Piloting the South Africa Waste Picker Registration System (SAWPRS)

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Overview

- Background
- Overview of Pilot Project
- System Design
- Pilot Sites
- Outcomes
- Lessons
- Recommendations
PART 1

Background
Background – The need for Registration

- Need identified during development of Waste Picker Integration Guideline (2016-2019)
- Need heightened during COVID-19 lockdowns (2020)
- UNEP Waste Rapid Response Project: agreed core questions and approach, concept note by Prof Linda Godfrey (2020-2021)
- EPR Regulations – PROs must pay waste pickers registered on the national system for services provided
PART 2

Overview of the pilot project
Pilot Project - Partners and Principles

Partners
- Funded by CSP, DSI and UNIDO
- Partnership between CSI and Wits/UJ
- Sticky Situations pilot implementing agent
- All key stakeholders – waste picker organisations’ national, provincial and local government; industry associations/PROs, NGOs + academics

Principles
- Comply with 10 Waste Picker Integration Principles
- Reclaimer/Waste Picker led
- Part of meaningful integration in municipalities
- Municipal involvement
- All reclaimers registered (including non-SA)
- Only essential data collected
Pilot Project - Methodology

- Stakeholder meeting
- 4 sites – ARO, SAWPA, Cape Town, BCMM
- Participatory development of wireframe and online system with CSIR and TAG
- Piloting in each site
- Waste pickers who already piloted went to other sites to do outreach and support pilot

Registration in Cape Town
Pilot Project – Piloting Phases

1. Partnership
2. Education
3. Planning
4. Initial outreach & wp engagement
5. 1 week mobilization just prior to pilot week
6. Pilot week
   1. 1 day training
   2. 3 days piloting
   3. 1 day evaluation
7. Card distribution
PART 3

System design
Welcome to the South African Waste Picker Registration System

Login As:
- Registrar
- Verifier
- Card Issuer

- Participatory system design
- Online open stakeholder meeting
- Technical Advisory Group
- Designed by CSIR
ARO - Johannesburg

- **Partner** – African Reclaimers Organisation
- **Dates** – Feb 14 – 19, 2022
- **Pilot locations** - Marie Louise Landfill, Johannesburg CBD and Alexandra Township
- **# registered and verified** – 226
SAWPA Pietermaritzburg

- **Partner** – South African Waste Pickers Association
- **Dates** – Feb 29 – March 2, 2022
- **Pilot locations** – Msunduzi Landfill
- **# registered and verified** – 256

Taking photos for ID cards
City of Cape Town

- **Partners** – City of Cape Town and ARO
- **Dates** – March 14 – 18, 2022
- **Pilot locations** – Retreat, Khayelitsha, Pinelands
- **# registered and verified** – 381 (327 during registration + 54 during card distribution)
Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality

- **Partner** – BCMM, ARO & SAWPA
- **Dates** – May 23 – 27, 2022
- **Pilot locations** – Berlin Landfill, Merrifield, Southernwood
- **# registered and verified** – 131

Registration of reclaimers at Merrifield
PART 5
Outcomes
Outcomes

994 waste pickers registered in 4 pilot sites

- Pilot successfully completed in all four pilot sites.
- 25 waste pickers trained as registrars and verifiers (18 female and 7 male)
- Increased capacity of trained waste pickers + organisations
- Educated more than 1000 waste pickers on integration, registration and EPR
- Deepened municipal understanding of integration
- Forged relationships for integration
- Finalised online system
- Established registration methodology
PART 6

Lessons
Lessons

• Education and training of municipal officials is crucial
• Municipal officials have limited time to do registration.
• But engagement is key
• Outreach by waste pickers is crucial
• Previous municipal registrations created distrust
• Waste pickers must lead – trust and expertise
• Provides basis for waste picker integration
• Need stakeholder steering committee
PART 7

Recommendations
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1. Development of a SAWPRS app
2. Partnership approach and reclaimer leadership should be continued in co-governance integration committees, incl in EPR.
3. Launch National Waste Picker Registration Campaign
4. Development of EPR waste picker payment system informed by lessons and rooted in participation and co-governance.
5. Decisions on long-term hosting and governance of SAWPRS required
Thank you

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