

1      Environmental Information Utilization and Requirements in  
2      Solid Waste Management Organisations Strictly as per the  
3      compliance and regulations of

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8      **Abstract**

9      The study among other things investigated the availability and accessibility of environmental  
10 information to their information requirements and the sources consulted. A descriptive survey  
11 design was adopted for the study. A purposive sampling technique was used to select the  
12 sample and method produced 205 respondents that consisted of 185 policy implementers (P.I)  
13 and 20 policy formulators (P.E). A total of one hundred and forth seven cases were finally  
14 analysed which included 16 policy formulators (8

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16      *Index terms*— local community, rural tourism, perception, sustainable tourism.

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20      Abstract -The study among other things investigated the availability and accessibility of environmental  
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22 adopted for the study. A purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample and method produced  
23 205 respondents that consisted of 185 policy implementers (P.I) and 20 policy formulators (P.E). A total of  
24 one hundred and forth seven cases were finally analysed which included 16 policy formulators (8% of the total  
25 sample) and 131 policy implementers (71% of the total sample). Two research questions addressed in the study  
26 were analysed using descriptive statistics such as percentage and frequency counts. The findings revealed that  
27 both the policy formulators and implementers consulted environmentalrelated journals and publications from  
28 international organizations such as UNESCO, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, and World Bank. However, both the  
29 policy formulators and implementers rarely consult important government documents.

30      **2 I.**

31      BACKGROUND he concern about the quality of the environment has been heightened over the past two decades,  
32 due to the strange manifestation around the globe, which include; ozone layer depletion as a results of global  
33 warming, climatic changes and resultant health hazards. The Brundtland Report of 1987 defined the environment  
34 of man as being consisting of the natural environment (including man made landscape). Man's life relies on the  
35 environment for survival because every act of living utilizes one resources or the other from the environment  
36 either for basic living exercises or as input of production. For too long, the society has taken the environment for  
37 granted, utilizing resources rather than conserving it. This has resulted into environmental problems now calling  
38 for special attention. These problems related to soil and wind erosion, air and water pollution, and those arising  
39 from drought, agricultural activities, transport development and road building, mining and industrialization, etc.

40      The case for a clear understanding of the physical environment; land, water and air in which man operates  
41 can not be made too strongly, as observed by ??EST ( 1991 ), because the more sound the understanding of the

### 4 III. THE PROBLEMS WITH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

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42 environment is, the more effectively it can be put at the service of human beings. There is, therefore, a need to  
43 educate people, especially at grassroot level to be aware of their responsibility for nurturing and wisely utilizing  
44 the environment and taking urgent steps towards resorting environmental balance wherever such balance has  
45 been upset.

46 The interdependency of man with or within the earth's ecosystem according to Okorodudu-Fubara (1998) is  
47 obviously fundamental to human existence. It is, therefore, a must for man to live in harmony within the earth's  
48 ecosystem because the components of the earth's ecosystem cannot function in disunity. Okorodudu-Fubara  
49 (1998) further stated that, in the awake of scientific and technological advancement, man has greatly intruded  
50 on the supporting web of the environment, which has continued to threaten the very existence of man. The  
51 environment must, therefore be secured if the survival of man is to be secured, and there must be regulation  
52 of man's activities regarding the abuse of the natural environment in order to ensure a reasonably harmonious  
53 and healthy relationship with the environment. The United Nation Environment Data Report of 1994 stated  
54 that, since the advent of industrial times, human activities have resulted in the release of chemical contaminants  
55 into the biosphere and have become major agents of environmental change on global, regional and local scale.  
56 Issues such as green house effect, global warming and stratosphere ozone depletion have dominated environmental  
57 discuss in the past, and more regularly is the localized environmental pollution problem such as trace elements and  
58 organochlorine contamination which have even reached an extent which can be described as global occurrence.

59 Consequence upon the rate at which environmental degredation occurs and the attendant concerns at abating  
60 the rate at which the environment is being destroyed, environmental issues have assumed a global discuss. It has  
61 become a priority on the World's political and economic agenda with remarkable impact in lifestyles, investments  
62 and religion ??Umoren, 1995).

63 In recognition of these problems, according to Okorodudu-Fubara (1998) many international conferences were  
64 held, new treaties and conventions were proposed, and the need for regulatory power over the environment at inter-  
65 governmental levels were stated T Global Journal of Human Social Science Volume XII Issue I Version I frequently.  
66 A number of international programmes were put in place. The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World  
67 Meteorological Organisation (WMO) began a global programme to monitor pollution levels. The United Nation  
68 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) also launched a major scientific programme directed  
69 towards the problems of man and the biosphere' the international conference of environmental problem held at  
70 Stockholm in June 1972 culminated into the establishment of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).  
71 The UNEP in collaboration with other international bodies such as the International Union for Conservation of  
72 Nature Resources (IUCN) and the World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature have published a lot of data reports on  
73 the environment and have evolved strategies for the rational use of the environment.

