

Solid Waste Management

Egypt

Background Information

- Population: 64 million
- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation: 14.9 million tons per year
- Per Capita MSW Generation: 0.65 kg/day (urban areas)
0.35 kg/day (rural areas)
- MSW Generation Growth: 3.2%

Technical Performance

- MSW Collection Coverage: 0 - 25% in rural areas
30 - 95% in urban areas
- MSW Final Destination: 8% composted
2% recycled
2% landfilled
88% open dumped
- 53 sites have been identified around the country as new sanitary landfills.
- Construction of 56 composting plants throughout the country.

Legal and Policy Environment

- v A national SWM strategy was adopted in 2000. It reinforces the roles of governorates in services delivery and gives support to private sector participation.
- v Introduction of economic incentives for municipal solid waste management services.
- v Law 4 of 1994 and its Executive Regulations address the broad framework of environmental management.
- v Law 38 of 1967 and its subsequent amendments and Executive Regulations introduce and address some of the legal aspects of solid waste management including the definition of responsibilities, licence and permit issuance, and cleansing fees.
- v A recent Cabinet decree allows for the collection of a waste management fee through electricity bills. Application of this decree is still limited to the Alexandria governorate.
- v The Egypt Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) has compiled a series of guidelines for the effective implementation of solid waste management, especially for the siting of recycling and treatment facilities, landfill design and operations.

Institutional Framework

- v The central government, including the Ministry of Urban Communities, has established general policies and strategies. It also facilitates and monitors private sector participation at the governorate level, supports the implementation of the SWM strategy and undertakes

public awareness activities. Specifically, EEAA activities include the elaboration of technical guidelines and manuals for solid waste management, identification of potential landfill sites, technical assistance to governorates for private sector participation, implementation of pilot and demonstration projects and public awareness.

- v Local governments (governorates) are fully responsible for all SWM activities in the localities under their jurisdiction. The governorate's duties include planning, institutional and financial organization, tariff setting, permit issuance, contracting, operations monitoring and control, law enforcement, and public awareness.

Financial Arrangements

- v Traditionally, solid waste management infrastructure has been financed through central government allocation. Cost recovery for SWM services has been undertaken at the local level through imposition of a 2 percent levy on the rental value of housing units.
- v In 2000, at the governorate level, SWM fee collection through electricity bills was introduced.
- v Solid waste management infrastructure financing through the private sector.
- v Annual public SWM expenditure for 2003 –2008 has been estimated at US\$182 million.

Private Sector Involvement

- v Private sector participation in SWM is being promoted through *zabbaleen* (garbage collectors), national private operators, and international firms.
- v To date, the private sector is involved in Alexandria, Cairo district, Giza urban districts I and II, Suez and Aswan. Contract durations range from 10 to 15 years.
- v A ministerial SWM committee to facilitate and monitor private sector participation at the governorate level has been established.

Options for Improvement

- v Develop Executive Regulations for solid waste management under Law 4 of 1994 to provide legal support for the planning, application and administration of modern SWM.
- v Develop and implement a national policy targeted at reducing the amount of waste generated in the country and promote recycling.
- v Develop an appropriate mechanism for SWM cost recovery based on the “polluter pays” and “user pays” principles.
- v Develop capacity to privatize the waste management sector at the national and local levels.
- v Strengthen the government's capacity in undertaking and delivering public awareness activities linked to the National Waste Management Strategy.