

THE GARBAGE PROBLEM

Poor waste collection contributes to epidemics, greenhouse gas emissions, water contamination and flooding.

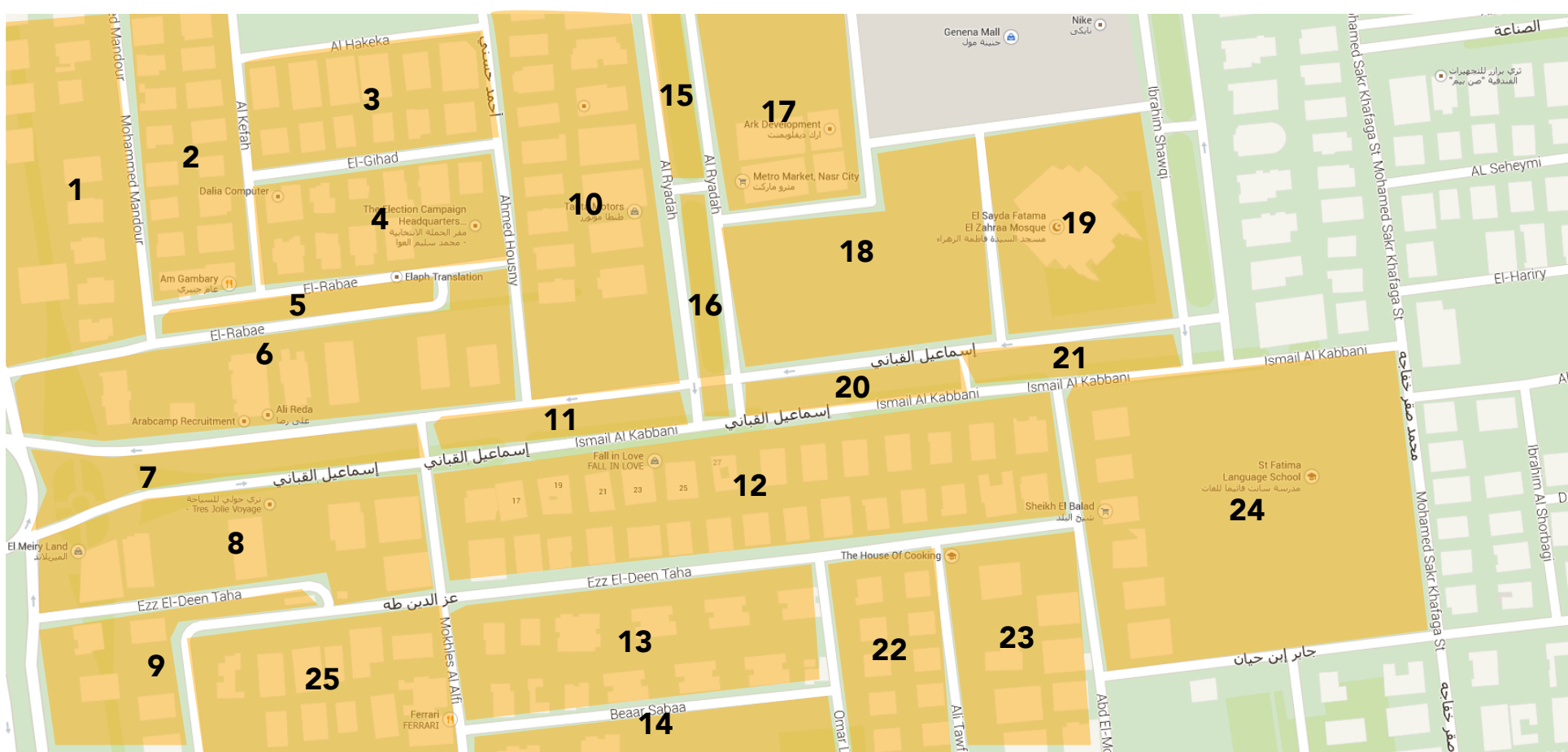
The world waste sector is worth 390 billion dollars and provides 5% of jobs in low-income countries!

Many developing cities collect only 30-50% of wastes. Karachi: 30%, Yangon: 40%, Cairo and many Indian cities: 50%

