

Implementing ‘Greenwaste’ Management in a Sustainable City of Lagos, Nigeria

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Key words: Spatial planning; Classical waste management; environmental degradation; Lagos mega city; knowledge based ‘greenwaste’ management; sustainable city; integrated waste management.

SUMMARY

Management of municipal solid waste (MSW) is one thing that is common in every city government, though service levels, environmental impacts and costs may vary depending on the level of funding, waste stream composition, waste management methodology and the habits of the people. Globally, the biggest waste management problem is the contribution of greenhouse gases to the environment. But classical waste management processes causes other problems like underground water contaminations, inefficient resource utilization, ozone depletion and toxic emissions into the environment, leading to environmental degradation and negative health implications. But the implementing of new technologies and habit change in waste handling and management can help in reducing or eliminating these problems. The paper attempts a synthesis of waste management strategies for solving the prolonged waste management problems of the Lagos mega city. Using a city-specific approach, it assesses typical success and failure factors. With a standing population of over 21 million people, generating over 10, 000 tonnes of waste daily, the application of knowledge based ‘greenwaste’ management approach in a strategic planning scenario are crucial in the face of the plan for the city to emerge as a sustainable city. Considering the waste stream composition, the variation in the settlement pattern of Lagos and the habit of the residents, the paper discusses the steps to be adopted to follow the impact factors and succeed in the execution of the ‘greenwaste’ management. The ‘greenwaste’ management supported by strategic planning, integrated with spatial analysis will eliminate all the negative effects of classical waste management, leading to integrated waste management hence a sustainable city. This is termed 'greenwaste' management in this paper