

# Characterization and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste, Case Study, Hosanna Town

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**Abstract** The aim of this paper was to assess the amount of municipal solid waste generated in Hosanna town located in southern Ethiopia. Analysis was carried out to calculate amount of solid waste generated daily and annually per person per capita. Mixed questionnaires survey and direct waste analysis at source basis were used for data collection. Representative samples were selected from hotels, bar and restaurant, cafes, offices, abattoir, correctional facilities, educational facilities, and conventional household in each 'kebeles'. Eleven millions of kilogram of waste was generated per year throughout the town, of which 82% garbage, 7% paper, 5% plastic, 3% 'Chat' stalk, 2% glass, and 1% others. Wastes from construction, industries, and unconventional units were not included. Empirical formulas-through observation and calculation were developed to calculate waste generation multipliers and to estimate composition variation within time. Despite the fact that the major problem of solid waste management was linked to administration, the study shows that characterization and waste disposal also make a substantial contribution to the problem. The generations estimated will be twenty-one million of kilograms of waste by twenty-twenty three. Therefore, an area 106,158m<sup>2</sup> of sanitary landfill with service life of ten year will be required for the disposal.

**Keywords** Municipal solid waste characterization, Site selection, Disposal, Sanitary landfill

## 1. Introduction

Solid waste disposal (SWD) is an integral and final part of the solid waste management (SWM) process that targets discards solid wastes (SW) which are by-products of human and animal activities. Municipal solid waste management depends on both the characteristics of the site and the characteristics of the MSW itself: gross composition, moisture content, particle size, chemical composition, and density. Gross composition may be the most important characteristic affecting MSW disposal, or the recovery of materials and energy from refuse [1]. Accurate data, concerning estimates of present and future production and composition of different type of waste, is essential for long term efficient and economical waste management planning. Accurate waste arising data are also required to meet regional and national legal and policy obligation.

Until now, in Hosanna, there were no data recorded, both on composition and on quantity of waste, poor handling and poor application of engineering based technologies, which were crucial for proper management of solid wastes.

Hosanna municipality has not yet develops its centre of

hierarchy, there were no technology based waste management, and no specific basis of strategy to encourage movement up the hierarchy and there-by no incremental levels of waste reduction, re-use and recycling.

Therefore, compilation of accurate data on characterization of waste is an important element for development of specific strategy and ultimate disposal.

## 2. Materials and Methodology

### 2.1. Materials

- 1) Moveable balancing/Bouquet
- 2) Waste collecting materials

### 2.2. Methodology

- 1) Sampling method: Strata Sampling
- 2) Door to door data collection by using questionnaire survey (weighing waste by portable scale, kg)
- 3) Weighing plastic bag and plastic bottle on lab scale
- 4) Waste composition estimation by direct waste analysis and questionnaire survey
- 5) Total waste arising estimation by arithmetic average of the data/sample mean
- 6) Empirical formulas-through observation and calculation, development
- 7) Primary design calculation and sitting.

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### 2.2.1. Data Collection

Data is collected door to door through out the community in each 'kebeles'. Waste composition and quantity is estimated by mixed questionnaires survey and direct waste analysis method at selected sample source basis/generator.

To mitigate against possible errors in estimating, a dual approach to collection of data is recommended, by estimating waste arising from the source and also from the waste management facilities which receive the waste [2]. In this paper, the first method was applied.

Waste generation is measured at source basis/generator by using portable scales. Data collection on waste characterization and composition were carried out on the April and since every truckload cannot be weighed, statistical methods was used to estimate the total quantity from sample generator.

## 3. Solid Waste Generated and It's Characteristic's

### 3.1. Estimating Waste Arising

Statistical data on the quantification of waste are usually by weight, although sometimes it may be more appropriate to report the data as volume [3]. Analysis of the composition of waste may also be based on the source of the waste; for example household waste might be analyzed in terms of material types, such as garbage, 'chat' stalk, plastic, glass, paper or by-product types, such as, glass containers, tins, magazines, etc.

A large number of samples are taken for statistical accuracy. However, for a large waste source population, like household, this may not be possible and therefore representative samples, with their consequent errors, are used.

#### 3.1.1. Waste arising by 'kebeles'

Sample mean were applied for the estimation of amount of MSW generated in kg in each 'kebeles' from the sample observed.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} \quad (1)$$

Where

$\bar{x}$  = Sample means (kg/generator/day)

$x_i$  = amount of waste generated, in type, from each generator.

n = number of sample (generator) taken

Total amount of MSW generated in each 'kebeles' is calculated by using the mathematical relation (Eq. 2):

$$T(\text{MSW})_i = N_j \bar{x} \quad (2)$$

Where

i = waste type.

