

# **SWM Webinar Series**

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# Plastic Waste

**INTPA F4 - Urban Development Technical Facility (UDTF)** 



## **Topics Overview**

#### Welcoming remarks.

#### **1.** Conceptual Introduction.

- Basic Concepts and Overview of SWM in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Waste Recovery Context.

#### **Deep dive: Focus on Plastics.** 2.

- Plastic Waste.
- Collection and Recycling.
- **Business Models and Market Situations.**
- Plastic Waste Policies and Future Developments.
- Practical Application Examples.

#### **3.** Ask the Expert Session.

Recycling of organic matter into compost, 2021, Sonfo propres, a European Union project implemented by Enabe



# **Overview of INTPA SWM projects**



- Cameroon
- China
- Comoros
- Congo D.R.
- Djibouti
- Dominican Rep.
- Ecuador
- Eswatini
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea, Rep.
- Haiti
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan



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50Kg compost sacs, 2021, Conakry, Guinea. Sanita villes propres, a European Union project implemented by



# Waste Generation by region

Today, most countries in SSA generate less waste than most countries in the world. However, SSA and S. Asia will experience the fastest growth in the decades to come. It is forecasted that SSA, EA&P and the high income and OECD countries will generate about the same amount of waste by 2080.

Municipal solid waste generated per year (Kg/capita) Less than 200 kg 200-499 kg 500-799 kg 800-1,100 kg

Source: World Bank What a Waste Database, 2018 or latest available.







# Waste in S-S Africa

- Urban population in Africa is increasing at a faster **rate** than any other continent (3.5 % per annum).
- Sub-Saharan Africa is forecasted to become the world's largest **waste generator** (tonnes/day), if current generation trends persist.
- **19 of** the world's **50 biggest dumpsites** are located in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- More than 90% of waste generated in Africa is disposed at uncontrolled dumpsites, leaks into the environment or is openly burned.
- In Africa, 64% of the plastic material ends up mismanaged and uncollected.





## Waste Everywhere

- Openly burnt producing harmful air pollution.
- Polluting water bodies and the oceans, and ecosystems. Increasing flooding.
- Negative impact in livelihoods and economic development.









## Current Situation Dumpsites





# Landfills poorly built and managed in Africa

### Uncontrolled landfill fires

### Dangerous leachate leakage



Heavy CO<sup>2</sup> footprint



# Waste Management **Challenges in Cities**

- Solid waste management (SWM) to be addressed in urban contexts.
  - Most waste generated in cities.
- SWM **responsibility of local governments** but SWM systems, or parts or it, are **often operated by** the **private sector** formally, or informally.
- Urban shapes, densities, distances and road conditions affect SWM planning, costs, and the system's feasibility.
  - **Optimisation** of technical aspects, cost, and coverage by **SWM** and urban planning.
  - Concentration is key to tackle negative impacts.
  - Economies of scale, resources efficiency and extended coverage by metropolitan and regional agreements.
- Cities can take advantage of material recovery.
  - Agglomeration is key to take advantage of economies of scale and to **maximize** the **profitability** of recycling and composting





#### SWN **WS** 0 L\_ Π 0 P D U Π



SWM FLOW

# Waste Management Challenges

#### Management and operation of SWM services

- Public sector not used to manage SWM professionally do not give SWM the needed priority in terms of funds, staff and equipment.
- The private sector is less restricted by bureaucracy and has slightly more freedom from political influence though corruption is prevalent in the private sector.
- SWM services are usually not well financed as costs are **not known** and municipal budget does not provide the necessary funds.
- User fee systems are either not in place or do not reflect the financial needs – can only cover costs in highincome countries
- Potential for cost savings by improving service **efficiency** only possible if proper costs/revenues accounting is established.

#### The Global State of Waste Management

Countries' waste management score based on assessments of household and commercial solid waste control (50%) recycling rates (25%) and ocean plastic pollution (25%). 100 = Best managed



recycling rates (25%) and ocean plastic pollution (25%)

Source: Yale Environmental Performance Index. (2022)



# Waste Management Hierarchy and Conditions



- **Prevention** of waste generation should be implemented as **policy**, e.g., a ban of single use plastic bags.
- **Sorting** at **source** or in **collection points**: base for any kind of proper later treatment with clean segregated material.
- Hazardous waste to be collected and stored separately for proper treatment.
- **Collection** and **transport** systems need to be **adjusted to local conditions** and separate waste streams.
- Consider private waste operators through proper contracting models.
- Long distance transport needs special transfer sites and trucks.
- Adequate treatment solutions need to be developed and implemented **for each** waste/material **stream**.
- Landfilling only for stabilized non usable material.













