



Solid Waste Management project in Sierra Leone

For many years, Sierra Leone has been tormented by civil wars and conflicts. As in many countries with a similar history, the physical and social infrastructure has been destroyed through these conflicts. After a peace agreement was signed in the year 2000, reintegration and reconstruction processes began. Many of these reconstruction initiatives apply conventional approaches and may not be the most resource efficient, or of low environmental impact.

In the reconstruction processes it is important to tackle such issues as poverty and livelihoods as well as sustainability. The natural resources of the world are being depleted and their procurement as well as intensive human activities, emissions, and waste are worsening the consequences of climate change. Therefore, it is important that the recycling of natural resources in post-conflict areas is addressed.

This project aims to investigate the possibilities of introducing an environmentally and socially sustainable waste management and recycling system in post-conflict countries. This will be done through a baseline study, carried out in Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Map of Sierra Leone

The local INUG chapters of Uppsala and Stockholm are collaborating in this project that is financially supported by the Folke Bernadotte fund.

Two team members will be travelling to Sierra Leone in February 2010 to study the waste management system and discuss current needs and practices with local stakeholders. Potential solutions will hopefully be found through best-practice examples from other developing countries. In Sweden, a thorough literature study is carried out by the rest of the team to find applicable solutions to the problems in the waste management system



Some of the current waste management practices in Freetown

The study will result in a report, describing the current situation and making recommendations for future solutions. This report will be used to raise awareness among stakeholders in Sierra Leone as well as in Sweden and will also be used as a baseline for a future implementation project in Freetown.

Contact

Project coordinator:

Maria Thomtén, INUG Uppsala

Email: maria.thomten@ uppsala.inug.nu

Phone number: 070-2060646