

## ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis is to investigate the existing Solid Waste Management system in the city of Guwahati and demonstrate the economic limitations of the PPP framework with regard to the Integrated and Sustainable Solid Waste Management (ISSWM) concept. A primary survey was done among all the stakeholders in the city and questions were categorized according to the principles of ISSWM namely, the *hierarchical principle*, the *polluter pays principle*, the *continuity principle*, *efficiency and effectiveness*. The results of the survey pointed out towards the failure of most of the principles mentioned above. Taking the examples of different case studies of similar SWM systems in other cities of India and other countries, we made an attempt to prescribe some policies to improve the system in Guwahati . Among the suggestions that were given, the most important one was to *induce competition* in the delivery of SWM services. In addition, it has also been observed that *political will* also plays an important part in achieving a sustainable SWM system.