

A MANUAL FOR
SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Made for
HOTELS
IN
ZANZIBAR

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of the declaration



INTRODUCTION

*In 2023, The Zanzibar Commission for Tourism launched the **Zanzibar Declaration on Sustainable tourism**, which consists of five commitments:*

1. *Sustainable food from sea and land*
2. *Sustainable waste management*
3. *Space for nature and restoring ecosystems*
4. *Support local Zanzibar culture, knowledge and expertise*
5. *Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our operations*

This manual focuses on **sustainable waste management**, but the solutions presented in the manual also impact the four other commitments. The declaration states the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling. Organic waste and plastic waste are especially crucial in creating better waste management in Zanzibar.

This manual aims to make it easier for hotels to act on the declaration's commitment on sustainable waste management.

Be prepared for a sustainable future!

FUTURE VISION

**Following the 3Rs;
Reduce, Reuse,
and Recycle**



Why should you do sustainable waste management at your hotel?

1. Sustainable waste management can be financially beneficial
2. Sustainable waste management is necessary to ensure tourism in the future
3. Sustainable waste management is necessary for securing future environmental requirements
4. Sustainable waste management can support the local community



1. Sustainable waste management can be financially beneficial for your hotel, as you can pay a smaller fee for the waste collection if the amount of waste on your hotel is reduced. Besides using waste as a material or a product that would normally have been landfilled, save you money from buying new materials and products. Besides in the Tourism Act for Zanzibar, requirements about tourism businesses waste management is set. Therefore, if this regulation will be enforced in the future, non-sustainable waste management systems might need to pay fines.
2. If the current waste system will continue and litter will be seen in the nature and destroy the ecosystems, the tourist will be less willing to visit Zanzibar in the future. Therefore, Sustainable waste management are ensuring tourism and your income in the future, as tourists are visiting Zanzibar for the beautiful nature and luxury hotels.
3. Globally sustainable waste management is a hot topic, and more and more requirements will come from for example the European Union and private companies such as booking.com. Therefore, it is an advantageous for your business to be prepared for the future requirement and be better placed at the hotel market.
4. We need to take good care of the local community in Zanzibar. Therefore, the hotels in Zanzibar should support the locals in e.g. getting jobs related to tourism. It can be a great advantageous for both environment and the locals if the hotels and locals can collaborate in creating local business models on waste prevention.

