

Successful PPPs in the recycling sector in lowand middle-income countries: 10 things you need to know about recycling before beginning. Anne Scheinberg, <ascheinberg@waste.nl>

based in part on the author's PhD defence presentation "Value Added"



## **Recycling: puzzle or promise?**

Why are PPPs in recycling considered to be:

 a strong example of environmental progress in Australia, Japan, Europe, North America, but

a source of global conflict, competition for recyclable resources, and economic struggle with informal recyclers in lowand middle-income countries?

## The challenge of sustainable recycling:

Can we identify a PPP framework to organise valorisation in , that:

- gives better results for people, the environment, and the economy?
- Enables cities to divert 50% of waste from landfill to value chains?
- Provides jobs and resources for the (circular) economy?

#### **Structure of this Presentation**

1. 10 things you need to know for PPPs 2. Understanding the system: the power of a recycling framework 3. Discussion on the questions in the programme (and a small commercial announcement)

# 10 things to know/do to build a PPP (1 of 2)

- 1. There is always *asystem*. It may not look like yours, but it is there and the basis for your PPP.
- 2. Use a baseline *process* to see the system through the eyes of key stakeholders.
- 3. Most if not all valuable materials in the local waste stream are already claimed and valorised.
- 4. Informal or MSE enterprises have a robust earning model or they wouldn't stay in business.
- 5. If your revenues don't cover your operating costs, you have the wrong technology & PPP partners.

# 10 things to know/do to build a PPP (2 of 2)

6. The service chan and the value chain are different. a. PPPs in the service chain involve removing waste. **b.** PPPs in the value chain involve trading valuables. 7. 2% of household income is the max collection price. 8. Collection is *always* profitable BUT won't cover trans-fer or disposal costs. 9. Value chains are private, secret, difficult to enter. **10.Informal recyclers know how to sell recyclables. City** officials do not.

#### Questions about the 10 things?.

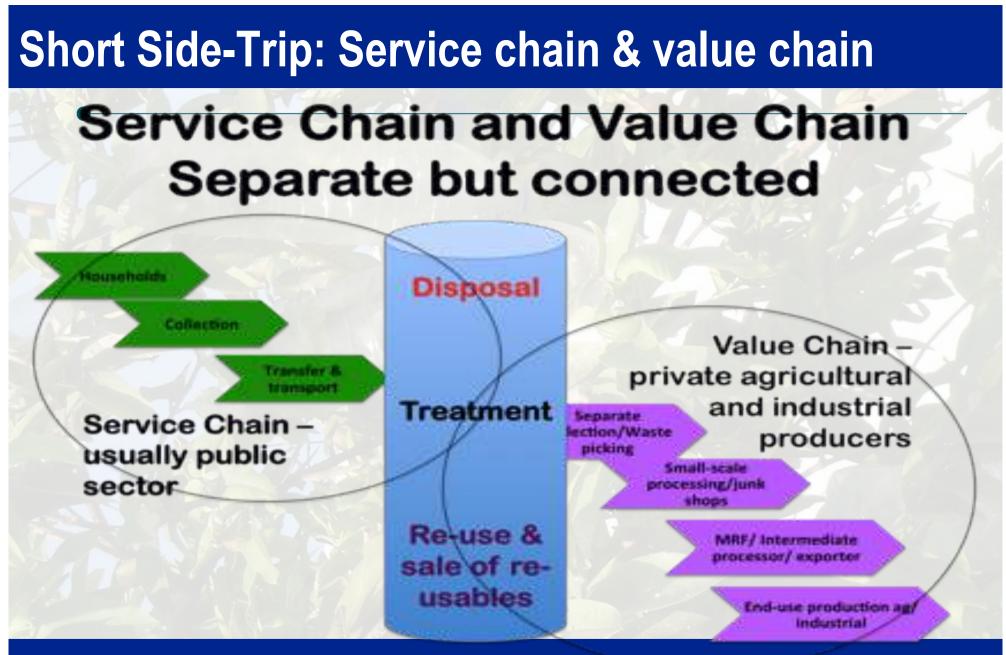
If no questions, we go on to Part 2.

