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**MANILA BULLETIN:**

# University of Southern Mindanao graduates urged to bring positive change

BY IVY TEJANO

Jun 29, 2024 06:01 PM

DAVAO CITY – Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) Chairman Secretary Leo Tereso A. Magno advised more than 2,000 University of Southern Mindanao (USM) graduates to use their education to bring positive change to Mindanao.

"Graduates, as you leave this institution and venture into the world, remember that you are the architects of your future. Dream big, work hard, and stay true to your values. Most importantly, be of service to Mindanao and the country," said Magno in a speech on Friday, June 28.



## MAGNO (MinDA FB)

Magno cited the graduates for their contributions to the progress of Mindanao. He said that their role in agriculture is crucial to Mindanao's economy.

He said that Mindanao, the country's primary agricultural hub, depends on the innovations and progress the new generation will introduce to the essential sector. He added that their learnings will be vital in addressing the challenges and opportunities in agriculture and beyond.

Magno acknowledged the graduates' resilience, adaptability, and perseverance, especially in overcoming the challenges brought about by the global pandemic. He said such qualities will serve them well as they leave their comfort zone and make their mark.

The MinDa chairman encouraged the graduates to continuously learn and innovate, emphasizing the need to embrace growth opportunities and make a difference. He concluded his speech by urging the graduates to prioritize their ethical leadership and dedicated service.

"Our society needs skilled and knowledgeable leaders who are compassionate and ethical. Your education is a powerful tool that can bring about significant change. Use it wisely and with integrity. Make decisions that benefit you and uplift your community and Mindanao," Magno said.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/6/29/university-of-southern-mindanao-graduates-urged-to-bring-positive-change>

**MANILA BULLETIN:**

# **PBBM turns over P60 M to Bacolod, Negros Occidental**

**BY GLAZYL MASCULINO**

Jun 28, 2024 07:46 PM

**BACOLOD CITY** – The city government and the province of Negros Occidental received financial assistance of P60 million from President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. during his visit here on Thursday, June 27.



**PRESIDENT Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. turns over a check for P50 million to Negros Occidental Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson at the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos (UNO-R) in Bacolod City on Thursday, June 27. (Photo courtesy of Capitol PIO)**

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Marcos turned over P10 million to Mayor Albee Benitez and P50 million to Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson as the President led the ceremonial distribution of over P600-million worth of cash assistance under the Presidential Assistance for Farmers, Fisherfolk, and Families (PAFFF)

program, agricultural projects, and other assistance from the national government at the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos (UNO-R) here.

The additional P60-million monetary support was sourced from the OP-Socio Civic Project Funds.

Lacson, in his message, said that the financial aid and additional resources that the President provided to those severely affected by El Niño will result in significant relief and bring hope to many in the province.

“Your Excellency, Mr. President, the comprehensive aid you will give out, in the form of financial support, agricultural inputs, the infrastructure development, including the improvement of irrigation systems and provincial access roads, the technical assistance, and the livelihood support, will undoubtedly recharge and revitalize our agricultural sector despite the drought,” Lacson said.

Your commitment to uplifting the agricultural sector in a predominantly agricultural province like ours is greatly appreciated and your concern to the Negrenses is truly felt, he added.

Benitez said that the benefits of these assistance to this city are immense, as it will not only boost the agricultural productivity and economic stability of the farmers and fisherfolk, but also enhance the overall resilience and sustainability of tish city.

He added that these will create new opportunities for growth and development, ensuring a better quality of life for the people of Bacolod.

Benitez said that by providing resources and support, the people are assured that the agricultural sector can thrive, even in the face of climate challenges and economic difficulties.

“You are providing relief to economic stress experienced by our farmers and fisherfolk and promoting sustainable livelihoods. This strengthens the disaster resilience of our communities,” he added.

Some 8,315 farmers and fisherfolk received P10,000 each, totaling P83.15 million, from the PAFFF funded by the Office of the President.

Four-thousand are from this city while others were from various localities in the province.

Aside from the financial support, P457.897-million worth of assistance were also distributed to individual farmers, farmers cooperatives and associations, and local government units (LGUs) in the province.

These include P143.723 million from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization, Philippine Rice Research Institute, Philippine Coconut Authority, and Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), as well as indemnity for farmers from the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. and interventions from the Department of Agriculture (DA), which include small irrigation projects, planting materials, hauling trucks, swine and goat multiplier farms, corn seeds and fertilizers, rice hybrid seeds, and rice fertilizer discount vouchers amounting to P314.174 million.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) also funded P1.05 million for the two shared service facilities that will benefit the Murcia Integrated Mushroom Growers Association and

the Association of Negros Producers while the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) allotted P477,620 worth of starter tool kits and training support funds for the beneficiaries.