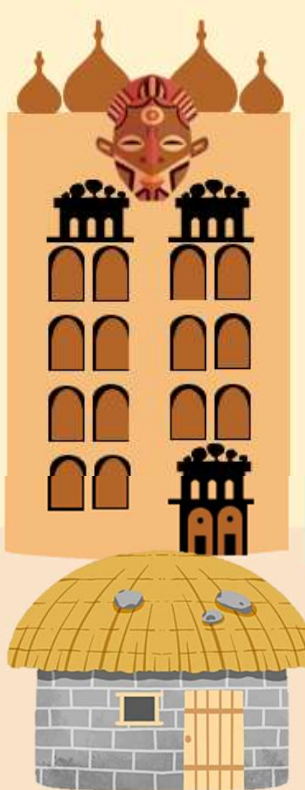
Content

1 Where and why is waste produced?

2 Reduce and reuse hotel waste

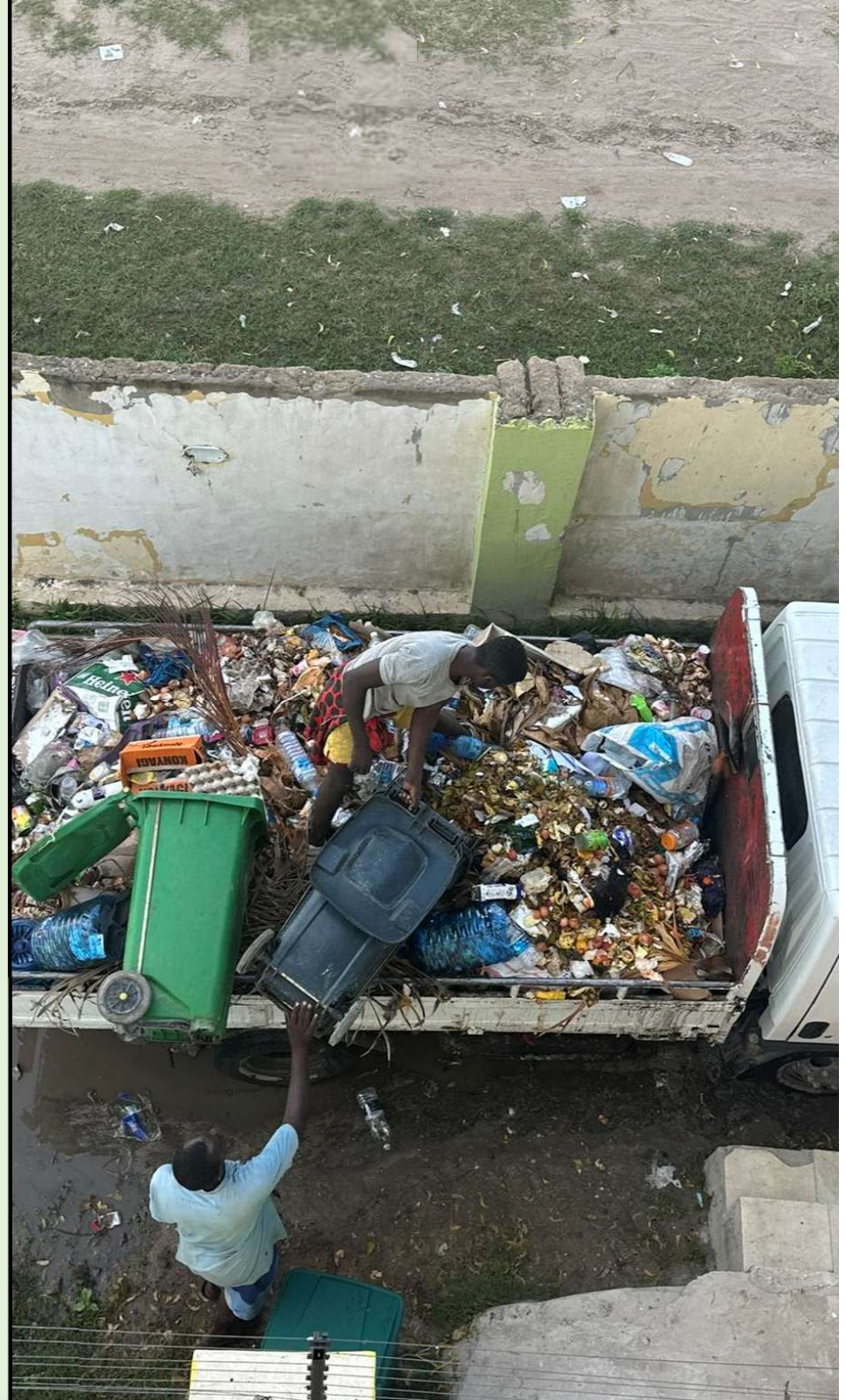
3 Recycle hotel waste

4 Community Support



Where and why is waste produced?

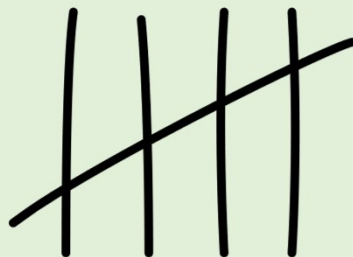
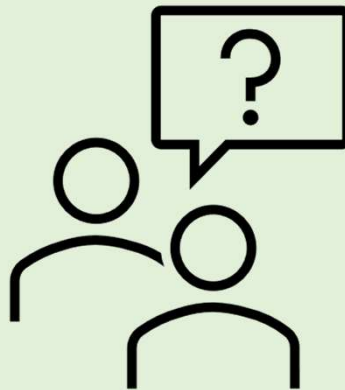
If you want to make changes for a more sustainable waste management system at your hotel, it is necessary to know where your waste is produced and why it is produced. With the knowledge on where and why it is possible to create solutions for reducing, reusing and recycling.



