The eThekwini Municipality’s Municipal Institute of Learning (MILE) together with Durban Cleansing and Solid Waste (DSW) have partnered to develop a three day Master Class on Solid Waste Management. This Master Class is designed specifically for local practitioners in the developing world who are grappling with issues of waste management in the postmodern urban context. The course is structured around five learning modules and has been designed using the blended learning approach where learning is not only confined to the traditional lecture style but involves discussion, site visits and the use of various media. Practitioners from the eThekwini Municipality will serve as lead facilitators drawing on their practical experiences and thus providing added value to the course theory. This Master Class will also allow the opportunity for participants to share their experiences in Solid Waste Management from their respective municipalities which enhances the learning experience.

In addition to drawing on eThekwini’s experience this course draws on the international experiences of other successful cities with the view to enriching participants’ insights into the range of innovative solutions in effectively addressing solid waste management challenges. It also includes first hand experiences to observe and learn how the eThekwini Municipality implement their approaches to Solid Waste Management.

**STUDY TOUR TO THE WELL PERFORMING LANDFILL FACILITY IN SUB-SAHARA AFRICA**

**1.0 Introduction**

In its deliberate efforts to address key urban infrastructural services, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has secured a loan facility from the International Development Association and a grant from the Royal Government of Denmark for implementation of Tanzania Strategic Cities Project (TSCP). The TSCP is aimed at improving the quality of and access to basic urban infrastructure services in participating seven (7) Local Government Authorities through rehabilitation and expansion of urban infrastructures and institutional strengthening activities. Among these basic services is solid waste management especially in cost recovery.
MILE is an initiative of the eThekwini Municipality. As an institute of learning, MILE aims to enhance the capacity of local government practitioners. One of the key learning mechanisms in achieving this goal is the MILE Master Class – which is essentially an experiential action learning engagement lead by an ‘expert’ drawn from either the eThekwini municipality or one of its learning partners across the continent.

All participating Local Government Authorities (LGA) are at different stages of improving solid waste management systems from collection, transportation and treatment. Through TSCP, the LGAs will be provided with equipment for collection services and new landfill will be constructed or improved. The sustainability of all these is sought through various means including training and exposure to technical personnel to areas where they can gain experience and adopt best practices of managing solid waste especially in landfill management.

2.0 Objective of the study tour

The primary objective of the study tour is to visit and observe the respective authorities/management involved with SWM. The forum would thus be used to exchange views, ideas and practices in place in the whole cycle of SWM (meaning from generation, collection, transportation and disposal of wastes).

It is anticipated that participants would then be able to gain experiences, best practices and ways to address challenges faced by Durban Metropolitan Councils in providing the required services. Generally, it being a new field of management, the participating LGA’s have inadequate experiences and knowledge of operating landfills. For cost recovery to be a reality, SWM has to be perceived as a business opportunity where if well managed and private sectors adequately motivated to invest, the ambitions for increased income generation would thus be a guarantee.

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3.0 Learning Areas

The TSCP through SWM Advisor finds it relevant to look into the whole SWM system (meaning departments dealing with management of SW in one hand and oversight of daily operations on the other).

Therefore, specific areas of interest to learn which are deemed crucial for management and operation of landfill include all but not limited to the following:

- Handling of waste at the landfill according to the nature and quantities,
- Water and soil protection at the landfill,
- Leachate management,
- Gas control from landfill,
- Environmental control and how they handle communities living around the landfill,
- Operational and restoration requirements,
- Monitoring and evaluation requirements,
- Simulation of waste prevention via recycling and recovery at landfill,
- Cost of disposal in relation to the overall waste management systems,
- Cost Recovery Strategies.

4.0 Compositions of people to be involved in the study tour

The delegation is led by the Office of the Prime Minister, accompanied by ten Senior Management. Seven City Managers leads the delegation from the various municipalities participating. The Tanzania Capital Development Authority will also be attending. This includes officers responsible for solid waste management from participating LGA's, institutional strengthening experts and their respective Directors; Management and Project Team members from PMO RALG.

10 Technical Officers Dealing with SWM from LGA's
9 Institutional Strengthening Specialists
13 The Management Cadre

4.1 Participating Municipalities

- Tanga,
- Arusha
- Mwanza
- Kigomo
- Dodoma
- Mbeya
- Mtwara

or more information on MILE and the other Master Classes that the Institution runs visit:

www.mile.org.za

Contact us for more information on detailed content regarding this Master Class

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