# Waste Composition Quiz

#### High-income vs Low-income countries.

Please rank this materials <u>here</u>. (See the link on Webex's chat box).

**Plastics** 



Metal



Glass







#### **Organic Waste**





### Waste Composition Quiz

c. Waste Composition in Upper Middle-Income Countries



### **High-income vs Low-income**

#### a. Waste Composition in Low-Income Countries b. Waste

b. Waste Composition in Lower Middle-Income Countries

d. Waste Composition in High-Income Countries



59%



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# Plastic Waste Treated by Region

Globally, only 9% of plastic waste is recycled while 22% is mismanaged.



Source: OECD Global Plastics Outlook Database. Share of plastics treated by waste management category after disposal or recycling residues and collected letter, 2019.

High portions of plastic waste are burned or dumped in uncontrolled landfills and plastic contributes to air pollution – one of the leading causes of death in the developing world.

#### Negative Impacts on economic activities:

**Tourism:** plastic choked beaches and environment.

**Fisheries:** through ingestion and entanglement leading to **reduced fish stocks** and impacting livelihoods of fishers.

**Agriculture**: plastic pollution can **degrade soil quality** and affect crop growth by **hindering water infiltration** and **root** development.

- **Health impacts** with microplastics in humans.
- Negative effect on urban infrastructure clogging drainage systems leading to flooding and increased maintenance.



- Millions of the poorest urban dwellers make their **living collecting recyclable plastics** in cities.
- Plastic recycling can provide raw materials and processing to contribute to further **industrialization**.
- **Business opportunities** for private sector to reuse plastic such as PET, PE and others, under certain conditions. Hundreds of tons of **plastic waste** are exported for recycling across Africa, generating foreign exchange.
- Private companies can support urban waste **management** by taking up this service and relieving cities from part of the SWM system.
- Financing mechanisms needed to involve the producers and retail to cover cost and reduce burden for population.





Technologies must be adapted to local conditions, providing job opportunities and being less mechanized and less costly.



#### Plastic waste exports

Plastic waste exported by all modes of transports in a year



Source: United Nations Comtrade database (2023).

**Plastic waste exports from Africa are increasing** – and **imports to Europe are increasing**. Policy based: Europe **R-pet regulations require 25% recycled PET**. China "National Sword" policy.

Plastic waste imports

Plastic waste imported by all modes of transports in a year



Source: United Nations Comtrade database (2023).

#### **Positive**

Global demand for recycled plastics is growing – mostly policy based.

Local demand in S-S Africa is also growing – mostly demographic based.

#### Negative

 Oil and gas companies pushing plastic as their new growth areas as countries switch to renewables.





CAGR OF 8.1%

The global recycled plastics market is expected to be worth USD 120 Billon by 2023, growing a CAGR of 8.1% during the forecast period.



#### Recycled plastic prices overtake 'virgin' material (€/tonne)

- **Recyclable Plastic**  $\bullet$ is now fetching a **better** price than virgin material
- This is due to **regulation**
- No longer needs to ulletcompete on an even playing field with virgin material





# **Types of Plastic**

### What are those numbers?

The resin codes on packaging tell you what kind of plastic it is. You still need to check your local recycling rules to see which types can go in your bin. Here are some examples!



PET



HDPE











### What they recycle into:

New bottles, clothing, lumber, carpet

New bottles, furniture binders

Pipes, flooring, siding,

New bags,





New jars, Picture bins, mailers, buckets, decking car parts molding

frames, crown

Electronic housing, lumber

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# **Recycling Quiz**

Please rank the type of recycling material from highest value to lowest <u>here</u>. (Please see the link on Webex's chat box).



### **Recycling Value**







## Answers in terms of most valuable



















#### Typology

Copper

Aluminum (Used Beverage Ca

PET flakes (Clear) (plastic bott

PET flakes (Green)

PET flakes (Brown)

HDPE / PP flakes (Shampoo bottles, oil bottles)

LDPE pellets (Bubble wrap, stretchy plastic

White Paper

Corrugated cardboard paper

Newsprint paper

Glass cullet (Clear)

Glass cullet (Green/Brown)

Recyclable Waste Typologies and Economic Values



	Price (Euros /Ton)	Prices (USD/Ton)
	3,640 - 8,190	4,000 – 9,000
ans)	1,260.35	1,385
les)	819	900
	637	700
	491.40	540
	650.65	715
covering)	486.85	535
	364	400
	291.20	320
	136.50 - 182	150 — 200
	40.95	45
	18.20	20

# **Recyclable Plastic PLASTIC PROCESSING DIFFICULTIES**



## **Recyclable Plastic – Rigid vs Flexible**









# Recycling





Step 1: Plastic PET containers are picked up at community recycling centers, then sorted by type and color,

Step 2: The are stripped of their labels and caps, washed and crushed, then chopped into flake.

