

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP



2018 REPORT



Ministry of the Presidency
Department of Environment



Green State
Development Strategy
VISION2040

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288 volunteers



~1465 kilograms of trash



~5 kilometers

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A WORD FROM THE PARTNERS- CYEN



Over the last five (5) years, persons volunteering with the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) in Guyana have been among the countries who have mobilized millions of volunteers to participate in the International Coastal Cleanup. This initiative is in care of the Ocean Conservancy which aims to identify types of marine debris, redirect debris from getting to our ocean, remove trash from our ocean and waterways.

CYEN has over the last five (5) years, conducted mainly coastal cleanups with numerous volunteers which we refer to them as citizen scientists to not only remove the debris but gathered data on what debris is found on our beaches and Guyanese consumption patterns based on what they are leaving in these areas.

Complied here is a presentation of this information and trends noted from the cleanups over the years. It is aimed at enlightening the members of the public on what the trends are in Guyana and determining the solutions to the issue of marine debris and creating a healthy ocean. This can translate to more than just a beautiful coastline, clean recreational facility, and vibrant ocean wildlife. But if the ocean isn't healthy, neither will we. The ocean is a source of food, livelihood, water and the even oxygen that we must preserve through responsible actions.



A WORD FROM THE PARTNERS- EPA GUYANA



Waste management is one of the most pervasive issues of our times. Mass production and consumption and indiscriminate disposal of waste seems to have proliferated every tier of our society. However, in an era of global Environmental change, Guyana has to position itself to implement robust but practical and effective systems to stymie the repulsive habit of littering and poor waste management practices. Undoubtedly, the country has made significant strides in regard, from the enactment of the Litter Regulations in 2013 and the banning of importation of Styrofoam on January 1, 2016; to the draft Solid Waste Management Bill and the numerous efforts by the EPA and Ministry of Communities to arrest the waste management issue.

Further, in 2019, the Government of Guyana has carved a comprehensive plan for Guyana's development through the finalisation of the Green State Development Strategy. Moreover, on the brink of the impending ban on single-use plastics in 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency reaffirms its commitment to clean and healthy environment. This is seen not only in our improved policies and programmes but also in the Agency's ardent support for education and awareness and by extension International Coastal cleanup (ICC) over the years. ICC targets the source of the waste problem; the people and their attitudes towards the environment. The Agency by collaborating with various organisations and volunteers' collects data on types, quantities and categories of waste on our shorelines for informed decision making. The report focuses on data from two of the common recreational spots in Georgetown and Berbice; the Kingston seawall and the #63 beach. Additionally, it highlights status and trends, types, quantities and categories of data collected and relevant data to effect policies and systems necessary for behavioural change.



The EPA will be the guardians of the environment to ensure our coastal and marine resources are protected. We want to send a resounding message to all Guyana, that ICC is not just about picking up garbage and making way for people to dirty the area again, it speaks in a very candid way to us as Guyanese and our lifestyles, what? and how much? we consume. It helps us to understand the source of the problem!

Styrofoam for example, use to be a major items which littered the shorelines. However, with the ban on Styrofoam, it's almost nonexistent in the marine debris collected during the cleanup exercises. Our coastlines doesn't have to be littered with garbage, what we need is citizen participation! Remember the change starts with YOU!!!!

ABOUT ICC

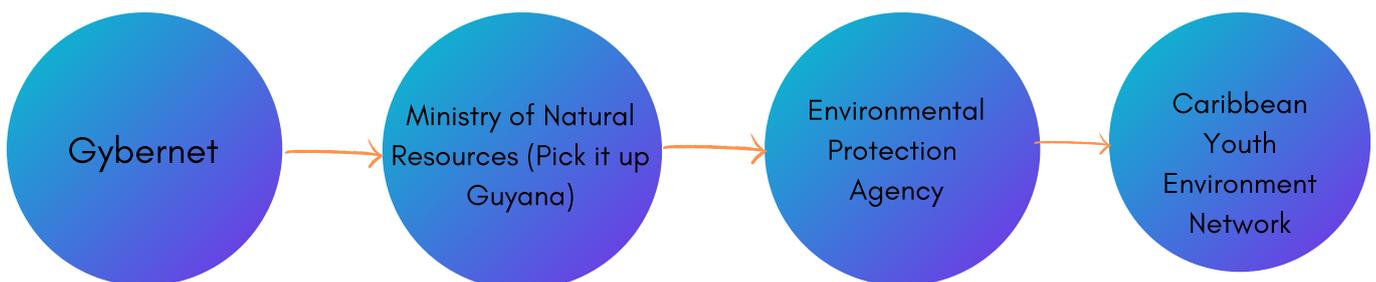
Harnessing the power of people to fight ocean trash

The International Coastal Cleanup began more than 30 years ago, when communities rallied together with the common goal of collecting and documenting the trash littering their coastline. The movement was catalyzed by the passion and spirit of two committed individuals. Back in 1986, Linda Maraniss moved to Texas from Washington, DC, where she had been working for Ocean Conservancy. She'd been inspired by the work her Ocean Conservancy colleague Kathy O'Hara was doing on a groundbreaking report called *Plastics in the Ocean: More than a Litter Problem* that would be published the next year.

