



Municipal Solid Waste Management in East Azerbaijan Province, Iran

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Abstract: East Azerbaijan province is located between the latitudes of 36°45' and 39°25' north and the longitudes of 45°05' and 48°21' east in the north-west of Iran. In East Azerbaijan Province the urban population increased from 3,326,000 to 3,603,000 in the period from 1996 to 2006. Well-organized procedures for solid waste handling have been established in some cities of the province, but in other cities it remains rudimentary. Unsegregated collection and open dumping of municipal solid wastes constitute major municipal solid waste management systems (MSWMSs) in this province. In some cities of this province separation of municipal solid waste is in the hands of scavengers. The MSWMSs in this province needs more operative infrastructure. Thus, this province needs design and implementation of modern MSWMSs as two pivotal tasks. This paper reviews the present status of MSWMSs in eight major cities of East Azerbaijan Province and outlines the principle guidelines and alternatives for MSWMSs.

Keywords: Municipal waste management, solid waste, chemical and physical characteristics

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