

The Subic rape case in 2005-2006 was a landmark case—it challenged the implementation of the Anti-Rape Law and it was the first case involving American servicemen. It caught wide [media](#) coverage and international interest due to its relationship to United States-Philippines [Visiting Forces Agreement](#). The case is closed now, with one of the accused found guilty of rape, and with the Philippines-US relationship at, perhaps, a better, more mature level.

Today, some refer to a new case in Subic as another rape case—this time against the environment. It involves not one Filipina but more than 300 trees on Philippine soil and their significance to a national strategy, and another foreign country—Korea. It has elicited much concern, especially from environmentalists, due to its relationship to the most pressing global issue now--climate change.

Climate change due to global warming is now a security issue, according to the UN Security Council, because it could cause conflicts and wars as a result of scarcity of food and other resources that it could cause. The World Bank says that 20% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, which cause global warming, are caused by deforestation and as much as 50% of the increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere over the last 50 years may be due to changing land-use patterns, e.g., the conversion of wooded areas into built-up areas.

Global warming is now a security issue, according to the UN Security Council, as it could cause conflicts and wars due to the food scarcity and other- resources shortages attributed to climate change.

"Another Subic Rape Case?" Is KK! Topic on Jan. 21, Wednesday, @ 6:30 p.m. (Manila Time) - MabuhayRa

Written by Earth Institute Asia Press Office

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Tree planting and conservation is at the core of the climate change strategy of the Philippines. (The DENR, under then Sec. Angelo Reyes, and the GREEN Army Foundation, started the implementation of the strategy with a massive tree planting project that made it to the Guinness Book of Records.) This new Subic case affects the implementation of the strategy. It also affects Philippines-Korean relations, as it is the third Korean project that environmentalists have questioned.

On Jan. 21, 2009, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Manila time), Kalikasan, Kaunlaran! will discuss the new Subic case, as well as similar concerns elsewhere in the country, the initiatives being taken to address them, and additional measures needed. Guests are: Arch. Felino Palafox, Jr., Principal Architect-Urban Planner/Founder, Palafox Associates and Lucito Bertol, Chair and president of the Manila Seedling Bank Foundation. Dr. Cora Claudio, EARTH Institute Asia president, hosts the talk in Filipino and English.

Tune in at DZRH-AM radio (666 in MMLa, other kHz nationwide) or watch the KK! on TV (Ch. 9 in Metro Manila, other cable TV channels nationwide), and on the Internet (<http://dzh.tripod.com>). Join the contests, campaigns and projects of EARTH/KK! To join all, register as a KK! listener by texting 2299: earth<space>your message.

Editor's Note: This website has the [Global Warming](#) and the [Eco-Environment](#) sections. All of the articles sent by the Earth Institute Asia Press Office are published in the [Eco-Environment](#) section.

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