

Culture of Waste Disposal in Oyo State and Implications for the New International Airport at Ibadan

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Abstract

This study evaluates previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo state government and discusses their challenges. It examines the waste disposal policy under Governor Seyi Makinde and its implications for the new status of international airport at Ibadan, the state capital, and finally discusses the needs for government to address areas of deficit. The study is a descriptive design and adopts mixed data sources. Self-structured questionnaires provided the primary data from one-hundred and twenty sample and qualitative data from eighteen (18) key informants. Secondary data were from government bulletins and relevant literature. Quantitative data were analysed with descriptive statistics and content analysis for key informants' interviews, and secondary data. Findings showed that Oyo state had different waste disposal policies in the past but with little or no success because of poverty, party politics, cost of waste disposal, attitude of households, shortage of sanitary officials, and poor implementation of waste disposal laws. Oyo state government under Governor Seyi Makinde has put in place sustainable waste management practices, which include recycling, composting and proper waste disposal in approved government dumpsites. The study concludes that waste dumping practice in Ibadan is not good and may affect the new international airport if not addressed.

Key words: Waste; Waste disposal; Policy; New image; State capital

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1. INTRODUCTION

Responsible state government makes clean environment its priority. To have a clean environment, government prioritizes its waste disposals. Government is also required to put safe environmental control measures in place. Clean, proper, adequate, regular and timely waste disposal play a key role in any system. According to Allen (2023), effective waste disposal and management is crucial to prevent environmental hazards and contamination. Unaddressed waste challenges lead to health risks capable of endangering residents' wellbeing. In addition to its effects on businesses, dirty environment puts investors, visitors and tourists' away (University of Hong Kong, 2017). Since, health is wealth; no investor would invest his resources in a dirty environment. Therefore, only a clean environment preserves the beauty and aesthetic image of a state. No doubt, a clean environment attracts foreign nationals for investment, tourism, holidays and visitation or tour. Before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde, Oyo state government has adopted door-to-door, use of public dustbins, creation of dumpsites, unregulated private waste contractors, regulated refuse contractors and waste recycling policies that have not fully made Ibadan, the state capital to be clean (Wasiu, 2021). As a result, Oyo state government needs to re-jig its waste disposal policy as Ladoke Akintola Airport becomes international.

It is a huge task to keep urban areas and cities clean. Cities require planned decision because of the enormity of residents in the areas. Cities have more wastes because of the high population when compared with rural areas. This is why government commit more funds to keep cities neat and concentrate more energy in urban planning,

environmental control policies than rural areas. Refuse disposal policy of government requires review from time to time. It is not enough for state government to have policy for waste disposal but appropriate implementation is also necessary. According to the Chinese University of Hongkong (2022), legislative backing in the form of Act or Gazette is very important to keep public environment neat and safe. Residents would do not comply with the necessary rules must be sanctioned. The sanctions, in the words of the Chinese University of Hongkong (2020), may be fine, abatement, evacuation, abatement, prosecution, and jail.

Oyo state government focuses on keeping a clean environment by putting up appropriate waste disposal policies. In the past, government exercised exclusive responsibility of disposing waste. According to Tech Machindra (2024), state governments began to engage stakeholders in refuse disposal because of the huge financial debt, which was not yielding the desired results. Oyo state government subsequently engage business outfits, firms, industries, banks, religious houses, non-governmental organisations, households, communities and groups in the process called collaborative and stakeholders' effort to dispose waste. The shift from the old paradigm is to involve residents of the state to fulfil their responsibility (Johnny, 2024). Oyo state government has responded to its waste disposal responsibility with different policies in the past. From late governor Lamidi Adesina, ex- governor Rasheed Adewolu Ladoja, late Alao Akala and Abiola Ajimobi to the incumbent Governor Seyi Makinde, there have been proactive steps to dispose waste in Oyo state but with different difficulties. Some of the challenges are poverty, party politics, cost of waste disposal, attitude of households to the old way of disposing waste, shortage of sanitary officials, government's desire to turn refuse disposal into raising revenue and so on.

Under the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde, the process of disposing waste has undergone tremendous transformation (Wasiu, 2021). With several policies and involvement of critical stakeholders, waste disposal has not been smooth sailing. The Oyo state capital, Ibadan has not been clean enough (Tech Machindra (2024). Against the Global Sustainable Goal 6 of clean water and sanitation, Goal 3 of good health and wellbeing, inhabitants of Ibadan, the state capital still dump refuse on roads sides, meridians, streams and waterways. Illegal dumping of waste results in flooding and debases the massive road infrastructure. According to Allen (2023), laws on arrest and prosecution of illegal dumping of waste have not been effective. Thus, with existence of the Ministry of Environment, Oyo state Waste Management Agency and frequent state policies on refuse disposal, refuse still continue to litter the streets in Ibadan, the Oyo state capital. It is important that the old style of dumping

refuse on roads should change given the new image of Ibadan, the Oyo state capital that hosts the Samuel Ladoke Akintola Airport. On 26 July 2024, the Nigeria President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu approved the upgrade of Ibadan Airport to international standard. With Ibadan Airport becoming international, this study looks into the dangers of unkempt environment on international airport. The study traces past effort of Oyo state government on waste disposal and why they failed. The incumbent Governor's waste disposal policy has not fully resolved the matter. We expect roads to international airport to be clean and not business as usual. There is little empirical studies on how to rejig waste disposal policy of Oyo state government given the approval of Ibadan Airport as international route by President Tinubu.

