



REGIONAL ADVISORY
September 10, 2019

16TH WORD CUP PHILIPPINES: FIFTH JOURNALISM MASTER CLASS

TO: Schools Division Superintendents
Asst. Schools Division Superintendents
Division Journalism Coordinators
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
This Region

1. This office is hereby disseminating the communication from Word Cup Associated Editors, Co. informing the 16th Word Cup Philippines: Fifth Journalism Masterclass on September 27-29, 2019 at Subic Bay Traveler's Hotel July 26-28, 2019, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA).
2. Other relevant information about the said workshop is indicated in the attached communication.
3. This advisory is issued to the discretion of the Schools Division Superintendents, including the source of funds, if the said activity is very necessary, relevant and educational. However, this office reiterates the strict compliance of DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 "Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-On-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith."
4. For your information and guidance.



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DR. FRANCIS CESAR B. BRINGAS
Regional Director
Region XIII, Km 3 Libertad St., Butuan City

Aug. 1, 2019 **RECEIVED** **RECORDS**

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Dear Dr. Bringas:

Greetings!

Our sincere gratitude for supporting the recently concluded 15th Word Cup in Manila where **12 delegates and scholars** from Region XIII participated and were recognized in their respective categories. Like most skills, journalism takes practice so one can master the craft. We therefore offer a more in-depth approach in our next Masterclass which shall highlight our participant's ability to write and create winning entries for your region.

We believe that an authentic journalism workshop is the most effective way to impart working knowledge in journalism. Last July, we provided **270** Word Cup participants an actual news coverage by having them experience working side by side with media professionals in the **live coverage of seven events**, namely: the **Asian Obstacle Course Racing Championships** back to back with the **ASEAN Para Obstacle Course Racing Championships** at the Quirino Grandstand and the **National Milo Marathon** at the Mall of Asia; the **Pencak Silat** demonstration at Bayview Park Hotel; the press briefings on: **Toward a Livable City: Balancing Environment and Development in the Metropolis** held in Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area; **The Philippine Cinema's Centennial: Quo Vadis?** and the **Philippines Global Initiative to Decongest Cities** in GSIS.

We're sharing with you the Aug. 1, 2019 release of Manila Bulletin which published Word Cup participants' coverage of the Las Pinas Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area. The first Masterclass output was published May 30 which featured the Boracay rehabilitation. Your students and teachers may get published again in the next Masterclass.

In addition to learning by doing, we ensure that we give feedback to the work of our participants through the insightful critiquing of their outputs. To push them to do more, we bundled a **national level** contest or evaluation.

We hope that you will allow your students and teachers to experience the only authentic journalism training workshop in the Philippines and Asia.

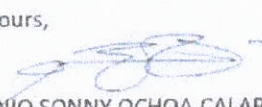
Event Name	Date	Venue	Registration Links
16th Word Cup Philippines: Fifth Journalism Masterclass	Sept. 27- 29, 2019	Subic Bay Traveller's Hotel	http://bit.ly/16thWordCup5thMasterclass *some events may entail transportation cost *early check-in will be billed separately

Only you hold the key to unlock the vast potential of your school paper advisers and student journalists. Let us help you bridge the gap between the classroom and mainstream journalism by immersing them in our workshops through an **advisory/memorandum** on this activity. Rest assured that the safety of our participants is of utmost importance; we have coordinated our activities with the host local government.

We look forward to your favorable accommodation of this request. For further inquiries, I may be reached through mobile numbers 0915.960.7268 or 0933.821.4079. You can know more about us on our website www.wordcup.com.ph and our Facebook account Word Cup Associated Editors.

Thank you and more power!

Sincerely yours,


Lion EUGENIO SONNY OCHOA CALAPIT, Ed.D., En.P., LPT
Managing Partner & Conference Director

The journalism workshops and master classes aim to immerse students and teachers in experiential journalism training. Specifically, its objectives are:

1. Enhance the writing, broadcasting and photography skills of teachers and students;
2. Guide the composition and delivery of a winning radio/TV script;
3. Practice mobile journalism;
4. Provide insightful feedback on outputs;
5. Recognize and award exemplary work, and;
6. Get outputs published in national media.

