

The Top 5 Components of Successful Projects in the Global Fight Against Toxic Pollution



No single party can effectively deal with any pollution problem, large or small. Cooperation between all stakeholders is the key to successful remediation efforts. Tackling river pollution in the Philippines would not have been possible without the engagement of fisher folk, local activists, and government officials. Joining hands in tackling toxic pollution problems also benefits all involved in a variety of ways beyond the specific clean-up project.

01

Forge
Partnerships



Even if all parties are committed to tackling a pollution problem the financial resources aren't often available to take action. Contributions from international organizations have been critical in tackling legacy uranium mining waste that's contaminating drinking water in Kyrgyzstan for example. Many successful projects prove that making a substantial difference to people's wellbeing, even saving lives, doesn't have to cost beyond \$20 per person.

02

Leverage
Financial Resources



Solid information can transform the public's and decision maker's awareness and provide the basis for setting priorities. Research is needed to locate the source or sources of pollution and assess their risk to the local community and environment. The mapping of used-car-battery waste hotspots in Indonesia triggered cleanup of a disposal sites for example. Data from medical examinations reveal the health risks.. Research is also crucial in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of remediation projects.

03

Gather Data



Life-threatening pollution is often the result of people engaged in dangerous and harmful practices unknowingly, out of desperation or both. Burning electronic waste and backyard used-car-battery recycling are common in many countries simply because it provides a 'good' source of income. Real progress in pollution reduction requires safer, alternative and attractive ways to earn an income. In one village Senegalese women received assistance to set up a commercial hydroponics gardens to replace incomes from informal battery recycling that had led to a devastating lead poisoning of their children.

04

Provide Safer
Alternatives



Successful remediation projects are always dependent on local knowledge of local settings and circumstances. They also often require technological solutions and technical know-how that are not locally available. The establishment of a low-tech electronic waste recycling centre in Ghana is replacing the common practice of burning this e-waste to obtain precious metals. Training, funding and some tools came from outside the country, but now local partners are able to continue on their own and serve as a model for others. The international flow of knowledge and technology building national capacity can be extraordinarily cost-effective and successful in full partnership with local experts.

05

Transfer Knowledge
and Build Capacity

With **COMPASSION**, **COMMITMENT**, and **COOPERATION** pollution can be solved in our lifetime. This has already happened in much of the developed world and **WHY NOT THE REST OF THE WORLD?**

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