



# Waste Watch

Anna Oposa  
Chief Mermaid and Executive Director  
Save Philippine Seas





**Hi! I'm Anna.**

Chief Mermaid, bookworm, fur mom



## About Save Philippine Seas

Save Philippine Seas (SPS) is a non-profit organization that aims to conserve and protect coastal and marine resources by empowering citizens (seatizen) through collective action and behavior change.

# Our Advocased



engage

educate

empower

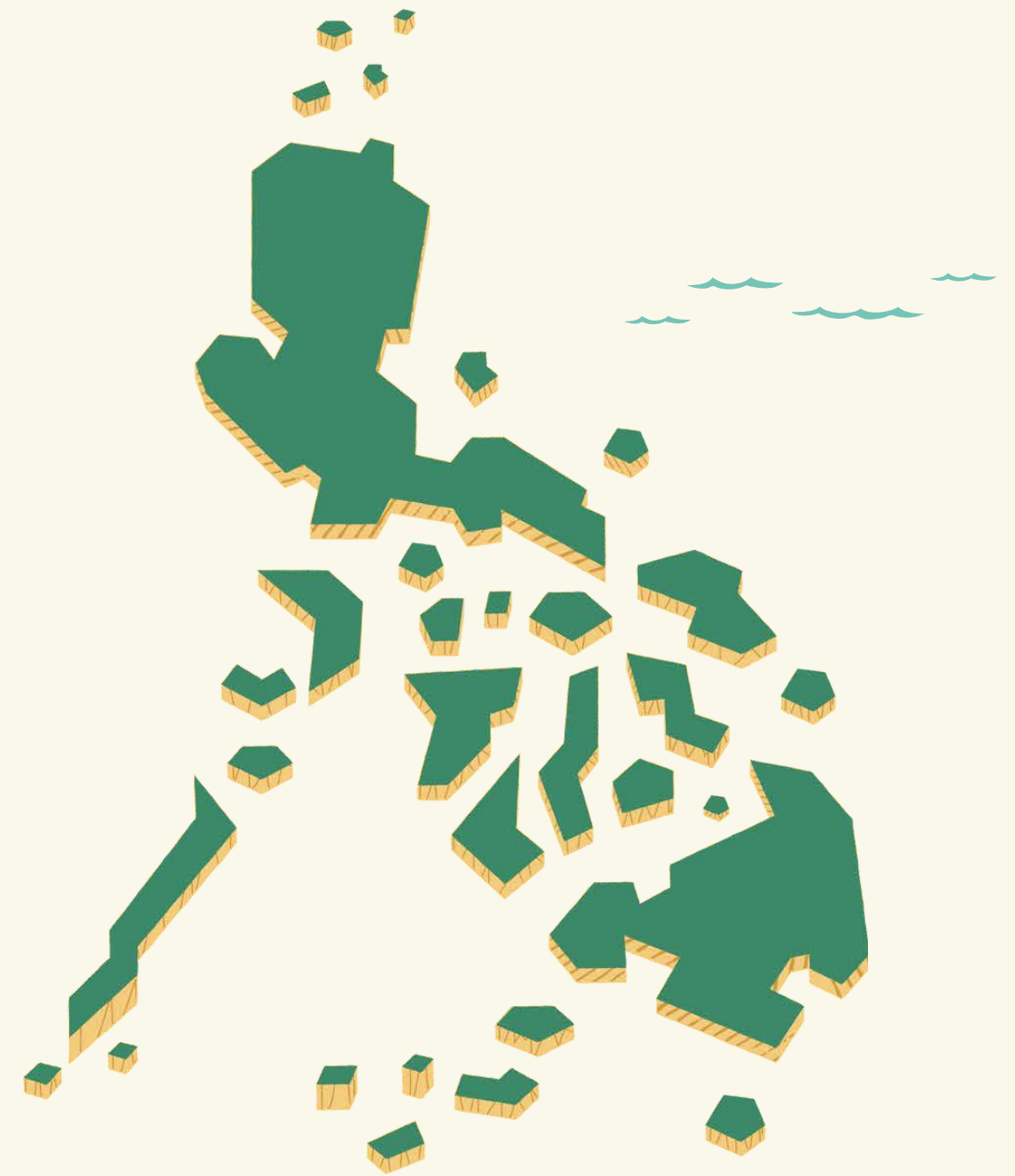
with governments,  
businesses, schools,  
NGOs, and individuals