74 The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, otherwise  
75 referred to as the Earth Summit, captured the growing consensus and dramatically accelerated the momentum  
76 for a drastic change in people's environment more than one hundred nations are trying to build environmental  
77 concerns into their planning processes and in about half of those nations substantial changes in policy and  
78 investment priorities are evident.

## 79 3 II. ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION AND SOLID 80 WASTE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS

81 The problems of solid waste management in Nigeria have been catalogued by Sridhar and Ojediran (1983),  
82 Federal Ministry of Housing and Environment (1982) and Wahab (1998). These include: lack of meaningful  
83 waste management strategy; lack of public awareness concerning waste recycling practices, economic value of  
84 wastes and the effect of improper disposal of waste both on the people and physical environment. In the same  
85 vein, Ayodele, (1997) categorized solid waste management problems into technical, institutional, financial and  
86 sustainable/human aspects. The problems identified, among others, include the inadequacy and poor maintenance  
87 of refuse vans and equipment, role conflict between state and local government, lack of continuity of governance  
88 with attendant shift in policies, structures and focus. The human/sustainability problems identified in the paper  
89 are lack of environmental awareness and poor attitude of people to waste management practices. Furthermore,  
90 as part of many problems militating against waste management practices, Babajide (1998) and Taiwo (1998)  
91 also identified lack of reliable data on waste generation. It was also observed by Okpala (1994) that waste are  
92 not really disposed of in Nigeria, but are transferred from one location to another where their nuisance value  
93 is thought to be less. Sridhar et al ??1983), ??ohnson (1991) and Ologhobo (1994) listed the following among  
94 other things: communicable diseases, contamination of the underground water, pollution of the landscape, urban  
95 flooding, unsightliness and odour nuisance as parts of the main environmental consequences of improper solid  
96 waste management practices.

## 97 4 III. THE PROBLEMS WITH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

99 The problems with solid waste management are two fold, the attitude of the populace in embracing the culture of  
100 clean and health environment on one hand and the declining effort of the government agencies in evolving

101 strategies to achieve same on the other hand. This therefore, raises the question on the information that  
102 is available and accessible to the environmental workers, who are involved in solid waste management. It is  
103 therefore, important to find out how information flow to the solid waste policy formulators and implementers,  
104 their information requirements, the sources they consult in order to meet their information requirements and  
105 their utilization capacity for environmental information for managing waste for a clean and health environment.  
106 Obviously, there exist a gap between the information requirement of solid waste policy formulators and  
107 implementers and their access to information presently. This seems to prevents them from effectively performing  
108 their functions of managing solid waste and creating public awareness. Environmental information on solid  
109 waste management seems rather scare for the policy formulators and implementers. This set of workers are thus  
110 incapacitated by the lack of access to information sources and the absence of information utilization capacity to  
111 enable them perform the task of managing waste and sensitizing the public on the importance for a clean and  
112 healthy environment. ??Iyepeku (1984) in an African Regional Centre for Information Science (ARCIS) seminar  
113 series gave some sets of assumption on effort at developing indicators for the assessment of information activities.

114 The assumption deals with the role of information. a) Assumptions about the role of information: ?  
115 Information is produced or collected to satisfy societal needs at all levels, recognizing that "society" is a  
116 heterogeneous concept and that information can be misused. ? Societal needs are satisfied through various  
117 kinds of activities, each of which require information as an input. These include, for example, education, policy  
118 ? Societal needs are also satisfied at different levels, from individuals through to global communities.

119 The information flowchart in figure ?? shows the pattern of information flow from the various sources available  
120 to the environmental workers at both the Federal, State and Local Government levels and the Public. It is  
121 expected that these information sources should reach out to the environmental agencies and vice versa. The  
122 Environmental Agencies themselves are also expected to reach out to the public and assess the feedback in terms  
123 of environmental knowledge and attitudinal change. KEY D = Dissemination of Information F = Feed Back Fig.  
124 ?? : Information flow chart between the information sources, the Environmental Agencies (Federal, State and  
125 Local Government) and the public

## 126 **5 IV. STATEMENT OF PROBLEM**

127 This study therefore investigated environmental information requirements, utilization and dissemination by  
128 policy formulators and implementers for solid waste management in Oyo State, Nigeria. Essentially, the study  
129 determined the environmental information requirements and utilization of policy formulators and implementers  
130 in solid waste management agencies in Oyo State.

