

Setting Examples through Effective Municipal Waste Management

The biogas unit at the Kaduwela Municipal Council is truly one of its kind. They are not only keen on proper and efficient management of market garbage but also one tonne / per day municipal solid waste as a whole.



Co-funded by the United Nations Development Programme and the Kaduwela Municipality, technical advice from the joint partnership initiative by People in Need, Cz and Janathakshan (Gte) Ltd on “Up-scaling Biogas Technology for Sustainable Development and Mitigating Climate Change in Sri Lanka”, the Sri Lak Umaga model unit at the Kaduwela Municipal Council is approximately 100m³ in size making it one

of the largest units owned by a government entity so far.

What’s more interesting is the use of generated gas within the biogas unit. While traditional biogas units seek to become an alternative to LP gas in the kitchen, the unit at Kaduwela will turn the municipality’s waste to electricity by powering up a 5kw generator. Again, this waste electricity generation unit Sri Lanka is one of the firsts achieved in the country.

With three months of construction time and seven months until it was fully functional the unit was constructed by and sub-contracted to several SMEs trained by the project as part of the project’s requirement. Constructed on a 30x30 land area the total cost of the construction amounted to ten million Sri Lankan rupees.



Unit Expansion

A unit expansion plan is in the pipeline to add an additional 400m³ to the unit. This would enable the Municipal Council to process 10 tonnes of waste a day. For funding possibilities the Municipal Council has approached the UNDP for a loan.

The Kaduwela Municipal Council receives 90 tonnes of garbage a day. Of which, nearly 60 tonnes is non-degradable. Of the degradable 40t comes in as separated waste and while 20t is composted the rest goes out to open dumping.