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The Need for Good Governance to Implement Innovative Waste Management and Reduction Strategies

Jose Antonio Puppim de Oliveira

Assistant Director &

**Senior Research Fellow at the Programme Sustainable
Urban Futures**

**United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies
(UNU-IAS), www.ias.unu.edu**



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This presentation

- Introduction
- Governance and waste management
- Cases I and II (informal recyclers and industrial waste management) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Policy Lessons



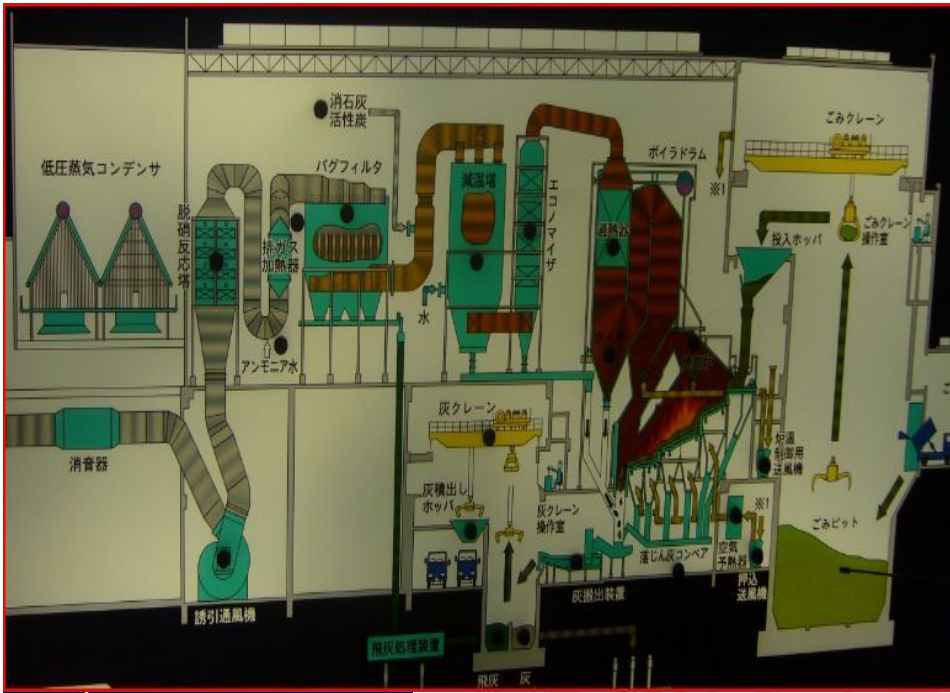
Trends

- Increase in consumption and lack of space for storage and/or treatment,
- Increase in externalities (urbanization),
- Waste kinds and became a commodity at the local and global level,
- Appearance of different kinds of organizations and specialists.



Contrast

- In rich countries policies consider the best technologies for the collection, transportation, storage of garbage...
- Governments subsidize or citizens/firms can afford recycling or proper treatment/disposal...



- ... while in the poor countries, policies should also examine the actors that subsist from the garbage, the garbage recyclers and the rest of the chain.
- Governments and citizens/firms (SMEs) generally cannot afford the appropriate option for waste management



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Quote from the BP 3

- “Resource-waste cycle involves various stakeholders such as community and community based organizations, civic communities, urban and rural local bodies, research and academia, service/technology/equipment providers, investors, regulators and policy makers to name a few. **Unless these stakeholders dialogue on a common platform, addressing the issues related “resource and waste” over life cycle or “systems” perspective, an integrated approach cannot be implemented.**”



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Governance and Waste Management

- Many opportunities to improve effectiveness in waste reduction and management in LDCs,
- Governments and state organizations are important, but need coordination within governments/sectors and other sectors of the society,
- Win-win (eco-eco) situations exist, but there are institutional obstacles.



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Some Institutional Obstacles for Innovation in WM

- lack of information on how to recycle, reuse and reduce,
- lack of collective action to increase scale of collection,
- informality of the recycling sector,
- lack of trust on public agencies and corruption
- Redistribution of C&B



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Case 1 – Recyclers





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Government Discourses towards Recyclers

- Ignore
- See them as a problem to the formal waste system
- Try to organize them (cooperatives) to improve their conditions,
- But still need to integrate them in the formal waste management system (??)



