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Challenges and Opportunities of Solid Waste Management System in Developing Countries: A Mini-Review

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Abstract:

Solid waste management (SWM) is a global issue in terms of environmental contamination, health impacts, and economic sustainability. Effective solid waste management is critical for achieving sustainable development goals. Increased populations coupled with rapid urban buildup put enormous stress on municipalities, especially in developing countries. Improper management of solid waste is represented by a low collection rate of waste, waste accumulation on roadsides and around containers, and the illegal dumping or burning of waste in spaces. This situation causes severe environmental effects, risks to public health. This article reviews the challenges and opportunities of solid waste management system in developing countries, focusing on environmental contamination and health impacts. The introduction of enforcement and incentive programs along with education campaigns can encourage the public to view waste more as a resource, with recycling being the preferred option, rather than disposal.