

**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WASTE CONTROL
PRACTICES IN KUCHING, MALAYSIA**



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ABSTRACT

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WASTE CONTROL PRACTICES IN KUCHING, MALAYSIA

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Abstract: The increasing amount of material wastes generated from construction activities is becoming a challenging issue to construction site operators is ensuring that the wastes are properly managed and disposed. In Malaysia, a number of policies have been developed to govern and monitor the environment issues become the construction industry generates a substantial amount of construction waste and hence increasing public concern in Malaysia. There is no existing policy or framework that guides the construction waste control practices for the construction industry in Malaysia in compliance with international sustainable practices and this subsequently providing motivation for this proposed study.

The aims of this research are: to establish framework of best practices for sustainable waste control in construction industry that complies with the Malaysian legislation and regulations, and to evaluate the current waste control practices in construction industry in Kuching, Malaysia. The sample frame for this study was obtained from the CIDB directory (www.cidb.gov.my). The primary data will be collected by using questionnaire. The survey responses will be analysed by using the Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Wastes are generally understood as the materials that were not completely consumed for its intended use. In the construction industry, this definition is still vague because for example, waste may occur due to bad weather that caused damage to materials or inefficiencies in using raw materials on site during construction processes. Wastages on construction site could also be due to design variations, mishandling, inappropriate storage and defective works (Wahab and Lawal, 2011). According to Formoso et al., (Pg 5, 1999), waste must be defined as “any losses produced by activities that generate direct or indirect costs but do not add any value to the product from the point of view of the client”. In the US, construction waste is defined as waste resulting from construction, demolition, renovation, real estate development, earthworks and land clearing operation (US EPA, 1998).

In Malaysia, a number of policies and legislations on environmental management and waste have been introduced such as the Environmental Quality Act (EQA) 1974, the Environmental Quality (Scheduled Wastes) Regulations in 2005, the Master Plan on National Waste Minimization (MWM) in 2006, the National Solid Waste Management

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter will review the past literature relate to waste control in construction industry and the literature updates to the waste control.

2.2 Waste control practices on construction sites

In Malaysia, the disposal of construction wastes generated from construction activities is usually the responsibility of the developer or contractor (Tang et al., 2003). According to a study by Tang et al. (2003, 2004) conducted in Kuching, construction wastes were commonly kept on site compound or moved within the construction site for land filling or future construction purposes. From their findings, wastes found illegally disposed were from small scale construction or renovation works. It was reported by Lau et al. (2008) that in Kuching City there is no official facilities for the treatment of construction wastes and that could be the reason for illegal dumping in the public areas.

According to Skoyles (2000), material control or material management plays an important role in controlling waste. Steps must be taken to control materials from the time of procurement till usage. It is important to have suitable space and proper storage for