MEASURE AND UNDERSTAND YOUR WASTE

1) Where do you generate waste

Firstly, the hotels need to understand where the waste is generated. Waste can be generated at different areas of the hotel such as the kitchen, the rooms, the garden etc. Talk with the staff in each area to understand what kind of waste is generated.



HINT: You can measure the waste by using a bathroom scale. It is easy and gives you a good indication of the amount of waste you are generating. This also creates awareness amongst the staff of the hotel.

2) Understand the waste

When the waste generation is located, it is necessary to understand why this waste is generated. This could be because of the packaging from the products, the way the products are prepared or how the tourists use the products. An example could be plastic bottles from serving water to the tourists.

3) Measure your waste

Hotels need to measure the waste generated at the hotel. This knowledge will create awareness amongst the staff at the hotel. The information can also be used to help government and district councils in making regulations that support sustainable waste management. The measurements should therefore be shared with the authorities

Reduce & Reuse hotel waste

With the increasing amount of waste in Zanzibar, reduction of waste is the most important factor as it prevents waste in the first place. However, reusing products is also preferred, because fewer resources are being used to make new products, and environmental impacts are avoided when products are reused instead of thrown away.

Waste reduction and reusing of products can seem resourceful; however, many small initiatives can make a big difference, and over time the initiatives can become an economical benefit for the hotels as well as the earth.



VIDEOS ON REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE

To support the manual, four videos on waste management have been made. These videos illustrate to hotel staff the waste issues in Zanzibar and the solutions hereby. Therefore, these videos can be used by both the management and staff, to obtain knowledge about solving waste issues, and act as training videos for the staff. It is recommended that the managers start by watching these videos and continue reading the manual afterwards for further interest and clarification.



Video 1 – A Cleaner Zanzibar

This video is a general video campaign about the issues of waste in Zanzibar, and how we can prevent the waste from ending up in nature or landfills. The video has a focus on the need to engage and create awareness amongst the youth in Zanzibar and the importance of collaborations. The video is in English and can be used by hotel managers, governments, schools etc. in creating awareness about the waste issues to all stakeholders.



[https://youtu.be/Mu37UF7](https://youtu.be/Mu37UF7LImQ)

[LImQ](https://youtu.be/Mu37UF7LImQ)

Video 2 – Organic Waste

This video shows the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling organic waste. Solutions and possibilities to prevent organic waste from ending up at the landfill are explained. The video is in English and can be used by managers at hotels to implement solutions and prepare the staff for organic waste prevention.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jnsriDc8P5A>

VIDEOS ON REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIS0q4R4hIY>

Video 3 – *Plastic Waste*

This video shows the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling plastic waste. The video explains solutions that can be implemented at the hotels. The video is in English and can be used by managers at hotels to implement solutions and prepare staff for plastic waste prevention.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edCGbX8Ca3Q>

Video 4 – *Jinsi ya Kutenganisha Takataka*

This video explains how to separate waste into the three fractions: organic waste, recyclable waste, and non-recyclable waste. The video is in Swahili and can be used by the staff in the hotels in Zanzibar. The video can hereby be used to train the hotel staff in separating waste.

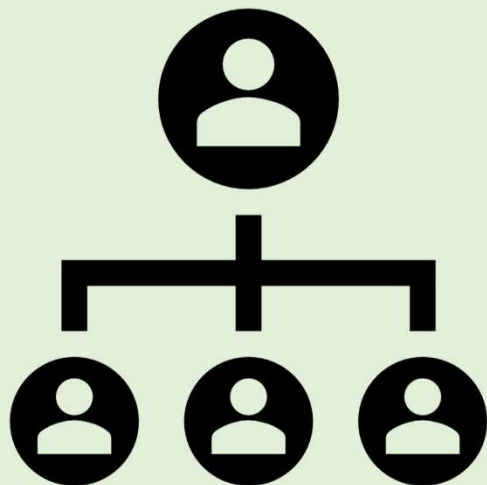


PLANNING TO AVOID WASTE

Management implementations in avoiding waste

When the waste generation has been established and you have an understanding of the amount and types of waste you are producing, different waste planning initiatives can be implemented at your hotel. For example, you can:

- 1) Train the **staff** in waste reduction, reusing and separation.
- 2) Assign **clear responsibilities** for the different staff groups
- 3) Develop a **waste management policy** for your hotel
- 4) Periodically **conduct waste counts** and investigate new reducing and reusing initiatives



General waste reducing and reusing initiatives

There are some **general reducing and reusing initiatives** which apply for all types of waste. These practices can be implemented at your hotel and at the same time be economically beneficial you:

- ✓ **Use reusable alternatives** for dishes, cutlery, cups, lunch boxes, disposable toiletries etc.
- ✓ **Avoid single-use products** as much as possible, in all areas of your hotel.
- ✓ **Plan purchases** for the number of guests that have booked a room
- ✓ **Repair** broken furniture, textiles etc. – This could for instance be broken sunbeds and your staffs' workwear
- ✓ **Buy reused and recycled products** - This could for instance be from companies that make new products from discarded materials, such as Chako, a company that make glass products

PLASTIC & ORGANIC WASTE

Plastic and organic waste are the two types of waste that are mostly seen in Zanzibar. These types of waste are often produced from hotels because the tourists needs drinks and food. Therefore, we need to reduce and reuse plastic and organic waste as much as possible, with the tourists still being satisfied.

Choose less packaging

Choose products with less packaging
e.g., toilet paper without plastic around
every roll, sugar in bigger bags instead of
50g packages, toiletries in bigger bottles.



Avoid single use plastic

Investigate alternative products for single use products such as glasses, straws, food containers etc. A material often used for reusable items is hard plastic, as it can be washed and used again.



Prevent plastic waste

Plastic bottles are ending up in the environment! Avoid small plastic water bottles, either by using bigger 20L bottles and using them to fill bottles of hard plastic or glass, or by implementing a water filtering system and tapping the water into the hard plastic or glass bottles. Buy drinks in glass bottles from sellers who accept them back for refilling, and prioritize all kinds of beverages in reusable containers.

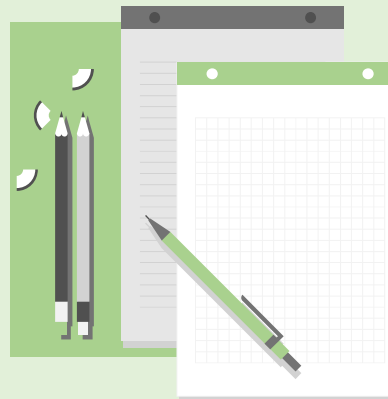
PLASTIC & ORGANIC WASTE

Reducing and reusing organic waste, especially food waste, is applicable in different areas of hotel activity. Food waste appears during purchasing and storage, during meal preparation and during and after serving all because of lack of systematization, knowledge and training.



During purchasing and storage

- ✓ Prepare an inventory checklist to avoid over-purchasing and overstocking
- ✓ Cooperate with green and local suppliers
- ✓ **Adopt the first-in-first-out (FIFO)** system for stored food.
- ✓ Frequent check-up of goods in the storage and donate when close to expiry date



During meal preparation

- ✓ Train staff on peeling, trimming and cutting skills
- ✓ Reuse leftovers to prepare other meals
- ✓ Apply FIFO when using food ingredients
- ✓ Reuse trimming for soup and others
- ✓ Review the menu regularly by obtaining feedback from guests, offer different portion options, and forecast the customer's demand for food according to the number of checked-in guests.

Organic waste

Let nature be wild and untrimmed and leave garden waste for natural compost. If space allows it, arrange composting at the hotel's compound.



