

Role of scavenging in waste management processes as a sustainable development cri...

[Business](#), [Management](#)



The problems associated with scavenging are so vast that the position of scavengers needs to be reconsidered. As much as the importance of scavengers should not be under-looked, it is true that serious measures need to be taken.

The major role that scavengers perform is, the reduction of the amount of waste, as they collect and sell some of the waste materials thereby encouraging recycling. They also provide the work force that is needed in garbage collection. This acts as the major source of their livelihood.

However, when waste is managed in a proper way, there is likelihood of job creations for the scavenging class thus reduction of their need for collecting and selling the waste materials. This lowers the poverty rate and reduces the direct problems that are associated with the waste. The waste-associated problems to the scavengers include low hygiene, risks of fire outbreaks and general dangers including disease outbreaks.

Sustainable Development in waste management is achieved by the direct involvement of the scavenging class in policy and decision making, and encouragement of their participation. Creation of opportunities that leads to the employment of the scavengers is the most sustainable way. When employed as part of the waste management team, their income level would rise as the poverty state falls. Their direct participation in the process of waste management would also be utilized fully as they are aware about the recycling and reuse of such waste.

I strongly believe that the role of scavengers in waste management is very important that their inclusion in decision making and participation leads to Sustainable development.