



Waste Management: Challenges and Opportunities

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Solid Waste Situation

- MOC estimates that about 80% of urban solid waste is being collected nationwide with the ratio for recovery of recyclable/reusable materials is 23%.
- Recent World Bank survey of the 95 cities are lower at 71% for all of the cities surveyed and the rate is even lower for some small poor cities at 10-20%.
- Most of urban solid waste in Vietnam is disposed in landfills
- Only 15% of the landfills are being considered sanitary, while the others are just open dumping sites.
- MOC 's target for 2010: 90% solid wastes collected and treated

Solid Waste Situation

- Public utility companies (Urban Environment Company - URENCO) are responsible for the urban solid waste management
- The PPC is often responsible for the companies budget under an approved annual working plan.
- There are conflict between service quality and subsidized budget, and challenges to maintain and upgrade or expand the services properly.
- Private companies and cooperatives participates in waste collection and transportation, especially in the small alleys

Solid Waste Situation

- Part of the hazardous waste is still mixed with other types of wastes such as domestic, industrial, agricultural waste.
- Private enterprises investing in hazardous collection, treatment and disposal business may have great potential growth in Vietnam.



Info Box 1.2 Percentage of household in Urban Areas by methods of garbage disposal (WB 2006)

Location	Garbage truck	Burning	Burying	Throwing to river	Throwing to animal closure	Other
Rural	6.8	63.0	23.0	15.0	16.7	18.9
Urban	71.0	20.0	7.5	6.3	4.1	2.8
Total	21.9	52.9	19.4	12.4	13.7	15.1



Main Solution Approaches

- Policies for sustainable urban infrastructure development:
 - Affordability for Low Income Groups
 - Public and private partnerships
 - Appropriate technology
 - Consideration of climate change issues
- Appropriate legal and regulatory framework conditions
- Financing: create favorable conditions, investment opportunities and incentives for private investors.
- Enabling institutional and organizational set-up and related capacity building



Example 2.4 Waste Concern: Replicating Organic Waste Strategies

Based on the knowledge waste in Asian towns is usually largely organic, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) sought to achieve profitable waste reuse by building community based composting facilities. Starting in Bangladesh, the approach is replicated in Sri Lanka and Quy Nhon, Viet Nam.

In Quy Nhon, UNESCAP worked with the NGO Enda Viet Nam and the local government, who contributed land and a free lease for the project. Working at the beginning of the cycle, project coordinators educated community members about ways to reduce waste and separate recyclables. The project also organized daily door-to door organic waste collection. Once organic waste was collected it was then transferred to a community plant built by the project capable of treating 2 to 3 tons per day.

The facility has been running a small consistent profit since its completion. The plant currently generates revenue of 1,130 USD per month. Of this amount, 750 USD is from collection fees, with each household paying fees of 0.60 USD per month. The remainder of the revenue is from the sale of organic fertilizer (approximately 340 USD per month). The operating cost of the facility is 972 USD, resulting in a small profit (around 150 USD). The ability of the plant to sell its organic fertilizer remains critical to its profitability. While the current number of buyers is high and the benefits of organic fertilizer are being recognized, the market price of organic fertilizer is still low.