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The government's support in Rio de Janeiro

1. The first governmental policies supporting collectors in Rio de Janeiro city were created in 1993 named “**Collectors’ Cooperatives Program**” [Programa de Cooperativa de Catadores].
 - **Coordination and support:** the City, NGOs and buyers.
 - **Space:** granted by the City (with electric installation, sanitation, and offices).
 - **Equipment (presses, weight scales, etc.):** supplied by the buyers.
 - **Management:** performed by local leaders without interference of the mayor.
 - **Obligations:** contributions as social security, as well as others.
 - **Recognition.** Recognizes the recycler as profession



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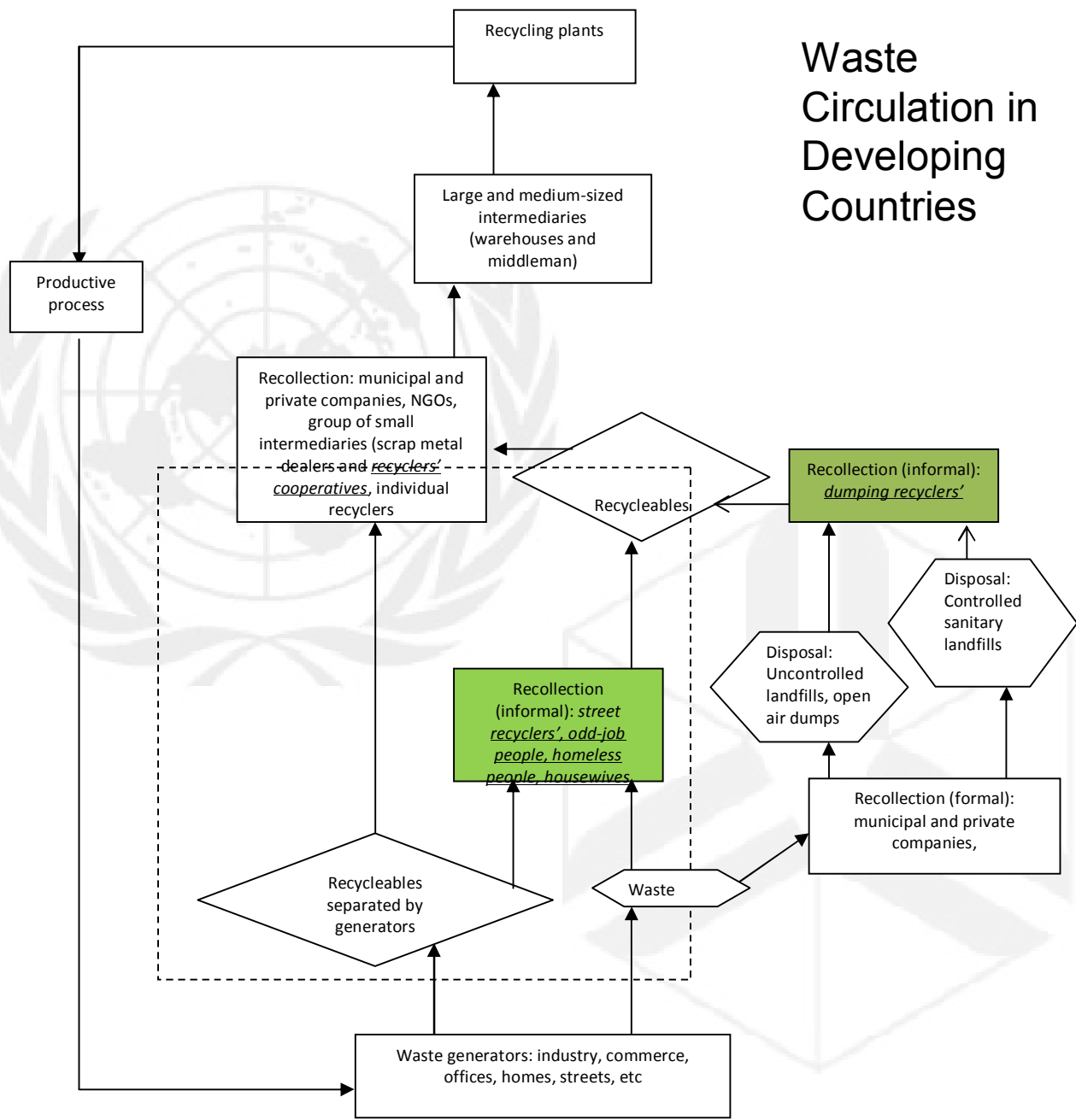
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Waste Circulation in Developing Countries





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Lessons

- Change in the “semantics” of garbage did not improve recyclers’ economic situation,
- The new forms of organization did not translate into better incomes for its member (more costs, routine, lack of power and dependency from other actors in the chain, etc),
- Continued existence of formal and informal systems,
- Appearance of other organizations led to more competition.



