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INTRODUCING ZERO WASTE TO BATANGAS CITY

Batangas City manages a centralized waste collection system subcontracted with a private company, the Metrowaste Solid Waste Management Corporation (Metrowaste), which operates daily waste collection services for biodegradable, non-biodegradable, and residual wastes. While Metrowaste covers most parts of the city, many households reside too far from the truck collection routes and therefore have no access to solid waste management (SWM) services. This situation results in illegal dumping and trash burning.

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITIES TO TREAT SOLID WASTE

The Mother Earth Foundation will provide technical assistance to Batangas City Environment and Natural Resources Office to develop a zero-waste approach to solid waste management, including recycling, in 30 out of 105 barangays in the city. A Filipino non-governmental organization that works on a range of environmental issues, Mother Earth Foundation has built the capacity of marginalized communities, government agencies, schools, civic organizations, and businesses on how to plan and implement ecological SWM programs. The Mother Earth Foundation has advised several municipal and provincial governments in successfully implementing zero waste projects. For example, as a result of improvements made in SWM, the city of San Fernando was able to divert 72% of its waste from landfills. Similarly, a barangay in Manila was able to divert 92% of its solid waste after implementing a program developed by Mother Earth Foundation.

RECOVERY OF RECYCLABLES

The Mother Earth Foundation project has three primary objectives: (1) expanding its zero waste community-based model in Batangas City through the decentralization of segregated waste collection, regulation of single-use plastic waste, and recovery of high-value recyclable materials; (2) building the capacity of the city's environment office to improve enforcement of the national Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003), developing solid waste management plans, and drafting local ordinances; and (3) training community organizations and leaders to monitor SWM activities during the project and after completion. The project will aim to recover at least 55% of waste through composting or recycling and to have 90% of households practice waste segregation at source.

PROJECT: Technical Assistance to Batangas City to Expand its Zero Waste Solid Waste Management Approach

DURATION: July 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020 | **IMPLEMENTER:** Mother Earth Foundation

LOCATION: Batangas City, Philippines | **BUDGET:** \$151,309

KEY FACTS

- Batangas City has a **population of 329,874 residents** (or 67,910 households).
- The city generates **167 metric tons of waste per day**, about 0.50 kilograms per capita.
- Without proper SWM, the untreated solid waste (including plastics) will increase the pollution of local water bodies, such as **Batangas Bay, the Calumpang River, and the biologically-diverse Verde Island Passage.**