

# PROJECT FOR THE URGENT IMPROVEMENT OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN YANGON CITY (2019-2023)



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# Solid Waste Management and Air Pollution in Myanmar



## RISK FACTOR FOR DEATH

In 2017, air pollution accounted for more than 45,000 deaths in Myanmar



## LACK OF AIR MONITORING

The low capacity of the regulator and the lack of an air monitoring network make it challenging to enforce the emissions guidelines



## INCREASED URBANIZATION

Along with rapid development since 2011, air pollution in urban areas in Myanmar is on the rise. The number of registered motor vehicles has increased six times in the last decade and doubled in the past five years



## SIGNIFICANT HEALTH EFFECTS

The inhalation of fine particulate matter causes several illnesses, including cardiovascular disease and lung cancer among adults, and acute lower respiratory infections among children

- As a risk factor for death, air pollution is higher in Myanmar than in other countries in the region and is **almost twice the average for Southeast Asia**.
- For Myanmar youth aged 5 to 14 years, particulate matter pollution is the leading risk factor of death among all risk factors, including **malnutrition and other behavioral risks**. (source: Myanmar Country Environmental Analysis, World Bank)

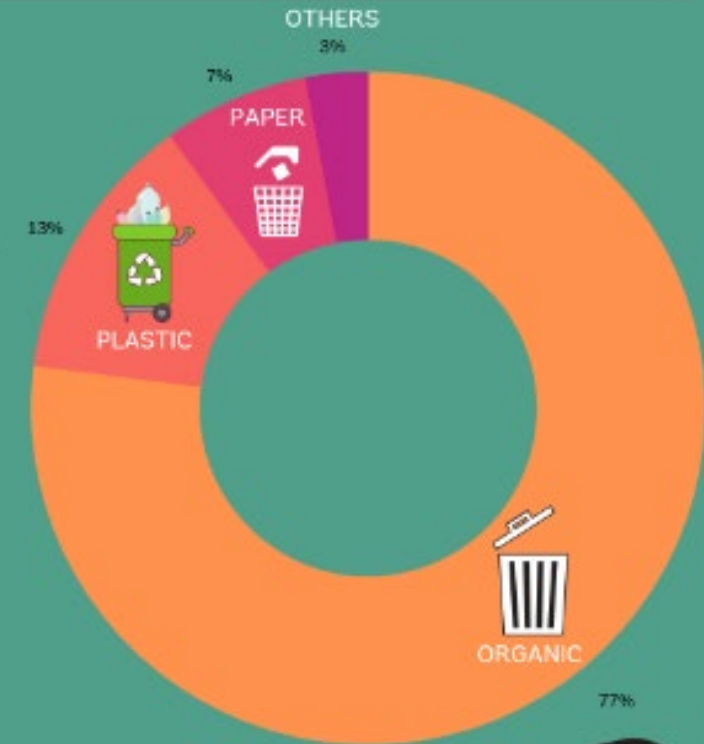


- **Landfills that are almost at their full capacity**, waste dumping without any compaction, surface and groundwater contamination, methane production, release of greenhouse gas and potential landfill fires.



The actual amount of waste generated by households and industry is not known as there is no regular waste sampling and analysis carried out, and there is insufficient information on the exact waste collection coverage in different geographical areas. Based on the analysis of the landfill waste disposal data, it could be concluded that the waste collection coverage is about 53% in Yangon and 84% in Mandalay.

