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| Image result for ecogas aruba  Waste management in aruba | NAmes: Oxana Bednyuk, NAdine bislip and nathany boekhoudt  **Course**: Environmental science  **Institution**: University of aruba  **Instructors**: Christie mettes & tony sevold  **Year**: 2017 |

# Ecogas aruba – Stakeholder interview assignment

The company's operation is managing wastes that been collected by EcoTech. The process starts when the trucks bring the wastes, and its being weighed, presorted and pre shredded. After that it is separated in 3 fractions in a trommel, and goes for the further separation from metals and non ferro metals that are send for recycling. The part of left carbon based material is being compacted by the baler and extruded into envirobale bags. These bags are transported to the granite pits for further landfilling. The other part is sent to gasification.

## Personal and professional impressions of waste management in Aruba

We interviewed managing director of EcoGas (Metacorp) Ramsey Halabi. His job is managing the facility that is manages wastes, that is why his personal and professional impressions are connected. Mr. Halabi strongly believes that it is possible to manage waste on Aruba and that he and his team can do it. The managing has to start from the personal knowledge and simple separation at home: the organic waste from the rest of it. For the years he worked with managing waste on the island he learned a lesson that it is going to be very difficult to ship plastics and other type of waste to recycle, unless citizens will be willing to pay a price for it. In his opinion the process with which EcoGas processes waste is the best for Aruba at this moment, however, the better ways can be investigated and implemented.

## Future of waste management in Aruba

Ecogas desired future is to manage all of Aruba’s waste where nothing will end up at Parkietenbos. It has a reserved place in the factory in case this happens. They manage 30% of the waste now of Aruba. If the government comes up with a policy that all waste must be handled by Ecogas, they are ready for it. They could handle all the waste in 10/12 hours daily. When this finally takes place, then we can focus on how to take over the landfill in Parkietenbos.

## Obstacles seen in getting to this desired future scenario

One of the biggest obstacle is money. There is no **funding** for waste management. They only manage 30% of Aruba because those 30% pay for it. People use Serlimar because you are not obligated to pay. People would rather pay nothing than pay Awg.26 for Ecogas.   
Another obstacle is **education**. A lot of people do not have knowledge about the importance of waste management or what Ecogas do. Some people that are older already have a mindset that is difficult to change. Some people don’t know how to **dispose of their waste properly**. For example: they add liquid or leftover food in it, instead of draining the liquid or letting your dog eat your leftover food.

## Market for improved waste management in Aruba

Ecogas is better when it comes to waste management. Most of their targets at the moment are hotels, businesses and a couple of households as well. However their sponsors are not enough for what they have in mind to do with the waste here in Aruba. If they are able to receive a significant amount of money they would be able to make Aruba an event more environmentally friendly place.They would like to handle all the waste of Aruba and they already have a plan for it when it would happen. Thus, their next target market would be everyone in Aruba.