

The Better Tomorrow Plan Case study

Materials & Waste

OUR COMMITMENT: We will reduce non-organic waste in all the countries where we operate and at clients' sites by 2015. We will support initiatives to recover non-organic waste.

Key Figures: Operating on 20 Sites

10 initiatives,
including:

- Domestic recyclables (cardboard, paper, glass, aluminium, steel and plastics)
- Battery recycling
- Printer cartridge recycling
- Hardhat recycling
- Mattress recycling
- Fluorescent globe recycling
- Electronic waste recycling
- Biodegradable crib containers, bags & bin bags
- Reusable crib containers and coffee mugs
- Calico bags (plastic bag free sites)



Recycling gear delivered to site

AUSTRALIA

Resource Recovery Program

Since 2007, Sodexo is running the **Resource Recovery Program**, which aims to achieve a zero-environmental footprint result for our services on our Remote Sites. This program has demonstrated strong environmental stewardship and is committed to continuous resource recovery improvements, which has minimised the use of dedicated landfill sites at mine villages.

Creating value for our clients

Sodexo aims to provide clients with an environmentally friendly alternative to their existing remote site management. By offering sustainable services that set a high standard in industry, clients can be assured that Sodexo will enhance their reputation whilst minimising their environmental impact.

General context

Rethinking the materials we use and how we use them, reducing consumption, reusing and recycling materials, all have a part to play in changing our approach to waste: **waste is often simply a resource in the wrong place.**

With the era of digital TV encroaching on Australia, the amount of e-waste, particularly TV's, is expected to increase significantly.

On average, Australians get rid of a mattress every 8 - 10 years. As a result, Australia is sending approximately 1.25 million mattresses to landfill each year. For many years, reuse or disposal were the only options for getting rid of unwanted mattresses. This presents hygiene issues and is particularly difficult in remote areas.

The concept

The concept incorporates the following basic steps:

- **Step 1:** Provide a set of bins that form a **recycling 'station'**, where people can place their waste into the appropriate bin. Recyclable material is then crushed/compacted and strapped for ease of transport off site.
- **Step 2: Used oil is collected** in special 1000L containers on site, allowing for bulk storage. Once these containers are full, they are also transported off site.
- **Step 3:** With all recycled material now removed, **the volume of waste going to the waste landfill has been reduced by up to 30%.** Evidence has shown that the rate of new landfills being created can be reduced by 70% - 80%.

73 mattresses=

- 54m³ of space in landfill saved
- 912kg of steel recovered
- 146kg of wood recovered
- 110kg of foam recovered



31 Televisions=

- 85kg of metal recovered
- 130kg of plastic recovered
- 305kg of glass recovered
- 60kg of printed circuit boards recovered



Once the recyclable material leaves site, Sodexo ensures that the material reaches the appropriate destination. **Waste material is delivered to recycling contractors**, whose processes have been checked by Sodexo to ensure that the desired product has been achieved. When they receive material, the recycle contractor will provide data back to Sodexo so as to track the amount of waste that has been removed. This will provide Sodexo with accurate information that can be used to demonstrate the achievements that are being made.

Next Steps

Sodexo's Resource Recovery program aims to recycle as much material as possible. **Sodexo proposes that all day to day waste generated by our services can be reduced or recycled.** The material that we aim to achieve includes:

- Paper products – cardboard, office paper, paper bags
- Glass products
- Aluminium cans
- Steel tins – paint, food
- Plastics – shrink film, plastic bags, plastic bottles, plastic strapping
- Canola Oil – waste oil from the kitchen, to be converted into biodiesel

The goal is to reduce the amount of waste we generate, by ordering materials that use less packaging, reusing containers rather than ordering new ones and introducing other innovative ideas that do not require new resources. Similar to the safety hierarchy, environmentally, it is far better to reduce the demand on a resource rather than recycle. Less energy and fewer resources will be used if it is not required at all.

Our partners

Sodexo has developed a working relationship with **Ruggies Recycling**, who are based in Perth. They accept any money that is gained from Sodexo's recycling program and **donate it to Princess Margaret Hospital and the Royal Flying Doctors.** This makes the Resource Recovery Program a complete not-for-profit program, instigated by Sodexo.

External Recognitions

In September 2009, Sodexo received the Golden Gecko Award for Environmental Excellence from Western Australia's Department Mines and Petroleum.

Sodexo was also recently awarded a **"Waste Award"** from Western Australia's Waste Authority and a **"Towards Zero Waste Award"** in September 2011, in the category of Waste Reduction & Resource Recovery Initiative.



More information

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