The intended participants of this workshop are students, school paper advisers, language and communications arts teachers, department heads, school heads and public information officials. Contests are optional and open to elementary, junior and senior high school students and school paper advisers.

16th Word Cup PH: Fifth Journalism Masterclass

Subic Bay Traveler's Hotel, SBMA

Matrix of Activities

Sept 27, 2019 Friday is Travel time and Check-in of participants at 2:00 pm, if staying at the hotel overnight (additional fees apply). Registration of participants staying overnight on Sept. 27 is strictly from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. only.	
Time	Sept 28, 2019 Saturday
6:00 – 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Registration of participants not staying overnight on Sept 27, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Opening Program
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Briefing of Radio Broadcast Participants
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 nn	MoJo News on the Go: Mobile Journalism 24/7 Output to be submitted before 7 a.m. on Sept. 29; Possible airing by a TV Network / To be viewed or recognized at the Closing Program (Venue: Rialto/Ballroom, Traveler's Hotel)
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Radio Broadcasting Booth Equipment Familiarization & Training (One-hour briefing at Palermo Room, Traveler's Hotel)
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 nn	Output to be aired live at DWHL AM 756 KHz Social Media live streaming/ Recorded and aired at the Closing Program Limited slots; Attendance strictly by confirmation only. May incur transportation cost.
12:00 nn – 1:00 pm	LUNCH
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Press Briefing for PJ, Sports writers (Venue: Rialto, Traveler's Hotel)
1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Photo and Sports Coverage Sea Games Test Games (Possible Venues: Subic Bay Expo and Convention Center/Subic Gym/ Subic Tennis Courts) Limited slots; Attendance strictly by confirmation only. May incur transportation cost.
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Live Press Conference (Venue: Rialto, Traveler's Hotel)
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Winning By Design: The Collaborative Publishing Workshop (Palermo Room, Traveler's Hotel)
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Editorials and Opinions: On Point (Venue: Rialto 1, Traveler's Hotel)
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Feature Perfect (Venue: Rialto 2, Traveler's Hotel)
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Submission/Critiquing of Outputs (grace period)
	DINNER
	Sept 29, 2019 Saturday
6:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast/Submission of MoJo Outputs
6:30 a.m. call time 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Learning to See Creatively and Captioning Reality: Photojournalism Hacks (Briefing at Palermo Room, Traveler's Hotel) Photoshoot Possible Venues: Aeta Community (for confirmation) Limited slots; Attendance strictly by confirmation only. May incur transportation cost.
8:00 am – 11:00 a.m.	Decoding Science Writing (Venue: Rialto Ballroom 1)
8:00 am – 11:00 a.m.	How Champions Train for Copy Reading and Headline Writing (Venue: Rialto Ballroom 2)
8:00 am – 11:00 a.m.	Collaborative Publishing Critiquing (Palermo Room, Traveler's Hotel)
11:00 am	Submission of Outputs
12:00 nn – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Critiquing/ Closing Program / Awarding of Medals & Certificates (Venue: Rialto / Ballroom)



Participation Fee per person for the 16th Word Cup Philippines:

No. 3 – 4 Villa Kalayaan, Kalayaan Avenue,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Philippines
Cellphone Nos: 0915.960.7268 & 0933.821.4079
Website: www.wordcup.com.ph
Email address: associatededitorsco@gmail.com

Fifth Journalism Masterclass

	Early Bird/ Previous Participants	Regular Registration	Late Registration	Registration Link
	July 30 – Aug 23	Aug 24 – Sept 15	Sept 16 – Sept 24	
Stay Out	P 4,000	P 4,500	P 5,000	http://bit.ly/16thWordCup5thMasterclass
Stay In	P 5,000	P 5,500	P 6,000	
Additional Night's Stay	P1,000	P1,500	P2,000	

* **Beyond Sept. 5**, accommodation may be arranged with a nearby hotel.

We can send you the LINK to the online registration via:

Messenger	Word Cup Associated Editors Facebook	SEND your Full name, (indicate if student, school paper adviser, department/school head) Name of school, division & region; E-mail address and mobile number
E-mail	wordcup.philippines@gmail.com	
Text	0933.821.4079 / 0915.960.7268 0916.369.6069	

> Please take note of the dates indicated for the price adjustment. The deadlines of payment shall be strictly followed.