1.1 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are to:

- i. evaluate previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo state government before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde.
- ii. discuss the challenges against previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo state government.
- iii. examine the waste disposal policy of the Oyo state government under the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde and its effects on the new status of Ibadan, the state capital.

1.2 Methodology

This study is a descriptive research design and the study area is the Oyo state capital, Ibadan with eleven (11) local governments. It adopts mixed methods of data collection with the use of qualitative and quantitative sources of data. We collected primary data with the use of self-structured questionnaires and key informants' interviews from purposively selected respondents from eleven local governments of Ibadan land. The local governments were Ibadan North, Ibadan North East, Ibadan North West, Ibadan South- East, Ibadan South West, Akinyele, Egbeda, Ido Lagelu, Ona Ara, and Oluyole. We collected secondary data from Oyo state government bulletins, Acts on environmental and solid waste, gazettes of the Oyo state government, relevant literature, reports and national dailies. Quantitative data included senior officials of the Ministry of Environment (15), Oyo state Waste Management Agency (15), waste management consultant (10), waste disposal contractors (10), Awotan waste recycling plant (10), Federal Airport Agency of Nigeria (10), executive of State Community Development Association (20), House Committee on Environment (10), Sanitary officials (10), Ladoke Akintola Airport Ibadan (10), security agencies (10). Qualitative data involved eighteen (18) key informants drawn from ministry of environment, waste contractors, security agents, waste clients, Awotan Waste Recycling Plant, House committee members on the Ministry of Environment, and officials

of the Ladoke Akintola Airport Ibadan because of their involvement with waste disposal and management. We briefed participants about the purpose of the study and their consents gained before engaging them. We carried out key informants' interview in English and permission to record audio transcripts obtained from participants by assuring them of confidentiality of information given. Quantitative data were analysed with descriptive statistical and content analysis for the key informant interviews and secondary data using thematic method in line with the objectives of the study.

1.3 Literature Review

1.3.1 Previous Waste disposal policies in Oyo state

Waste disposal entails a process of getting rid of and destroying damaged domestic, agricultural, and other unwanted products or substances. Waste disposal involves collecting, processing, and recycling or depositing waste materials. This could be by incineration, composting, discharging at sea/lake/river, recycling, and burying at landfill sites. Waste comes in the form of liquid, solid, or gas, and each has its disposal method and management. Overtime, there had existed a number of policies by the Oyo state government before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde. One of such policies according to Wasiu (2021) is door-to-door refuse collection. Under this policy, refuse collectors moved from one house to another. It had no enabling state laws that regulated the policy. Because many households were not disposing their refuse through the door-to-door system, the state government created refuse or dumpsites at strategic locations, inhabitants of the state came around to drop their refuse at very low cost. This also led to environmental and health hazards and was later cancelled and the refuse containers evacuated by government.

Alongside the dumpsite, there was open burning. In this system, households and private business outlays burn their refuse in the open or inside a container. As reported by Nabavi-Pelesaraci, Bayat, Hosseinzadeh-Bandbafha, Afrasyabi, Chau (2017), the composting, and incineration method equally posed severe health danger and contributed to air pollution and climate change. They negated the international best practices of reducing global warming. Later, the state government began to allow private refuse collectors without a state legislation. Under the system, there was no registration of refuse contractors, no state approved refuse sites, no uniformity in charges for refuse and it was all comer's affair (The Economist, 2018). The Oyo state government equally had no oversight role or control on the refuse contractors or customers. The period of no regulation by the Oyo state government was with lack of recycling. Refuse rotten away naturally. Part of the challenge under this management style was due to inadequate waste management infrastructure. The Oyo state government had no sufficient facilities for

waste treatment and disposal, and therefore gave private refuse contractors free hands to operate (Bilby, 2019). Oyo state government later swung into action because of the consequences of the unguided environmental health challenges such as pollution, flooding, disease outbreak, legal tussle, and community outcry. These challenges led to several reforms in the drive to have a clean Oyo state but did not fully address the issue of dumping wastes on the roadsides, meridians and waterways.

1.3.2 Modern methods of waste disposal in Oyo state

A new wave of disposing refuse began under the administration of late Governor of Oyo state, Senator Abiola Ajimobi. The current waste disposal policy has undergone tremendous reforms under Governor Seyi Makinde. Up until now, the reforms are still ongoing because the regime is keen on collaborating with critical stakeholders' and their inputs not taken for granted Edith (2021). The modern policy initiatives on refuse disposal under late Governor Abiola Ajimobi, 2011 to 2019 began with privatization of waste management (The New York Times (2018). Oyo state government handed waste management to private companies and saved the state of enormous funds. Government did not entirely stay off refuse disposal from public space, because it provided waste bins at strategic locations. However, it did not restore sanity to refuse disposal system in the state (The World Bank, 2018). The state government under late Senator Ajimobi also established waste management agency called Oyo State Waste Management Agency, OYOWMA. It has the mandates to ensure a clean and healthy environment through effective waste management practices. The responsibilities of OYOWMA are to among other things collect waste from door- to-door, transport waste, dispose waste, manage and plan waste management, public awareness and education. Other tasks are to enforce waste management laws and regulations, monitor and evaluate waste management activities for efficiency, maintain waste management infrastructure, promote recycling and composting, and collaborate with stakeholders.