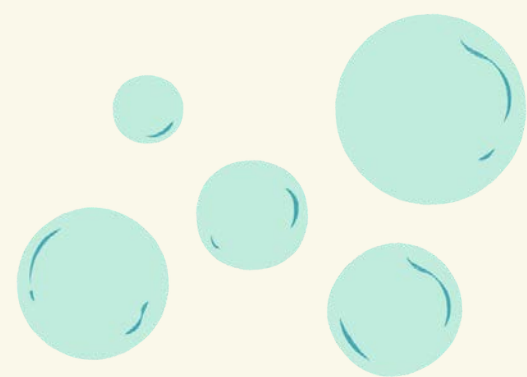
communities on the  
value of protecting our  
marine resources

seatizens to take  
action for  
conservation



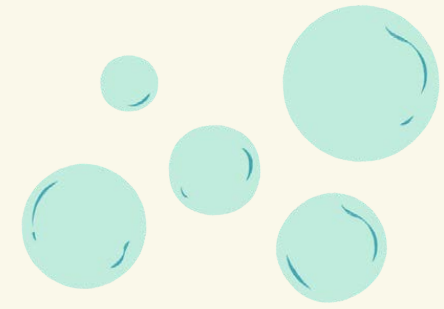
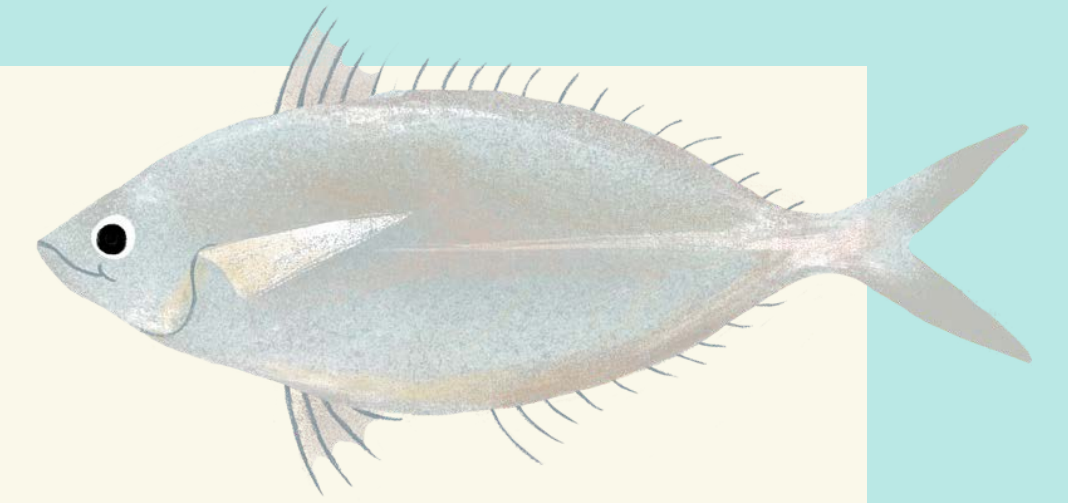
**The Philippines has been described as the**  
*“center of marine biodiversity of the world.”*



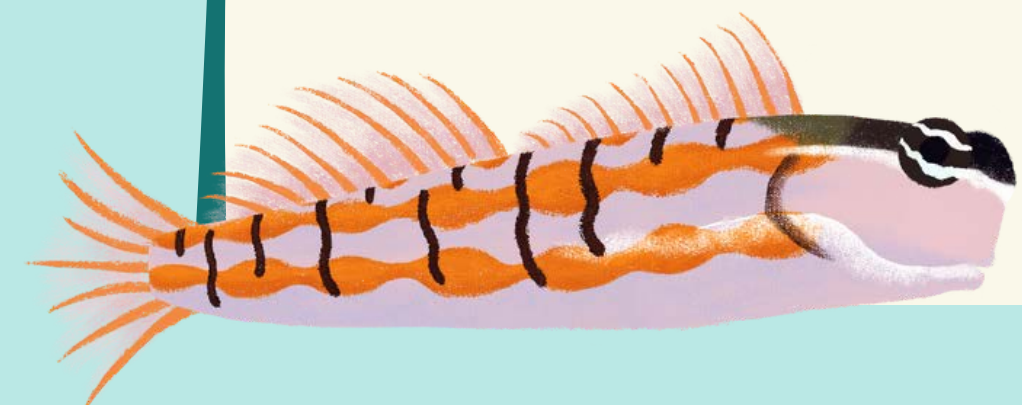


**Our seas are home to...**





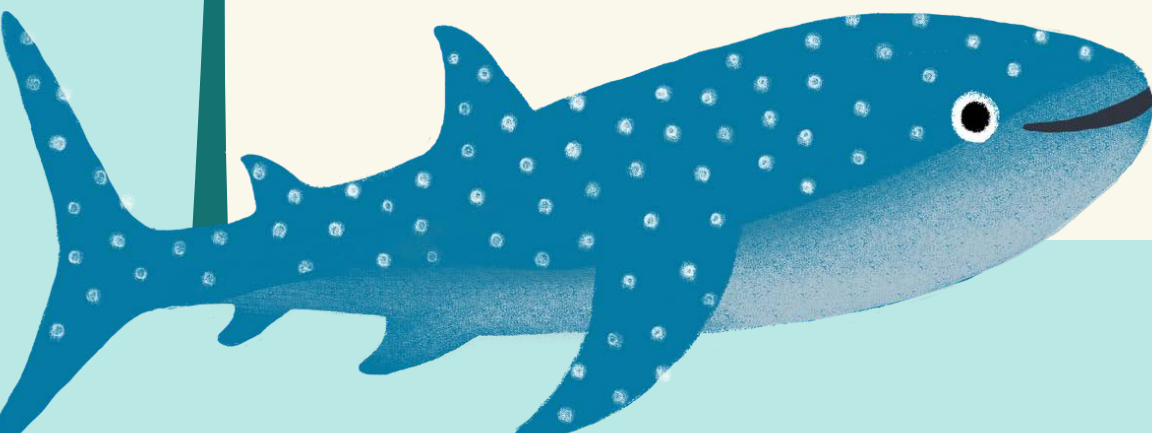
*about 3,000 species of fish*  
including a few  
that can only be found  
in the Philippines



