
UNHEARD VOICES OF GARBAGE COLLECTOR ON GARBAGE COLLECTION: A NARRATOLOGY APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

This study delves into the often-overlooked accounts of garbage collectors in Davao City, Philippines, focusing on their indispensable, yet underappreciated, roles in urban sanitation and environmental sustainability. Using a narratological approach and qualitative methodologies, this research looks into the challenges and lived experiences of these individuals. Based on the study results, five themes were generated: Orientation and Training, which reveals a lack of formal training, leading to reliance on experiential learning; Challenges with Non-compliance of Residents, highlighting frustration due to residents' failure to adhere to waste segregation rules; Support from the Agency, which shows that although workers receive some support, issues like low wages and job insecurity remain; Health and Safety Concerns, emphasizing the discomfort of PPE, especially face masks, which hinder effective work, and underscores the critical issue that garbage collectors do not undergo annual physical examinations, leaving their health status unmonitored despite frequent exposure to hazardous conditions; and Challenges in Wearing PPE and Behavioral Gaps in PPE Usage, pointing to inconsistent usage due to discomfort and physical challenges. Despite all the hardships their job carries, garbage collectors take an identity in this occupation; their work is somehow thwarted due to a lack of resources and insufficient community engagement. Studies have shown that training, additional resources, and higher community involvement can help build worker welfare as well as enhance efficiency in managing waste. This will include just wages, stronger support systems, and stricter compliance to waste separation guidelines. The authors should amplify the voices of waste collectors for effective sustainable urban waste management.

Keywords: Waste Collectors, Inadequate Working Conditions, Community Participation, Public Health Contribution, Waste Management Policy, Training and Resources, Equitable Salaries, Davao City

1. INTRODUCTION

Waste is defined as anything that has lost its usefulness after being used; as a result, it is no longer valuable to an individual or a community. When an item loses its worth, it must be taken out of homes, offices, shops, marketplaces, etc. Waste collectors pick up trash that has been left on the streets and dispose of it properly. (Magalhaes et Al, 2021). Davao is a highly urbanized city in the Davao Region, Philippines. Davao City generates around 700 metric tons of trash per day, a significant fraction of this is made up of reusable materials. The often-overlooked work of waste collectors is essential to the well-being of our communities. Waste collectors in Davao City play a crucial role in maintaining the city's cleanliness and environmental sustainability. Despite their painstaking efforts, managing the garbage generated is a challenging undertaking. Due to inadequate working conditions, inadequate facilities for health and hygiene, a lack of appropriate protective gear, and little to no understanding of appropriate waste management practices, waste collectors face numerous occupational dangers (Gowda et.al, 2023). This study draws on the lived experiences of waste collectors in Davao City, highlighting their aspirations and challenges. It emphasizes their important contributions in the city's environmental initiatives while addressing their struggles such as working conditions, health risk and income insecurity. The evaluation of existing social and support services in the study aims at providing effective responses in terms of improving their accessibility to healthcare, working environment and general welfare. To fill the gaps of research, it evaluates policies of social protection and of its accessibility and proposes measures that are aimed at addressing the waste collectors in all their diversity and resiliency. Using a narrative approach, it highlights their resilience and aspirations, offering insights to inform meaningful interventions (Creswell, 2013; Wilson et al., 2006).

Scopes and Limitations:

This study explores the lived experiences of garbage collectors working under the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Davao City. Using a narratology approach, it aims to highlight their often-overlooked voices. It aims to understand their goals, challenges, and contributions to waste management, emphasizing the human aspect of their work in preserving environmental sustainability and urban cleanliness.

Scope:

1. **Geographic Focus:** The study is conducted in Davao City, a highly urbanized area generating approximately 700 metric tons of waste daily, emphasizing the role of CENRO-affiliated garbage collectors (Magalhaes et al., 2021).
2. **Participants:** The study includes garbage collectors directly engaged in waste collection under CENRO in Davao City, providing insights into their working conditions, occupational risks, and perspectives on their societal roles (Gowda et al., 2023).
3. **Themes Covered:** Key focus areas include working conditions, health risks, income security, access to social services, and the availability of safety measures. It also highlights the garbage collectors' resilience and aspirations.
4. **Methodology:** Using a narratology approach, the study collects qualitative data from personal narratives, enabling an in-depth understanding of the individual and collective experiences of garbage collectors (Creswell, 2013).
5. **Policy Analysis:** The study evaluates the accessibility and adequacy of social protection programs and waste management policies, recommending measures to improve garbage collectors' welfare and work environment (Wilson et al., 2006).

Limitations:

1. **Geographic Scope:** The study focuses exclusively on CENRO-affiliated garbage collectors in Davao City, excluding private or independent waste collectors, which may limit the generalizability of findings.
2. **Narrative Bias:** The reliance on self-reported narratives introduces potential biases, as participants' recollections and perspectives may vary.
3. **Temporal Scope:** The research examines current conditions and does not provide a longitudinal analysis of changes in policies or practices over time.
4. **External Influences:** Broader economic, social, or political factors affecting waste management may not be comprehensively addressed due to the study's narratology-centered design.
5. **Policy Implementation:** While the study evaluates existing policies, it does not extend to the actual implementation or enforcement of these policies.

2. METHODOLOGY

The study utilized a qualitative narrative-based approach, using a survey questionnaire adapted from the World Health Organization (2015) and Safe Management of Wastes from Healthcare Activities. Geneva: WHO Press. Approval of the letter of permission was secured from the office of the CENRO's Department Head to survey the garbage collectors-respondents of the study. After the initial protocols were complied with, the face-to-face interview was conducted.