## MUNICIPAL WASTE COMPOSITION



## AVERAGE WASTE GENERATION IN MYANMAR

**0.56**  
kg/cap/day

**28.85**  
tons/day

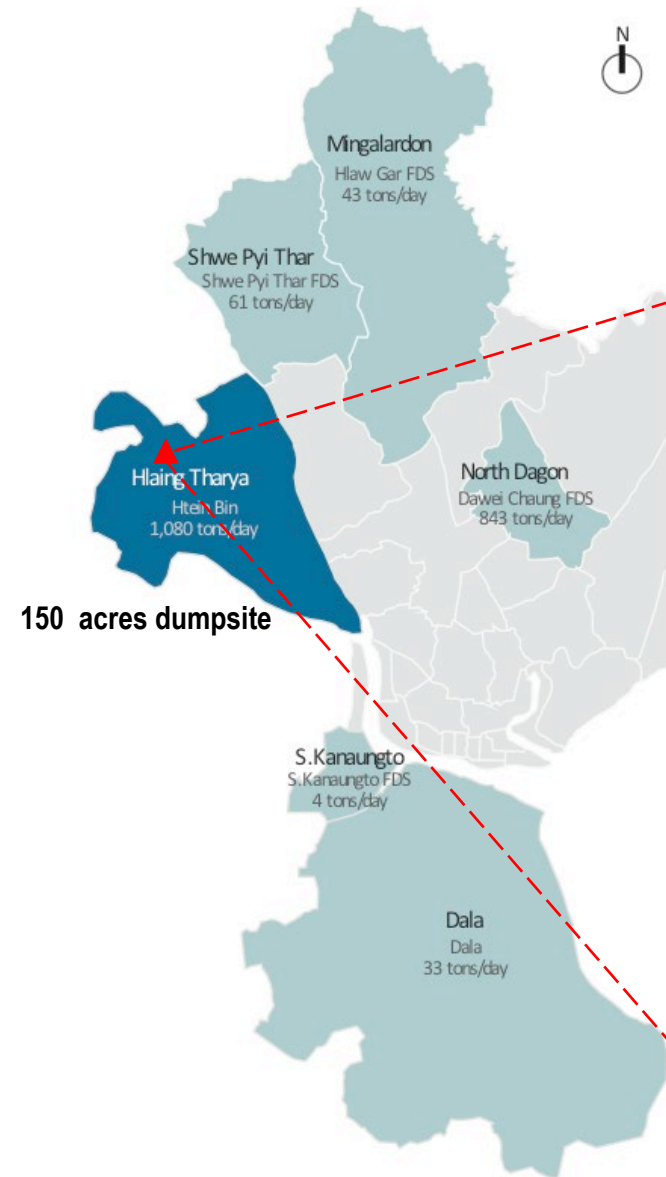
**10.5**  
million tons/day

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Waste landfilling in Myanmar is estimated to cost less than **US\$ 1 per ton** and is carried out without environmental protection

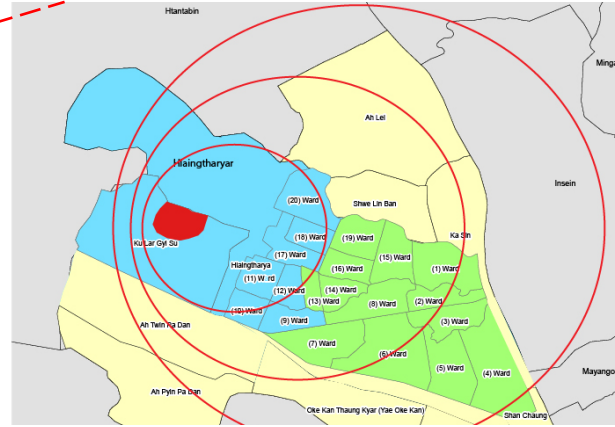


# Background of SWM Project in Yangon



## Problem statement

- Largest open landfill site in Myanmar and causing environmental pollution and air pollution
- Three weeks long fire outbreak in April 2018 at Htein Bin dump site
- Deterioration in air and water quality
- Numerous people effected with respiratory problems



2018 Fire outbreak affected area

**Urgency**  
**Obligation**  
**Unpredictability**  
**Substitutability**





## Core Objective

To contribute to reduce the risk of future fire hazard and environmental hazard by the establishment of safe and sustainable waste management systems for Htein Bin dump site of the Yangon city through the implementation of the Fukuoka Method of solid waste management (SWM).