Between 2019 and now, the Governor of Oyo State has taken far-reaching moves to review and update waste management policy in line with modern best practices. The incumbent Governor built upon the foundation laid by the late Governor Ajimobi with more attention on refuse disposal sustainability, public awareness, infrastructure awareness, and cost effectiveness (Merinlin, 2024). There have been re-introduction of door- to-door waste collection with major and sub refuse contractors. There have been upgrade and expansion of waste management infrastructures for effective service delivery. Government has key into promotion of sustainable waste management practices, which include recycling, composting and proper waste disposal in approved government dumpsites. According to Wasiu (2021), there are about four dumpsite

locations in Ibadan land. They are Ajakanga (10 hectares, Aba-Eku (9.4 hectares), Lapite (9 hectares) and Awotan (one of the largest in Africa.). Government has embarked on increased public awareness to educate the residents of the state on proper waste management. To do the above, government collaborated with private companies to improve waste management services. Government enrolled companies a for waste sorting to facilitate separation of metal, plastic, aluminum, paper, rubber and so on for recycling. Among other things, the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources oversees the Oyo State Solid Waste Management Authority.

1.3.3 Priority concerns in Nigeria: should income be the target of government on waste disposal?

The priority or concern of government in Nigeria on refuse disposal should be to keep a safe environment for the wellbeing of all residents. Except for cities like Port Harcourt, Lagos, Abuja and few others, it would amount to a misplaced priority; no matter how poor a state finances could be for government to think it could generate funds through refuse disposal system. If government extends the urge to raise funds for the running of government to refuse collection, then it is not capable of achieving the desired result for a safe, clean and healthy environment (The New York Times, 2018 and The Times of India, 2018). Oyo state government did not close its idea of income generation from waste disposal. Waste disposal and management have become a profit-making venture. Sewer systems, incinerators, and landfills were oversee by large enterprises and the state government aspired to make profits (The Washington Post, 2017). This led to ineffective regulation of waste disposal since they collaborate with several regulators.

At a time, the Oyo state government in its bid to keep safe environment came up with levies for payment into government bank accounts. In a statement made sometimes ago by the State commissioner for environment and natural resources, the essence of the solid waste architecture was to focus on total sustainable environment capable of improving the social wellbeing of the residents in the state. The state banned refuse contractors from collecting fees from their clients, and advised all households, facility owners, private, commercial industries, religious houses, institutions not to make payment to their refuse operators. Government wanted payment either manually or electronically through accredited revenue consultants by using designated banks, and serve bills to all clients (Allen, 2023). Government of Oyo state also closed all its dumpsites in Ibadan such as Lapite, Aba Eku, and Ajakanga and banned refuse contractors from dumping waste elsewhere (Merinlin, 2024). Only Awotan landfill provided by the state government was only available but banned members of the public from dumping wastes on road meridian, drainages, rivers and other open spaces (Johnny, 2024).

This appeared confusing and led to hues and cries.

Scholars have argued that government should not be too concerned about generating income refuse disposal because of the aftermath consequences (Smyth, Fredeen and Booth, 2010). Policy makers may tend to prioritize personal financial gains over public interest. In addition, such move can divert policy decision towards specific groups. It tends to make government to focus on quick revenue instead of long-term measures. Contractors may shape rules to benefit them rather than the serving public (The World Bank, 2018). Waste disposal policy that targets raising funds may have unforeseen effects and be harmful to the society. It would further create another challenge of income inequality and benefit the wealthy. Such ideas could further make it difficult to hold officials accountable (The Guardian, 2018). It could as well breed frequent changes, create uncertainty, deter investors and make long-term planning extremely difficult. In addition, it could undermine government legitimacy. Saboteurs could influence government officials through bribe.

According to Allen (2023), it still a matter of rational thinking not to take allegation against Mottainai Recycling Company, the consultant in charge of refuse collection that was accused of collecting a compulsory fee of #250,000.00 for compactor trucks and #200,000.00 for open trucks (Allen (2023). The Waste Contractors Association that represents waste collectors rejected the fee, citing previous payments of #500,000.00 for licenses in 2019 (Johnny, 2024). The contactors also accused the consultant of arbitrary truck impoundment without genuine offences and as a way to generate income. However, Mottainai Recycling Company claimed that the contract was on a franchise model and different from the previous system. Be as it may, Oyo state government should be fair to contractors and put in a method that would prevent extortion from any quarters.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

About three theories are relevant to this study. The first one is system theory. David Easton (1971) is the pioneer proponent of the system theory to the analysis of political process. He defines political system as the interactions in any society through which policy makers make and implement binding or authoritative decisions. He considered the political system as existing in an environment comprising other sub-systems such as physical, biological, social, psychological, which affect and in turn affected by the political system in a continuous transactions and exchanges. In other words, political system is a collection of interrelated variables, which are distinct from the environment, although environment can affect such relationship. According to Easton, the political system functions by getting input (demands) from its environment. Inputs are events in the environment, which

evoke response from it. The input could be demands that values allow value allocation in a particular way or they could be supports, that is, experiences of approval for particular decisions. Thus, inputs from the environment undergo a process of conversion within and come out as outputs, judicial decision, and acts of parliament, and promulgated by the authorities. Output usually affects the environment as outcomes and in turn exerts some form of feedback, which are changes in the intensity and volume of demand and support from the environment. This simple analysis is according to David Easton's input and output model. From the above model, it becomes imperative to note that one of the major goals of the system theory is to account for how a given political system maintains its existence. It focuses attention on factors, which make for stability and instability by examining how they are able to manage the demands, threats and supports directed toward them.

