



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BASELINE SURVEY



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1 Introduction



Current solid waste management systems in Asia are strained, and landfill space is fast becoming a rare commodity. Governments face increasing costs for disposal, while public health and the environment suffer from the damaging effects of untreated solid waste. In 2009, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific embarked on a regional project, Pro-poor and Sustainable Solid Waste Management in Secondary Cities and Small Towns, to find appropriate approaches to waste management that would transform waste products into valuable resources, improve waste collection services and provide better income and working conditions for waste pickers.

The overarching objective of the project is to enable participating towns to develop and execute solid waste management strategies that are decentralized, particularly benefit the urban poor, contribute to low-carbon development priorities and can be partly financed through the sale of carbon credits. Cambodia is one of the countries targeted in the project. Based on the outcomes of workshops and consultations with civil society groups, local government representatives and other United Nations organizations, Kampot town was selected for a baseline study, the first step in developing the pilot project. The study centred on collecting accurate information on solid waste management in Kampot.



2 Overview: Solid Waste Management in Kampot

STRUCTURE FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Three parties have primary responsibility for solid waste management in Kampot: the provincial authority (advisory role and decision making at the provincial level), the municipality (implementer) and the Global Action for Environment Awareness (GAEA) a private waste collector. Since 2010, waste collection and disposal has been the responsibility of GAEA. The contract was transferred to GAEA from a previous private operator who failed to continue to provide the service. GAEA signed a 12-year contract (2007–2019) with the provincial authority. However, there is no mechanism to monitor and evaluate the contractor's performance. The following diagram reflects the structure and role of agencies in Kampot's waste management.



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