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USAID's Clean Cities, Blue Ocean Program Awards its First Five Grants in the Philippines



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of Philippines grantees includes: **Catholic Relief Services, Communities Organized for Resource Allocation (CORA), Green Antz Builders, Inc. (Green Antz), the Plastic Credit Exchange (PCEX), and Project Zaccheus Marketing Cooperative (PZC)** who are working across Metro Manila and in the city of Puerto Princesa, Palawan. Through these grants, CCBO will pilot new models to create more circular economies with increased recycling rates, reduced landfill waste and leakage into nearby waters, and improved livelihoods for those that are at the heart of local waste systems.

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USAID Grantees Participate in National Waste Awareness Day Virtual Events in Indonesia

Waste Management: Solving the Plastic Problem

Live Streaming Presentation

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in the amount of plastic waste. This National Waste Awareness Day, join our discussion on how to manage this waste, from the government down to your own household.

For more details on how you can join through Zoom, please visit our website.

Participants and Moderators:

- Tiza Mafira** - Executive Director GDKP
- Virty Yuriken** - Program Manager Misool Foundation
- Santi Evelyn Lumban Gaoi** - Chairman, Board of Directors of Transformasi
- Anilawati Nurwahidin** - Koordinator RUMAS Zero Waste Cities YPBB
- Moderated by Adithiyasanti Sofia** - Communications and Program Manager GDKP
- Purwono** - Analis Lingkungan Hidup DLH Kabupaten Banyuwangi
- Sandra Marissa** - Business Development eRecycle
- Ida Bagus Mandhara Brasika** - Founder Griya Luhu
- Febriadi Pratama Putra** - Head of Gringgo Indonesia Foundation
- Moderated by Nadea Nabilla** - Runner-Up Miss Scuola Indonesia 2017

You're Invited! Join Free Online!

Visit www.atamerica.or.id for more information.

USAID Municipal Waste Recycling Program (MWRP) grantees participated in virtual events to raise awareness of waste management issues. The session entitled "Waste Management: Solving the Plastic Problem" included USAID grantees: GDKP, Misool Foundation, Transformasi and YPBB. The session entitled "Utilizing Technology to Tackle Waste Problems" included USAID grantee the Gringgo Indonesia Foundation. The events were hosted by the @America organization in Indonesia. Visit atamerica.or.id for more information.

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Reducing Single-Use Plastic Bag Waste in Libya



Reducing the single-use plastic bag waste that dots Tripoli's streets, beaches, and even its historic sites has become a priority both for Libya's elected municipal governments as well as its environmentally-minded citizens. To address this priority, the USAID Local Governance and Civil Society "Ta qarib" activity is supporting the Tripoli Center municipality and the Libyan O2 organization to work together to reduce environmentally-damaging plastic bag usage. With USAID support, O2 is working closely with municipal authorities, citizens, and several bakeries and grocery stores in the municipality to halt the use of disposable plastic bags. O2 will also distribute reusable shopping bags to Tripoli residents. As part of its community outreach, O2 produced this well-received video highlighting the problems with plastic bags.

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Communities in Sri Lanka Transitioning Away from Single-Use Plastic Bags

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Irangatulasi, a 29-year-old tailor residing in Jaffna District, has a new source of income. Thanks to her participation in a training hosted by USAID's **Municipal Waste Recycling Program** (MWRP) grantee Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation (SLCDF), she is now sewing and selling reusable cloth bags. As a result, she has seen a 50% increase in her monthly earnings, adding 10,000 rupees (\$55 USD) to her 20,000 rupees (\$110 USD) per month income.

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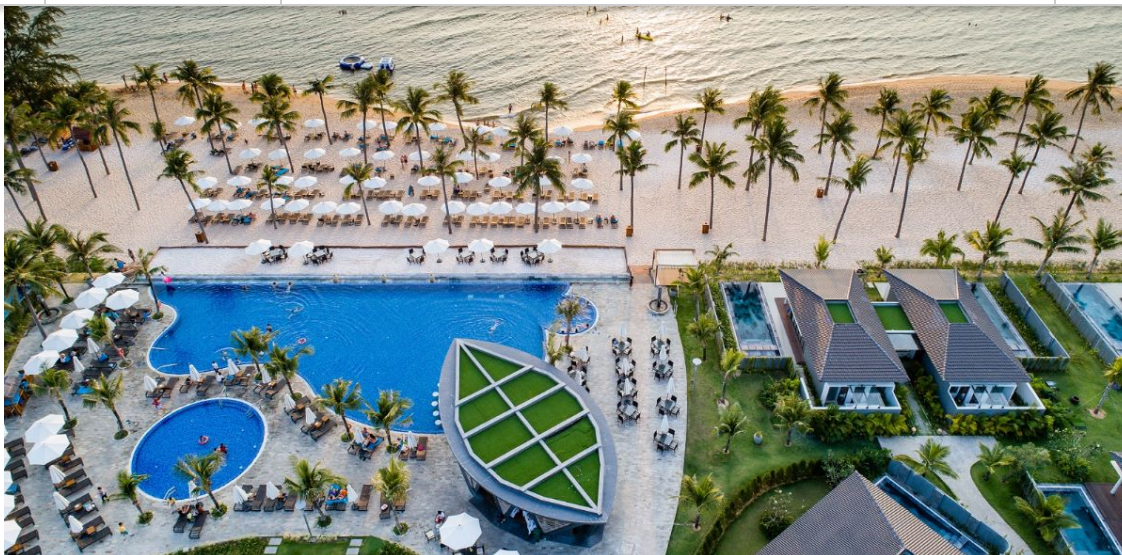
From Informal Waste Collectors to Recycling Business Owners

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Throughout Metro Manila, Philippines, government solid waste management (SWM) services have been unable to keep pace with the region's rising population. To help address this challenge the USAID **Municipal Waste Recycling Program** (MWRP) provided a grant to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for a market-based SWM project, implemented in select barangays (smallest administrative divisions) located in the National Capital Region. Among other activities, CRS trained and mentored 89 local residents as door-to-door waste collectors to improve SWM services in the target barangays.

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Promoting Business-Friendly, Ocean-Friendly Practices in Vietnam's Tourism

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Vietnam's rapid economic growth due to the boom of ecotourism in coastal cities and islands has directly increased the amount of solid waste that is generated daily. To support ocean plastic reduction efforts, the USAID **Municipal Waste Recycling Program** (MWRP) provided a grant to the World Wide Fund for Nature – Vietnam (WWF) to help leading hotels in finding innovative alternatives to plastic disposables.

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Clean Cities, Blue Ocean Grants Program Opportunities



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reduce ocean plastics pollution. Grants will be awarded to select organizations to implement effective, locally-led solutions and approaches to combat ocean plastics pollution directly at their source. Applications will be accepted until March 1, 2021, with several application windows available throughout the year.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Ocean Plastics Content Rises to Top on UrbanLinks



Since the relaunch of the urbanlinks.org website in February 2020, more than 33,000 users have come to the site to learn more about USAID's work in the urban sector and stopping ocean plastic pollution. In the 85,000 pageviews across the site, seven of the top ten most viewed pages for the year are ocean plastic pollution related content. Be sure to bookmark urban-links.org/oceanplastics and check back frequently for updates.

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Contact USAID's Ocean Plastics Team at oceanplastics@usaid.gov

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