Thirteen barangays from Silay City received a total of P5.179 million under the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) or emergency employment program of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for the wages of 1,079 beneficiaries.

“Mga kababayan, ako ay nasasabik na makita ang kalalabasan ng lahat ng ito, pati na rin sa magiging epekto nito sa ekonomiya ng inyong lokalidad, lalo na ngayong bahagi na kayo ng bagong Negros Island Region (NIR),” Marcos said in his message.

The President signed the Negros Island Region (NIR) Act into law this month.

The NIR is composed of the provinces of Negros Occidental (including Bacolod City), Negros Oriental, and Siquijor.

The President cited projects that would benefit the people of this city and the province such as the Bacolod-Negros Occidental Economic Highway and the Asenso Yuhum Residences here.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/6/28/pbbm-turns-over-p60-m-to-bacolod-negros-occidental>



**MANILA BULLETIN:**

# 500-hectare farms in Bohol to benefit from soon-to-be-finished irrigation project— Marcos

**BY BETHEENA UNITE**

Jun 28, 2024 03:07 PM

President Marcos assured farmers in Bohol that they will soon gain more help for their livelihood through a new irrigation project in the province.



President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr. leads the distribution of government aid in Tagbilaran City, Bohol on June 28, 2024. (RTVM Screenshot)

During his visit in Tagbilaran City, Bohol for the distribution of government assistance on Friday, June 28, Marcos announced that the Mabini-Cayacay Small Reservoir Irrigation Project will be completed soon.

"Ikinagagalak ko na ipabatid sa inyo na ang Mabini-Cayacay Small Reservoir Irrigation Project ay malapit ng matapos (I am glad to announce that the Mabini-Cayacay Small Reservoir Irrigation Project will soon be completed)," Marcos said in his speech.

He expressed hope that the soon-to-be-completed project will be able to supply water to over 500 hectares of farm within the two towns as they recover from the impacts of El Niño.

"Nawa ay mapapakinabangan na [nga] ito sa lalong madaling panahon, nang mabigyan ng sapat na patubig ang lampas na limang daang ektaryang sakahan sa bayan ng Mabini at ng Alicia (I hope that you will be able to take advantage of this as soon as possible in order to provide

ample supply of water the more than 500 hectares of farms in the towns of Mabini and Alicia)," Marcos said.

The President further assured them that the government will continue to craft projects that would help them recover and improve their livelihood.

He also called on government agencies and local governments to ensure that the assistance they are bringing to different provinces would reach the beneficiaries.

"Tiyakin po natin na [makararating] sa lahat ng benepisyaryo ang tulong na inilalaan natin para sa kanila (Ensure that the assistances intended for the beneficiaries will reach them)," he told the local officials.

During his Bohol visit, Marcos handed over agri-fishery assistance packages, including farm machineries, fishing equipment, seeds and fertilizers as part of the Department of Agriculture's (DA) ongoing commitment to boost the agriculture sector amid challenges posed by the crisis.

Cash assistance worth P10,000 was also provided to 20 select beneficiaries from Bohol and Cebu, as well as P100 million in financial aid to the provincial governments.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) also distributed cash assistance of P10,000 each to 10,000 farmers and fisherfolk under its Ayuda para sa Kapos ang Kita (AKAP) Program.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/6/28/500-hectare-farms-in-bohol-to-benefit-from-soon-to-be-finished-irrigation-project-marcos>



**THE PHILIPPINE STAR:**

# ‘Farmers not to blame for hesitant rice importers’

[Bella Cariaso](#) - The Philippine Star

June 29, 2024 | 12:00am



Despite scorching heat, farmers are busy putting their harvested rice inside the sacks in Calatagan, Batangas on March 30, 2024.

STAR / Jesse Bustos

MANILA, Philippines — Former agriculture secretary Leonardo Montemayor yesterday said that farmers should not be blamed for the decision of importers not to bring in rice while waiting for the implementation of Executive Order 62 on reduced tariff on the outsourced staple, following the warning of Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. that a 60-day temporary restraining order (TRO) against EO 62 could result in a rice shortage.

“Importers’ hesitation or suspension of import decisions was caused by the issuance of EO 62, which was rushed without following due process of law,” Montemayor said.

