



WMRIG



Western Cape

THE WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INTEREST GROUP

Newsletter - October 2015

'Integrating the informal sector' workshop



WMRIG together with GreenCape hosted a morning workshop at the River Club on 8 October which focused on the vexing questions of whether and how to incorporate the informal sector into the formal waste management and recycling economy. A range of specialist researchers and speakers shared interesting insights from their studies and experiences, after which participants joined in discussion. The presentations will be available on the [GreenCape](#) and [IWMSA – WMRIG](#) websites in due course.

City wins SAPRO Recycled Product award

The SAPRO Trophy for the Recycled Product of the Year was recently awarded to the City of Cape Town and Mpac Plastic Containers for their Fifty/50 Wheelie Bin. These 240 litre refuse collection bins were made from damaged or inoperative wheelie bins, making them 50% recycled PE-HD with a 10-year guarantee.



Online marketplace for recycling material



Another waste materials online exchange platform, this one from RecycleConnect 'helps to transform commercial waste into value by converting one company's waste stream into useful materials for another.' Sellers and buyers are connected and RecycleConnect collects 10% commission of the sale for the first year and 5% thereafter. Visit: <http://www.recycleconnect.co.za>

Useful UK research into municipal recycling



UK non-profit organisation RECOUP recently released its 2015 findings on household plastics collection. These show for example: 400 out of 418 municipalities in the UK provide curbside recycling collection services; the average UK household uses nearly 500 plastic bottles a year but recycles just over 280 of them; 5.5 billion plastic bottles were not collected to be recycled by UK households; 64% of revenue generated from the sales of collected plastics goes to the contractor in some way; the average price of a clear PET bale is £200 per tonne, and natural HDPE £380; Nine countries in the EU are achieving above 90% recovery rates. See the full survey at: <http://www.recoup.org/>.

Online waste management customer/services portal

The beta version of an online waste management customer/services portal, designed and developed in Cape Town has been launched by Mogamad Rylands, previously financial manager of WasteMart and now managing director of Biome. It is aimed at servicing waste generators, assessors, processors and collectors nationally. See it at www.biome.za.com



The International Solid Waste Association together with the UN Environmental Programme have launched the first 'Global Waste Management Outlook'. It outlines a route map to formulating modern waste management systems in developing countries. A tool kit helps decision-makers elaborate their plans while building a case for financing from private and public capital. Download it from: <http://www.iswa.org/iswa-global-news-issue-37-october-2015/#c3764>

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