

WASTE GOVERNANCE – Sharing benefits, sharing burdens

10th CWG International Workshop – Turkey, September 2011

Call for papers

CWG is about improving waste management practice via sharing knowledge and experiences. This is the main driving force behind the 10th international workshop which CWG will organise in Istanbul, September 2011.

Low and middle income countries should benefit from developed countries' experience. But solutions and best practices cannot be copy/pasted from developed countries to low and middle income countries; these have to be tailored after the specifics of each country.

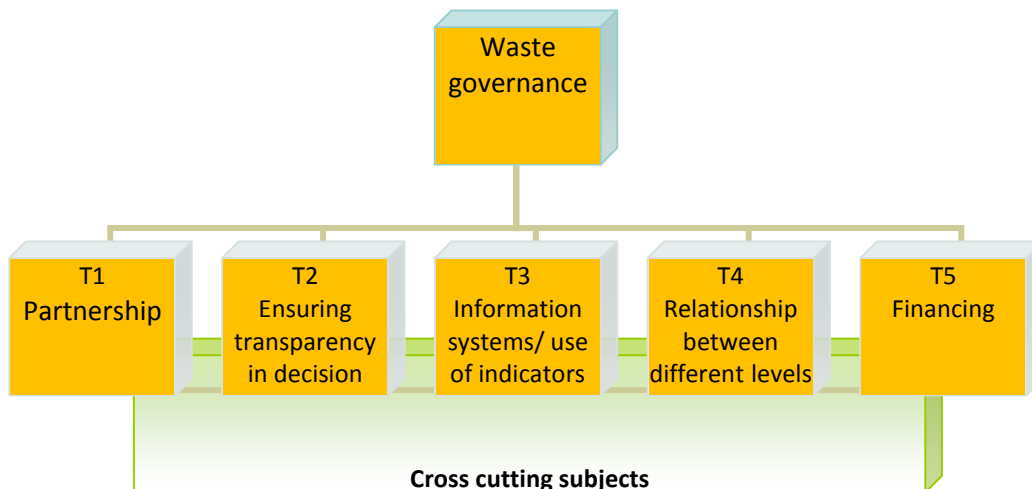
1. Organising committee

CWG Core Group members are the organising committee. Beside them, the organising committee also includes representatives of our donors and representatives of local partner organisation from Istanbul.

2. Thematic content of the workshop

Contributions to the workshop should present concrete experiences and difficulties related to the different aspects of waste governance and serve to exchange on adapted solutions for low- and middle-income countries.

There are five themes which the workshop will focus on. We strongly encourage the potential participants to choose one theme and to prepare her/his paper accordingly. It is also possible that one participant presents a paper that is falling under more themes. Below, you can find a brief description of each theme.



T1 – Partnership

This subtopic is about looking outward from the responsible authorities for waste management towards all the different stakeholders and actors of waste management and the forming of partnerships among these for good governance. The categories of actors include but do not limit to waste management service providers, users, authorities, private businesses dealing with waste, informal sector businesses dealing with waste, private people who generate, collect or treat waste in some way and citizens. For the purpose of this workshop we want to focus on:

Stakeholders' involvement in waste management

Stakeholders have become a key concept in all management processes. The national government and different authorities are usually the stakeholders mentioned in all studies but, there are also other, so called, hidden stakeholders. For example professional associations, social clubs, university campuses, informal sector, etc. In order to understand how we can improve and create a sustainable waste management we need first the organizational framework that makes stakeholders involvement possible and what do they do to be involved in waste governance.

Institutional support regarding partnerships

Local authorities are the organisms that set the institutional stage and have the end responsibility for waste services. They are acting in the context of national legislation therefore; institutional support is a starting point in creating successful partnerships.

Inclusivity in waste governance

This topic of discussion can be divided into two subtopics. *Inclusivity and equity for users* - means consultation and involvement of users in decision-making, participatory and inclusive planning and system design, institutionalizing inclusivity. *Inclusivity for providers and economic actors* – inclusive business models that are also known as public-private partnerships (PPPs), private-sector partnerships (PSP), para-statal organizations and so on.

