

The industrial or domestic waste dumping in LEDCs

The dumping of industrial or domestic waste in LEDCs by MEDCs and larger corporations has been an issue for decades. In some cases of the countries that have sent the – at times toxic and hazardous – waste have taken it back like Japan did with 103 containers it sent to the Philippines. Yet in some outrageous cases, the waste is left in the country it was dumped in, like the 4000 tonnes of toxic incinerator ash that was dumped in Haiti. Currently, a lot of E-waste is shipped to Ghana, Nigeria and China.

Despite the existence of several international conventions that prohibit the dumping of first world waste, such as the Bamako Convention and the Basel Convention, it has not only continued but also formed a billion dollar global industry. Some countries resist further regulations. Some studies have shown that the waste industry is linked to arms trafficking and money laundering.

- To what extent do the receiving parties - regions, countries, companies - have enough capacity and functioning installations to deal with waste? How are workers protected?
- What is the purpose of waste being transported to LEDCs? Recycling, incineration or landfill?
- What about the parties involved in the sale and shipping of the waste?