DAKAR
- Minimizing Waste Challenges, Maximizing Urban Resilience

Region: Africa  Country: Senegal  Focus Area: Solid Waste Management

CITY BACKGROUND

Dakar has been experiencing significant population growth, corresponding to a densification of the habitat and a modification of the modes of consumption. The resulting generation of waste poses a major challenge, particularly in terms of waste management. Dakar does not have any professional sanitary disposal sites and almost 70% of the solid waste generated by the city is deposited at numerous unauthorized waste disposal sites. The city’s only landfill in Mbeubeuss is an inadequately planned open dumpsite, which has expanded more than tenfold in recent years, stretching to over 170 hectares and processing an estimated 450,000 tons of waste annually. These challenges have exacerbated issues with human health, the environment and urban flooding, and have disproportionally impacted low-income households.

WORLD BACK ENGAGEMENT

The Projet pour la Promotion de la Gestion Integree et de l’Economie des Déchets Solides au Sénégal (PROMOGED) is a proposed $200 million multi-stakeholder initiative with $50-million participation of the World Bank. The main objectives would be: a) improving waste management services in Senegal; b) supporting the development of a long-term waste treatment and disposal facility in Greater Dakar and a few selected secondary agglomerations; c) strengthening institutional robustness, citizen engagement and capacity building.

CRP APPROACH

Due to institutional instability, the city of Dakar has struggled to attract private sector investment in the waste management sector, resulting in high operating inefficiencies and underfunding of waste and garbage collection. The City Resilience Program (CRP) has been working to plug into the PROMOGED project as an anchor loan to identify an opportunity for structuring a PPP to build and operate a new network of waste sorting and processing facilities, formalizing and improving the existing municipal system of waste processing. CRP is facilitating this transaction advisory with the objective of bringing a high-quality operator that meets the requirements of the market and the Government’s expectations.
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PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION STRUCTURE

The PROMOGED project would leverage three broad sources of financing, including public funds, ODA financing (including WB and AECID) and private investment which would be protected by a guarantee component. Roles are being defined as:

- Private operator would be responsible for building, co-financing and operating five waste processing and sorting facilities in the Dakar metropolitan areas
- The private operator will leverage corporate expertise to build a robust waste management system throughout the entire network and achieve systemwide operational efficiencies.
- Private partner’s participation in Capital Expenditure could be secured by a repayment guarantee from WB’s donor partners.
- Public partner represented by the National Solid Waste Coordinating Agency (UCG), would be responsible for waste collection and transporting up to the five facilities, maintaining the infrastructure adjacent and in support to the privately-operated sites.

LESSONS LEARNED

Previous attempts of private participation in the SWM sector have failed mainly due to social and institutional challenges. This track record showed challenges in outsourcing waste collection operations even to credible international partners. Learning from experience, the project needs to ensure an effective, continuous outreaching and engagement of affected communities, including but not limited to informal and formal waste worker. One of the ways in which PROMOGED aims to achieve this, is by prioritizing job placement and professional training programs for waste workers (both formal and informal) – an estimated 2,000 people on the current landfill site - who become at risk of losing their source of income due to operational improvements on the site.

FUTURE VISION

The CRP Dakar engagement is a unique opportunity which can leverage institutional knowledge and lessons learned from previous experiences with solid waste PPPs. The proposed project in Dakar could be serving as a pilot model that could potentially be replicated and scaled for addressing waste-related resilience challenges in other cities in Senegal and Sub-Saharan Africa.