Waste Management Strategies in the Wider Caribbean: Strategic Priorities for Caribbean SIDS

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Presentation outline

- Background
- Waste Management Strategies
- Next Steps – National, Regional, International
All waste is waste!

Ship-Generated or Shore-Generated Marine Litter or Waste
Overview

65% or 275,000 tons of Solid Waste is disposed in open dumps, rivers or directly into the Caribbean Sea.

70% of Marine Litter in the Caribbean Sea is from Land-Based Sources of Solid Waste.
Scenario for Caribbean SIDS

- Waste Strategies but outdated & limited implementation
- Hazardous Waste – Challenge
- Collection, Transport, Disposal
- Limited landfill space & existing capacity exceeded
- Land values are high; competing land uses; difficult to find new sites
- High Waste per Capita Generation - Tourism
- Potential for significant volumes of waste to be diverted
National Strategies often lack:

- Targets to minimize waste generated
- Effective frameworks to regulate and monitor waste production & enforce waste control measures
- Targets to maximize cost-effective recovery of waste
- Targets to minimize waste sent to landfills
- Strategies to enhance public sector & private sector partnerships in the waste management sector
- Policies/Legislation to support recycling/waste diversion
National Strategies call for Diversion & Recycling but...

- Lack of recyclable markets
- Economic returns difficult to realize due to small volumes generated & expensive recycling technologies
- Predominant focus on national recycling
- Greater potential at regional level
- Potential for Emissions Trading System - UN Framework Convention for Climate Change
  - Large organic streams converted via waste to energy technology for auxiliary fuel – Over 50% Organic Waste
Caribbean Small Island Developing States often lack the Human, Technical & Financial Capacity for effective waste management

National integrated Waste Management Strategies are lacking in many countries while in others are in need of urgent updating

Countries could benefit from Regional and where appropriate sub-regional Waste Management Strategies especially for activities such as Waste Diversion & Recycling

Proposed Global Guidelines will be an effective tool for national and regional level interventions
Regional Strategies should include:

- Target time-bound reduction volumes
- Effective recovery strategies & mechanisms
- Options for appropriate processing technologies
- Recommendations for economically feasible ground & sea transportation networks
- Options for the establishment of new diversion related industries
- Potential long-term markets for recycled products
- Proposed regional administrative institution or mechanisms for waste management/diversion
- Mechanisms for sustaining cadre of trained personnel
- Recommended targeted Pilot Projects
Regional Strategies should facilitate:

- **Updating of National Waste Management Strategies**
  - Data on the Status of Waste Management e.g. Waste Characterization

- **Strengthening Institutional, Policy & Legal Frameworks**
  - Monitoring & Evaluation of Implementation

- **Capacity Building & Training**
  - Regional Agencies & Networks – CEHI, CWWA, UNEP CEP

- **Information Sharing**
  - Best Practices; Case Studies; Technology Transfer; Data bases;

- **Regional Approaches to Waste Diversion**
  - Tourism; Agriculture; Local Communities
  - Recycling – Private Sector – Detailed Cost Benefit studies

- **Resource Mobilization**

- **Partnership Building**

- **Awareness Raising**

- **Implementation of Regional/National Pilot Projects**
Role of Regional/International MEAs

- Protocol on Land Based Sources of Pollution – Cartagena Convention (UNEP)
- BASEL, Stockholm & Rotterdam Conventions on Chemicals & Hazardous Wastes (UNEP)
- MARPOL Convention – Annex V Special Area Status (IMO)
- London Dumping Convention (IMO)

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Climate Change Convention

- Regionalizing Global Guidelines
- Promoting Technology Transfer (N-S & S-S)
Solid Waste Management has the potential to contribute towards the Green Economy, which has been embraced as an economic development pathway by several Caribbean countries.

- It must generate economic opportunities & reduce costly environmental impacts.