

DENR taps French firm for Pasig River cleanup

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The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is tapping the expertise of a wastewater treatment firm based in France to clean up the 27-kilometer Pasig River.

DENR Secretary Gina Lopez said the Greater Paris Sanitation Authority or SIAAP, which is the largest wastewater treatment company in Europe is “extending public service to help clean the Pasig River.”

She said the DENR will collaborate with SIAAP on two things.

“First, they are going to help us upgrade the masterplan that we already have in the Pasig River. Second, they will help us with some technology, and we are going to start in the San Francisco River in Quezon City, which eventually flows into the San Juan River,” Lopez pointed out.

The DENR chief noted that San Juan River in San Juan City, is among the most polluted waterways that contribute significantly to the pollution of Pasig River and Manila Bay.

“Thirty percent or one-third of pollution in the Pasig River system is in San Juan River,” she said.

“We are going to do this this year. At the end of the masterplanning, then we will know in what way the French government can help us. This is the beginning of our partnership,” she added.

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