He was reacting to Tiu Laurel's warning of rice shortage if the Supreme Court issues a 60-day TRO against EO 62, which reduces the tariff on rice to 15 percent from the current 35 percent.

"Farmers and farmers' organizations should not be blamed for – or prevented from – exercising their constitutional and legal rights by going to court," Montemayor, board manager of the Federation of Free Farmers (FFF), said.

Several farmers' groups, including FFF, vowed to file a petition before the high tribunal to stop the implementation of EO 62 that allows the 15 percent tariff on imported rice until 2028.

"Prior to EO 62's issuance, rice imports were arriving in record quantities despite the 35 percent tariff versus 15 percent under the EO," Montemayor added.

Tiu Laurel said that if a TRO is issued, no importer will import, adding that they will just use their remaining stocks.

"The buffer stock (of rice) will be sold out by the time the TRO is lifted. We will have a bigger problem," he said. "Hopefully, no TRO is issued. If not, the buffer stock of the industry will be affected."

Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura legal counsel Virgie Suarez has maintained that the National Economic and Development Authority and Tariff Commission failed to conduct consultations among the affected farmers' groups.

This failure, they said, would become the basis for the filing of an injunction.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/06/29/2366387/farmers-not-blame-hesitant-rice-importers>

**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:**

# Marcos vows to boost agri sector in Bohol to help PH economy

By: [Zacarian Sarao](#) - Reporter / [@zacariansINO](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 03:50 PM June 28, 2024



President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. during his speaking engagement for the “Trabaho Para Sa Bayan” (Jobs for the People) program at the Manila Hotel on June 27, 2024. PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Friday vowed to boost the agricultural sector in the province of Bohol, which he said, would in turn improve the country’s economy.

Marcos made the pronouncement during the government’s continued effort to provide assistance to farmers, fisherfolk and families affected by the El Niño crisis, this time at Carlos P. Garcia Sports Complex in Tagbilaran City, Bohol.

“Maliban sa turismo, ang pagsasaka, at pangingsda ang ilan pa sa pangunahing industriya dito sa Bohol, at sa angking yaman inyong mga lupa at karagatan, isa sa

hangarin ng administrasyon ko ay palaguin ang pagsasaka at pangingisda sa inyong lalawigan,” said Marcos in a speech.

(Apart from tourism, farming and fishing are some of the main industries here in Bohol, and with the wealth of your lands and oceans, one of the goals of my administration is to grow farming and fishing in your province.)

“...nang sa gayon [ay] umunlad din ang ating ekonomiya (so that our economy may also develop),” he added.

Meanwhile, the President expressed hope that the country would not experience further destructive calamities this year, assuring the public of prompt government presence in times of disaster.



“Tayo ay naglaan ng pondo, mga food pack, at iba pa, mga ayuda kung kinakailangan (we have allocated funds, food packs, and other, aids if needed),” he said.

He then called for strong collaborations between the local and national governments to achieve common goals.

“Sa mga pinuno ng mga ahensya ng pamahalaang nasyonal at lokal, hinihiling ko ang inyong pakikiisa upang makamit natin ang hangarin natin na walang maiiwan sa paglalakbay tungo sa mas maliwanag at mas maunlad na bukas. Tiyakin po natin na

[makararating] sa lahat ng benepisyaryo ang tulong na inilalaan natin para sa kanila,” the he said.

(To the leaders of national and local government agencies, I ask for your solidarity so that we can achieve our goal of leaving no one behind in the journey to a brighter and more prosperous tomorrow. Let’s make sure that all the beneficiaries will receive the help we allocate for them.)

In the distribution, P50 million worth of cash assistance was provided each in the provincial governments of Bohol and Cebu.

On top of the said assistance, the Department of Agriculture also distributed two four-wheel drive tractors, fertilizers, sacks of rice and corn seeds, coconut seedlings, and various farm tools.

The Department of Trade Industry, for its part, provided livelihood kits worth P8,000 for nine former rebels through the Pangkabuhayan sa Pagbangon at Ginhawa (PPG) Program.

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) also extended over P2.3 million to more than 100 beneficiaries of the Integrated Livelihood Program, and more than P1.8 million to almost 400 beneficiaries of the TUPAD program.

