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# MUNICIPAL WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM PHILIPPINES COUNTRY PROFILE

Waste generation in the Philippines varies from 0.2 kg per capita per day in rural areas to close to 1.0 kg per capita per day in affluent urban areas. The Philippine government addresses the management of solid waste material and plastics by passing in 2001 the Republic Act 9003 “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000” - an act creating the necessary institutional mechanisms and incentives towards a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program<sup>1</sup>. Unfortunately, solid waste management supervision and rules enforcement are weak. Currently, solid waste is disposed of in open dumping sites, as well as sanitary and unsanitary landfills. Local initiatives to promote waste segregation at source and “zero waste” initiatives are increasing plastic waste recycling. Daily wages for waste pickers in cities are approximately USD 0.50 for individuals collecting plastic shopping bags and plastic foil, USD 2 for common plastics (polypropylene), USD 2.50 for plastics bottles (PET), and up to USD 4.60 for the scarcer PVC and HDPE. Recent scientific research shows Philippines contributes as much as 750,000 metric tons of plastic waste to our oceans annually, **marking the country as the world's third largest polluter**, as measured by total mass of mismanaged plastic debris<sup>2</sup>.

## MUNICIPAL WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Municipal Waste Recycling Program (MWRP), a five-year (2016-2021) USAID-funded initiative, is designed to reduce land-based sources of marine plastics pollution in Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia. Funded under the Making Cities Work IDIQ, the program provides grants and



PHOTO: DEVELOPMENT INNOVATIONS GROUP

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2001/ra\\_9003\\_2001.html](https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2001/ra_9003_2001.html)

<sup>2</sup> Jambeck, J.R., ; Geyer, R., ; Wilcox, C., ; Siegler, T.R., ; Perryman, M., ; Andrady, A., ; Narayan, R., ; Law, K.L.. Journal Article. URI: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/347/6223/768/tab-pdf>.

technical assistance for promising solid waste management and waste recycling efforts in urban and peri-urban areas, enhances the effectiveness of such programs and makes recommendations for future investments in municipal waste recycling<sup>3</sup>.

## **MWRP SMALL GRANT PROJECTS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

### **CITY EMPOWERMENT FOR LOCAL AND MARKET-BASED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS**

**OCTOBER 1, 2017 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 | IMPLEMENTER: CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) | LOCATION: NAVOTAS AND MALABON (METRO MANILA) | PLANNED BUDGET: \$100,000**

The project is supporting beneficiary groups in six targeted barangays to initiate or expand solid waste management-based livelihoods to promote a sustainable, integrated approach involving the informal waste sector. The groups are conducting door-to-door waste collection, collecting recyclables, and selling them to private sector recycling businesses.

### **MITIGATING THREATS TO MARINE PROTECTED AREAS THROUGH REDUCING AND RECYCLING WASTE MATERIALS**

**MARCH 31, 2018 – MARCH 31, 2020 | IMPLEMENTER: CANDIS III MARKETING COOPERATIVE (C3MC) | LOCATION: PUERTO PRINCESA CITY | PLANNED BUDGET: \$249,880**

The project will provide technical support to the city government's environmental office, as well as neighborhood-level barangay officials, and management councils in the marine protected areas of Honda Bay and Puerto Bay coastal zones of Puerto Princesa in Palawan Island to improve basic solid waste management municipal services to ~100,000 residents. The stakeholders will work together to educate, engage, and train community residents and school children on the benefits of the proper handling of household wastes and plastics recycling.

### **SEA WASTE EDUCATION TO ERADICATE PLASTIC**

**MARCH 31, 2018 – MARCH 31, 2020 | IMPLEMENTER: PHILIPPINE REEF & RAINFOREST CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC. (PRRCFI) | LOCATION: SOUTHERN NEGROS ISLAND MARINE KEY BIODIVERSITY AREA | PLANNED BUDGET: \$221,994**

The project will develop and implement a viable social enterprise using an alternative business model where consumers can buy essential products in small, affordable quantities, but in non-plastic packages. Under this project, PRRCFI will also conduct two dozen coastal clean-ups with the support of 1,200 volunteers.

### **WASTE TO WAGES**

**MARCH 31, 2018 – MARCH 31, 2019 | IMPLEMENTER: WORLD VISION, INC. | LOCATION: BARANGAY BASECO (MANILA) | PLANNED BUDGET: \$100,000**

The main project objectives of the Waste to Wages project are to improve livelihood opportunities for informal sector waste collectors and promote increased household compliance on waste segregation and recycling. The project will identify and implement community-based solutions to increase the volume of plastics recycled in a low-income neighborhood in Metro Manila and, consequently, reduce leakage into the adjacent river and ocean.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

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<sup>3</sup> 22 CFR Part 216, USAID Environmental Procedures are followed by the MWRP and all grants projects