AFP vs DENR

Newcomer Department of Environment and Natural Resources hopes to write history when it goes for a sweep of the UNTV Cup Finals

against defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

No team since its inaugural staging eight years ago has won the championship via a sweep and that will be the mission of the DENR Warriors when they clash with the AFP Cavaliers in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series at 8 p.m.

The Warriors took the opener 90-73 on March 1 with Ralph Lansang leading the team's onslaught against the an injury-stricken Cavaliers.

Four other DENR players - MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Ryan Abanes,

Desederio Ayson and Melvin Bangal - tallied doubles figures as the Warriors shot 31 of 62 tries for 50 percent.

While veteran Eugene Tan is expected to play despite a knee injury, the Cavaliers will again miss the services of hardworking bigs Wilfredo Casulla and Jeffrey Quiambao due to various injuries.

Prior to the AFP-DENR tussle, the semis of the 3x3 side event will be played starting at 7 p.m. Disputing the P100,000 top prize are PhilHealth, SSS Kabalikat, Ombudsman and PITC.



## DENR eyes history in UNTV Cup finals

DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources hopes to write a piece of history when it goes for a sweep of the

UNTV Cup finals against defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines today before an expected huge crowd at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

No rookie team since the inaugural staging of the tourney eight years ago has won the championship and that will be the mission of the DENR Warriors when they clash with the AFP Cavaliers in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series at 8 p.m.

The Warriors took the opener 90-73 on March 1, with Ralph Lansang leading the team's onslaught against the injury-stricken Cavaliers.

**GAMES TODAY**  
(Smart Araneta Coliseum)  
7 p.m. - 3x3 semis to final  
8 p.m. - AFP vs. DENR

Four other players - MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Ryan Abanes, Desederio Ayson and Melvin Bangal - scored doubles figures for the Warriors, who shot impressively from the field, making 31-of-62 tries for 50 percent shooting clip.

While veteran Eugene Tan is expected to play despite a knee injury, the Cavaliers will again miss the services of two hardworking big men in Wilfredo Casulla and Jeffrey Quiambao due to various injuries.

If DENR goes on to complete a two-game sweep, its chosen charity stands to receive a tax-free P4 million prize from UNTV President and CEO Dr. Daniel S. Razon in the event sponsored by Bro. Eli Soriano of Ang Dating Daan and Members Church of God International.



## DENR goes for history versus AFP in 8th UNTV Cup

Games Today  
(Smart Araneta  
Coliseum)  
7 p.m. - 3x3 semis to  
final  
8 p.m. - AFP vs DENR

**NEWCOMER** Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) hopes to write a piece of history when it goes for a sweep of the UNTV Cup Finals against defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines before an expected huge crowd at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

No team since its inaugural staging eight years ago has won the championship and that will be the mission of the DENR Warriors when they clash with the AFP Cavaliers in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series starting at 8 p.m.

The Warriors took the opener, 90-73, on March 1 with Ralph Lansang once again leading the team's onslaught against an injury-stricken Cavaliers.

Four other DENR players - MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Rynn Abanes, Desederio Ayson and Melvin Bangal - tallied in doubles figures for the Warriors who shot impressively from the field, making 31 of 62 tries for 50 percent shooting clip.

While veteran Eugene Tan is expected to play despite a knee injury, the Cavaliers will again miss the services of two hardworking bigs in Wilfredo Casulla and Jeffrey Quiambao due to various injuries.

IF DENR goes on to complete a two-game sweep, its chosen charity stands to receive a tax-free P4 million prize from UNTV President and CEO Dr. Daniel S. Razon in the event sponsored by Bro. Eli Soriano of Ang Dating Daan and Members Church of God International.



# UNTV CUP WARRIORS GO FOR SWEEP TONIGHT

**Games Today**  
(Smart Araneta Coliseum)  
7 p.m. - 3x3 semis to final  
8 p.m. - AFP vs DENR

Newcomer Department of Environment and Natural Resources hopes to write a piece of history when it goes for a sweep of the UNTV Cup Finals against defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines before an expected huge crowd at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

No team since its inaugural staging eight years ago has a team winning the championship and that will be the mission of the DENR Warriors when they clash with the AFP Cavaliers in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series starting at 8 p.m.

The Warriors took the opener, 90-73, on March 1 with Ralph Lansang once again leading the

team's onslaught against an injury-stricken Cavaliers.

Four other DENR players - MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Ryan Abanes, Desederio Ayson, and Melvin Bangal - tallied in doubles figures for the Warriors who shot impressively from the field, making 31 of 62 tries for a 50 percent shooting clip.

While veteran Eugene Tan is expected to play despite a knee injury, the Cavaliers will again miss the services of two hardworking bigs in Wilfredo Casulla and Jeffrey Quiambao due to various injuries.

IF DENR goes on to complete a two-game sweep, its chosen charity stands to receive a tax-free P4-million prize from UNTV President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Daniel S. Razon in the event sponsored by Bro. Eli Soriano of Ang Dating Daan and Members Church of God International.

A total of P10 million in cash prizes will be donated to all charities.

Telecast and social media broadcasts of the event for public servants begin at 9 p.m. at UNTV channels.

Prior to the AFP-DENR tussle, the semis of the 3x3 side event will be played starting at 7 p.m. Disputing the P100,000 top prize are PhilHealth, SSS Kabalikat, Ombudsman, and PITC.

At 4 p.m., PhilHealth will also be setting up information desk for all PhilHealth insurance and membership concerns. The PAG-Ibig Fund will also be there with info desk and online verification of membership.

Awesome entertainment will be provided by artists like Darren Espanto, Gidget dela Llana, Magnus Haven, Skusta Clee, and BMPI's The Wishfuls and Rhea Basco.



**VETERAN** Ed Rivera hopes to lead DENR when they play the AFP Cavaliers in today's Game 2 of their 8th UNTV Cup finals at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.



Veteran Ed Rivera (left) hopes to lead DENR when they play the Eugene Tan-led (right) AFP Cavaliers in today's Game 2 of their 8th UNTV Cup finals.

## DENR seeks piece of history in UNTV Cup cage finals

### Games Today

(Smart Araneta Coliseum)  
7 p.m. – 3x3 semis to final  
8 p.m. – AFP vs DENR

NEWCOMER Department of Environment and Natural Resources hopes to write a piece of history when it goes for a sweep of the UNTV Cup Finals against defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines before an expected huge crowd at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

No team since its inaugural staging eight years ago has a team winning the championship by a sweep and that will be the mission of the DENR Warriors when they clash with the AFP Cavaliers in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series starting at 8 p.m.

The Warriors took the opener, 90-73, on March 1 with Ralph Lansang once again leading the team's onslaught against an injury-stricken Cavaliers.

Four other DENR players – MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Ryan Abanes, Desederio Ayson and Melvin Bangal – tallied in doubles figures for the Warriors who shot impressively from the field, making 31 of 62 tries for 50 percent shooting clip.

While veteran Eugene Tan is expected to play despite a knee injury, the Cavaliers will again miss the services of two hardworking bigs in Wilfredo Casulla and Jeffrey Quiambao due to various injuries.

IF DENR goes on to complete a two-game sweep, its chosen charity stands to receive a tax-free P4 million prize from UNTV President and CEO Dr. Daniel S. Razon in the event sponsored by Bro. Eli Soriano of Ang Dating Daan and Members Church of God International.

A total of P10 million cash prizes will be donated to all charities.

Telecast and social media broadcasts of the event for public servants begin at 9 p.m. at UNTV channels.

Prior to the AFP-DENR tussle, the semis of the 3x3 side event will be played starting at 7 p.m. Disputing the P100,000 top prize are PhilHealth, SSS Kabalikat, Ombudsman and PITC.

At 4 p.m. PhilHealth will also be setting up information desk for all PhilHealth insurance and membership concerns. The PAG-IBIG Fund will also be there with info desk and online verification of membership.



## DENR huhukay ng kasaysayan vs AFP

**Mga laro ngayon:**  
**(Smart Araneta Coliseum)**  
**7 pm - 3x3 semis to final**  
**8 pm - AFP vs DENR**

Hangad nang maiuwi ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang kampeonato sa Game 2 Finals ng 8th UNTV Cup 2019-2020 kontra defending champion Armed Forces of the

Philippines sa Smart Araneta Coliseum sa Quezon City.

Misyon ng DENR Warriors na umukit ng kasaysayan sa best-of-three title series kontra AFP Cavaliers sa labansa alas-otso nang gabi.

Naibagahe ng Warriors ang unang panalo noong Marso 1, 90-73 sa pamumuno ni Ralph Lansang.

Apat rin sa DENR players - MVP candidate Ed Rivera, Ryan Abanes,

Desederio Ayson at Melvin Bangal - ang mga nagtala ng doubles figures para sa Warriors na may 31 of 62 tries para sa 50 percent shooting.

Samantala, pupunan naman ni veteran Eugene Tan, na may iniindang knee injury, ang kampo Cavaliers na aaksyonng wala sina Wilfredo Casulla at Jeffrey Quiambao dahil sa injuries.

Kung magwagi sa two-game sweep ang DENR, maka-

katanggap ang kanilang chosen charity ng tax-free P4M cash prize mula kay UNTV President at CEO Dr. Daniel S. Razon sa event inisponsoran ni Bro. Eli Soriano ng Ang Dating Daan at Members Church of God International.

Kabuuang P10M cash prizes ang ido-donate sa

lahat ng charities.

Mapapanood ang telecast at social media broadcasts ng laban sa alas-nuweba gabi sa UNTV channels.

