



# Recycling Networks & Waste Governance

## Innovative practices on inclusive recycling networks and waste governance: Brazil's context, challenges and achievements





- ✓ Regulation (considering waste pickers Associations/Cooperatives): 2000s
- ✓ Integrated Waste Management: 2007 (National Law for Basic Sanitation) 2010 (National Policy for Solid Waste): definitions, standards, incentives
- ✓ Reasonable formulation (participative), implementation problematic (asymmetries between key actors)
- ✓ Municipalities: in charge of implementing Local Plans (5,561 municipalities in the country)



- ✓ 78.3 million t generated annually, 71.3 million t collected (38% not properly destined)
- ✓ Selective collection: 3,878 municipalities (of 5,561)
- ✓ São Paulo (richest city in the country, 20 million inhabitants): recycling rate of 1.5%... public budget for urban cleaning (2014): US\$ 280 million to private contractors, US\$ 8 million to cooperatives...
- ✓ Around 200 waste pickers cooperatives/associations (2013), 500.000 workers (estimated), 34 mil cooperados not yet fully integrated to waste management systems (average income: 58% of the national minimum wage)



## WASTE MANAGEMENT IN BRAZIL: CHALLENGES FOR INCLUSION (AS PERCEIVED BY AN OUTSIDER)

- ✓ Waste Regulation: waste markets attractive to private companies (third parts in reverse logistic arrangements)
- ✓ Consolidated regulation for waste incineration, some projects (integrated to the big contractors practices)
- ✓ Need for technological/organizational innovation, lifelong education initiatives (illiteracy rate between waste pickers is 20.5%, more than 2x national rates- 9.4%-2010)
- ✓ Support/incentives: paternalistic approach, not sustainable in the long run (e.g., facing political change)



# WASTE MANAGEMENT IN BRAZIL: ACHIEVEMENTS FOR INCLUSION (AS PERCEIVED BY AN OUTSIDER)

- ✓ Waste pickers associations networks: commercialization, political action, solidarity between cooperatives and the communities (centers of policy formulation)
- ✓ Politicization: representatives in municipalities and States Councils and other decision making spaces
- ✓ Female waste pickers movement
- ✓ First initiatives to influence products design (packages suitable for recycling)