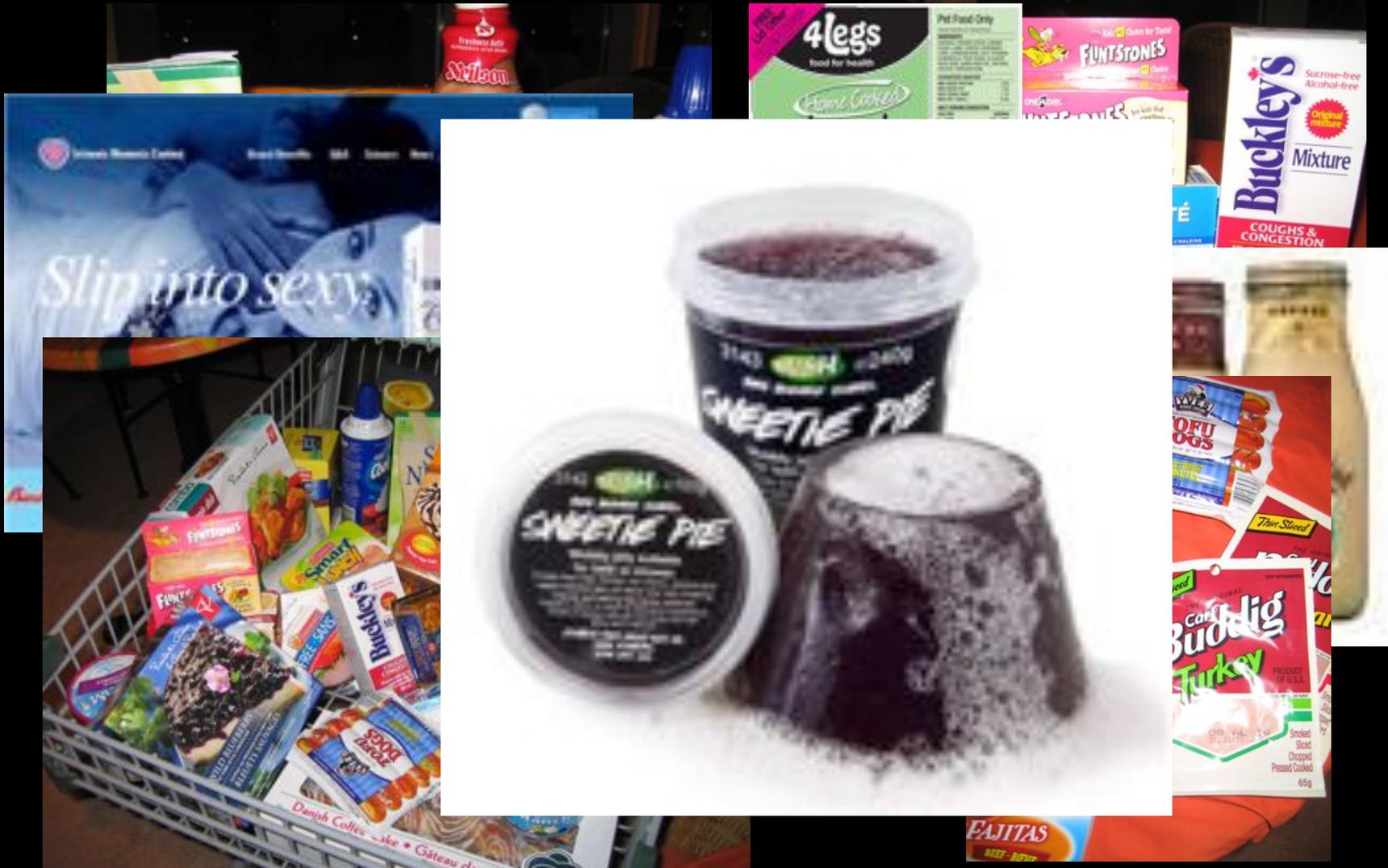


What do all these have in common?





Seaweed

More specifically...
carrageenan



Carrageenan is seaweed dried and ground up into an emulsifying powder.

Small coastal communities in the Philippines produce 75% of all the carrageenan seaweed in the world



Communities like the Caluya Islands....



Caluya's seaweed farmers are small-holder entrepreneurs who have had no help from governments or NGOs.

Their story is one of entrepreneurial success in the face of poverty



Now they need support to save their land, livelihood, and coral reefs from being illegally sold, bulldozed and dredged to create a high-end resort.

Seaweed farming has transformed the lives of people in Caluya.

Since they started growing seaweed:





The first generation of children has been able to continue to high school



Food security and access to medicines has increased dramatically



Families are no longer divided by emigration in the search for work



They've established a Community Marine Protected Area stopping illegal dynamite fishing, policing it themselves, and seeing fish start to return to their coral reefs.

All of this is threatened by plans of corrupt elites and a notorious land developer



Roy pointing to planned resort area

These plans will:

- Displace all the seaweed farmers and destroy their growing areas
- Clearcut and bulldoze their coconut growing areas
- Dredge the coral reef areas the community worked hard to revive
- Pave an airstrip on top of their land crop area
- Take away their small businesses and replace them low-paying wage work like cleaning, massage, and boat driving

The community's remoteness and lack of formal education is being used to push the process through and intimidate them into acceptance.

But, they want to fight for their future.

Help them tell their story and get the support they need



Thank you

