

**For Release
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Waste Atlas shows how the world handles its refuse

D-Waste | November 13, 2013 — More than half of the world's population does not have access to a regular refuse collection services, according to the first global survey of waste management.

The Waste Atlas 2013 Report says that each member of the world's population produces an average of about 270 kg every year, but that only 15.4 percent of this refuse is recycled in official schemes.

For every dollar spent in the global marketplace, about 47 grams of waste is produced—with worldwide municipal solid waste generation totaling about 1.9 billion tons per year. At least 37% of this waste is disposed of at dump sites.

The report, published by the Waste Atlas partnership, is based on data from 162 countries and 1,773 cities and brings together official statistics and information from a community of experts worldwide.

The Waste Atlas partnership is a non-commercial initiative involving D-Waste consultants, the University of Leeds, the International Solid Waste Association, GIZ/SWEEP-Net, the Waste to Energy Research Council (WTERT) and the Solid Waste Network of Asian and Pacific Islands.

The partnership, which is aimed at providing free access to reliable waste management data through global collaboration and scientific crowdsourcing, has created a web-based interactive waste management map utilizing 59,000 files and documents. The map is available at www.atlas.d-waste.com and already, besides profiles for cities and countries, it includes data for more than 1800 facilities worldwide.

The major outcomes of the of the Waste Atlas 2013 Report are also published through the mobile application "Waste Atlas" available at the App Store (soon it will be published for Android systems too).

Mr Antonis Mavropoulos, CEO of D-Waste and founder of the Waste Atlas partnership calls for greater participation "We want to involve thousands of scientists and

professionals in order to create a global community that will generate a unique crowdsourcing and continuously updated web map with all the waste management data available".

According to David Newman, president of the International Solid Waste Association (www.iswa.org) "Waste Atlas gives a quick insight into the state of development of many nations and from this we can understand what an important factor waste is today in ensuring sustainable development. The Atlas changes the game in terms of the quality of information available in one single source."

In his message Mr Markus Luecke, GIZ/SWEEP-Net Team Leader (<http://www.sweep-net.org/>) emphasizes that "Waste Atlas allows for benchmarking and provides a platform where countries can present their state and pace of development in this important sector. SWEEP-Net therefore is ready to contribute in making Waste Atlas a success."

According to Nickolas Themelis, WtERT Chair (<http://www.seas.columbia.edu/earth/wtert/>) "The Waste Atlas is an ambitious undertaking to manage the oceans of waste management data generated in different parts of the world. After only one year of intensive effort, this project is on its way to accomplishing this goal".

Dr Costas Velis, Lecturer in Resource Efficiency Systems in the University of Leeds' School of Civil Engineering and one of the authors of the report, said: "This is the first time that we have got a comprehensive and reliable picture of global waste generation. The picture that emerges is of huge diversity and it reminds everyone the importance of waste management as a global issue, with global environmental and health impacts"

For more information, press only:

Mr Antonis Mavropoulos and Dr Costas Velis are available for interview.

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Waste Atlas Website: www.atlas.d-waste.com

The Waste Atlas 2013 Report is available at :

<http://www.atlas.d-waste.com/Documents/WASTE%20ATLAS%202013%20REPORT.zip>

	<p>D-Waste</p> <p>http://www.d-waste.com</p>	<p><i>D-Waste</i> is all about knowledge for waste management and recycling. It is a global network of experts that are used to face challenges and walk in the red thin line between applied research and top level consulting. With more than 20 years of experience in waste management and consulting services and with presence in 25 countries in 4 different continents the firm provides services to governments, development agencies, municipalities and private sector companies. D-Waste utilizes the most advanced web and mobile technologies and delivers innovative apps for better waste management and recycling purposes.</p>
 UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS	<p>University of Leeds</p> <p>http://www.leeds.ac.uk/</p>	<p><i>University of Leeds</i>, a world-leading institution, delivering research and education of global impact, actively supports the creation, operation and dissemination of Waste Atlas. Waste and resource management expertise within the School of Civil Engineering, focusing on cross-disciplinary innovation for closing the materials loop and renewable energy generation, will contribute to data provision, analysis and overall scientific robustness of Waste Atlas.</p>
	<p>International Solid Waste Association (ISWA)</p> <p>http://www.iswa.org/</p>	<p><i>The International Solid Waste Association (ISWA)</i> is a global, independent and non-profit making association, working in the public interest to promote and develop sustainable waste management.</p>
	<p>GIZ/ Sweep-Net</p> <p>http://www.sweep-net.org</p>	<p><i>GIZ/SWEEP-NET</i> is a regional network which works on institutionally anchoring the principles of sustainable and integrated solid waste management in Middle East - North Africa region countries and beyond, supports Waste Atlas by providing waste management data on regional, city, or country level utilizing the network's scientific and professional resources.</p>
	<p>Global Wtert Council (Wtert)</p> <p>www.wtert.org</p>	<p><i>Global Wtert Council (Wtert)</i> is an academic-industry organization consisting of fourteen national groups; it brings together engineers, scientists, and managers from universities, industry, and government with the objective of advancing sustainable waste management worldwide.</p>
<p>SWAPI</p>		<p><i>SWAPI</i>, the Society of Solid Waste Management Experts in Asia and Pacific Islands is an organization which is rapidly developed at the Asian Pacific Region, where more than half of the global population is situated, promotes Waste Atlas at the Asian Pacific and encourages its members to provide local waste management data.</p>