There are several elements of political system. One is adaptability that implies the ability of a political system to respond to a disturbance either in the internal or external environment. In other words, political system must be amenable to the environment through receiving and absorbing shocks and strains, and accommodates variations. Every political system seeks to develop a healthy or correct environment, and performs a self-regulatory function. The enrichment of the environment permits the free flow of relevant information and eliminates communication gaps, which are often dysfunctional to the system. There is also a boundary. Every political system has boundaries, which are analytical or conceptual. These are clearly determined by all-inclusive character of the system's conversion processes and by its capacity for making binding allocations. The boundary starts somewhere and ends elsewhere. Boundary denotes the limit or the dividing line within which political activities takes place. Interdependence constitutes another feature of political system. Since politics is a human social phenomenon, the political system is a web of social relationship, which consists of various parts or segments and functions for the continued existence of the political system. These parts are dependent on one another, to the extent that changes in one segment affects others. The whole is dependent on the parts, and the parts are dependent overall. There is also the environment, which could be internal (domestic) and external. There is also input (demands), (supports), and output that every political system performs for system maintenance in the creation and allocation of authoritative values.

The systems approach to political analysis has the following objectives. It is concerned with how to be orderly, because it suggests that the maintenance of the system depends on its ability to maintain order. It reiterates that changes is inevitable as it is interested in

how political systems are able to meet the challenges posed by change. It draws attention to the importance of realizations as a central aspect of political system because it assumes that no political system can survive for long without articulating and pursuing identifiable goals. System analysis also attempts to focus on the respective functions perform by the various components of the political system, because it affects the continued existence and survival of the political system itself. System analysis provides a framework for comparing political systems. Besides, political system is generic in that it does not study individual but cross-section of actions and interactions. By drawing attention to the external environment of every political system, system theory is very useful for analyzing the international political system especially the linkage between the domestic and international environment. However, system theory is ideologically oriented towards retaining the status quo. By placing emphasis on order and system maintenance, the theory is not well suited to studying revolutionary changes. Moreover, the theory fails to give a clear definition of what is political and what differentiates political interaction from other type of social interaction. The theory assumes that all political interactions are towards authoritative allocation of values. Such emphasis seems to imply that politics only takes place in national political systems alone. Finally, the approach implies that all parts of the political system are equally important. This is however untrue because some parts are more important than others and, in any case, different parts perform similar functions in different political systems.

The second theory is institutional that emphasizes the role of political institutions as a framework for political analysis. The implication of this is that the approach concentrates mainly on the impact of political institutions, such as the legislature, executive, judiciary, party system, bureaucracies, constitutions, and so on as shaping and directing political behaviour and action. In other words, institutional theory also known as state approach attempts to locate the locus of political process within the institutions of government. The theory believes that to understand the political system of a given society, it is necessary to examine their governmental institutions. Institutional theory attempts a systematic process by which the existing political institutions are organised to comply with the constitutional provision with the overall objectives of bringing good governance to the society. It is centers on the legal relationship among existing institutions. The approach focuses on formal institutions and their legal relationship as an object of political analysis. However, a major pitfall of institutional theory is that it failed to recognize the relevance of informal relations as important and do affect largely the operation of politics or political system. In other words, the theory underscores the values of variables such as pressure

groups, lobbying, and so on, which do not belong to formal structures as a potent determinant of political behaviour. Besides, institutional theory deemphasizes the primacy of individual person as the central element or the crucial unit of analysis. It deemphasizes the role of economy in shaping people's behaviour to political action. In addition, it assumes a classless society. In other words, it failed to recognise that some countries especially third world are class structured and that their social relations of production (SRP) can direct and shape their response to political object. Finally, the theory is circular or repetitive in the sense that the defining characteristic of the problem is also the cause.

Cybernetic is the third relevant theory to this study because of its information control and communication. According to Karl Deutsch, the most important aspect of political system is steered through decision control and communication rather than power. In his further analysis, he regarded power, influence, voluntary coordination, trading of favour or force as necessary factor, which define political process but do not give meaning of those processes. The theory assumes that communication is the most explanatory factor of the political system, which also binds the system together. Communication simply means ability to transmit messages (information) and the ability to react to them. Communication is very vital in implementing man's control of his environment. Communication is a continuous process between the rulers and the ruled (people). Therefore, cybernetic approach to contemporary politics attempts to look at the process by which political system receive information (input) from the environment, processed it and converted it into output in the form of decision making as well as feedback mechanism from the environment. Another necessity of the approaches is the control mechanism of information. These reaction and regulation flow constitute, control and through control, discipline in measurement and analysis is achieved. Other basic element of cybernetic theory to political analysis is that information should contribute to system maintenance. This is through feedback system. It is the capacity of the political system to maintain and preserve itself, receive shocks and strains, contain and utilise changes and variations including those affecting values of a given social system. The communication system is a kind of learning net, which has three (3) main elements namely:

- i. Receptors
- ii. Effectors
- iii. Feedback control

The receptors are the people for whom government made decisions. The effectors are those who execute information. The feedback control is the post product reaction of the beneficiaries of decisions. It is important for a communication system to work properly through the opening of communication channel and that communication must be clear and unambiguous.

