sustainable solutions to SA's waste challenges

Food Waste Management with Earthworms

> SAFMA Presentation by Carmen Nottingham (11 May 2017)



Sustainability: The Principle of the 5 R's:

•RE-THINK

reduce

reuserecycle

REGENERATE

This is the crucial FIRST STEP BEFORE any recycling can take place

The 3 R's are mainly used for SOLID WASTE Paper, Plastic, Metal, Glass

Recycling WET waste leads to a valuable compost for soil rehabilitation - AND it can help SAVE the Planet!



Some facts about Food Waste in SA: (CSIR studies)

13 million people go hungry every day
20% of households are FOOD Insecure
we throw away almost 10 million tons of food per year (more than the UK)
30% of all agricultural production ends up as waste to landfill

The total COST of FOOD waste is estimated at R61.5 Billion per year.

On a global scale - if food waste were its own country it would be the 3rd largest emitter of GreenHouse Gas behind China and the USA.

we need a RE-THINK
 so that the PROBLEM becomes the SOLUTION



- CITIES, BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS CAN SAVE THE PLANET
- Taken from "Climate of Hope" by Carl Pope.
- The "Climate Crisis" is a symptom of multiple market and political failures, not a single free-standing "problem".
- Leadership in implementing solutions is already emerging not so much from national governments, but from Cities, Businesses and active Citizens.
- Each "problem" has its own unique source and solution an enormous short term OPPORTUNITY
- that can make our society healthier and stronger.

RE-THINK from the bottom up:
 HOW our local actions can have positive and significant impacts on the world

Our Credentials: We are the ORIGINAL Earthworm Castings producers and suppliers in South Africa (since 1990's) We have extensive knowledge and expertise in using Earthworms to process waste and create a rich compost















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The *Eisenia foetida*, a humus earthworm

- can process FOOD WASTE,
- vegetative and garden waste,
- animal waste and even
- toxic wastes.

The waste EARTHWORMS ingest

• is converted into the highest quality,

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- pathogen-free,
- micro-organism rich,
- pH balanced
- ORGANIC FERTILISER

Managing waste on a large-scale with earthworms is already wellestablished on all Continents -SA will benefit from an Earthworm Waste Management Industry skilling local people, using local resources, with minimal infrastructure.....supplying local economy....



Support from the City and Business: to take in farmers/youth for training in earthworm waste management and composting to facilitate the establishment of a recycling and waste management INDUSTRY Which will create work, impart skills and produce a VALUABLE product to Heal the soil and the Environment Improve urban agricultural production • Grow healthy crops

Healthy soil, healthy crops, healthy people, healthy environment

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BENEFITS:

Manage waste AS A safe SOLUTION Create jobs and farmer-preneurs Alleviate poverty and hunger Create a rich soil conditioner Fulfill the Criteria of Heal the soil Heal the plants Heal the people and Environment

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WASTE WILL help REVERSE Global Warming:



"A mere 2 percent increase in the carbon content of the planet's soils could offset 100 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions going into the atmosphere." --DR. RATTAN LAL, OHIO STATE SOIL SCIENTIST

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THANK YOU !

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