Meanwhile, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives also provided five kilos of rice to each of the attendees.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1956055/marcos-vows-to-boost-agri-sector-in-bohol-to-help-ph-economy>



**BUSINESS WORLD:**

# DA to allow 200,000 MT of refined sugar imports

June 28, 2024 | 12:32 am



GRANULATED WHITE SUGAR and sugar cubes are seen in this picture illustration taken on Dec. 16, 2018. — REUTERS

By **Adrian H. Halili**, *Reporter*

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) said it is planning to allow imports of around 200,000 metric tons (MT) of refined sugar to fill a projected supply gap during the off-milling season.

“We will have an importation of sugar by September. We will have an arrival of at least 200,000 MT of refined sugar,” Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr. told reporters late on Wednesday.

He said the amount of imports “can be a little bit more” to address the expected supply deficit before the harvest and refining season.

Mr. Tiu Laurel said the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) is expected to issue a sugar order by next month.

“The current stocks will decrease by August or September. We have a gap for 200,000 MT by September or October, then milling will continue again,” he added.



SRA data as of June 9 showed the national sugar inventory rose by 29.3% for raw sugar during the 2023-2024 crop year to 436,229 MT from 337,286 MT in the previous crop year. Stocks of refined sugar jumped by 14.1% to 492,985 MT during the current crop year from 432,215 MT in the previous crop year.

Separately, SRA Administrator Pablo Luis S. Azcona said in a Viber message that Sugar Order No. 2 (SO2) allowed stakeholders to pre-qualify for importation if they had purchased local sugar.

The program called for the voluntary purchase of domestically produced sugar to stabilize farmgate and retail prices. Participants were eligible to avail themselves of an allocation for a future import program.

Mr. Azcona said the agency had already pre-qualified and pre-allocated participants based on their support for local sugar farmers.

Last year, farmgate prices for raw sugar dropped to about P2,300-P2,500 per 50-kilogram (kg) bag, well below the SRA's trading estimate of P3,000 per 50-kg bag.

Mr. Azcona said that after SO2 was issued, farmgate prices rose to around P2,700-P2,800 per 50-kg bag, which drove retail prices to P73-P100 per kilo of sugar.

As of June 26, the retail price of refined sugar in Metro Manila markets stood at P74 to P92 per kilo, while brown sugar was between P62 and P92 per kilo, according to the DA's price monitoring bulletin.

"We will activate an import plan should the trigger stock level be reached to ensure a stable supply and stable price for our retail and industrial consumers, as well as to ensure that our farmers will not be affected," Mr. Azcona said.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. had recommended maintaining sugar stocks at 185,000 MT to 200,000 MT, equivalent to a two-month buffer.

Mr. Azcona said the SRA will meet with the Agriculture secretary by the first week of July to determine the need to activate the importation plan.

"We also have to bear in mind that the five million farmers, farm workers, their families, and people dependent on the sugarcane industry are also 100% retail consumers," Mr. Azcona said.

Manuel R. Lamata, president of the United Sugar Producers Federation of the Philippines, said that the sugar imports could potentially plug any shortages before the harvest season.

"Harvest this coming crop year will be delayed due to El Niño and when we were consulted about this matter, we approved the proposal," Mr. Lamata said in a Viber message.

Ateneo de Manila economics professor Leonardo A. Lanzona said sugar production was affected by the El Niño weather event, which necessitated the importation of refined sugar.

"However, the overall policy of plugging supply gaps and taming prices through imports is fundamentally unsustainable. Unless we can export other products, we may not have enough foreign currency to pay for these imports," Mr. Lanzona said in a Facebook Messenger chat.

The US Department of Agriculture projected that Philippines' raw sugar production would be flat this year at 1.85 million MT due to the effects of El Niño.

The regulator had said that El Niño has greatly damaged the sugarcane crops for the October 2024 season.

It added that the areas of Batangas, Southern Negros, and Mindanao have reported extensive sugarcane damage due to the dry conditions.

Federation of Free Farmers National Manager Raul Q. Montemayor said that agencies should validate the needed volume, timing, and manner of distribution for sugar imports through consultations with stakeholders.

<https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2024/06/28/604724/da-to-allow-200000-mt-of-refined-sugar-imports/>

## BUSINESS WORLD:

# BSP stands pat, signals rate cut in Aug.

June 28, 2024 | 12:34 am



Workers unload vegetables at a street market in Manila. The Philippine central bank lowered its average baseline inflation forecast for 2024 to 3.3% from 3.5% previously. — REUTERS  
By **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jacson**, Reporter

THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas (BSP) kept interest rates steady for a sixth straight meeting on Thursday but signaled that a rate cut at its next meeting in August is “somewhat more likely than before,” with up to 50 basis points (bps) in easing likely this year.

