

Transition to Circular Economy in Nigeria: Programmes and Activities

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INTRODUCTION

Nigeria, with a population of over 200 million people generates huge quantities of solid waste as a result of the take-use-dispose approach, which has been estimated to be more than 32 million tonnes yearly.

Solid waste generated in Nigeria is composed of 43.43% food waste, 15.27% plastic, 7.76% paper, 1.39% textile, 3.36% wood, 0.081% rubber and leather, 2.02% metal, 2.39% glass and 24.18% others.

Recent surveys carried out in the country indicate that less than 20% of the waste generated is collected through the formal system while less than 10% is recycled. The rest of the waste ends up in open and unlined dump sites, water bodies, drainages, farmland, open spaces, e.t.c. Burning of such wastes openly is also a common practice particularly at the dump sites where hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are co-disposed without any form of separation or segregation. ²

INTRODUCTION CONTD.

This state of affairs presents grave dangers to the Nigerian environment and her citizens as incidences of sanitation and environment related diseases are on the increase. The problem is being exacerbated by rapid population explosion, unplanned urbanization, changes in consumption patterns, inadequate waste management infrastructure, poor funding, lack of credible data e.t.c.

Attempts are being made at Federal, State and Local Government levels to address the issue particularly in reducing the volume and complexity of waste generated annually and ensure proper management including increasing recycling rates. Despite these efforts, the problem still persists which if not properly and holistically tackled can derail the country's development goals including attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

EFFORTS AT TRANSITIONING FROM THE LINEAR TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODEL IN NIGERIA

- ❖ The large volume of wastes being generated in the country presents circular economy business opportunities across the waste management value chain which should be properly harnessed for job/wealth creation, establishment of micro, small and medium scale enterprises, private sector investment, including foreign Direct Investment through among others:
 - Building community Material Recovery Facility (MRF)/recycling centers, transfer loading stations, composting facilities, e.t.c;
 - Battery recycling and export;
 - E-waste recycling;
 - PET recycling for industries;

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- Refuse Derives Fuel (RDF) to power cement kilns;
- Animal feed production;
- Waste to energy and off grid solutions;
- Waste purchasing and reintroduction to manufacturers as raw materials or energy source;
- Ocean clean-up solutions;
- Biodiesel.

EFFORTS AT TRANSITIONING FROM THE LINEAR TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODEL IN NIGERIA CONTD.

- ❖ Nigeria has taken deliberate steps and made conscious efforts to promote the adoption of circular economy principles and practices in the country and mainstream such into our National Development Plans and cascade to the sub-nationals.

Actions that have been taken include:

Putting in place, legal and regulatory framework (National Policies on Solid waste, Plastic waste and Battery waste Management)

Inclusion of the Circular economy principles and waste in the revised NDC (2021)

Membership of the Africa Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA)

Establishment of the Nigeria Circular Economy Working Group

Membership of the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP). Nigeria is in the process of domesticating the GPAP into the Nigeria, National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP)

Studies on the Alternative Packaging Material to Plastics in collaboration with UNIDO

Ongoing Initiatives Include:

Feasibility Studies on Circular Economy, Natural Capital Accounting and Green Growth aimed at developing a Nigeria Circular Economy Roadmap in the short, medium and long terms

On-going circular Economy Capacity Building Programme in collaboration with UNEP for Regulators at the Federal, State and Local Government Levels and the Private Sector

On-going project on promoting sustainable plastic value chain through circular economy practices in collaboration with UNIDO

Development of Solid Waste Management Roadmap

Establishment of National Solid Waste Data base System

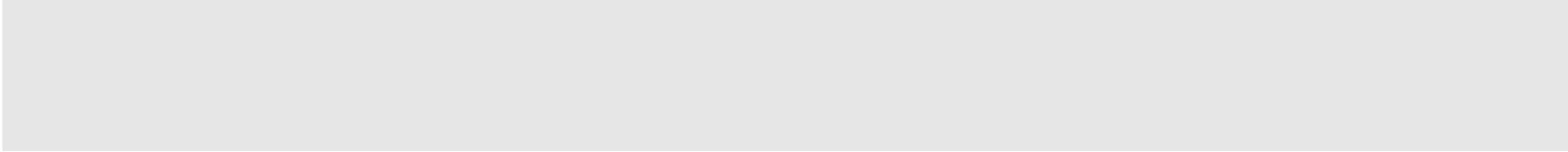
Development of National Policy on E-waste Management



Other Measures Include

- ❖ Development and implementation of Specialized Programmes and projects such as:
 - Community Based Waste Management Programme that encourages the involvement of local communities in modern waste management practices such as waste sorting, segregation, composting and recycling as well as ownership of projects;
 - National Plastic Waste Recycling Programme under which at least one plastic recycling plant is to be established in each of the 774 Local Government Areas in the country;

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- Community Based Waste Management Programme that encourages the involvement of local communities in modern waste management practices such as waste sorting, segregation, composting and recycling as well as ownership of projects;
 - National Plastic Waste Recycling Programme under which at least one plastic recycling plant is to be established in each of the 774 Local Government Areas in the country;
 - The World Bank Assisted Pro-Blue Project for Lagos aimed at reducing marine plastic pollution and creating plastic recycling markets;
 - Establishment and implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programme. EPR organizations already established are: Food and Beverages Recycling Alliance (FBRA) for the food and beverages sector, E-waste Producer Responsibility Organization (EPRON), Alliance for Responsible Battery Recycling (ARBR),

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- Industrial Energy Efficiency, Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production Project aimed at promoting industrial energy efficiency, resource efficiency and cleaner production;
 - Waste to wealth entrepreneurship programme for the empowerment of the most vulnerable group especially youth and women;

Thank You