



## Project Newsletter THREE

# "SAMUDURA MAHIMA"

## Beach Cleanup Programme

Date: 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

Location: Public Beach, Panadura

27 - Geographers

08 - Rotaractors

06 - Leos



**Introduction:** We are thrilled to share the success of our recent Beach Cleanup Project, organized in collaboration with the Young Geographers Society of the University of Colombo, Rotaract Club of Panadura, and Leo Club of Panadura Alubomulla. This initiative brought together a dedicated group of 41 volunteers, all united by a common goal: to restore and preserve the beauty of our coastal environment. With collective efforts, we worked tirelessly to remove litter, plastic waste, and other pollutants that threaten marine life and the ecosystem. Beyond cleaning up the beach, this event served as a platform to raise awareness about the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable waste management practices.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to every participant who contributed their time and energy to make this event a success. Together, we are making a positive impact and ensuring cleaner, healthier beaches for future generations. By working together, we can ensure that our beaches remain beautiful, safe, and sustainable for future generations.

### Objective of the programme:

The primary objective of the Beach Cleanup Project is to protect and restore the coastal environment by removing litter, plastic waste, and other pollutants that harm marine life and degrade natural habitats. Through organized cleanup efforts, we aim to raise public awareness about the importance of environmental conservation and promote responsible waste management practices.

### Collaborators:

1. Young Geographers Society, University of Colombo.
2. Rotaract Club of Panadura.
3. Leo Club of Panadura Alubomulla



Rotaract







## Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals

By working together, we can ensure that our beaches remain beautiful, safe, and sustainable for future generations. This Beach Cleanup Project aligns with several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), contributing to global efforts for a more sustainable future:

- **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** – By reducing pollution and promoting a clean environment, we contribute to the health and well-being of communities living near coastal areas.
- **SDG 4: Quality Education** – The project raises awareness and educates volunteers and the public about the importance of environmental conservation and responsible waste management.
- **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** – By keeping public beaches clean, we enhance the sustainability and liveability of coastal communities.
- **SDG 13: Climate Action** – Reducing pollution and plastic waste contributes to climate resilience and protects marine biodiversity from the harmful effects of environmental degradation.
- **SDG 15: Life on Land** – By preventing waste from contaminating coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, we help protect biodiversity and natural habitats.

**The Process:** The Beach Cleanup Project was carried out with the necessary approvals from the Panadura Municipal Council and the Public Health Inspector (PHI). Under the guidance of the PHI, we categorised the collected waste into four groups: plastics and polythene, biodegradable items, beer cans, and glass. To maximize efficiency, volunteers were divided into two groups, starting from opposite ends of the beach and working towards the middle.

*Our beaches are more than just beautiful landscapes; they are vital ecosystems that support marine life, contribute to climate balance, and provide a sanctuary for people to enjoy nature. Protecting our beaches is not just a responsibility, it is a commitment to preserving Mother Nature for future generations. Every piece of waste we remove and every sustainable action we take brings us closer to a cleaner, healthier planet. Let's continue working together to respect, protect, and cherish our coastal environments.*

This strategic approach ensured thorough coverage of the area, allowing us to remove waste effectively while fostering teamwork and collaboration among participants. As young geographers, we will continue this effort and remain dedicated to safeguarding our natural environment and its beauty.

Young Geographers of University of Colombo 

Young\_Geographers\_of\_UOC   



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



13 CLIMATE ACTION



15 LIFE ON LAND