The Monetary Board on Thursday left its target reverse repurchase rate unchanged at 6.5%, the highest in over 17 years. This was in line with the expectations of all 15 analysts in a *BusinessWorld* poll last week.

Interest rates on the overnight deposit and lending facilities were also maintained at 6% and 7%, respectively.

Mr. Remolona said he expects inflation to further ease in the second semester with the implementation of lower tariffs on rice.

“The balance of risks to the inflation outlook has shifted to the downside for 2024 and 2025 due largely to the impact of lower import tariffs on rice under Executive Order (EO) No. 62,” he said at a press briefing.

“If sustained, an improvement in the inflation outlook would allow more scope to consider a less restrictive monetary policy stance.”

President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. earlier this month signed EO 62 which slashed tariffs on rice imports to 15% until 2028 to tame rice prices.

Mr. Remolona said that inflation is “moving closer” to the midpoint of its 2-4% target, adding that expectations are still well-anchored.

The central bank slashed its risk-adjusted inflation forecast for this year to 3.1% from 3.8% previously. It also cut its risk-adjusted estimate for 2025 to 3.1% from 3.7% earlier.

Meanwhile, it lowered its average baseline inflation forecast for 2024 and 2025 to 3.3% and 3.1%, respectively, from 3.5% and 3.3%, previously.

“Nonetheless, higher prices of food items other than rice, transport charges, and electricity rates continue to pose upside risks to inflation,” Mr. Remolona said. “Meanwhile, prospects for domestic output growth remain in line with medium-term trends amid favorable labor market conditions and strong net exports.”

He said the Monetary Board is “on track” to cut rates when it next meets on Aug. 15. This will likely be ahead of the US Federal Reserve which earlier signaled it may start easing in December.

“Last time I said we’re still hawkish, but less so. We’re basically in the same position now. Somewhat more dovish than before,” Mr. Remolona said.

The BSP could cut rates by 25 basis points (bps) in the third quarter and by another 25 bps in the fourth quarter, he added.

The Monetary Board’s Aug. 15 review is its only meeting in the third quarter. Meanwhile, its last two reviews for the year will be held in the fourth quarter and are scheduled on Oct. 17 and Dec. 19.

## **TOO EARLY TO CUT?**

Analysts noted the more dovish signals from the BSP compared with its previous meetings.

“Tellingly, the read-out this time didn’t contain any language about how policy needs to be ‘sufficiently tight,’ saying instead that an improvement in the inflation outlook going forward would allow for some scope for policy to be ‘less restrictive,’” Pantheon Chief Emerging Asia Economist Miguel Chanco said in an e-mail note.

HSBC economist for ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Aris D. Dacanay in a note said that the BSP’s tone is “perhaps slightly more dovish, not closing the possibility of it cutting ahead of the Fed.”

“We even think the BSP was even more confident than last time, reflecting the fact that monetary policy in the Philippines may be becoming more independent from the Fed, even if partially,” he added.

However, Mr. Dacanay said that August may still be too soon to loosen policy reins.

“We do not think inflation will be soft enough by the August meeting with the rice tariff rate cut needing time to work its way in reducing prices,” Mr. Dacanay said.

ANZ Research said in a report that it may be too early to cut rates as inflation is still hovering near the upper bound of the 2-4% target as “upside risks from food prices continue to linger.”

ANZ said it expects the central bank to start cutting rates in early 2025, “if inflation consistently moves towards the midpoint of the official target range in the first quarter of 2024.”

Meanwhile, Mr. Chanco still expects that the BSP will cut by 25 bps in August, in line with the BSP’s outlook.

“Our core view still is that the Board will start a gradual normalization of policy in August with a 25-bp rate cut, following this on with similar-sized reductions in the October and December meetings,” he added.

## **PESO**

## **INTERVENTION**

Meanwhile, Mr. Remolona said the central bank is “occasionally” intervening in the peso.

“We’ve been watching the peso. We don’t want it to depreciate too sharply. We occasionally intervene. I think today (Thursday) we did intervene. We don’t want it to depreciate too sharply,” Mr. Remolona said.

The peso closed at P58.75 per dollar on Thursday, strengthening by 11 centavos from its P58.86 finish on Wednesday. Its close on Wednesday was its weakest finish in over 20 months.

However, Mr. Remolona said that the peso’s effect on inflation is “not very large.”