Linda and Kathy reached out to the Texas General Land Office, local businesses and other dedicated ocean-lovers, and planned what would become Ocean Conservancy's first Cleanup. They asked volunteers to go beyond picking up trash and record each item collected on a standardized data card in order to identify ways to eliminate ocean trash in the future.

The cleanup has grown immensely in the 30 years since Linda and Kathy's first cleanup. Volunteers from states and territories throughout the U.S. and more than 100 countries come together each year and participate in a cleanup event near them.

The organisation of ICC in Guyana



A CLOSER LOOK AT THE BANDSTAND

The Georgetown Seawall Bandstand was built in 1903 with public funds as a memorial to Queen Victoria. It was commissioned by Sir James Alexander Swettenham (1846-1933), who was at that time the Governor of British Guiana. During the colonial era, the bandstand was used for performances by the British Guiana Militia Band. The shelter that is situated to the north of the bandstand, called the Koh-i-noor Shelter, was also built in 1903.

In 2010, the bandstand was adopted by the Guyana Police Force.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgetown_Seawall_Bandstand

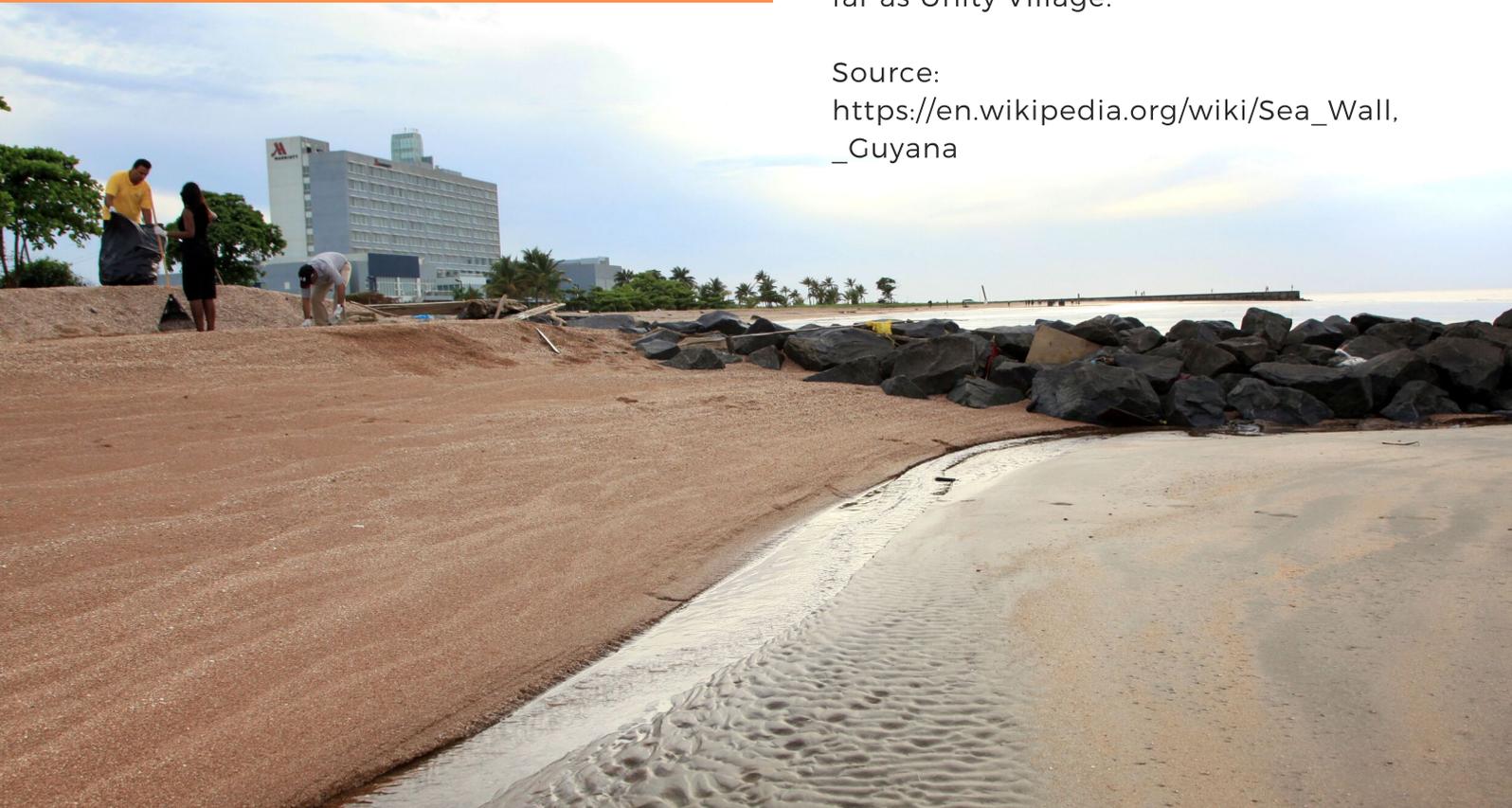
KINGSTON SEAWALL

The sea wall is a 280-mile seawall that runs along much of Guyana's coastline, and all of the coastline in the capital city of Georgetown. It protects settlements in the coastal areas of Guyana, most of which are below sea level at high tide.

