

Barkada Kontra Basura "May Pera sa Basura" (Friends against Garbage) There is Money in a Trash

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ABSTRACT

Protecting the environment should be as important as the protection of your own life. Primarily, we all should be aware of the term environment. All living things survive within their own favorable zones of the environment - thus the environment is not something that can be neglected easily without caring for it. It is very important for us to protect our environment, so that we can continue to live on this planet - in a healthy and safe atmosphere.

It is essential for us to segregate waste so that we can protect everybody's health. We must not only focus on caring about our health. Proper waste disposal and management can be done by applying the 3R – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Reducing means lessening the amount of trash/garbage produced. Reusing refers to using materials more than once while recycling means creating new material or product out of trash/garbage.

Environmental protection is one of the basic prerequisites for the overall development of any country in the world. As awareness of environmental protection is developed, human awareness is also developed about the need to preserve the environment by preventing adverse impacts on nature. Law, as a scientific discipline, plays a significant role in these endeavors.

The school was awarded as GOLD AWARDEE in three (3) consecutive years as the Most Clean and Green School during the search for Gawad Pangulo sa Kapitaligiran Program of the Municipality of Esperanza local government unit

KEYWORDS: *Barkada Kontra Basura*

Barkada Kontra Basura was created and organized last 2017 by Mrs. Honey Mae M. Dela Pena, Gawad sa kapitaligiran coordinator and Barkada kontra basura adviser and implementer. This project was launched to spread awareness about proper solid waste management system within the school by providing policies, rules and regulation that will help in reducing or lessening the percentage of the garbage of school. This project also helps the school to always maintain cleanliness and orderliness because everybody is involved. The project mainly focuses on the monitoring of waste inside and outside school. Parents, teachers, and stakeholders are aware of the policies being implemented by the school. It also develops the sense of environmental responsibility by throwing their garbage at the proper garbage bins. The officers of this project have different roles and

responsibilities to be followed for the purpose of achieving the goals and objectives of the team. Part of their action plan was the project to be implemented such as collection of used tires of motorcycles and other vehicles for the beautification and landscaping of the school Eco- Park, conduct advocacy campaign to every classroom, printing of the trash bins labels, recycled materials and many more. Through this project everyone is involved and has the responsibility to take his or his part as a member of the school.

This innovation aims to:

- Spread awareness about solid waste management
- Implement policies about proper disposal of waste
- Organized team of Barkada kontra basura
- Source out funds through solicitations, donations of waste which can be sold

How to cite this paper: Honey Mae M. Dela Pena "Barkada Kontra Basura "May Pera sa Basura" (Friends against Garbage) There is Money in a Trash" Published in

International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development (ijtsrd), ISSN: 2456-6470, Volume-6 | Issue-5, August 2022, pp.1886-1896, URL: www.ijtsrd.com/papers/ijtsrd51732.pdf



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- E. Maintain cleanliness and orderliness of the school
- F. Develop the sense of environmental responsibility

First month will be organizing the team and crafting policies, rules, and regulation to be followed by the teachers, pupils, parents, and school head. The next phase will be the policy orientation and dissemination followed by the implementation of the project. Daily monitoring will be conducted. The barkada kontra basura task force team and officers, will conduct a monitoring schedule where they are going to conduct a survey of their assigned areas to be checked, if they have found out garbage and non-segregation of waste, they issued a school citation ticket where the violators will choose if they conduct community service according to their grade level or donate waste that can be sold.

Schools can provide excellent educational opportunities for creating awareness about waste and its management. Waste reduction initiatives save natural resources, energy, and landfill space. Reducing, reusing, recycling and waste material will improve the economic and environmental performance of the school. The most important reason for waste collection is the protection of the environment and the health of the population. Solid waste management is a term that is used to refer to the process of collecting and treating solid wastes. It also offers solutions for recycling items that do not belong to garbage or trash. As long a people have been living in a community garbage or solid waste is an issue. It helps in minimizing the extraction of resources along with reducing pollution and energy consumption which is associated with manufacturing new materials. One of the most significant benefits of waste management is the protection of the environment and the health of the population. It is essential for us to segregate waste so that we can protect everybody's health. We must not only focus on caring about our health here. If these wastes are segregated properly.