“We think the pass-through, which is what we call the effect of depreciation on inflation, is estimated at 0.36% per 1% depreciation (of the) peso. Since the beginning of the year, the peso has depreciated by 5.7%. So, 5.7% against 0.36%, that adds up to a total about 0.2% in inflation.”

Mr. Remolona said that the central bank is active in intervening when it “senses stress in the market.”

“But mostly we come in to slow down the tendency of the peso to depreciate sharply. We don’t come in every day,” he added.

The Development Budget Coordination Committee on Thursday raised its foreign exchange rate assumption to a range of P56-P58 this year, a higher band than its P55-P57 range previously.

<https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2024/06/28/604727/bsp-stands-pat-signals-rate-cut-in-aug/>

**REMATE:**

## **Mga shellfish sa 3 lalawigan sapul ng red tide – BFAR**

June 29, 2024 12:00



MANILA, Philippines- Positibo pa rin ang mga shellfish sa tatlong lalawigan sa paralytic shellfish poison o toxic red tide na lampas sa regulatory limit, ayon sa Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) nitong Biyernes.

Sa abiso, sinabi ng BFAR na nakolekta ang mga shellfish na hindi ligtas kainin mula sa mga sumusunod na lugar:



- coastal waters ng Dauis at Tagbilaran City sa Bohol
- Dumanquillas Bay sa Zamboanga del Sur
- coastal waters ng San Benito sa Surigao del Norte

Subalit, sinabi ng bureau na ligtas kainin ang mga isda, pusit, hipon, at alimasag mula sa mga nasabing lugar, “provided that they are fresh and washed thoroughly, and internal organs such as gills and intestines are removed before cooking.”

Nagbabala ang BFAR na hindi iba ang lasa at itsura ng toxic shellfishes mula sa mga hindi nakalalason. Dagdag nito, kahit lutuin ang mga ito ay hindi mawawala ang red tide toxin. **RNT/SA**

<https://remate.ph/mga-shellfish-sa-3-lalawigan-sapul-ng-red-tide-bfar/>

**REMATE:**

## **NFA: De-kalidad na bigas ibebenta sa ‘Bigas29’ program**

June 29, 2024 10:24



MANILA, Philippines- Inihayag ng National Food Authority nitong Biyernes na ang ibebentang stock ng bigas sa “Bigas29” program ng pamahalaan ay magandang klase.

Ang “Bigas29” ay programa ng Department of Agriculture kung saan magbebenta ng “aging but good” na bigas sa presyong P29 kada kilo sa vulnerable sectors tulad ng seniors, solo parents, PWDs, at indigenous groups.

Matatandaang kinuwestiyon ang kalidad ng palumang bigas, subalit sinabi ng mga benepisyaryong bumili ng bigas sa trial dry-run ng programa na maganda naman ito. “Regularly, chinecheck namin ang quality ng mga stock namin. Kapag alam namin sa evaluation namin, hindi ganon kaganda, although pwede pa rin based sa parameters, gumagawa kami ng paraan para mapaigi pa, nirereprocess namin,

pinopolish namin bago ilabas sa Kadiwa sa outlet under the B29,” pahayag ni Larry Lacson, administrator ng National Food Authority.

“Yung walang madilaw, I don’t think maassure ko yun kasi wala kami color sorter. Hindi po natin matatanggal yun sa NFA but ang quality in terms of eating and appearance ay acceptable,” dagdag ng opisyal.

Inihayag ni Lacson na 9,750 metric tons ng palumang bigas mula sa buffer stock ng NFA ang ibebenta sa inisyal na implementasyon ng programa.

Giit niya, ang Department of Agriculture ang dapat magtiyak ng “sustainability” ng programa.

“At P29 , malaki na ang lugi ng NFA dyan, we just want to participate in this project of the government na mabigyan natin ng option ang mga vulnerable sector na makabili ng medyo mas mura,” wika ni Lacson.

“Ang stocks naman natin, as day by day, nag-age yan. Whatever it is na mag-age by that time, pwede naming ibigay, ibenta sa DA, para sa Kadiwa,” dagdag niya.

Inaasahan ang full implementation ng programa sa Hulyo. **RNT/SA**

<https://remate.ph/nfa-de-kalidad-na-bigas-ibebenta-sa-bigas29-program/>

**REMATE:**

# Insurance sa mga mangingisdang hagip ng kalamidad pinag-aaralan ng BFAR

June 28, 2024 18:50



MANILA, Philippines – SINABI ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) na maglulunsad ng pilot study ang ahensya na magbibigay ng insurance coverage sa mga mangingisdang apektado ng kalamidad.