Given the strengths and weaknesses of the theories discussed above to this study, none surpassed the other in their application to the making and implementation of waste disposal policies in Oyo state. Ibadan, the Oyo state capital is a political system on its own, and its political dynamics, power play, processing of information and other variables differ from other parts of Oyo state. Institutions of government is required, there are specific functions the institutions of government need to perform including making necessary waste disposal policies, laws, and sanctioning of offenders. Communication and necessary information are required from both government and the governed in the form of stakeholders' collaboration and public awareness. It is necessary to have a good blend of the theories to keep a clean environment in Ibadan.

3. PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

From Table 1, analyzing the respondents on age, 34.2% fell within the age of 20-29 years, 27.5% between 30 and 39 years, 20.8% within the age of 40-49 years, 9.2% within the age of 50-59 years and 8.3% fell within the age of 60 and above years. Thus, majority of the respondents fell within the age of 20-29 years. On sex, 44.2% of the respondents were male and 55.8% female. Overall, majority of the respondents were female. On the respondents' level of education, 2.5% had primary six qualification, 20.0% are with senior secondary school certificate, 28.3% of the respondents had National Diploma, and Nigerian Certificate in Education, 42.5% had Higher National Diploma and Bachelor in Science, 5.0% had Master's Degrees and 1.7% of the respondents had Doctor of Philosophy Degree.

Table 1
Socio-demography characteristics of respondents

Age	20-29	41	34.2%
	30-39	33	27.5%
	40-49	25	20.8%
	50-59	11	9.2%
	60 and above	10 (120)	8.3%
Sex	Male	53	44.2%
	Female	67 (120)	55.8%
Level of Education	Primary Six	3	2.5%
	SSCE	24	20.0%
	ND/NCE	34	28.3%
	HND/B. Sc.	51	42.5%
	M. Sc./M. Ed/ M.A	6	5.0%
	PhD	2 (120)	1.7%

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

Table 2 showed respondents' views on the existence of the Oyo state government waste disposal policy before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde. From the table, 65.0% of the respondents agreed that Oyo state government had clear waste disposal policies before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde, 15.0% of the

respondents strongly agreed, 15.0% of the respondents disagreed, 1.7% of the respondents strongly disagreed and 3.3% of the respondents were not sure. Thus, majority of the respondents strongly agreed that Oyo state government had clear waste disposal policies before the emergence of Governor Seyi Makinde. On whether past administrations regulated waste services well, 35.8% of the respondents agreed, 50.8% strongly agreed, 7.5% disagreed, 1.7% strongly disagreed and 4.2% were not sure. This result showed that past administrations regulated waste services before Seyi Makinde's tenure as supported by most respondents. When asked whether there were waste disposal facilities before Governor Seyi Makinde administration, 25.8% agreed, 50.8% strongly agreed, 7.5% disagreed, 1.7% strongly disagreed and 4.2% were

not sure. Thus, before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde, there were waste disposal facilities in place. In addition, on whether previous administration effectively enforced regulation on illegal dumping, 36.2% of the respondents agreed, 45.8% strongly agreed, 3.3% disagreed, 5.8% strongly disagreed and 8.3% were not sure. The results showed that majority of the respondents agreed that previous administrations in Oyo state effectively enforced regulation on illegal dumping. On regularity of public awareness campaigns on proper waste disposal, 35.0% of the respondents agreed to this assertion, 49.2% strongly agreed, 12.5% disagreed, 2.5% strongly disagreed and 1.1% of the respondents were not sure. This confirms that awareness campaigns on proper waste disposal were regular.

Table 2
Previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo state government before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde

S/N	Statements	A	SA	D	SD	NS					
1	Previous government had clear waste disposal policies	72	65.0	18	15.0	18	15.0	2	1.7	4	3.3
2	Waste services were well regulated under past administrations	43	35.8	61	50.8	9	7.5	2	1.7	5	4.2
3	There were adequate waste disposal facilities before Governor Seyi Makinde administration	31	25.8	48	40.0	26	21.7	2	1.7	13	10.8
4	Previous administrations effectively enforced regulations on illegal dumping	44	36.2	55	45.8	4	3.3	7	5.8	10	8.3
5	Public awareness campaigns on proper waste disposal were regular	42	35.0	59	49.2	15	12.5	3	2.5	1	1.1

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

Table 3
Challenges against previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo State government

S/N	Statements	A	SA	D	SD	NS					
1	Inadequate funding was a major obstacle to effective waste management	58	48.2	31	25.8	13	10.8	16	13.3	2	1.7
2	Lack of modern waste management equipment hampered refuse disposal	60	50	36	30.0	15	12.5	7	5.8	2	1.7
3	Poor urban planning inhibits effective implementation of waste collection system	45	37.5	12	10.0	13	10.8	41	34.1	9	7.5
4	There was massive corruption in waste management agencies	25	20.8	2	1.7	12	10.0	79	65.8	2	1.7
5	Limited public cooperation posed serious challenge to waste management operations	8	6.7	55	45.8	33	27.5	11	9.2	13	10.8