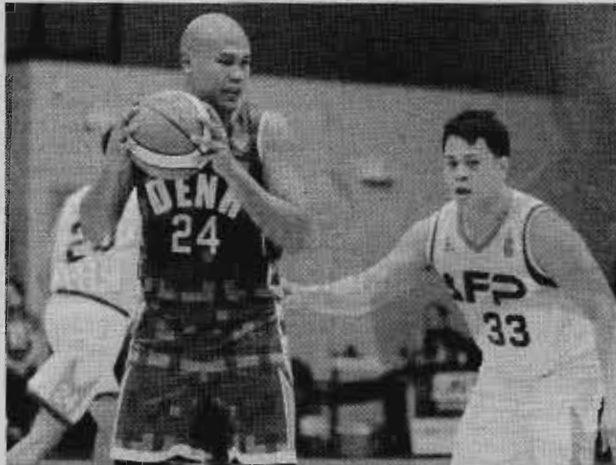
Sa kabilang dako, magtatagpo naman alas-siyete nang gabi ang semis ng 3x3 side event.

Maglalaban-laban para sa P100,000 top prize ang PhilHealth, SSS Kabalik, Ombudsman at PITC.

Magtatayo sa alaskuwatro nang hapon ang PhilHealth ng information desk para sa lahat ng PhilHealth insurance at membership concerns. Magkakaroon rin ng info desk at online verification membership ang PAG-IBIG Fund.

Asahan rin ang entertainment performances nina Darren Espanto, Gidget Dela Llana, Magnus Haven, Skusta Clee and BMPi's The Wishfuls at Rhea Basco.

Paparangalan rin sa Finals ang mga individual awardee: Season MVP, Finals MVP, Scoring Champion, Step Up Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, at First Five. (JAT)



Isa sa aasahan ng DENR si veteran Ed Rivera (kaliwa) kapag sinagupa ang Eugene Tan-led (kanan) AFP Cavaliers sa Game 2 ng 8th UNTV Cup finals sa Smart Araneta Coliseum ngayong araw. (BM)





TITLE:

PAGE 1/



NEWS

LIBRARY OF SPECIES IN POCKET

# APP TO HELP CURB WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

## App to help curb wildlife trafficking

By **Jhesset O. Enano**  
@JhessetEnanoINQ

Field personnel of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will soon be equipped with WildALERT, a digital tool designed to augment monitoring of wild flora and fauna, and to help curb wildlife trafficking. Developed through a partnership between the DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau and USAID Protect Wildlife program, the WildALERT System is expected to be rolled out by April. —STORY BY JHESSET O. ENANO

A8

For government workers on the front line of defense against environmental crime, identifying wildlife species and reporting illicit activities will soon be at their fingertips.

Field personnel of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will be equipped with WildALERT, a digital tool designed to augment monitoring of wild flora and fauna, and to help curb wildlife trafficking.

Developed through a partnership between DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) and USAID Protect Wildlife program, WildALERT is primarily a mobile application that is equipped with a species library and a report management platform to easily identify, submit and manage reports from DENR frontliners and other law enforcement officers.

The app, which can work offline and even on low-end smartphones, was initially tested in February among wildlife law enforcers with the DENR. It is expected to be rolled out to field personnel across the country by April.

The tool is also expected to be distributed to the DENR's law enforcement partners, such as the police, military and the National Bureau of Investigation, said Lawrence San Diego, communications manager for Protect Wildlife.

### Library in pocket

"In recent memory, this is the only single digital platform that has the function to help identify species and also to submit reports on potential wildlife crimes," he told the Inquirer.

At present, San Diego said DENR personnel might encounter an unfamiliar species



DIGITAL TOOL Fheter John Calanday demonstrates how to use WildALERT, a new digital tool developed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Biodiversity Management Bureau and US Agency for International Development to help in the fight against wildlife trafficking. —GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE

and would take time to confirm its identity with experts. "With this tool, they have a library of species in their pocket."

With an easily accessible offline digital reference, WildALERT has 480 species in its library, which is easily searchable using the app's filtering tool.

Environmental workers can choose from categories, including birds, mammals, reptiles, invertebrates and amphibians. Soon to follow are marine species.

The library has photos of wild animals and plants, and provides information about them, such as description, scientific name, local name and ecological status.

If DENR personnel are unfamiliar with the species,

they can filter it out in the WildALERT system by providing information about the wildlife. For instance, they can identify the color of its feathers or whether they have scales.

### Available to public online

While the app will be rolled out only to wildlife law enforcers, the public can access the species library online at wildalert.ph.

Aside from wildlife identification, WildALERT also provides a centralized reporting feature that can help wildlife enforcers monitor and respond to wildlife crime.

Through the app's reporting feature, photos and key information can be recorded, geotagged and submitted to the WildALERT report management platform.

These reports can then be accessed and managed by the corresponding DENR field units and the DENR-BMB for immediate and appropriate action.

Even offline, reports can be saved in the app, which will be transmitted once the user connects to the internet.

### Huge help

BMB wildlife law enforcer Rogelio Demelletes Jr. said WildALERT would be a huge help to enforcers who are out in the field.

"If you're conducting case surveillance, you can easily share your location to others, or provide the nearest landmark, so we can easily respond to the situation," he told the Inquirer.

Wildlife trafficking is a major problem for the Philippines, where at least P50 billion is lost yearly due to the illicit trade. Wildlife law enforcers play a tough catch-up with traffickers, who get away due to weak prosecution. INQ



03<sup>RD</sup> 09<sup>TH</sup> 20

TITLE

PAGE 1/

DATE

## **DENR urged to act on poor air quality**

Representatives from communities affected by air pollution gathered last week in front of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources office in Quezon City to protest the DENR's alleged inaction on a report about poor and unhealthy air quality in the country.

The protest on Thursday was led by the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCI) and joined by environmental advocates under the Power for People Coalition.

"We are dismayed by the DENR's lack of action to the report of Air Visual. The DENR does not know the state of air pollution in the country. The government must protect the air Filipinos breathe," Ian Rivera, national coordinator of PMCI, said.

The Healthcare Without Harm also asked the DENR to do its part in battling air pollution and coal-fired power plants.

"We challenge the DENR to fast-track the review of the standards on emissions and air quality that it currently implements, and strengthen its hold on the accountability of polluters," Rivera said. — Rhodina Villanueva



### **DENR dedma sa polusyon mula sa karbon**

Tila hindi umano pinapansin ng pamunuan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang polusyong ibinubuga mula sa karbon.

Ito ang napansin ni Fr. Warren Puno, lider ng Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese sa Lucena dahil sa mga itinatayong "coal-fired power plants" na apektado ang mga residente sa lugar na pinagtatayuan ng mga ito.

Ang karbon na ibi-

nubuga ng mga planta ay nananatili sa hangin at hindi lamang ang kalikasan ang nalalason nito, kundi maging ang kalusugan ng mga residente na naninirahan malapit sa 'coal-fired power plants'.

Aniya, ang Quezon province, ay tinagurian nang 'coal capital' sa bansa dahil sa itinatayong 5 GW ng "coal capacity" sa kabuuang munisipalidad, at kung madaragdagan pa ng mga proyekto sa

"pipeline" sa umiiral na "coal fleet" ay mas lalong makararanas ng grabeng polusyon ang mga residente sa mga nabanggit na lugar. Kaya't nagsagawa ng kilos-protesta sa harap ng tanggapan ng DENR sa Quezon City, ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naaapektuhan ng polusyon sa bansa dahil sa patuloy na tila nagbulag-bulagan ang mga itinalagang opisyal sa ahensiya na dapat mangalaga ng kalikasan.



## Carbon pollution pinatutuldukan na sa DENR

Hinimok ng lider ng Simbahan, mga tagapangalaga ng kalikasan at mga residente ng apektadong komunidad na napapaligiran ng mga itinayong coal-fired power plant na puksain at aksiyunan ng pamunuan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang polusyong ibinubuga mula sa karbon.

Iपालिwanag ni Fr. Warren Puno, head ng Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese sa Lucena, ang karbon na ibinubuga ng mga planta ay nananatili sa hangin at hindi lamang ang kalikasan ang nalalason nito kundi maging ang kalusugan ng mga resi-

dente na naninirahan malapit sa coal-fired power plants.

Aniya, ang Quezon province ay tinagurian nang 'coal capital' sa bansa, dahil sa itinayong 5GW ng coal capacity sa kabuuang munisipalidad, at kung madaragdagan pa ng mga proyekto sa pipeline sa umiiral na coal fleet ay mas lalong makararanas ng grabeng polusyon ang mga residente sa mga nabanggit na lugar.

"We live in fear that our children would have to continue suffering - or worse, be killed by - this same dirty air," giit ng Pari.

Kasabay nito ay nagsagawa ng kilos-protesta

sa harap ng tanggapan ng DENR sa Quezon City ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naaapektuhan ng polusyon sa bansa dahil sa patuloy na pagbalewala ng mga itinalagang opisyal sa ahensiya na dapat mangalaga ng kalikasan.

Ang rally ay pinaangunahan ng Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ), na sinuportahan ng iba't ibang organisasyon na kaakibat ng Power for People Coalition (P4P) na mariing tinututulan ang pagtatayo ng coal-fired power plant na sanhi ng polusyon at labis na nakakaapekto sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng mamamayan.



## 'Carbon Pollution', hiniling aksyunan ng DENR

**HINIMOK** ng lider ng Simbahan, mga tagapangalaga ng kalikasan at residenteng apektadong komunidad na napapaligiran ng mga itinayong 'coal-fired power plants' na puksain at aksyunan ng pamunuan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang polusyong ibinubuga mula sa karbon.