T2 - Ensuring transparency in decision making and planning

Once partnership is dealt with, we need to know WHO we want to involve, we need to figure out HOW to involve everybody. For this we need the mechanisms, structures, policies, procedures, the actual process of governance. Our topics of discussion will focus on:

Levels of participation in decision making

Information is the simplest form of communication between the stakeholders. This keeps all involved parties informed but not all are allowed to make comments or become involved in another way.

Feedback is the stage in which the stakeholder invites others to offer comments in order for a better evaluation of its work. *Consultation* assures the dialogue between the stakeholders in order to assess progress and identify issues of concern. *Joint planning* means extended involvement with mutual responsibility for complex issues from all stakeholders and is followed by best decision making.

Anti-corruption mechanisms

Efforts to fight corruption include institutional reforms and societal reforms. Institutional reforms include measures to reduce government authority, increase accountability, and align official incentives to public ends. These measures target government institutions and processes in all branches and levels of government. Societal reforms, on the other hand, include measures to change attitudes toward different stakeholders in order to mobilize will for anti-corruption reform.

Communication and feedback mechanisms with focus on users and providers

Communication is defined as a process by which we assign and convey meaning in an attempt to create shared understanding. The first step for a good communication is to have opened the proper communication channels between users and providers. In order to ensure transparency in communication, good dissemination mechanisms have to be implemented and existing barriers in waste governance communication must be overcome.

Complaint procedures ensure direct input at any given time from users and waste management organizations in the monitoring and verification process. For a system that monitors and verifies compliance with a code of best practices to be complete, it must include a mechanism to handle complaints.

Behavioural change and mechanisms for public outreach

In order to adapt to new developments, users should be aware and comprehend the reasons, the implication of non-compliance and given the means to change. Behavioural change identifies the motivations and habit drivers that need to be understood and accessed in order to bring about a positive shift in actions. Through public outreach actions the users understand and tend to sustainable waste management practices.

T3 - Information systems/ use of indicators

Waste management is a vast domain in which everyone knows something but nobody can know everything about it. In order to have an efficient management, it is important to use tools and sets of data that all actors understand and are able to work with. For this, Indicators can be used in order to identify weaknesses, set targets, measure performance, track achievements and guide future actions. A set of indicators may be used as a tool by governments, research organizations and communities to achieve positive changes. For these indicators to be efficient and effective in planning waste management modernizations, all data used needs to be reliable, accurate and accountable.

During the *information system and use of indicators* session we will work towards identifying the best indicators or sets of indicators and systems that can be used for waste management and that provides local, provincial and national governments, private waste facility owners and operators with information on how to collect, capture, submit, verify and disseminate waste data and information. The interest will be oriented towards topics like:

GIS applications in waste management systems

Geographical Information Systems can offer solutions for optimizing collection routes and helps the user to analyze data and make critical business and planning decisions. GIS applications can integrate and relate any data with a spatial component, regardless of the source of the data and can map this data, giving dispatchers a visual tool to plan the best routes for mobile staff or send the closest worker to a customer. In this way, the user saves time and money

Models and Indicators

Waste management stakeholders need to be efficient in order to be competitive. By using models and indicators one can compare different systems and indicators in order to find the best solutions for difficult situations. This is a simple task as long as we use similar data and obtain comparable results. In this way, we are able to model and plan future changes and activities that lead to performance.

In order to reach planned results one needs to be able to use the right set of indicators. Practitioners have also to be trained to be able to integrate and analyse information, and responsibilities for following progress have to be clarified.

Methods of communication

A good communication leads to proper actions that lead to best results. To be able to do this, one needs to find and use the best and suitable way of communication between different stakeholders involved in the situation. This requires experience and management skills.

