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Bio-Hazardous Waste Damages in Agriculture Area (Saint Louis of SENEGAL)

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Abstract

Senegal, like the underdeveloped countries, is faced with the problems of waste management in general and bio-hazardous waste in particular. This waste is becoming increasingly important because of the multiplication of health services, posing a real problem for the environment and therefore for agriculture.

Saint Louis is the main agricultural area of Senegal thanks to an important hydrography (Senegal River) and fertile lands. But agricultural activities are threatened by bad bio-hazardous waste management.

Keywords: Bio-Hazardous waste, Bio-hazardous Waste Treatment Unit, Environment, Agriculture

Introduction

Saint Louis is one of the fourteen administrative regions of Senegal. Consisting of 19,044km^2 (7,353mi^2), the region is limited on the north by the Senegal River, on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, in the south and the east by other regions of the country.

Saint Louis is the main agricultural area of the country due Senegal River and the extent of managed cultivated areas. There are approximately nine hundred thousand (900 000) inhabitants.

Its medical infrastructure includes 2 hospitals, 5 public health centers, 1 analysis laboratory and private health facilities.

All these together produce an enormous quantity of bio-hazardous wastes but unfortunately there is not a single Bio-Hazardous Waste Treatment unit in the entire region.

Bio-hazardous disposal

The only mode of treatment that exists in Saint Louis is burning.

The consequences of improper disposal of untreated biohazardous wastes are harmful to both the environment and to humans. Contagious diseases like hepatitis B or poisoning are both two of the possible consequences in humans, and small children are especially vulnerable. In the natural environment both soil and water, whether rivers or oceans, can be contaminated, causing harmful consequences to flora, fauna and the food supply.

Same phenomenon is noted in the other regions of the country.

Conclusion

In this context, it becomes urgent that Saint-Louis and the other regions of Senegal benefit from a standardized and permanently funded Bio-hazardous Waste Treatment Unit that complies with international standards.

To do this there must be private initiatives supported by the state and development partners.

Biohazardous waste places destruction

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Biography

Cheikh Saya Sow is an engineer Hygiene Quality Safety Environment; he studied to the Polytechnic College of Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar. He has besides a University Degree in Quality Management of Pierre et Marie Curie University (Paris VI). He was the Quality Responsible of BRC EPLS which leads research projects centered on diseases connected to water (Bilharziasises, Malaria) in Senegal River Valley.

Currently he has set up a company that offers services in Management of Bio-hazardous waste and Hygiene in general named NHS (Nagué Hygiène Santé).