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

Table 3 shows results on the challenges against previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo state government. On inadequate funding, 48.2% of the respondents agreed that funding was grossly inadequate, 25.8 % of the respondents strongly agreed, 10.8 % disagreed, 13.3% strongly disagreed and 1.7% were not sure. This indicates that there was not enough funds on previous waste disposal policies in the state. On lack of modern waste management equipment, 50% of the respondents agreed, 30.0% agreed, 12.5% disagreed, 5.8%

strongly disagreed, and 1.7% of the respondents were not sure. This result showed that there were no modern equipment to dispose waste in the past. On challenge of poor urban planning to effective implementation of waste collection system, 37.5% of the respondents agreed, 10% strongly agreed, 10.8% disagreed, 34.1% strongly disagreed and 7.5% of the respondents were not sure. This result shows that urban planning is not a challenge to effective implementation of waste collection system. On the challenge of massive corruption in waste management agencies, very small number of respondents,

20.8% of the respondents agreed, 1.7% strongly agreed, 10.0% disagreed 65.8% strongly disagreed and 1.7% were not sure. Thus, corruption in the waste management agencies of the Oyo state government is not a serious challenge to against previous waste disposal of Oyo state management in Ibadan.

Table 4
Waste disposal policy of the Oyo state government under the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde

S/N	Statements	A	SA	D	SD	NS					
1	Governor Makinde's administration introduced more effective waste management policies	71	59.2	40	33.3	3	2.5	3	2.5	3	2.5
2	There is more critical stakeholders' involvement in waste management of the state	53	44.2	44	36.7	17	14.2	3	2.5	3	2.5
3	The recycling approach is given more priority	53	44.2	47	39.2	7	5.8	10	8.2	3	2.5
4	Arrests and prosecution are more embraced by the administration of Makinde	47	39.2	53	44.2	7	5.8	10	8.2	3	2.5
5	Residents are more aware of dangers of illegal dumping	71	59.2	40	33.3	3	2.5	3	2.5	3	2.5

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

Table 4 shows the waste disposal policy of the Oyo state government under the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde. On whether the Governor has introduced more effective waste management policies, 59% of the respondents agreed, 33.3% strongly agreed, 2.5% disagreed, 2.5% strongly disagreed and 2.5% of the respondents were not sure. This indicates that the Governor has introduced more effective waste management policies. On whether there is more critical stakeholders' involvement in waste management of Oyo state, 44.2% of the respondents agreed, 36.7% strongly agreed, 14.2% disagreed, 2.5% strongly disagreed and 2.5% were not sure. The results shows that there is more critical stakeholders' involvement in waste management

government. On challenge of limited cooperation, 6.7% of the respondents agreed, 45.8% strongly agreed, 27.5% disagreed, 9.2% strongly disagreed, and 10.8% were not sure. This showed that more than half of the respondents see absence of cooperation as a challenge to waste

under Governor Seyi Makinde. On whether priority was giving to recycling approach, 44.2% of the respondents agreed, 39.2% strongly agreed, 5.8% disagreed, 8.2% strongly disagreed and 2.5% were not sure. The results showed that the recycling approach was giving more priority. On the use of arrests and prosecution under the incumbent Oyo state Governor, 39.2% of the respondents agreed, 44.2% strongly agreed, 5.8% disagreed, 8.2% strongly disagreed, and 2.5% were not sure. This indicates that Oyo state government now arrest and prosecutes offenders of illegal dumping. On whether residents are more aware of the dangers of illegal dumping, 39.2% of the respondents agreed, 44.2% strongly agreed, 5.8% disagreed, 8.2% strongly disagreed, and 2.5% were not sure. Thus, majority of residents are aware of the dangers

of dumping refuse illegally.

Table 5
Policy directions and strategies to curtail the missing gap in the waste disposal deficit of the Oyo state government

S/N	Statements	A	SA	D	SD	NS					
1	Increased budgetary allocation is required for waste disposal	31	25.8	48	40.0	26	21.7	2	1.7	13	10.8
2	Comprehensive recycling programme should be embraced	61	50.8	43	35.8	5	4.2	2	1.7	9	7.2
3	Government needs to engage more critical stakeholders and create active communication channels for feedback	60	50	36	30.0	15	12.5	7	5.8	2	1.7
4	Stricter enforcement of waste disposal regulations would reduce illegal dumping	53	44.2	47	39.2	10	8.2	7	5.8	3	2.5
5	Government needs to employ additional sanitary officials in Ibadan land	53	44.2	47	39.2	7	5.8	10	8.2	3	2.5

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

Table 5 shows directions and strategies to curtail the missing gap in waste disposal deficit of the Oyo state government in the waste disposal deficit of the state government. On whether increased budgetary allocation is required, 25.8% of the respondents agreed, 40.0% strongly agreed, 21.7% disagreed, 1.7% strongly disagreed and 10.8% were not sure. This indicates that the current financial backing of the Oyo state government for waste disposal is low and is a missing gap. Thus, the

state government would need to commit more funds to its waste disposal operations. On the issue of embracing comprehensive recycling programme, 50.8% agreed, 35.8% strongly agreed, 4.2% disagreed, 1.7% strongly disagreed and 7.2% were not sure. This shows that a very good proportion of respondents agreed on the need for the state to go on full-blown recycling method to keep the state tidy. When asked if government needs to engage more with critical stakeholders, and create active communication channels for feedback, 50% agreed, 30% strongly agreed,

12.5% disagreed, 5.8% strongly disagreed and 1,7% were not sure. This suggests that majority of the respondents were of the view that government needs to engage more critical stakeholders and have active communication channels to make feedback to government. On the issue of stricter enforcement of waste disposal regulations, 44.2% agreed, 39.2% strongly agreed, 8.2% disagreed, 5.8% strongly disagreed and 2.5% were not sure. This suggests that government needs to enforce waste disposal regulations more strictly by enforcing sanctions. On whether government needs to employ additional sanitary officials, 44.2% agreed, 39.2%strongly agreed, 5.8% disagreed, 8.2% strongly disagreed and 2.5% were not sure. This result shows that significant numbers of respondents are of the view that the state needs additional sanitary officials to keep the state tidy.

4. DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

One of the findings of this study is that there are several policies by Oyo state government on waste disposal before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde. Right from the regime of Senator Rasheed Ladoja, Alao Akala and Senator Abiola Ajimobi, the state government has put in place several policies to keep the state neat. This finding affirms the view of a senior health worker² that past governors in Oyo state have put many waste disposal policies in place. This also reinforces the view of the Chief Environmental Officer in Egbeda Local Government³ that issue of waste disposal policy is not a new thing in Oyo state. Thus, past administrations have equally initiated policies to eradicate challenges of waste disposal. The study also revealed that past regimes also regulated waste services with laws, however there were poor enforcement of those as explained by a senior civil servant¹ and official of the Oyo State Waste Management Agency⁴. Thus, as argued by University of Hong Kong (2017) and corroborated by a state executive of the Community Development Association⁴, official of Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria⁵, and a major refuse contractor⁹, laws that were promulgated were as good as useless when not enforced. A senior sanitary official at the ministry of environment¹¹ attested that offenders of illegal waste dump were unpunished adequately in the past. This study also revealed that waste disposal facilities existed before the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde. For instance, a senior official at the Oyo State Waste Management Agency⁶ was of the view that there were facilities at the various dump locations and sites, although not of the current standard. This tallies with The Economist (2018) that effective waste disposal management requires modern technologies. Unfortunately, a chief environmental officer at the ministry of Environment⁷ noted that most states are often reluctant regarding newer and advanced technologies that can reduce the volume of waste. Past regimes in Oyo

state equally engaged in public awareness on the expected ways of disposing refuse in the form of announcements, jingles, adverts and billboards. Thus, government in the past has not been idle, and Seyi Makinde only built on those initiatives for his waste disposal policy. We can conclude from the foregoing that Oyo State waste disposal policies have been on for a long time, and not entirely new (The Chinese University of Hongkong (2020).

On the challenges against previous waste disposal policies of the Oyo State government, this study reveals that funding was a major issue. This study reveals that inadequate funding is a serious challenge to past waste disposal policies. The finding tallies with the view of a waste disposal contractor⁸ that past regimes in Oyo state have not provided sufficient funds for waste disposal when compared with the administration of Seyi Makinde. In the same vein, the above view tallies with the submission of a senior sanitary officer¹² that waste disposal is a costly venture that requires sufficient funds, which cannot bring financial benefit. Reinforcing the challenge of fund, Allen (2023) noted that for a state to be neat it must budget adequate fund for that purpose. While lack of modern waste management equipment is also a challenge to past waste disposal policy in Oyo State, it does not prevent the state working pattern. According to a senior officer in the ministry of environment¹⁴, Seyi Makinde purchased more than fifty incinerator vehicles while previous administrators used open waste trucks. The main challenge to past waste disposal policy in Oyo State include producing too much waste, most of which is toxic. Landfills have become challenging to manage, with too much reliance on old technology. The use of incinerators' make waste disposal recycling a bit easier because of the capacity of load each truck could carry at a time (Nakamura, 2019). This study finds that poor urban planning does not inhibit effective implementation of waste collection system and not a major challenge to past waste disposal policy in the state. Speaking in an interview, one of the waste contractors¹¹ believes that good urban planning allows for access to interiors in Ibadan, the Oyo state capital, but does not inhibit waste evacuation and disposal because most interior areas did not register with waste contractors. This view is in tandem with opinion of the Oyo State Community Development Association Public Relations Officer¹⁵ that waste collection is easier when there is good urban planning but did not pose a challenge in the case of Ibadan land. The finding here contradicts the work of Abrahamse and Matthies (2012) that a good urban planning is a good asset and advantage to access waste, collect and dispose. This study reveals that corruption in the waste management agencies was not a challenge to past waste policies in the state. According to a senior sanitarian¹⁶, except not to remit the expected income into the cover of state government, corrupt officials in the state's waste

management agencies may not make waste policy to fail. Another official in the state's ministry of environment¹⁸ was of the view that corruption was not good but that it had no impact on the failure of Oyo State waste disposal policy. This affirmed the view of Tallentire, and Steubing (2020) that corrupt officers in the state's waste management agencies are not waste collectors; hence, it is difficult for their corrupt tendencies to inhibit the success of waste collection. Lastly, limited public cooperation tremendously recur as a challenge to past waste disposal policy in Oyo State. All interviewees unanimously agreed that there is need for synergy for waste disposal to be a success. All waste clients, contractors and government agencies must unite, work together as a team for the success of the programme. In other words, force does not make clients to register, pay their levies, or keep to the rules of waste disposal. This corroborates the view of Bilby (2019) that force does not work all the time, especially for political reason. In the view of Orgy (2023), force can only work on illegal dumping and not on residents or clients. A senior sanitarian¹⁶ remarked in an interview that residents in various locations must agree to dispose refuse with a particular contractor based on understanding and not use of force.