## 131 **6 Global**

## 132 **7 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

133 The following specific objectives were addressed in the study.

134 1. To determine the information requirements of solid waste policy formulators and implementers in Oyo  
135 State. 2. To identify prevailing sources of environmental information for solid waste management availability to  
136 policy formulators and implementers.

137 VI.

## 138 **8 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

139 The following research questions were addressed in the study.

## 140 **9 INSTRUMENT**

141 A questionnaire was used in the collection of data for the study.

## 142 **10 X. PROCEDURE FOR DATA COLLECTION**

143 After the due processes of selecting the various organizations involved in the study, the researcher visited the  
144 organizations to establish the requisite functions and activities of the organizations concerned with solid waste  
145 management in Oyo State, Nigeria. The questionnaire were then administered to the solid waste as well as policy  
146 implementers in all the selected agencies. A total of two hundred and five questionnaires were administered on the  
147 respondents, however, one hundred and forty-seven of the questionnaires (which represent 72%) were recovered.  
148 The completed questionnaires were later collated and analysed.

## 149 **11 XI.**

## 150 **12 DATA ANALYSIS**

151 Data collected from this study was analysed using descriptive statistics. This being an essentially survey  
152 study, descriptive statistics of percentages, mean, etc constituted the main procedure for data analysis. Four  
153 categories of information requirements are presented to the two groups of respondents, the policy formulators

154 and implementers. It could be observed from the table that both the policy implementers 86.3% and formulators  
155 87.5% indicated that the area where environmental information is mostly required is enforcement of environmental  
156 laws and legislation. This is an indication that the two groups considered enforcement of environmental laws  
157 and legislations as their primary duties, which is just a very small aspect of solid waste management. This is  
158 followed by information requirements from environmental impact assessment of industries, with 77.9% and  
159 81.3% of the policy implementers and formulators respectively indicating information requirements in this area  
160 as very crucial. The policy formulators and implementers also indicate general information requirements from  
161 of proper handling of waste (P.I = 77.9%, P.F = 62.5%). Programme planning (P.I. = 52.7%, P.F. = 75%) and  
162 administration and supervision two groups also conformed information requirement in the area of recycling of  
163 waste for cost recovery as indicated by 78.6% of the policy implementers and 68.7% of the policy formulators.

164 **13 XII.**

165 **14 FINDINGS**

166 **15 January**

167 It could be observed from table 2 that environment related journals appear to be the most consulted materials  
168 by both the policy formulators and implementers consulted more publications that emanate from international  
169 organizations such as UNESCO, WHO, UNICEF and UNDP. The preference for consulting these publications  
170 more regularly, may be largely due to more current information, which they provide. World Bank Reports  
171 and UNEP publications were also policy formulators and implementers, publications from these agencies are  
172 considered very crucial to solid waste management in particular and environmental education in general.

173 Apart from the publications examined in table 2, it was also considered important to examine the documentary  
174 sources of information consulted by both the policy formulators and implementers for solid waste management.  
175 Key : N = Never, O = Occasion, R = Regularly.

176 It could be seen from table 3 that whereas the policy formulators indicated manuals, handbooks, data  
177 compilation and federal gazettes as the documentary sources most regularly consulted (59.25%) respectively,  
178 the policy implementers on the other hand indicated textbooks and monographs as the documentary sources they  
179 consulted more regularly (45.0%). It could also be observed from the table that the environmental policy  
180 formulators consulted more regularly conference proceedings (45.75%) as against their implementers, counterparts  
181 (22.1%). Furthermore, it is evidence from the table that a great majority of policy implementers never consulted  
182 some important government documentaries such as Hansard State House of Assembly (71.7%); Hansard of Senate  
183 and House of Representatives (58.7% respectively). On the other hand, it is interesting to note that the policy  
184 formulators. Actually consulted these government documents more than policy implementers. Documentary  
185 sources such as brochures and consultancy reports did not enjoy consultation by both the policy formulators and  
186 implementers on solid waste management.

187 **16 XIII.**

188 **17 CONCLUSION**

189 First and foremost, this study has been able to show that environmental information is very crucial in pinpointing  
190 environmental problem arising from improper solid waste management. Environmental information is also found  
191 to facilitate intervention for monitoring environmental policy concerning solid waste management as well as the  
192 general formulation of environmental policies and decisions. It is also apparent

193 **18 Global Journal of Human Social Science Volume XII Issue I  
Version I 2 46**

194 Environmental Information Utilization and Requirements in Solid Waste Management Organisations from the  
195 study that the concept of information as a resource for policy formulation is becoming more popular among the  
196 policy formulators and implementers. <sup>1 2</sup>

*[Note: Environmental Information Utilization and Requirements in Solid Waste Management Organisations  
formulation, research and development, personal needs, business decision-making, mass communication, public  
goods, and private goods.]*

