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**BUSIA MUNICIPALITY SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
REPORT FY 2023/24**

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INTRODUCTION

Kenya Urban Support Programme seeks to support the implementation of the strategies and legislations within the Kenya municipalities. This is evident in the Programme Operation Manual of the Kenya Urban Support Program which acts as a program document.

Busia Municipality is one of the municipalities within the County of Busia. With the establishment of Municipalities, each Municipality was mandated to manage its own devolved functions which include solid waste management.

In order to ensure that the function of solid waste management is well carried out, there was need for formulation of the legislation that govern the mandate and thus; Busia Municipality Solid Waste Management Policy 2020. The policy was formulated with the main aim of:

- a) Achieving solid waste management by conserving public health and the environment, drive job and wealth creation.
- b) Implementing integrated waste management through waste minimization, harnessing waste as a resource.

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- a) Establish and maintain an effective and efficient framework to mainstream solid waste management measures and actions across relevant sectors and into integrated planning, budgeting, decision making and implementation, at the county levels.
- b) Establish the urban centers framework necessary to reduce, reuse, recycle, minimize and sustainably manage solid waste
- c) Incentivize private sector involvement in building and operating solid waste management infrastructure, including through Public Private Partnerships.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

The overall aim this policy is to enhance solid waste management for provision of a clean and healthy environment to the residents.

In order to achieve the main aim, the following strategic activities have been employed:

- Effective and Efficient Waste Collection and transportation.

The municipality has provided skip loads at strategic points to enable the waste generators to dispose of the waste before being transported to the dumpsite. There are tractors that ferry the

waste from the skips to the dumpsite at Alupe. The Municipality has personnel who do daily cleaning along the streets of the town.

- Ensured that transportation of recycled materials and waste is conducted.

Recycled materials like plastic bottles are collected for further use from the disposal site and the remnants transported by the municipality tractors to the official dumpsite on daily basis.

- Waste segregation at source

The municipality has provided litter bins with different colors and labeled mainly in institutions to aid in the waste segregation at the time of disposal.

- Promote waste management initiatives

The municipality has put in place opportunity for casual engagements in solid waste management in the urban center. The casuals are involved in sweeping, clearing of the waste from the road site and further transport to the proper disposal site to avoid illegal dumping of waste.

- Capacity Building for Effective Solid Waste Management

The municipality has strengthened the environment section that is mandated with solid waste management by having an environment officer to offer technical expertise on matters solid waste management.

Capacity building of the various stakeholders; the waste generators who are mainly the business communities within the urban center has been done to ease the burden of solid waste collection.

- Enhance proper handling, collection and disposal of hazardous wastes.

The hazardous waste within the municipality mainly the waste from bio medical centers is being incinerated at the Referral hospital to avoid issues of contamination of soil or water bodies.

CHALLENGES

The implementation of the Busia Municipality Solid Waste Management Policy is faced with a number of hinderances to a clean and safe environment. These challenges include:

- Low awareness levels.

This is mainly among the waste generators who lack the proper know how on how and where to dispose the waste to avoid issues of contamination especially when it comes to the microorganisms that are found in the waste which affect the food that is later consumed by the residents.

- Low budgetary allocation.

Inadequate finances have hindered the municipality in the management of solid waste especially in the purchase of equipments like skip loads and repair of the dumpsite infrastructure. This in turn has led to increase in illegal dumpsite as waste generators lack proper site to dispose the waste.

- Improper infrastructure.

This is mainly at the dumpsite in Alupe. The poor roads and lack of proper fencing of the dumpsite has made the private waste handlers dump waste outside the designated dumpsite.; along the road or even away from the designated skip loads.

RECOMMENDATION & CONCLUSION

The policy emphasizes the need for Integrated solid waste management approach that meet sound economic and environmental objectives which often require waste types that are generated individually to be kept separated throughout the collection, processing, recovery and disposal sequence.

The municipality seeks to have all the private waste handlers registered and have a tracking document that will ensure that the waste they collect is tracked to prevent illegal dumping. Through the integrated solid waste management approach, the municipality will map all the illegal dumpsite and further close by putting up notice to curb the dumping of waste in such places.

Multisectoral involvement in matters waste management will reduce the issues of illegal dumping and enhance proper disposal. This is through incorporating the enforcement team and public health sectors further reduce the levels of contamination.

Public Private Partnership is key in implementation of the solid waste management. This will enable the municipality to bring partners on board so as to ease the burden on solid waste management. Partners can aid in purchase of equipments and recycling of waste collected.

In conclusion, implementation of solid waste management policy within Busia Municipality is key for a sustainable environment and healthy society. Collaborative effort is needed to achieve the desired goals.