Statistics and the informal sector

Statistics can be a powerful tool in making the importance of the informal workers and their living and working conditions visible. Developing statistics on the informal workers is essential. This topic may include examples of official statistics from countries that have already included data collection on this occupational category in official databases and examples of methods and concepts developed.

T4 - Relationship between different levels of authority

This subtopic is about looking inward to the governmental organizations and institutions that are involved in the management of waste management. We often think of waste governance as a municipal issue, but there are more levels and kinds of authorities involved in waste management, such as international, national, regional and local levels. Further, in the institutional framework there are different departments and sub-departments that have different levels of responsibility. In our workshop we want to focus on the relationships and internal management issues. :

Vertical and horizontal dimension of multi-level governance

In the vertical dimension, the crucial issues for improving the quality and coherence of public policy are represented by local capacity building and incentives for effectiveness of sub national/regional/local levels of government. In the horizontal dimension, the key issues are related to co-operation arrangements between regions or between municipalities. These types of agreements are increasingly common as a means by which to improve the effectiveness of local public service delivery and implementation of development strategies.

Delegation of authority

The political measures and general actions are divided on diverse decisional levels. The national governments have an important decisional role but the control can be lost at different hierarchical levels. A manager alone cannot perform all the tasks assigned to him. In order to meet the targets, the manager has to delegate authority in the most appropriate way.

Internal management issues within the institution or authority dealing with waste management

These kinds of issues can easily appear if the collective involved in decision making does not communicate well and does not reach common conclusions. An important attention in this issue has to be oriented in dealing with internal management and establishing internal procedures. For achieving best results each person responsible for waste management needs to perform their task and communicate this to the others. During the workshop we will try to identify the internal management issues and successful institutional practices in waste management

Transboundary issues related to waste management with a special focus in the NIS countries

This is a very sensitive point in waste management actions in the geographic area of our workshop given the recent history of the region. This type of waste management issues often refer to hazardous waste transport and disposal and have impact on small scale but can reach an international scale.

T5 - Financing

Waste management as an activity has a complex set of drivers and stakeholders. It is at the same time driven by public health and environmental policy and by demand for collection as a service and demand for waste materials as a resource. Matters are complicated further by the fact that waste management is a public good to which access is difficult to control, that should be affordable and for which there is always a clear need but not always matched by a clear demand and willingness to pay. The following topics have been identified to be of special interest for the purposes of this workshop:

Innovative mechanisms for investment financing for improvements in waste management

There are the traditional one-time investments into large scale modernization projects from IFIs and governments, it is essential to understand what makes these work well and what makes them work less well in terms of financial construction. This workshop is especially interested in financial instruments that are less typical, such as micro-financing schemes, Kyoto mechanisms; output based financing and extended producer responsibility schemes.

Financing and accounting in waste management operations

Financing operational costs of waste management is the complex task of multiple actors. It is interesting to see how the accounting and budgeting of these is done and by whom. Closely linked to this are the contractual models and control mechanisms the authority has on the flow of money and quality of services. The different approaches to deal with service pricing, cost recovery, affordability and cross-subsidies are also part of this topic.

Financial incentives for performance in waste management

Financial incentives are interferences to the market that strengthen certain behaviours. For example to encourage selective collection, a city or operator might decide to charge lower costs for collection of source separated waste. Another classic one is separating the landfill (or incinerator) operator from the operator of the collection services in order that the gate-fee then constitutes an incentive for the collector to divert more secondary resources to recycling. It is interesting to understand how these work and what are the positive and negative impacts of the incentives in place in any given system.

Cross cutting subjects

We will also accept papers which have cross cutting subjects that cannot be included in one of the mentioned above themes.

3. Participants

CWG workshop will gather together practitioners and decision-makers in the field of solid waste management. The majority of the participants will be:

- Senior international / national solid waste management experts
- Representatives of local/regional/national authorities responsible for solid waste management activities
- Environmental engineers, environmental economists and environmental sociologists



*Collaborative Working Group on Solid Waste Management in
Low and Middle-Income Countries*



- Representatives of solid waste management companies
- Representatives of NGOs or other organisations which are involved in solid waste management (e.g. representatives of waste recycling associations, etc.)
- Representatives of scientific committees or researchers in the field of solid waste management.