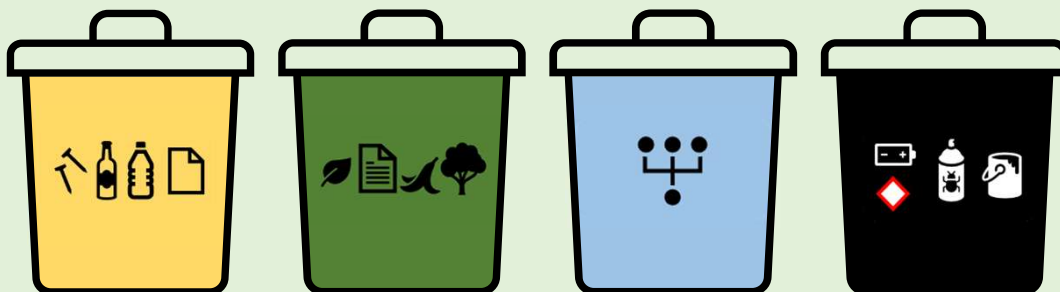
During and after serving

- ✓ Reuse buffet leftovers for staff meals
- ✓ Donate unconsumed food to adjacent communities
- ✓ Reuse leftovers for animal feeding
- ✓ Nudge customers to avoid food waste e.g. use smaller plates
- ✓ Organize buffet counter (limiting food at the last minute)

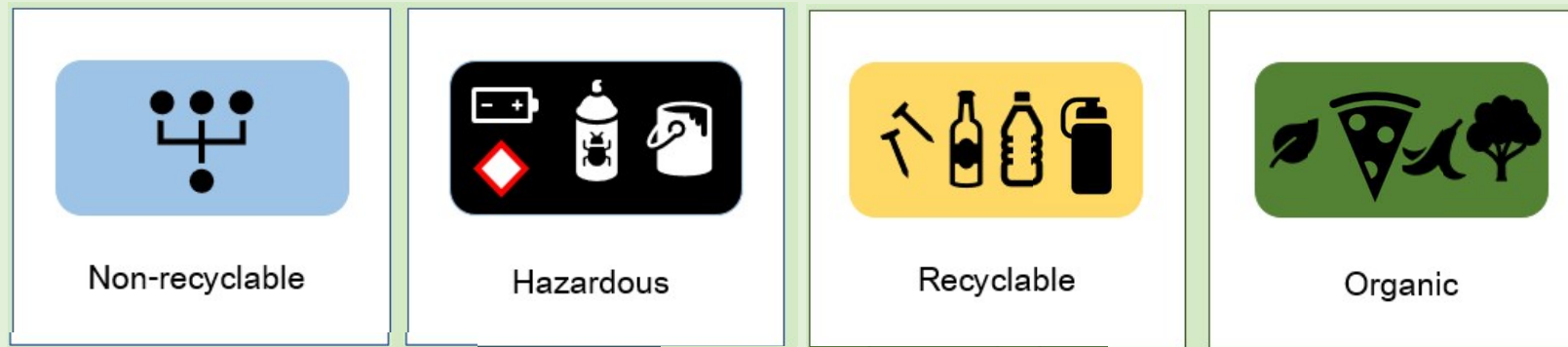
Waste separation for recycling

Separating waste into fractions is necessary to create a possibility of the resource being recycled and to reduce the number of resources ending up at landfills. The workload of unseparated waste from the hotels is too big for the landfills.

Besides, separating resources at the hotels also makes it possible for companies who work with recycling to pick up the resources they can use as materials for new products. However, separating waste requires a radical change in hotel practices.



SEPARATING WASTE



Four fractions

It is proposed that the staff at your hotel separate the waste into four fractions, divided into four different bins, each with its own pictogram. The four suggested fractions are: **Recyclable**, **Food and Garden**, **Non-recyclable**, and **Hazardous**. Inspiration for the pictograms can be seen above. The pictograms by Zanrec can also be used if you have already been introduced to them. Additionally, you should consider how uncommon waste should be handled. As an example, electronics should be repaired or delivered to a company repairing and reusing the products.



SEPARATING WASTE

Food and Garden

Food and garden waste is waste that is produced in your kitchen, restaurant and garden. The food and garden waste are more specifically defined as: **Food waste from animals, vegetables and fruits and garden waste such as leaves, branches, etc.** The food and garden waste can be used to create compost, which is used as nutrition for plants. It is important to separate the food and garden fraction correctly, so it does not contain other waste that can slow down or destroy the process of making compost.