### **RECYCLED POLYESTER - HOW IT'S MADE**



Step 3: The flakes undergo a second melting and are made into consistently shaped pellets. Step 4: The pellets are melted and extruded to make fiber. The fiber is crimped, cut, drawn and stretched, then baled. Step 5: The baled fiber can be processed into fabric for a variety of textile product end uses.



## **Recyclable Plastic**

- Some African cities likely have higher PET, HDPE and LDPE recycling rates than highincome countries – due to **waste pickers**.
- US based, but this is a good representation of which material are actually recycled mostly PET, HDPE and a little LDPE
- Highest recycling rate PET though one of the lower quantities produced.





#### How is plastic Recycled

Source: C&EN 2018. Andy Burning for Chemical & Engineering News.



Source: Data prepared in Pollak (2019) on the basis of data from Kaza et al (2018)

### Sorting and segregation

Plastic management starts with **materials** and **product design**.



**Separate collection** is key to obtain clean material. The **sooner** in the value chain, **the better**.

#### **Challenges in Africa**

- Agglomeration and concentration: **still less than 50%** urban.
- Lack of Roads high proportion of people live in informal settlements.
- **Low income** reduces ability to pay for service.
- Lack of investment in efficient collection equipment.
- **Poor Dumpsite Infrastructure** vehicles get stuck.
- Low levels of enforcement.
- Corruption.





#### **Types of Waste**

#### **Pre-Consumer**

Waste from the factory that is generated in the process of making products. This material never reaches the consumer. This is the easiest to separate and the cleanest material to recycle

#### **Post-Consumer:**

Waste that has been used and discarded. This material is harder to collect and separate.



### **Informal Recyclers**





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#### **Conditions for Plastic Recycling**

- Transport Costs Transporting air need to be within 200 Km from a port or processor user.
- Volume Need a minimum of 200 tons a month in a location to make economic sense.

Price per Kg of PET in Tanzania paid to informal collectors

- Dar es Salaam (Port) 400 TZS *(0,14 EUR)*
- Bagamoyo (70km away) 250 TZS *(0,09 EUR)*
- Morogoro (200km) 150 TZS (0,05 EUR)



#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

- Small Scale Shredders and Small-Scale Baling for pre-processing ar transport cost reduction
  - Cost around 5,460 EUR (6,000 USD)

- Horizontal Baler potential to export baled PET & LDPE
  - Cost 40,950 EUR (45,000 USD)





Vertical Baling Equipment



Plastic Crusher

Horizontal Baling Equipment

#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

Material	Price Euro/Ton			
Baled Plastic Bottles	273			
Baled Plastic LDPE	273			
PET flakes (Clear)	819			
PET flakes (Green)	637			
PET flakes (Brown)	491			
HDPE / PP flakes	650			
LDPE pellets	486			



#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

Government contracts to collect waste, run transfer stations, material recovery facilities, do household recycling







#### Faux Opportunities with Plastic

- Upcycling
- Construction Blocks
- Poles
- Pyrolysis







#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

#### With cities of 200 tons of plastic/month and access to a port – PET shredding, washing lines.



- CAPEX: €255,000 EUR
- OPEX: €38,250 EUR per month
- Cost of Material: €38,250 EUR
- Revenue: €93,500 EUR per month

- Factory Staff: 50 people
- Informal Collector supporting: 1,000 people



#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

With cities of 200 tons of plastic/month and access to a port – HDPE / LDPE flexible shredding, washing lines.



- CAPEX: €425,000 EUR
- OPEX: €34,000 EUR per month
- Cost of Material: €29,750 EUR
- Revenue: €85,000 EUR per month

- Factory Staff: 50 people
- Informal Collector supporting: 1,000 people

#### **Opportunities with Plastic**

PET, HDPE or LDPE Extrusion into pellets for cities with plastic manufactures willing to substitute virgin plastic for recycled pellets.

