Need for adoption of SWM byelaws in Zanzibar

Swati Singh Sambyal
Programme Manager
Environmental Governance (Waste Management)
Centre for Science and Environment
Existing municipal byelaws
Zanzibar Municipal Council Act, No. 3 Of 1995

• The Zanzibar Municipal Council (Sewerage, Drainage and Solid Waste) By-laws (Made under Section 37 (1)(i) and (vii)) notified in 1995.

Using part of Zanzibar Housing Corporation Act, 2014
Major provisions of Zanzibar Municipal Council Act, No. 3 Of 1995

• Council responsible for door to door collection from HHs or from collection points
• Occupier to pay user charge
• Responsibility of generator to handover waste to door to door collection service or deposit at collection point (should not contain any clinical or HW at collection point)
• Council to collect a charge for collection of horticultural, garden, C&D waste from premises of occupier (on special request by occupier)
• Landfill fee to deliver solid waste at designated landfill site under the control of council
• Occupier to maintain cleanliness around the premises
General functions of Local Government Councils

• 26-(1) Without prejudice to the specific functions of each Local Government, generally Local Government Authorities shall perform the normal functions under sectoral laws, and guidelines in the area of their jurisdiction as follows:

✓ Under section 26(1)(d), keep clean all roads, streets, drainage systems, waste collecting area, markets and business centres, recreation areas, public toilet and other open or closed area used by general public and management of disposal sites and waste facilities;
Major gaps in existing bylaws

• No emphasis on segregation
• Focus entirely on collection and disposal
• No emphasis on processing of waste
• No emphasis on safe disposal
• Public awareness and behavior change: each household is a waste generator. Has to be part of the solution
How it affects?

Collection point right outside Hotel Maru Maru in Stone Town, everyone complains of stench and nuisance.
But we want this across Zanzibar

Segregate

Collection of segregated waste

Use compost to farm crops
Need to revise bylaws

To focus on the following:
• Operationalize segregation at source
• Strengthen collection and processing systems
• Develop decentralized systems for processing
• Impose user-fees and penalties for non-segregation
• Reduce dependence on landfills

*It is only then we can move from waste to resource management.*
Develop decentralized systems for processing: waste is not waste, but resource

- **Alleviate processing capacity**: With over 86 per cent of wet waste, and an agricultural predominant economy, wet waste can be composted and sold to farmers

- **Convert collection points to dry waste sorting stations** or decentralised composting centres, wherever space is available, give jobs to informal sector for maintenance.

- **Incentivise adoption of decentralized methods**
Contd...

• **Municipal councils to push bulk generators for decentralised processing**
  ✓ Three star and above hotels and restaurants having >50 seating capacity to have a Zero Waste Policy, to compulsorily treat wet waste at source.
  ✓ Schools, Colleges, Educational Institutions, Government Institutions to compulsorily adopt decentralized waste management.

• **Create market linkages for compost**
Contd...

• Spot check and compliance in commercial areas: Municipal councils shall number commercial centres to spot check segregation and levy fines in-case of non-compliance.

• Landfill tax: In order to reduce dependence on land, and disincentivise dumping in land, all local authorities shall create a system of landfill tax within three years.
What will make Zanzibar the cleanest island?

• Landfills are not the answer
• Segregate, segregate, segregate
• Charge and penalize
• Informal is critical
• Re-design contracts
• Good management is the issue
• Have bylaws to support all this
Group Discussion
How we take our work on bylaws forward?

- Working group to finalise bylaws?
- Timeline for completion and adoption of bylaws?
- Stakeholders engaged in this process?
- Any other suggestions
Thank You