### Component 1

Stabilization of existing  
dumpsite (Htein Bin)

### Component 2

Construction of the Fukuoka  
Method land fill (technology-  
transfer)





## COMPONENT 1: Stabilization of existing dumpsite



Rapid assessment



Designing and  
planning



Reviewing



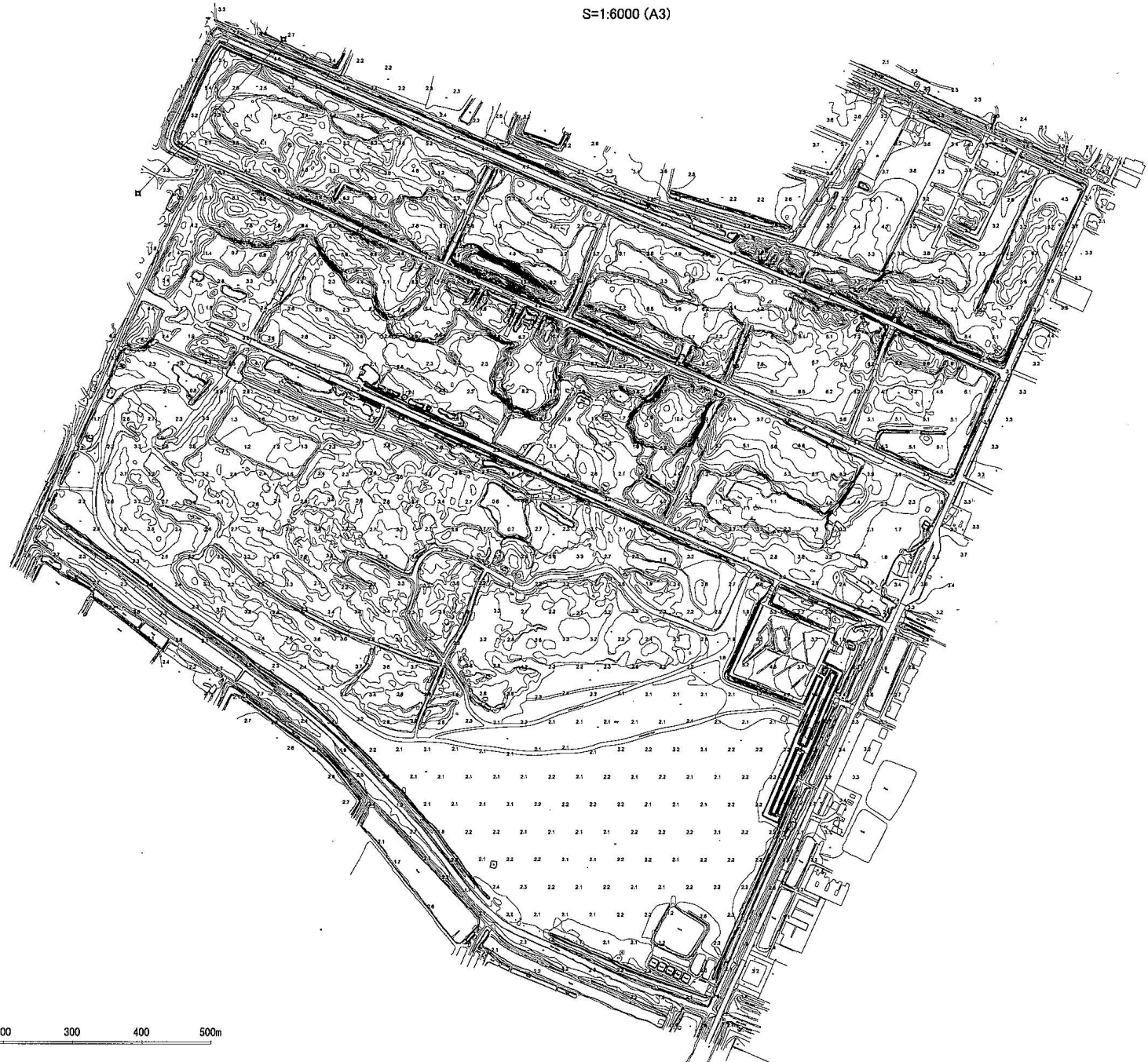
Stabilization



Capacity Building

Htein Bin Landfill Site Topographical Map

S=1:6000 (A3)