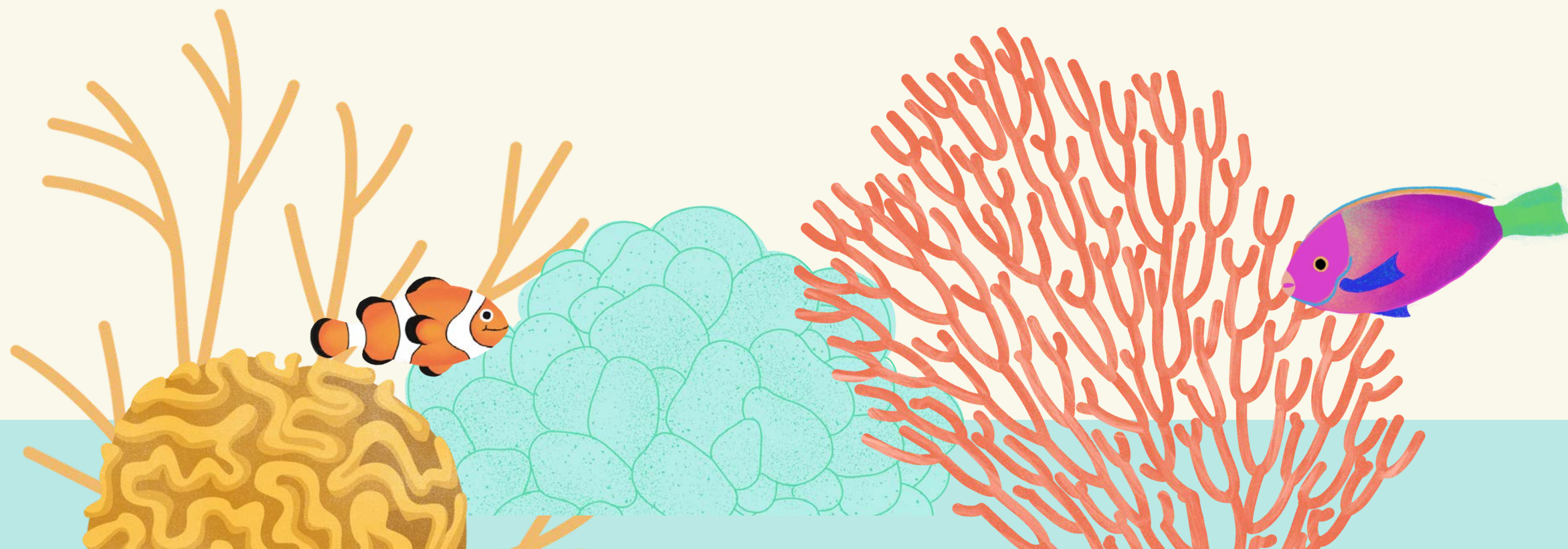


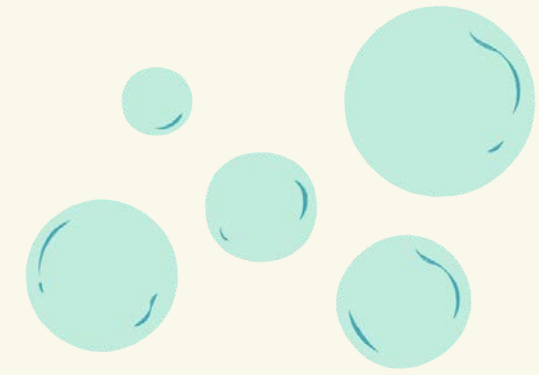


*5/7 sea turtles*  
and many  
*rare and endangered*  
marine species



*over 500 species*  
of corals

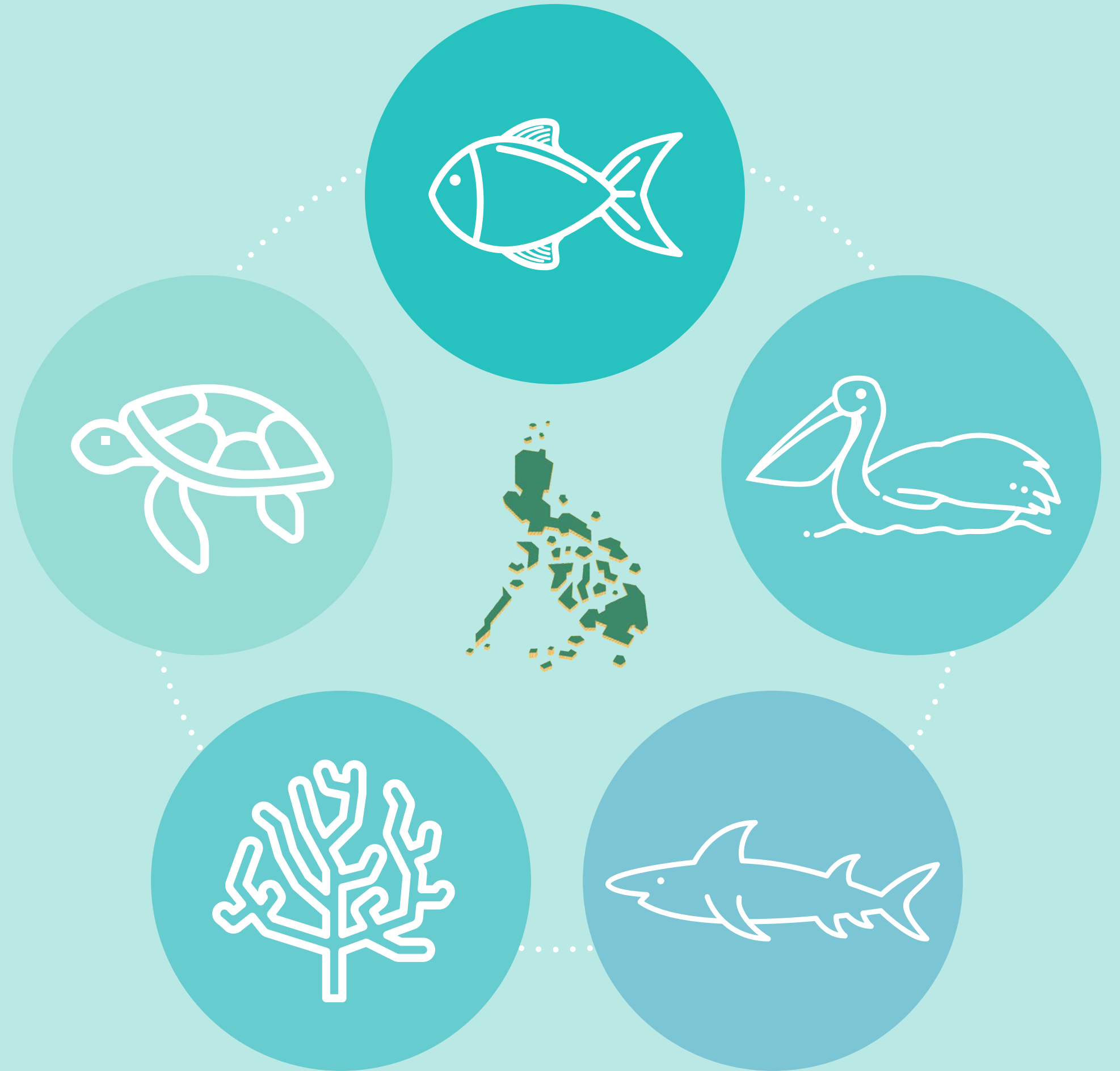




# Crazy Rich Oceans



# Marine biodiversity



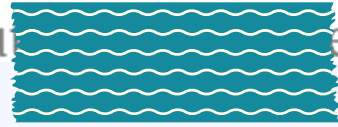
# Marine adversity





## 19 Philippine rivers among top 50 ocean polluters in the world – study

The largest contributing country estimated by the model was the Philippines, with 466 out of 1,656 of the world's rivers dumping more than 356,371 metric tons of plastic waste annually. The world's most polluted river when it comes to plastic is the 27-kilometer



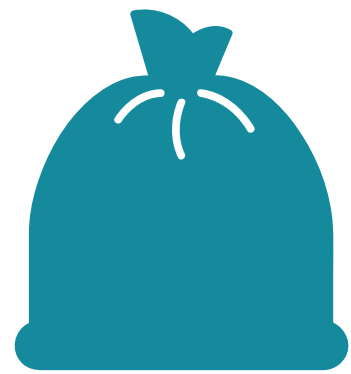
# Why PH is world's 3rd biggest dumper of plastics in the ocean

OCT 6, 2015 1:10 PM PHT

Mismanaged plastic waste has growing economic and environmental consequences. USD 80-120 billion worth of plastic packaging is lost from the global economy each year due to lack of recycling and suboptimal value creation where recycling exists. Globally, 4.8 to 12.7 million tonnes of plastic leak into our oceans each year with Asia contributing to over 80 percent of this marine leakage. The Philippines is the third largest contributor with an estimated 0.75 million metric tons of mismanaged plastic entering the ocean every year. This has led to an increased awareness towards plastic waste management, bringing the topic of plastic pollution to the front of consumer consciousness in the Philippines. To address the challenge of plastic waste



# There is no "away"



We're using more stuff than we can recover and recycle.



The Philippines lacks infrastructure and political will to manage wastes.