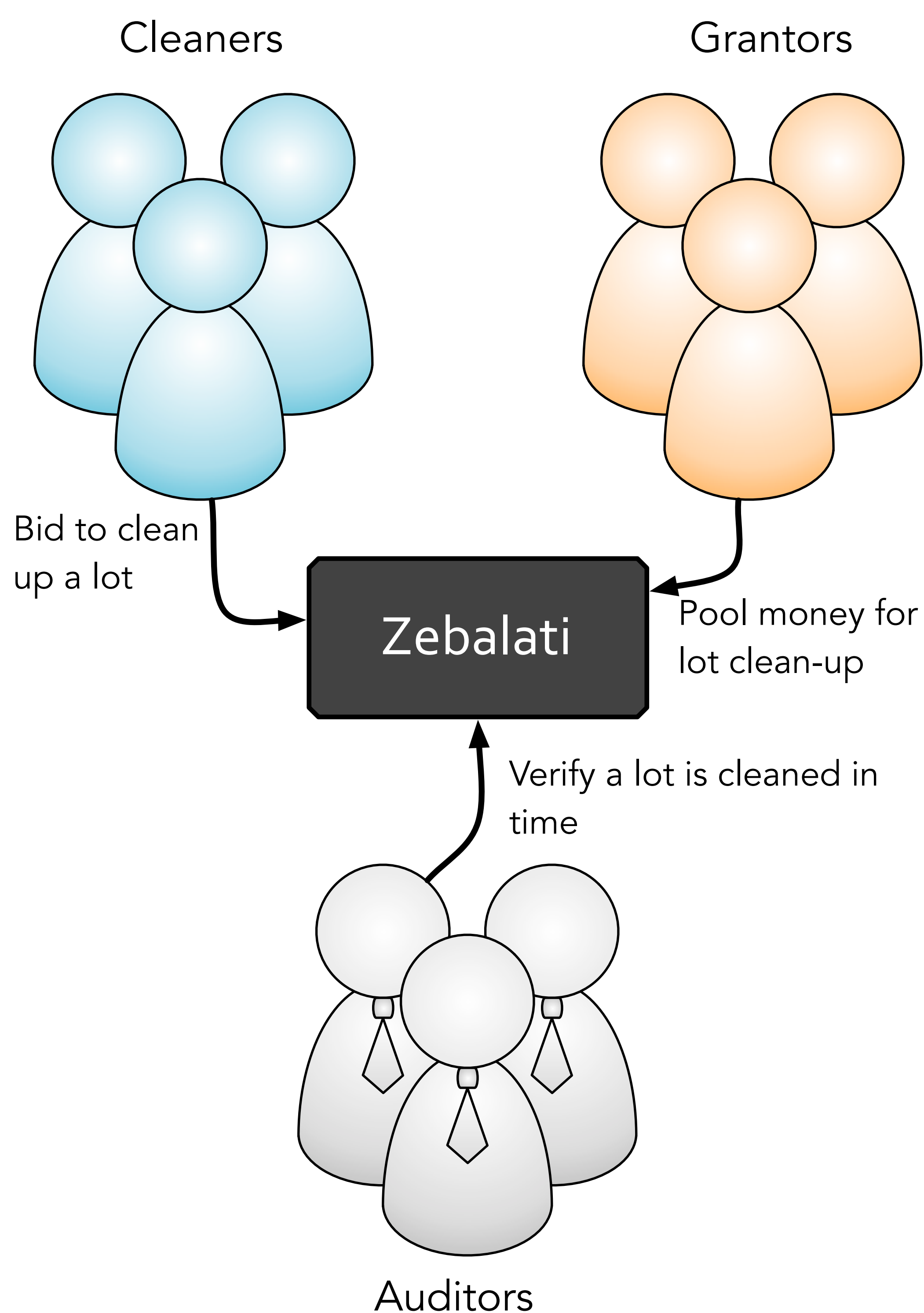
By 2025, the world will produce 2.5 billion tones of garbage a year!

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

DECENTRALIZE GARBAGE COLLECTION & MANAGEMENT



Zebalati divides a city (Nasr City, Cairo above) into accessible lots and opens an online reverse auction for the clean up of each lot.

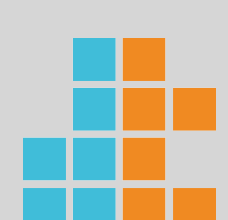


WHY WOULD THIS WORK?

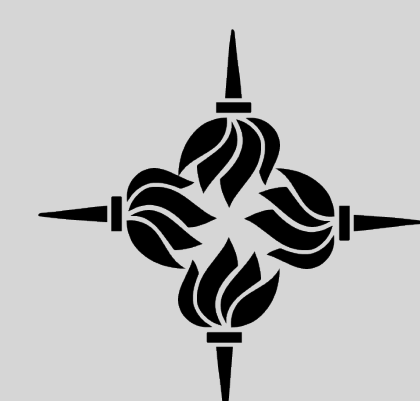
- 1** Engages all stakeholders in a free and competitive market
Both foreign and local cleaners can compete. Grantors include NGOs, non-profits, municipalities as well as community members. Scavenger like Cairo's Zabaleen can engage in recycling post collection
- 2** Ensures progress with fixed clean-up time frames & competition
- 3** Verifies task completion with the help of auditors

CHALLENGES

- 1** Corruption
 - 1** Reputation Systems
 - 2** Time-stamped & geotagged (before &) after images for crowdsourced auditing
- 3** Landfill Monitors
- 4** Garbage RFID trackers
- 2** Health, safety and service standards
- 3** Steady stream of grants
- 4** Accessibility & usability



Azza Abouzied, Jay Chen
azza@nyu.edu, jchen@cs.nyu.edu



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY LAB
NYU ABU DHABI