$T(\text{MSW})_i$  = Total "i" MSW generated from each 'kebeles'

j = generator

$N_j$  = total number of "j" generator in each 'kebeles'.

It has been estimated that 11 million of kilograms of waste are generated per year throughout the town, based on data collected and analyzed from each 'kebeles'. Garbage (food, garden), plastic, 'chat' stalk, 'enset'/false banana, paper and glass are the main categories of waste generated. Garbage waste is the largest single categories of waste generated.

Figure.1 shows the total waste arising in kilogram per day in the town through each 'kebeles' and Fig. 2 shows the distribution of generation per capita per year.

Difficulties arise in direct comparison of waste generation data due to different classification system. For example, in some 'kebele' (society) total waste includes materials, which, in other society, are not defined as waste at all.

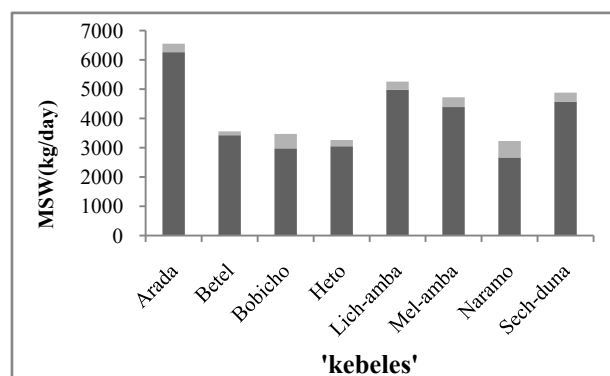


Figure 1. Total waste generated in kg/day in each 'kebeles'

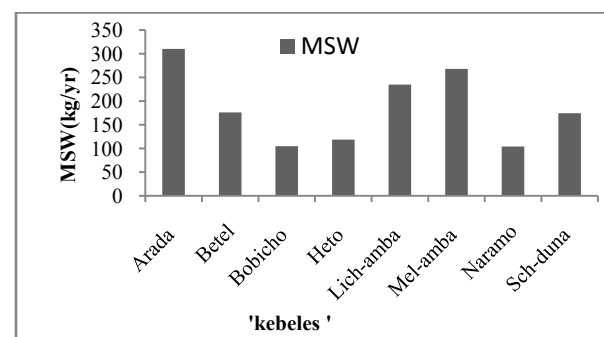


Figure 2. MSW generated per capita (kg/person. yr) in each 'kebeles'

Table 1 shows waste composition estimates by both mixed direct waste analysis and survey questionnaire.

Table 1. Waste Composition Estimates by Direct Waste Analysis and Survey Questionnaire (weight %), Hosanna Town

N <sub>g</sub>	Waste type	Wt (%)	Remark
1	Garbage (food, garden)	81.7	Conventional units
2	Paper	7.50	Office and packing
3	Plastic(bottle, shopping bag)	4.80	Excludes street plastic
4	'Chat' stalk	3.40	'Chat' Houses Only
5	Glass	1.60	Excludes Household
6	Hair	1.00	Beauty Salon only
7	Rubber	0.08	Rubber Houses only
8	Textile	0.06	Garment Shops only

The waste data from the producers of the waste should be matched against the waste received at the waste treatment and disposal facilities, to ensure accuracy of the survey data.

### 3.2. Waste Generation Multipliers

**Table 2.** Typical Hosanna MSW Generation Rates by type of Generator

N <sub>g</sub>	Waste generation sector	Average	Units
1	Hotel	22.25	Kg/hotel /day
2	Hospital	17.00	Kg/hospital/day
3	Restaurants	16.96	Kg/restaurant/day
4	Chat houses	16.20	Kg/chouse/day
5	Cafeteria	10.83	Kg/cafe/day
6	Educational facilities	9.34	kg/school/day
7	shops	3.64	Kg/shops/day
8	Clinic	3.28	Kg/clinic/day
9	Beauty salon	1.87	Kg/house/day
10	Single family residential	0.402	Kg/person/day
11	Correctional facilities	0.08	Kg/person/day

**Table 3.** Typical Hosanna MSW Generation Rates based on Population Size, in each 'Kebele'

N <sub>g</sub>	Name of 'Kebele'	Average(kg/person/day)
1	Arada	0.85
2	Betel	0.48
3	Bobicho	0.29
4	Heto	0.33
5	Lich-amba	0.643
6	Mel-amba	0.734
7	Naramo	0.29
8	Sech-duna	0.48