San Toribio Elementary School supports the program of the local government units through Barkada kontra Basura (Friends Against Garbage) every year. This group raised awareness and developed sense of responsibility of every student through implementation of school environmental policy. The school is always promoting a garbage free community. Through the collaborative efforts of every individual living in the community and where

the school is located. This team was created to introduced ways on how to save, protect and conserve Mother Earth and implement policies which will help lessen and reduce waste in the school and can profit through *pera sa basura* under the advisory of Mrs. Honey Mae M. Dela Pena, Barkada Kontra Basura (BKB) Friends Against Garbage.

The school also is known for its active participation on the program of Barangay and Municipal Search for Gawad Pangulo sa Kapitaligiran where clean and green environment is the main goal of the program. As part of Advocacy and sustainability, the school initiated and introduced Mr. and Ms. Eco-Friendly. This activity promotes "May Pera sa Basura", all classrooms are given 3 months to collect garbage which can be sold to garbage buyer or collector. Those classrooms who raised higher money will be gain the 50% of its total points and another 50% will be given to the winner of recycled costume and qualify the question-and-answer portion. This activity helps the students, teachers, and even community to raised awareness of environmental responsibility and concerns. It also raises funds to be used for classroom essential needs such as garbage bins, trash bins, trash label and other needs in classrooms. There is a great help in reducing garbage in the community by raising awareness to the students. This will help them realize that we are responsible of our trash. And most importantly, there is money in the trash or garbage.

This group is composed of selected pupils from kindergarten to grade 6. They will be involved in the monitoring of the implementation. There are projects of the group such as solicitation of waste to be recycled and used in the improvement of school Eco-Park and *pera sa basura* to raise funds to purchase essential materials to be used in school and classroom. The school consistently awarded as gold awardee and First Placer during the search for Municipal Clean and Green Contest from the Municipal Environment Natural Resources (MENRO).

For the past 3 years, San Toribio Elementary School collected almost 30 sacks of waste every 2 weekly of which 20 sacks composed of residual waste and recyclable waste, 8 sacks composed of biodegradable waste and 2 sacks composed of special and hazardous waste. This waste was collected because the school has no strict implementation on Solid waste management

No.	Grade Level	Residual	Biodegradable	Recyclable	Special	Total Waste
1	Kinder	1		1		2
2	Grade I	2		2		4
3	Grade 2	3		3		6
4	Grade 3	2		1		3
5	Grade 4	1	2	1		4
6	Grade 5	½	3	1	1	5 ½
7	Grade 6	½	3	1	1	5 ½
Total		10	8	10	2	30

Table 1: Garbage Collection 2016

The table shows that Grade 2 has the highest number of waste collection, followed by Grade 5 & 6. The least garbage or waste collection is coming from Kinder since they have a less time spent in school. Grade 5 & 6 has the least waste collection of residuals since Grade 6 practiced the recycling activity integrated in their lesson.

Since 2017, the school adopted the policy of Esperanza and Barangay Resolution on strict implementation of Solid Waste Management to reduce amount of residual and Recyclable waste. The school also participates the Gawad Kalasag Search for Excellence in DRRM and Gawad Pangulo sa Kapitaligiran Search for Clean, Green and Most Bloom School. Through strong partnership of the internal and external stakeholders in promoting healthy and clean community where the school can be found became the best practice of everyone.

Table on Garbage Collection for year 2020

No.	Grade Level	Residual	Biodegradable	Recyclable	Special	Total Waste
1	Kinder	½		½		1
2	Grade I	½		½		1
3	Grade 2	½		½		1
4	Grade 3	½		½		1
5	Grade 4	½				½
6	Grade 5				½	½
7	Grade 6				½	½
Total		2 ½		2	1	5 ½

Table 2: Garbage Collection 2020

Municipality of Esperanza is known for its strict implementation of Solid waste management program through Gawad Pangulo sa Kapitaligiran, a search for cleanest and most bloom school in Esperanza.

San Toribio Elementary School adopted the policy on Republic Act (RA) 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000. The law was crafted in response to the looming garbage problems in the country. RA 9003 declares the policy of the state in adopting a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological solid waste management program that ensures the protection of public health and the environment and the proper segregation, collection, transport, storage, treatment, and disposal of solid waste through the formulation and adoption of best environmental practices.

Thus, San Toribio Elementary School initiated an activity which will cater the essential needs of every classroom and spread environmental awareness through “Search for Ginoo at Binibining Kalikasan”. The search has two categories such as Best in Recycled Costumes (30%) and Pera sa Basura Income (50%) and Environmental Interview (20%) a total of 100%. Each classroom selected 1 male and 1 female representative in each grade level. Through this activity, every classroom has an income to be used in providing their essential needs about DRR/CCA/EIE integration such as go bag, health kit, soap, comfort room maintenance etc. this activity also helped in reducing waste in our community because the materials to be used for costume category. San Toribio Elementary School has 13 classrooms from kindergarten to Grade VI having two sections in each grade level.