On waste disposal policy of the Oyo state government under the administration of Governor Seyi Makinde, findings revealed that the Governor has introduced more effective waste management policies. The Oyo State Commissioner for Environment noted that the State government has severally reviewed its policy on waste disposal. According to him¹, these policies cover registration of major contractors; refuse collectors, payment, dumping site, offences and state engagement. A client under the new refuse policy¹³ supported the findings of the study that Oyo state government is able to arrive at effective waste management policies because it accommodates new concerns of stakeholders on waste management. In the same vein, the administration of Seyi Makinde in Oyo state allows for more critical stakeholder's involvement in waste disposal. To use the words of Wasu (2021), Oyo state government engages the services of private individuals, businesspersons, marketers, non-governmental organisations. The above findings tally with the response of a Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria official¹⁰ that government needs public partnership to manage waste disposal appropriately. Recycling is a very novel initiative in Oyo State¹. The state government is trying but needs to handle it more meticulously. Even though it is a good strategy to adopt in modern time, we still wonder sometimes and cannot really figure out where to throw away certain things, and hence very important for the state waste management agency to find out items that we can recycle and how to separate them from trash. Otherwise, recyclable items will go to landfill (Merinlin, 2024). Recycling conserves

natural resources, reduces energy consumption and emissions generated by extraction of virgin materials and their subsequent manufacture into finished products. It reduces overall energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to the global climate change, and reduces the incineration or landfilling of the materials that have been recycled. Recycling creates job markets and drive growth. Common recycled materials include paper, plastics, glass, aluminum, steel, and wood. Oyo state government makes arrest and prosecution of people who dump refuse illegally. The levels of arrest and prosecution is low. A number of people do not know which law they flout that could warrant arrest and prosecution. It is not also not all the times that, government must arrest or prosecute. Government should encourage cleanliness. To do so, government could identify best community, bank, market or local government for reward, to motivate others.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY FOR GOVERNMENT

If policy makers and government understand and implement waste management methods such as reuse, composting, incineration, waste reduction and recycling, we can have a clean, safe environment and minimize the crises of illegal waste dump. As individuals and communities, support is required of all to have a clean and safe environment. Most state and local authorities are very lenient when it comes to the regulation of toxic substances. There are toxic chemicals in many of the products in our homes, and unfortunately, many of us use many toxic products, which we often disposed of carelessly, incorrectly and are risks to people's health. It is important we separate our trash correctly. If we make mistake to mix up waste, we are likely to contaminate the recycling batch. Government must adopt global recycling rules although they usually vary from city to city.

Policy makers and government must try as much as possible to embrace best waste global waste management strategies, which are prevention, minimization, recycling and reuse, biological treatment, incineration, and landfill disposal must be engaged. The state government should say no to single-use plastics. Single-use plastics are wasteful, ditching them is the best thin. You can easily find reusable and eco-friendly alternatives to common single-use plastics such as plastic water bottle, plastic bag, plastic cutlery, disposable coffee cup, disposable food containers, trashcan, disposable and plastic razor, plastic toothbrush, toothpaste tube, menstrual single-use products, shampoo in a plastic bottle, deodorant spray and so on.

Although, we cannot out rightly eliminate waste. However, we can reduce or minimize waste

generation. Waste minimization, or source reduction, refers to the collective strategies of design and fabrication of products or services that minimize the amount of generated waste and/or reduce the toxicity of the resultant waste. Often these efforts come about from identified trends or specific products that may be causing problems in the waste stream and the subsequent steps taken to halt these problems. Policy makers and government must encourage industries to minimize waste by reusing materials, using less hazardous substitute materials, or by modifying components of design and processing.

Government could also adopt use of incineration by turning waste into solid products (such as compost). Waste can generate biogas, to generate electricity. Incineration consists of waste combustion at very high temperatures to produce electrical energy. The byproduct of incineration is ash, which requires proper characterization prior to disposal, or in some cases, beneficial re-use. It is widely used in developed countries due to landfill space limitations. Government must thoroughly consider the initial high cost of construction, and fly ash emission and levels of toxic chemicals that is injurious to people within the area, so as not to flout the Clean Air Act.

Policy makers and government must explore its feedback mechanism by encouraging residents starting a petition. This prospect can encourage laws that deal with proper waste disposal. Residents and inhabitants of the state can be of help in telling others about personal eco-responsibility. Informing others about proper waste management can significantly help reduce unsustainable practices and waste. Efforts towards waste management education need to be encouraged by individuals, local authorities, and communities. Government should not arrest and prosecute too often; best individual, enterprise, community, or local government that best comply with waste disposal behavior must be rewarded as a way of motivation.

6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

For Oyo state to have international airport is awesome. It is important that government work with stakeholders to sustain the good dream. Inappropriate waste disposal can cause many problems for human health and the environment. Poor waste disposal could pose a serious setback to the transformation of Ladoke Akintola Airport, Ibadan to international route. The desire to turn Ibadan local airport to international one is a long dream that must not fail due to dirty environment. All hands must be on deck to confront practice of turning roads, meridian and waterways into dumpsites. The attitudes of Oyo state residents in dumping waste 'anyhow' is not peculiar to the state capital, however we must restore sanity in the eleven local governments of Ibadan land because of its new status of hosting international airport.

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