Waste generation multipliers are used for estimating waste from all the generation sources of waste, in the region and calculated by rate of generation per generator. Table 2 and Table 3 shows Hosanna waste generation rates by type of generator and size of population in each 'kebeles'

**Table 4.** Typical Hosanna Waste Generation Multipliers ( $k_{ij}$ )

(MSW)	Generator(j)										Office
	House hold	Hotel	Restaurant	cafeteria	Juice House	Shop	'Chat' House	Rubber House	Beauty Salon	Educational Facility	
Garbage	0.00146	6.454	1.98	1.93	4.953	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plastic	0.00005	0.161	0.169	0.055	0.1705	0.0134	-	-	-	-	-
Paper	-	-	-	-	-	0.047	-	-	-	0.708	0.103
'Chat'	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.47	-	-	-	-
Rubber	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.218	-	-	-
Hair	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.118	-	-

respectively.

The above waste generation multipliers (Table 2 and Table 3) only tell us the total waste generation rate from the generator and did not indicate generation multipliers of each waste composition from specific generator/basis.

Amount of waste generated, in type, from specific generator are depend on the population dynamics, generator size, family size, economic level, seasonal variation, etc .... In turn, this affects the generation multipliers of each MSW generated from specific generator. The generation multipliers of each waste from specific generator can be calculated from average mean of waste generated and total number generator dwells in each 'kebeles' by the following empirical means – that is gained by observation:

$$k_{ij} = \bar{x}_{ij} / N_j \quad (3)$$

Where

$\bar{x}_{ij}$  = average sample mean of 'i' type of waste generated from 'j' generator

$k_{ij}$  = waste generation multipliers constant of 'i' type of waste generated from 'j' generator.

$N_j$  = total number of 'j' generator

Waste generation multipliers constant,  $k_{ij}$  for each type of waste generated from specific generator can be calculated from mathematical relation (Eq.3).

Based on data collected from each generator dwells in each 'kebeles' and analyzed, the value of  $k_{ij}$  for each type of waste from specific generator was calculated. Representative sample data collected in each 'kebeles' and the sample mean of this value used as the bases for the calculation and the value listed in Table 4.

### 3.3. Waste Generation Estimation by Empirical Means

#### Data collection:

To estimate specific amount of waste generated, in type, and to estimate rate of variation of composition it is necessary to estimate the rate at which the generator generate waste within the time interval. Extensive data collection is carried out through each generator and analysis where was carried out to calculate waste generated during time interval for how long and what type of?

Based on studies carried out, the empirical formula(Eq.4) has been developed to calculate the change in composition of waste with time and amount of municipal solid waste generated during time interval of  $t$ , for the required cycle (weekly, monthly, semiannually, and annually).

The conversion factor for the different type of generator was calculated by using the following equation:

$$W_{ij} = \frac{A_{ij}}{t k_{ij} N_j} \quad (4)$$

Where

$W_{ij}$  (1/day) = conversion factor/rate of "i" MSW generated from "j" generator during time  $t$ .

$A_{ij}$  (kg/day) = rate of generation of "i" MSW generated from "j" generator during time  $t$

$t$  = For how long (days) "j" generator generates "i" MSW

$i$  = type of waste/MSW

$j$  = generator

Time  $t$  may be the duration for how long data was collected to know  $A_{ij}$  from the sample generator, and  $t < T$ .

The conversion factor,  $W_{ij}$  tells as the rate of variation/change of composition of waste with time. The changes of percent composition of waste with time can be estimated and calculated as:

% composition of 'i' type of MSW generated from 'j' generator (at time  $T$ ) =  $(W_{ij} B_j T) * 100$

Where:

$$B_j = \sum A_{ij} N_j T$$

$B_j$  = total amount (kg) MSW generated from 'j' generator at time  $T$ .

$T$  = total time (in days) MSW generated for specified cycle.

Total amount of 'i' type of municipal solid waste generated from specific 'j' generator during the required cycle can be calculated by:

$$A_{ij} N_j T \quad (5)$$

### 3.4. Waste Composition

The main compositional categories of typical Hosanna municipal solid waste are garbage (food, garden waste), paper, plastics, glass, textiles, and 'chat' stalk. Figure 5 show the percent distribution of the different categories of waste generated in the town.

