COUNTRY PROFILE on the solid waste management situation in Occupied PALESTINIAN Territories

April 2014

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Population: 4.421 million (mid, 2013)
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation: 1.387 million tons/year (2012)
Per Capita MSW Generationii: 0.94 kg/day (2012)
- Urban areasiv 0.9-2.05 kg/day (2012)
- Rural areasiv 0.35-0.6 kg/day
MSW Generation Growth: 4 % per year, 1% per capita per year
Medical waste generationv: 3,226 tons/year (2011)
Industrial wastevi: 131,344 tons/year (2011)
Hazardous wastevii: 62,621 tons/year
Agricultural wasteviii: Gaza strip 440,000 ton/year
West Bank (no estimate)
C&D Wasteix: Unknown
Waste Tyresx: 5,550 tons/year (as rubber)
e-Waste: Unknown
Packaging Waste: Unknown

TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE

Municipal Waste

MSW Collection Coverageix:
- Rural areas 88 %
- Urban areas 93 %
MSW Final Destination:
- Composted less than 0.5 %
- Recycled less than 0.5%
- Landfilled 33%(42% WB, 22% GS)x
- Openly dumped 67%
Number of Dumpsites: 163
Number of Controlled Landfills:
- Planned 2
- Under construction 1 (GS)
- Constructed 1
- Operational 3 (2 WB, 1 GS)

Hazardous and industrial waste

Number of hazardous landfills or plants (Chemical and physical treatment):
- Planned 0
- Under construction 0
- Constructed 1 HAZ landfill cell constructed in 1998, but never went into operation due to lack of economic feasibility and lack of enforcement (in Gaza)
- Operational 0

Types of disposal and treatments for medical waste:
Uncontrolled Incineration & sterilization using autoclaves and microwave. Other than the limited above pre-treatment if available; disposal of most medical waste takes place at sanitary landfills, random sites, and by open burning.

Waste composition:

- 11.5% Organic
- 59.1% Others
- 2.4% Glass
- 14.2% Plastics
- 2.7% Metal
- 10.1% Paper/Cardboard

1- Calculated based on data obtained in 2013
iii- Includes medical, institutional, commercial, and industrial
iv- Includes medical, institutional, commercial, and industrial
v- Calculated for this report.
ix- PCBS has reported the number at 911 tons/year (2011), http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/E_ENV_Tab1E.Solid%20Waste.htm
x- Calculated for this report.
xii- PCBS 2011
Policy and planning environment

6. The development of a National Master Plan for hazardous waste management for the Palestinian National Authority, UNEP, February 2010. – Draft was never approved.

Legal framework

- The Environmental Law no.7 for year, 1999.
- The Palestinian Local Authorities Law no.1/1997
- The Public Health Law no.20 for year 2004.
- The Investment Promotion Law no.1/1998.
- The basic regulation on the Joint Service Councils of year 1996, and its updates, last in 2006.
- The Cabinet resolution no.53/2008, in relation to forming a national committee for following up the development of the national solid waste management strategy (NSWMS).
- The Medical Waste Management Bylaw 2012.

Institutional framework

- Environment Quality Authority (EQA): has the role of development of the national strategies and plans of the solid waste in cooperation with other related institutions.
- Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) chairs the Steering Committee for the (NSWMS). MoLG is the co-chair for thematic sub-working group on solid waste management. Further, MoLG is responsible for monitoring the local authorities and joint service councils.

Private sector involvement

- Minimal participation in solid waste collection.
- No participation yet in disposal facilities, a international company is expected to operate the disposal site in the south of the West Bank.
- Private sector is mainly active in recycling of special streams such as construction and demolition waste in Gaza strip, recycling of e-waste illegally imported from Israel, few companies with small size active in recycling of plastic.
- Participation of private sector in transfer and transport is practiced in some areas in the west Bank, such as Nablus and Ramallah.

Options for improvement

- Development of the legal framework; and enforcement of laws.
- Environmental monitoring and waste information systems.
- Environmental management of waste facilities.
- Institutional building and improvement.
- Financial management for waste management
- Increasing cost recovery; development and upgrade of tariff systems, billing systems, fees collection system, cost accounting centre.

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