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UN IN ACTION

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THE PHILIPPINES: BOTTLEMAN

VIDEO

PEOPLE SCAVENGING THROUGH
GARBAGE

ILLAC DIAZ ON CAMERA

MORE SIFTING THROUGH GARBAGE

ILLAC ON CAMERA

AUDIO

NARRATION:

The Payatas (pie-yatas) Sanitary Landfill outside the Philippines capital, Manila, is one of the largest on the planet. It's home to gangs of scavengers looking for things to use or sell. But Illac (e-yack) Diaz and his team are hunting for something very specific. (17)

ILLAC DIAZ: (In English) M

"... this one thing that you would drink for 5 minutes and it lasts a thousand years." (4)

NARRATION:

They are hunting for one litre plastic bottles – and they're not hard to find. (4)

ILLAC DIAZ: (In English) M

"And we were thinking what can we do with this big problem and how can we make it into the world's biggest solution." (5)

NARRATION:

A solution, Illac dreamed, that would not only

DARK SLUMS

ease his country's environmental problems //
but also bring a ray of hope to the millions of
slum-dwellers who live largely in the dark. (11)

KIDS WALKING IN MUD

OLAV KJORVEN: (In English) M

*"It's very hard to escape poverty if you don't
have access to energy."* (4)

OLAV ON CAMERA

NARRATION:

Olav Kjørven from the United Nations
Development Programme. (3)

MORE SLUMS

OLAV KJORVEN: (In English) M

*"It took us a while in the development
community to realise that all these goals that we
have established // - getting kids to school,
making sure people have access to basic
healthcare services ... it's difficult to make
sustained progress towards any of those
objectives if a community has no access to
energy."* (19)

OLAV ON CAMERA

NARRATION:

So Illac thought somehow he could use the
empty plastic bottles with water and limitless
sunlight to bring light to those who needed it
most. (7)

ILLAC WITH WORKERS
PEOPLE IN THE DARK

But he didn't know exactly how to do it. So he
took his idea to the Massachusetts Institute of
Technology, in the US, where he was studying
for his Masters degree. He worked tirelessly
with other students to perfect his idea. (13)

ILLAC BACK IN THE PHILIPPINES

After months of work, he returned to the Philippines and started the Litre of Light movement by turning trash – the empty bottles - into electricity-free solar light bulbs. (10)

Now young volunteers are learning from him and taking back this knowledge to their own countries. (6)

ILLAC TALKING TO STUDENTS: (In English)

M

“The nice thing about water is water bends the light, so once the light goes inside, it will bend the light to be able to go all around the house.”

(8)

ILLAC WITH STUDENTS IN
CLASSROOM

NARRATION:

3D GRAPHICS SHOWING SUNLIGHT
ON WATER

The solar light bulb produces the same amount of illumination as a 55 watt electric bulb, by simply taking the sunlight and refracting the energy. Using non-biodegradable plastic bottles, water with bleach and sunlight, this is likely the least expensive lighting device ever invented.

NARRATION:

ROOF SHOTS OF THE BOTTLES OF
WATER

Today, tens of thousands of Illac’s solar light bulbs are now illuminating homes and businesses in Manila and beyond. (8)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Patrick Fries for the United Nations. (4.5)