Construction of the sea wall began in 1855 after a flood in February of that year inundated the Kingston ward of Georgetown and washed away Camp House (the former residence for governors of the colony). The first section, which ran from Fort Groyne to Round House was completed by 1860. In 1874, the Public Works department of British Guiana committed to the construction of a continuous wall from Camp Street to Kitty. By 1882, the Sea Wall had been extended to reach as far as Unity Village.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_Wall,_Guyana





#63 BEACH

63 Beach Berbice lies near Corriverton on the southeast Atlantic coast close to the Suriname border. The beach stretches for about 10 miles connecting several villages along the Corentyne River.

<https://www.thingsguyana.com/63-beach-guyana/>

ICC has been held in other locations over the years.



Wismar and
Mackenzie riverside



Anna Regina
seaside



Uitvlugt Seawall

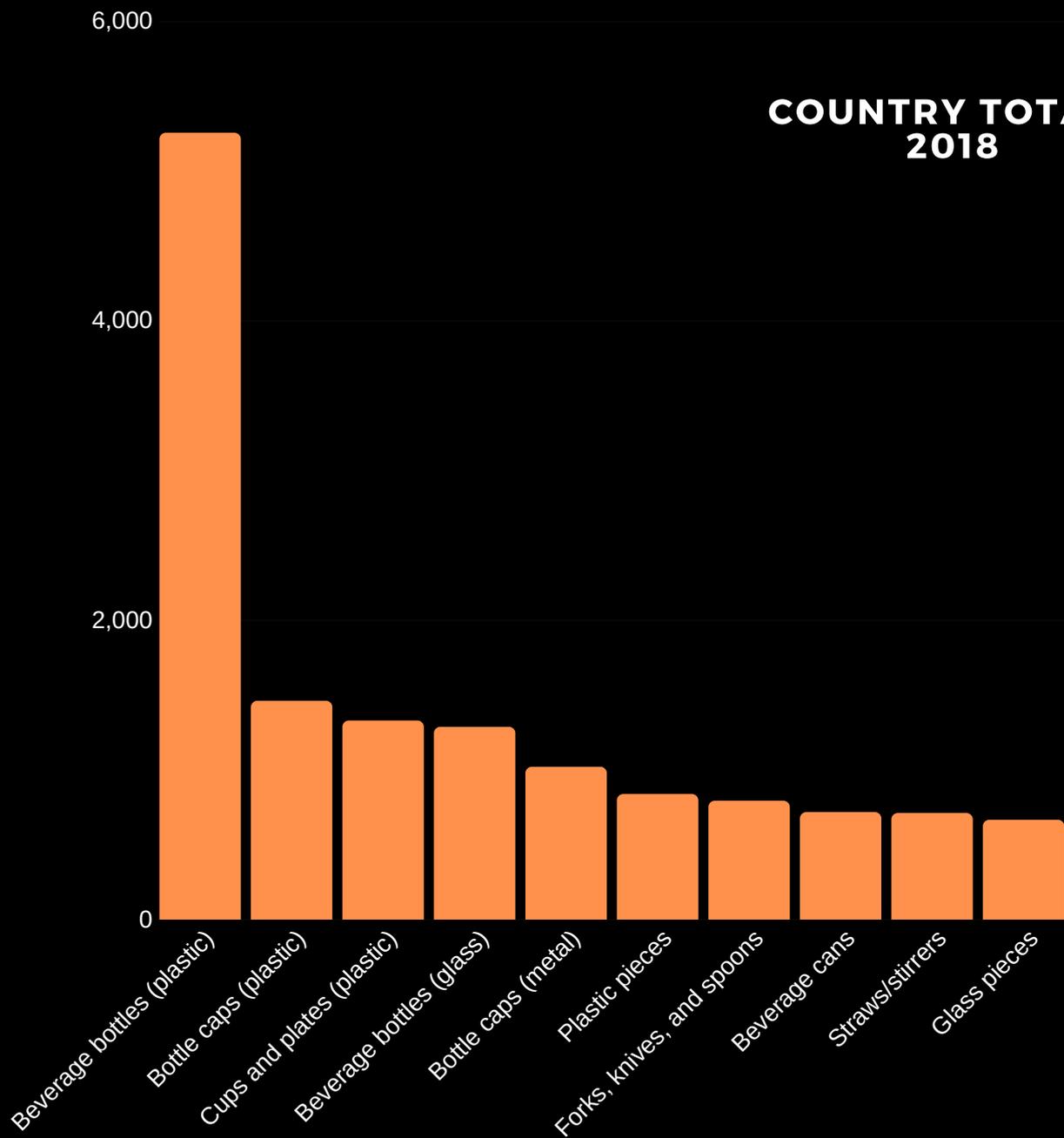
OUR PARTNERS

Our sincere thanks go out to the individuals and organisations who have supported ICC over the years.

