

# WASTE REDUCTION

## Service Project For Students

### PROBLEM:

No one can dispute that there is too much rubbish in our seas, and that most of it is plastic, specifically single-use disposable plastic. We see it floating on the water and washed up on our beaches. Single-use disposable plastic is convenient and a part of our everyday life, but it's a waste of a natural resource and filling our landfills and polluting our seas.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

The goal is to encourage people to use less single-use disposable plastic, voluntarily or through government intervention.

The following is a list of ideas for projects/ majors:

Use the PFS data collection sheet for **beach, street or school cleanups** to identify a particular problem product, either by brand and/ or quantity. Design a simple campaign to raise awareness and take action, for example on:

#### 1. Plastic straw usage:

- target your local restaurant to offer straws **on request only** or to **switch to paper straws**
- in your school to 'use your lips' and skip the straw

#### 2. Plastic bag reduction:

- outlets such as **McDonald's for single use drink bags**, and **bakeries, etc**
- the thin film bag for wet/cold products in **supermarkets**

#### 3. Beverage containers:

- **plastic water bottles** in your school (test water quality if possible and promote drinking fountain use or installation)
- Tetrapak **drink boxes** (reduction campaign on non-recyclable products)
- promoting **BYO** drink containers in school, community (hot and cold drinks)

#### 4. Polystyrene:

- **Fish market and street market** usage of polystyrene boxes – alternatives, proper storage and disposal
- Use of polystyrene as **lunch boxes, cups** – switch to an alternative material for takeaway and promote bring your own containers