

Solid Waste Management

Algeria

Background Information

- Population: 31.5 million
- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation: 8.5 million tons (2002)
- Per Capita MSW Generation: 0.9 kg/day (urban areas)
0.6 kg/day (rural areas)
- MSW Generation Growth: 2%

Technical Performance

- MSW Collection Coverage: 65% in rural areas
92% in urban areas
- MSW Final Destination: 1% composted
2% recycled
0.2% landfilled
96.8% open dumped
- 22 sanitary landfills are under construction. One sanitary landfill is operating in Tebessa.

Legal and Policy Environment

- v The National Action Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development (NAPE-SD) approved in 2002 is the key instrument defining the country's environmental policy. The NAPE-SD estimates the cost of environmental degradation due to poor solid waste management (SWM) (0.32% of GDP) and identifies enhanced SWM as a national priority.
- v PROGDEM (National Program of Integrated Municipal Waste Management), initiated in 2001 by the Ministry of Land Use Planning and Environment (MATE), is a key national instrument for strategic planning in the solid waste sector. It aims at establishing effective municipal solid waste management including municipal SWM planning; constructing sanitary landfills; recycling promotion; introduction of new SWM systems; gradual adoption of municipal waste taxes and improved tax collection; and awareness, education and training activities. To date PROGDEM covers more than 40 large cities.
- v Solid Waste Law No. 01-19, 12 December 2001, addresses waste management, control and elimination and introduces the strategic principles of integrated SWM. These principles include (i) promotion of the municipality's role as a key player in solid waste management at the local level; (ii) revision of SWM taxes to cover costs; (iii) promotion of private sector participation in SWM services; and (iv) enhancing public awareness and education.
- v Municipal Law No. 90-08 defines the municipalities' duties and mandates including SWM.

Institutional Framework

- v At the national level, three key institutions are involved in SWM: The Ministry of Land Use Planning and Environment (MATE), the Ministry of Interior and Local Communities (MICL), and the National Solid Waste Agency (AND).
- v MATE, in collaboration with relevant sectors, is responsible for implementing and monitoring PROGDEM including the (i) elaboration of legal instruments and their

enforcement. (ii) elaboration of specific studies and diagnoses; (iii) elaboration of technical standards and guidelines for waste management, treatment and valorization; and (iv) dissemination of new technologies and systems.

- v MICL provides municipalities with technical and financial assistance to perform their duties which include SWM services delivery.
- v The role of AND is to assist MATE in promoting integrated SWM activities and best practice. AND also provides technical support to municipalities improving SWM systems.
- v At the local level, municipalities are fully responsible for operating and managing SWM systems including (i) the elaboration and implementation of municipal plans for integrated SWM; (ii) following up the implementation of SWM studies; (iii) the upgrade and improvement of existing SWM systems; (iv) the promotion of private sector participation and related contracting operations; and (v) undertaking public awareness activities.
- v Wilayas (provinces) have specialized staff responsible for operating landfills, monitoring public health threats, and controlling water pollution.

Financial Arrangements

- v SWM infrastructure is financed through central government allocations including the state budget and grants from the Fonds Commun des Collectivités Locales (FCCL). Within the Plan d'Appui à la Relance Economique (2001-2004) and the first Priority Phase of PROGDEM, the government has allocated AD 14.5 billion to finance SWM countrywide.
- v SWM operating costs are partially covered through a solid waste tax (taxe sur l'enlèvement des ordures ménagères). The tax rate was revised in 2002 and ranges from 500 to 1,000 dinars per household per year, though the average tax collection rate is less than 30 percent, covering only a small percentage of waste management services costs. The shortfall is made up from the FCCL which contributes 20-25 percent of total municipal revenue.

Private Sector Involvement

- v Solid waste management in Algeria is undertaken through the public sector. The private sector is not a significant player in this field.
- v Private sector participation is being promoted through the implementation of municipal capacity development for contracting and managing private services.

Options for Improvement

- v Develop enhanced SWM systems and optimize existing services. Promote recycling.
- v Strengthen national and local capacity in solid waste management together with capacity development in all technical aspects of the sector. Capacity development is required in both the public and private sectors, and at the national and municipal levels.
- v Strengthen the capacity of government to undertake and deliver public awareness activities linked to the National Waste Management Strategy.