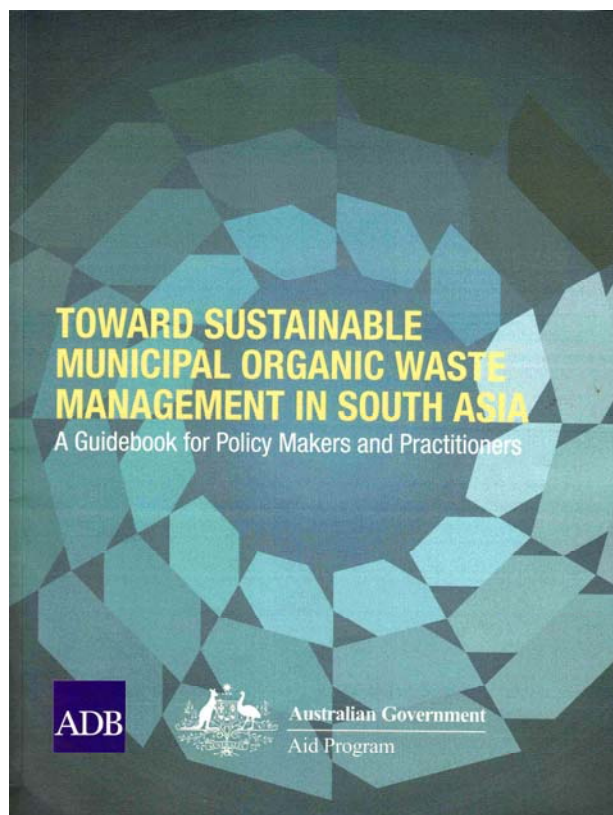


Toward Sustainable Municipal Organic Waste Management in South Asia

This book is published by the Asian Development Bank and the Australian Agency for International Development. Waste Concern has made significant contribution during the preparation of this book. The primary objective of this publication is to facilitate knowledge transfer to policy makers and city managers throughout South Asia by identifying, documenting, and disseminating good practices and innovative operational approaches for improving the management of municipal organic (biodegradable) waste. It reflects literature review and field research conducted during 2009–2011, and summarizes key findings of three national workshops held in Nepal (2–3 April 2010), Sri Lanka (6 April 2010), and India (15 May 2010), and a regional workshop in Bangladesh (2–3 August 2010).

The massive scale of urbanization in South Asia is expected to create a surge in demand for solid waste services. An enormous opportunity exists to improve upon the “business-as-usual” approach of uncollected waste and open dumping witnessed throughout the region and to convert this waste into value-added resources, such as alternative fuels and agricultural fertilizers. As approximately 70% of the region’s municipal waste stream is currently organic (biodegradable) waste, methods such as composting, anaerobic digestion, and conversion to refuse-derived fuels offer a more sustainable course of action. This report aims to align South Asian cities with ADB’s Strategy 2020 for environmentally sustainable growth and livable cities. It provides a useful management resource, identifying key issues and pointing policy makers, city managers, and practitioners to improved waste treatment technologies.



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