

On Waste Management

Economic growth, urbanization, and industrialization have led to rapid increase in the volume and type of waste worldwide, posing a serious threat to public health and the environment vital for human survival. The question of effective waste management for sustainable development is now a major challenge facing all countries, developing countries in particular.

Waste has the dual properties of "pollution" and "resource". Its proper utilization can both reduce pollution and save resources. Waste management under the 3R principles of reduce, reuse and recycle is an important guarantee for sustainable development. Yet most developing countries lack the technology and financial resources for the recycling, re-utilization and environment-friendly treatment of waste.

As indicated in the SG's report, the various initiatives taken by governments and international organizations in this regard fail to meet the need of developing countries in funding, technology, and capacity building. The report suggests that building partnerships is an effective means to help those countries achieve sustainable waste management. In this regard, UNEP has suggested a "Global Partnership for Waste management" and ECOSOC is also planning for an international partnership. My question is: what specific measures will be taken under those partnerships to help developing countries address the financial and technological difficulties they face in waste management?