

Title: Institutionalization of recycling for efficient solid waste management : A case of Johor Bahru

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Abstract :

The potentials of recycling as an innovative approach to efficient solid waste management in both developed and developing countries are no longer a contentious issues. The dividing line seems to lie in the strategy. While the developed countries have evolved formal strategy in terms of planning, management and organization, the developing countries like Malaysia are yet to formulate and adopt a coordinated approach to recycling. Recycling in most" part of Malaysia has remained largely informal with scavengers and itinerant waste dealers being the major players. Hence, despite the abundant opportunities to recycle, the full benefits of recycling are yet to be exploited. This research adopts exploratory approach to study recycling experiences in selected developed and developing countries to understand the underlying problems of households recycling using Johor Bahru as a case study. Consequent upon the experiences, determinants of households response to recycling model was developed. Empirically, seven factors were identified to be significant determinant of household response to recycling. The socioeconomic status, environmental awareness, environmental consciousness, socio-economic assessment, operational convenience of programmes, recycling facility and intrinsic motivation. The research finding reveals that recyclers have higher socioeconomic status, more environmentally aware, more environmentally conscious, less responsive to economic reward and operational conveniences. Hence, it is imperative in planning recycling scheme to emphasize on educational programmes and policies that will sensitize the households environmental and recycling awareness, environmental consciousness and as well as foster operational convenience of recycling programmes.