1. Conduct meeting / Planning

San Toribio Elementary School introduce the planning of activity on school environmental policy, solid waste management and Ginoo at Binibining Kalikasan by the Gawad Pangulo sa Kapitaligiran adviser Mrs. Honey Mae M. Dela Pena. She explained the purpose and benefits of this plan to our learners, teachers, stakeholders, and community as well. The plan supported by the different organizations in school such as School Governing

Council, Board of Directors from GPTCA, Staff, Environmental organization of teachers, Pupils Environmental Concern Organization, Barkada Kontra Basura and Barangay Council.



Left (GPTCA approval of the policy and Ginoo at Bb Kalikasan 2019), center (staff meeting on the planning phase of the project) right(attended Brgy. Session for the approval of the plan or project).



Left (Board of Directors meeting about the plans and activities to be conducted) center (PECO officers meeting on how to contribute in accomplishing the plans) right (School Governing Council in attendance during the brainstorming and planning phase of the projects).



Left (introduction of the projects during homeroom meeting) center (Staff Meeting with the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources team from Esperanza who helped on how to implemented and crafting of the policy) right (Barkada Kontra Basura Team election of officers).

2. Info drive

Many strategies have been made to disseminate information about the projects and activities of the school in promoting environmental awareness and raising funds through Pera sa Basura. These are advocacy campaign of Barkada Kontra Basura Team, Pupils Environmental Concern Organization, and Staff environmental organization through room-to-room information drive, film viewing on the effects of global warming because of non-segregation and proper disposal of waste, symposium and discussion on eco-bricks making and the 5 r's at school Eco-Park, Bandilyo through parade within the Barangay, regular announcement of the policy during flag ceremony. Through this information dissemination, everyone is aware of the policies, rules and regulation in imposing strictly the said innovation or best practice.



Advocacy Campaign of Barkada Kontra Basura Team in every classroom.



Left (Symposium and lecture on Eco-Bricks making and 5 r's at School Eco-Park) Right (Bandilyo or parade as a mean of informative drive and participated by pupils from Kinder to Grade 6 and teachers).



Left (announcement of school environmental policy during flag ceremony every Monday and Friday) right (film showing on the effects of global warming due to improper waste disposal and how to take care our Mother Earth for the next generation).

Each classroom needs essential materials or equipment to sustain their daily consumption. Climate Change is evident, reduction of disaster risk and building resilient school as well as communities and develop responsive citizenry thru environmental awareness.

A. Objectives

Almost a kilo of waste is generated by every individual every day according to statistics and approximately 750 grams of it is generated by one (1) person only on a non-biodegradable waste. This study aims to:

1. Strengthen the advocacy on the protection of environment by implementing 5 Rs
- A. Refuse and Reduce production of waste;

- B. Re- use and Recycle waste produce at home and in school;
- C. Re-invent non-biodegradable waste
 - 1.1. (to purchase classroom essential needs)
 - 1.2. spread awareness on environmental concern through reduce, reuse and recycled;
 - 1.3. raise funds through pera sa basura as income generating project to purchase classroom needs
 - 1.4. sustain the implementation of clean, green and most bloom activity.
- D. Ways and Means
 - 1. Creation of Committees
 - 2. Conduct meeting / Planning
 - 3. Info-Drive
 - 4. Implementation of Programs and Project

Accomplishment Report on Ginoo at Binibining Kalikasan 2019



San Toribio Elementary School initiated activity which promotes environmental awareness through Ginoo at Binibining Kalikasan 2019. The costumes used by the candidates were recycled materials. The pageant has 2 major categories, one is Pera sa Basura income 50% and costume 50%. This innovation aims to advocate the love for our environmental through using recycled products to lessen the waste that can cause our community unhealthy.

Annually, this activity will be sustained throughout the school year. It helped the school and classrooms provide necessary things through pera sa basura.