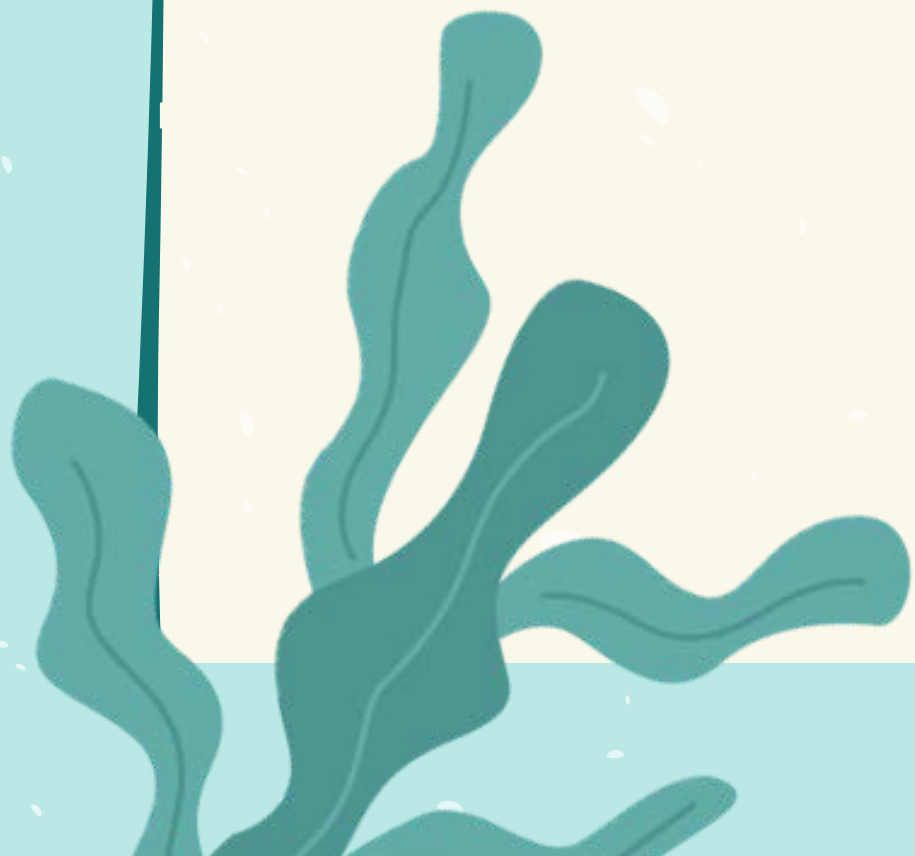


Pollution harms terrestrial and marine wildlife and our economy.

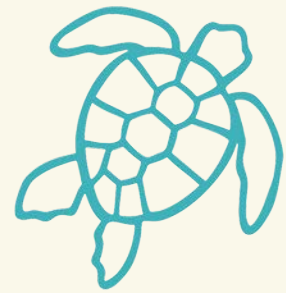


# Our Merfolk Manifesto

**a.k.a. lessons from our advocasea**







Use your  
*imagineocean.*

Shellfie!

*The Philippines is the  
social media capital  
of the world.*



*How do we use social media  
for social good?*



# Waste-free Weddings

SAY "I DO" TO MINIMIZING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF YOUR WEDDING



CREATE A WEDDING REGISTRY.



GO DIGITAL AND PAPERLESS.



RENT DECORATIONS INSTEAD OF BUYING.



REMOVE RICE, CONFETTI, FIREWORKS, AND LANTERNS FROM YOUR CELEBRATION.



DON'T USE SHELLS, CORALS, SEA STARS, AND SAND AS SOUVENIRS OR DECOR.

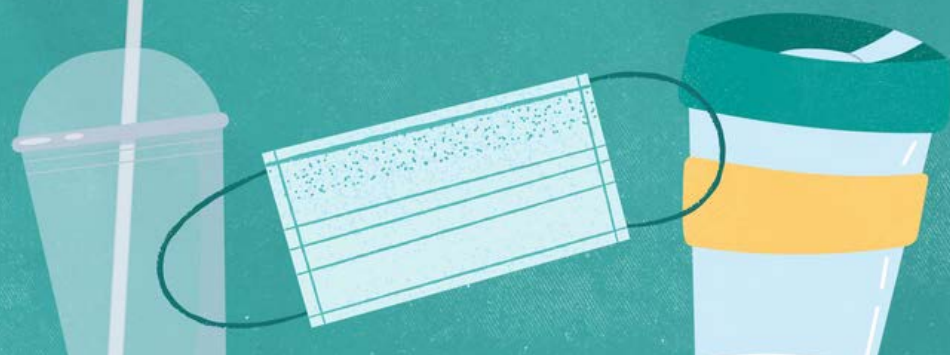


PROVIDE WATER REFILL STATIONS AND REMOVE PLASTIC CUPS AND STRAWS FROM THE BAR.



# PLASTICS IN THE PANDEMIC

## FACTS VERSUS FEARS



### Fear

Plastic is safer to use because it is disposable.

### Fact

Reusables and disposables alike can be contaminated.

**All items are subject to whatever pathogens have settled on them throughout the supply chain.**

Source: "Plastic Pollution, Reuse, and COVID-19" by Upstream  
Published 17 March 2020



### Fear

COVID-19 can survive on my reusables, so it's better to use single-use plastic items.