> **INCLUSIONS:** Accommodation: 1 overnight stay (Sept. 28, 2019); Meals: 2 breakfast, 2 lunch, 1 dinner and 3 snacks; Electronic/soft copy of materials.

> If you are joining events outside the hotel, you need to check/tick the confirmation to attend by paying the corresponding transportation fees: (P500 – Aeta Community; P400 – SEAGames Test Events)

> Upon online registration, you will receive an acknowledgement, but confirmation of reservation to the event will be sent via text and/or email upon payment of registration fee to Associated Editors Co. at any **BDO** Bank current account number **008010109350**. You may also pay via Gcash at 09159607268. If you pay at 7-11 via G-cash, you shall add 10% of the total money remitted. Immediately send a scanned copy or picture of the deposit or transaction slip with the subject line "registration fee of (your name)" to associatededitorsco@gmail.com. Please make necessary arrangements if there are no BDO/GCash in your area.

> Your inquiries will be entertained at mobile numbers 0933.821.4079 / 0915.960.7268 / 0916.369.6069.

> Actual seminar is on Sept. 28-29, 2019; Activities/Venues may be subject to change; September 27th is for travel time and for the registration **(1:00 - 5:00 pm ONLY)** and check-in of participants who will stay for another night and shall pay additional fees. Check-in is strictly 2:00 p.m. Check out is 12 nn. Due to the influx of visitors to Subic for the Southeast Asian Games (SEAGAMES), we encourage you to register and pay early. Because of limited seats, prepaid delegates shall be given priority.

> Rooms are non-exclusive (male and female may/may not combine in a room). Rooms can accommodate 4 – 6 persons, first come, first serve basis.

> Participants of Collaborative Publishing are encouraged to bring their laptops installed with InDesign and Photoshop applications. Participants of Photojournalism are encouraged to bring cameras or cellphones.

> While no Word Cup event has ever been re-scheduled or cancelled, in case of force majeure and government pronouncement, forfeiture or price adjustment of fees shall take effect. For own cancellation, automatic forfeiture applies, subject to appeal.

B-6
MANILA BULLETIN
August 1, 2019

Environment News

Thursday, August 1, 2019



**Saving a critical wetland
to promote ecotourism**

HAVEN IN THE METRO

EGRETS FLY OVER THE LPPCHEA
- 19299 289 2899 99 999 99999
documented in the 170-hectare area.
Pinto River: Most city denizens
participants gather in the wastewater
area for an ecology education lecture
and press briefing courtesy of the
United Nations Asia-Pacific
Conservation Section and organized
by the Manila Wetland Society.
The UAPSS has welcomed stakeholders
in the clean-up, tree planting and
ecology education at the LPPCHEA
since the government launched the
Manila Bay Rehabilitation in 2008.
Freedom and Long Termers - when
concrete LPPCHEA - serve as a catch
basin of solid wastes mostly plastic
and household wastes. On a weekly
average, 300 to 400 tons of garbage are
dumped by DPWH for processing at the
Las Pinas Dump Site en route to its
final destination in Rodriguez, Rizal.
(Photos by James A. Domingo)

Text by PATRICK ARBERT & DAYALO

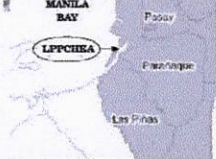
Within the busy concrete jungle that is Metro Manila, one would not expect to find a haven for migratory birds just right at the south of Manila Bay. This area is called the Las Pinas-Panayaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area (LPPCHEA), a pond that a highly urbanized place could still spare some space for environmental issues.

Finding itself by being listed in the Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, the 170-hectare LPPCHEA caters to more than 6,000 migratory birds which consider the latter as a rest stop from tedious migration over the months of August to July.

However, with urbanization creeping just right at its doorstep, ready to take over the mangrove-laden wetland, how much time do these birds have to enjoy this habitat?

Adding to that challenge, during the southwest monsoon, this critical habitat suffers from pollution due to the arrival of solid and liquid wastes, increasing the amount of coliform bacteria in the water. This harms the fishes too that temporarily serve as food for the birds that come from as far as Australia, Siberia and Japan.

