World Water Day-2011 Trash Cleanup for the Mansaya Creek, Tributary of ILOILO River in Philippines, Mar 26, 2011

ILOILO City, Philippines, 20 Apr 11

The **City of Iloilo** is a highly urbanized city in the Philippines and is the capital city of Iloilo province. It is the regional center of the Western Visayas, as well as the center of the Iloilo-Guimaras Metropolitan Area. In the 2007 census, Iloilo City had a population of 418,710 with a 1.8% population annual growth rate. It is bordered by the towns of Oton in the east, Pavia in the north, Leganes in the northeast and the Iloilo Strait in its eastern and southern coastline. The city was a conglomeration of former towns, which are now the geographical districts, composing of: Jaro, Molo, La Paz, Mandurriao, Villa Arevalo, and Iloilo City Proper. The district of Lapuz, a former part of La Paz, was declared a separate district in 2008. The Map below should provide relevant information.



To celebrate the World Water Day 2011 (WWD-2011) the local people and communities with the leadership of Mayor Jed Mabilog and Environmental Director Noel Hechanova participated in a massive trash and mangrove cleanup at the Mansaya Creek, a tributary of Iloilo River.



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Badges, gloves and plastic bags were sent from Maryland by Rivers of the World Foundation (www.rowfoundation.org) for the event.

Many local communities participated in the ILOILO River Trash Cleanup activity. Local student communities, and other citizens have also provided support. Mr. Noel Hechanova, Deptartment Head of ENRO led the effort with Keen interest.

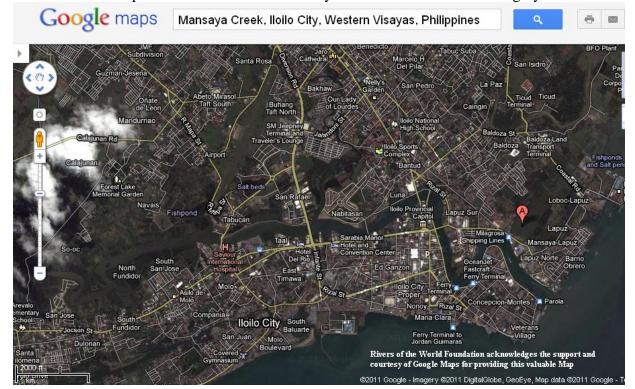
After the cleanup Noel Hechanova sent the following information and a few pictures from the event by e-mail.

The results from the event can be summarized as follows:



On April 20, 2011 Mansaya Creek trash and Mangrove cleanup activity was undertaken. This was the biggest success in terms of collection amongst all WWD-2011 activities by Rivers of the World Foundation..

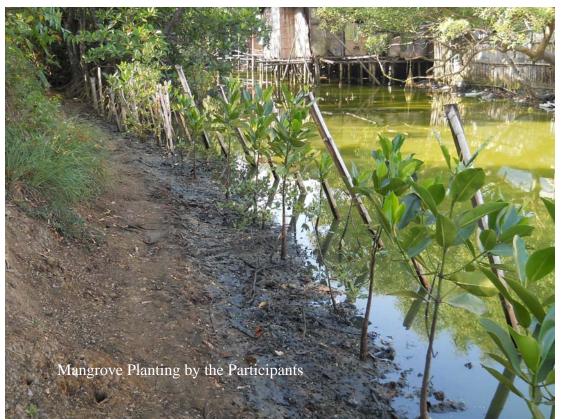
- 1. A massive collection of about 3500 Kgs of garbage was reported.
- 2. A total of 102 people (ENRO 35, DENR -30, Local Residents 20, Petron Corporation 7, and other NGOs 12) participated in the event
- 3. The participants also planted Mangrove along areas designated for cleaning.
- 4. A discussion forum was arranged with the Barangay residents a day before the event.
- 5. The cleanup was conducted at the Mansaya Creek as shown in the imagery below.



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Our Iloilo city coordinator also attached their proposal for a River Summit during October-November timeframe in 2011 in Iloilo city. Philippines. The local hospitality for Board and lodging will be provided by the Mayor Jed Mabilog. Our local coordinators are expecting two or three experts from the Rivers of the World Foundation to visit there during the Summit and present best practices.

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