



Jamaica: Gender and Waste

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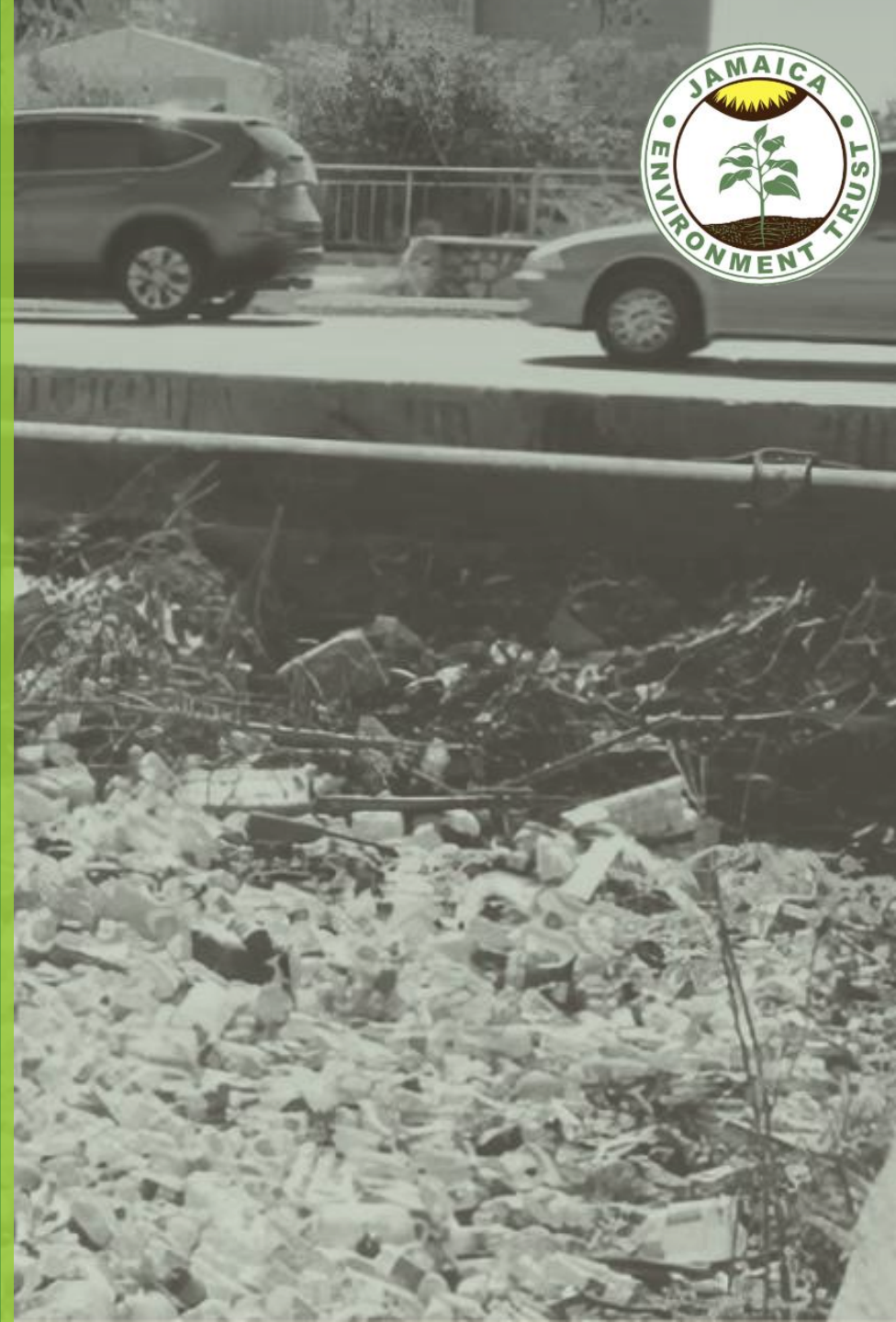


Outline

1. Jamaica and waste management
2. Jamaica and gender
3. Gender and the waste management sector in Jamaica

Jamaica and waste management

- ❑ The problem of solid waste disposal and management is longstanding.
- ❑ The country generates approximately 800,000 tons of residential waste annually, some of which is improperly disposed of.
- ❑ Approximately 70% of the total waste generated in the country is collected, while a remaining 30% of uncollected waste is disposed of in an environmentally unsound manner.









