

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Any Community, no matter how rich or poor, has two fundamental waste streams - domestic refuse and its own body wastes.

This Report demonstrates that it is technically feasible and economically viable to stabilise large quantities of unsorted and non-pulverised domestic refuse with primary sewage, particularly night soil or activated sludge, by means of a process of forced aeration composting.

With this method the composting process is accelerated to a mere twenty one days, provided the internal temperatures of the windrows (static piles) are properly controlled and monitored, the end product can be used without fear of producing infection. All the weed seeds, pathogens and ascaris worm cysts would have been devitalised.

It is important to remember that even if all the compost produced in the process cannot be used or sold, the two obnoxious waste streams, namely domestic refuse and raw sewage and sludges, would have been effectively stabilised at a comparatively low cost, using a technique which is simple. The process is capable of providing job opportunities for those who have not had a high degree of formal education.

The end product has uses other than a soil conditioner. Large quantities can be used as a landfill cover or as a solid fuel.

The process is kind to our fragile and constantly battered environment. It is apt, viable and simple technology for our third world conditions.