

Community-Based Solid Waste Management: Earning by Greening Poor Communities in Metro Manila

Capability building / training services

Location : Tanza, Navotas City; Malibay, Pasay City; Bagong Silangan, Quezon City; Angat, Bulacan; Taytay, Rizal
Date : July 2009 – July 2011; extended February 2013 – October 2013
Client : ACCA Navotas Network

Project partners

- ACCA Navotas Network

Funding support

- Starbucks Social Entrepreneurs Fund
- Give2Asia Foundation

Contract / agreement value

- USD 13,063

Project brief

TAO-Pilipinas began training programs on community-based solid waste management (CBSWM) in urban poor communities in 2005 as a vital action towards helping create sustainable settlements. In 2009, the Starbucks Social Entrepreneurs Fund through Give2Asia gave a grant to support TAO's CBSWM project called "Earning by Greening Poor Communities in Metro Manila". The project aimed to generate livelihood opportunities from solid waste management, through segregation and recycling, composting, handicrafts production and urban gardening. It targeted youth leaders in poor communities in Tanza, Navotas City; Malibay, Pasay City; Bagong Silangan, Quezon City; Angat, Bulacan; and Taytay, Rizal. Youth groups were mobilized and along with their elder community leaders, they underwent training activities in solid waste management and workshops in creating products using recycled waste materials.

TAO developed a comprehensive module on CBSWM to orient participants on Republic Act 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act) and proper SWM practices. They also learned through field visits to communities with successful CBSWM initiatives. Livelihood development from SWM were initiated with workshops on rug-making and container gardening. Applying the knowledge gained from the trainings, the youth groups spearheaded the creation and maintenance of urban gardens in their respective communities. Compost tumblers, seed beds and plant nurseries were set-up, vegetable gardens were cultivated using recycled containers, and bio-digester units to process kitchen wastes were installed.

The project promoted CBSWM by integrating it with opportunities for home-based income generation and plant cultivation for household food needs. It also showed community youths can become active members when given the venue to contribute and lead in efforts to improve their communities. With better appreciation of SWM, the youth also influenced their own households by becoming more conscientious in segregating garbage and starting vegetable gardens in their backyards.

Project outputs

- Manual on Community-Based Solid Waste Management
- Trainings on Composting; Seedling Propagation; Container Gardening; and Rug Production
- Community Gardens
- Portable Composter and Biogas Digesters



Youth members of Damayan (Taytay, Rizal) tend to their community garden