ENHANCING SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE IBADAN METROPOLIS, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This paper assessed solid waste collection and transportation activities in Ibadan, Nigeria, and the associated challenges with a view of providing a sustainable solution to waste management problems in the city. An intensive literature search, key informant interviews (KIIs), in-depth interviews (IDIs) and on-site observation checklist were used for data collection. The KIIs were conducted with the Oyo State Waste Management Authority, Agodi, Ibadan and the heads of the scavengers at four dedicated dumpsites in Ibadan. In addition, IDIs were widely conducted with the residents and private waste collectors in both low- and high- density areas. There were 400 registered private refuse companies licensed by the government to complement the efforts of the state government and 244 street sweepers to sweep the city on daily basis. However, despite the efforts of both actors, substantial quantity of solid waste remained on the streets to be collected and transported to designated dumps. There was communication gap between the residents and waste management actors. This was a main factor undermining effective waste collection and transportation, thereby inhibiting litter-free environment in the city. Respondents believed that effective communication on solid waste management issues would provide a long lasting solution to waste management problems in the city. The paper recommended the integration and collaboration of all the stakeholders through broad-based sensitization and communication of effective and sustainable waste management in Ibadan. This should be conceptualized under Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategies, integrated solid waste management approach and community participation. This holistic approach can be adapted for effective and sustainable waste management in any part of the country.

Keywords: Community participation, Effective communication, Solid waste management, Street sweepers.