## Before rehabilitation

- Anaerobic situation, bad odor
- High risk of landfill fire
- No systematic routes and access





## Before rehabilitation

**Hazardous environment for landfill site workers and surrounding settlements**





Improving the drainages around the cell



Construction of access roads



Installation of perforated ventilation pipes



Construction of stages





## After rehabilitation

- 49 hectares of Rehabilitated Areas
- Installation of perforated ventilation pipes





## After rehabilitation

- Construction of leachate ponds
- Installation of leachate treatment systems (aerators and eco-fans)





## After rehabilitation

**“No fire outbreak since after the rehabilitation of the disposal site area and this summer we were not worried at all!”**

*Ko Tin Aung Lin, Fire Security of the landfill site*





## COMPONENT 2: Construction of the Fukuoka Method Land fill





# Construction of 5 hectares new Fukuoka method landfill in B3





## Pilot site completion

- 1 hectare of completed pilot site
- Maintenance and monitoring for future land utilization



The landfill has been covered with a layer of soil 1.5 feet deep.





## Technical transfer for sustainability

- Maintenance of the embankments
- Heavy machine mobilization for waste compaction
- Eco-fan training





## Technical transfer for sustainability

- Environmental monitoring trainings
- Replication of Fukuoka method in two other final disposal sites in Yangon





# Community Mobilization Activities



REDMI NOTE 11

1. Assessment
2. Waste Audit
3. KAP Analysis
4. Improving SWM
5. Trainings
6. Clean up Campaign



REDMI NOTE 11

02/09/2023 11:39



REDMI NOTE 11

01/19/2023 15:38





**Community  
Composting**



# Continued Success and Effort in Environmental Monitoring and Fukuoka Method



Enviromental Monitoring at Htein Bin Landfill site					30.4.2024	
No.	Locations	pH	EC	Leachate Volume Generated	Temperature ('C)	Remarks
			(mS/cm)	sec { for 1000ml }		
1	A2-3	7.4	15.2	26.9	43.3	
2	A5	7.8	18.4	11.2	49.5	
3	B3-1	7.7	16.5	12.1	44.2	
4	B3-2	8	14.6	8.5	45.2	
5	Pilot	7.9	22	61.1	35	
6	Pilot -1	8.0	21.3	-	33.2	
7	Pilot-2	7.9	11.6	-	30.6	
8	Pond-1	7.9	7.9	-	32.4	
9	A6 Pond	7.6	6.2	-	35.9	
10	A7 Pond	7.4	6.4	-	27.9	
11	C7 Pond	7.5	7.1	-	30.9	
12	BG - 1	7.4	3.4	-	27.6	



- **Ongoing commitment** of the Urban Environmental Conservation and Cleaning Department (UECCD),
- **Continued routine of environmental monitoring and employing the Fukuoka Method** for landfill site management.

By maintaining the project's success, UECCD ensures that Htein Bin remains a model of sustainable waste management and environmental responsibility, extending the sustainability of the project.

Status of Htein Bin FDS in 2024

4/8/2025





- Continuation of the Fukuoka method by the other landfill management authorities.
- Environmental monitoring.
- Transformation of completed landfill areas into recreational areas.



# Way Forward

- Reduced landfill fire and environmental risks
- Nation wide replication of Fukuoka Method Solid Waste Management
- Clean and Green Cities
- Contribution for climate change mitigation





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THANK YOU!

**UN HABITAT**  
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME