

# Chapter 10

## Solid Waste Management for the Hotel Industry: Status, Challenges, and Recycling Potential

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### ABSTRACT

*In recent years, the exponential population growth, high density of urban areas, diverse culture, changing food habits, and lifestyles have seen an unresolved problem in terms of Municipal Solid Waste Management (MSWM) in India. Solid waste generation and disposal is one of the most negative impacts of hotels on the environment. Hospitality industries often pay little attention to their environmental responsibilities. Solid waste is a key concern in the hospitality industry. Typically, a hotel guest can produce 1 kg of waste per day which accumulates to thousands of tons of waste annually. Many hotel operators have very little interest in reduc-*

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*ing and/or recycling waste, believing that such activities are too expensive and time-consuming. The main objective of this study is to explore the types of solid waste management from hotels and present typical practices for waste prevention/minimization at source.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

An essential component of the environmental management of facilities in the hospitality industry is solid waste management. One of the most detrimental effects of small hotels on the environment is the generation and disposal of solid trash. Small hotels frequently overlook their environmental obligations. The present study expands upon a previous investigation by the same writers that examined solid waste management (SWM) concerns within the hotel sector. Sustainable tourism is defined by the United Nations World Tourism Organization as travel that both accommodates the requirements of current travelers and the host community while preserving and expanding chances for future travel. Only with the participation of all relevant parties—tour operators, environmental organizations, and local governments—can sustainable tourism be accomplished involved (tour operators, environmental bodies, and local authorities). Unfortunately, different organisations had different views on what sustainable tourism means as well as the existence of policies, plans and actions on waste management (Singh & Bathla, 2023; Sharma & Singh, 2024a; Singh & Singh, 2024; Singh & Hassan, 2024a; Singh, 2024a; Singh, 2024b; Singh & Kumar, 2022; Singh & Hassan, 2024b, Singh & Kumar, 2021; Sharma & Singh, 2024b; Ansari & Singh, 2023; Ansari et al., 2023; Ambardar & Singh, 2017; Ambardar et al., 2022; Francis et al., 2024; Ansari & Singh, 2024; Singh & Ansari, 2024; Singh & Kumar, 2024; Singh & Supina, 2024; Sharma & Singh, 2024c). The hospitality industry in many parts of the world is expected to see significant rates of growth in the next few years. For example, Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR) is expected to grow by 6% in 2014 in the United States (Berman, 2014) and by up to 5% in some European cities during 2014 and 2015 (Milburn and Hall, 2014). In the Middle East, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are expected to see a boom in hotel revenue by 2016, which implies a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 6.93% (MeetMiddleEast, 2013). Indeed, while exploring the various literature concerning the global outlook for the hospitality industry, it is clear that, in most parts of the world, this sector is recovering from its financial losses after the 2008 global economic crisis and “a positive outlook and favorable transaction climate are anticipated in 2014 for the global lodging industry” (Fishbin, 2014). This expansion in hospitality sector operations is complemented by an expansion in its waste management operations. More waste usually translates into a greater

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