Best Practices in Solid Waste Management through PPP in Indian cities

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Solid waste management (SWM) services have been traditionally provided by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Indian cities. However, proper service delivery has not been achieved which can be attributed to institutional problems as well as operational and management inefficiencies by the ULBs. The challenge faced is resolving these problems in a sustainable way. A strong alternative for urban solid waste management is Public Private Partnerships (PPP) which has proved successful in many cities round the world.

The main objective of this research study is to help the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in decision making by making a comprehensive database in Solid Waste Management to facilitate decision making model. By studying successful solid waste management PPP projects in conditions similar to Indian cities and identifying its critical success factors (CSFs), a template on ‘Best Practices in SWM’ has been prepared considering technical, environmental, financial and social aspects of the different functional elements in the SWM hierarchy.

Validation of the template has also been attempted through questionnaires to stakeholders such as the municipal officials, concerned private sector executives, Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and subject experts. Thus, a knowledge base will be developed on ‘Best practices in SWM’ and the factors affecting the applicability of the best practices under specific contextual conditions. This knowledge based Decision Support System (DSS) will help to reduce the decision making burden on the ULBs as they can know the best alternatives they have in various phases of Solid Waste Management.