- GIA Key Club
- Leo club of Ruimveldt
- Eco Trust Society
- Mangrove Department
- Marian Academy Environmental Club
- Lions club of Georgetown
- Lions club of Bel Air
- President's Youth Award Programme Guyana
- Youth Action Network
- Bravo Arts
- Youth Media Guyana
- American International School of Medicine
- Grace Environmental Rangers
- GUYSUCO Training School
- University of Guyana-Biology Club
- Global Shapers- Georgetown Hub
- Guyana Energy Agency
- Habitat for Humanity
- Government Technical Institute
- Come Alive Network Inc.
- CDC Volunteers
- Red Cross Youth Group
- Young and Thoughtful Youth Club
- Rotaract Club - UG
- Repsol Guyana
- McKenzie Scouts Group
- Leo club of East Demerara
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- Guyana Youth Environment Network

**"IT IS OUR COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL
RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT AND NURTURE
THE GLOBAL FAMILY, TO SUPPORT ITS
WEAKER MEMBERS AND TO PRESERVE AND
TEND TO THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE
ALL LIVE."
- THE DALAI LAMA**

COUNTRY TOTALS 2018



1. Beverage bottles (plastic) - 5252

2. Bottle caps (plastic) - 1457

3. Cups and plates (plastic) - 1325

4. Beverage bottles (glass) - 1283

5. Bottle caps (metal) - 1016

6. Plastic pieces - 834

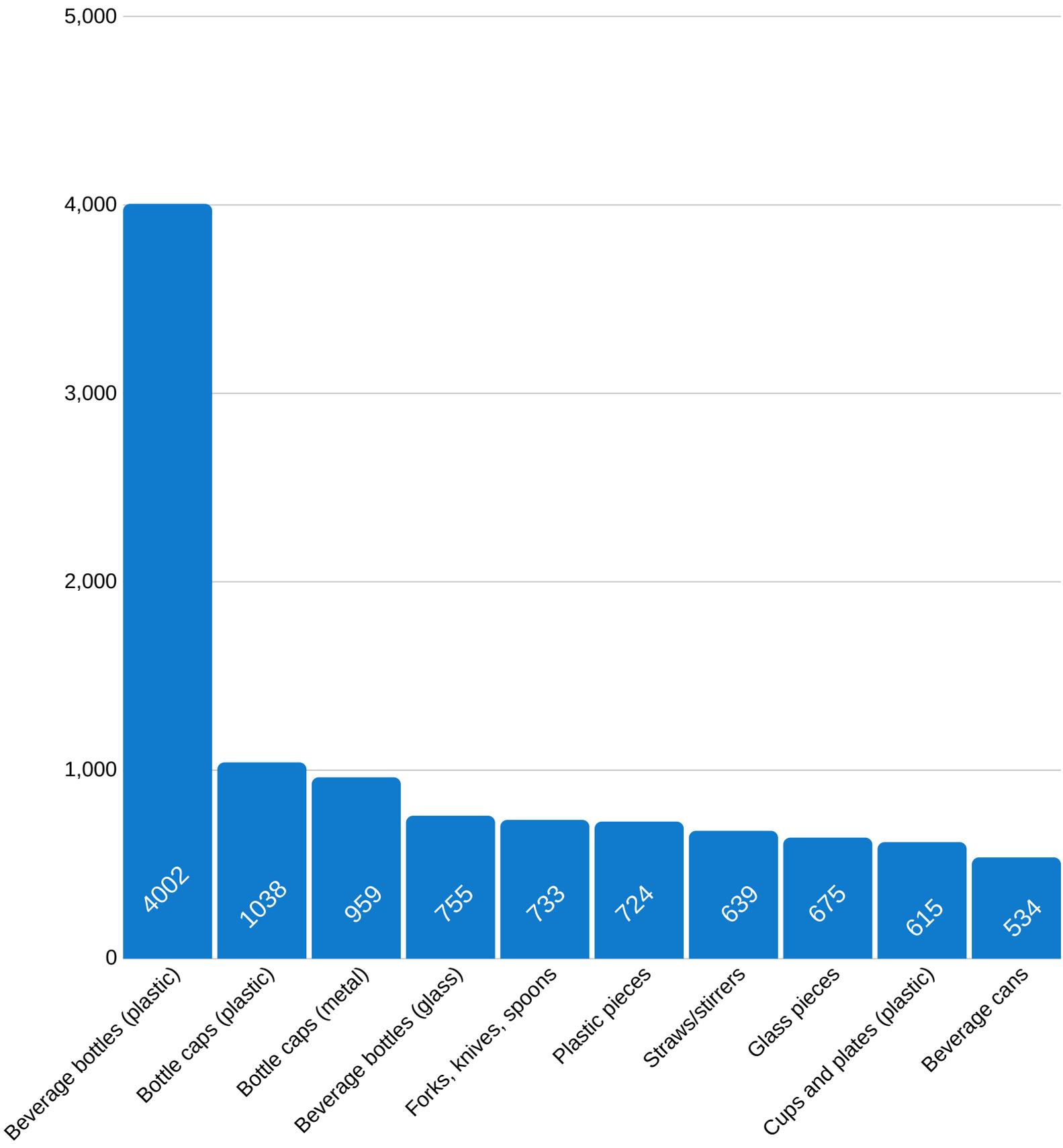
7. Forks, knives, spoons - 789

8. Beverage cans - 713

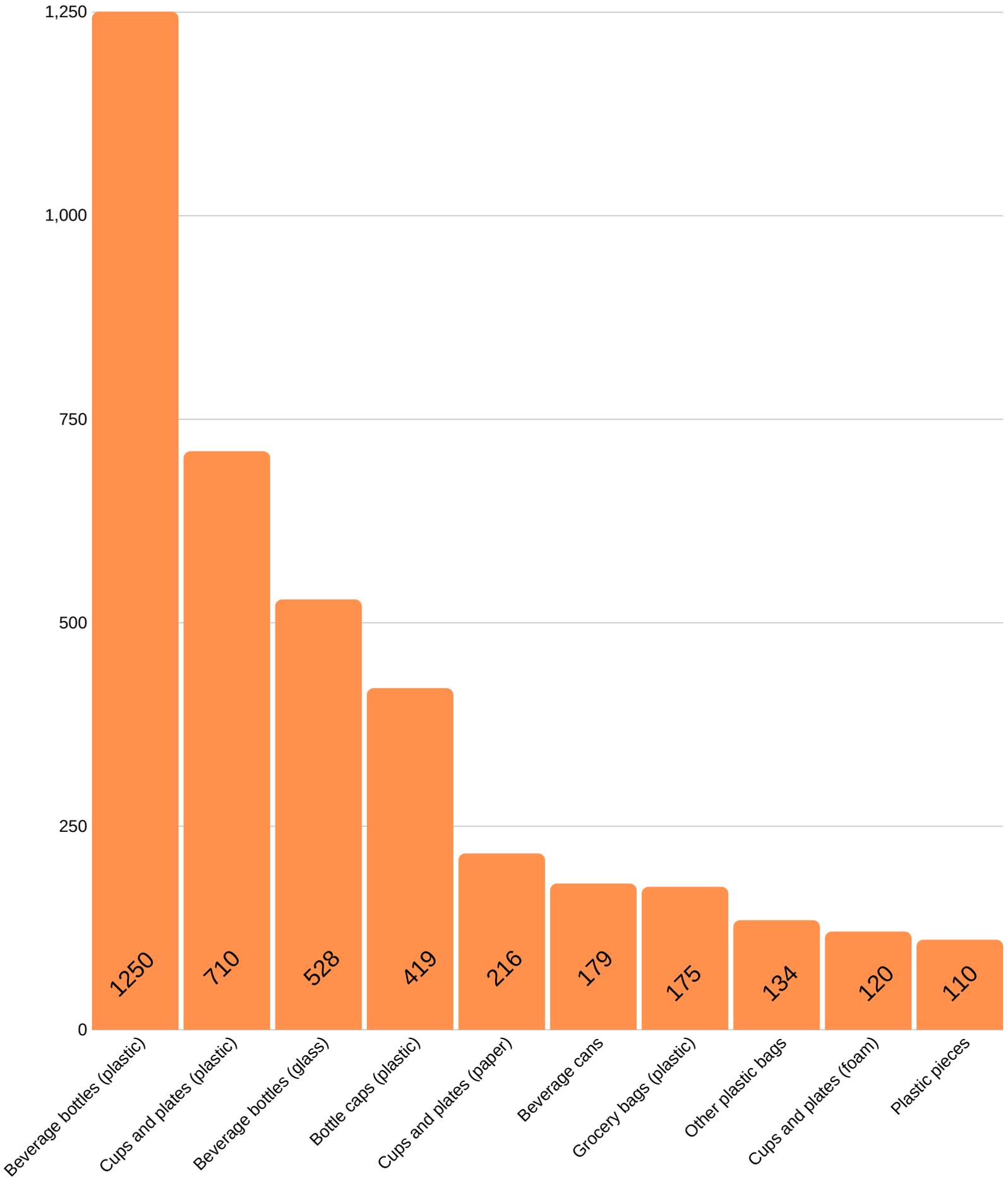
9. Straws/stirrers - 707

10. Glass pieces - 662

GEORGETOWN TOTALS