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Case II – Industrial Waste



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Industrial Waste

- Companies, particularly SMEs, in developing countries face enormous challenges to establish proper waste management initiatives and promote eco-efficiency, as there is no efficient and effective public waste management system,
- Recycling could increase the efficiency and be profitable. We estimated that the commercialization of byproducts or waste has a potential of more than US\$ 77 millions per year, in the state of Rio de Janeiro
- However, as in many developing countries, Brazilian companies face a series of obstacles that impede this potential is fully achieved.



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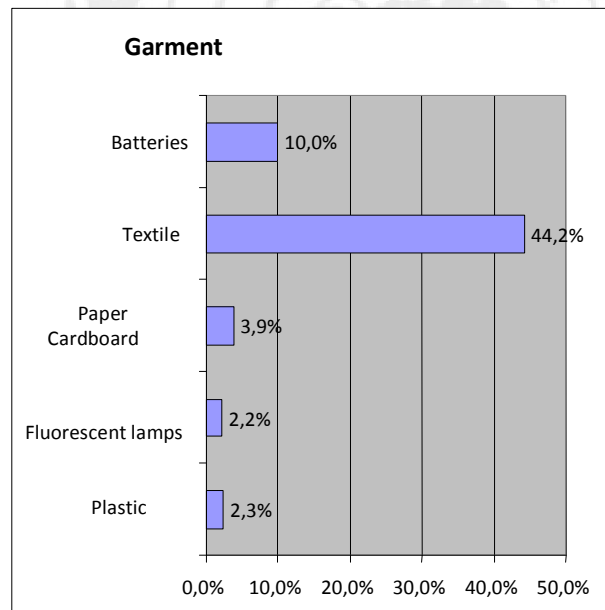
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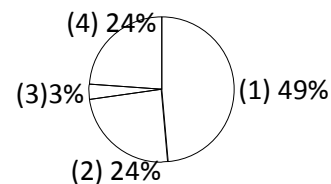
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The research

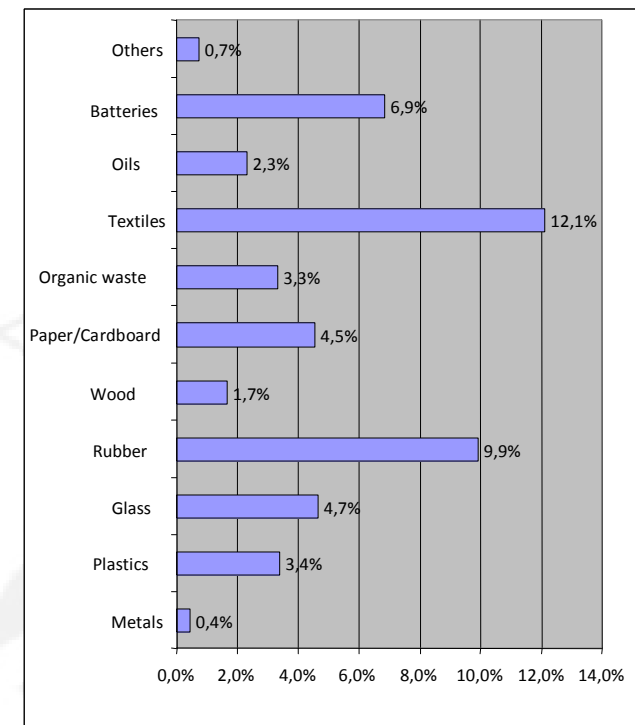
Study of the political economy of waste in the different industrial sectors and regions in the state of Rio de Janeiro



Destination of Solid Waste



- 1 Same municipality
- 2 – Other municipality in the State
- 3 – Other state
- 4 – Do not know



Serrana Region



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Lessons

- Actions should be focused on the features of industrial sectors, municipalities and regions
- Synergy with sectorial and regional actors can improve coordination and increase scale
- Lack of information can plunder initiatives for waste management
- Informality can undermine some waste management initiatives
- Regulatory bodies are not prepared to interact with regulated firms smoothly



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Example: Cluster Approach

- Organize small firms in the same sector and/or in the same region for increase scale and reduce costs,
- Interaction with governments and waste management firms/cooperatives are key
- Case of Metal-mechanics
- Market for recyclable materials



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Example: CTR NOVA IGUAÇU-Rio de Janeiro State (First CDM project registered)



