



MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN BENGHAZI (LIBYA): CURRENT PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES

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Abstract

This paper provides an overview of the current solid waste management (SWM) practices in Benghazi, Libya and suggests solutions to some of the major problems regarding the matter. There have been several crucial issues faced by the city of Benghazi (the second capital city in Libya) on SWM, including limited documentation on the generation, handling, management, and disposal of waste. The existing solid waste-management system is affected by unfavourable economic, institutional, legislative, technical, and operational constraints. The collection process is deficient in terms of manpower and vehicle availability. There is no treatment provided to the wastes dumped into an open land at Ganfoudah site after collection. Lack of suitable facilities and inadequate management and technical skills, improper bin collection, and route planning are among the issues resulting in poor collection and transportation of municipal solid wastes. The MSW management should be improved in terms of effectiveness of the MSW collection, transportation, and treatment. More effective efforts are also needed by involving the public in policy-making, development of service plans, implementation of future waste-management programs, and decision-making regarding landfill siting.

Key words: Benghazi city, Libya, open dumping disposal, recycling and recovery, solid waste generation, waste collection and transfer

Received: September, 2009; Revised final: July, 2010; Accepted: September, 2010

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