

WASTE MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND GREEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT IN RWANDA

NDIKUMANA Innocent and HABIYAREMYE Gabriel*

University of Lay Adventists of Kigali, Faculty of Environmental Studies, POBOX: 6392 Kigali

Corresponding author: ndinnoc@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Waste management has become a growing field that offers entrepreneurial opportunities, room for innovations and investment prospects. However, the most salient problem is meager exploitation of these opportunities in Rwanda. This study entitled “Waste Management Opportunities and Green Entrepreneurial Development in Rwanda” was conducted with the objective of exploring the opportunities underlying waste management in Rwanda, and how their exploitation contributes to the development of green entrepreneurship in Rwanda. The targeted population comprised permanent staff working in recycling and composting companies operating in Rwanda. The sample of 87 respondents was purposely selected from the total population of 656. Questionnaire, interview, and documentation were used to collect data. The test of reliability was done using Cronbach's Alpha coefficient. The treatment of data used descriptive and inferential statistics. The researcher found that there are huge business opportunities in the recycling of paper, metal, plastic, glass and e-waste, as well as briquetting and composting. Despite these opportunities and favorable government policies and regulatory framework, green entrepreneurship in Rwanda was found to grow at a very slow pace. The research hypothesis was tested and it was concluded that there is no significant relationship between opportunities underlying waste management and the development of green entrepreneurship in Rwanda. The challenges faced by green entrepreneurs involved in recycling and composting include mainly high startup capital, and lack of financial support. Recommendations focused on strategies to increase new ventures in this business sector and enhance the capacity of the existing ones.

Key words: Waste, Management, green, entrepreneurship