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Highlights from the USAID Ocean Plastics Team

New USAID - Korea Cooperation on Marine Debris and Plastic Pollution

Following the U.S.-Korean Presidential Summit of May 2021, USAID and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) have formalized cooperation on marine debris and plastic pollution, beginning in the Philippines. KOICA and USAID are collaborating on providing assistance to the Government of the Philippines and selected cities of Metro Manila on the National Plan of Action (NPOA) for the Prevention, Reduction, and Management of Marine Litter (NPOA-ML). [Read more about USAID's work on ocean plastic pollution.](#)

Three Lessons from USAID's Ocean Plastics Pollution Work in Indonesia

In this blog, Clare Romanik, USAID Lead Ocean Plastics and Urban Advisor, shares insights from USAID partners and grantees on how USAID is working to develop effective, scalable approaches that not only mitigate and prevent

ocean plastics but also mobilize new capital and improve the enabling environment for investors. [Read the blog here](#). Some of these highlights were presented at the Wilson Center event “On the Frontline of Indonesia’s Plastic Waste Crisis.” You can watch the event recording here. You can read more about Indonesia in the Wilson Center publication [Insight Out “How Can Indonesia Close the Loop on Plastic Waste”](#) which includes blogs from some USAID grantees.



Stories From the Field

[Women in the Waste Sector: Unlocking Global Climate Gains through Local Action](#)



[Read the joint blog](#) from USAID GenDev and USAID's Clean Cities Blue Ocean program on how in the Philippines, women are leading the way in reducing plastic waste pollution by creating circular economies where waste is used and reused as a resource. This also offsets climate change-fueling emissions.

[Women Leading the Waste Bank Movement in Gowa District, Indonesia](#)



Read about the women in Gowa working with USAID's Municipal Waste Recycling Program (MWRP) grantee Transformasi to turn waste into extra income.

[Meet Carmela: A young environmental activist in the Philippines takes on ocean plastic pollution](#)



As a high schooler, Carmela first learned about environmental conservation and USAID's work with the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation, Inc. (PRRCFI). [Read about her journey](#) to become a community educator, a fisheries technologist, and create real change in her community.

Clean Cities, Blue Ocean Program Highlights

[USAID's Clean Cities, Blue Ocean Program Launches Grants in Sri Lanka to Support National Government's Circular Economy Initiatives](#)



The launch event featured remarks by U.S. Ambassador, Alaina Teplitz, and Sri Lanka's Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Mr. Anil Jasingha. [Watch the recap of the event here.](#)

CCBO's first wave of Sri Lankan grantees includes the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC) who are working across the nation toward effective governance of solid waste management (SWM) and the recycling sector, and to enhance extended producer responsibility of the private sector through public-private partnerships, respectively.

Watch the video and meet the new
CCBO Grantees in Sri Lanka



The United States Embassy Signs Agreement with the Dominican General Directorate of Special Programs for the Presidency to Close Open Landfills



Through the Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO) program, USAID will work with the Dominican General Directorate of Special Programs of the Presidency (PROPEEP) to support the remediation and closure of open landfills and develop new state-of-the-art regional infrastructure as part of a Solid Waste Master Plan.

In case you missed it -
Rising to the Global Challenge of Ocean Plastic Pollution - World
Oceans Day Event



In case you missed it - in honor of World Oceans Day June 8, 2021, USAID and Ocean Conservancy hosted a virtual program bringing together policymakers, leading experts, and local problem solvers to discuss ways to ensure that the growing international efforts to combat the ocean plastic pollution crisis are effective and beneficial. [Watch the event recording here.](#)

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