BERBICE TOTALS





UNUSUAL FINDS



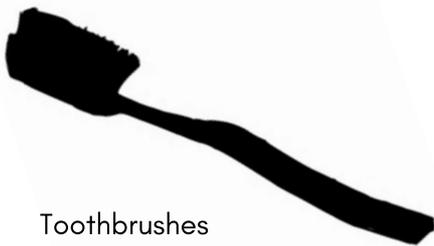
Baby bags



Buckets



Candles



Toothbrushes



Footwear



Car seats



Travelling bags





Sample data cards: Data cards are used to record the amount and type of trash collected which will later be analysed.

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DATA CARD



Thank you for participating in Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup (ICC). The commitment you have made today is the first step to ensuring we can enjoy a cleaner ocean all year-round. The data you collect during the Cleanup is invaluable to Ocean Conservancy's effort to start a sea change every day; helping us educate public, business, and government officials about the scale and serious consequences of the global marine debris problem. Thank you. We could not do it without your help!

1. CLEANUP SITE INFORMATION

Category of Cleanup (choose one): Coastal Inland Waterway (River/Stream/Tributary/Lake)

Type of Cleanup (choose one): Beach/Shoreline Underwater Watercraft (powerboat, sailboat, kayak or canoe)

Location of Cleanup: State _____ Country _____

Province _____ Zone or County Cleaned _____

Cleanup Site Name (beach, park, etc.) _____

Today's Date: Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____ Name of Coordinator _____

Number of People Working on This Card _____ Distance Cleaned _____ miles or _____ km

Number of Trash Bags Filled _____ Total Estimated Weight Collected _____ lbs. or _____ kgs.