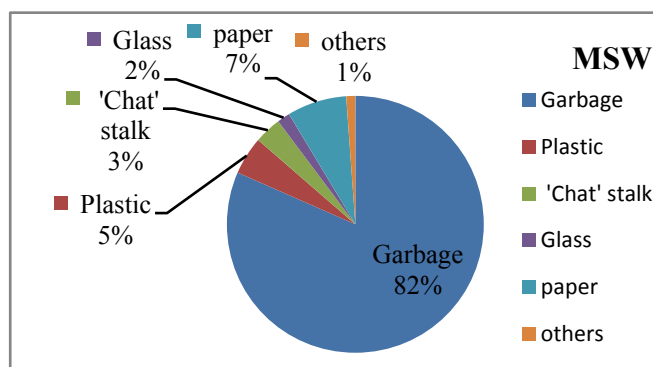


Figure 3. Percent (wt %) distribution of MSW composition generated

### 3.5. Waste Generation Prediction

Waste is predicted based on the per capita solid waste generated were constant and population of the town growth exponentially.

The rate of population growth at any given time can be written:

$$N = N_0 e^{rt} \quad (6)$$

Where:

$N_0$  = the starting population

$N$  = the population after a certain time,  $t$ , has elapsed

$r$  = the rate of natural increases expressed as a percentage [birth rate (b) – death rate (d)]

$e$  = the constant 2.71828... (base of natural logarithms)

The average birth rate and all age death rate in Urban - Hadiya zone, both sexes is 0.077 and 0.012 respectively [4]. Number of population from conventional units in Hosanna town is 73,380 [5]. Population growth rate is calculated for ten years (up to 2023) by using Eq.(6), assuming that birth rate and death rate is constant over the ten years.

Table 5. Population Growth (projection) of the Town from conventional units

Calendar	t (year)	Population(N)
2013	0	73,380
2014	1	78,308
2015	2	83,567
2016	3	89,180
2017	4	95,169
2018	5	101,560
2019	6	108,381
2020	7	115,660
2021	8	123,427
2022	9	131,716
2023	10	140,562

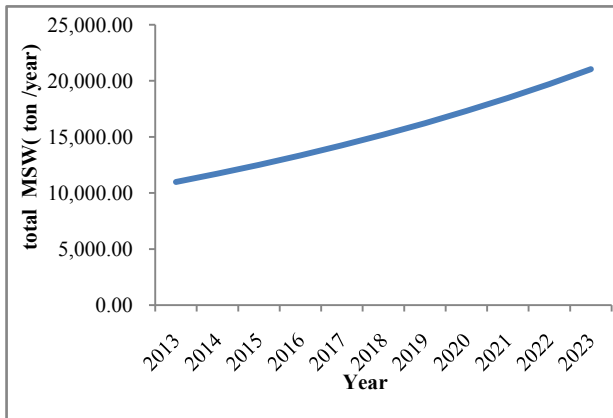
Rate of municipal solid waste (MSW) generated per person from conventional units is 0.41kg/capita. day (0.41 kg/person. days).

Figure 4 shows total quantity of MSW generated over ten years (up to 2023) by Hosanna dwellers, assuming that both generation of waste and population dynamics were constant over the coming ten years.

**Note:** Waste generation over ten years may not be constant due to change in social composition and life style. However, we assume that this generation rate is constant because of lack of data recorded both on composition and quantities of waste generated at least for the past ten years.

As we can see from above figure, the plot shows as, the amount of MSW generated per capita per year is increasing, as time elapsed, as population growth increases exponentially. This prediction forecasted based on the waste generated by 2013, which was a constant (0.41kg/capita. day).

But this generation rate might not be constant for the coming ten years and might be varies from year to year.



**Figure 4.** Total quantity of MSW generated by Hosanna town dwellers (up to 2023)

#### Assumptions:

Case1: Assuming that this generation rate per person per year is a constant (0.41kg/capita. day) over the coming ten years, like we have been assumed in the above prediction (Fig.4); then we calculate total amount of MSW generated per year over the coming ten years.

Case2: Assuming that the generation rate is constant over each year, but varies from year to year; then we calculate total amount of MSW generated per year.

Total amount of MSW generated per capita per year can be expressed by mathematical relationship:

$$A = xN_j \quad (7)$$

Where:

$A$  = total amount of MSW generated per year (kg/year)

$N_j$  = total number of generator dwells the town

$x$  = amount of MSW generated in kilogram per capita per year

Total number of generator ( $N_j$ ) varies from year to year, due to population dynamics.