# Part 2 is about recycling or valorisation frameworks.

They give you a way of understanding the system as it is, as the basis for your PPP

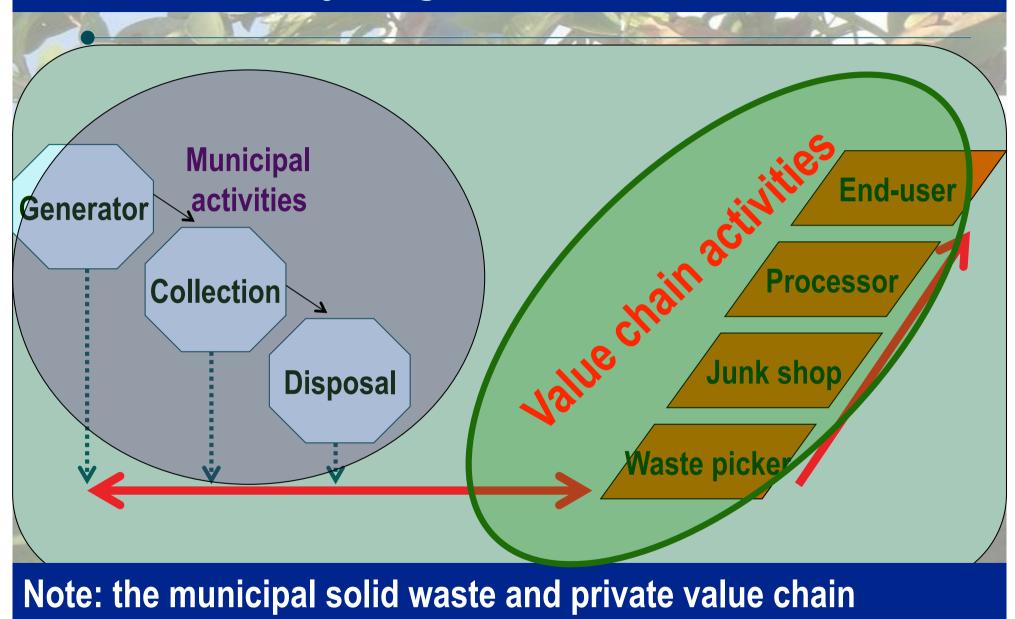
# The power of a valorisation *framework*

- 1. Organised around a primary driver for removal.
- 2. Is a visual description of the institutional relations between stakeholders
- 3. Defines the institutional home, or centre of gravity, for recyclables and organic waste
- 4. Predicts reactions of stakeholders with roles & relationships essential to the PPP
- 5. Suggests gaps /potential points of intervention



Note: the municipal solid waste and private value chain recycling systems are separate.

### Value chain recycling – the default framework

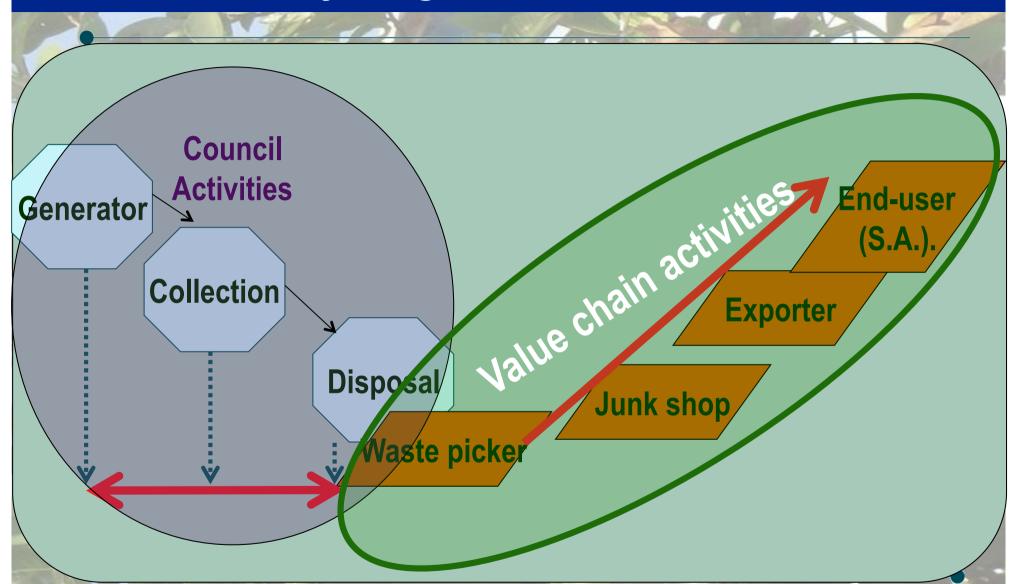


recycling systems are separate.