This study focuses on in-depth interviews with 10 garbage collectors from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) of Davao City. Purposive sampling ensured participants had diverse experiences regarding age and years of service. Data collection involved in-depth, structured questionnaires, and open-ended interviews were conducted in the participants' preferred language, allowing participants to share their stories freely. Interviews lasted between 11 minutes to 30 minutes and were recorded with consent. Thematic narrative analysis was used to identify recurring themes and unique insights from the collected stories (Riessman, 2008).

Ethical considerations, including informed consent and confidentiality, were strictly observed throughout the study.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section aims to thoroughly explore the themes that emerged from the one-on-one interviews conducted with the garbage collector. The themes were analyzed in terms of the knowledge, attitude, and practices of waste collectors in Davao City in relation to managing solid waste, including collecting, segregating, and disposing. A discussion was also made on challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, income insecurity, job security, and health concerns. Garbage collectors mentioned below, expressed thoughts that were echoed by several other garbage collectors during the interviews. Most respondents shared common complaints regarding inadequate orientation or training, noncooperation from residents on waste segregation practices, and challenges of working under resource-constrained environments, such as a lack of appropriate protective gear. These recurrent feelings mirror the universal plight facing waste collectors and indicate some deeper systemic issues associated with waste management and an opportunity for targeted interventions on the same.

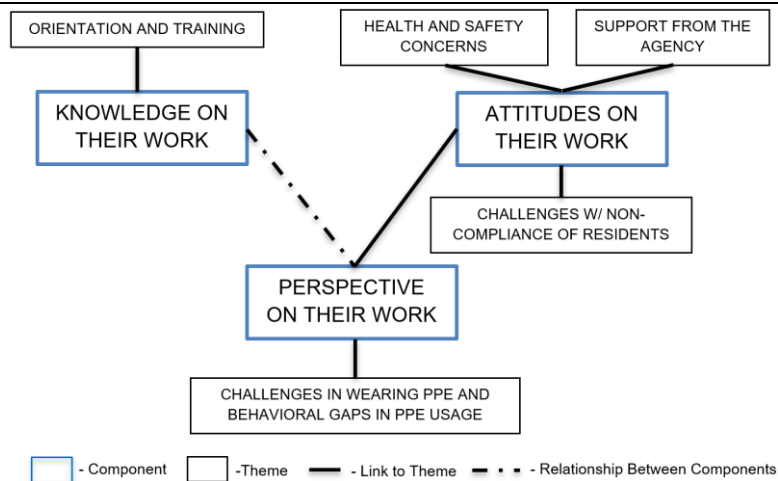


Figure 1. Framework of Component and Themes

Garbage Collectors' Knowledge on their work

Themes 1: Orientation and Training

Orientation before the beginning of work, accompanied by hands-on experience, allows a garbage collector to acquire necessary knowledge and skills gradually. Through the orientation process, they are initiated into the basics of the job, including safety procedures, handling equipment properly, and learning routes and schedules.

Experiential Learning

Garbage Collector A shared that “wala mi orientation ug training...diretso ra man mi uy...” “through experience rajud mi ug sa mga kauban sa trabaho” (“We did not receive any formal orientation or training prior to starting our job and began working immediately”...We just learned through experience and learned from our co-workers).

Garbage Collector B also shared that “anaa mi orientation ug training bago mi nanarbaho...” (“We underwent orientation and training before we started working”). Some other garbage collectors expressed similar thoughts, highlighting that proper orientation or training was either lacking or insufficient.

Frederick Taylor’s Scientific Management Theory (1880s) explained that the optimization of work translates to productivity and efficiency, and not the fact that how the workers were made to work hard. Through the orientation process, they are able to do their job by acquiring the basics and knowledge that are deemed necessary to their work. Kolb’s Experiential Learning Theory (1984), states that “Experiential learning, as the term suggests, is the process of converting experiences into meaningful learning. Kolb’s theory of experiential learning emphasizes the role of our experiences—such as our thoughts, emotions, and surroundings—in shaping how we learn”

Garbage Collectors' Attitudes Toward Their Work

The attitude of the garbage collectors toward their jobs reflects a mix of pride in the vital role in keeping cleanliness and public health with the challenges of low wages, public stigma, and lack of recognition.

Themes 2: Challenges with Non-compliance of Residents

Garbage Collector C (Indigenous People - from Brgy. Tapak, Paquibato District) shared that, “Permanente naman ang mga empleyado sa barangay mamadlong didto...pero usahay lagi pud anaay mag supak-supak” (“The barangay personnel consistently reminds and reproaches residents regarding their responsibility for waste segregation....Occasionally, however, some residents disregard the policy”).

Garbage Collector G shared that, “wala na namo gina segregate...labay na direktso sa truck...ang plastic lang ginasa kay mao among patimbangan...” (“We no longer segregate...everything is dumped straight into the garbage truck...we only collect plastic items and put them into a sack to be weighed and sold to make extra income”). They no longer segregate waste from the residents because it is their responsibility.

Themes 3: Support from the Agency

Garbage Collector E shared that, “wala na siguro...okay raman ang among panginabuhi...makakaon gyapon ug lami-lami...kay katong wala pami sa CENRO perting paita gyud...” (“perhaps not any more... our lives are going well... we can still eat delicious food...when we weren’t in CENRO yet, it was quite difficult”). He added also, “pananglitan maglalin ang lawas anaa may nurse...isyuhan man mi ug boots, gloves, masks ug unta madungagan sweldo gamay...” (“for instance, there’s a nurse available if I get sick...we were provided with boots, gloves, masks, and we are hoping for a small pay raise”).

Themes 4: Health and Safety Concerns

Garbage Collector C also expresses that, “hangak magsuot ug facemask...pero ga suot gihapon mig botas ug gloves...ug pirme jud maghugas ug kamot” (“wearing a facemask makes breathing more difficult... however, we still wear boots and gloves... and frequently wash our hands”).