Mathematical expression:

$$N_j = \frac{N}{F} \quad [N = N_o e^{rt} \quad \text{Eq. (6)}] \quad (8)$$

$$N_j = \frac{N_o e^{rt}}{F} \quad (9)$$

Then,  $A$  can be calculated as follows:

$$A = \frac{x}{F} N_o e^{rt} \quad (10)$$

$$A = k' N_o e^{rt} \quad (11)$$

Where

$$k' = \frac{x}{F}$$

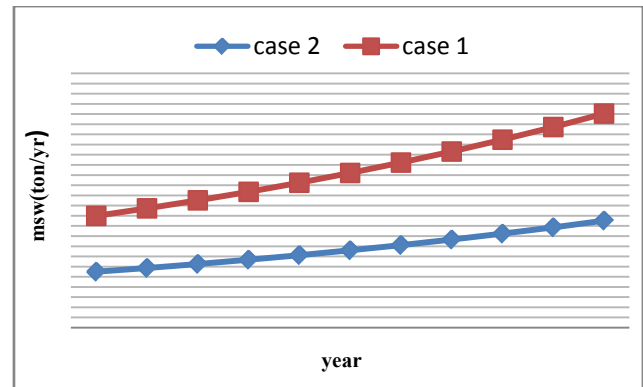
$F$  = famile size

The values of  $A$  and  $k'$  can be calculated through successive iteration by using Eq. (11). The iteration steps proceed as follows:

1.  $k'$  can be calculated assuming that  $A$ ,  $N_o$  and  $r$

remains constant as time  $t$  elapsed.

2.  $A$  can be calculated by using the values of  $k'$ , where  $N_o$  and  $r$  remains constant as time  $t$  elapsed.



**Figure 5.** Amount of MSW Generated in Assumption/Case1 and Case2

As we can see from Fig.5, there is a variation in amount of waste generated in above case one and case two, although it is significant. This variation might be due to inconsideration of factors which affect both the amount and composition of waste generated per person per capita.

Figure 5 also tells us, rate of generation of waste per capita per year will not be constant over the coming ten years, and there will be rate of generation variation year to year. Rate of generation varying less for the first five years, and we can suggest that our first assumptions may be work for short period of time.

#### 3.6. Disposal

Hosanna town has a population of 73,380 with an aerial extent of 38.66km<sup>2</sup>, produce MSW of 30.14 tons per day. The entire town with eight 'kebeles' is divided into three sub cities namely Addis city, Sech-duna, and Kofer-meda. The un-segregated MSW collected (16.8%) in different Sub city is being dumped on open places.

At present, the entire town has less collection efficiency, and there are no conversion techniques used and the number of dumping sites in the town is one. The wastes are collected through open body single trucks, and are dumped on the recognized open dumping sites, i.e. unsanitary landfill, located nearby the town, at a distance of 5km. This site has a lot of problem in respect to sitting criteria, especially concerning to surrounding ecosystem. Topography of this site is not suitable for the disposal and thereby no barrier between this site and the surroundings. In addition to this, un-acceptance by nearby community due to bad odor and fear of scavengers elevates the sitting problem. Nearby residential has feared of attacked by scavengers, which was a dependent on waste for food.

Refuse composition expressed either "as generated" or "as disposed," since moisture transfer takes place during the disposal process and there by changes the weights of the various fractions of refuse. Table 6 shows typical components of average Hosanna refuse

**Table 6.** Average Annual Composition of MSW in Hosanna *as generated*

<i>Waste type</i>	<i>weight (* 10<sup>6</sup>kg)</i>
Garbage	8.7800
Plastics	0.5190
Paper	0.8110
'Chat' stalk	0.3620
Textiles	0.0062
Rubber	0.0085
Glass	0.1730
Hair	0.0920

**Table 7.** Typical Moisture Content

<b>Component</b>	<b>Moisture content (wt %)</b>
Garbage waste	65
Plastic	2.0
Paper	6.0
Textiles	10
Glass	2.0

Source: [6]

Table 8 shows composition in percentage weight of municipal solid waste of Hosanna town

**Table 8.** Composition of MSW, Hosanna Town, Ethiopia

<b>Component</b>	<b>Composition (wt %)</b>
Garbage waste	81.7
Plastic	4.80
Paper	7.50
Chat	3.40
Textiles	0.06
Rubber	0.08
Hair	1.00
Glass	1.60