It is also important to note that infrastructure development is gaining ground in the area which could affect the health of the 36-hectare mangrove



Institute Estela, 59, a fisherman in LPPCHEA said they also help protect the cleanliness of the habitat as it is also their source of livelihood. They can catch an average of two kilos of fish for an hour using their nets. (Photo by Jimmy A. Domingo)



Urbanization entails with it the promise of increased employment, stronger international ties and a more equitable economic growth. But should this prosperity be at the expense of the environment?

The impact of urban expansion towards the country's economy is undeniably significant. Urbanization entails with it the promise of increased employment, stronger international ties and a more equitable economic growth. But should this prosperity be at the expense of the environment?



A DPWH worker, one of 40 personnel assigned at the LPPCHEA, gather garbage, mostly plastics and household non-biodegradable wastes which wash ashore from the Las Pinas and Parañaque river tributaries, Cavite and Iloilo areas. (Photo by Jovan Sique last year of May 2018, Zambanga City, Negros Occidental, since the Manila Bay Rehabilitation which kicked off in June, these workers and volunteers collect at least 10 sacks of trash weighing 4 to 7 kilograms when dry. (Photo by Ben Herby T. Cugasio from V. Mapa High School, Manila)

tion with the fervor of volunteering one's time and resources to promote empathy towards our one and only planet.

Sadly, we live in a time where considering our critical habitats as collateral to the surge of urbanization is justifiable.

But on the other side of the coin, if we get rid of our apathy towards nature conservation, LPPCHEA could not only continue to provide a temporary home for migratory birds for years to come but also become a shining example how environment conservation can exist side-by-side with urbanization.

(The author is an English teacher at Oshingburn National High School in Negros Oriental)

GREEN IS IN!

Eco responsibility

Topica Metro Philippines Corporation (TMP) joined the Global Topica Environment Month through a series of activities that raise awareness on environmental conservation. TMP team members and representatives from the Topica Suppliers Club (TSC) planted 300 trees inside the 11-hectare Topica Forest at the Topica Special Economic Zone in Santa Rosa, Laguna. Topica volunteers also participated in the river clean-up along the Sibang-Santa Rosa River, near the company's vicinity (in photo), by cleaning up the river. TMP hopes to prevent further pollution and improve the watershed. The Sibang-Santa Rosa River is connected to Laguna Lake, which is one of the primary water sources for livelihood of nearby communities.

Corporate-led forest restoration program cited by CSR group

The future has, indeed, taken root for geothermal leader Energy Development Corporation (EDC) whose 'Birhi' greening legacy program has won the best corporate social responsibility (CSR) project in environment, at the League of Corporate Foundations' 1st CSR Gold Awards.

Birhi is the first corporate-led forest restoration program that has been bridging forest gaps and bringing back to abundance our threatened Philippine native trees.

"This recognition is a big honor for us because it comes from our peers who have their own laudable CSR programs as well," said Alty Mae V. Barrena, head of EDC's CSR group.

Planting trees and growing them have been an integral part of

sustaining the geothermal reservoir in EDC's geothermal reservation for over 40 years. In 2001, the company launched Birhi to expand the program by using science in planting and rescuing threatened native trees. A total of 96 threatened native tree species have been prioritized for this search and rescue program as their numbers have been declining, with some even believed to be extinct.

In 2017, EDC finished locating, collecting native tree seedlings and began propagating them in 2018 through its Vegetative Material Reproduction (VMR) technology, which mimics our forest's natural environment in two automated nurseries located in the company's geothermal facility in Ulaheza, Negros Occidental and in Antipolo, Metro Manila.

Moreover, around 9,353 hectares of forest land within and surrounding EDC project sites has been rehabilitated. This is equivalent to about 8.1 million

seedlings planted all over the country in partnership with 129 farmers associations whose members are incentivized for helping EDC grow and maintain its Birhi areas.

EDC's Birhi experience shows that, with the right combination of win-win strategies and partnerships, the triple bottom line of environmental, social, and economic transformation is attainable.

Another good example of successful strategic partnerships is the 10 Million Trees in 10 Years for a Greener Negros (10M in 10Y) project, one of the finalists in the 1st CSR Gold Awards' Outstanding CSR Collaboration Project category 10M in 10Y is a movement that EDC initiated in 2015 to grow back the forests in Negros Island by planting, growing, and maintaining 10 million trees in 10 years.