# What is going on here?

- 1. The value chain "pulls" the materials for which there is real economic demand.
- 2. Waste pickers, junk shops, and intermediate processors pass materials along the value chain to the *end-users*.
- 3. The local authority benefits by having to dispose of fewer materials, but they often don't know it.
- 4. This is a case of private commercial activities generating *positive environmental externalities*.
- 5. The tonnages diverted are seldom counted by the local authority and are therefore invisible.

## Value chain recycling in Botswana anno 2012

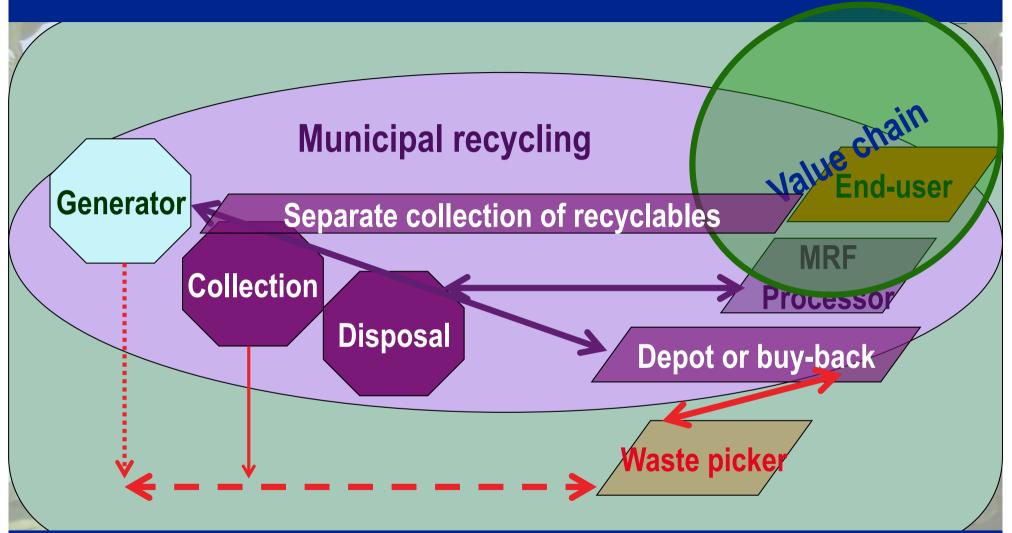


Waste pickers on the landfill sell to authorised, registered, private value chain businesses, who export to SA producers.

# What is going on in Botswana?

- 1. The South African value chain "pulls" the materials for which there is real economic demand.
- 2. There is a healthy private sector that wants materials.
- 3. The Councils authorise companies to "place" up to 5 pickers on one of the 14 regional landfills
- 4. The companies would like more pickers, but trust between public and private sector is underdeveloped.
- 5. There is clear space for more PPP activity around recycling and diversion of organic waste
- 6. The tipping fees are too low to drive these, but the markets provide a potential revenue stream.

## Framework: Municipal Recycling USA



The value chain sphere of influence shrinks; informal private recyclers are marginalised, may be hired at MRFs.

## Framework: Municipal Recycling:

- 1. Regionalised disposal is necessary, but expensive
- 2. Public and private landfills charge tipping fees also to local authorities and for their own waste.
- 3. Priced disposal creates need for *diversion frrom disposal*
- 4. Cities invest in separate collection and marketing expertise.
- 5. Investment in recycling = environmental/economic benefits
- 6. Tons diverted avoid disposal costs and save City money
- 7. Recycling revenues partly offset operating costs.
- 8. Value chains invest over the long term in new end-use
- 9. capacity to take advantage of larger supply of materials
- 10. This is the *municipal recycling* virtuous circle

#### Framework: EPR Recycling in the Netherlands



#### Framework: EPR Recycling in the Netherlands

- 1. The national government makes all the decisions.
- 2. Municipalities charge one integral fee that covers the cost of all activities composting, recycling, sweeping, disposal.
- 3. Recyclables and compostables are banned from landfills.
- 4. The government makes arrangements with producers for end-of life management, recycling, marketing .
- 5. Local authorities are required by national law to offer source separation of organics and recyclables.
- 6. The recycling is paid for by EPR point-of-purchase fees.
- 7. Each tonne valorised saves the local authority money, by allowing more efficient collection and reducing risks.