Ajzen's theory of planned behavior (1985) (Zhang, 2015), a person's action is dependent on his or her willingness to do that action (i.e., intention). Intention depends upon three elements: (1) attitude (A), Personal beliefs and perceptions garbage collectors have about their role in waste management are a large factor in their actions; (2) subjective norm (SN), Subjective norms are the perceived social influences toward or against performing a behavior. If residents habitually fail to separate waste, garbage collectors may not feel as burdened to separate waste as well, especially when society does not take it seriously, though barangay policies and expectations can still compel them to enforce proper practices; and (3) perceived behavioral control (PCB), which aspect focuses on an individual's belief in his or her capability to perform a behavior based on internal and external factors. Perceived control would influence the garbage collectors' behavior because, if a system is organized with appropriate tools and support policies, it empowers them to effectively manage waste while maintaining segregation practices, while a lack of resources or limited support or resistance from residents would make them feel they cannot enforce policies, thereby making them less proactive.

Garbage Collectors' Perspective on their work

Garbage collectors form an important part of a city's public health and sanitation management. Their work practices, experiences, and challenges throw significant light on their profession.

Themes 5: Challenges in Wearing PPE and Behavioral Gaps in PPE Usage

All Garbage Collectors shared that they don't completely wear the PPEs as it gives difficulties on carrying on their work. Garbage Collector H shared his experience “botas...oo... ang mask man gud magsingot, magbasa...di ka kaghinawa ba..anaay gwantes, botas pirme...” (“boots...yes... the mask becomes sweaty and damp... You can barely breathe...I always wear gloves and boots, though”).

Garbage collector I also shared that “talagsa ra ko mugamit ug gloves, kay maglisod ko ug hawid sa mga basura...” (“I rarely used gloves because I find it difficult to grasp the garbage...”)

Nearly all garbage collectors possess strong knowledge of personal protective equipment (PPE), with only a small percentage showing limited understanding (Hasanah et.al, 2023). Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) is essential to safeguard against hazards, and a full understanding of these risks reinforces the importance of consistently using PPE (Ngwira et. al, 2024). Furthermore, recognizing that many workers exhibit inadequate behavior in using PPE, it is essential for relevant agencies to provide guidance and counseling on occupational safety and health for garbage collectors, supported by educational institutions through community service initiatives (Hasanah et.al, 2023).

4. CONCLUSION

The study on the garbage collectors in Davao City indicates that the issues and concerns related to their functions in solid waste management are complicated and interrelated. Based on the findings of the study, five themes came out to encapsulate the experiences of garbage collectors. Orientation and training are now an area of emphasis since this reflects the lack of formal educational opportunities, forcing employees to rely on experiential learning. The case of non-compliance by residents illustrates the frustration of workers, as they fail to adhere to the waste segregation rules. A pattern of agency support emerged; the implication is that some help is being offered, but problems like low wages and lack of security at work remain. Health and safety concerns were mentioned, including the discomfort with the PPE, such as face masks, that hinder proper work, and inadequate health monitoring systems. Notably, garbage collectors do not undergo mandatory annual physical examinations, leaving them vulnerable to undetected health risks despite their frequent exposure to hazardous environments. Lastly, challenges in wearing PPE and behavioral gaps in PPE usage. Workers report using PPE inconsistently, claiming discomfort.

In conclusion, the study emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to address the various challenges facing waste management workers in Davao City. The results indicate that improvements in personnel orientation and training, greater public compliance with waste segregation regulations, enhanced support from relevant agencies, better health and safety measures, and more comfortable and functional personal protective equipment are critical for improving both the working conditions and efficiency of the waste management system. Since these improvements would, on one hand, have significant effects on protecting the health and safety of the waste collection staff and, on the other hand, significantly contribute to a more effective and sustainable waste management program in the city, a comprehensive approach becomes necessary for raising the operational effectiveness of the waste collection teams and for improving the quality of waste management practices in Davao City.

APPENDIX



Figure 2. Documentation during the actual interview of the respondents



1/3/25, 9:08 AM University of Southeastern Philippines Mail - Requesting assistance from CENRO Davao City to conduct a survey of the garbage coll...

KLEMIE SALDUA <kdsaldua02202400407@usep.edu.ph>

Requesting assistance from CENRO Davao City to conduct a survey of the garbage collectors in support of a research proposal
2 messages

KLEMIE SALDUA <kdsaldua02202400407@usep.edu.ph>

Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 9:49 AM

To: city_erro@davaocity.gov.ph

Cc: YLLOR JAMES OTERO <yadtero00395@usep.edu.ph>; KRISTIAN HENRI ALONZO <kabnz00311@usep.edu.ph>

December 2, 2024

ENGR. MARMIC L. REYES

Officer-In-Charge
City Environment and Natural Resources Office
CENRO Motorpod Compound, Barangay Maa, Davao City

Dear Engr. Reyes:

I am writing to formally request assistance from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office of Davao City in support of our research proposal titled, *"Unheard Voices of Garbage Collectors on Garbage Collection: A Narratology Approach."* This study seeks to understand and document the knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) of garbage collectors regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal practices. Our goal is to highlight the challenges these essential workers face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.

As students in the Master of Science in Development Administration program at the University of Southeastern Philippines, Davao City, with a specialization in Urban and Environmental Planning, we are keen to contribute to the body of knowledge in sustainable waste management and urban planning. To achieve our research objectives, we request permission to conduct a brief survey with at least 10 garbage collectors employed by or affiliated with the City Environment and Natural Resources Office.

