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**A STUDY OF CHARACTERISTICS OF SOLID WASTE IN DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES**

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**ABSTRACT**

“Municipal solid waste” (MSW) refers to a wide range of wastes generated in metropolitan areas, the type of which differs from region to region. People’s living standards and lifestyles have an important role in determining how much and what kind of trash is created in a given area, but the number and kind of natural resources also play an important role. Organic and inorganic waste makes up the vast majority of urban sewage sludge. There are three basic kinds of organic waste components: putrescible, fermentable, and non-fermentable. Putrescible waste decomposes quickly and produces offensive odours and visual discomfort if it is not thoroughly handled. In contrast to putrefaction, the decomposition of fermentable wastes is quick and clean. As a result, breakdown of non-fermentable wastes takes a long time. Food preparation and consumption is a significant source of putrescible waste. As a result, its character changes with lifestyle, class of living, and seasonality of food. Crop and market detritus are examples of fermentable wastes.