Estimated Time Spent on Cleanup _____

2. CONTACT INFORMATION (EACH INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBER)

1. Name _____ 3. Name _____
 Email Address _____ Email Address _____

2. Name _____ 4. Name _____
 Email Address _____ Email Address _____

3. ENTANGLED ANIMALS

List all entangled animals found during the Cleanup. Record the type of debris they were entangled in, for example: fishing line, fishing nets, balloon string/ribbon, crab/lobster/fish traps, plastic bags, rope, six-pack rings, wire and other items (please specify).

Animal	Alive/Released or Dead	Entanglement Debris

4. WHAT WAS THE MOST PECULIAR ITEM YOU COLLECTED? _____

The following national and international organizations endorse and/or support the International Coastal Cleanup

- NOAA-Marine Debris Program
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
- IUCN-The World Conservation Union
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations' Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Please return this data to:

Victor Z. Manlapaz
 Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines
 1890 Paz Guazon St. Paco, Manila
 Tel (02) 866-2582 or (0917) 886-6054
 victor.manlapaz@ccbp.com.ph



TRASH COLLECTED

We are tracking certain types of trash to target policy and behaviour changes. You only need to record the items listed below. However, do pick up ALL trash you find. Thank you!

EXAMPLE

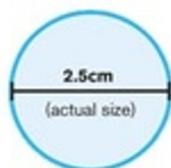
Plastic Bags:  = 8

Totals



Please **DO NOT** use words or check marks
Only **numbers** are useful data.

MOST LIKELY TO FIND ITEMS:	TOTAL #		TOTAL #
Cigarette Butts:	=	Beverage Bottles (Plastic):	=
Food Wrappers (candy, chips, etc.) Butts:	=	Beverage Bottles (Glass):	=
Take Out/Away Containers (Plastic) Butts:	=	Beverage Cans:	=
Take Out/Away Containers (Foam) Butts:	=	Grocery Bags (Plastic):	=
Bottle Caps (Plastic):	=	Other Plastic Bags:	=
Bottle Caps (Metal):	=	Paper Bags:	=
Lids (Plastic):	=	Cups & Plates (Paper)	=
Straws/Stirrers:	=	Cups & Plates (Plastic):	=
Forks, Knives, Spoons:	=	Cups & Plates (Foam):	=
FISHING GEAR:	TOTAL #	PACKAGING MATERIALS:	TOTAL #
Fishing Buoys, Pots & Traps:	=	6 - Pack Holders:	=
Fishing Net & Pieces:	=	Other Plastic/Foam Packaging:	=
Rope (1 yard/meter=1 piece):	=	Other Plastic Bottles (oil, bleach, etc.):	=
Fishing Line (1 yard/meter=1 piece):	=	Strapping Bands:	=
		Tobacco/Cigarette Packaging/Wrappers:	=
OTHER TRASH:	TOTAL #	PERSONAL HYGIENE:	TOTAL #
Appliances (refrigerators, washers, etc.):	=	Condoms:	=
Balloons:	=	Diapers:	=
Cigar Tips:	=	Syringes:	=
Cigarette Lighters:	=	Sanitary Napkins, Tampons & Applicators:	=
Construction Materials:	=		
Fireworks:	=		
Tires:	=		
TINY TRASH LESS THAN 2.5 cm:	TOTAL #	ITEMS OF LOCAL CONCERN: (Identify 3 items)	TOTAL #
Foam Pieces:	=	1.	=
Glass Pieces:	=	2.	=
Plastic Pieces:	=	3.	=



DEAD / INJURED ANIMAL	STATUS	ENTANGLED	TYPE OF ENTANGLEMENT ITEM	TOTAL #
	Dead or Injured	Yes or No		
	Dead or Injured	Yes or No		
	Dead or Injured	Yes or No		