Recycled Materials



Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from rubbish in landfill sites. Recycling helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste. Habitat destruction and global warming are some of the effects caused by deforestation. Recycling reduces the need for raw materials so that the rainforests can be preserved. Recycling is important in today's world if we want to leave this planet for our future generations. It is good for the environment, since we are making new products from the old products which are of no use to us. Recycling begins at home. If you are not throwing away any of your old product and instead utilizing it for something new, then you are recycling. When you think of recycling you should really think about the whole idea; reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Accomplishment Report on some programs and projects



Garbage collection schedule on monthly collection of garbage in every classroom



Every 3rd Friday of the Month is the schedule of garbage collection from Municipality of Esperanza MENRO. All garbage from Material Recovery Facility of the school will be collected as one where every classroom deposits their waste so that their classroom will be clean daily.



Garbage collection schedule on monthly collection of garbage in every classroom



Municipality of Esperanza is known for its clean and green programs. One of these programs is Eco-Bricks making where every pupil is required 1 bottle of residual waste weighing 1 kilo in every bottle by the help of their parents. This Eco-Bricks will be made into a Sala set and placed at school DRR room. Some eco-bricks were used for landscaping purposes.

Pera sa Basura



Pera sa Basura





Because of this programs and projects, San Toribio Elementary School has no citation ticket every evaluation from MENRO Esperanza since the school implemented the school environmental policy. The school also awarded as First Place in the Search for Gawad Pangulo sa Kapaligiran: A search for Cleanest, Greenest and Most Bloom School for the 3 consecutive years.

Aside from awards, the most important element is discipline. Every pupil and teacher have self-discipline in terms of caring our environment and following the policy that the school has been implementing. They learned that when waste is disposed properly, it helps to prevent additional pollution which can improve public health. Polluted air increases the risk of respiratory illness. Waste that is properly disposed has a lesser chance of getting sick and maintaining environment a clean one.

Through this innovation, there is a great impact and positive output in bringing the school and community into a safe, clean, green, and most recognized school in terms of solid waste management. Through the cooperation, support, participation and unity of pupils, teacher, internal and external stakeholders, different agencies from Municipal Environment and Natural Resources, Local Government Unit of Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, Caraga Region, Province of Agusan del Sur, Mindanao, Philippines.

BARKADA KONTRA BASURA TEAM

President: April John P. Alonzo

Vice: Niko Tolibas

Secretary: Eljie Sapon

Treasurer: Jether Balamad

Auditor: Marjan Arsenia

P.I.O: Marwen Arsenia

Bus. Manager: Charlie Balamad

Axel Bruce Japitan

SGT.AT ARMS:

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Muse: Nelthia Tolibas

Prince Charming:

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JANE

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JEMARIE

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PLONGKOY



HONEY MAE M. DELA PENA

BKB Adviser

Barkada Kontra Basura Organization/Committee

Committee on Greening Program

Chairman: Emma C. Madrinan

Member: Maria Luz O. Porsalido

Committee on Waste Management

Chairman: Honey Mae M. Dela Pena

Members: Avelino V. Acantilado

Cristina O. Dano

Genalyn D. Robles

Committee on DRR/CCA Program

Chairman: Ryan T. Budumo

Member: James Padecio

Committee on Water Conservation

Chairman: Monica R. Plaza

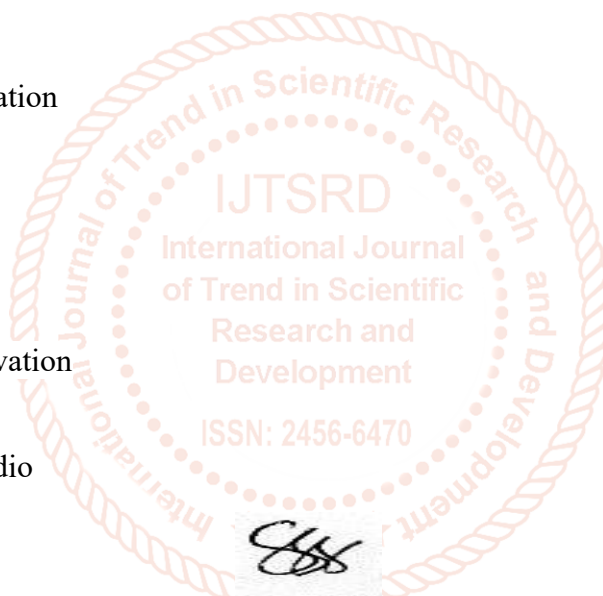
Member: Sagracion S. Saul

Maria Salome G. Balamad

Committee on Energy Conservation

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Member: Maria Lota M. Erandio



HONEY MAE M. DELA PENA

Overall Chairman/Proponent