



**STREAMLINING WASTE HANDLING APPROACHES TO ZERO WASTE:
COMMUNITY-BASED EXPERIENCES IN THE CITY OF
SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA, PHILIPPINES**

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ABSTRACT – Solid waste has been a major problem of a throw-away society. Along with fast-paced lifestyle and commodification of goods and services, is enormous waste disposal. Using the case study design, the objective of this study is to illustrate how waste handling approaches were streamlined to attain zero waste. Methods used were interview and community observation with community experiences as the unit of analysis. Transcripts were analyzed by identifying significant statements, reduced them into codes, identified categories, and eventually creating themes on waste practices. Results show that the zero waste practices in the selected barangays of City of San Fernando anchored on RA 9003, city and barangay ordinances, strictly implemented segregation at source and segregated collection. Moreover, every barangay has functional material recovery facility, and composting area for biodegradables. In conclusion, legal framework, partnership with NGO initiatives, holistic approach in solid waste handling had created a circular waste movement that increase waste diversion at the same time reduce landfill disposal.

Keywords: decentralized and segregated collection, MRF, streamlining, zero waste



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