

# MANAGEMENT OF INCLUSIVE WASTE MANAGUA, NICARAGUA



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# INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

- Managua produces an average of 40,000 tons of garbage per month.
- Lack of legal framework that articulates efforts: generation of waste, reuse, management, recycling, elimination and final disposal of waste.
- 2007-2012: Closure and privatization of the municipal landfill: La Chureca, located on the shores of Xolotlán Lake, Managua.
- 2010: REDNICA, national network of waste pickers.
- 2014: The special law seeks to visualize and dignify the work carried out by waste pickers, traditionally called "churequeros" (pending task).



# CREATION OF WASTE PICKER ORGANIZATIONS

- 13, 500 waste pickers
- Motivation of Waste picker organizations:
  - Unemployment
  - Municipality and International Cooperation Agencies Projects
  - Environmental protection
- 2008: efforts to create these initiatives as self-managed groups
- Waste pickers have always existed individually, dedicating themselves to the collection, cleaning and classification of waste from the landfill.







# DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVES

- Cooperatives: 27 members on average, mostly aged between 16 and 49 years, with low levels of education and with high rates of illiteracy for the most adults.
- On average, they receive an income less than one dollar a day.
- 39% - 67% of the total of members are women
- Women are the ones who lead the directives in their majority.
- Services: collection, cleaning, transport and classification of waste without added value, which are then sold to the middlemen.

# CHALLENGES

- Lack of local government collaboration: restriction of collecting garbage in the municipal landfill.
- Lack of a legal framework that recognizes their work and needs to formalize this sector to access social security and education
- Difficulties in organizing and administrating the Cooperative
- Difficulties in working as a collective.
- Difficulties in transporting the materials
- Lack of infrastructure, machinery to process new products

# ACHIEVEMENTS

- Model of the alliance with the Municipality developed by two initiatives: Ciudad Sandino and Ometepe Island.
- Creation of alliances with companies, households and municipalities
- Establishment of collection routes from the source (homes, companies, schools)
- Organization of cooperatives





Thank you for your attention

Fotos: Cooperativa Nueva Vida Limpia, Cooperativa Chureca Guardabarranco, Cooperativa Mujeres de la Chureca