Ipinaliwanag ni Fr. Warren Puno, head ng the Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese sa Luccena, ang karbon na ibinubuga ng mga planta ay nananatili sa hangin at hindi lamang ang kalikasan ang nalalason nito, kundi maging ang kalusugan ng mga residente na naninirahan malapit sa 'coal-fired power plants'.

Aniya, ang Quezon province, ay tinagurian nang 'coal capital' sa bansa, dahil sa itinayong 5 GW ng 'coal capacity' sa kabuuang munisipalidad, at kung madaragdagan pa ng mga proyekto sa 'pipeline' sa umiiral na

'coal fleet' ay mas lalong makararanas ng grabeng polusyong ang mga residente sa mga nabanggit na lugar.

"We live in fear that our children would have to continue suffering - or worse, be killed by - this same dirty air," giit ng Pano.

Kasabay nito ay nagsagawa ng kilos-protesta sa harap ng tanggapan ng DENR sa Quezon City, ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naaapektuhan ng polusyong sa bansa, dahil sa patuloy na tila nagbubulag-bulagan ang mga itinalagang opisyal sa ahensiya na dapat mangalaga ng kalikasan.

Ang rally ay pinangunahan ng Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCI), na sinuportahan ng ibang organisasyon na kaakibat ng Power for People Coalition (P4P) na mariing tinututulan ang pagtatayo ng 'coal-fired power plants' na sanhi ng polusyong at labis na nakakaapekto sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng mamamayan.

Kabilang sa mga nagprotesta ang mga kinatawan sa komunidad sa Limay, Bataan, Toledo City sa Cebu, at Quezon Province, kung saan pinapatakbo o operational ang mga 'coal-fired power plants are operational'.

"The DENR should have had its own report which it could have released to refute or support the conclusions of Air Visual. The fact that one of its highest officials merely temporized and criticized the technicalities show that it, at best, does not know about the state of air pollution in the Philippines, or at worst, is unwilling to let the people

Kaugnay nito, hinikayat rin ng Environment at health group na Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) ang DENR na pag-ibayuhin at gampaman ang kanilang adhikain na protektahan ang kalikasan, maging ang kalusugan ng mga apektado ng komunidad.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# PEOPLES JOURNAL

4  
PAGE  
OFFER  
SERVICE  
PAGE 1  
STORY  
BRIEF  
STUFF  
EDITORIAL  
LAPORER

03 09 20

TIME

PAGE 17

DATE

## Community reps slam gov't inaction on poor air quality

REPRESENTATIVES from communities affected by air pollution mobilized on Thursday in front of the office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Quezon City to protest the department's inaction on a report on unhealthy air quality in the country.

The action, led by the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ), was supported by fellow organizations under the Power for People Coalition (P4P) who also oppose the role of coal-fired power plants in bringing down air quality in the communities where they are located.

### ENVIROWATCH

"We are disappointed by the dismissive response of DENR to the air quality report of Air Visual which exposed the DENR's lack of action to protect the air Filipinos breathe," said Ian Rivera, National Coordinator of PMCJ.

"The DENR should have had its own report which it could have released to refute or support the conclusions of Air Visual. The fact that one of its highest officials merely temporized and criticized the technicalities

show that it, at best, does not know about the state of air pollution in the Philippines, or at worst, is unwilling to let the people know how unhealthy our air is," said Rivera.

Communities represented in the action included Limay in Bataan, Toledo City in Cebu, and Quezon Province, places where coal-fired power plants are operational.

"In communities that surround the many coal plants currently operating in the country, the poison that their stacks spew into the air has been causing our people's health to fail and turning the environment just as sickly.



## Pollution mula carbon hiniling na puksain

**HINIMOK** ng lider ng simbahan, mga tagapagalaga ng kalikasan at residenteng apektadong komunidad na napapaligiran ng mga itinayong 'coal-fired power plants' na puksain at aksiyunan ng gobyerno ang polusyong ibinubuga umano mula sa karbon.

Iपालिwanag ni Fr. Warren Puno, head ng the Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese sa Lucena, ang karbon na ibinubuga ng mga planta ay nananatili sa hangin at hindi lamang ang kalikasan ang nalalason nito, kundi maging ang kalusugan ng mga residente na naninirahan malapit sa 'coal-fired power

plants'.

Kasabay nito ay nagsagawa ng kilos-protesta sa harap ng tanggapan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources sa Quezon City ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naaapektuhan ng polusyon sa bansa.

Ang rally ay pina-angunahan ng Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCI), na sinuportahan ng ibang organisasyon na kaakibat ng Power for People Coalition (P4P) na maring tinututulan ang pagtatayo ng 'coal-fired power plants'.

Kabilang sa mga nagprotesta ang mga kinatawan sa komunidad sa

Limay, Bataan, Toledo City sa Cebu, at Quezon Province, kung saan pinapatakbo o operational ang mga 'coal-fired power plants'.

"The DENR should have had its own report which it could have released to refute or support the conclusions of Air Visual," ani ng nagpoprotesta.

Kaugnay nito, hinikayatin ng environment at health group na Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) ang DENR na pag-ibayuhin ang kanilang adhikain na protektahan ang kalikasan, maging ang kalusugan ng mga apektado ng komunidad.



03 09 20

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1/ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

## DENR pinapaaksyon sa air quality report

NAGSAGAWA ng kilos protesta sa harap ng tanggapan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Quezon City ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naaapektuhan ng polusyon sa bansa upang hilingin na aksiyunan ang air quality report.

Ang rally ay pinangunahan ng Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PM CJ), na sinuportahan ng iba't ibang organisasyon na kaakibat ng Power for People Coalition (P4P) na maring tinututulan ang pagtatayo ng mga coal-fired power plant na sanhi ng polusyon at labis na nakakaapekto sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng mamamayan.

Kabilang sa mga nagprotesta ang mga kinatawan sa komunidad sa Limay, Bataan, Toledo City sa Cebu, at Quezon Province, kung saan pinapatakbo o operational ang mga coal-fired power plant.

"The DENR should have had its own report which it could have released to refute or support the conclusions of air visual. The fact that one of its highest officials merely temporized and criticized the technicalities show that it, at best, does not know about the state of air pollution in the Philippines, or at worst, is unwilling to let the people know how unhealthy our air is," ayon kay Ian Rivera, National Coordinator ng PM CJ.





STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
BALANCED NEWS + FEARLESS VIEWS  
**INQUIRER**

PHOTO  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

03 09 20

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE



**ANTIPOLLUTION** Climate justice and clean energy advocates and communities affected by dirty air from the provinces of Bataan, Quezon, Pangasinan, Quezon and Toledo City in Cebu troop to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Quezon City on March 5 to press DENR to ensure better air quality. —NIÑO JESUS ORBETA



### **Polusyon sa karbon hiling aksyunan**

Nagsagawa ng kilos-protesta ang mga kinatawan ng komunidad na labis na naapektuhan ng polusyon sa bansa upang hilingin sa DENR na aksyunan ang 'Air Quality Report'.

Pinangunahan ng Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ) ang rally, na sinuportahan ng iba't ibang organisasyon na kaakibat ng Power for People Coalition (P4P) na maring tinututulan ang pagtatayo ng 'coal-fired power plants' na sanhi ng polusyon at labis na nakakaapekto sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng mamamayan.

Kabilang sa mga nagprotesta ang mga kinatawan sa komunidad sa Limay, Bataan, Toledo City sa Cebu, at Quezon Province, kung saan pinapatakbo o operational ang mga 'coal-fired power plants'.

Ipinaliwanag ni Fr. Warren Puno, head ng Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese sa Lucena, ang karbon na ibinubuga ng mga planta ay nananatili sa hangin at hindi lamang ang kalikasan ang nalalason nito, kundi maging

ang kalusugan ng mga residente na naninirahan malapit sa 'coal-fired power plants'.

Ang Quezon province, ay tinagurian nang 'coal capital' sa bansa, dahil sa itinayong 5 GW ng 'coal capacity' at kung madaragdagan pa ang mga proyekto sa 'pipeline' sa umiiral na 'coal fleet' ay mas lalong makararanas ng grabeng polusyon ang mga residente.



# EDITORIAL

## Cimatu's assurance plus public cooperation

Secretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) assured President Duterte and the Cabinet last Monday that the public will have a sufficient supply of water this summer. He said he had inspected Angat Dam, which supplies 97 percent of Metro Manila's water needs, and said it should have enough water this year.

The next day, Executive Director Sevillo David Jr. of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) issued an appeal to the public to help conserve water as service interruptions, he said, will be implemented in some parts of Metro Manila with the expected decline in the water level of Angat Dam in the coming months.

The two reports appear to be at odds with each other - one assuring there will be enough water, the other appealing to the public to conserve water.

But then, we realize that they really complement each other. The message to the public is really this - there will be enough water this summer, but the public must do its part by avoiding wasteful practices such as excessive watering of plants and cleaning of cars, and allowing faucets to continue running long after containers are full. The public must also be quick to report broken pipes, possibly in traffic accidents, that spew water into streets and canals for hours before repair crews arrive.

The NWRB stressed the need for public cooperation because the water level at Angat Dam fell to 157 meters in

2019, the lowest that year, an effect of the El Niño phenomenon. This was way below the target level of 212 meters.

We have not had any storm rains that would have helped to fill the dam. And now we are beginning the hot summer months of March, April, and May. The water-bearing "habagat" winds from the southwest will start blowing only in June. Until then the present water now in Angat Dam will have to do.