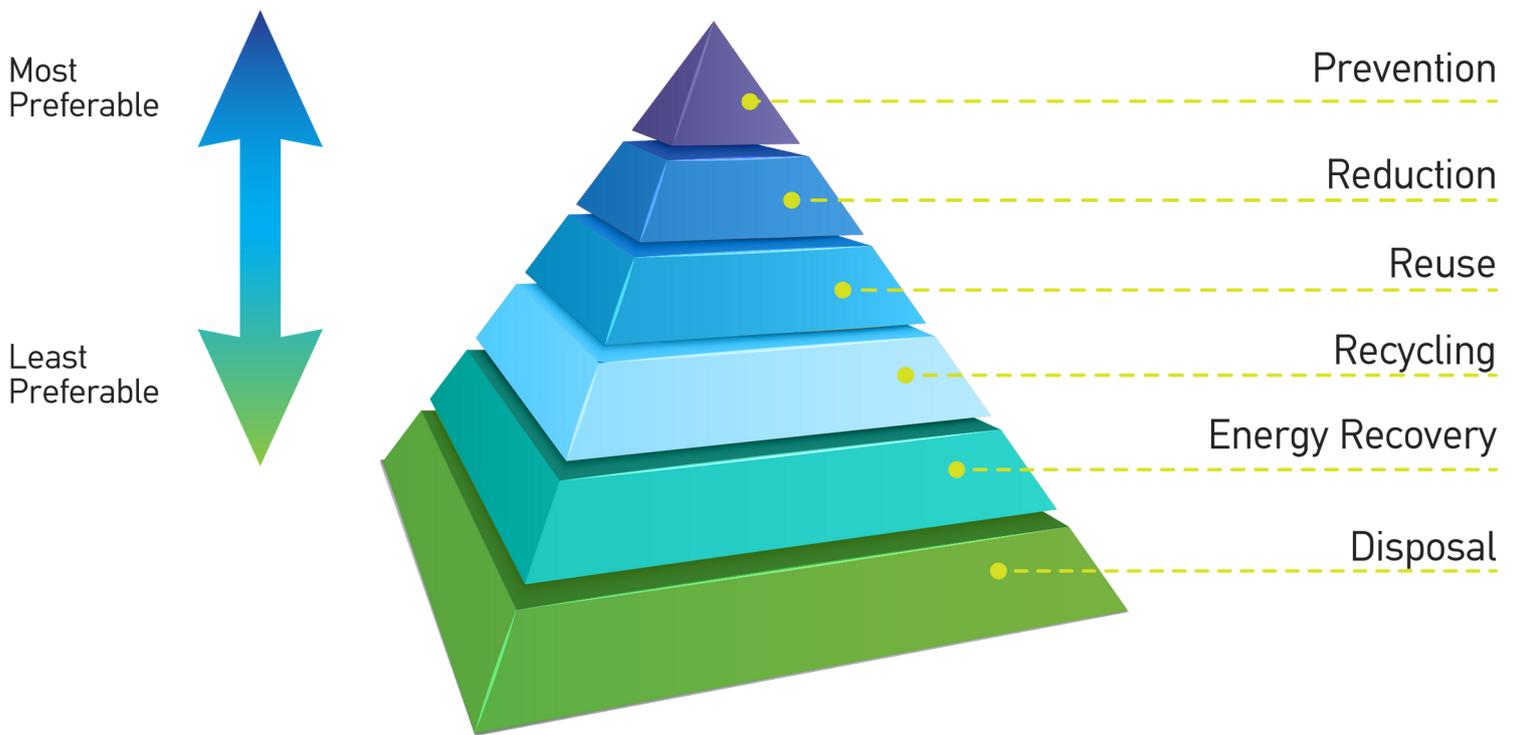
CLEANUP SUMMARY (circle/underline the unit)

Number of Trash Bags Filled: Weight of Trash Collected: Kg/ lbs Distance Cleaned: Km/ mi



Waste management techniques

THE WASTE HIERARCHY



Composting

Composting is nature's way of recycling; it is a natural process that turns organic material into a dark, rich soil-like substance. There are many benefits to composting, including reducing waste that enters the landfill, and providing an organic fertilizer for plants which is rich in nutrients.

Making your own compost is easy!

- 1 Select a dry, shady spot near a water source.**
Ideal size for your compost area is 3 feet wide by 3 feet deep by 3 feet tall (1 cubic yard). You can buy a bin, use chicken wire, or just isolate an area of ground for your compost heap.
- 2 Add brown and green material in alternate layers.**
Try and keep the ratio roughly 3 parts browns to 1 part greens. Make sure larger pieces of material are chopped or shredded.
- 3 Keep the compost moist [but not too wet].**
Moisture helps with the breakdown of organic matter.
- 4 Occasionally turn your compost mixture to provide aeration.**
This helps speed up the composting process and keeps things airy, which cuts the risk of things getting smelly.
- 5 As materials breakdown, the pile will get warm.**
There might even be steam. Don't be alarmed. That means it's working. Now you just have to wait.
- 6 All done!**
When material is dark with no remnants of food or waste, your compost is ready. Add it to lawns and gardens or anywhere that could benefit from some good soil.

YES NO

Fruit Peels/ Rinds	Tea Bags	Vegetable Scraps	Plant Trimmings	Weeds with Set Seeds	Meat	Large Wood Pieces	Cat Litter
Dried Leaves	Egg Shells	Coffee Grinds	Shredded paper	Coal/ Ash	Fish	Dairy Products	Sawdust
Straw/ Small Branches	Cardboard	Animal Manure	Natural Fibres	Walnuts	Citrus Fruit Insides	Fruit Stones	Non-Biodegradable Products

Waste Management Regulations

There are a number of Acts and Regulations that seek to deal with specific issues related to waste management; some of these under EPA's umbrella include the Litter Enforcement Regulations 2013 and the Styrofoam Ban Regulations 2015.

In addition, the Ministry of Communities has launched Green Generation (#GreenGenerationCy), a multimedia campaign directed at young children with the goal of developing a new generation of citizens of Guyana who will grow up with an environmental consciousness and with habits that are green and sustainable. The hope is that for this next generation of Guyanese, good solid-waste management practices would be a natural way of life.

(<https://moc.gov.gy/green-generation-guyana-campaign-launched-to-help-children-make-proper-solid-waste-management-a-lifestyle/>)

The National Solid Waste Management Strategy (NSWMS), will serve to inform the country's integrated efforts at converting waste material into useful resources by ensuring their full utilization and eventual exploitation for byproducts and value-added.

The objective is to reduce the long-term environmental, social and economic impact of a broken, archaic and disorganized system of solid waste management as the nation grapples with the re-socialization of a generation which thrived under a culture of littering and unlawful disposal of garbage that had plagued the country for a number of years.

Among some of the measures is the already implemented ban on Styrofoam, a reduction in the utilization of plastic material, the implementation of a container-recycling project and the introduction of a robust garden/community composting system. The Strategy covers a broad spectrum of waste including residential, commercial, industrial, scrap metal, those produced by healthcare facilities, discarded oils and electrical and electronic refuse. It is projected that by the year 2024, 40% of all generated waste will be recycled, composted or otherwise put to use.

