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Building Capacity for
Waste Picker Integration

Piloting the South Africa Waste Picker Registration System (SAWPRS)

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Overview

PART 1

Background

PART 2

Overview of Pilot Project

PART 3

System Design

PART 4

Pilot Sites

PART 5

Outcomes

PART 6

Lessons

PART 7

Recommendations



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PART 1

Background



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



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PART 2

Overview of the pilot project



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



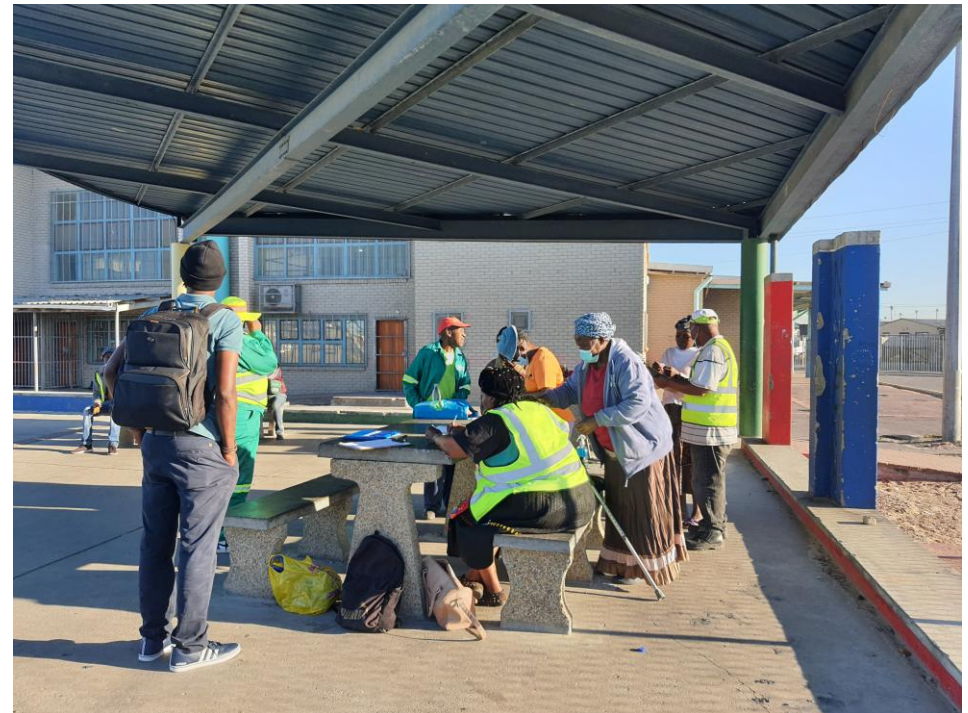
Participatory development of wireframe and online system with CSIR and TAG



Piloting in each site



Waste pickers who already piloted went to other sites to do outreach and support pilot



Registration in Cape Town



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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



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Registration at Msunduzi landfill

Waste Picker Registration Pilot

PART 3

System design



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

PART 4

Pilot sites



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



Registering a reclaimer



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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)



Distribution of cards in retreat



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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



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

PART 5

Outcomes



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



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PART 6

Lessons



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

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



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PART 7

Recommendations



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Waste Picker Registration Pilot

Recommendations



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

Thank you

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