



Environmental Consequences and Role of Illegal Landfills and their Impact on Land Degradation

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DESCRIPTION

Soil degradation is a concept in which the value of the biophysical environment is affected by one or more combinations of anthropogenic processes affecting the soil. Literally, it refers to the natural quality degradation of the soil components of any ecosystem. Soil degradation, also known as the deterioration of soil quality caused by human activities, has been a major global problem since the 20th century and remains high on the international agenda. In the 21st century, the importance of land degradation in South Calabar is reinforced by its impact on food security and environmental quality.

The main causes of land degradation are land clearing, poor agricultural practices, overgrazing, inadequate irrigation, urban development and commercial development, and soil pollution including both waste. Mining industry of stone, sand and minerals. High population densities are not necessarily linked to land degradation in southern Calabar, but it is what people do with the land that determines the extent of the degradation. In the study area, where a large part of the population depends almost entirely on land resources for their livelihood, this over-dependence leads to increasingly competitive demands for land use such as grazing, fishpond construction, quarrying, agriculture, etc.

Landfilling is a human activity that can degrade and pollute the soil. When burying waste, a wide range of pollutants can be released into the environment, e.g. landfill gas and leachate. The existence of illegal landfills is a growing global problem. Unregulated illegal waste storage areas, often referred to as "illegal waste dumps" (INDs), commonly occur at the edges of forests, in ditches, on the outskirts of residential areas, and elsewhere. IWD contaminates soil, pollutes water, changes vegetation, ecosystem function and leads to land degradation.

Demolition waste is a heterogeneous mixture of construction materials such as aggregates, concrete, wood, paper, metal, insulation and glass often contaminated with paints, fixatives, adhesives, and other substances, wall coverings, insulation and dirt. The composition and

quantity of demolition waste depends on the type of structure to be demolished, the type of construction materials used and the age of the structure to be demolished. The most common types of waste generated from demolition operations are wood, rubble, aggregates, ceramics, metals, and paper products. Demolition waste management offers many benefits, such as reducing air pollutants generated by waste handling, reducing the possibility that heavy metals and hazardous materials in the waste stream can cause damage. contaminate both soil and groundwater, improve health and safety conditions by controlling hazardous materials, and sharps and biodegradable leachate in the waste stream, minimizing contamination vision negatively affects the socio-economic development of any community.

An invasive species is an introduced organism that becomes overpopulated and negatively alters its new environment. Although most introduced species are neutral or beneficial relative to other species, invasive species negatively affect habitats and living organisms, causing ecological, environmental and/or ecological damage.

Underground coal mining causes land subsidence and much arable land is destroyed. Alternating Yellow River reclamation technology is an effective way to restore arable land. Understanding the mechanism of action of the interlayers in Yellow River sediment-filled renewable soils is essential to achieving sustainable soil management in the Yellow River regions. Column experiments and field experiments were conducted to explore the optimal location of the interlayer in the soil regenerated by Yellow River sediments for the restoration of subsidence lands.

Salinization and salinization are types of degradation related to the accumulation of salt in the soil. They gradually progress to serious degradation if not properly controlled. Their related land information is not regularly maintained by many countries, which contributes to their development, especially in agricultural areas, where their impact is of great significance to the Food Security.

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