- CAPEX: €127,500 EUR
- OPEX: €25,500 EUR per month
- Price of Material: €59,500 EUR per month
- Revenue: €102,000 EUR per month
- Staff members 20 people





#### **Co-Processing/Refuse Derived Fuel – Cement Plants**



Sorting

Drying









Transporting

Waste to fuel



#### Positive

- There are over 150 kilns in Europe that use Waste to Fuel is not Recycling. waste to fuel every day, with waste making up **Competing against Coal** – very cheap – can be even 30 – 50 USD per 40% of thermal energy used in the clinker-making ton plus transport. process at EU-based cement factories.
- This process is accepted and recommended by both the **Basel Convention** and the **Montreal Protocol**.
- When Replacing Coal has lower GHG, has similar GHG as natural gas.
- No microplastics in water from plastic recycling.
- There are already over 100 kilns in S-S Africa, do not need to build new plants like WtE plants.

- Material needs to be relatively dry and often shredded depending on the feeding system.

# **Co-Processing / RDF – Cement Plants**

#### Negative





# Waste to Energy: Plants

#### **Positives**

- Used in Europe and North America.
- No microplastics in water from plastic recycling.
- Efficient way to reduce waste quantities by around 80%
- Still recommended as one element of the **chain** for Megacities where more 10,000 than tons of waste come up every day.



#### Negatives

- Waste to Energy is **not Recycling**.
- Most expensive way to get rid of waste, and most expensive way to generate energy.
- **Does not work** as well in S-S Africa due to **high** moisture content lack and waste segregation.
- Many projects fail and does not send the right messaging reduction.







#### **How to Identify Projects - Checklist**

- Go to the dumpsite/landfill and see what material is being collected already.
  Find manufacturers of different plastics look at the furniture, buckets, etc. and meet with the manufacturers to see if they are willing to use recyclable material.
- Go to Coca-Cola or Pepsi and see where they sell their different scrap material from the factory.
- Trace this material to the buyer and final user there will be more than one.



- Meet with **local cement plants** and ask about what fuel they use and how do they load it.
- Meet with informal recyclers and middle people that are collecting material.



# Recap of Businesses that Work

- If a location has over 200 tons per month of PET, HDPE, or LDPE then a recycling business can work.
- Easiest is setting up a horizontal baler system, then when volumes established chose which processing machinery depending on local manufactures available and port access
- Co-processing will likely be the future for plastic waste in Africa, especially as cement companies set alternative fuel targets, and Plastic Credits develop
- Caution on developing WtE or even large-scale Material Recovery Facilities as they often fail due to access to waste, high organic waste composition and equipment failures

- Important to look for additionality what is already being done, how will your work affect waste pickers.
- Large million-dollar investments to develop bottle to bottle or fiber need to secure supply of material first



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#### **Problems with Recycling Plastic**

- We are losing too much plastic generated to recycle.
- Different colors, smaller sizes, sachets, mixed material, plastic seal.
- by high-income countries Dumping especially in terms of textiles.





#### **Problems with Recyclable Plastic**



Plastic Waste Import (22680 tonnes per year)



Plastic **Recycling Facility** 



**Plastic Pellet** Product

Discharge

Wash water MP discharge (post filtration, MP < 1.6µm) 6 x 10<sup>8</sup> – 7 x 10<sup>10</sup> MP m<sup>-3</sup>  $100 - 1.2 \times 10^4 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ 59 – 1184 tonnes per year\*



#### Policy



Alex Svanevik 🔊 🤣 @ASvanevik · 5/17/24 the pinnacle of European innovation last 25 years



# ...



#### **Policies in Africa have been mixed**

- Kenya's plastic ban was mostly successful.
- Tanzania banned water sachets and alcohol sachets successfully – plastic bags mostly successful.
- Rwanda banned many different SUPs successfully.
- Ivory Coast ban a failure.





#### **Policy: thoughts to consider**

- There are a lot of easy wins water sachets, plastic carrier bags.
- Requires long term planning and speaking with manufacturers and port administrators, giving over 1year timelines for the ban and then having heavy fines for manufactures and users.
- Must be clear what is allowed suggestion for plastic carrier bags is ban on all bags that are not large bin liners – Tanzania allowed small bin liners that people used as plastic bags.
- Must be constant enforcement and fines.







#### **Policy: scale of bans, step by step**

- 1. Ban water and alcohol sachets.
- 2. Ban plastic carrier bags.
- 3. Ban straws, cutlery, plates, cups.
- 4. Ban smaller than 1 liter plastic bottles and non-clear color water bottles.
- 5. Ban polystyrene (Styrofoam) and single use toiletries in hotels.
- 6. Ban non-returnable plastic bottles.
- 7. Ban Plastic Packaging for Food and Retail Items.