After President Duterte berated the Metro Waterworks and Sewerage System and the Manila Water concessionaire in eastern Metro Manila last summer, they quickly managed to end the water rationing, while stopping the release of water for irrigating farms in Bulacan. As a result of last year's water problem, it was decided that Wawa Dam be used once again to help supply water for Metro Manila. A new Kaliwa Dam will also be built but it will take years to complete.

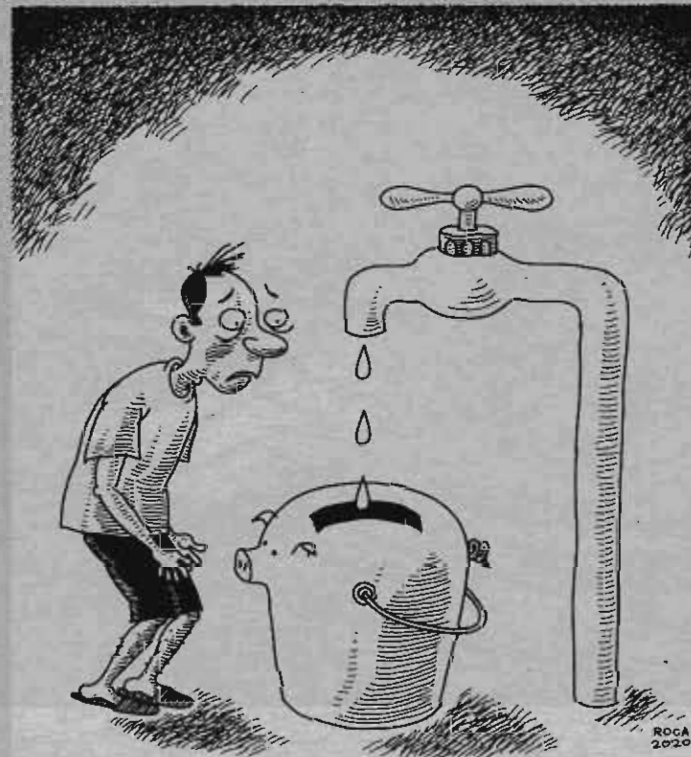
For this year, we will have to continue relying on Angat Dam, plus new deep wells and Laguna de Bay. Secretary Cimatu believes Angat, despite its low water level, will be able to supply Metro Manila's needs this summer but a big part of his assessment is the hope that some occasional rains will fall.

Equally important is the people's cooperation by conserving water in all possible ways. Together, Secretary Cimatu's assessment of Angat's capabilities plus the public's cooperation, we should be able to go through this summer without any serious disruption of Metro Manila's water supply.



TITLE:

PAGE 1/



## EDITORIAL

# Paniniguro ni Cimatú at ang kooperasyon ng publiko

**S**INIGURO ni Secretary Roy Cimatú ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) kay Pangulong Duterte at sa Gabinete nitong nakaraang Lunes na magkakaroon ang publiko ng sapat na suplay ng tubig ngayong tag-araw. Nainspeksyon na umano niya ang Angat Dam, na nagsusuplay ng 97 porsiyento ng kinakailangang tubig ng Metro Manila, at sinabi niyang makasasapat na ito para ngayong taon.

Gayunman nang sumunod na araw, nagpalabas ng panawagan si Executive Director Sevilla Jr., ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) para tumulong ang publiko sa pagtitipid sa tubig lalo't magkakaroon ng pagkaantala ng suplay, aniya, sa ilang bahagi ng Metro Manila, sa inaasahang pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam para sa susunod na mga buwan.

Tila nagkakatalo ang dalawang ulat na ito — isa na nagsisiguro na sapat ang tubig, habang ang isa ay umaapela sa publiko na magtipid sa paggamit ng tubig.

Gayunman, sa isang banda mauunawaan natin ang ugnayan nito sa isa't isa. Ang mensahe sa publiko ay ganito — magkakaroon ng sapat na tubig ngayong tag-init, ngunit dapat gawin ng publiko ang bahagi nito sa pag-iwas sa gawaing pagsasayang tulad ng labis na pagdidilig; ng mga halaman at paglilinis ng mga sasakyan, at ang pagpapabaya na hayaang nakabukas ang mga gripo kahit pa puno na ang mga lalagyan. Dapat ding iulat kaagad ng publiko ang kaso ng nasirang tubo, dahil sa trapiko, aksidente, na naglalabas ng tubig sa mga kalsada at canal, bago pa marespondehan ng repair crew.

Binigyang-diin ng NWRB ang kooperasyon ng publiko dahil, bumagsak ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam ng 157 metro noong 2019, ang pinakamababa ng taong iyon, na epekto ng El Nino. Mas mababa ito sa 212 metrong target na lebel.

Hindi tayo nagkaroon ng anumang bagyo na maaari sanang tumulong upang mapuno ang dam. At ngayon, nagsisimula na ang mainit na mga buwan ng Marso, Abril at Mayo. Malayo pa rin para hintayin ang hanging habagat na nagdadala ng tubig mula sa timogkanluran, dahil sa buwan pa ito ng Hunyo dumarating. Sa ngayon, kailangang mapagkasya muna ang kasalukuyang tubig na nasa Angat Dam.

Matapos pasaringan ni Pangulong Duterte ang Metro Waterworks and Sewerage System at ang Manila Water concessionaire para sa silangan ng Metro Manila noong nakaraang tag-araw, mabilis nitong sinolusyunan ang problema ng pagrasyon sa tubig, sa pagpapatigil ng paglalabas ng tubig para sa irigasyon ng mga sakahan sa Bulacan. Bilang resulta ng problema sa tubig noong nakaraang taon, na pagdesisyunang gamitin muli ang Wawa Dam upang makatulong sa pagsu-suplay ng tubig sa Metro Manila. Habang itatayo rin ang bagong Kaliwa Dam, ngunit aabutin naman ito ng ilang taon bago makumpleto.

Para ngayong taon, kailangan nating muling umasa sa Angat Dam, at sa dagdag na mga deep wells at sa Laguna de Bay. Naniniwala si Secretary Cimatú, na sa kabila ng mababang lebel ng tubig, mai-susuplay ng Angat ang pangunahing kailangang tubig ng Metro Manila ngayong tag-araw, ngunit malaking bahagi ng kanyang pagtataya ay umaasa na magkakaroon ng panaka-nakang mga pag-ulan sa lugar.

Mahalaga rin ang kooperasyon ng publiko sa pagtitipid ng tubig sa lahat ng posibleng paraan. Kasama, ng pagtataya ni Secretary Cimatú sa kakayahan ng Angat, dagdag pa ang kooperasyon ng publiko, malalampasan nating muli ang tag-araw nang walang malalang problema sa suplay ng tubig sa Metro Manila.



# Cimatu's assurance plus public cooperation

**S**ecretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) assured President Duterte and the Cabinet last Monday that the public will have a sufficient supply of water this summer. He said he had inspected Angat Dam, which supplies 97 percent of Metro Manila's water needs, and said it should have enough water this year.

The next day, Executive Director Sevillo David Jr. of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) issued an appeal to the public to help conserve water as service interruptions, he said, will be implemented in some parts of Metro Manila with the expected decline in the water level of Angat Dam in the coming months.

The two reports appear to be at odds with each other – one assuring there will be enough water, the other appealing to the public to conserve water.

But then, we realize that they really complement each other. The message to the public is really this – there will be enough water this summer, but the public must do its part by avoiding wasteful practices such as excessive watering of plants and cleaning of cars, and allowing faucets to continue running long after containers are full. The public must also be quick to report broken pipes, possibly in traffic accidents, that spew water into streets and canals for hours before repair crews arrive.

The NWRB stressed the need for public cooperation because the water level at Angat Dam fell to 157 meters in 2019, the lowest that year, an effect

of the El Niño phenomenon. This was way below the target level of 212 meters.

We have not had any storm rains that would have helped to fill the dam. And now we are beginning the hot summer months of March, April, and May. The water-bearing "habagat" winds from the southwest will start blowing only in June. Until then the present water now in Angat Dam will have to do.

After President Duterte berated the Metro Waterworks and Sewerage System and the Manila Water concessionaire in eastern Metro Manila last summer, they quickly managed to end the water rationing, while stopping the release of water for irrigating farms in Bulacan. As a result of last year's water problem, it was decided that Wawa Dam be used once again to help supply water for Metro Manila. A new Kaliwa Dam will also be built but it will take years to complete.

For this year, we will have to continue relying on Angat Dam, plus new deep wells and Laguna de Bay. Secretary Cimatu believes Angat, despite its low water level, will be able to supply Metro Manila's needs this summer but a big part of his assessment is the hope that some occasional rains will fall.