Through this survey, we aim to gain insights into:

1. What are the specific challenges faced by waste collectors in terms of working conditions, health risks, and income security?
2. What are waste collectors' perspectives of their roles in society and the city's environmental initiatives?
3. What social services and support services are currently offered to Davao City's waste collectors, and what are some possible approaches to enhance their working conditions, general well-being, and health?

Kindly see the attached Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey questionnaire. The data collected will be used solely for academic purposes, and all participant responses will be handled with strict confidentiality.

We believe this study will not only raise awareness of the issues garbage collectors face but will also inform policymakers on ways to improve the waste management practices and policies in our city. We kindly request your support and approval for this survey and look forward to working closely with your office on this initiative.

Thank you very much for considering this request. Please feel free to contact us at my mobile number, **09209818645**, should you have any questions or require further information.

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1/3/25, 9:08 AM University of Southeastern Philippines Mail - Requesting assistance from CENRO Davao City to conduct a survey of the garbage coll...

Sincerely,

Klemie D. Saldua
Student
Master of Science in Development Administration
Major in Urban and Environmental Planning
University of Southeastern Philippines, Davao City

2 attachments

 Letter to CENRO Davao City_ Conduct a Survey to Garbage Collectors_ Research Study.pdf
256K

 KAP Survey-for-Garbage-Collectors-in-Davao-City_UnheardVoices-of-Garbage-Collectors-on-Garbage-Collection_A-Narratology-Approach_F.pdf
112K

City Environment and Natural Resources Office City Government of Davao
<city_erro@davaocity.gov.ph>
To: KLEMIE SALDUA <kdsaldua02202400407@usep.edu.ph>

Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 10:05 AM

Email received.

[Unread text hidden]
This email is intended only for the person or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain privileged and confidential information that is protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that any dissemination, copying or publication of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication by mistake, kindly delete the message and its attachments, if any, and notify us immediately. Thank you.

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December 2, 2024

ENGR. MARIVIC L. REYES

Officer-In-Charge
City Environment and Natural Resources Office
CENRO Motorpool Compound, Barangay Maa, Davao City

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Thank you very much for considering this request. Please feel free to contact us at my mobile number, **09209818645**, should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed
by Saldua Klemie
Duhaylungsod

Klemie D. Saldua
Student
Master of Science in Development Administration
Major in Urban and Environmental Planning
University of Southeastern Philippines, Davao City

Figure 3. Sample of email and request letter to conduct interviews with the respondents

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Garbage Collectors in Davao City regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal while highlighting the challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.
(Kabalala, Kinaiya, ug Praktis sa mga Iyokolekta sa basura sa dakbayan sa Dabaw mahitungod sa solid waste ug pagkolekta sa basura, paglalain, ug disposal samtang nagpasugda sa mga hagit nga liang gitabang, sama sa dili pagsunod sa mga residente, kakulang sa kahingpahan, ug mga risgo sa panglawas).

This study explores the "unheard voices" of garbage collectors from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Davao City using a narrative approach. It examines their knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal while highlighting the challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.

Kini nga paglitan nagtukli sa mga "wala maunangyog nga mga tinog" sa mga iyokolekta sa basura gikan sa City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) sa Dakbayan sa Davao gamit ang pananag sa naratibo. Ikinaiya nini ang kaugalingon, kinaiya, ug gawi (KAP) bahin sa solid waste ug pagkolekta sa basura, paglalain, ug paglabay samtang nagpasugda sa mga hagit nga liang gitabang, sama sa dili pagsunod sa mga residente, kakulang sa mga kahingpahan, ug mga peligro sa kalihimng.

We would like to request your participation in this short survey as part of our research study. Your responses will be used to support efforts in improving waste management practices, enhancing community cooperation, diagnosing problems present in your work environment and your line of work and the need to address these concerns, and potentially influencing future policy-making decisions. Participation in this survey is also entirely voluntary and the respondent may opt not to participate.

Buti naamong hangoon ang imong partisipasyon nining mubo nga survey isip kabahin sa among research study. Ang imong mga lihang gamiton sa pagpangita sa mga paniniponot sa pagpapalibot sa mga pananag sa ngalan sa basura, pagpasulab sa kooperasyon sa komunidad, pag-diagnose sa mga problema nga anaa sa imong trabaho sa trabahan, ug sa imong linag sa trabaho ug ang panghahangin sa pagpasulab nini nga mga kabalahe, ug posibleng makasimpuhensya sa maabot nga mga desisyon sa paglino ug polisiya. Ang pag-ayud nini nga survey kay voluntary ug usa ug ang lihang paglitan mowali nga dili mawala.

Rest assured that all information will solely be used for academic purposes and under complete observance of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Thank you for your cooperation.

Makasiyay ka nga ang tanang impormasyon gamiton lamang alang sa akademikong kaluyoan ug ubos sa hingpit nga pagsunod sa Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Salamat sa imong kooperasyon.

