



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



MODULE 3

Developing waste management regulations and compliance mechanisms. The relevance of the institutional and legislative framework

"Promotion of BAT/BEP to reduce uPOPs releases from waste open burning in the participating African countries of SADC sub-region"



United Nations Institute for Training and Research

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WHAT ARE SOME OF THE RELEVANT PRINCIPLES POLICYMAKERS, PRACTITIONERS AND THE SEVERAL SWM ACTORS NEED TO UNDERSTAND TO UNDERTAKE THE SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF A NON-EFFECTIVE EXISTING SYSTEM?

- Recognize SWM is a complex problem
- Recognize the design and building of an effective system will take time
- Objectives and targets appropriate to each specific national situations need to be established
- Given the relevance of international experiences, best practices – such as 100% collection coverage, sanitary landfills, composting of the organic fractions – can already be introduced from the initial stage of planning
- To ensure stability to the system and to all actors, a coherent institutional setting and a stable legislative framework need to be built
- To secure funding for investments, it is necessary to know the cost of the existing SWM system and to be able to formulate a clear budget at national and city level.

WHAT IS THE WASTE HIERARCHY? CAN IT BE ADOPTED IN EVERY SITUATION?

The waste hierarchy is an order of priority in activities of SWM formulated in the UE after several decades of activities in the sector.

It cannot necessarily be applied as a one-fits-all solution in realities where the SWM system is underdeveloped: in those realities ensuring 100% collection coverage and the building and management of sanitary landfills are the first objectives.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT MONEY MATTERS?

The cost of the existing system for the City's administrations must be known. And both at the national and the city levels budget for the existing SWM system must be kept.

Only when this knowledge is ensured, development scenarios can be formulated and the cost need for investment in infrastructure and plants can be known.

International funders will not fund administrations that don't have a clear vision of the budget and projects whose costs are not clearly calculated.

WHY IS A NATIONAL STRATEGY NEEDED?

- A National SWM Strategy gives the overall objectives and targets within which City can develop their actions in a coordinated pattern.
- It can define the amount of the investments needed to develop in time a SWM system, effective at all scales (from local to regional to national)
- It can allocate resources (funds and personnel) for the establishment of the necessary Offices, both at the National and local levels.
- It indicates the administrative form of the service fees to be paid by residents and production sites.

IN SWM, WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY?

Monitoring the effect of SWM on public health and the environment is essential to maintain or re-gain trust between citizens and administrations.

The operation of a well-funded and staffed Environmental Protection Agency is essential to the monitoring of the health and environmental impacts of SWM and to maintain or regain trust.

- ✓ the environmental performances of generators of high amounts of waste are regularly controlled and monitored
- ✓ emissions and environmental performances of SWM facilities and plants are regularly controlled
- ✓ health and environmental campaigns are conducted locally and nationally
- ✓ procedures for controls and monitoring are issued to private and public actors managing transport, facilities, and plants; reports are issued.

WHY COULD A PUBLICLY OWNED SWM UTILITY SUPPORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM?

The presence of a publicly participated (or owned) Municipal Utility, has proven to be an essential feature of successful SWM systems in high income Countries; it could:

- provide collection service
- manage Transfer Stations
- keep the municipal SWM budget and provide the billing service
- maintain contractual relationships with collection workers
- gather data on waste generation and collection coverage
- interface with Municipal and Environmental Agency officers for the exchange of relevant data.

A Municipal Utility could also perform the SWM operations following collection, including the management of:

- sorting plants in the materials recovery chain
- composting plants or anaerobic digestors
- sanitary landfills.

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE COST OF SWM AND KEEP NATIONAL AND CITY'S SWM BUDGETS?

Policymakers and designers must understand the range of financial solutions that a municipality could consider in sourcing finance, particularly the revenues derived from materials and energy recovered from waste and the sources for repayable finance.

An essential element that is regularly reviewed is the structuring of the project, particularly if that structuring involves a private-sector operator who helps to mitigate some of the project's risk and operational costs.



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