Equally important is the people's cooperation by conserving water in all possible ways. Together, Secretary Cimatu's assessment of Angat's capabilities plus the public's cooperation, we should be able to go through this summer without any serious disruption of Metro Manila's water supply.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

THE MERCHANT OF PHILIPPINE PRESS  
1908  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

6  
PAGE

UPPER  
LOWER

PAGE  
STORY

DAILY  
STORY

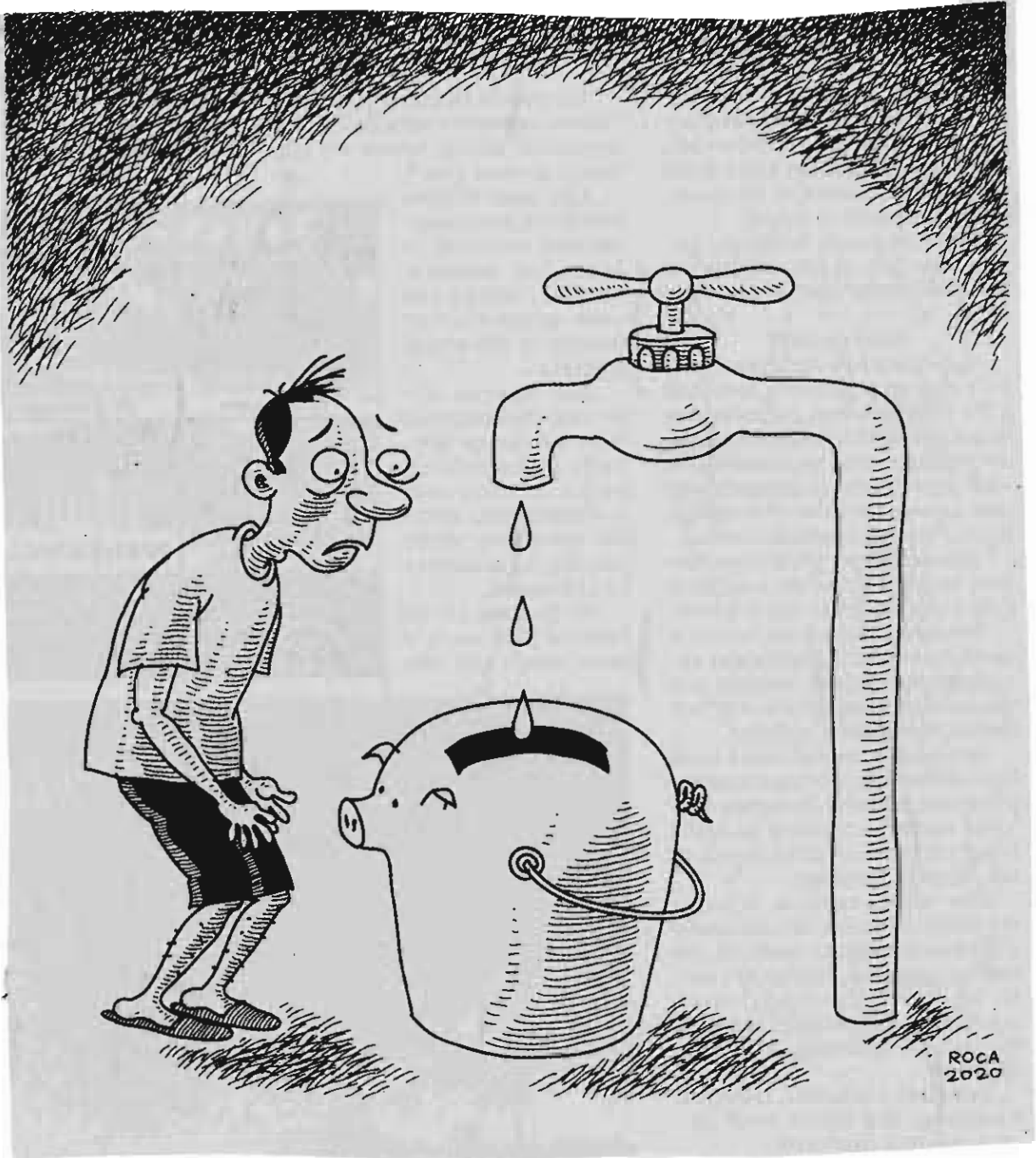
EDITORIAL

CARTOON

03 04 20

DATE

TITLE: "Cimatus assurance plus public cooperation" PAGE 12 2/2





TITLE:

PAGE 11

DATE

MAGANDA at dapat pa-kinggan ng mga kinauukulan ang mungkahi ni Navotas City Mayor Toby Tiangco na ipasa na ang lahat ng estudyante sa semestrong ito saka suspendihin ang klase.

Proteksyon ng mga bata ang pangunahing dahilan ng mungkahi ni Tiangco na milyon-milyon ang bilang.

Tinatayang nasa 25 milyon ang bilang ng mga estudyante na pumapasok sa libo-libong eskwela sa buong bansa mula kindergarten hanggang sa kolehiyo.

Maaaring hindi pa kasali ang marami ring nasa day-care center o school na nasa ibaba ng mga kindergarten.

Kumpulan ang mga eskwela at kung nasa mga tahanan lamang ang karamihan sa mga ito, malaki ang ikababawas ng marámihang pagkahawa sakaling aatake ang COVID-19.

### 6 NAGPOSITIBO

Lima ang nagpositibo sa COVID-19 sa pinakahuling talaan ng Department of Health.

Isang Taiwanese, isang Japanese at isang Australyano ang hindi nakitaan ng mga sintomas ng sakit at nagpositibo lang ang mga ito nang makauwi na sa sarili nilang bansa.

Isang obrero naman sa Taguig City at isang kapatid na Muslim sa San Juan City ang nagpositibo at nasa ospital na ang mga ito.

May-asawa ang isa sa mga ito.

Kabilang sa pinakamahahalagang tanong ngayon ang: sino-sino ang nakaugnayan ng mga COVID-19 positive na ito?

Saan-saan sila napunta sa buong pamilya? Na hindi pa sila nakitaan ng mga sintomas ng sakit?

Sino-sino ang nakahawa sa amin na ito, lalo na ang tatlong Pinoy?

Nagkahawaan siyempre ang mag-asawa at paano ang mga nagiging kabahay, kapitbahay at katrabaho ng mga ito?

### MGA ESKWELA PINAGSASARA

Dahil sa mga nahawa, nagkakasakit at namamatay, marami nang bansa ang nagsara ng kanilang mga eskwela, pinatitigil sa kani-kaniang mga tahanan ang mga estudyante at pinagbawalang bumiyahang sa loob at labas ng bansa.

Ayon sa United Na-



## ULTIMATUM NI BENNY ANTIPORDA

### LAHAT NG ESTUDYANTE IPASA, KLASE SUSPENDIHIN

tions Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization o UNESCO, unang nagsara ang lahat ng eskwela sa China, Macau at Hong Kong.

Nang matamaan naman, 13 ibang bansa ang nagdeklara ng school closure sa buong bansa o ilang lugar.

Nasa 290.5 milyon ang nasarhan ng eskwela rito at kung magsasara ang 9 pang bansa, maaaring madagdagan ng 180 milyon ang mga estudyanteng mawalan ng panahon sa pag-aaral.

Kabilang ang Italy, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Kuwait at China ang nagsara nang buo ng lahat ng kanilang eskwela.

Isinara rin ng Amerika ang lahat ng eskwela nila sa mga base militar nila sa abroad at ilan sa loob ng nasabing bansa.

Nagsara rin ng maraming eskwela ang mga bansang India, Japan, South Korea, Sweden, Croatia, Denmark, Pakistan, Germany.

Pinagsasara ang mga eskwela sa ibang bansa bilang mabisang pangharang sa paglaganap ng sakit.

### WALANG DIYOS SA COVID-19

Hindi kumikitala ang COVID-19 sa Diyos.

Kaya naman, lahat ng 74 simbahan ng Shincheonji Church of Jesus ay pinagsasara sa South Korea lalo't galing dito ang grabeng hawaan ng sakit na umabot ng daan-daang tao.

Lahat naman ng misa at iba pang serbisyo ng Simbahang Katoliko ay itinigil, maging ang mga protestante at Buddhist ay nagsuspende ng mga church service sa South Korea pa rin.

Isinara na rin ang mga Holy Site sa Israel, lalo na ang Bethlehem na kinaugustanan ni Jesus habang ipinagbawal na rin ng Saudi Arabia ang pagpunta ng mga tao sa Mecca.

Mga banal na lugar sa Iran at Iraq, ipinagbawal na rin pagpapalitan.

Ang Vatican City mismo ay nagsuspende na rin ng mga church services: nito, maging ang Vatican Clinic, at hindi na papwe-

deng makontak si Papa Kiko nang personal.

Milyon-milyong ding tao ang mga apektado sa pagsasara ng mga simbahan at holy sites kung tawagin.

At kung gusto mong magkaroon ng serbis-yong pang-simbahan, sa online na lang, gaya ng misa sa Singapore at Hong Kong.

Kaugnay ng mga mag-aaral, pinagbawalan na rin silang magsimba o magsamba at hindi na lang sa mga iskul bawal pumasok.

### PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Ngayon ay nagdeklara na si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ng State of Public Health Emergency.

Paghahanda na ito sa posibleng paglaganap ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas ngayong nagsimula nang maganap ang pangyayaring hindi na natin alam kung sino-sino ang mga carrier o tagadala ng sakit.

Nangangahulugan na lahat na ng ahensya ng pamahalaan, mula sa mga Local Government Unit hanggang sa mga pambansang ahensya at departamento, kasama na ang Kongreso at Hukuman, ay dapat nang magkaisa at magtulungan para bakahir ang nagbabadyang malaganap at pumapatay na COVID-19.

Lahat na rin ng salaping kinakailangan, ospital, tahanan ng mga ospital, militar at pulisya ay maghanda, kasama ang lahat ng kagamitan para sa emergency.

Tiyak na kasama na rin ang mga posibleng pagsasara ng mga eskwela at lahat ng aktibidad ng mga eskwela at estudyante na maramihan.