Sa isang media forum sa Quezon City nitong Huwebes, sinabi ni BFAR spokesperson Nazario Briguera na malapit nang ilunsad ang weather index-based parametric insurance bilang karagdagang tulong para sa mga apektadong mangingisda.

Nabatid na dinisenyo ng BFAR at ng Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, kasama ang Rare Philippines at WTW (dating Willis Towers Watson), ang scheme ay naglalayong magbigay ng financial buffer sa mga munisipal na mangingisda sa panahon ng pagkawala ng kita dahil sa mga kalamidad na dulot ng masamang panahon.

“Meron na tayong isinulong na parametric insurance, isa itong uri ng insurance na nakabase doon sa kaganapan ng masamang panahon na sa panahon na may bagyo o masama ang lagay ng dagat, may matatanggap na livelihood or amount ng insurance ang ating mga mangingisda,” ani Briguera.

Isang paunang P10 milyong pondo ang inilaan sa ilalim ng 2024 budget ng BFAR upang simulan ang pag-aaral.

Nabatid pa sa BFAR na limang probinsya – Occidental Mindoro, Antique, Cebu, Negros Oriental at Surigao del Norte – ang estratehikong napili bilang pilot site para sa proyekto dahil sa mataas na konsentrasyon ng mga barangay na aktibong kalahok sa Rare Fish Forever program o RARE.

“Ang mga lugar na ito ay hindi lamang nailalarawan sa pamamagitan ng kahinaan at mataas na antas ng kahirapan ngunit nakikinabang din mula sa itinatag na presensya ng Rare, na instrumento para sa epektibong pagpapatupad ng iba’t ibang mga aktibidad ng proyekto sa lupa,” sabi ng BFAR.

“Tinatayang 20,000 municipal capture fishers sa limang lugar ang tatarget bilang fisherfolk beneficiaries para maisama sa pilot program,” dagdag nito.

Ang RARE ay isang pang-internasyonal na non-government na organisasyon na gumagawa upang tugunan ang mga hamon sa kapaligiran gamit ang mga solusyon na may kaalaman sa asal. Gumagana na ito ngayon sa walong bansa, kabilang ang Pilipinas, habang ang WTW ay isang nangungunang global advisory, broking, at risk solutions company. *Santi Celario*

<https://remate.ph/insurance-sa-mga-mangingisdang-hagip-ng-kalamidad-pinag-aaralan-ng-bfar/>



**REMATE:**

# **Pang-angkat ng 200K MT asukal aaprubahan ng DA**

June 28, 2024 17:35



MANILA, Philippines – Nakatakdang aprubahan ng Department of Agriculture ang pag-aangkat ng 200,000 metric tons ng asukal ngayong taon.

Ito ay upang matiyak na walang kakapusan sa asukal habang naghihintay ang bansa sa panahon ng paggiling.

“Dapat by September, may arrival tayo at least 200,000 metric tons, refined, for the gap before harvest and refining. Minimum of 200,000 metric tons,” ani Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr nitong Miyerkules ng gabi.

“Iyon iyong deficit, iyong current stocks bababa na by August, September, so we have to have to have gap sugar ng 200,000 tons at least by September, October, para sa milling season mo, then milling tuloy na naman, as of the moment walang raw, ” aniya pa.

Sinabi ni SRA administrator Paul Azcona na ang tinutukoy ni Tiu Laurel ay ang Sugar Order 2, na nagtaas ng presyo ng magsasaka sa stable na P2,700 hanggang 2,800 kada sako ng hilaw na asukal at nagpatatag ng retail refined prices sa P73 hanggang 100 kada kilo.

Sinabi ni Azcona na makikipagpulong sila sa mga opisyal ng DA sa Hulyo para pag-usapan ang planong pag-import.

“Tulad ng sinabi natin dati, mag-a-activate tayo ng import plan kung sakaling maabot ang trigger stock level para masiguro ang stable na supply at stable na presyo para sa ating retail and industrial consumers, gayundin para matiyak na hindi maapektuhan ang ating mga magsasaka,” ani Azcona .

Sinabi ng grupo ng industriya ng asukal na UNIFED na wala silang pagtutol sa plano.

