



DOMESTIC WASTES GENERATION PATTERN AND COMPOSITION IN OSOGBO AND ENVIRONS, OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Most notable environmental challenges of this century are directly or remotely connected to solid wastes and its concomitant impacts. Domestic wastes have been identified as a contributing factor to these environmental issues. The effective management of domestic solid wastes in a given area is largely dependent on accurate waste generation and composition data. This paper has thus studied the domestic wastes generation pattern and its composition in both Osogbo and Olorunda Local Government Area (LGAs) of Osun State, South-Western Nigeria. Structured questionnaires were designed and administered in sixty (60) randomly selected buildings and at the Government's Waste Management Offices of the two LGAs. Information gathered from residents include those on waste generation, collection, transportation and disposal while the Officials assessed the funding, facilities, personnel and the compliance of the residents to sanitation rules. The waste composition was examined over a 7-day period and the per capita waste generation rate of the study area was determined. Findings revealed that most residents in the study area practice open dumping of wastes; collection by the Waste Management Agency is not as regular as the residents desire; and lack of adequate funding and facilities hamper the effectiveness of the Government's Waste Management Agency. Osogbo LGA has about half its wastes being recyclables while food wastes dominate in Olorunda LGA. The per capita waste generation rates for Osogbo and Olorunda LGAs are respectively found to be 0.484 and 0.457 kg/day. A functional sanitary landfill is therefore recommended in place of current open dumps that are rampant in the study area.

KEYWORDS: Domestic Wastes, Recyclables, Sanitary Landfill, Waste Management