#### **Plastic Credits & Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)**

- Pushed by industries like Coca-Cola who already have report on their plastic due to corporate to governance.
- Can be helpful in some cases, if implemented appropriately – distinguishments between rigid and flexible and organizing extra costs for plastics out of main urban centers.
- Plastic credits are a way to do this globally.

#### **PLASTIC CREDIT CREATION**





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## Waste to Fuel with Plastic Credits in Tanzania



- The Recycler signed deal with European Company
  The Recycler shreds the material and then delivers it to CleanHub to collect non-recyclable waste.
   I local cement company where it is weighed again and used as waste to fuel.
- Buys non-recyclable plastic waste from informal collects, beach clean ups, river traps at a price per kg like other recyclable material.
- Uploads the material into an app managed by CleanHub with weight and photos.



 The Recycler receives 150 euros per ton (cost for material, collection and processing with small margin) and transport costs by the cement plant to deliver to cement plant, this is paid by brands who want to remove plastic from the environment as a voluntary Plastic Credit Payment.

# Solution - Waste Management

Services for commercial/industrial clients:

- On-site sorting and cleaning.
- Waste reduction and Recycling.
- Zero Waste to Landfill.
- Reporting.







# **Recycling Collections**



# Electronic Reporting



124,321 bottles (69,620 kilograms)





#### Tanzania Breweries Limited **Recycling Report**



**Plastic Bottles** 

= 10,000 bottles

recycled

#### **Tanzania Breweries Limited Recycling Report**

April 2020

# 195,236 bottles (5,661 kilograms recycled)



#### Monthly (Kilograms Recycled)

Month	Cardboard	Plastic Bottles	Cans	Glass	Nylon	Scrap Metal	Wood / Ceiling	PP Bags	Total (in Kilograms)
JUNE	853	3,627.31	2,460	72,800	0	0	1,844	960	82,544
JULY	200	2,600	0	134,720	0	48	1,768	1,993	141,329
AUG	0	3,074	660	109,740	0	740	8,283	3,440	125,325
SEPT	2060	1,959	1,330	110,220	0	64	3,088	1,500	120,221
OCT	3,325	1,365	230	170,200	0	0	4,464	2,536	182,120
NOV	0	1,589	0	146,400	0	3,824	8,817	2,798	20,447
DEC	0	4,786	0	106,080	0	0	9,344	2,088	122,298
JAN 2020	0	5,091	200	97,980	0	0	8,207	1,240	112,718
FEB 2020	0	2,763	300	65,940	0	0	3,945	0	72,949
MAR	0	4,179	380	55,600	0	0	2,352	400	62,911
APR	820	5,661	500	69,620	0	0	1,944	1,200	79,746
*Grand Total	266,567	92,875	52,918	4,322,160	27,185	14,009	345,871	100,543	5,231,473

\* Total since beginning of collections



# **Recyclables – majority locally processed**



















# iher Projects: Larg ale Composting 0 ŭ





# **The Recycler – Plastic Credits**

#### **PLASTIC CREDIT CREATION**



#### • Non-Recyclable Plastic – 9% of plastic worldwide is recycled – most not made to be recycled

#### Non-Recyclable Plastic Waste to Energy



Shredding





Waste to Energy

#### Transporting



## Beaches









# **Rivers Traps**



# **Rivers Traps**



- Largest Plastic Soda Bottle Producer in Tanzania – Azam purchased a full PET washing, shredding and pelletizing line when they purchased the bottling line.
- They ran the line for 2 years setting the price for plastic bottles in Dar es Salaam and using 25% recycled plastic to make bottles.
- The cost of virgin plastic dropped along with the price of oil in 2016.

# **Bottle to Bottle Recycling in Tanzania**



- Azam decided to shut down the facility and just import virgin plastic due to small returns on running such a huge plant and the difficulty in importing in chemicals to make the recycled plastic food grade.
- Price of plastic bottles dropped by 40% in Dar es Salaam overnight and equipment has remained unused for 8 years.
- Second largest soda maker has now spent 11 million on a new bottle to bottle facility that opens in 2024.



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## Ask the expert session

#### **Matthew Haden**

Plastic Waste Management and Ocean Plastics Specialist

- Please present yourself, the country or region you are currently working in and your unit.
- Formulate your question to the experts.



#### **Bernhard Schenk**

#### Solid Waste Management Expert



# Thank you!





#### **INTPA F4 - Urban Development Technical Facility UDTF.**

The UDTF focuses on supporting partner countries in their urban development challenges. It delivers technical assistance and policy advice to improve the quality and impact of the EU's interventions in urban development at all levels - local, regional and global - with a focus on Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

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