Socio-economic and health impact assessment of municipal solid waste in the Niger Delta: A case study of Yenagoa Metropolis, Bayelsa State

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The problem posed by improper management of municipal solid wastes (MSW) is becoming alarming. e socio-economic and health impact assessment (SHIA) of MSW was carried out using questionnaires and interviews. Emerging results shows that out of 400 questionnaires were dispatched of which only 95.75% (379) were returned. Out of the respondents 42.22% (160) were female, while 57.78% (219) were male, with predominant age bracket in the ranged of 22-45 years. Marital status showed that 41.10% (163) are married, 48.11% are single, while 10.83% (43) are either divorced or separated. Survey of educational status of the respondents indicated 4.99% (17) had no formal education, 7.65% (29) had rst school leaving certi cates, 25.60% (97) had diploma and NCE, 19.52% (74) were university graduates, while 30.61% (116) and 12.14% (46) were postgraduate and advanced degrees holders, respectively. As at the time of this study US$1=N375, notwithstanding, 58% of the all respondents are either employed or self-employed. In terms of income earning, 23.93% earn less than Nigerian Naira 20,000; 29.00% earn between 20,000-29,999; 21.00% earn between 30,000-49.999, 15.37% earn between 50,000-99.999, while 10.83% earn above 100,000. Based on interviews from waste scavenger the most economical viable wastes are scrap metals and plastic/rubber. Unfortunately, there was no reported case of waste segregation, while only 32.75% bag their waste and have proper temporary waste containers, 9.82% throw their waste away, 4.53% bury their waste, 18.40% burn their waste, 34.51% use waste vendors. Predominant vectors associated with the waste are Cockroaches, rats and ies. Based on our nding we therefore urge Government to enact laws that will deter precarious management of waste, encourage waste recycling and segregation and provide waste treatment facilities in order to mitigate the adverse impacts posed by MSW streams.

References

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