

Institutional Challenges to Municipal Waste Management Service Delivery in South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper describes the link between inadequate waste service delivery and institutional arrangement challenges affecting municipal waste management service delivery in South Africa. Using secondary data from Statistics South Africa in relation to literature review, the study finds that there are no distinction between responsibilities and powers among levels of government; no clear definition of roles and responsibilities among municipal waste staff; lack of experience among waste staff; the existence of discrepancies between job specification and managerial staffs' qualifications; and the failure to consider parameters peculiar to specific waste location as some of the institutional challenges that resulted in poor waste service delivery in South Africa. This paper recommends a clear and elaborate job descriptions as practiced in the private sector; adequate training on legal provisions of waste management and sanitation rules; the establishment of a professional waste management association; and ensures that waste contractors adhere strictly to the requirements of their contract through effective monitoring.