Overview

Over a three week period in April and May 2018, more than 130 of our amazing local leaders across Southeast Asia came together in their countries for a series of summits, hosted by Trash Hero World. We call these summits “family meetings”, due to the incredible spirit and emotional connections that they foster. Exchanging news, knowledge and ideas, participants left energised and excited to do even more back in their communities to tackle the issues of waste.

We kicked off in Bangkok, Thailand, from 27 – 29 April; then moved on to Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia from 1 – 2 May; Bali, Indonesia from 4 – 6 May; Yangon in Myanmar from 11 – 12 May; and finally Singapore on 21 May.

Goals
Trash Hero Family Meetings take place in countries where there are a significant number of local chapters.

They aim to strengthen each country’s chapter network through team-building, knowledge exchange and training; provide insights into local program delivery; and ensure compliance with the global brand and core values.

Objectives
Trash Hero World will fund travel, accommodation, venue and food costs to allow our volunteers to participate; many would not have the means to do so otherwise. In some cases these costs can be offset by the generous support of local sponsors.

Trash Hero World, together with local country leaders, will set an agenda tailored to the needs of the local chapters; invite outside speakers; and devise presentations, discussions and workshops to achieve these goals.

Local customs and cultural norms are to respected with regard to accommodation and food arrangements. No claims for alcohol are permitted.
Alongside presentations on Trash Hero’s progress, values and objectives, we enjoyed lively discussions and workshops on community waste banks; the health effects of burning trash; water filters; and greenwashing.

**Broadening horizons; focusing on details**

Speakers from other organisations with an affinity to our own were also invited to give information and inspiration to volunteers. These included *Bye Bye Plastic Bags, Social Impakt, Let’s Do It! World* (for World Cleanup Day 2018), community waste bank and composting and garbage collection initiatives in Bali, *Coral Gardening, Green Books* and *Tasini* recycled plastic bags.

From within our own movement came creative ideas for recycling collected waste; storyboards for campaigns against open burning of trash; practical information on starting a bin / waste collection service or no-straw campaign; demonstrations on upcycling plastic into handicrafts that can be sold by villagers; and even a presentation on how to make waste-free flower arrangements for ceremonies and cremations.

Trash Hero World presented its annual report for 2017; informing volunteers where our funding came from and emphasising the need for transparency on spending down to the finest detail; and gave an overview of the global core team’s mission and day to day operations. We also had keynotes on good role modelling in the community; social media communication and branding; and the importance of inclusivity for all stakeholders.

The meetings provided a forum for networking, both formal and informal: in Yangon, we were able to meet with the Swiss Ambassador to Myanmar; while during coffee breaks chapters shared tips and advice on everything from how to engage local government to the best type of gloves to use for cleanups!
Accounting Summary

Trash Hero World operates a strict policy to control our meeting expenses. We do not offer per diem allowances to volunteers; instead preferring to pre-book budget accommodation and group meals with buffet or set menu. Participants’ travel costs are reimbursed upon receipt of tickets, boarding passes and any other relevant documentation.

Below is a summary of the expenses for the April - May 2018 family meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>No. of days</th>
<th>Total cost¹</th>
<th>Daily cost per participant²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5201</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9430</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1466</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL COST</strong></td>
<td><strong>USD 18,437</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Total cost for meeting per country, rounded to nearest USD. Includes travel, accommodation, full board meals, venue hire and catering, and training for all participants.

² Average cost, calculated by dividing total cost by number of days and participants, and rounded to nearest USD

A detailed breakdown of all costs is available upon request from Trash Hero World.

---

**Sponsors**

Our sincere thanks to the following venues who gave us free or discounted services for the Trash Hero family meetings:

**Thailand**
Ban Sabai Hostel, Ladprao, Bangkok (accommodation, meals, meeting room)

**Indonesia**
Museum of Marketing 3.0, Pyramids of Chi, Alchemy (meeting venues and catering) Michi Retreat Village, Mandala Hostel (accommodation) All in Ubud, Bali.

**Myanmar**
Vantage Tower (meeting room and catering) Burger Busters (lunch) Myint & Associates (transport and airport assistance) All in Yangon.

**Switzerland**
Reisebüro Feriezyt, Sarnen (discounted flights for global coordinators)

All expenses related to the meetings, as outlined above, were covered by donations. Trash Hero World would also like to thank all our generous funders who made this possible.

To make a donation to cover future meetings, please visit trashhero.org/donations