



## Office of the Ombudsman

*"Manindigan Kontra Katiwalian"*

- [What is the jurisdiction the Environmental Ombudsman? What are its current projects?](#)

The Environmental Ombudsman has jurisdiction over violations of environmental laws involving public officials and employees.

On April 22, 2013, the Solid Waste Management Compliance Program was launched. It aims to monitor the local governments units' compliance with Republic Act No. 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000).

Instead of the usual approach of investigation and prosecution, the program tackles the problem of inaction or indifference through what noted environmentalist Atty. Antonio Oposa, Jr. describes as the 'power of the stationery.' Using the Ombudsman letterhead, letters were sent to randomly selected national agencies and local government units to request information on their compliance with the provisions of RA 9003, which data shall be gathered and evaluated by a technical working group composed of representatives from the Environmental Ombudsman team and civic organizations.

The Office of the Environmental Ombudsman, with the support of US DOJ-OPDAT, and in cooperation with environmental law enforcement offices, is also in the process of creating a manual for environmental crime scene investigation for the successful prosecution of cases involving public officials.

Look also here: [www.authorities.aboutphilippines.ph](http://www.authorities.aboutphilippines.ph) and [www.nature.aboutphilippines.ph](http://www.nature.aboutphilippines.ph)