

# Industrial Symbiosis Resource Efficient Waste to Resource Guide for Buy-Back Centres

To assist buy-back centres and waste recovery facilities to improve efficiency in material collection and waste selling - the National Cleaner Production Centre, South Africa (NCPC-SA) is working towards minimising waste and carbon emissions from landfills.

In a partnership with Esiltuli Holdings, NCPC-SA has developed guidelines to assist waste collectors, material recovery facilities, waste pickers and recyclers on the correct steps to follow when collecting and handling waste for re-selling purposes.

## Benefits of the guide

-  Improved quality of waste collected
-  Improved turnaround time of waste collection
-  Ensure profitability from waste

## Steps in buy-back process



# How to get the most value from waste recovery



## Quality

Sort waste according to waste types to avoid contamination and to ensure consistency in quality.



## Handling

Packaging of waste should be known and specific at the site, such as 'is the waste handled as bales or in bags?'

- When working with heavy materials, such as bales, a forklift is necessary.
- Assess available space for waste, bags and bales to improve how waste is handled.
- Workers who handle waste need to have full PPE.



## Sorting

Capacitate sorters to distinguish waste types according to different classifications.

- Provide an area for collectors to sort waste under supervision to avoid contamination.
- Pay only for good quality waste. Contaminated waste will not be paid for.



## Sourcing

- All waste or materials received must be of value and economically beneficial.
- Record sources of where waste or materials received comes from e.g., from waste pickers, landfill or own points of collection.
- Avoid paying for materials that do not translate to economic benefit to the site.



## Storage

Store waste in a manner that improves ease of access and does not hinder movement on site - Issues to consider include spacing, height and location.

- Storage should not lead to creation of any fire hazards.
- Storage should not obstruct access to and flow of water.
- Waste that is not adding value to the centre should not be stored on-site.



## Weight

Record the weight of waste collected according to daily, weekly and monthly targets. The weighing of waste as it comes in will determine the efficiency and performance of a buy-back centre.

- Weigh all waste that is received.
- Separate good quality waste and weigh against expected profit.
- Compare the incoming weight with output waste to establish efficiency in waste handling.