Fort Rocky Beach, Palisadoes Strip, Kingston



Go Kart Track, Palisadoes Strip, Kingston



Gun Boat Beach, Palisadoes Strip, Kingston



Royal Jamaica Yacht Club, Palisadoes Strip, Kingston



Colombino

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MOTOR OIL

WILLIAMS



Jamaica and Gender

- 60% of women in the workforce compared to 73.2 % of men
- Unemployment: 11.3%, of which male unemployment 8%, women unemployment 15.2% (even with higher education)
- Female-headed households represent 15.9%, those headed by males 13.2% (2019)
- 58% of households from the poorest quintile being headed by women (2019)
- Informal sector and domestic workers: 99% of such workers are female: not classified as workers by law, subject to low wages, poor working conditions, no union/national insurance.

Gender and the waste management sector in Jamaica

- The National Solid Waste Management Authority, under The National Solid Waste Management Act (2001)
 - It is the only government organization mandated to collect solid waste in Jamaica.
- Private sector also involved



Waste Management Policies/ Strategies

Several policy instruments govern solid waste management in Jamaica:

1. The Solid Waste Management Policy for Jamaica (SWMP), 2000
2. (2009) Jamaica's National Development Plan, Vision 2030
3. Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy- 2010
4. The National Policy for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes, 2017
5. The National Energy from Waste Policy, 2010-2030

Overarching Gender Policies

- Gender Sector Plan, Vision 2030-
 - Goal- A society free of sex and other forms of discrimination in all spheres that creates and maintains a socioeconomic, cultural, political and legal environment, in both the public and private domains free of sex discrimination, where all males and females, at all stages of the life cycle can enjoy full human rights and develop their full potential as productive citizens.
- The National Policy for Gender Equality- adopted in 2011 to be implemented in up to 2030 in line with the National Development Plan.
 - The Policy outlines Jamaica's commitment towards gender equality and encapsulates the different outcomes expected in order to achieve gender equality. Its purpose is to mainstream gender.... in all State institutions...

Observations

- Gender issues are not addressed in Jamaica's National Solid Waste Management Policy.
- The National Policy for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes considers only briefly gender in the management of hazardous waste.
- Women and men are represented within the waste management sector at different levels:
 - Within government sector- women and men represented across all levels within the organization.
 - Within private sector- several of the privately owned waste management firms are women led and owned.
 - Informal sector- In the informal sector- waste picking, sorting and recycling, is often done by women, but there is not enough data available on this.
 - CSO- Beach cleanups/ community cleanups are often organized and led by women.

Challenges/ Recommendations

Challenges

- Funding
- Lack of interest/ Lack of political will and commitment
- Lack of data
- Lack of understanding as to what 'gender' is, its relevance to development - or what 'gender equality' is.
- Perception that gender equality and gender mainstreaming will disempower men (related to the point above)
- Pervasive gender stereotypes
- Lack of training and technical skills to mainstream gender
- Lack of time and human resources
- No gender focal person in some (or many) MDAs

Recommendations

- Need to raise gender awareness
- Gather sex disaggregated data in the sector
- Gathering data on gendered attitudes and behaviors with respect to waste; and
- Employing gender-sensitive participatory methods.
- Provision of funding

Gender-responsive waste management practices

Here are several ways in which this can be achieved:

1. Inclusive Decision-Making
2. Education and Awareness
3. Income Generation Opportunities
4. Safe and Inclusive Infrastructure
5. Customized Training Programs
6. Health and Hygiene Considerations
7. Community Engagement
8. Data Collection and Analysis
9. Policy Integration
10. Monitoring and Evaluation

THANK YOU

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