



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# CLEAN CITIES, BLUE OCEAN

## INDONESIA

Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world and the fourth most populous, with over 270 million people. The country has experienced rapid population growth across many of its inhabited islands, particularly in its urban centers—of which over half are located in coastal areas. By 2025, 68 percent of the country’s population is expected to live in urban areas, where it is estimated that only about half of generated waste is collected—the rest openly dumped or burned, with significant negative consequences for human health and the environment.

Across the islands, cultures, languages, and urban landscapes vary greatly, as do solid waste management systems and their levels of efficiency—challenging them to keep pace with continued growth and advance in ways that can curb ocean pollution and waste-linked greenhouse gas emissions.

USAID’s Clean Cities, Blue Ocean program is piloting solutions to build coordinated solid waste systems with increased local government capacity. Despite efforts by the national and local government, 40 percent of urban residents do not have access to basic waste collection services and, country-wide, over half of the volume of plastic waste generated each year is not properly managed.



*Details on program activities, implementing partners, and grantees can be found on the program website, listed below.*

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### COUNTRY STATS

Generates approximately **7.8 million tons** of plastic waste each year

National goals aim to manage **100%** of solid waste by **2025**

**At the national level**, the program is supporting Indonesia to reduce land-based sources of ocean plastic pollution through its national Solid Waste Management Platform. As part of this work, it is also engaging in sites throughout Indonesia to pilot solutions to stop the flow of plastic pollution, including:

- In **Kota Semarang**, USAID is building local capacity for communities to manage solid waste aggregation facilities and enhance end markets; and empowering women to advance in the waste sector through training, mentorship, and the opportunity to receive funding to establish or expand entrepreneurial waste businesses.
- In **Kota Makassar**, USAID is working with local grantees to increase waste management capacity, improve community recycling systems and waste bank facilities, and enhance local government participation.
- In **Kota Ambon**, USAID is providing technical assistance to develop a Solid Waste Management Master Plan that will help the city to better understand its existing solid waste system and manage it more effectively.

## OUR LOCAL SYSTEMS APPROACH

In Indonesia, USAID is designing and implementing holistic strategies that address each step in the waste value chain—from production to end use—prioritizing the most inclusive, economically viable, and environmentally sustainable solutions. The program leverages local, national, and international technical expertise, paired with its grants program to implement locally-led, innovative, and proven solutions. Where possible, the program learns from and expands upon the success of proven initiatives by local government, non-governmental organizations, and the USAID Municipal Waste and Recycling Program (2016-2021).

The program's work supports **USAID's Five Building Blocks for Reduced Ocean Plastic Pollution:**



**1. Data-driven policies for circularity**



**2. Effective solid waste services and investment**



**3. Green jobs and local innovations**



**4. Sustained behavior change to reduce single-use plastics**



**5. An inclusive, just, and equitable system**

## IMPACTS AND RESULTS

In Indonesia, program impacts (to date) include:



Nearly **1.9 million individuals** reached through partnerships with government entities and research efforts under Clean Cities, Blue Ocean.



**Over 200 people** trained from local government, informal waste sector, and local organizations to build local capacity for solid waste management planning and programs.



Mobilized **over \$586,000** in investment from partnerships with local and regional solid waste management organizations.



**Over \$1.5 million** in grant funding awarded to local partners to implement effective, locally-led solutions.

## ABOUT CLEAN CITIES, BLUE OCEAN

Clean Cities, Blue Ocean is USAID's flagship program to combat ocean plastic pollution. The five-year (2019-2024), \$53 million program works at the global level and in specific, rapidly urbanizing focal countries to target ocean plastics directly at their source. By strengthening waste management and advancing or building circular economies, city by city, USAID builds sustainable solutions that reduce ocean plastics while empowering vulnerable populations and mitigating pollution that affects human health and our climate. The program is implemented by Tetra Tech, in partnership with a consortium of organizations that include the International City/County Management Association and The Manoff Group. Other partners include national and local government, members of the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and local women's and youth organizations.

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