

GSL Global Goals Competition - Written Report

KAS LEEDers

Who Are We?



We are KAS LEEDers, a group of students from Kaohsiung American School, Taiwan with the ambitions to reduce plastic pollution through Project Plastic! We believe that Project Plastic will encourage people to make the more eco-friendly choice on a daily basis. We believe that if everyone is willing to take a small action, it'll lead to a big change.

About the project:

Project Plastic aims to reduce the negative environmental impact that we're currently making at our school. We chose to target *SDG 14: life below water*, as we know that single-use plastic has an enormous influence on marine animals. Each day around 8 million pieces of plastic pollution ends up in our oceans.

PROJECT
plastic

LEED THE WAY.

Project Plastic mainly consists of #thelaststraw movement, zero plastic lunch, and an implementation of a new efficient waste system.

- ★ **#thelaststraw:** Eliminated all single-use plastic straws. In addition, we sold metal straws and conducted workshops to educate people about the purpose of the movement.



- ★ **Zero plastic lunch:**
 - Making a school wide difference one meal at a time
 - Encouraging our community to refuse the usage of single-use plastics
- ★ **waste system:**
 - changing the current inefficient/unclear recycling bins in school

Our Impact!

From little kids asking why plastic straws are no longer provided at the snack bar anymore to high schoolers asking about what they can do at home to educate their families on the negative impacts of single-use plastics, we've had external and internal impacts on our school community.

The visible difference that we have made is evidenced by the questions, the curiosity, and the willingness to accept this new change. Every week as we come in to meet as a club, our advisor tells us about how she's noticed students bring in their own reusable containers with their own package free snack, and how they've tell her about what they learned regarding plastic in their classes. However, if anything, our hope for this project is that it shows the next generation that they can make a difference; little changes in your life can lead to big changes for the environment.

We don't want them to come to school and not use plastic solely because we've taken away all other options.

We want them to go home and **choose** not to use plastic because they are aware of how their actions affect our oceans.

We want to see people actually making lifestyle changes even when they have the choice to use plastic because that's when it matters.

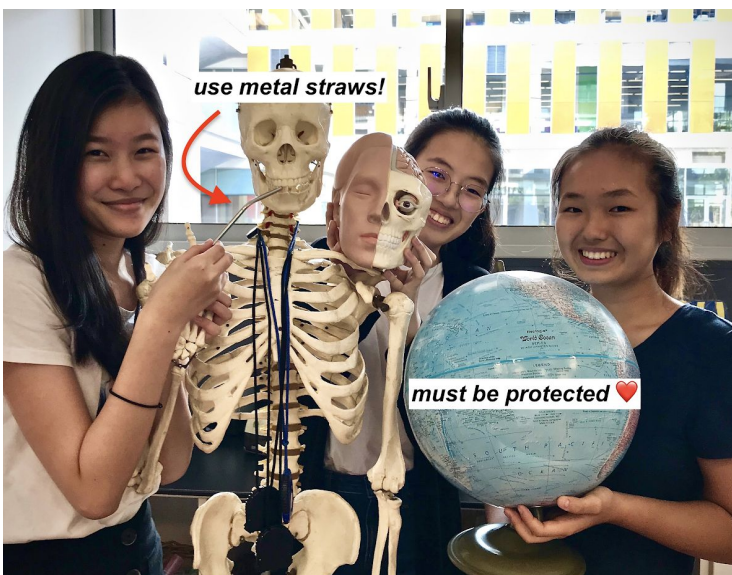


→ → → Moving Forward → → →

Our future goals include eliminating all single-use plastic from our school campus, reducing the overall trash produced, and further educating students to make eco-conscious choices even when they are out of school.

To us, it is not about putting a show at school of who can be the most environmentally friendly, it's about desiring to be environmentally friendly even when the option of plastic is there; cheap, easy, accessible, and destroying the oceans.

What we have to say.



"If we lived like fish, we'd all be dead." - Sammi

"Be the solution, not the pollution." - Charlene

"The ocean is your child, take care of it" - May

"We need alternatives to plastic. Fast." - Paula

"We love the Earth." - Maggie