As of 2018, 10M in 10Y has already planted over 6.1 million trees with the help of its 156 stakeholder partners.

Environment News
Thursday, May 30, 2019 B-7
Go Green, read us as usual:
EnvironmentB@gmail.com

Boracay RENAISSANCE

A year after its closure, what now?

Text by JONANES L. CHUA

There is always an aspect to Boracay. No doubt it is the country's most famous island, consistently ranking as one of the most-visited destinations and vacation spots. Therefore, it came as a shock to many in those who have businesses in the island that the six-month closure and rehabilitation was implemented without warning.

Visiting Boracay once again after a year of its April 28, 2018 closure, one can notice a striking difference. The island - especially the beachfront - is much cleaner. There is a sense of community but there are also the occasional violators.

During the 14th Word Cup held in Boracay, we invited select campaign journalists - students and advisers - to share their product and words on how they see the new Boracay. They were hopeful but also noted that the task at hand to fully heal Boracay is not yet finished.

MALIBU, SUNSET - Tourists enjoying the sunset from the White Beach which has expanded from up to 35 meters from the shoreline. The photo was taken by Life Word Cup Philippines Journalism participants, mostly school paper advisers and campaign journalists' tour around the country under the theme "Prospects of a Balanced Ecology and Tourism Development: Opportunities and Challenges in Boracay and Beyond." (Photo by Esther Saadee S. Mofagata, Calapeater III Elementary School)

BE HUMANS, NOT PLASTIC

Text by MARK JULIUS G. FUENTES

Malay's Municipal Ordinance No. 89 prohibiting the use of disposable plastic items among hotels, resorts, restaurants and business establishments is a good thing. The local government of Malay, Aklan has learned its lesson.

Nevertheless, despite the six-month-long "highway" of businesses during the island's rehabilitation, plastics are still freely accessible in some souvenir stores, convenience stores and food stalls.

Nobody knows when single-use plastic bags became so pervasive and prevalent. They are accessible everywhere because they are cheap, useful and convenient. We find them - not just in Boracay - but in various places where people purchase goods especially in the markets because of convenience. But at what expense?

Even campaign posters identify the harm plastic bags can cause, including how it affects aquatic animals through "ingestion and entanglement." Even when plastic products break down, the plastic ends up in the ecosystem with long-term negative effects.

According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the plastic has been implemented by Malay's correct but tourists admit that the ban is just a form of "suggestion" as single-use plastics are still visible.

"Tourists or not, we have to understand that in order to help Boracay fully heal, we must be disciplined. If the government has prohibited smoking, drink-

ing and eating on the beach to minimize trash with "pollution control officers" to notify or capture litterbugs, then all of us have to follow. This is the law of the land and not merely a suggestion.

Our plastic bag habit causes environmental pollution, and so it only makes sense to start taking common sense measures to transition to more degradable or reusable items.

Climate change and ecological degradation are global problems for which there are no single nor simple solutions. If our "transition" with plastic will again transform Boracay island into a dump, then we are bound to fail - wasting money, resources, effort and time.

Let us all become humans. No to plastic.

The author is a teacher at Mongpong Elementary School in Zamboanga City. Capt. A school paper adviser for 25 years, he is president of the Association of School Paper Advisers of School Division Office of Zamboanga City. He is also editor-in-chief of *Sagat*, a publication of DepEd Zamboanga City.



MOTHER AND CHILD - Both local residents, they do their daily routine of picking up litter left by tourists along Boracay's famous White Beach. In them, this is their way of showing their love for their island. For the moment, it is teaching kids the importance of sustainable tourism. (Photo by Javer B. Lajora, Division of Zamboanga)

'Sustaining the positive effects of the cleanup of Boracay entails a joint effort with the residents and even tourists and businessmen.'

This can be done by following the set of rules, by being a responsible tourist and by helping spread the positive effects of sustainable tourism.



