

## Preface

This report is the output of the joint research project by the Institute of Developing Economies- Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO) and the Solid Waste Management Association of the Philippines (SWAPP). It is part of the IDE Research Project entitled, “Economic Integration and Recycling in Asia”. This study focuses on the review of waste management system (SWM) in the Philippines particularly on the waste segregation and collection system and the trading of recyclables.

Using the three cities as case studies, Quezon City in Metro Manila; San Fernando City in La Union; and San Carlos City in Negros Occidental; this study presents the recent SWM programs and recent initiatives to promote waste management and recycling in the country. It also identifies the common types of waste generated in the three cities; the SWM systems such as the SWM practices of waste generators, the local government units waste collection, disposal and recovery systems; and the flow of recyclables from the waste generators to the consolidators/recyclers/manufacturers/exporters. In addition, it presents the other issues and challenges in waste recycling and trading as affected by both the domestic and international factors such as the accessibility to the buyers of waste, the impact of the global economic crisis, etc.

Based on the findings of this study, it shows that the strict implementation of the national policy such as the Philippines’ Republic Act 9003, also known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 and other local SWM ordinances has contributed to the promotion of effective waste management and recycling in the country. The enforcement of waste segregation at source and the segregated collection system have resulted to high waste diversion rate from disposal sites and thus, in turn also strengthen the waste recycling industry. It also emphasizes the need for strong political will of the leaders, the promotion of the information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns, the collaboration of various stakeholders, and the recognition of the informal waste sector who plays a significant role in the waste recycling and trading system.

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