

# Message to UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is impossible when knowledge in biology and ecology is replaced by economics and political science.

Unfortunately, most of what is written nowadays is the product of paperwork without any connection to reality, and environmental laws only benefit lawyers who can interpret these in favor of money-strong polluters of our common environment.

How can it be possible to broadcast a webinar with the UN as a participating body on "waste to energy" and only highlight unsustainable methods and systems?

See below

CCET webinar on Waste-to-Energy Incineration – YouTube [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) › watch  
Webinar on the CCET guideline series on intermediate municipal solid waste treatment technologies  
28 October 2020, 13:00 – 14:30 (JST)

Waste management is becoming a particularly urgent issue in developing countries, especially as their economic growth accelerates. Globally, various approaches have been attempted to solve waste management issues, and proper treatment of the increasing amount of waste is one of the important challenges for our society. There is an urgent need to provide reliable information to policymakers and practitioners so they have a clear and holistic view of all waste management technologies. In this context, the IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET) and the United Nations Environment Programme International Environmental Technology Centre (UNEP IETC) have started to develop a series of Guidelines, in collaboration with the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) and the Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM).

The aim is to assist developing countries' policy-makers and practitioners, at both the national and municipal levels, with their selection of appropriate waste management technologies, and in carrying out related policies and strategies to improve their management of waste.

At this initial phase, three main topics are covered, including

- 1) Waste to Energy (WtE),
- 2) Composting, and
- 3) Mechanical - Biological Treatment (MBT).

This first in a series of webinars will focus on WtE, and aims to give attendees a deeper understanding of the Guidelines through a discussion of existing technologies, their advantages and disadvantages, and related challenges people may face on the ground. This following two webinars, on Composting and MBT, are tentatively planned for November and December 2020.

## Event Details

Date: 28 October 2020, 13:00 – 14:30 (JST)

Organisers:

IGES Center Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET)

United Nations Environment Programme - International Environmental Technology Centre (UNEP IETC)

the Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM)

Participants who lack basic knowledge about bioenergy and its sustainable use:

KAZUNOBU ONOGAWA, Director, CCET

CHEN LIU, Research Manager, IGES

TORU NISHIYAMA, Principal Visiting Researcher, IGES

# Message to UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Sustainable Development

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SHUNICHI HONDA, Programme Officer, United Nations Environment Programme, International Environmental Technology Centre

Mr. CHETTIYAPPAN VISVANATHAN, Professor, School of Environment, Resources and Development, Asian Institute of Technology

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Rūžena Svedelius DrAgr - Reactions to the webinar "Waste-to-energy-incineration"

To those who are responsible and to everyone who participates in the upcoming webinar "Waste-to-Energy Incineration", a Webinar on the CCET guideline series on intermediate municipal solid waste treatment technologies."

WASTE TO ENERGY MUST BE MANAGED IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY FOR OUR SURVIVAL.

Most domestic and commercial waste originates in plants, animals and micro-organisms (around 70%) and should be called "renewable organic material".

THE ONLY SUSTAINABLE METHOD IS BIOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION – METHANISATION IN LOCAL HIGH-TECH BIOGAS PLANTS - TO BIOGAS AND BIOFERTILIZER.

Biogas must be converted to electricity (approx. 30%) and heat (approx. 65%), which must be converted to cooling if necessary.

Biofertilizer contains all the 16 essential chemical elements that plants need and seams must be returned to cultivated land to ensure production of the plants' biomass.

NOTE! Although THERMAL PROCESSES take advantage of energy, DO THEY CREATE LOSSES OF PLANT NUTRIENTS AND CAUSE POLLUTANTS THAT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND CLIMATE.

Composting is also an unsustainable method. When 100 kg of material is composted, the result is about 30 kg of compost of very uncertain quality.

What happens to 70% of the raw material?

- a) Bioenergy is released as carbon dioxide and water - both are greenhouse gases.
- b) Nitrogen and sulfur compounds as well as other substances are emitted as gases, which causes both losses and pollutants.
- c) Leachate is formed with which some plant nutrients are lost and at the same time the soil and groundwater are polluted.

Questions:

- 1) Why is there still a lack of access to local high-tech biogas plants?
- 2) Why are thermal processes such as waste incineration, thermal gasification, pyrolysis prioritized when it is known that they kill all living things and threaten the biological diversity of microorganisms that can be returned to cultivated soils with biological methods and help maintain and increase soil fertility?
- 3) WHY DO DECISION MAKERS and POLICY-MAKERS ALLOW SOME TO MAKE HUGE GAINS ON UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND SYSTEMS THAT POLLUTE OUR COMMON ENVIRONMENT?

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4) How is it possible that the most important thing for life - SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF PLANT BIOMASS - IS STILL IGNORED?

More information is available at [www.biotransform.eu](http://www.biotransform.eu).

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All of you who are involved in research at these institutions are responsible for the sustainable development of waste management.

YOU SHOULD NOT SPREAD LIES ABOUT THERMAL PROCESSES FOR "WASTE TO ENERGY" WHEN ONLY BIOLOGICAL ENERGY CONVERSIONS ARE SUSTAINABLE.

- “The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET) is established in 2014 with the aim of assisting national, regional and local governments in developing waste management systems that can minimise negative health and environmental impacts and in enabling the transition to resource efficient and sustainable societies.” [ccet-info@iges.or.jp](mailto:ccet-info@iges.or.jp)
- “The mandate of IETC, as agreed in Decision 16/34 of UNEP Governing Council, is the transfer of environmentally sound technologies (EST) to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.” [ietc@un.org](mailto:ietc@un.org)
- “The Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM) was originally established as The Japan Society of Waste Management in March 1990. This society has pursued various research activities around proper management of waste and promotion of recycling to respond to the demands of the time in anticipation of resource circulation... We work forward improving research activities and contribution to society.” [nyukai@jsmcwm.or.jp](mailto:nyukai@jsmcwm.or.jp)