# **INVENTORY OF THE INFORMAL SECTOR (IN ULAB MANAGEMENT)**

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# **Why Inventory of the Informal Sector?**

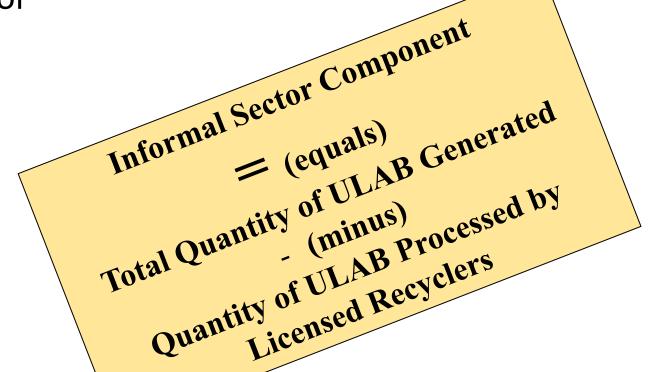
- Determining Magnitude of the Contribution to the total ULAB recycling
- Understanding the spatial distribution of recyclers and local risks from contamination / pollution
- Guidance for ULAB management policy formulation
- Guidance for effective intervention schemes (educational, economic, social, mitigation, remediation, etc)

# **Scope of the Inventory**

- Estimating Quantity of ULAB recycled by the informal sector
- Gathering information on location, activities and trades in the informal sector ULAB recycling biz

# **Estimating quantity of ULAB recycled by the informal sector**

- Can be done within the context of inventory of total ULAB generated for all sector;
- Given, that it is not difficult to determine quantity of ULAB recycled by licenced recyclers of the formal sector



# **Inventory of Total ULAB Generated**

- Use the method contained in the new UNEP document:
- Draft practical manual for the development of inventories of used lead-acid batteries
- Document UNEP/CHW.13/INF/22

Available at:

 http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/tabid/5310/D efault.aspx

# Amount of ULAB recycled by the licenced smelters

- Obtain data from the usually few licensed recyclers available:
  - Use questionnaires
    - Classes of ulab processed?
    - Number in each class?
    - Total weight per class?
    - Useful life factor per class?
    - Total weight (tonnes) per class?
    - Total weight of ulab (all classes)?

# **Inventory of other activities**

- Difficult to Carry Out:
  - ✓ Informal recyclers are small-scale and very many
  - ✓ Requires large team
  - ✓ Location often difficult to make out
  - ✓ Respondent usually uncooperative and hostile
  - ✓ Locations and business times easily changed
  - ✓ Best by field surveys and direct administration of questionnaires/interviews

# **Locating the recycling sites**

- Get help from:
  - ✓ Local govt. officials
  - ✓ Other artisans
  - ✓ Scavengers of ulab / purchasers of ingots
  - ✓ Taxi cab owners
  - ✓ Cooperating recyclers, etc
- Look out for:
  - ✓ Discarded and empty battery cases
  - ✓ Welding equipment
  - Discoloured or corroded concrete floors and plastic adhesives
  - ✓ Bags of used battery plates
  - ✓ Hands of operators (brownish/burns)

- 1) <u>General Information</u>:
- Name of company or site
- Location
- Nature of business
- Number of employees

# 2) <u>Process</u>:

 Describe local process for recycling, recovery (ulab); reconditioning and servicing

3) Occupational & Environmental Exposure:

- Precautions to minise lead emission
- Precautions to reduce risk of acid burns to skin and eyes
- Control of discharges of electrolyte into the environment

- 4) Awareness and Attitudes:
- Knowledge of potential occupational health risks from lead emissions
- Knowledge about environmental damage due to electrolyte discharge into environment

#### 5)<u>Domestic Use</u>:

- To what use have the batteries been put?
- How are the batteries discarded /recycled?

- 6) Retail and Collection:
- Number and types of batteries sold
- Amount of ulab collected
- How batteries collected, stored and transported to recycler

#### DATA FROM THIS "INVENTORY" IS ANALYSED AND USED TO FORMULATE COURSE OF INTERVENTION ACTIONS