



# Like the Clear Skies

## Community Service



Submitted by  
Rtr. Kaumini Mapa (Secretary)  
from the  
Rotaract Club of Colombo Fort  
Sponsored By  
Rotary Club of Colombo Fort  
Held on  
April 12th, 2025  
at the  
Crow Island Beach

### Secondary Avenues

- Environmental Service
- Membership Development and Retention

## Description

The project “**Like the Clear Skies**” was born out of a growing concern for the environmental degradation observed at coastal locations like Crow Island Beach. As part of the **Cleanup Sri Lanka** movement, the Rotary Club of Colombo Fort took the lead in assembling the power of the **Rotary family** — uniting Rotaractors, Interactors, and Rotarians in a joint initiative to clean, raise awareness, and advocate for sustainable action.

What began as a single beach cleanup evolved into a two-phase environmental action project due to the enthusiastic response and visible impact of the first phase. Inspired by the success of the Crow Island Beach cleanup, the team identified **Fort Railway Station**, a central and high-traffic area in Colombo, as the second site requiring urgent attention.

The initiative aimed to create a direct impact through garbage collection while empowering the younger generation with a sense of responsibility toward the environment. The name "Like the Clear Skies" represents the aspiration for cleaner beaches, clearer oceans, and a greener tomorrow.

## Objectives

- **Environmental Clean-Up:** To remove harmful waste and debris from Crow Island Beach, restoring its natural beauty.
- **Promote Eco-Consciousness:** Raise awareness among youth about marine pollution and the importance of community-led sustainability.
- **Strengthen Inter-Club Collaboration:** Encourage fellowship and coordinated action among Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact Clubs.
- **Foster Leadership & Responsibility:** Empower Interactors and Rotaractors to take the lead in real-world environmental efforts.
- **Reduce Litter and Pollution:** Restore cleanliness and natural beauty in public spaces.

## Goals

### SDG Goals

- 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
  - 11.6 Reduce the environmental impact of cities.
- 13 - Climate Action
  - 13.3 Build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change.
- 14 - Life below water
  - 14.1 Reduce marine pollution.
- 15 - Life on Land
  - 15.1 Conserve and restore terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.

Rotary Area of Focus

- Economic and Community Development
- Supporting the Environment

Other focus Areas

Project Chair

Name	Volunteer Hours
Kaumini Mapa	128 Hours (Appox.)

Project Committee

Name	Volunteer Hours	Committee Role
Ahmadh Booso	144 Hours (Appox.)	Project Secretary & Coordinator
Manusha Wickramarathne	36 Hours (Appox.)	Visual Content Creator
Mahdi Namiz	24 Hours (Appox.)	Visual Content Review
Miqdaad Mufeel	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Yazeed Ahamed	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Amnah Booso	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Sabrin Cader	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Pradeesha Mailwaganam	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Prashan Ganeshan	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Hasif Haleem	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
lththisham Iqbal	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Dhiyana Wijenayake	8 Hours (Appox.)	Project Volunteer
Total Hours		404 Hours

Club Participation

Club Name	Count
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Other Organization Participation

Organization Name	Organization Type	Count
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Rotary Club of Colombo Fort	rotary	12
Interact Club of St. Benedict's College	interact	10
Interact Club of Royal Institute	interact	12

**District Steering Committee Participation**

Name	Designation
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# Budget

## Income

Description		Amount
Total Income		0 LKR

## Expenses

Description		Amount
Total Expense		0 LKR
Total		0 LKR

## Project Planning

The *Like the Clear Skies* project was planned and executed in two impactful phases over a span of seven months, beginning on **September 1, 2024** and concluding on **April 12, 2025**. The first cleanup took place at **Crow Island Beach** on **September 28, 2024**, followed by the second phase at **Fort Railway Station** on **April 6, 2025**. Each phase required careful coordination among the Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs involved, with specific responsibilities delegated to ensure smooth execution and maximum community impact.

The planning process began with a location assessment and resource requirement discussion, followed by safety protocols, partnership confirmations, and volunteer mobilization. Here's how responsibilities were divided:

- **Rotary Club of Colombo Fort** handled project oversight, funding, and logistical support such as waste disposal coordination and safety arrangements.
- **Rotaract Club of Colombo Fort** led volunteer coordination, on-site supervision, and reporting, while also supporting PR content for social media.
- **Interact Club of St. Lawrence's Convent** was responsible for mobilizing volunteers and managing refreshments for both cleanups.
- **Interact Clubs of St. Benedict's College and Royal Institute** assisted with waste segregation, awareness poster design, and participant engagement.
- The **Chairperson** supervised the entire planning cycle, ensured alignment between teams, and liaised with external stakeholders including local authorities.
- The **Secretary** managed documentation, volunteer tracking, and post-event reporting.
- **Coordinators** were appointed for each location to handle ground logistics, distribute cleanup gear, and supervise waste collection zones.
- A **Visual Content Creator** was assigned to capture and design event visuals, while a **Visual Content Reviewer** ensured all material aligned with branding and messaging standards.

Regular coordination meetings, both virtual and in-person, were conducted during the lead-up to each phase.

Safety kits, waste disposal bags, and awareness flyers were procured ahead of time, and volunteers were briefed with guidelines to ensure both impact and safety. This structured approach to planning and delegation contributed greatly to the project's success and its positive environmental footprint.

## Public Relations Plan

### Pre-Cleanup PR:

- Informational flyers shared on Instagram and WhatsApp
- Countdown posts and cleanup tips posted 3 days prior to both events

### Event-Day PR:

- Reels and Instagram stories captured real-time cleanup efforts
- Tagged all partners and shared motivational quotes from volunteers

### Post-Event PR:

- Before/After comparisons shared for both locations
- Impact poster with garbage count, photos, and partner acknowledgments

## PR links

<https://>

## Beneficiaries

- Local community at Crow Island and Fort Station
- Coastal and urban ecosystems
- Youth volunteers who gained environmental action experience

## Partners

- Railway Station Administration (Colombo Fort)
- Rotary Club of Colombo Fort

- Interact Clubs of St. Lawrence's Convent, St. Benedict's College, and Royal Institute



## **Outcomes**

### **Short-Term Impact:**

- Cleaned two heavily used public zones totaling 70+ garbage bags
- Raised awareness among students, travelers, and local authorities
- Sparked a culture of action-driven environmentalism

### **Long-Term Impact:**

- Improved hygiene and safety in public areas
- Inspired schools to consider quarterly cleanups as part of community service
- Set a model for future cross-club collaborations

## **Areas of Improvements**

- Develop a checklist for tools and safety gear distribution to streamline setup
- Partner with recycling agencies to divert waste sustainably
- Create a “Clean-Up Kit” guide for future Interact-led projects
- Involve commuters and residents in small-group awareness sessions on-site

Gallery



