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THE MAKE THE CASE EAST-ASIA TEAMS FOR FINALS

THEME 1

Team: E-Co, Ateneo de Manilia University and Mapau University
Initiative: Green Antz's Ecohubs
Location: Luzon, Philippines
About Initiative: Ecohubs is a waste management and treatment facility for plastic waste that creates one of their products, Ecobricks. By producing Ecobricks through Ecohubs, Green Antz can reduce plastic waste and lessen carbon dioxide emissions from manufacturing bricks. They do this by collecting plastic waste from the various drop-off points scattered in Luzon, Philippines. Sustainability programs can adopt Ecohubs as it is designed to be socially inclusive. They also work hand-in-hand with large corporations such as malls, barangays, and communities to recycle and manage their waste.

Team: Plastic Sister Flowers, Singapore Management University
Initiative: Waterway Watch Society
Location: Singapore
About Initiative: The Waterways Watch Society is a non-governmental and non-profit environmental organization, based in Singapore. **Its** initial focus was to keep Singapore's waterways clean and safe for all to enjoy by organizing voluntary clean-up patrols on the weekends. Over the past two decades, the mission has broadened to spread awareness of plastic waste in Singapore and the need to take back control of the environment.

Team: Help Help Horray, Ateneo de Manila University
Initiative: WOW-BFFP-NegrosOr's Apo Island Goes Zero Waste
Location: Apo Island in Negros Oriental, Philippines
About Initiative: The main obstacle preventing the community from progressing was not necessarily a lack of awareness, but a lack of resources. Upon the arrival of WOW-BFFP-NegrosOr in 2020, residents were invited to participate in informational campaigns and skill-building workshops where they learned different techniques related to composting and waste assessment. By partnering with other organizations, Apo Island was able to establish proper solid waste management systems and facilities. One of the notable initiatives is setting up a materials recovery facility (MRF) on the island which integrated residual waste into construction aggregates and resort furnishings. To address the issue of sachet waste, the organization also introduced refillable zero-waste products like soaps. In the near future, WOW-BFFP-NegrosOr hopes to expand their work to neighboring islands.

Team: Team Microseekers, Ateneo de Manila University
Initiative: City of San Fernando Pampanga (CSFP)
Location: San Fernando Pampanga, Philippines
About Initiative: The CSFP addresses this plastic waste problem through the collaboration of different sectors of society to cultivate a circular waste stream in the barangay level using a combination of short-term (e.g. low cost and local materials for MRF construction, city and barangay ordinances) and long-term (e.g. information and education campaigns, segregation, decentralized collection) strategies. Despite RA 9003 passing into law ~20 years ago, few cities have executed a holistic solid waste approach to the extent that the CSFP has.

Team: Polymarine (Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University
Initiative: Plastic Fisher's Triple L Initiative
Location: City of Bandung, the provincial capital in West Java, Indonesia
About Initiative: Plastic Fischer's Triple L Initiative can attack the problem of plastic waste in the Citarum River, one of the most polluted rivers in the world, swiftly, at scale, and with the involvement of local communities through the use of local, low-cost, and low-tech solutions. They invented the TrashBoom, a quick and simple way to halt floating debris in waterways on the spot. It is ideal for large regions with slow flow rates and it self-aligns and adjusts to the water level. Moreover, the initiative can be swiftly reproduced, repaired, and developed in emerging areas in East Asia.

THEME 2

Team Animocean, De La Salle University
Initiative: Trashcash PH
Location: Cabangan, Zambales, Philippines
About Initiative: TrashCashPH provides an innovative and sustainable mobile application to the growing problem of plastic pollution in the Philippines. It is a software-oriented company that collects plastic wastes from users and conducts a trackable analysis of their disposal activity real-time. After depositing plastics, users can earn points that are equivalent to the number of kilos that they deposited to the drop-off stations for plastics. In return, these points can later be utilized for rewards from sponsors displayed on the mobile application, which help users win coupons and eco-friendly souvenirs. Plastics will then be delivered to manufacturers who will produce upcycled merchandise.

Team: Dreamers and Doers, Ateneo De Manila University
Initiative: Aling Tindera Network
Location: Manila, Philippines
About Initiative: The Aling Tindera program is a waste-to-cash program that involves local networks of women micro-entrepreneurs, most of whom own sari-sari stores (small, home-based convenience stores found in many Filipino neighborhoods); community members and the informal waste collecting sector; and local and multinational corporations seeking to offset their plastic production. Aling Tinderas are commissioned as community collection points where community members can bring and sell plastics for additional income. Furthermore, each site has a container van, balers, and scales where the collected plastics are compacted and prepared for recycling by processing partners (e.g. Nestlé Philippines) — preventing them from clogging waterways, polluting major water bodies, and intensifying hazards such as flooding.

Team: Team Rosas, Ateneo deo Manila University
Initiative: The Plastic Flamingo's Upcycling Projects
Location: Manila, Philippines
About Initiative: Plastic Flamingo ("the PLAF") collects all types of plastic waste throughout Metro Manila by partnering with various brick-and-mortar stores and companies. These plastic wastes are then brought to their warehouse in Muntinlupa for sorting, shredding, and processing into new upcycled materials used for construction. Part of the innovation is to start close to the source by collecting plastic waste on land before it reaches the waters. A network of over 200 pickup points including public drop off points were installed to continuously collect plastic wastes as we engage with the community. To close the loop, these collected plastic wastes are then upcycled into new products.

Team: The Scavengers, Macao Institute for Tourism Studies
Initiative: Jing Ling Recycling Bus
Location: Hangzhou, China
About Initiative: The proposed initiative named "Jing Ling Recycling Bus", is established in October 2019 within Xihu District. It is the first special line for the removal and transportation of polluted and disposable plastic in Zhejiang Province, China. The purpose of the initiative is collecting the wasted plastic, and it was divided into three processes systematically. In the frontend, through cooperating with 155 office buildings,171 units (stores, schools, merchants), 50 living communities (as of March 2022), the specific staffs conduct door-to-door publicity and education, and collecting the wasted plastic from them. The professional team standardize the establishment of temporary dump sites, and set up a unified waste classification information publicity and guidance system. In the middle-end, collect the wasted by compression truck with the online information platform and intelligent identification system. Finally, the wasted plastic is transported to Zhejiang Sino Ecological Agriculture Co. LTD. Then, the wasted plastic become usable paper, plastic pellets, and aluminum pellets.

Team: Team HKUST, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Initiative: The Plastic Flamingo
Location: Manila, Philippines
About Initiative: Founders François and Charlotte Lesage, to help fight plastic pollution, created 'The Plastic Flamingo', a social enterprise that collects non-circular plastics and transforms them into circular plastics – covering everything from sustainable construction material (wood-alternative for buildings) to pre-made furniture (chairs, tables, etc.). Plaf has created an attractive business due to the value proposition of their various offerings. Since the products made from plastic waste are durable, UV-absorbent, water/rust/termite-proof and 100% recyclable (eco-lumber can be given back to Plaf for recycling), customers receive clear long-term benefits compared to traditional bricks or usual wood.

Note: Teams were presented in no-particular order