“Sumasang-ayon ang UNIFED sa plano ng DA na mag-import ng 200k ng refined sugar. Ito ang pupuno sa kakulangan bago magsimula ang harvest season sa Setyembre,” sabi ni UNIFED President Manuel Lamata. *Santi Celario*

<https://remate.ph/pang-angkat-ng-200k-mt-asukal-aaprubahan-ng-da/>

**REMATE:**

# Finland kauna-unahang bansa na magtuturok ng bird flu vax sa tao

June 28, 2024 14:26



Plano ng Finland na mag-alok ng preemptive bird flu vaccination sa susunod na linggo sa ilang manggagawang may exposure sa mga hayop.

Ito ang inihayag ng health authority sa nasabing bansa.

Base sa Reuters ang nasabing hakbang ay ang kauna-unahan sa buong mundo.

Napag-alamagn ang Nordic country ay bumili ng mga bakuna para sa 10,000 katao, bawat isa ay binubuo ng dalawang iniksyon, bilang bahagi ng magkasanib na

pagkuha ng EU ng hanggang 40 milyong dosis para sa 15 mga bansa mula sa tagagawa ng CSL Seqirus. **RNT**

<https://remate.ph/finland-kauna-unahang-bansa-na-magtuturok-ng-bird-flu-vax-sa-tao/>

**ABANTE:**

# Mga supplier inalarma sirit-presyo ng itlog

- Abante News
- June 28, 2024



Nagkaroon ng pagtaas sa presyo ng itlog, ayon sa mga fresh egg Supplier sa bahagi ng Blumentritt sa Sta. Cruz, Manila.

Ang pangunahing dahilan umano ng pagtaas ay ang mababang suplay ng itlog dahil sa pabago-bagong klima ng panahon.

ng P200 sa retail at P175 sa wholesale.

Sa medium size na itlog, P220 sa retail at P200 sa wholesale.

Ang malalaking itlog naman ay nasa P240 sa retail at 210 pesos sa wholesale.

Dahil sa pagtaas ng presyo ng itlog sa mga supplier, asahang tataas din umano ang presyo nito sa mga palengke. (Migo Fajatin)

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2024/06/28/mga-supplier-inalarma-sirit-presyo-ng-itlog/>

# New focus on coral reefs



By Manila Standard

June 29, 2024, 12:15 am

With record-high sea temperatures bleaching coral reefs worldwide, reef guards and environmentalists have suggested immediate restoration.

This issue affects the Philippines since this archipelago of 115 million people is within the Coral Triangle, a marine area in the western Pacific Ocean which includes the waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Solomon Islands.

The Philippines has the Apo Reef, off the coast of Occidental Mindoro within the Coral Triangle, the second largest contiguous coral reef in the world, second only to the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

The Apo Reef Natural Park consists of three islands which are surrounded by lush mangrove forests.

Coastal ecosystems like mangroves, sea grass and coral reefs are critical to the healthy functioning of the planet, according to environmentalists.

Mangroves and seagrass can capture more carbon than forests on land. Healthy coral reefs can absorb wave energy and are home to nearly a quarter of the oceans' biodiversity.

Coral reefs, some of the most diverse and valuable ecosystems on Earth, support more species per unit area than any other marine environment, including about 4,000 species of fish, 800 species of hard corals and hundreds of other species.

The dismal condition of our reefs – boldly described as in a rapid decline – is further exacerbated by destruction of marine habitats including dump-and-fill projects, destructive fishing practices, pollution, climate change and other anthropogenic pressures.

In the Philippines, coral reef fisheries provide livelihood for more than a million small-scale fishers who contribute almost \$1 billion annually to the country's economy. Over half a billion people depend on reefs for food, income, and protection.

The rapidly growing population needs increasing amounts of fish and other marine organisms.

Coral reefs, which protect coastlines from storms and erosion, provide jobs for local communities, and offer opportunities for recreation, provide sources of food and new medicines.

As a response to the coral degradation in the country, the Department of Science and Technology and the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development funded the “Filipinnovation” on Coral Reef Restoration Program that started in 2012.

We have also passed several laws to protect marine life, including the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act and amended Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998.

But environmentalists strongly urge there is need for more action.

We must avoid touching reefs or anchoring our boats on them since contact with the reef will damage the delicate coral animals, and anchoring on the reef can kill corals, reason we must look for sandy bottoms or use moorings.

Our efforts must include building coral resilience as well to threats like climate change.

<https://www.manilastandard.net/opinion/314465236/new-focus-on-coral-reefs.html>