Panawagan na rin sa lahat ng mamamayan na makiusap at makipagtulungan sa lahat ng kinauukulan laban sa salot na COVID-19.

oOo

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



## ALTERNATIBONG PAGKUKUNAN NG TUBIG ANG PAGTATAYO NG RAINWATER HARVESTING FACILITY

**IPINATAYO** kamakailan ng West Zone concessionaire Maynilad Water Services, Inc. (Maynilad) ang isang rainwater harvesting facility sa Putatan Elementary School sa Muntinlupa City. Ito ay bilang suporta sa kampanya ng gobyerno na mag-imbak ng tubig-ulan bilang alternatibong pagkukuhanan ng tubig. Nagpatayo ang Maynilad ng isang 700-liter-capacity rainwater harvesting system sa nasabing paaralan para magamit sa



non-drinking purposes, gaya ng pagdilig ng mga halaman sa hardin, o pag-flush ng mga inidoro sa palikuran. Sa larawan, isang estudyante mula sa Putatan Elementary School ang makikitang umilig ng tubig mula sa reservoir para ipandilig ng halaman sa school garden.

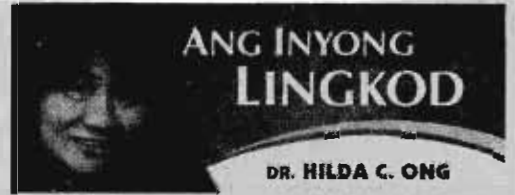
"Dahil sa kasalukuyang kakulangan sa tubig, ang pagkakaroon ng rainwater harvesting system ay makatutulong para madagdagan ang tubig na maaaring magamit sa pang-araw-araw na gawain ng consumers," ani Maynilad President at CEO Ramoncito S. Fernandez. Ang programang rainwater harvesting ay suportado ng Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System at ng Department of Education.

Ayon kay Dr. Seville D. David Jr., Executive Director ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB), sa mga tahanan at industriya, napapanahon na magpatayo ng rainwater harvesting system ngayong tag-init, upang

may magamit sa pag-impok sa panahon ng tag-ulan lalong-lalo na kung malalakas na pag-ulan, kaya makaka-impok sa proseso ng "Rain Harvesting" kung saan ang tubig-ulan ay kinokolekta at puwedeng gamitin sa pagdilig ng mga pananim, irigasyon, malalaking industriya, at maging sa mga tahanan.

Alam n'yo ba na ang tubig-ulan ay libre mula sa mga pollutant at maging sa salt, minerals at iba pang natural o man-made contaminants. Puwedeng inumin ang tubig na ito basta lamang pakukuhuan para makasigurado.

Sa mga malalaking industriya ay mayroon silang simpleng teknolohiyang ginagamit para makolekta ang lahat ng ulang bumabagsak mula sa kalangitan. Sa ating mga tahanan, simple lamang ang puwedeng gawin. Kung mayroon tayong mga drum, linisin itong mabuti, siguraduhin na may pantakip dito, at ilagay ito sa may alulod kung saan bulto kung bumuhos ang tubig-ulan.



## ANG INYONG LINGKOD

DR. HILDA C. ONG

Palipasin muna ang limang minuto bago magsimulang tipunin ang tubig para masiguradong ang anumang dumi sa bubungan ng bahay ay naanod muna.

### ooOoo MOUNT PULAG BUKAS NA ULIT SA TURISMO

Magandang balita para sa mga nagpaplano ng bakasyon ngayong nalalapit na Holy Week break, inalis na ni Mayor Faustino Aguisan ng Kabayan, Benguet ang temporary suspension of tourism activities sa Mount Pulag at iba pang tourism sites sa nasabing munisipalidad epektibo nitong February 27, 2020. Noong taong 2019, umabot sa higit 50,000 turista ang bumisita sa mga nabanggit na lugar.

Sa kasagsagan ng Coronavirus 2019 at alinsunod na rin sa rekomendasyon ng Department of Health (DOH) at Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) ay ipinahinto muna ang turismo sa lugar.

Sakop ng Kabayan ang

Mount Pulag na tinatawag na 'playground of the Gods' na may taas na 9,600 feet at siyang pinakamataas na bundok sa buong Luzon-island at ikatlo sa buong bansa matapos ang Mount Apo (Davao region at SOCCSKSARGEN) at Mount Dulang-dulang (Bukidnon). Napatanyag ang bundok na ito sa mga lokal at dayuhang turista dahil sa kanyang 'sea of clouds', 'milky way', endemic na cloud rat. Matatagpuan naman sa Kabayan ang mga centuries-old ibaloi mummies.

Pero patuloy pa rin ang gagawang pag-iingat at istrik-tong pagsunod sa mga protocol na ibinaba ng DOH at DILG para na rin sa proteksyon ng ating mga mamamayan. World Health Organization (WHO) na ang nagsabi, bagamat lubhang mataas ang bilang ng mga nagkakaroon ng COVID-19 sa mga kalapit nating bansa ay nasa tatlo pa rin ang bilang sa Pilipinas na marahil ay dahil sa maagang pagpapatupad ng mga control measures.





In the Stratbase Pilipinas Conference, global initiatives that have now landed various local interventions were featured by industry leaders committing more

## Sustainability is a CEO agenda



OPEN  
THOUGHTS  
ORLANDO  
OXALES

INTEGRATING sustainable values into the culture of businesses has become a CEO agenda that is now becoming a requisite in the operations of big enterprises. Stewardship of the environment is not just about managing brand reputation but a responsibility that industry leaders are now committing substantial resources to save energy, reduce waste and develop environment friendly products.

The sustainability trend is clear and accelerating. Indonesia has announced a five-year plan to reduce marine plastic waste by 70 percent. China, with one of the world's biggest plastic consumption, is making ambitious plans to reduce single-use plastic usage with a nationwide ban on plastic bags. Similar actions are ongoing in more developed economies with governments acting on the growing anti-plastic sentiment, with new policies that must balance effectivity and viability with careful consideration against burdening low-income consumers.

In the Philippines, legislators are pushing several bills to address waste management and pollution which environmental scientists have directly linked to climate change. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is leading the charge with bold initiatives such as the successful rehabilitation of Boracay island and the ongoing "Battle for Manila Bay." In its first year, this "battle" has achieved respectable results and continues to expand multi-sectoral partnerships moving to contribute various solutions, central of which is the pollution of the waterways flowing into the bay.

Environmental propaganda often blames the big manufacturing multinational giants as the source of plastic pollution, but some practical thinking on how trash leaks into our *esteros* and rivers will logically conclude that people are simply littering. I believe that if we just change the throw-away behavior to a dispose-of-properly discipline, the country's waterways and streets will be free of garbage. Having the most advanced waste management systems will be useless if people continue to be irresponsible with their waste.

“Participation of all sectors is key.”

The private sector realizes its crucial role in plugging the garbage leaks in our eco-system. Integrating and expanding the impact of sustainability programs has become a priority agenda of the Chief Executive Officers of industry leading companies committing serious investments and engaging in partnerships with government and relevant sectors.

Meralco president and CEO lawyer Ray C. Espinosa, during the recent launch of "The Good Store", said that for sustainability to work, "it has to be enforced" and "in an environment like this you have to put up rules that will basically be followed by people."

"So my advice to companies and enterprises who want to espouse sustainability, it has to be at the CEO level," said Espinosa.

"The Good Store" is a bi-weekly marketplace that offers consumers

eco-friendly products such as upcycled items, alternatives to single use-plastics, vegan food products, and fresh local produce. The project promotes sustainable lifestyle choices and is planned to become an advocacy platform for sustainability workshops and forums.

Meralco has been able to remove 75 percent of its use of single-use plastics, enforcing the policy with its whole supply chain. It has banned all forms of smoking in all its premises. A smoking cessation program is also offered to employees who want to quit the unhealthy and polluting habit.

synergies with government and civil society groups.

Coca-Cola's "World Without Waste" global initiative was presented by Coca-Cola Philippines President Winn Everhart which highlighted their commitment to build a P1-billion, state of the art, rPET bottle recycling plant. This will not just create a more efficient collection network and recycle PET bottles for reuse but will spawn the development of recycling industry that can support job creating linkages and spark new economic opportunities.

Unilever Philippines Chairman Benjie Yap showed how their Zero Waste to Nature program will achieve their commitment to collect and process more than it sells and will produce 100-percent reusable, recyclable and compostable packaging by 2025. The company will openly share technical solutions to recycle sachets with the industry. Their three prong strategy will implement: 1) Less plastic using lighter, stronger and better materials which have lower environmental impact, 2) Better Plastic to eliminate problematic/unnecessary plastics with recyclable materials and more recyclable content, and 3) No Plastic by using materials and new packaging formats.

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. and SteelAsia Foundation Inc. have agreed to partner with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Enhanced National Greening Program, the flagship reforestation program of the government aimed at saving the country's forests.

In a recent press statement, DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu again called for more private sector participation to address the fast depletion of our forest resources and said that it is now easier for the private sector to join the ENGP with his issuance last year of DENR Administrative Order 2019-03. The order provides guidelines for private sector participation in the reforestation program so companies can engage into public-private partnership schemes for new ENGP plantations, maintenance and protection of existing plantations and forests outside ENGP areas.

The key in solving our environmental problems is all-sector participation. All CEOs must lead the transformation of their business operations, values and culture to align with the responsible stewardship of the environment.

If you really think about it, we should really have no choice.



## A horrifying police quota system

Instead of cleansing the police force of scoundrels, the government's campaign against crime has been forcing decent and honorable policemen to become rogue cops.

This is happening because of a quota system that requires policemen to make a minimum number of arrests every week. If they fail to make the quota, they're belittled as "mahina" (wimp), relieved from their positions, and reassigned to inferior posts.