Recyclable

Recyclable waste are resources that can be used to make new products. The recyclable fraction is defined as **plastic bottles, hard plastic, glass, and metal.** For example, glass bottles can become lamps or drinking glasses and hard plastic can become tiles, pots, souvenirs, etc. Therefore, the resources in the recyclable bin must be separated from the waste and separated correctly.



SEPARATING WASTE

Non-recyclable

The non-recyclable waste is the type of waste that is collected because there is no current way to make it into a resource and thereby recycle it in Zanzibar or in Tanzania. The non-recyclable waste should only be the type of waste that is not defined in Recyclable, Organic or Hazardous. It is defined as: waste that consists of **paper, cardboard, textiles** and waste with a **mix of plastic, paper, metal etc.**, and **other undefinable waste**.



Hazardous

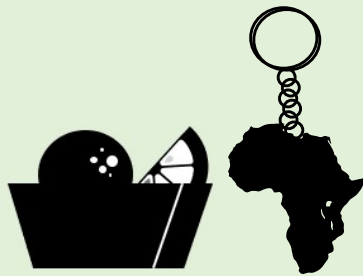
Hazardous waste is products that contain, or have contained, chemical substances. These products are usually marked with different labels indicating in which way they are hazardous. Examples of hazardous waste are; **batteries, spray cans, cleaning equipment** and **painting**; however other things can also contain chemical substances, and it is important to be aware of this. If hazardous waste is not treated correctly, it will affect human health and the environment, e.g., by polluting the soil and groundwater. Therefore, it is recommended that all hazardous waste is separated and afterwards handed to authorities who will make sure that the hazardous waste is treated correctly, so it will not become a danger to the environment of Zanzibar.



COLLABORATING WITH COMPANIES

Separating the waste is not enough to improve the waste management system in Zanzibar. The separated resources must be recycled or reused to stop the resources from ending up in landfills. Therefore, hotels need to collaborate with existing **recycling and reusing initiatives**. The hotels must investigate which recycling and reusing initiatives can benefit from their separated resources and thereby give the resources a new purpose. It is also recommended that the hotels try out new ways to reuse and recycle some of their resources themselves e.g., textiles, metal, and plastic.

Examples of companies existing in Zanzibar that the hotels can collaborate with are:

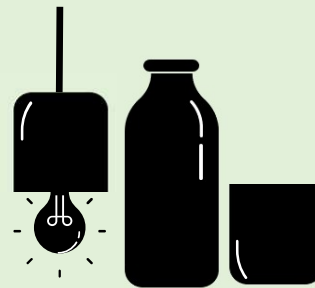


Recycle at OZTI



Recycle some types of plastic

<https://www.facebook.com/RecycleAtOzti/>



CHAKO



Recycle glass & plastic

<https://chakozanzibar.com/pages/all-products>



Green Composting

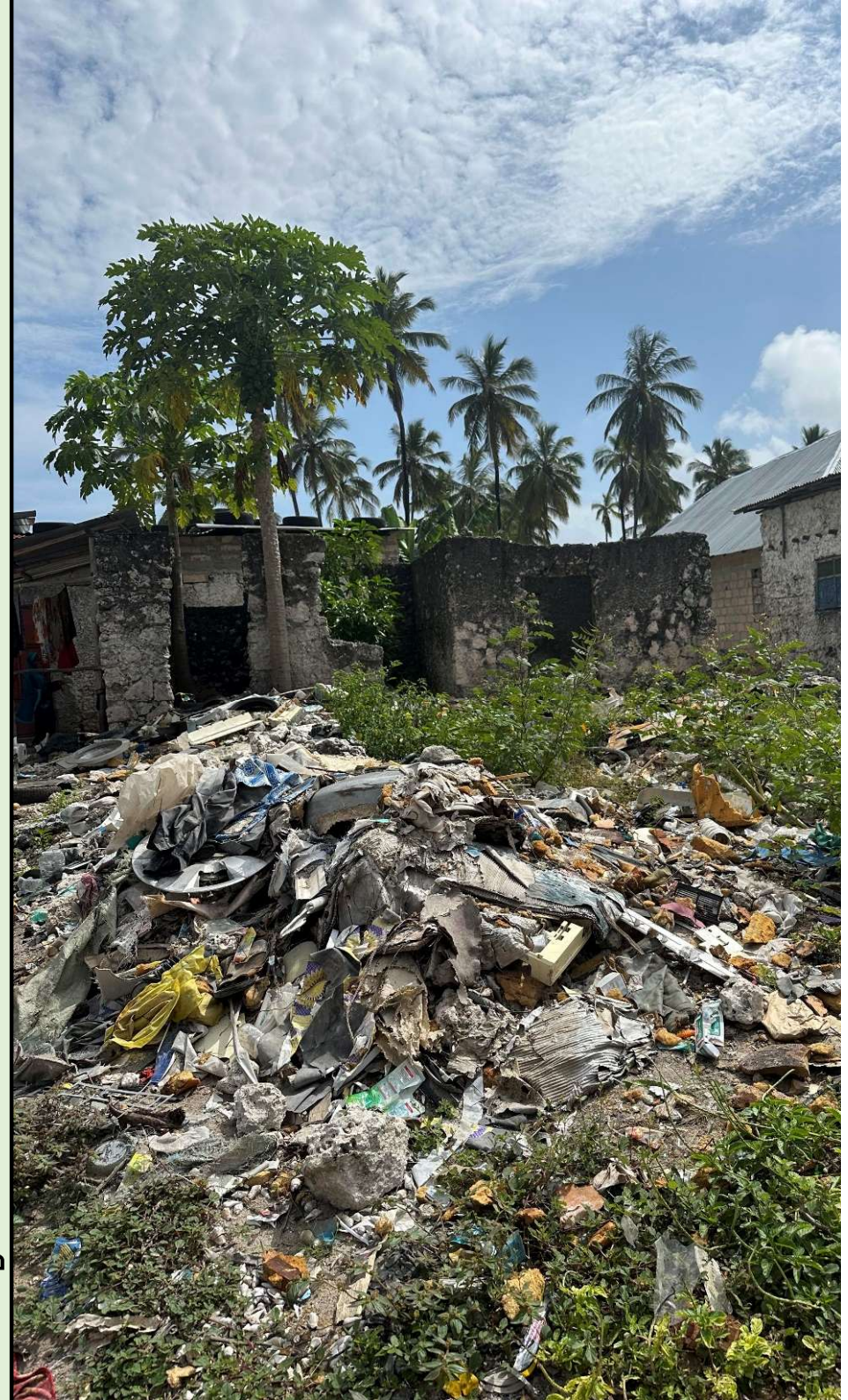


Recycle organic waste into compost

<https://greencomposting.co.tz/>

Community support

The reality is that huge amounts of waste continue to be dumped in nature, which pollutes and causes health risks for humans and animals. The local community cannot handle the dumped waste by themselves and therefore hotels should support the locals in how to reduce the amount of waste in nature. Furthermore, collaboration between the hotels and locals, on waste can be a financial support for the locals as well as create new opportunities for the hotels.



MAKING COMMUNITY SERVICES



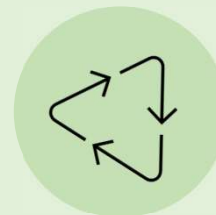
Provide opportunities

This manual proposes that hotels participate in and arrange beach and community clean-ups. This can be further supported by providing collection bags for willing guests and establishing bins along the beaches near the hotels. In this way, people are given the opportunity to help, and together we can keep nature free of waste!



Facilitate events

Hotels can help facilitate up-cycling workshops together with NGO's and the local authorities, to involve locals and their own staff while creating more awareness. Additionally, more hotels can join the clean-up days to support a cleaner environment. Hotels have the resources to help facilitate!



Support local shops

Additionally, hotels can invite local shop owners to sell recycled products to guests. Furthermore, hotels can buy locally produced food and products to support the local economy. Hotels can thereby work together with the community to attract tourists!

