

### Day3

Title : 1. Presentations on Financing Waste Management Improvement

(1) Overview of African Waste Management Outlook and Good Case Studies in the Region

Speakers :

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### Summary

UNEP has developed the 'Waste Management Outlook,' the key findings of the Outlook may be summarized as follows:

1. On average, 57% of MSW in Africa is biodegradable organic waste, the bulk of which is dumped. With an average waste collection rate of only 55%, MSW collection services in most African countries are inadequate. 90% of the waste generated in Africa is disposed of to land, typically to uncontrolled and controlled dumpsites.
2. Only 4% of the waste generated in Africa is recycled, often by informal actors.
3. Changing consumption patterns and weak collection systems result in leakage of waste into environment. Indiscriminate dumping of waste in urban areas creates risks of disease, flooding and environmental pollution.
4. The open burning of waste causes significant air pollution which impacts human health. Africa has become a dumping ground for waste, particularly hazardous waste, often from developed Countries.
5. More than 130 people have died in landfill collapses in Africa in the past year.
6. Viable resources are being lost to the economy through dumping of waste – polymer, fibre, metals, The informal sector is active across Africa. Integrating them is key to unlocking these resource opportunities.

The Presenter then introduced some examples of social and technological innovations in Africa that creates opportunities for both small-scale, bottom-up, communities approaches as well as larger-scale advanced treatment technologies . The small-scale innovations are primarily entrepreneurial small business initiatives,

which use environmentally sound technologies and/or contribute towards solving SWM issues. Some of the innovative entrepreneurial activities have been initiated by young women, creating jobs and help solving the environmental issues. Examples included businesses which are based on recycling resources (waste tires turned into furniture, use of aluminium, recycling of plastic) in Burkina Faso, Cote D'ivoire and South Africa; Waste collection services conducted with low-cost, environmentally friendly bicycles in Nigeria; and commercial recovery of protein from organic waste in South Africa.

In answering questions from a Meeting participant on how to scale up small innovative initiatives, the Speakers emphasized 2 points: 1) small initiatives cannot be overlooked since a number of small initiatives can eventually generate a significant impact: and 2) involvement of the private sector is of crucial importance in scaling up through investment. UNEP organizes regular private sector meetings for this reason.