DISCIPLINE IN DEED - Tourists line up to segregate trash in colored bags as part of Boracay's popular cleanups in Station 2. The local campaign for solid waste management seems to have caught on since government allowed commercial businesses to reopen in the island. (Photo by Engelleo Scaay O. Calayag)



GARBAGE COLLECTOR - Garbage collectors load segregated trash on a municipal truck which is daily door-to-door collection starting from 2 a.m. by using their truck. The truck will be taken to Matay, as the mainland where there is a regulated dump site. (Photo by Ralph Anthony Geronimo/Buganayan National High School, Sultan Kudarat)

CHALLENGING ENHANCEMENT

Text by ANNA MARIE G. PRODENA

After six months of being placed under rehabilitation, Boracay opened its doors in October of 2018.

That October was indeed historic and momentous for what was considered as the rebirth of a better Boracay. The repairs of the sewerage system and the roads together with the standardization of how hotels and resorts should manage their waste are part of the things that the government has done that has temporarily disrupted the business in the area.

After the six-month rehabilitation, there is a general feeling that it is just the start. The people need to ensure the sustainability of environmental efforts in order to prevent recurrence of what caused the closure of the island.

Dr. Al Oroilo, the Deputy Ground Commander of the DENR National Task Force Boracay said that the sustainability of the rehabilitation should not fall wholly on the shoulders of the government.

Sustaining the positive effects of the cleanup of Boracay

SUSTAINING PARADISE

Text by MARIA JOSEPHINE A. PLENO

At first, Boracay's sustainable tourism was a long shot. But it was worth trying and perhaps worth duplicating.

It has been months now since the reopening of Boracay after its six-month rehabilitation. Changes are evident. Wider beachfront, quieter atmosphere, better road system and closure of erring establishments. However, there is a downside, too. According to Deputy Ground Commander of Task Force Boracay Dr. Al Oroilo, when asked about the state of discipline among locals and tourists, he said that it is a "cat-and-mouse activity."

The Task Force Boracay has been very firm in implementing its rules to ensure sustainable tourism practices in the island. It may be able to do so until April 2020 when the two-year implementation of the program will conclude. But even if Filipinos will have a clear direction on what sustainable tourism is all about, could the ordinary Juan de la Cruz follow the rules even when no one is watching?

While rehabilitating Boracay is considered as the DENR's biggest accomplishment in 2018, measures on sustaining the program should be put in place.

Dr. Oroilo believes that a strong and consistent law enforcement can sustain the program. Yet, he cautioned that we cannot have a cat-and-mouse law enforcement system. There should be ways to address other concerns such as the livelihood of ordinary vendors up to the concerns of big businessmen who have invested a lot of money in the island.

Boracay's sustainability is just the start of the change we need in the Philippines. If we can do it here in this island, then it can be done anywhere else in the country.

The will to change should come from the hearts of every Filipino. Law implementers should consistently enforce what is right and prosecute violators - no matter who they are. The political will of leaders should be made of steel but also flexible enough to have a vision and put in place long-term solutions to problems.

The Duterte administration has already started the change and it showed in how an island dubbed a "resort" can transform to become a paradise once again.

Sustaining this change requires that each Filipino also changes their old, backward way of thinking. It is not too late!

The author is a principal of Nicholas Elementary School in Koronadal City. She teaches science and health subjects and is a journalism adviser.

DESERVING BORACAY

Text by DOLORES L. CARREON

Let us all become tourist police. Let us become information multipliers.

These were the words of Dr. Al Oroilo, the Deputy Ground Commander of the DENR National Task Force Boracay as he urged responsible tourists to share their stories about the rehabilitation of the island.

A reliable survey reported that 92 percent of adult population in Boracay has used technology and social media to communicate and spread information about updates and progress about the island.

The government also did its part. It intensified the monitoring of waste disposal and imposed higher penalties to those who will be caught violating environmental laws.

Science class efforts seem to have been taken for granted by some businesses. A few weeks ago, the local government

has closed some establishments found to be non-compliant with regards to business permits including sanitary and environmental inspection requirements.

With all the efforts - from government and people's organizations - to restore Boracay to its pristine condition, there are still desiring factors such as people's resistance to change and negligence. While we can hope to see the people pay for what they had served.

Boracay needs everyone's help. No matter who you are, you have a responsibility to take care of the environment. Become a responsible citizen police. Serve Boracay of what it deserves before it is once again too late.

The author is a head teacher of Koronadal Elementary School in Koronadal City. She is a school paper adviser and has taught English for 19 years.