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Solid Waste Management. TYPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION POLICY IMPLA

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PUBLICATION	POLICY IMPLE- MENTERS	POLICY FORMU- LATOR	R n(%)	POLICY FORMULATORS N n(%)	O n(%)	4(
(a)Journals			39(29.8)			
(b)Conference			21(16.0)			
Proceedings	N n(%)	O n(%)	16(12.2)			
(c)World Bank Reports	35(26.8)	57(43.5)	19(14.5)			
(d)UNEP Publications	59(45.1)	51(38.9)				
	75(57.2)	40(20.5)				
	62(47.3)	30(38.2)				
(e)World Resources	90(68.7)	31(23.7)	10(7.6)	6(37.5)	3(18.75)	7(43.75)
(f)UNEP Data Reports	74(56.5)	35(26.7)	22(16.8)	8(50.0)	8(50.0)	3(18.75)
(g)OECD States of Environment Reports	71(54.2)	42(32.1)	18(13.7)	8(50.0)	5(37.5)	3(18.75)
(h)UNICEP Publications	60(52.7)	43(32.8)	19(14.5)	9(56.25)	2(12.5)	6(37.5)
(i)UNDP Publications	60(45.8)	46(35.1)	25(19.1)		4(25.0)	4(25.0)
(j)DEVINDEX Africa	91(69.4)	26(19.8)	14(10.7)		3(81.75)	6(37.5)
(k)FEPA Publications	53(40.4)	41(31.3)	37(28.2)	7(43.75)	3(18.75)	6(37.5)
(l)ILED Publication	72(55.0)	41(31.3)	18(13.7)	9(56.25)	2(12.5)	5(31.25)
(m)UNESCO Publications	58(44.3)	55(42.0)	18(13.7)	4(25.0)	4(25.0)	8(50.0)
(n)WHO Publications	58(44.30)	55(42.0)	18(13.7)	4(25.0)	4(25.0)	8(50.0)
(o)UNICEF Publications	48(28.1)	48(36.6)	45(34.4)	5(31.25)	6(37.5)	5(31.25)

Figure 3: Table 2 :

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### 3

Sources	POLICY IMPLEMENTERS				POLICY FORMULATORS	
	N	N	N	N	N	N
	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)
Technical Reports	46(35.1)	64(48.9)	21(16.0)	7(43.7)	4(25.0)	5(31.3)
Text Book & Monographs	25(19.1)	47(35.0)	59(45.0)	5(31.25)	4(25.0)	7(43.75)
Conference Proceedings	47(35.9)	55(42.0)	29(22.1)	6(37.5)	3(18.75)	7(43.75)
Manuals, Handbooks & Data	38(29.0)	53(40.0)	40(30.5)	5(31.25)	2(12.5)	8(59.25)
Compilation						
Directories	68(51.9)	42(32.1)	21(10.0)	5(31.25)	6(37.5)	5(31.25)
Executive Briefs	77(58.8)	38(27.5)	18(13.7)	5(31.25)	5(31.25)	6(37.5)
Brochures	77(58.8)	36(27.5)	18(13.7)	10(62.5)	4(25.0)	2(12.5)
Abstracts & Bulletins	34(26.0)	72(34.9)	25(19.1)	4(25.0)	6(37.5)	6(37.5)
Bibliographies	59(43.1)	53(40.5)	19(14.3)	5(31.75)	6(37.5)	59(31.25)
Theses Dissertations	41(33.3)	62(47.3)	28(21.4)	8(50.0)	2(12.5)	6(37.5)
State Gazettes	41(33.3)	62(47.3)	28(21.4)	8(50.0)	2(12.5)	6(37.5)
Federal Gazettes	90(68.7)	30(22.9)	11(8.4)	8(50.0)	5(31.25)	3(18.75)
Hansard / State House of Assembly						
Hansard of House of Representative	90(68.7)	24(18.30)	17(13.0)	5(31.25)	7(43.75)	4(25.0)
Pamphlets, Posters, Leaflets, etc	33(23.2)	48(36.6)	50(38.6)	6(37.5)	5(31.25)	5(31.25)
Consultancy Reports	57(43.5)	44(33.6)	30(22.9)	9(56.25)	3(18.75)	4(25.0)
Personal correspondence	57(35.9)	42(32.1)	42(32.1)	8(50.0)	4(25.0)	4(25.0)
Government publications	45(34.4)	49(37.40)	37(28.2)	8(50.0)	3(18.25)	5(31.25)
Private Sector Bulletins	68(51.9)	38(29.0)	25(19.1)	7(43.75)	6(37.5)	5(31.25)
Newspaper & Magazines	51(38.9)	23(21.4)	52(39.7)	6(37.5)	5(31.25)	3(18.25)

Figure 4: Table 3 :



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