#### Framework: EPR in Costa Rica for E-Waste

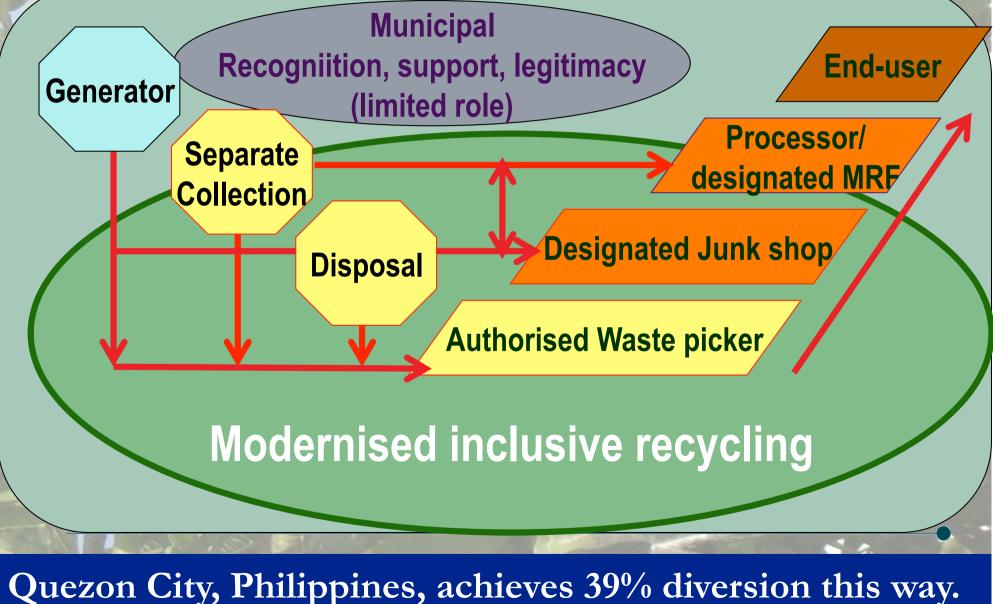


collection system via points of sale, negotiates markets.

#### Framework: EPR E-Waste Recycling in Costa Rica

- 1. The EPR decisions are made by a multi-stakeholder "technical committee" with full participation of producers
- 2. The collection system is voluntary for households and local authorities are free to co-operate with it or not.
- 3. The E-waste system supports and co-operates with municipal and NGO recycling centres "centros de acopio."
- 4. After a 6-year process, the stakeholders convinced the ministries to pass a law.
- 5. Unlike the Netherlands, value chain recycling and producer responsibility operate side by side .
- 6. The recycling is paid for by producers directly and through some type of point-of-purchase fees.

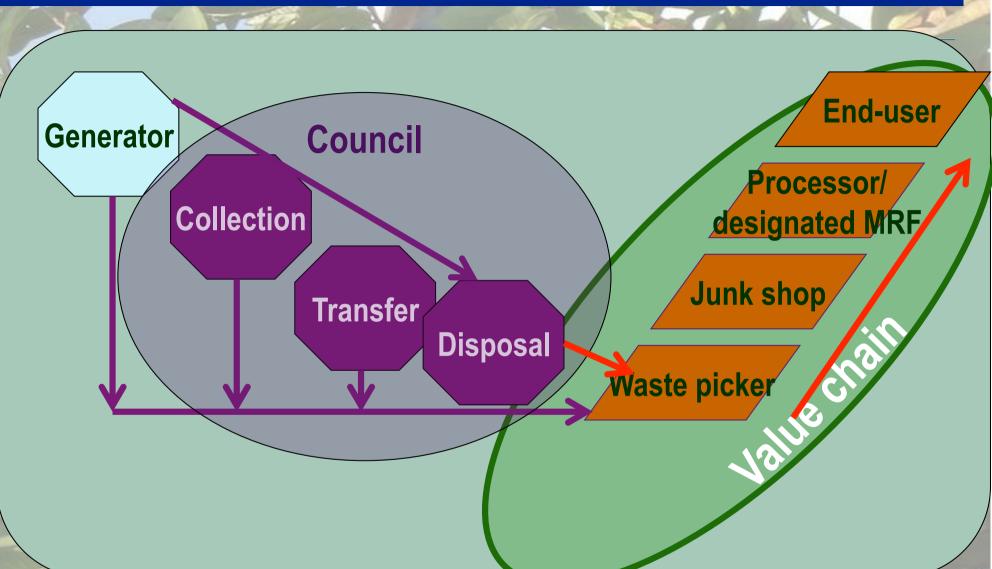
# Framework: inclusive recycling – India, Brazil, Philippines, Egypt, other middle-income countries