### Fact

Experiments show that the COVID-19 virus can remain infectious across different surfaces for varying times.

**Alcohol disinfectants and soap and water have been found to kill COVID-19 on different surfaces.**

Source: The New England Journal of Medicine  
Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV-2 as Compared with SARS-CoV-1  
Published 16 April 2020



# COVID-19 REUSERS MANUAL

YOUR GUIDE TO USING REUSABLES IN THE PANDEMIC



## If you're ordering food:



- Order from a small and nearby business to support the local economy and decrease your carbon footprint.
- If ordering through an app or website, add a note to remove disposable utensils and condiments you already have at home. If ordering via phone, inform the agent of these requests.

## If you're dining in:

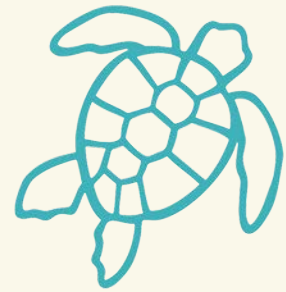


- Some restaurants have provided disposable menus. Before heading there, check the menu online so you can plan ahead and won't need to touch the disposable menu.
- If the restaurant has switched to single-use plates and cutlery, you could bring your own to limit the amount of disposables used.

The problems of plastic pollution, climate change, and marine debris were with us before the pandemic, and will be with us long after.

## Don't trash your zero-waste habits.





*Address systems,  
not symptoms.*

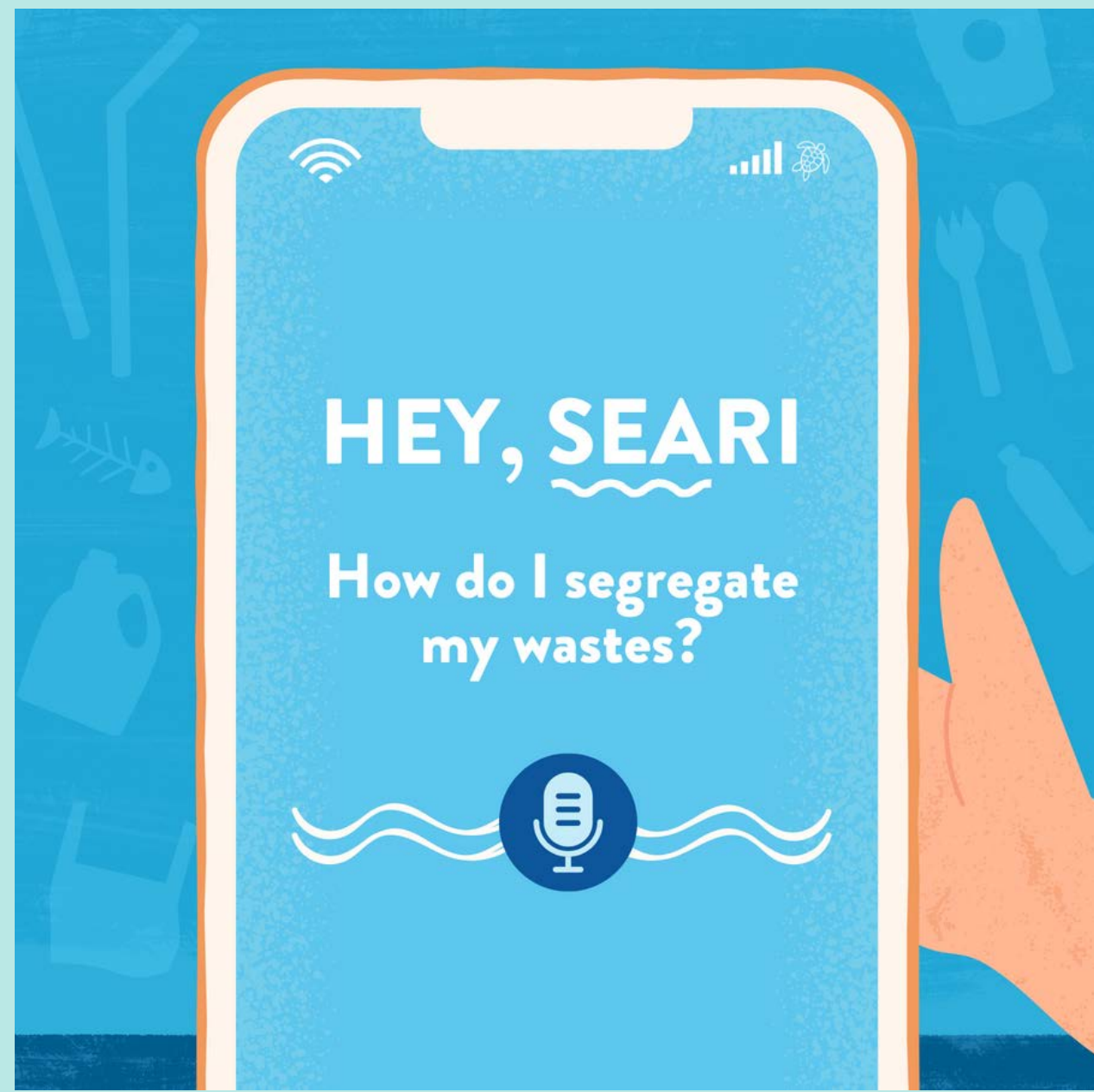


*Coral-borate!*









# THERE'S PLENTY OF PLASTIC IN THE SEA

*How did this happen?*



## PLASTICS AND PEOPLE: A LOVE STORY

It's easy to see why plastic is an attractive choice. At first sight, plastic has some ideal qualities.

