

SAI Philippines: Performance Audit of the Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP)

4th Meeting of WGSDG KSDI

6 June 2023



Audit Topic/Subject Matter

Performance Audit of the Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP)



Significant impact to the Filipino people and environment

Whole of Government approach in program implementation

Linked to SDG 12.5 and cut across other SDGs

At least Php 47.997 Billion for CYs 2002 - 2021

Solid waste management has continued to be an issue of concern, more than 20 years after the passage of the ESWM Act. While the respective national agencies and local government units have partnered to achieve its intended goals and objectives, the results from our performance audit show that progress needs stronger support and the cohesive efforts and strategies of all stakeholders.

AUDIT MESSAGE



Performance Audit Report

PAO-2023-01

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Progress in the Achievement of the Goals of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act Needs Stronger Support and the Cohesive Efforts and Strategies of All Stakeholders



Learnings and Challenges in this audit

- Working with multi-stakeholders
- Use of geotagging
- Use of nationally agreed target vs SDG target
- Audit limitations during COVID-19 pandemic



Working with Multi-Stakeholders

Whole-of-government approach

External to SAI

- National government
- Local government
- Civil society organizations
- Public citizens

Internal to SAI

- SAI Philippines regional auditors
- Citizen Partner



Gathering Environmental Data Through Geotagging

Geotagging – attaching geospatial metadata real-time to images

1. Date and Time
2. Geographic Coordinates
3. Location (LGU, Province, Region)



4. Google Map terrain

Use of Nationally agreed target

- Nationwide percentage target for solid waste diversion per Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 in the absence of SDG 12.5 target



Audit During COVID-19 Pandemic

- Changes in audit procedures due to travel restrictions and alternative work arrangements
- Use of online platforms for meetings
- Uploading of data on online repositories such as Google Drive
- Conduct of fieldwork validation and inspection when travel restrictions eased up in mid-2022



Key Audit Findings

- Inconsistent implementation of waste segregation and waste diversion, wherein significant presence of mixed wastes were found in landfills
- Insufficient waste facilities and landfills to service the LGUs and barangays nationwide
- Non-establishment of the Solid Waste Management Fund intended to fund the approved the SWM plans of LGUs



Key Audit Findings

- Gaps in program implementation due to absence of the absence of the National Ecology Center for 20 years
- Fragmentations in the program implementation



Key Audit Findings

- Nationally agreed target of Percent of Solid Waste Diversion vs. status of SDG 12.5

No. of Barangays Nationwide	42,046
Agency-funded MRFs	1,840
Operational MRFs	63.64%
Operational MRFs with Complete Data	40.76%



Tier 2

DENR funded MRFs account for only 17% of total MRFs nationwide



Media Coverage of the Results of Performance Audit of SWMP

MANILA BULLETIN

NATIONAL NEWS

20 years after passage of law, waste management remains an issue in PH -- COA

BY CZARINA NICOLE ONG KI

May 8, 2023 06:16 PM



GMA NEWS ONLINE
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NEWS

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COA: Increasing PH solid waste production to hit 19 million metric tons by 2030

By LLANESCA T. PANTI, GMA Integrated News

Published May 12, 2023 2:06pm

ABS-CBN NEWS

COA: Waste management program 'not progressively achieving its goals'

ABS-CBN News

Posted at May 11 2023 06:40 PM



Heaps of garbage remain outside a landfill in Barangay San Isidro in Rodriguez, Rizal. Mark Demayo, ABS-CBN News/File



Media Coverage of the Results of Performance Audit of SWMP



NATION

'Only 478 of 1,634 LGUs have access to landfills'


Elizabeth Marcelo - The Philippine Star 

May 16, 2023 | 12:00am

manilastandard.net

Home > News > National

COA also audits PH's solid waste production

 by **Manila Standard** — May 12, 2023, 11:05 pm in **National, News**


ABS-CBN NEWS

'Mindset change,' discipline needed for Filipinos to manage solid waste, says DOST

Josiah Antonio, ABS-CBN News

Posted at May 17 2023 12:05 AM



A flock of egrets searches for food at a garbage dump site on the eve of Earth Day in Angono on April 21, 2023. Earth Day is celebrated worldwide annually on April 22.  Francis R. Malasig, EPA-EFE



"Environmental auditing shines a light on the true cost of our actions, revealing the hidden impacts we leave behind. It empowers us to make informed decisions and holds us accountable for the environmental debts we incur."

- Dr. James K. Boyce, environmental economist and professor

FINAL THOUGHTS



Thank you!

