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### Australian HC in 'Clean up the World' initiative

The Australian High Commission (AHC) in Colombo joined forces with local communities and members of the Sri Lankan Navy, as part of a number of activities to celebrate 'Clean up the World' weekend from September 18 to 20 .

The principal aim of this year's initiatives was to raise youth awareness for environmental protection and conservation issues. Working closely with students of Maris Stella College, Negombo, the AHC organised for Abans (the recycling contractor) to run a workshop for the students to help them design and implement their own recycling scheme at school.

Separately, on Saturday, September 19, officials from the AHC along with 25 local volunteers engaged to clean up a stretch of Crow Island beach in Mattakkuliya. The activity - organised jointly with PEACE (a local NGO) - was a great success, owing much to the hard work of 15 officers from the Sri Lankan Navy who also donated their time to assist our efforts.

'Clean Up the World' is a community-based environmental programme that inspires and empowers communities and individuals from every corner of the globe to clean up and conserve their environment. The campaign mobilises an estimated 35 million volunteers in more than 120 countries each year, making it one of the largest community-based environmental campaigns in the world.

Founded by an Australian, Ian Kiernan, and implemented in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Clean Up the World is now in its 17th year.




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