(<https://moc.gov.gy/solid-waste-management/>)

Ban on single use plastics



The Government of Guyana intends to ban single use plastic products come 2021.

What are single use plastics?

- Made of polystyrene
- Less than 35 microns thick
- Environmentally persistent
- Low recycling potential
-

Why ban SUPPs?



Recycling plastic takes **88% less energy** than making new plastic



95% of disposable plastic packaging is **wasted**

What will be banned?



Plastic can **survive** in the environment for up to **500 years**



We can save **1,000-2,000 gallons of gasoline** by recycling one ton of plastics



Every year, up to **13 million tonnes** of plastic leak into our oceans



Disposable plastic items represent **50% of marine litter**

Some proposed exclusions include:

- medical packaging
- barrier bags
- reusable bags
- heavy weight department store bags
- plastics that are integrated into product packaging

Plastic products were the top 3 items found during ICC 2018, and SUPPs were 6 out of the top 10.

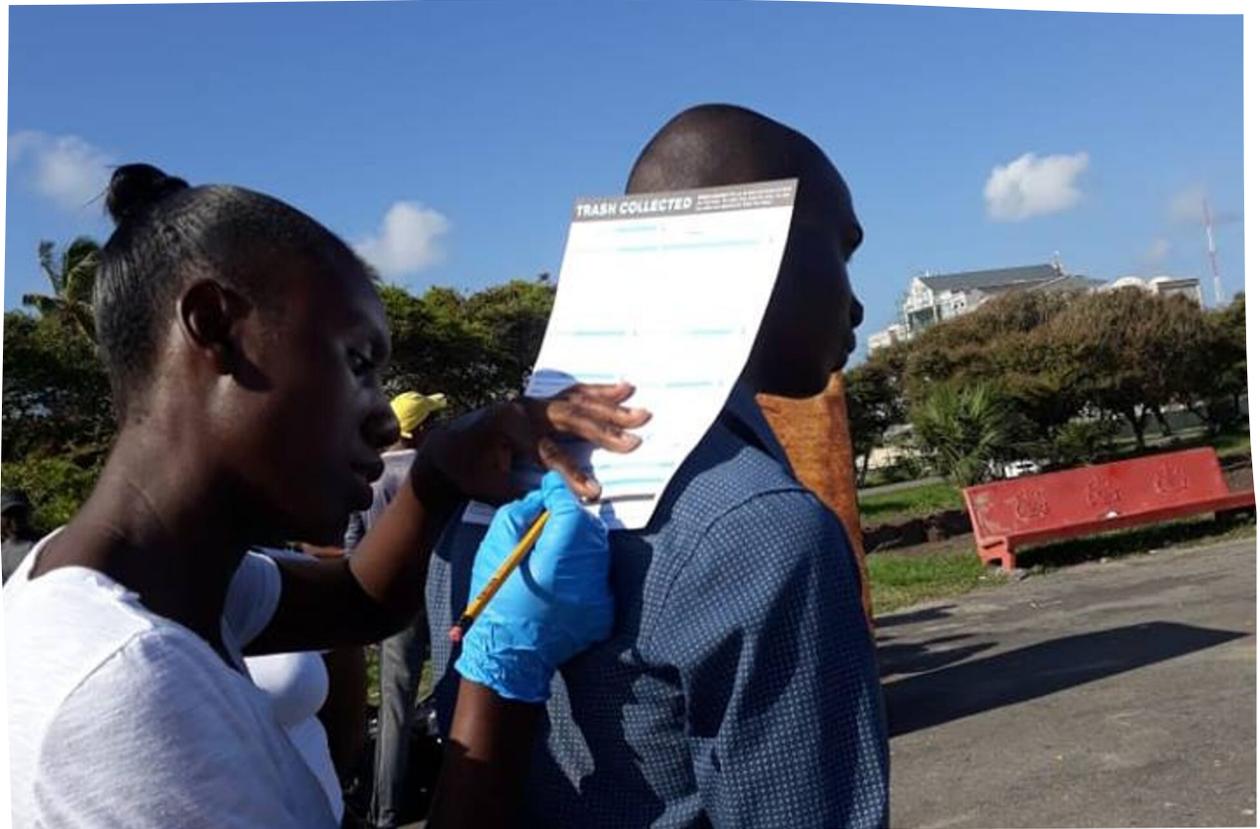


CYEN is a regional organization with members in 20 territories and over 800 registered members. It started in 1993 and has been in Guyana since 2001. In Guyana, one of our flagship events is the International Coastal Clean Up held every September. We have also participated in numerous activities in partnership with the Department of Environment and The Environmental Protection Agency in Guyana. CYEN consists of young people mainly between the ages of 15 and 31 years and organizations. It aims to assist young people in the region to address sustainable development issues in their countries, the region and the world. It does this through engagement, participation, advocacy, lobbying, education and awareness.

We offer access to opportunities such as:

- Travel scholarships (conferences, meetings, workshops, training)
- Academic scholarships (worldwide, fully-funded, partially funded)
 - Opportunities to meet UN officials, world leaders.
 - Opportunities to interact with other young people.









Contact Us



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