**Table 9.** Composition, Weight Percent, Component Discarded Weight, and Component Dry Weight for the Municipal Solid Waste from Hosanna Town, Ethiopia

<b>Component</b>	<b>Wt %</b>	<b>Component Discarded Weight (kg/day)</b>	<b>Component Dry Weight (kg/day)</b>
Garbage waste	81.70	24,063.101	8,422
Plastic	4.80	1413.74	1385.50
Paper	7.50	2,209.0	2,076.50
Textiles	0.06	1,767.18	1590.50
Glass	1.60	471.25	461.830
Total	100.0	29924.3	3936.33
Average %moisture = 53.4%			

Based on the percentage of moisture content data provided on Table 7, and waste composition data, and total waste weight, Table 9 summarize the result for each waste component and average moisture content of the refuse.

### 1) Design Calculation:

The density of MSW varies depending up on location, season, humidity, and so on. Table 10 shows some typical of municipal solid waste densities, with might not be the same to Hosanna municipal solid waste densities. However, due to the lack of data recorded on densities of Hosanna refuse, we use this density of refuse for the calculation of primary area required for the disposal, sanitary landfill, which was good start for primary design.

**Table 10.** Some Typical MSW Densities

<b>Component</b>	<b>Kg/m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>lb/yd<sup>3</sup></b>
Loose refuse	60 – 120	100 - 200
Dumped refuse from a collection vehicle	200 – 240	350 - 400
Refuse in a collection vehicle	300 – 400	500 - 700
Refuse in a landfill	300 – 540	500 - 900
Baled refuse	470 – 700	800 – 1200

Source: [7]

### 2) Required landfill Area:

The required landfill area for Hosanna is calculated, from MSW generation rate on year basis, density of refuse in landfill, volume required and waste depth of compacted MSW.

**Table 11.** Sanitary Landfill Area required for each Year and for Ten-year Service Life with an Allowance of 30% Employed

<b>Year</b>	<b>MSW (10<sup>3</sup>ton/yr)</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Area required (m<sup>2</sup>/yr)</b>	<b>Total area (m<sup>2</sup>) by yr.</b>
2013	11.00	73,380	6,799	6,799
2014	12.00	78,308	7,429	14,228
2015	13.00	83,567	8,048	22,276
2016	13.30	89,180	8,233	30,509
2017	14.00	95,169	8,667	39,176
2018	15.20	101,560	9,410	48,586
2019	16.20	108,381	10,029	58,615
2020	17.30	115,660	10,710	69,325
2021	18.50	123,427	11,452	80,777
2022	20.00	131,716	12,381	93,158
2023	21.00	140,562	13,000	106,158
Total area required for disposal for ten years service life = 106,158 m <sup>2</sup>				

Density of refuse in a landfill, on an average is 420 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (Table 10) and waste depth of compacted MSW = 5m (landfill sites with waste depths exceeding 5m tend to develop anaerobic conditions and greater quantities of landfill gas) [7].

1. MSW generation = 0.41 kg/capita. day
2. Generation rate = 30,085.8 kg/day
3. Volume required/day =  $\frac{30,085.8 \frac{kg}{day}}{420 \frac{kg}{m^3}}$   
= 71.63 m<sup>3</sup>/day
4. Area required/yr = (71.63 m<sup>3</sup>/day) \* (365 day/yr) / (5 m)  
= 5,230 m<sup>2</sup>/yr
5. Area required/day = 71.63 m<sup>3</sup>/5 m  
= 14.33 m<sup>2</sup>/day

With an allowance of 30% [8] is employed, area requirement becomes: 18.63 m<sup>2</sup>/day and 6,799 m<sup>2</sup>/yr.

## 4. Conclusions

Organic matter constitutes 92.5% of the municipal solid waste generated in Hosanna. Out of which 'chat' stalk constitute 3%, which cause major problem in logging the drainage and tipping additional pollution.

The majority of wastes generated in Hosanna are left uncollected on the street, which is 83.2% and only the rest of these is collected and transported to open dumped disposal i.e. unsanitary landfill.

The great majority of waste generated in Hosanna is mainly of domestic origin consisting of mostly garbage waste (food, garden waste), 82%, and other organic matter, 10.5%, which is easily degradable and relatively very low concentration of toxic materials. The generations will be twenty-one million of kilograms after ten years (by 2023), and an area 106,158 m<sup>2</sup> of sanitary landfill with service life of ten year is required for the disposal. Consequently, there is less of a need for an area of a sophisticated landfill, liner system of the type required for the waste generated from industrialized countries.

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