Sociodemographic Characteristics

- Name (Pangalan) (optional) / Alias (Alyas): _____
- Age group (Grupo sa edad):
 - Below 20 years
 - 20-29 years
 - 30-39 years
 - 40-49 years
 - 50 years and above
- Gender / Kasarian:
 - Male (Lalaki)
 - Female (Babae)
 - Other (please specify) / Uban pa (galinging isulti): _____
- Civil Status:
 - Single
 - Married
 - Separated
 - Widow

Educational Attainment (Inskwebihan / Unsay nahuman)

- Educational Attainment (Inskwebihan / Unsay nahuman):
 - Elementary Graduate
 - High School Graduate
 - College Graduate
 - Other (please specify): _____
- Years of Experience as a Garbage Collector (Mga Taas sa Kasamtan isip Iyokolekta sa Basura):
 - Less than 1 year (Mga pag 1 ka taag)
 - 1-3 years
 - 4-6 years
 - More than 6 years (Labaw sa 6 ka taag)
- Extra Income (Dugang Kita): _____
- Barangay or District of Assignment (Barangay o Distrito kung asa na assign): _____

Knowledge (Kabalala)

- Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Balang ug tek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).
- Are you familiar with the various categories of waste (e.g., biodegradable, non-biodegradable, recyclable, hazardous, etc.) that need segregation? (Pamilyar ba ka sa lain-lain nga katagoriya sa basura pangalain, mabulok, dili mabulok, pangroso, ug uban pa) nga naglalainhan ng segregasyon?
 - Yes (Oo)
 - No (Dili)
 - Partially (Ganay)
 - Where did you learn about waste segregation? (Select all that apply) (Asa ka nakakita-on bahin sa paglalainhan sa basura? (Piliang ang tanan nga magamit))
 - CENRO training or orientation (CENRO nga pagbabasay o oryentasyon)
 - Personal experience or observation (Personal nga kasamtan o obserbasyon)
 - Fellow workers or supervisors (Mga kauban sa trabaho o supervisor)
 - Educational campaigns or materials (Mga kampanya o materyales sa edukasyon)

Practices (Mga Nananan)

- Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Balang ug tek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).
- What do you do when you encounter improperly segregated waste? (Select all that apply.) (Unsa ang imong buranon kung makasagat ka og dili husto nga paglalainhan sa basura? (Piliang ang tanan nga magamit))
 - Inform the residents about the issue (Palibot sa mga residente bahin sa isyu)
 - Separate the waste myself (Ako nimo mismo ang maglino-lain sa mga basura)
 - Leave the waste uncollected (Dilin ang basura nga dili makolekta)
 - Report it to my supervisor (sunibong kilal sa along supervisor)
 - How often do you use protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, boots) during work? (Unsa ka sagad nimo gamiton ang mga kasamtan sa pagpapalibot (pangangilan, gwantis, maskara, botas) sa panahon sa trabaho?)
 - Always (Kamunay)
 - Sometimes (Usahay)
 - Rarely (Pangasa ra)
 - Never (Dili gayud)
 - What method do you use to minimize health risks while handling garbage? (Unsay paraalha ang imong gigitan ayon manawosan ang peligro sa kalihimng samtang nagdumala sa basura?)
 - Wearing protective gear (Mga sukod-ug gamit sa pagpapalibot)
 - Washing hands frequently (Kamunay nga pagpugas sa kamot)
 - Avoiding direct contact with waste (Paglilay sa direkting kontak sa basura)
 - I don't have specific methods (Wala koy pila nga mga paraalha)

Attitudes (Mga Kinaiya)

- Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Balang ug tek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).
- How do you feel about the level of compliance with segregation rules among residents in your area? (Unsa ang imong gibalit bahin sa lebel sa pagsunod sa mga lagda sa paglalainhan sa mga residente sa imong lugar?)
 - Most residents comply well (Kadaghanan sa mga residente maayo nga pagsunod)
 - Some residents comply, but many do not (Ang ubang mga residente niluman, ayon daghan ang wala)
 - Very few residents comply (Ganay ra nga mga residente ang pagsunod)
 - I have not observed any compliance (Wala koy maobserbahan nga pagsunod)

Attitudes (Mga Kinaiya)

- What is your attitude toward the support you receive from CENRO? (Unsa ang imong kinaiya sa suporta nga imong nadawat gikan sa CENRO?)
 - I feel very supported and heard (Gibalit nako nga gisupportahan ug nadungog kaayo ko)
 - I feel somewhat supported, but improvements are needed (Gibalit nako nga maayo gisupportahan, ayon kinuhangon ang mga pag-uswag)
 - I do not feel supported at all (Wala gyud ko gibalit nga suportado ko)
- How concerned are you about the health risks in your job? (Unsa ka nababalaka mahitungod sa mga risgo sa panglawas sa imong trabaho?)
 - Very concerned (Nabalaka kaayo)
 - Somewhat concerned (Medyo nababalaka)
 - Not concerned (Dili nababalaka)

Challenges (Mga Hagit)

1. What challenges do you face in your work as a garbage collector? (Select all that apply) (Unsang mga hagit ang imong giatubang sa imong trabaho isip tigkolekta og basura? (Pilia ang tanan nga magamit)

- Non-compliance of residents with waste segregation (Ang dili pagsunod sa mga residente sa paglalinain sa basura)
- Insufficient protective equipment (Dili igo nga kagamitan sa pagpanalipod)
- Lack of proper collection tools or vehicles (Kulang sa saktong mga gamit sa pagkolekta o mga sakyanan)
- Health risks and exposure to harmful materials (Mga risgo sa panglawas ug pagkaladlad sa makadaot nga mga materyales)

2. How often do you encounter hazardous or improperly segregated waste? (Unsa ka sagad nga makasugat ka nga peligro o dili husto gilain nga basura?)

- Daily (Adlaw-adlaw)
- Weekly (Kada semana)
- Rarely (Panagsa ra)
- Never (Dili gayud)

3. What do you need most to improve your working conditions? (Unsa ang labing kinahanglan nimo aron mapauswag ang imong kahintang sa pagtrabaho?)