#### Framework: Inclusive Recycling:

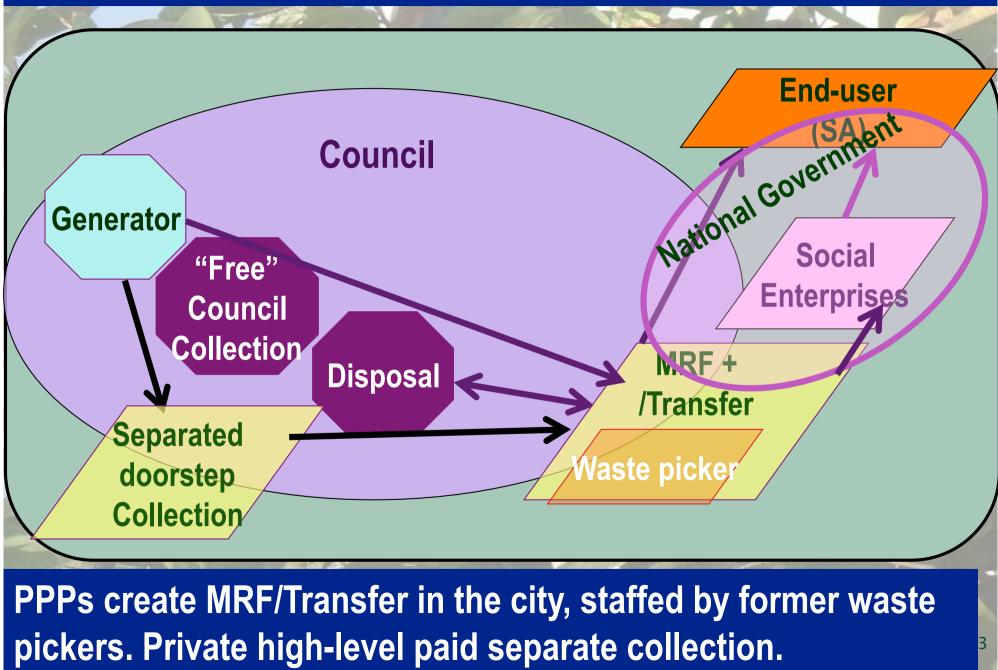
- 1. Priced disposal isn't (politically) possible
- 2. Valorisation "centre of gravity" is in the private value chain, without cost to municipalities or government
- 3. Each tonne valorised saves the *household* money, by avoiding *collection/transport*.
- 4. Authorities gain positive externalities, benefits in terms of jobs, *environment & governance*
- 5. Municipality shares responsibility through recognition, insurance, authorisation, support to the value chain.
- 6. Formal and informal recyclers invest in operations, keep materials revenues, secure livelihoods.
- 7. The vicious circle is avoided

# **PPP type 1: Inclusive Recycling**

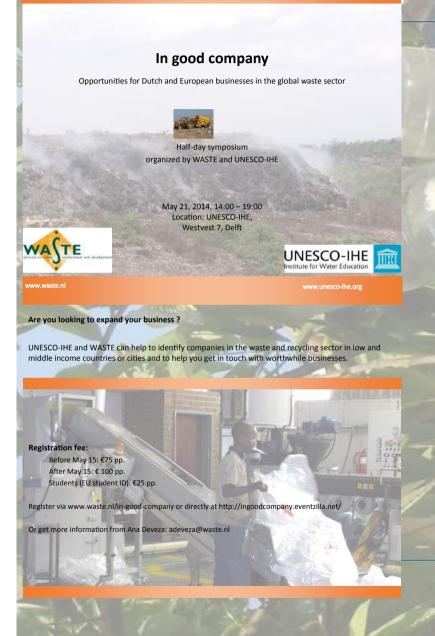


Council continues to manage the waste side, supports the value chain to manage all valorisation and recovery.

# **PPP type 2: ISWM Recycling**



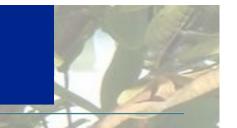
## **A Small PPP Advertisement**



We are putting these PPP Ideas into practice in a half-day workshop in the Netherland on May 21. If you will be in the Netherlands, feel invited. If you are a solid waste or recycling specialist from a low- or middleincome country, we invite you to make a 3-minute video message to the businesses assembled there. If either interests you, please see me after the session.

--Thanks

#### **Discussion:**



- 1. What do the private and business sector perceive as the key barriers vis-a-vis enabling conditions in realizing successful partnerships with developing municipalities?
- 2. Are there successful business models involving European private sector in developing municipalities? What important lessons they can offer? Thank-you!

<ascheinberg@antenna.nl>