LET'S ALL CONTRIBUTE AND

Take a green seat

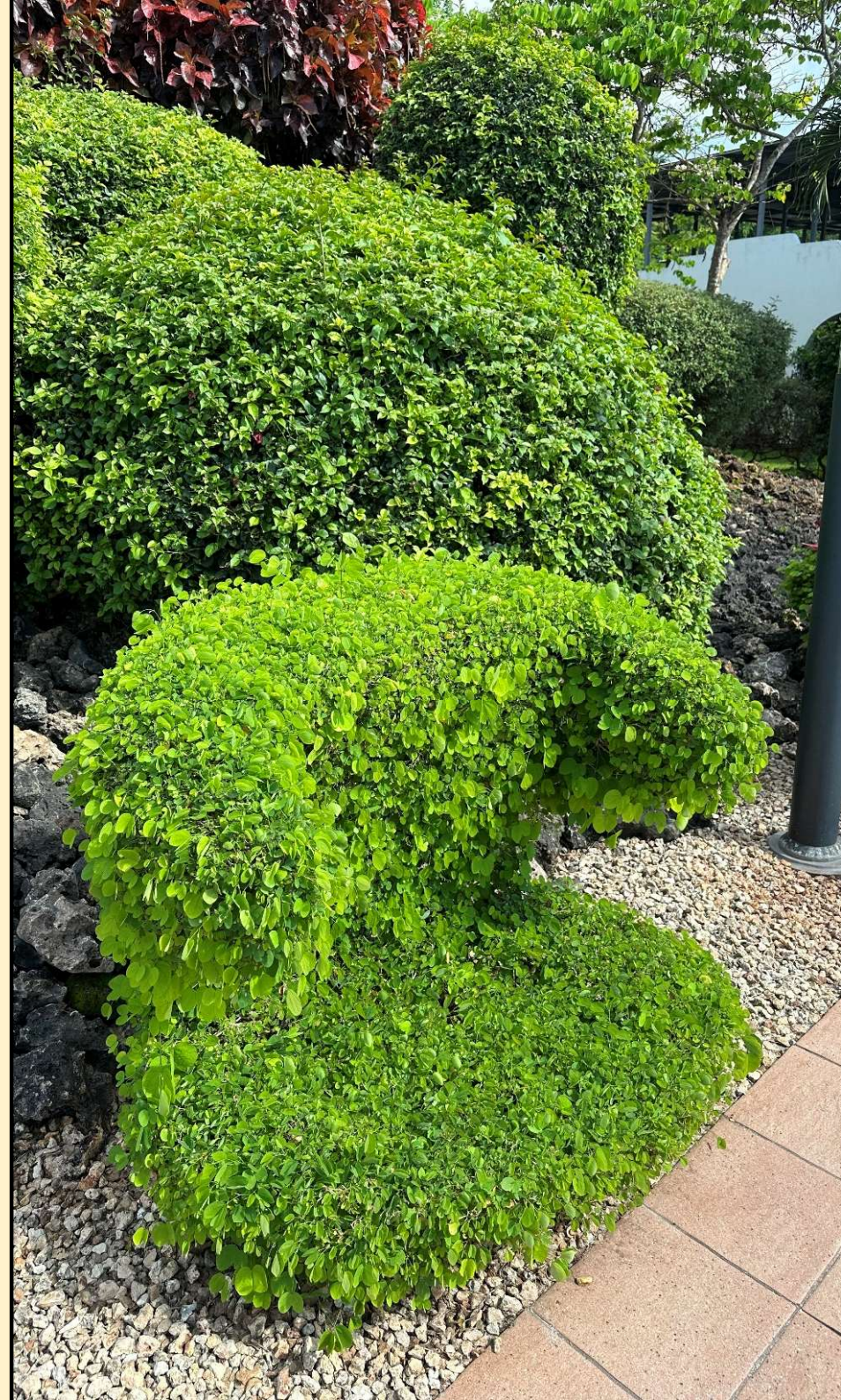
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Thank you for your time!

We hope that this manual has inspired you. And that you will use this inspiration to contribute to a sustainable waste management system in Zanzibar.



Reduce, Reuse & Recycling postcard from Zanzibar



EnSuZa

Environmental Sustainability of Hotels in Zanzibar



The manual is developed as a part of the EnSuZa project, funded by Danida Fellowship Center. For more information visit EnSuZa's [webpage](#)

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