

THE URBAN SANITATION CRISIS: A PROBLEM OF INSTITUTIONAL BREAKDOWN

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ABSTRACT

Solid waste management is an ever growing challenge, especially in urban centres in developing countries and has stimulated a growing consensus of multi stakeholder involvement. The solution to this challenge appears far in the future, since stakeholders work in isolation. This study, primarily seeks to assess the extent of stakeholder involvement in solid waste management and its resultant challenges. The case study research design was employed, using both qualitative and quantitative strategies, for the collection and analysis of data from 168 respondents. About 154 questionnaires were administered to randomly selected respondents. Focused Group Discussion (FGD), constituting 11 Chiefs and Opinion leaders and 3 semi-structured institutional interviews were held, for the District Environmental Health, Zoomlion Ghana Limited and the District Planning Unit. The study revealed limited engagement and coordination, among the solid waste management stakeholders. Inadequate logistics and material resources; non-regulation of waste management Companies by the Assembly, low involvement of key stakeholders, and ignorance were identified, as key challenges to effective and efficient solid waste management. Hence, a Multi-Stakeholder approach under which, all stakeholders are deliberately involved, well-coordinated and effectively engaged, in making critical decisions, planning, implementation and management of solid waste generated is recommended.

KEYWORDS: Multi-Stakeholder Approach, Effective and Efficient Solid Waste Management & Institutional Collaboration

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