



CITY OF TSWANE LANDFILL SITES RECLAIMERS by

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Thousand Words!



Nature and origin



- They are mostly rebels and entrepreneurs
- They want to work for themselves
- They used to be very poor
- They are undisciplined disciplined
- They work for their family survival
- They are optimists
- They are mostly hard working
- They are a good cover for criminal activities



Pro's and cons



PROS



- They contribute to waste reduction via reclaiming
- Extra eyes on the site if trained
- Can help with the litter picking if agreed
- Can assist during strikes
- Can assist public with offloading procedures

Contributions



- 5-7 % waste reduction from reclaiming of recyclable materials
- Extra eyes on the operational front that can spot illegal material disposal
- Can assist with litter picking of the wind blown materials as waste is longer open to do reclaiming, before processed and covered



Consequences



- More people and facilities to manage
- OHS threats and safety
- Slow waste processing down (longer open- more wind litter)
- Cleanliness go for a loop
- Crime opportunities
- Customer safety
- Municipal image is threatened if public does not understand the process
- E-Waste Pollution (TV and PC screens broken)
- Fire Hazards on LF (the burning of materials)

Squatting



- The reclaimers need structures to change, rest and hide from the elements. They work in the open and in very harsh conditions. That is not squatting
- They need to guard their reclaimed materials
- They are not allowed to stay on the landfills
That's is a tough one to regulate!



Their issues



- They want to work on their own conditions
BUT...
They have quarrels
 - Their goods get stolen
 - They complain about the conditions
 - They want health and safety to be provided
 - They demand medical care
 - They quarrel with the public
 - Damage to private property
 - Everything on site will be reclaimed and sold
 - All their problems become the CoT's (your) problems
 - Theft of public belongings
 - The use of alcohol and drugs on the site

Management and control



- They need to manage themselves
- They choose a committee and chairman
- The committee runs and organises the reclaimers
- Have regular management meetings with the committee. Keep minutes in your diary
- They are responsible for their own well-being, medical health and safety

Managing reclaimers



- They choose their leaders
- You talk to the leaders
- Training- Teach them: how to recycle and OHS
- Introduce buyers
- Assist them and listen to them
- Set the rules and regulations
- Be consequent, firm and strict
- The committee is responsible for discipline
- Give them ownership of their business
- Let them understand that their future is in their own hands and it is there for important for their cooperation

Get them on your side



- They are always going to be there
- Assist them
- Talk to them
- Be interested in their well being
- Encourage them to recycle more
- Give them an area where they can work from
- Organise them and assist them to get organised
- Help them to get proper toilet facilities
- Protect them from outsiders
- Ring fence the number of people on the site



Future Improvements



- Separation at source program
- Separated sorting area
- Infrastructure
- Separate refuse streams on the operational front
- Introduce new products and buyers as technology advanced
- Get funding to assist the project- MIG/DEA or DTI

Matters to Consider



- EIA process must include reclaiming
- Permit application
- The new Waste Act (NEMA Act)
- Polokwane Declaration
- Job creation and Economic Development
- Environmental issues
- Incentives



Threats & Challenges



- They are easy targets for bigger co-operatives
- Everyone wants to take the reclaiming over for “Job creation”. Give 40 people jobs and take 350 people out of their jobs!
- Want to manage them with Co-op and in the process they take the profit away from the reclaimers

Conclusion

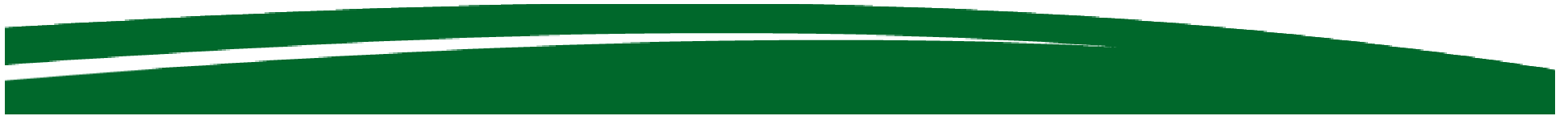


- There is a place in society for reclaiming
- Reclaimers can assist your function
- There are various draw-backs
- They have to be properly managed
- Separation @ source program is essential
- Marketing, training and education are key elements for success
- Rules to be set and expectations must be agreed upon.

Questions



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