

Annex III. Waste-handling matrix

This matrix lists typical post-disaster waste streams and corresponding possible handling and management options for both the emergency phase (the first 8 weeks of disaster response) and the early recovery phase (2-6 months following the emergency phase).

Waste stream	Cash for work	Transportation options	Disposal options	Recycling	Reuse
Waste from IDP camps and shelters					
Food waste	Manual collection possible	Wheel barrow offload into skip for truck haulage	Disposal at dumpsite or landfill under controlled management	Not in Emergency Phase	No
Packaging materials					
Excreta	Manual collection not possible, use mechanical means where possible	Use appropriate trucks if removal is required	Disposal at sanitary dumpsite/landfill under controlled management		
Waste from relief supplies	Manual collection possible	Wheel barrow offload into skip for truck haulage	Disposal at dumpsite or landfill under controlled management		
Debris					
Concrete/bricks	Manual collection possible	Wheel barrow or excavator/bulldozer offload into truck for haulage	Disposal at temporary site for future recycling if uncontaminated debris. Otherwise disposal at dumpsite/landfill to be used as cover material	Attempt to store for future recycling. If not possible, then limited options for recycling in emergency phase	Can extract bricks, steel etc. for reuse
Household furnishings and belongings			Mixed debris disposal at dumpsite/landfill	Not in emergency phase	Not in emergency phase
Other wastes such plastics, cardboard, paper					
Timber	Manual sorting possible		If separated, reuse. Otherwise dispose at dumpsite/landfill	Possible to separate timber for heating, cooking, shelter	Can extract for heating, cooking, shelter
Cables etc.	Manual sorting possible				
Soils and sediments	Mechanical means are often most appropriate but can use manual		Mixed debris disposal at dumpsite/landfill	Not in emergency phase	No
Bulky items	Mechanical means most appropriate				

Waste stream	Cash for work	Transportation options	Disposal options	Recycling	Reuse
Hazardous materials and substances					
Heavy metal contaminated materials	Manual collection possible but with PPE	Put in proper drums, bins or other container before loading onto trucks for haulage	Dispose at sanitary landfill under controlled management. If no controlled disposal available, store until sanitary landfill available.	No	No
Hydrocarbons such as oil and fuel					
Paint, varnishes and solvents					
Pesticides and fertilizers					
Household cleaning products					
Medical waste in the debris					
Healthcare risk waste					
Healthcare waste (from clinics and hospitals - not considered as risk waste)					
Other potential infectious waste	Manual collection possible but with PPE	Put in proper drums, bins or other container before loading onto trucks for haulage	Dispose at sanitary landfill under controlled management. If no controlled disposal available, store until sanitary landfill available.	No	No
Household wastes					
Camp waste					
UN/Military/NGO waste					
Commercial and industrial waste					
Commercial waste	Mechanical means most appropriate, can use manual	Excavator/bulldozer offload into truck for haulage	If hazardous, dispose of at sanitary dumpsite/landfill. Otherwise it can be disposed of at controlled dumpsite/landfill	No	No
Industrial waste					
In post-conflict areas					
Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)	Handling by specialists. Incorporate SOPs for work where these may be encountered	Under controlled measures by specialists	N/A	N/A	N/A
Landmines and ammunition within the debris					
Military vehicles					
Phosphorus and other weapon contaminates					