Cleaning our Oceans of Plastic I Haiti

Summary

The Plastic Bank is an international corporation that has implemented a marketbased solution to improve the health of the planet. In Haiti, plastic waste is collected by local people and sold to global brands, who recycle and re-use it. Local plastic waste collectors receive payment for each piece of plastic collected through an ethically sourced system, which not only aids in improving the local environment but also in poverty alleviation. The collection of waste plastic from the environment removes plastic that acts as breeding grounds for disease carrying organisms such as mosquitos, helping to reduce the spread of malaria, dengue fever, and cholera. Local birdlife is also protected from becoming entangled in and ingesting waste plastic. Some of the most marginalized people on the planet reside in Haiti and the project provides them with much-needed cash and essential elements, such as a child's school tuition.

Key facts

- There are 3,500 recyclers in Haiti and they bring plastic to one of twenty recycling markets;
- Top recycle market entrepreneurs have recycled up to 200,000 pounds/month;
- After paying expenses and wages to four employees, owners can net USD \$3,000- average earning of recycle markets are about half the maximum.

Contact:

Digital assets are available for download at: http://unfccc.thirdlight.com/a.tlx?l=9ffm9IJi

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