### PROTECTIVE

Keeps pests, microbes, and humidity away from food



### EASY-GOING

Makes it easy to transport goods, especially to isolated islands



### BUILT TO LAST

Durable and reusable



### CARING

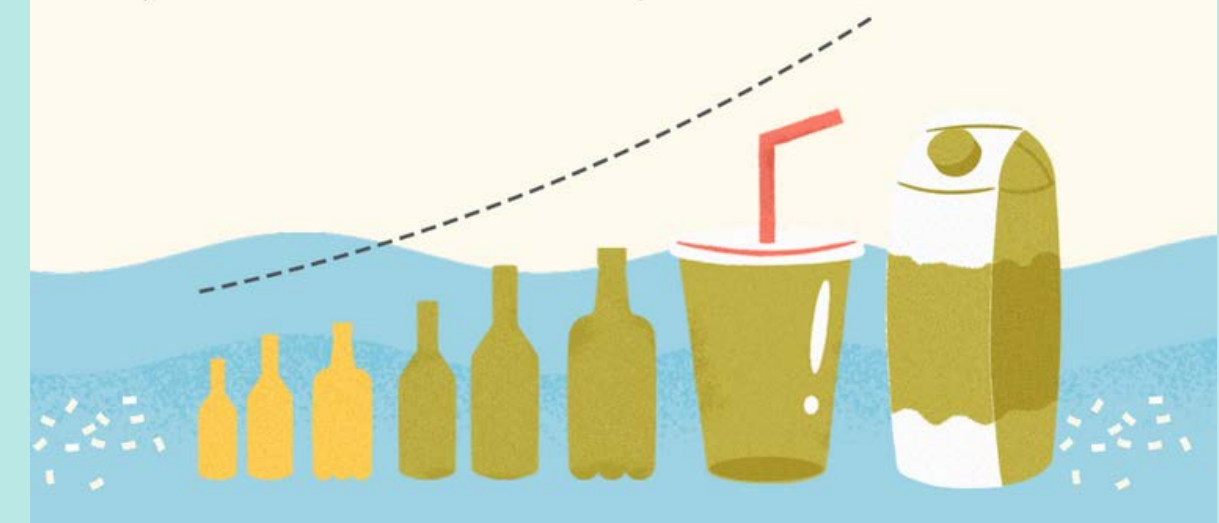
Keeps our medicine and other personal care products fresh



## PLASTIC WASTE: A BAD ROMANCE

The qualities that make plastic attractive can also make it problematic. While using plastic has a lot of benefits, plastic waste has a lot of drawbacks.

The increasing reliance on plastic, lack of infrastructure, and poor waste management practices lead to more plastic in the sea.





Appro  
Waste  
Gap



Commun  
Stra



Mechanism to customize a suitable  
Extended Producer Responsibility  
model for plastic packaging waste in  
the Philippines



# Marine Litter Learning Kit

• A Facilitator's Guide •

 **UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



From  
the People of Japan

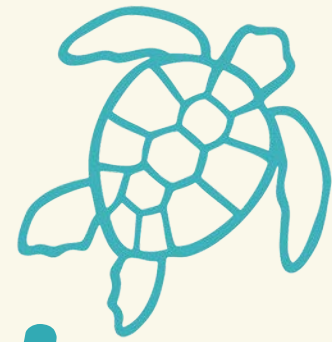


HEALTHY OCEANS AND  
CLEAN CITIES INITIATIVE

**IGES**

Institute for Global  
Environmental Strategies





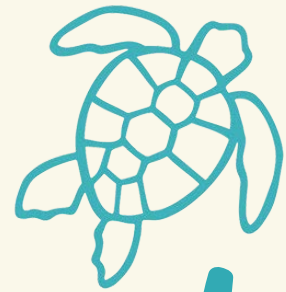
*YOUTH matter.*



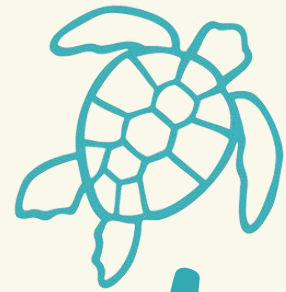




**WASTEWATCHERS**



*Youth are leaders of  
tomorrow.*



*Youth are leaders of  
today.*



*Turn education into  
edu-action.*



**WASTE**  
**WATCHERS**



**straw wars**

PHILIPPINES



**straw wars**  
MALAYSIA



**straw wars**  
PHILIPPINES



**straw wars**  
BORNEO

PLASTIC



BATTLE



**PROJECT**  
**SEAYASAT**

The logo consists of the word "PROJECT" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a magnifying glass icon. Below "PROJECT" is the word "SEAYASAT" in a bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is a different color: "S" is dark blue, "E" is dark blue, "A" is dark blue, "Y" is orange, "A" is purple, "S" is light blue, "A" is brown, and "T" is red. Small white fish icons are placed inside the letters "A", "A", and "A". Below the word "SEAYASAT" are three wavy blue lines representing water.

**STRAW WARS PRESENTATION DECK**

WHY GO?

[DOWNLOAD FILE](#)

**STRAW WARS LETTER TO BUSINESS**

[DOWNLOAD FILE](#)

**5 reasons why**  
you should stop using plastic straws

- 1 PLASTIC STRAWS HARM MARINE LIFE**  
Scientists estimate that every year, at least 1 million seabirds, and 100,000 marine mammals and sea turtles are harmed when they get entangled or ingest plastic.
- 2 PLASTIC STRAWS ARE RARELY RECYCLED**  
In the US, around 50 percent of used plastic straws are recycled. The rest ends up in landfills, and worse, in our oceans or waterways.
- 3 PLASTIC STRAWS ARE TOXIC**  
Plastic straws are made of polypropylene, a by-product of petroleum. They also contain the chemical bisphenol-A (BPA), a known toxin.
- 4 PLASTIC STRAWS ARE ONLY USED ONCE**  
In the US, an estimated 500 million plastic straws are used every year. Most of these straws are used only once and then thrown away.

**WE ONLY PROVIDE STRAWS UPON REQUEST.**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE RESTAURANT**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE CAFE**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE RESORT**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE HOSTEL**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE ESTABLISHMENT**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**PLASTIC STRAW-FREE SCHOOL**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**WE ONLY PROVIDE STRAWS ON SELECTED BEVERAGES.**

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

**Scientists estimate that every year, at least 1 million seabirds, and 100,000 marine mammals and sea turtles are harmed when they get entangled or ingest plastic.**

**Unless we change, there will be more plastic than fish in our oceans by 2050.**

Like **Straw Wars Philippines** on Facebook and learn more about plastic pollution in our oceans.

[www.facebook.com/StrawWarsPH](http://www.facebook.com/StrawWarsPH)

STRAW WARS PHILIPPINES

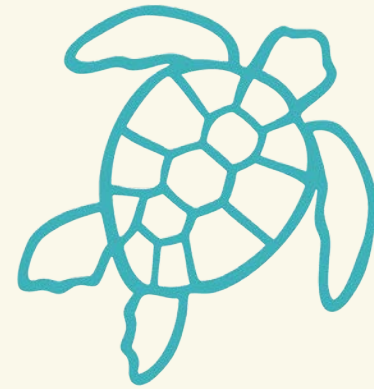
# *Wins against Waste*

**1,000,000+ BOTTLES**

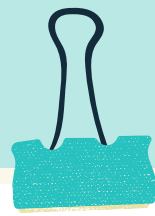
**10,000+ STRAWS**

**20+ BALLOON AND LANTERN RELEASES**

**300+ ESTABLISHMENTS**



*There is no FINish line.*



## To: Food and Drug Administration - Philippines

# Mainstream Refilling



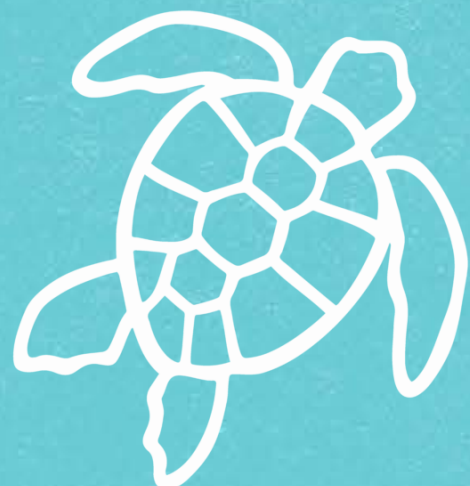
Campaign created by  
Anna Oposa



We call on the Food and Drug Administration to help save our seas from single-use plastic waste by enhancing existing regulations in order to establish safe, widely accessible refilling stations for cosmetics and household products through the following:

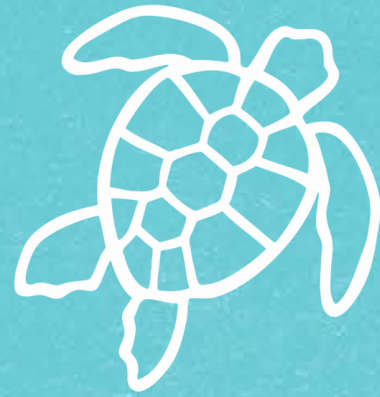
1. Redefining refilling as an activity separate from manufacturing
2. Defining refilling stations and their safety and sanitary requirements
3. Defining the minimum information that needs to be shown on refilled product labels and refilling stations

Join our push for safe, sustainable, widely accessible refilling stations of daily household and cosmetics products!



Make waves.





# Marine conversations



Save Philippine Seas



[www.savephilippineseas.org](http://www.savephilippineseas.org)



@savephseas



[info@savephilippineseas.org](mailto:info@savephilippineseas.org)