Former Philippine national police chief Gen. Oscar Albayalde denied the existence of a "quota," but he admitted that cops are constantly "pressured" to make "accomplishments" in the government's antidrug campaign. Because of this pressure, plus the consequences to their careers, cops are practically driven to meet a quota. Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency chief Aaron Aquino was more forthright when he admitted in 2017 that he pressures his regional directors to meet a monthly quota of "30 to 40" anti-drug operations.

Because of the terror generated by President Duterte's bloody antidrug campaign, however, criminals have scampered away, have gone on hibernation, or have made their continuing criminal operations more difficult to detect. As a result, it has become tougher for policemen to make valid arrests. Add to this the fact that many cops do not have the patience to meticulously build up valid evidence against suspects. The catastrophic result is a wholesale massacre of the Bill of Rights of mere suspects, and worse, the arrest of innocent civilians on fabricated criminal charges, because policemen need to show "accomplishments."

Word on the ground is that many ordi-



### FLEA MARKET OF IDEAS

JOEL RUIZ BUTUYAN

nary policemen are unhappy, even angry, that they're misused by their superiors to obtain the required statistics of "accomplishments," which the latter need to retain their posts or to get promoted.

The situation has even gotten worse now because the need to fulfill a quota of accomplishments has been expanded beyond drug cases, but also to illegal gambling, illegal possession of firearms, possession of undocumented forest products, among others. When policemen find nothing illegal, they still arrest the suspects by planting evidence.

There are reports of urban and rural poor individuals who have been arrested for illegal possession of drugs that were planted by policemen, no doubt because of the need to churn out "accomplishments."

There's even the particular case of a furniture maker who was raided by policemen on suspicion of harboring undocumented wood. When proper documents were presented to show the source of his gmelina lumber, the police still wanted to arrest him, for sure

because he was needed to fulfill their quota of "accomplishments." It took the vehement objections of municipal and Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials to make the police back off.

There's also the case of a police provincial director who has "pre-charged" (euphemism for discharge and demotion) hundreds of police officers because they were not able to meet their one-arrest-per-week quota. Because of this warped system, rogue cops are promoted while honest ones are relieved and punished. No wonder we have someone like Albayalde who climbed all the way to the top, only to be exposed as a rogue cop.

These fabricated cases will eventually get dismissed in court. The police do not mind. All that matters to them are the arrests that count as "accomplishments," and not court convictions. Heartbreakingly, the lives of many innocent individuals are ruined. What a hideous mess we are in when the lives of ordinary Filipinos are reduced to being mere fodder for the "accomplishment" needs of policemen.

Retired military Gen. Jovito Palparan looked invincible while he was in power, even though he was called "The Butcher," because of brutal atrocities attributed to him. He was even commended by then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo during a State of the Nation Address, was elected as congressman, and even ran for senator. He now languishes in jail after his conviction for the crimes of kidnapping and illegal detention that he committed during his reign of terror.

Palparan's story forewarns all policemen that there will be a day of reckoning.

Comments to fleamarketofideas@gmail.com



## Water, transparency and mining concerns in the Philippines

The communities of Didipio, Nueva Vizcaya have been up in arms against the operation of Oceana Gold Philippines, Inc. (OGPI). OGPI has been operating a copper-gold mine in Barangay Didipio in Kasibu, Province of Nueva Vizcaya. A Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) was awarded to OGPI in 1994, but the company only started its full operations in 2011. The first commercial production was reported in April 2013. Now, the FTAA has expired and is up for renewal.

The negative social and environmental impacts of the mine have been one of the concerns of the local stakeholders. More recently, the communities living near the Didipio mine claimed to have water supply problems including access to potable water, and availability for use in their homes and farms. Media releases from OGPI stated that it has been responsible for water management. The extent of water recycling at the Didipio mines is almost 75% at present, according to Oceana Gold Corp.

Since water is vital in mining, John Morillo, a graduate student of the National Institute of Geological Science of the University of the Philippines, and I decided to do an analysis of the water use of large scale mining in the Philippines. This study was supported by the Natural Resources Governance Institute (NRGI).

The Didipio Mine was one of the large-scale mines we examined. Using publicly available data, we estimated the available surface and groundwater resources of the area and compare these with water consumption at mines to determine if there is over extraction. We also tried to understand the impact of water consumption based on the mining activities and their rate of extraction and timing (i.e. which activities or events possibly correspond to an increase or decrease in consumption) by carrying out statistical analyses to establish correlation. We identified areas affected by water consumption using existing climate and land use data and its short-term and long-term impact to the water use of local communities.

### YELLOW PAD CIELO MAGNO

I am sure the waning interest in good governance of the extractive sector is not because of the lack of enthusiasm from the civil society and the extractive companies. The lack of interest and leadership to prioritize good governance in the sector comes from the national government.

This is what we have learned:

- Looking at the relationship between population and water use, we can see that there has been an increase in water extraction vis-à-vis the increase in population of Didipio. By 2020, the projected population in Didipio will reach 4,000. Based on our estimates, Didipio households are expected to spend 73,000,000 liters or 73,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water per annum by 2020. This is roughly 0.4% of the total water extraction by the Didipio Mine operations in 2018 and barely 0.15% of the total projected water budget in the Didipio watershed. Hence, while a significant positive relationship can be seen between water extraction and population, households still have a relatively smaller significant consumption compared with the operations of Didipio Mine.
- The most significant positive relationship with water use is the disturbed area of the mine. "Disturbed area" refers to altered land cover by the mine due to operations or mine development such as construction of facilities and roads, tunnels, and removal of rocks from the surface. Increased demand for water may be attributed to commercial

production, which began in 2013, and the expansion of operations to underground mining in 2014. It is noteworthy that water extraction increased almost tenfold from 2010 to 2011 when full-swing mine development was commencing. Water extraction also doubled from 2013 to 2014 during the time when OGPI was starting its underground operations and environmental spills were recorded (from the reports of Oceana Gold Corp.).

- The correlation between water extraction and rehabilitation is not as high compared with operations-related activities, but still statistically significant due to water demands in reforestation.
- At times when mine development commences or a significant environmental spill is recorded, a major increase in water extraction arises. On the other hand, while gold and copper production maintained a nearly stable pattern, these did not necessarily lead to increased water extraction (compared with mine development or during an environmental spill), possibly because fresh water is not much used during recovery processes.

Overall, we observed that the operational expansion, mine development, and occurrence of environmental spills in the Didipio Mine are significant contributors to the use of underground water in Didipio. These activities present a certain level of threat to the communities relying on groundwater as a source of potable water. The increase in the use of underground water by Didipio Mine and the expansion of its operation coincide and validate the water problem experienced by the host community. This is a concrete example why communities hosting mining operations vehemently oppose mining activities in their area. While we drool over the potential dollar revenues these minerals may bring us, we overlook the negative environmental and social impacts of these operations to the host communities.

The study is not without limitations. The lack of public disclosure and accessibility of data and inconsistency of reports from private companies limited the methodology that we can use in analyzing this data. It also limited the scope of our analysis. Public availability of relevant, reliable, and up-to-date data help in producing more robust, evidence based studies to support public policy. This brings me to another relevant policy issue.

In 2013, the Philippines joined the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). We were among the first countries to meet the requirements of the 2013 EITI Standard. However, not much



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# BusinessWorld<sup>TM</sup>

65  
PAGE 1

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

03 09 20

DATE

PAGE 1/

2/2

TITLE:

WATER, TRANSPARENCY

has happened in terms of progress of the initiative in the country since then. EITI is not just about disclosure of revenues. It is an opportunity to create spaces for dialogue between stakeholders of the extractive sector. While the relationship between the stakeholders may not always be friendly, it facilitates an opportunity for dialogue. Disclosure of data and dialogues will not immediately solve the problems of the extractive sector. But it contributes to objective, evidence-based conversations and greater accountability of stakeholders.

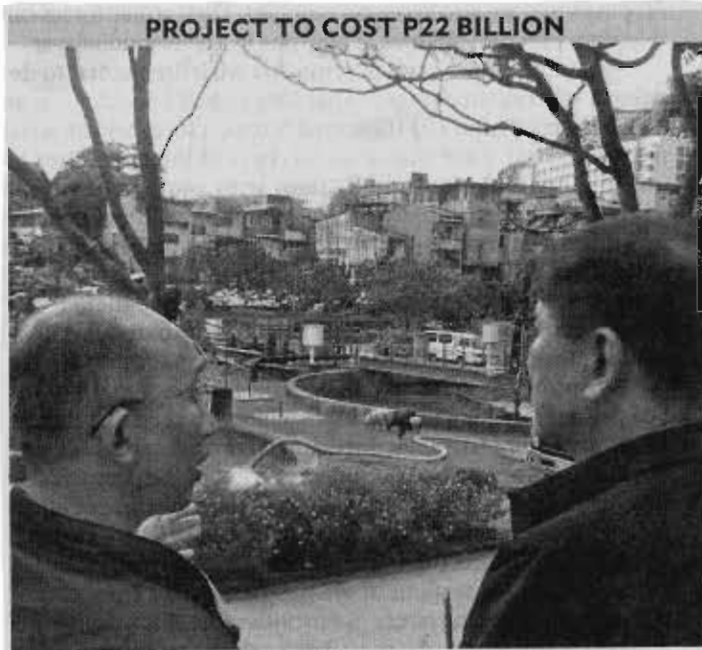
The Philippine EITI started to publicly disclose information about the large-scale metallic mining sector. This is supported by the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines. In fact, disclosure went beyond what was required by the 2013 Standard. Albeit incomplete, the Philippines was a model in disclosing environmental and social data. The next logical step would have been more systematic disclosure of latest disaggregated data to allow monitoring and independent analysis by communities and the public. Another logical step is to replicate the national level multi-stakeholder conversation and disclosure at the sub-national or local level to also cover the small-scale mining industry. The stakeholders from civil society and the mining industry support this track. But the most important support for good governance in the extractive sector to continue should come from the government.

