

Waste : Problem or Resource?

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Introduction

- **The Global Challenge:** We generate massive amounts of waste every day.
- **Hidden Potential:** Waste can contain valuable resources like metals, paper, and organic materials.
- **Shifting Perspective:** By changing how we manage waste, we can turn it into a solution.
- **Bangladesh in Focus:** With a rapidly growing population, Bangladesh faces unique waste management challenges, but also has opportunities for resource recovery.

This Presentation Will Explore:



- The problems associated with waste disposal.
- How waste can be transformed into a resource.
- Strategies for sustainable waste management.



Waste as a problem

1. **Environmental Pollution:** Waste often leads to pollution of air, water, and soil, contributing to various environmental issues such as climate change, habitat destruction, and soil degradation.

Impacts on human health



2. **Health Hazards:** Improper disposal of waste can result in the release of harmful chemicals and pathogens, posing significant health risks to humans and wildlife.



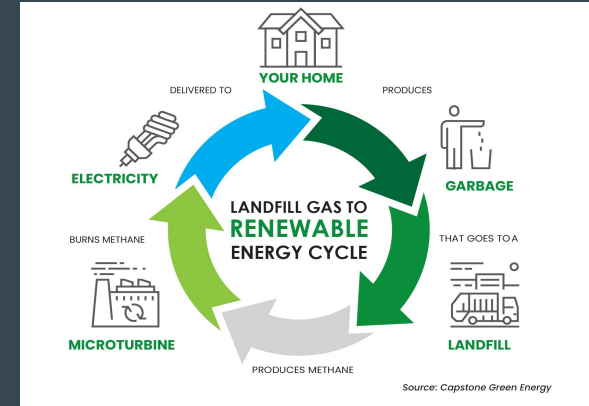
3. **Economic Loss:** Inefficient waste management systems can result in economic losses for communities and businesses.



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Can “Waste” also be of any resource?

- **Composition:** Organic waste is used to make fertilizers.
(e.g. yard waste, food scraps, remainders of trees)
- **Recycling:** Some inorganic waste can be recycled almost completely (e.g. plastic, glass, metal)
- **Waste to Energy:** In the advancement of science and technology, we can now also generate energy like biogas, electricity, heat from waste through processes like incineration, anaerobic digestion. It is also evident that the countries who do so, have found around 50-56% of food and garden waste making anaerobic treatment more efficient (Alao et al., 2022).
- **Upcycling:** Upcycling can also be useful as we can repurpose some waste materials into new products of higher value. (e.g. from old textiles to insulation materials)



Perspectives on waste management in Bangladesh

- **Inadequate Infrastructure :**

Bangladesh lacks significant infrastructure for waste collection, transportation and disposal in many areas. This leads to open dumping and illegal disposal practices.

- **Technological Limitation:**

Limited access to advance waste management technologies hampers efficient recycling and resource recovery processes.

- **Economic Constraints:**

Financial constraints and limited funding impede progress in turning waste into valuable resource.

- **Policy and Governance :**

Inconsistent waste management rules slow down efforts to use waste efficiently.



CONCLUSION

In conclusion, whether waste is a resource or a problem depends on how we perceive and manage it.

Exploring waste in Bangladesh, we have seen how it is linked with environment, society and economy. By implementing different innovating ideas and working together we can create more sustainable future for generations to come.



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Thank you for your attention !

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