- Better equipment and tools (Mas maayo nga kagamitan ug mga himan)
- Regular health check-ups and safety training (Regular nga panglawas na check-up ug kaluwasan na pagbansay)
- Increased public awareness about waste segregation (Dugang nga kahibalo sa publiko bahin sa paglalinain sa basura)
- More support and recognition from authorities (Dugang suporta ug pag-ila gikan sa mga awtoridad)

Aspirations and Recommendations

4. If given a chance, what improvement would you prioritize in waste management systems? (Select one) (Kung hatagan ug higayon, unsa nga kalamboan ang imong unahon sa mga sistema sa pagdumala sa basura?) (Pilia ang usa)

- Increased public education and awareness Campaigns (Dugang nga edukasyon sa publiko ug mga kampanya sa pagkahibalo)
- Better resources for garbage collectors (Mas maayong kahinguhaan para sa mga tigkolektag basura)
- Stricter enforcement of segregation policies (Mas estrikto nga pagpatuman sa mga polisiya sa segregasyon)
- Improved safety measures and health benefits (Gipauswag nga mga lakang sa kaluwasan ug mga benepisyo sa kahimsog)

END OF SURVEY

Please be assured that any information you relay through this survey will be treated as confidential.

(Makasiguro mo nga ang bisan unsang impormasyon nga imong ipasa pinaagi niini nga survey ay tratuhon na kompidensyal).

For more inquiries, you may contact us at 09209818645 or email us at kdsaldua02202400407@usep.edu.ph.

Thank you very much for your cooperation!

Figure 4. Sample of Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey guide questions

DEC. 16, 2024

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Garbage Collectors in Davao City regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal while highlighting the challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.

(Kahibalo, Kinaiya, ug Praktis sa mga tigkolekta sa basura sa dakbayan sa Dabaw mahitungod sa solid waste ug pagkolekta sa basura, paglaintain, ug disposal samtang nagpasiugda sa mga hagit nga ilang giatubang, sama sa dili pagsunod sa mga residente, kakulang sa kahinguhaan, ug mga risgo sa panglawas).

This study explores the "unheard voices" of garbage collectors from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Davao City using a narratology approach. It examines their knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal while highlighting the challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.

Kini nga pagtuon nagtuki sa mga "wala madungog nga mga tingog" sa mga tigkolekta sa basura gikan sa City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) sa Dakbayan sa Davao gamit ang pamaagi sa naratolohiya. Gisusi niini ang ilang kahibalo, kinaiya, ug gawi (KAP) bahin sa solid waste ug pagkolekta sa basura, paglaintain, ug paglabay samtang nagpasiugda sa mga hagit nga ilang giatubang, sama sa dili pagsunod sa mga residente, kakulang sa mga kahinguhaan, ug mga peligro sa kahimsog.

We would like to request your participation in this short survey as part of our research study. Your responses will be used to support efforts in improving waste management practices, enhancing community cooperation, diagnosing problems present in your work environment and your line of work and the need to address these concerns, and potentially influencing future policy-making decisions. Participation in this survey is also entirely voluntary and the respondent may opt not to participate.

Buol namong hangyoon ang imong partisipasyon niining mubo nga survey isip kabahin sa among research study. Ang imong mga tubag gamiton sa pagsuporta sa mga paningkamot sa pagpalambo sa mga pamaagi sa pagdumala sa basura, pagpausbaw sa kooperasyon sa komunidad, pag-diagnose sa mga problema nga anaa sa imong palibot sa trabahoan ug sa imong linya sa trabaho ug ang panginahanglan sa pagsulbad niini nga mga kabalaka, ug posibleng makaimpluwensya sa umaabot nga mga desisyon sa paghimo og polisiya. Ang pag-apil niini nga survey kay boluntaryo usab ug ang tigubag mahimong mopili nga dili moapil.

Rest assured that all information will solely be used for academic purposes and under complete observance of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Thank you for your cooperation.

Makasalig ka nga ang tanang impormasyon gamiton lamang alang sa akademikong katuyoan ug ubos sa hingpit nga pagsunod sa Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Salamat sa imong kooperasyon.

Sociodemographic Characteristics

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. Name (Pangalan) (optional) / Alias (Alyas): <u>(C) ARAM</u></p> <p>2. Age group (Grupo sa edad): <input type="checkbox"/> Below 20 years <input type="checkbox"/> 20-29 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30-39 years <input type="checkbox"/> 40-49 years <input type="checkbox"/> 50 years and above</p> <p>3. Gender / Kasarian: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male (Lalaki) <input type="checkbox"/> Female (Babae) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) / Uban pa (palihug isulti): _____</p> <p>4. Civil Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Widow</p> | <p>5. Educational Attainment (Iniskwolahan / Unsay nahuman) <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Graduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High School Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> College Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>6. Years of Experience as a Garbage Collector (Mga Tuig sa Kasinatian isip Tigkolekta sa Basura): <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year (Wala pay 1 ka tuig) <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 6 years (Labaw sa 6 ka tuig)</p> <p>7. Extra Income (Dugang Kita): _____</p> <p>8. Barangay or District of Assignment (Barangay o Distrito kung asa na assign): <u>76, 1st Dist</u></p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Knowledge (Kahibalo)

Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Butangi ug tsek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).

- Are you familiar with the various categories of waste (e.g., biodegradable, non-biodegradable, recyclable, hazardous, etc.) that need segregation? (Pamilyar ba ka sa lain-lain mga kategoriya sa basura pangangitan, mabulok, dili mabulok, peligroso, ug uban pa) nga nagkinahanglan og segregasyon?
 Yes (Oo)
 No (Dili)
 Partially (Gamay)
- Where did you learn about waste segregation? (Select all that apply) Asa ka nakakat-on bahin sa paglainlain sa basura? (Pilia ang tanan nga magamit)
 CENRO training or orientation (CENRO nga pagbansay o oryentasyon)
 Personal experience or observation (Personal nga kasinatian o obserbasyon)
 Fellow workers or supervisors (Mga kauban sa trabaho o superbisitor)
 Educational campaigns or materials (Mga kampanya o materyales sa edukasyon)
- Do you know the health risks associated with improper garbage disposal? (Nahibal-an ba nimo ang mga peligro sa kahimsog nga nalangkit sa dili husto nga paglabay sa basura?)
 Yes, I am fully aware (Oo, ako hingpit nga nahibalo)
 I have some knowledge, but not much (Ako adunay pipila ka kahibalo, apan dili kaayo)
 No, I am unaware (Dili, ako wala mahibalo)

Attitudes (Mga kinalaya)

Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Butangi ug tsek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).

- How do you feel about the level of compliance with segregation rules among residents in your area? (Unsa ang imong gibati bahin sa lebel sa pagsunod sa mga lagda sa paglainlain sa mga residente sa imong lugar?)
 Most residents comply well (Kadaghanan sa mga residente maayo nga nagsunod)
 Some residents comply, but many do not (Ang ubang mga residente mituman, apan daghan ang wala)
 Very few residents comply (Gamay ra nga mga residente ang nagsunod)
 I have not observed any compliance (Wala koy naobserbahan nga pagsunod)

- What is your attitude toward the support you receive from CENRO? (Unsa ang imong kinalaya sa suporta nga imong nadawat gikan sa CENRO?)
 I feel very supported and heard (Gibati nako nga gisuportahan ug nadungog kaayo ko)
 I feel somewhat supported, but improvements are Needed (Gibati nako nga medyo gisuportahan, apan kinahanglan ang mga pag-uswag)
 I do not feel supported at all (Wala gyud ko gibati nga suportado ko)

- How concerned are you about the health risks in your job? (Unsa ka nabalaka mahitungod sa mga risgo sa panglawas sa imong trabaho?)
 Very concerned (Nabalaka kaayo)
 Somewhat concerned (Medyo nabalaka)
 Not concerned (Dili nabalaka)

Practices (Mga Naandan)

Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Butangi ug tsek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag).

- What do you do when you encounter improperly segregated waste? (Select all that apply) (Unsa ang imong bahalon kung makasugat ka og dili husto nga paglainlain sa basura? (Pilia ang tanan nga magamit)
 Inform the residents about the issue (Pahibalo sa mga residente bahin sa isyu)
 Separate the waste myself (Ako ning mismo ang maglain-lain sa mga basura)
 Leave the waste uncollected (Ibilin ang basura nga dili makolekta)
 Report it to my supervisor (Isumbong kini sa akong superbisitor)
- How often do you use protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, boots) during work? (Unsa ka sagad nimo gamiton ang mga kagamitan sa pagpanalipod (panangilian, gwantis, maskara, botas) sa panahon sa trabaho?)
 Always (Kanunay)
 Sometimes (Usahay)
 Rarely (Panagsa ra)
 Never (Dili gayud)
- What method do you use to minimize health risks while handling garbage? (Unsang paagiha ang imong gigamit aron mamenosan ang peligro sa kahimsog santang nagdumala sa basura?)
 Wearing protective gear (Mag sul-ob ug gamit sa pagpanalipod)
 Washing hands frequently (Kanunay nga paghugas sa kamot)
 Avoiding direct contact with waste (Paglikay sa direktang kontak sa basura)
 I don't have specific methods (Wala koy piho nga mga pamaagi)

Challenges (Mga Hagit)

1. What challenges do you face in your work as a garbage collector? (Select all that apply) (Unsang mga hagit ang imong giatubang sa imong trabaho isip tigkolekta og basura?) (Piliang ang tanan nga magamit)

- Non-compliance of residents with waste segregation (Ang dili pagsunod sa mga residente sa paglainlain sa basura)
- Insufficient protective equipment (Dili igo nga kagamitan sa pagpansilpod)
- Lack of proper collection tools or vehicles (Kulang sa sakatong mga gamit sa pagkolekta o mga sakyanan)
- Health risks and exposure to harmful materials (Mga risiko sa panglawas ug pagkafadad sa makadaot nga mga materyales)

2. How often do you encounter hazardous or improperly segregated waste? (Unsa ka sagad nga makasugat ka nga peligo o dili husto ginain nga basura?)

11500
FIRST DAY

- Daily (Adlaw-adlaw)
- Weekly (Kada semana)
- Rarely (Panagasa ra)
- Never (Dili gayud)

3. What do you need most to improve your working conditions? (Unsa ang labing kinahanglan nimo aron mapauswag ang imong kahintang sa pagtrabaho?)

- Better equipment and tools (Mas maayo nga kagamitan ug mga himan)
- Regular health check-ups and safety training (Regular nga panglawas na check-up ug kaluwasan na pagbansay)
- Increased public awareness about waste segregation (Dugang nga kahibalo sa publiko bahin sa paglainlain sa basura)
- More support and recognition from authorities (Dugang suporta ug pag-ila gikan sa mga awtoridad)

Aspirations and Recommendations

4. If given a chance, what improvement would you prioritize in waste management systems? (Select one) (Kung halagan ug higayon, unsa nga kalamboan ang imong unahan sa mga sistema sa pagdumala sa basura?) (Piliang ang usa)

- Increased public education and awareness campaigns (Dugang nga edukasyon sa publiko ug mga kampanya sa pagkahibalo)
- Better resources for garbage collectors (Mas maayong kahinguhaan para sa mga tigkolektag basura)
- Stricter enforcement of segregation policies (Mas estrikto nga pagpatuman sa mga polisiya sa segregasyon)
- Improved safety measures and health benefits (Gipauswag nga mga lakang sa kaluwasan ug mga benepisyo sa kahimsog)

END OF SURVEY

Please be assured that any information you relay through this survey will be treated as confidential.

