

ABSTRACT

Waste production in Malaysia has increased to 30,000 ton per day. It is estimated that 90% of the waste is sent to landfills without any recovery of recyclable materials. This situation provides the waste pickers with a way to make a living by recovering the said materials. The purpose of this study is to understand the socio-economics of the waste pickers in three landfills in Selangor. The three landfills are: a sanitary landfill in Jeram, a non-sanitary landfill in Dengkil, and an open landfill in Bukit Beruntung. Both the Jeram and Dengkil landfills are under the management of Worldwide Holdings, while the Bukit Beruntung landfill is under the management of the Hulu Selangor Municipal Council. The method of this study involves the observation of and distribution of survey forms among waste pickers. The result of the study indicates that the majority of the waste pickers on all three landfills are men. In both Jeram and Dengkil, 100% of the waste pickers are Indonesians. In Bukit Beruntung however, 83.3% of the waste pickers, which is the majority, are Malaysians. In terms of level of education, it is discovered that 86.7% waste pickers in Jeram, and 66.7% waste pickers in Dengkil only completed elementary education. On the other hand, in Bukit Beruntung, 56.7% of the waste pickers completed at least lower secondary education. Driven by the lack of job opportunity and the relatively lucrative income that can be derived from waste picking, nearly all of the waste pickers in Jeram and Dengkil chose to become full time waste pickers with percentages of 90% and 100% respectively. The situation is slightly different in Bukit Beruntung, where only 40% of the waste pickers chose to work as full time waste pickers in the landfill. In terms of income, waste picking activity is capable of generating over RM1000 per month. Some respondents have also had the history of illnesses like dizziness, fever, body ache, respiratory problems and chronic diseases. From the study conducted, it can be concluded that despite the numerous challenges faced by the workers, they persevere and continue to perform their jobs. The main motivation behind this perseverance is financial rather than the love of the environment.

ABSTRAK

Penghasilan sisa di Malaysia telah meningkat kepada 30 ribu tan setiap hari. Di anggarkan 90% daripada sisa ini dihantar ke tapak pelupusan tanpa sebarang proses pemulihan bahan. Keadaan ini memberi peluang kepada pengutip sampah untuk mencari bahan yang boleh dikitar semula bagi menjana pendapatan mereka. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji sosio-ekonomi pengutip sampah di tiga jenis tapak pelupusan di Selangor. Tiga jenis tapak pelupusan tersebut ialah; tapak pelupusan sanitari di Jeram, tapak pelupusan bukan sanitari di Dengkil dan tapak pelupusan terbuka di Bukit Beruntung. Tapak pelupusan Jeram dan Dengkil berada di bawah satu pengurusan yang sama iaitu di bawah Worlwide Holdings manakala tapak pelupusan Bukit Beruntung berada di bawah pengurusan Majlis Daerah Hulu Selangor. Kaedah kajian ini adalah berdasarkan pemerhatian dan edaran borang soal selidik kepada pengutip sampah. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa majoriti pengutip sampah di ketiga-tiga tapak pelupusan adalah lelaki. Di tapak pelupusan di Jeram dan Dengkil 100% pengutip sampah adalah warga asing Indonesia berbeza dengan responden di Bukit Beruntung yang mana majoritinya (83.3%) adalah warganegara Malaysia. 86.7% pengutip sampah di Jeram dan 66.7% di Dengkil mempunyai pendidikan peringkat rendah manakala 56.7% pengutip sampah di Bukit Beruntung mempunyai pendidikan peringkat menengah. Oleh kerana tiada peluang pekerjaan dan pendapatan yang tinggi mampu diperolehi dari pekerjaan ini, 90% daripada pengutip sampah di Jeram, 100% di Dengkil dan 40% di Bukit Beruntung memilih bekerja sebagai pengutip sampah sepenuh masa di tapak pelupusan. Pendapatan yang diperolehi mampu mencapai lebih daripada RM1000 sebulan. Pengutip sampah juga pernah menghadapi masalah kesihatan seperti pening, demam, sakit badan, sakit paru-paru dan penyakit kronik. Daripada kajian ini dapat disimpulkan bahawa walaupun terdapat pelbagai masalah yang dihadapi oleh mereka tetapi mereka tetap melakukan pekerjaan ini. Ini adalah kerana mereka melakukan pekerjaan ini hanya untuk menambahkan pendapatan mereka tetapi bukan kerana cintakan alam sekitar.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFSB	Alam Flora Sdn Bhd.
EPA	Environment Protection Agency of United State of America
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
HSDC	Hulu Selangor District Council
ISWA	International Solid Waste Association
IWM	Integrated Waste Management
JPSPN	Jabatan Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal Negara
KjTW	Kajang Town Council
MHLG	Ministry of Housing and Local Government
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
MSWM	Municipal Solid Waste Management
Mt	Millions tones
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPSPPA	Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing
SPSS	Statisical Package for Social Sciences
SW	Solid Waste
SWM	Solid Waste Management
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compound