Landfill



Recover of Vazadouro de Marambaia



Hospital waste treat



Construction recycling



Sludge treatment

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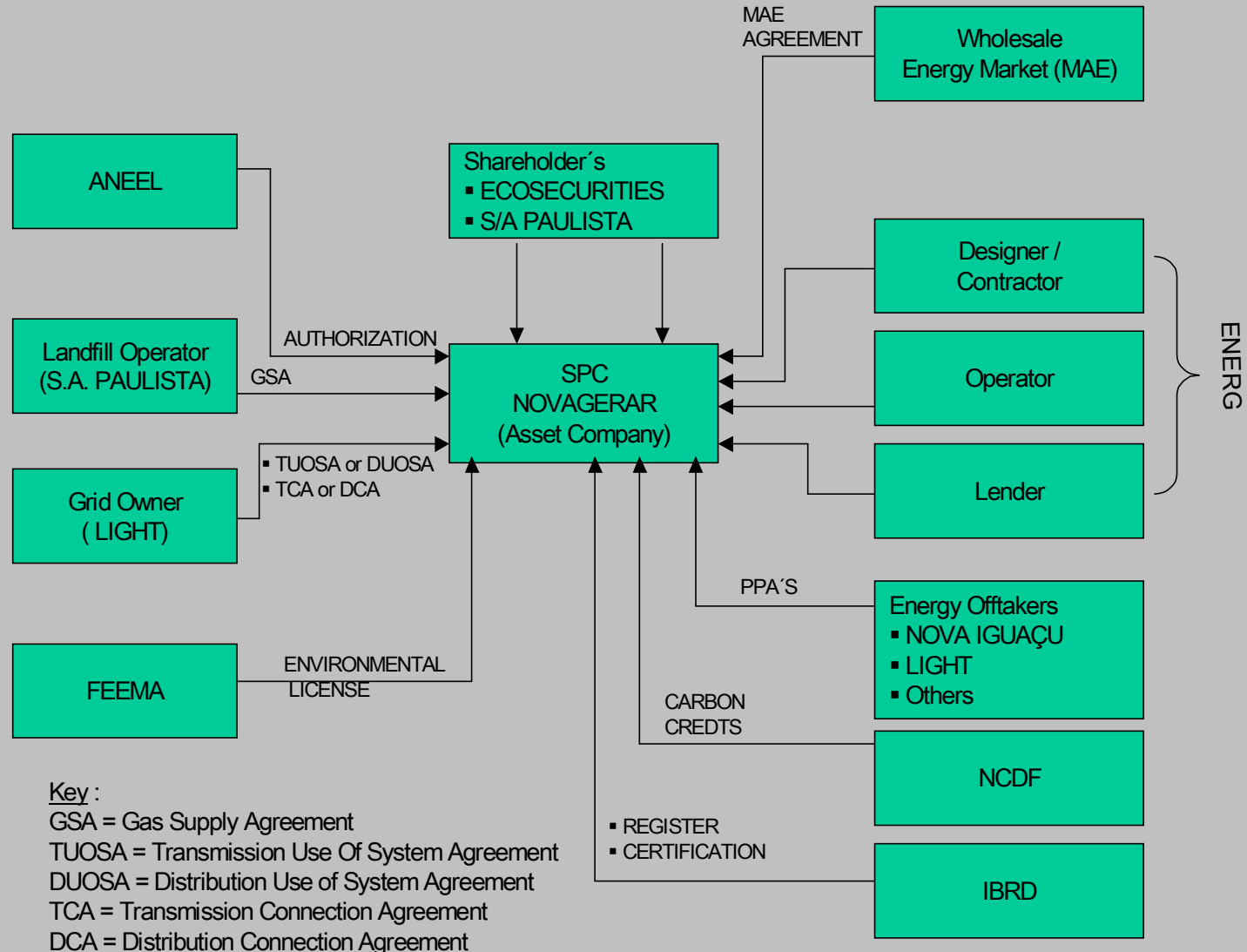
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Project





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Policy Messages

- Technological approaches are important, but solutions go beyond technology in LDCs,
- Organizational approaches are not enough (Case I), as governance goes beyond individual organizations,
- Solutions go beyond governments, but they are key to shape outcomes (and roles may differ),
- Economics is fundamental, though not enough,
- Concession contracts can be key to create incentives to different actors,
- Informal organizations should be given opportunity to participate in the formal system,
- The best solution can change according to the features of the locality,
- Cooperation among different governments (same and different levels)
- Need to understand the local political economy in more details to propose viable solutions in the long term.



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Thank you for your attention!!

Jose Antonio Puppim de Oliveira

Assistant Director & Senior Research Fellow

United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

6F International Organizations Center, Pacifico-Yokohama

1-1-1 Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku

Yokohama 220-8502 Japan

Tel: +81-45-221-2307

Fax: +81-45-221-2302

Email: puppim@ias.unu.edu

Website: www.ias.unu.edu