(Makasiguro mo nga ang bisan unsang impormasyon nga imong ipasa pinaagi niini nga survey ay tratuhon na kompidensyal).

For more inquiries, you may contact us at 09209818645 or email us at kdsaldua02202400407@usep.edu.ph.

Thank you very much for your cooperation!

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This study explores the "unheard voices" of garbage collectors from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Davao City using a narrative approach. It examines their knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) regarding solid waste and garbage collection, segregation, and disposal while highlighting the challenges they face, such as non-compliance by residents, lack of resources, and health risks.

We would like to request your participation in this short survey as part of our research study. Your responses will be used to support efforts in improving waste management practices, enhancing community cooperation, diagnosing problems present in your work environment and your line of work and the need to address these concerns, and potentially influencing future policy-making decisions. Participation in this survey is also entirely voluntary and the respondent may opt not to participate.

Rest assured that all information will solely be used for academic purposes and under complete observance of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Thank you for your cooperation.

Makasiguro ka nga ang tanang impormasyon gamiton lamang alang sa akademikong kabayohan ug ubos sa hingpit nga pagsunod sa Data Privacy Act of 2012 (RA 10173). Salamat sa imong kooperasyon.

Sociodemographic Characteristics

- Name (Pangalan) (optional) / Alias (Alyas): C. P. M.
- Age group (Grupo sa edad):
 - Below 20 years
 - 20-29 years
 - 30-39 years
 - 40-49 years
 - 50 years and above
- Gender / Kasarian:
 - Male (Lalaki)
 - Female (Babae)
 - Other (please specify) _____
- Civil Status:
 - Single
 - Married
 - Separated
 - Widow
- Educational Attainment (Iniswahan / Unsay nahuman):
 - Elementary Graduate
 - High School Graduate
 - College Graduate
 - Other (please specify) _____
- Years of Experience as a Garbage Collector (Mga Taas sa Kasarian sa Tigkolekta sa Basura):
 - Less than 1 year (Wala pay 1 ka bing)
 - 1-3 years
 - 4-6 years
 - More than 6 years (Labaw sa 6 ka tuig)
- Extra Income (Dugang Kita):
 - Yes
 - No
- Barangay or District of Assignment (Barangay o Distrito kung asa na assign):
 - _____
 - _____

Knowledge (Kahibalo)

Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Butangi ug tek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag)

- Are you familiar with the various categories of waste (e.g., biodegradable, non-biodegradable, recyclable, hazardous, etc.) that need segregation? (Pamilyar ba ka sa lain-lain nga kategoriya sa basura panglantian, mabukok, dili mabukok, pagrecycle, ug uban pa) nga nagsikahanglan og segregasyon?
 - Yes (Oo)
 - No (Dili)
 - Partially (Gamay)
- Where did you learn about waste segregation? (Select all that apply) (Asa ka nakakat-on bahin sa paglainlain sa basura?) (Piliang ang tanan nga magamit)
 - CENRO training or orientation (CENRO nga paglantayan o orientasyon)
 - Personal experience or observation (Personal nga kasamtan o obserbasyon)
 - Fellow workers or supervisors (Mga kauban sa trabaho o supervisor)
 - Educational campaigns or materials (Mga kampanya o materyales sa edukasyon)
- Do you know the health risks associated with improper garbage disposal? (Nabali-an ba nimo ang mga peligo sa kahimsog nga nalangkit og dili husto nga paglabag sa basura?)
 - Yes, I am fully aware (Oo, ako hingpit nga nahibalo)
 - I have some knowledge, but not much (Ako adunay pipila ka kahibalo, apun dili kaayo)
 - No, I am unaware (Dili, ako wala nahibalo)

Attitudes (Mga Kinaiya)

Instructions: Put a check mark in the box for your preferred answer. (Butangi ug tek ang kahon para sa imong gusto nga tubag)

- How do you feel about the level of compliance with segregation rules among residents in your area? (Unsa ang imong gibati bahin sa lebel sa pagsunod sa mga lagid sa paglainlain sa mga residente sa imong lugar?)
 - Most residents comply well (Kahingharian sa mga residente maayo nga pagsunod)
 - Some residents comply, but many do not (Ang ubang mga residente sumtan, apun daghan ang wala)
 - Very few residents comply (Gamay ra nga mga residente ang pagsunod)
 - I have not observed any compliance (Wala koy obserbahan nga pagsunod)
- What do you do when you encounter improperly segregated waste? (Select all that apply) (Unsa ang imong tubaton kung makasugat ka og dili husto nga paglainlain sa basura?) (Piliang ang tanan nga magamit)
 - Inform the residents about the issue (Pahibalo sa mga residente bahin sa isyu)
 - Separate the waste myself (Ako nang maglainlain sa mga basura)
 - Leave the waste uncollected (Iblin ang basura nga dili makolekta)
 - Report it to my supervisor (Sumbangon kini sa akong supervisor)
- How often do you use protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, boots) during work? (Unsa ka sagad nimo gamiton ang mga kagamitan sa pagpansilpod (panglantian, gwantis, maskara, botas) sa panahon sa trabaho?)
 - Always (Kanunay)
 - Sometimes (Usahay)
 - Rarely (Panagasa ra)
 - Never (Dili gayud)
- What method do you use to minimize health risks while handling garbage? (Unsang paagha ang imong gigami aron mamansan ang peligo sa kahimsog samtang nagdumala sa basura?)
 - Wearing protective gear (Mag sul-ob ug gamit sa pagpansilpod)
 - Washing hands frequently (Kanunay nga paghugas sa kamot)
 - Avoiding direct contact with waste (Paglikay sa direktang kontak sa basura)
 - I don't have specific methods (Wala koy pipila nga mga paagha)

Figure 5. Sample of accomplished Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey

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