

THE NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS) identified numerous waste management challenges within South Africa. These challenges include a growing population and economy with a historical backlog of waste services and general absence of a recycling infrastructure. This has, and continues, to place growing pressure on outdated waste management infrastructure, with declining levels of capital investment and maintenance.

The recent launch of the Good Green Deeds Programme by President Ramaphosa is not only recognition of the challenges we face but also a step towards an integrated and aligned approach to find solutions for this universal challenge.

In addition to the waste management challenges, South Africa is faced with a far bigger problem insofar as the social pressures created by a high unemployment rate is concerned. As of October 2018, the South African unemployment rate is 27.5% with a high concentration in the youth (38%) and female (29.5%) population groups (Statistics South Africa Quarterly Labour Force Survey 2018).

Through proposed partnerships with FMSA Waste Management & Recycling, local municipalities and in co-operation with local communities, Green Deeds Recycling wishes to clean-up and recycle material collected in socially derelict and polluted communities within the relevant municipalities.

Strategic Objectives

- Identification of communities that are susceptible to recycling activities and have a stable source of recyclable commodities;
- Identification of service providers to implement and manage the identified projects;
- Establish a Community-based Recycling Center (CRC) where recyclable material can be sold and processed;
- Employment for local youths and women. Inclusive of people vulnerable to anti-social behavior;
- Empower and equip 300 local community street waste pickers with appropriate equipment to start their own SMMEs;
- Training of local communities in environmental education;
- Create sustainable livelihood through recycling of waste; and
- Introduce and enable “previously unbanked” population to banking facilities (bank cards) and other financial services such as life cover, medical aids and funeral cover.

Introduction

The National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS) defines the numerous waste management challenges within South Africa. The main challenges are:

- A growing population and economy, which means increased volumes of waste generated.
- Increased complexity of waste streams because of urbanisation and industrialisation.
- A historical backlog of waste services for, especially, urban informal areas, tribal areas and rural formal areas.
- Limited understanding of the main waste flows.
- A policy and regulatory environment that does not actively promote the waste management hierarchy.
- Absence of a recycling infrastructure which will enable separation of waste at source and diversion of waste streams to material recovery and buy-back facilities.
- Growing pressure on outdated waste management infrastructure, with declining levels of capital investment and maintenance.
- Waste management suffers from a pervasive underpricing.
- Few waste treatment options are available and so they are more expensive than landfill costs.
- Too few adequate, compliant landfills and hazardous waste management facilities.
- In addition to the waste management challenges, South Africa is faced with a far bigger problem insofar as the social pressures created by a high unemployment rate (Statistics South Africa Quarterly Labour Force Survey 2018).

Purpose

To establish, formalize and manage Community-based Recycling Centers (CRC) where recyclable material can be traded and processed; and provide stable employment to the unemployed youth and women while establishing and empowering SMMEs.

Objectives

The objectives of the proposed project are:

- Environmental Impact through cleaner communities, cleaner open spaces and community parks, environmental awareness and Climate Change mitigation.
- Enterprise Development through creating 4 500 job opportunities and empowerment (SMME Development).
- Skills Development through training & education and provision of financial services.
- Social Impact in order to reduce crime, provide food and care, alleviate poverty and ultimately reduce social ills.

