

Title of dissertation			
ASSESSMENT OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES AND CONTRACTED WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE: A CASE STUDY OF PHNOM PENH CAPITAL, CAMBODIA			
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Body Text

Private sector participation in municipal services has witnessed increased interest in recent years primarily to reform the weak performance of public sector, reduce cost, improve efficiency, and ensure environmental protection. The public sectors including government bodies should be involved in policy making, introducing local legal instruments and supporting the public interests. In Phnom Penh Capital, CINTIRI Waste Collection Company (a single private company) Phnom Penh City Hall (PPCH) has been contracted by Phnom Penh City Hall since 2002 for providing the waste collection service (supply-side) to the whole Phnom Penh city. The provision of service provider is not efficiently performed according to terms and specifications in the contractual agreement while the regulation provision is not enforced by PPCH as required.

This study describes and assesses the factors determining the performance of local government authorities and contracted waste collection service and also identifies sets of possible improving measures for sustainable solid waste management in Phnom Penh city. The results of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), both all districts of Phnom Penh and related organizations at national and sub-national levels, and interview of key informants are analyzed by qualitative and quantitative methods. The study is using sustainability assessment by success and efficiency factors methods which have been developed by Zurbrugg et al., (2014) for supporting solid waste management in Developing countries. In addition, the six performance indicators were used to evaluate the LGA management and private operator performance including technical, environmental, institutional and organizational, financial and economic, social and cultural, and policy and legal aspects.

The results of this study are important to pertain and deal with the performance of supply side—from CINTRI and LGAs. Waste collection in Phnom Penh city has been an authority of several different contractors since 1994 due to financial difficulties. The main challenges for municipal waste management revealed as institutional capacity of LGAs, operational and service quality of CINTRI. The service provider and PPCH have not expended sufficient effort to improve the situation and the quality of service. Lack of clear operational framework for this long-term contract, CINTRI rendered the difficulties to widen the service coverage and ensuring the involvement from stakeholders, despite the MSWM decentralization to the LGAs. In addition, the operation systems depend on the service quality and reliability based on technology inputs. The low quality and low service level are caused by a lack of performance control and

capability to enforce regulation. It was derived from lack of monitoring and evaluation of the PPP process. Unclear delineation of responsibilities and obligations among relevant organizations often result in poor management. The lack of cooperation and coordination between LGAs, PPCH and service provider lead to low willingness to participate or manage in waste service. It is suggested that revisiting the legal framework, establishing facilitating agency for designing and nurturing partnerships, competitive tendering; transparency and financial accountability are essential elements for PPP on provision of waste services in Phnom Penh capital. From the socio-cultural perspective, it can be seen that the public perception on PPP is important for explaining reliability of services.

Overall, the evidence thus suggests measures and actions for improving the waste services. Firstly, the service provider should provide and expand the collection service to un-serviced areas through enhancing PPP and social acceptability. Providing platform for stakeholder participation could prevent public interest and economic interest. Strengthening collection capacity will increase service level, quality of service, reliability and productivity. Secondly, establishing proper monitoring, controlling procedures and enforcing waste management regulation (e. sub-decree no.113 on MSWM) are needed to reduce the illegal dumping. Thirdly, modernizing fee collection system is soundly financial viability. Lastly, requirements of management services, quality assessment, and priorities for cooperation between the contractor and the LGAs should be studied, so that the options for collection system are based on sound data. For long-term run, LGA needs to be self-sustaining waste management program and strategy to reduce reliance on private sector and national government funding.

Keywords: Local government authorities, Public-private partnership, collection service, performance measures, quality assessment, solid waste management, capacity, Phnom Penh

Photos



Hearing survey about waste collection and recycling



Scene of presentation in degree defense