4. Draft agenda

Below you can find a draft agenda of the workshop. This might suffer modifications in the coming months. We will keep you updated with its development.

Day	Advance programme	Notes
0	Sunday	
	CWG Core Group meeting	
	Participants arrival	
	Opening ceremony	with participation of representatives of high officials from Turkey and other countries
1	Monday	
	Participants arrival	
	Registration of participants	
	Plenary session I	Presentations from CWG, introducing the workshop objectives and goals, introducing themes
	Coffee break	
	Thematic session I	Theme 1 – Partnership
	Lunch break	
	Thematic session II	Theme 2 – Ensuring transparency in decision making and planning
	Tea break	
	Workgroup session	Each thematic group will have to work on an assignment.
2.	Tuesday	
	Registration of participants	
	Plenary session II	Presenting the results of each workgroup and presentations of CWG core group members
	Coffee break	
	Thematic session III	Theme 3 – Information systems and use of indicators
	Lunch	
	Thematic session IV	Theme 4 – Relationship between different levels of authority
	Tea break	
	Workgroup session	Each thematic group will have to work on an assignment.
3	Wednesday	
	Registration of participants	
	Plenary session III	Presenting the results of each workgroup and presentations of CWG core group members
	Coffee break	
	Thematic session V	Theme 5 – Financing
	Lunch	
	Workgroup session	Finalizing the assignment

Day	Advance programme	Notes
	Plenary session IV	Presenting the final results of the assignment. Rounding up
4	Thursday	
	Site-visit	Visit to Istanbul – ISTAC company – waste management company operating in Istanbul
	Official closure of the workshop	
	Participants departure	
5	Friday	
	Participants departure	
	CWG Core Group meeting	

5. Instructions for authors/ speakers

Please prepare your papers in English language. The paper should not be longer than 10 A4 pages (excluding annexes) and should clearly indicate:

- Names of the author(s)
- Organisation represented by the author(s)
- Country/region the paper is focusing on
- Themes under which category the paper suits best (you may choose multiple theme).

All papers should include an abstract, maximum 500 words.

Your submitted paper will be reviewed by the CWG evaluation committee and assessed based on specific criteria such as:

- Compliance with the thematic content
- Includes at least one practical example from solid waste management
- Captures the particularities of the waste management system from a country, region or local community
- Coherence in writing and exposing ideas
- Compliance with writing requirements in length and English language..

Further information may be requested from you or you may receive suggestions to modify, improve your paper during the review process.

Each paper should be sent to the following address:

gp@greenpartners.ro. In case you have questions about paper submission process please contact:

Ciprian Popovici at ciprian.popovici@greenpartners.ro or

Cosmin Briciu at cosmin.briciu@greenpartners.ro.

6. Important dates

15th of December 2010 – Deadline for submitting your paper

30th of January 2011 – Notification of accepted papers

15th of February 2011 – Sending the invitation letters to the selected participants

September 2011 – Opening ceremony.

7. Workshop Venue

To be defined

8. Transport

As soon as we have more information about this, we will let you know.

9. Accommodation

To be defined

10. Visa requirements

Will be posted on the CWG website and also sent to each selected participant.

11. Workshop language

The official language of the workshop will be English. This will be one of the selection criteria of the participants. All the presentations, articles or any other documents will be in English. Still, if necessary we will also assure simultaneous translation from English to Turkish language.

12. Sponsors

CWG workshop is financially supported by:

- GTZ
- World Bank
- IFC
- UN HABITAT

Other donors will be contacted as well and will be announced as soon as we have an official commitment from them.

14. Contact details

For any questions or suggestion please do not hesitate to contact:

1. Ciprian Popovici, CWG workshop coordinator

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