The commitment of the government has waned since the first validation. Semirara Mining Co., the biggest coal mining company in the country, is still not participating in EITI. Talk about the peak of government regulatory ineffectiveness. The Department of Energy cannot even make a coal company comply with public disclosure. The PH-EITI data are also outdated. Some of the data and information, like the water rights and tree cutting permits of companies, have not been disclosed. The auditor of the 2018 and 2019 PH-EITI reports and other contractors have not been paid. I am sure the waning interest in good governance of the extractive sector is not because of the lack of enthusiasm from the civil society and the extractive companies. The lack of interest and leadership to prioritize good governance in the sector comes from the national government.

The Philippines will again undergo validation of its compliance with the EITI Standard in October 2020. And this time, the commitment of civil society and industry may not be enough to salvage what remains of the reputation of the country in promoting good governance in the extractive sector. If there is anything we learned from this experience, some initiatives are better legislated so that even with the change in government leadership, we are able to institutionalize the gains of reforms. It is time for a law creating the EITI in the Philippines. ■

CIELO MAGNO, PhD is an Assistant Professor at the UP School of Economics. She is a member of the EITI International Board, the Management Collective of Action for Economic Reforms, and a board member of the Bantay-Kita/Publish What You Pay-Philippines.





**CITY'S ONLY** Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong and Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu inspect the sewage treatment plant of the summer capital. —VINCENT CABREZA

## ADB STUDYING BAGUIO SEWER FOR REHAB

BAGUIO CITY—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has started examining the condition of Baguio's sewage system which is due for a comprehensive rehabilitation, according to Mayor Benjamin Magalong.

ADB experts are conducting a feasibility study for the cleanup of wastewater generated by a daytime population of almost 700,000 people, including tourists, transient workers and students.

Some of the city's sewage has been discharging without treatment into rivers because its 32-year-old sewage treatment plant (STP) has a limited capacity, Magalong told the city council on Monday.

Many households rely on septic tanks, some as old as three decades, which are not periodically cleaned and are not equipped to purify soiled water released underground.

As of 2019, the initial estimate for undertaking the city's biggest engineering project was P22 billion.

### Best model

ADB will also determine the best model for three more STPs which will be installed at the headwaters of three other rivers that flow to Benguet and La Union provinces, as well as satellite plants for clusters of villages.

The city's only STP, built through a grant by the Japanese government at the North Sanitary Camp here, processes only

8,500 cubic meters of wastewater from 5,861 houses and buildings in downtown Baguio.

The processed wastewater flows down to the Balili River that reaches La Trinidad town in Benguet. As of January, Balili River had 160 quadrillion fecal coliform count.

The plant upgrade will require about P300 million to increase its daily capacity to 15,000 cubic meters, according to the City Environment and Parks Management Office.

### Catchment zones

The STPs will also clean the Asin-Galiano, Bued and Ambalanga rivers. All these water catchment zones are surrounded by settlements in both Baguio and Benguet.

During the Feb. 24 and March 2 sessions of the city council, residents at Barangay Lower Rock Quarry here said a plan to fence off 1.1 hectares of city land for the Asin-Galiano River STP would displace 21 households.

Village officials also said the plan ignored a 2015 proposal made by 15 villages that only 7,000 square meters of Lower Rock Quarry would host the treatment plant designed to clean 7,600 cubic meters of their wastewater.

The area, sometimes referred to as the City Camp Lagoon, used to be flooded due to runoff rainwater. —VINCENT CABREZA INQ



# Waste-to-energy plant seeks new land

BY ALDWIN QUITASOL

BAGUIO CITY – Admitting there are problems that should be addressed first before the realization of proposed projects, the city administration said they would still have to find available lands to build the new waste-to-energy (WTE) plant which would convert the city's generated biodegradable waste to renewable energy.

An 8.5-hectare tract of land in Pinsao Proper was previously identified by the Local Land Needs Identification

Committee as the site of the WTE plant, however, City Administrator Bonifacio dela Peña said the area is covered by the Certificate of Ancestral Land Claim issued to the Bugnay clan, a fact now complicating the problem of ownership of the property.

City officials are now closely coordinating with the Environment department on how to secure the necessary documents covering the said property to help convince partners to proceed with the implementation of the project.

Establishment of the WTE facility in the city will be a convergence project of the city government, the state-owned Philippine National Oil Company, the prospective financier and Toyo in Japan which will be the source of the technology to be used by the city facility.

The project was supposed to break ground by the first quarter

of this year but the site where to build the facility remained a problem.

Aside from the WTE plant, the

land is being eyed as the new site of the slaughterhouse which the city government intends to relocate.





TITLE:

CARBON FOOTPRINT

PAGE 11

DATE

## Biz centers ex-Metro Manila cuts carbon footprint

Metro Manila is known to have the second worst traffic in the world, next to Bengaluru, India, with its congestion level in 2019 equal to 71 percent. One of the major causes of traffic is said to be the volume of cars on EDSA during the daily rush hours. Not only does this waste people's time but is also harms the environment.

**That's 2,560,000 metric tons of carbon stopped from entering the atmosphere annually, just by working nearer to home.**

There's a new and unlikely weapon to fight traffic and climate change – flexible working. As co-working spaces are increasingly located outside of major city centers and business districts, lengthy and environmentally-damaging commutes are becoming a thing of the past.

In fact, as the growth of flexi-working explodes in areas outside major cities, new research reveals that, by 2029, 'outer city' office spaces will reduce carbon emissions by the equivalent of 1,280,000 transatlantic flights between London and New York each year.

That's 2,560,000 metric tons of carbon stopped from entering the atmosphere annually, just by working nearer to home.

The Suburban Economic Study, commissioned by Regus and conducted by independent economists, projected the environmental benefits of locating flexible workspaces in smaller towns, cities and suburban areas between now and 2029.

By allowing people to work closer to home, a local office space will save workers an average of 8,845 hours per year in reduced commuting times, equating to a reduction of 50 metric tons of carbon emissions per center, per year.



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
Ormoc City (Telephone No. (053) 961-8074) E-mail: cenroormoc17@denr.com

**SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS**

Notice is hereby given that the DENR-CENRO at Ormoc City will sell to the highest bidder at 10:00 o'clock in the morning on June 17, 2020, the tract of land covered by Miscellaneous Sales Application No. 083740-151 of George C. Liock, Sr.

Location of Land	:	Brgy. Central II, Palompon, Leyte
Description	:	Lot No. RS-08-000839-D
Boundaries	:	
North	:	By Pintor Luna Street
East	:	By Lots 140, Ra-08-000111-D and Lot 139, Ra-08-000112-D
South	:	By Lots 180 and 181, Cadm. 519-D
West	:	By Rizal Street
Area	:	639 sq. mtrs.
Appraised value per sq. mtr.	:	P 495.00
Total Value of the land	:	P 316,305.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the DENR-CENRO Ormoc at *Diversión Road, Brgy. Bantigue, Ormoc City* on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "BID for the land described in Miscellaneous Sales Application No. 083740-151". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. When a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit thereof shall be forfeited to the Government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Ormoc City, Philippines, January 29, 2020.

ELMER B. LABACIANO  
OIC, CENR Officer

P.S. March 9, 15, 23, 30, April 6 & 13, 2020



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
Ormoc City (Telephone No. (053) 961-8074) E-mail: cenroormoc17@denr.com

**SUBASTA HIN YUTA PUBLICO**

Gui-pahibalo ang tanan nga ang DENR-CENRO, Albuera, Leyte modawat ug subasta sa yuta sa dili mopas ang petsa Hunyo 17, 2020 sa alas 10:00 na oras (10:00 am) sa buntag para sa usa (1) ka parcela nga yuta nga may Miscellaneous Sales Application No. 083740-151 ni George C. Liock, Sr.:

Nahimutang	:	Brgy. Central II, Palompon, Leyte
Time-ahan	:	Lot No. RS-08-000839-D
Otanen	:	
Norte	:	By Pintor Luna Street
East	:	By Lots 140, Ra-08-000111-D and Lot 139, Ra-08-000112-D
South	:	By Lots 180 and 181, Cadm 519-D
West	:	By Rizal Street
Guidak-on	:	639 sq. mtrs.
Kantidad sa Yuta ug mehoras	:	P 495.00
Katibuk ang kantidad sa yuta	:	P 316,305.00

Kadtong interesado nga moapil sa subasta, kinahangian mo sumiter sa DENR-CENRO Ormoc sa *Diversión Road, Brgy. Bantigue, Ormoc City* sa dili pa mosbot ang oras ug petsa sa gui-hagutan sa ibabaw ug pagamarkahan ning mosunod "BID for the land described in MSA No. 083740-151". Ang subasta paga-ubanan ug cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check nga mokantidad sa 10% sa subasta. Kung ang subasta nahumen na, ang gui-deposito nga kuarta dili na pwede makuha sa misalmot niini.

Ormoc City, Philippines, January 29, 2020.

ELMER B. LABACIANO  
OIC, CENR Officer

P.S. March 9, 15, 23, 30, April 6 & 13, 2020