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SWITCH AFRICA GREEN

CASE STUDY # 5

STORIES FROM BENEFICIARIES

AFTER THE GEMOD PROJECT

BIO-DATA

Project Title:	Ghana E-waste Model
Grantee:	Environmental Protection Agency
Enterprise (MSME):	Blancomet Recycling Limited
Year Established:	2008
No. of Employees:	250 with 150 casual staffs
Sector:	E-waste
Type of Business:	Recycling of E-waste (including Used Lead Acid Batteries)
Location:	North Industrial Area, Plot No. 4 Block 3 opposite Kasadjan Construction Limited, Accra.

PROJECT

BACKGROUND

The overall objective of the GEMOD model is to develop a sustainable National e-waste management system which makes e-waste and/or components re-usable to minimize environmental pollution. GEMOD was to establish a structured approach to e-waste management via education/awareness creation on collection, refurbishment/dismantling, sorting of recovered components for recycling/upcycling, safe disposal of hazardous components and export of

recyclables (and hazardous components) in order to provide a solution to the negative tag of unsustainable e-waste management in Ghana.

ISSUES ADDRESSED

COMPANY PROFILE

Blancomet Recycling Ltd offer top prices to companies and individuals interested in sustainable development and proper disposal of various end-of-life materials. The key activity of the company is collection and recycling of secondary raw materials. Blancomet has contributed enormously to the recycling of used lead-acid batteries in the country and continue to improve on their recycling and waste management techniques in an environmentally sound manner

- ✓ E-waste as a successful and sustainable green business
- ✓ Operation of an efficient e-waste collection scheme with satellite e-waste holding centres in Ghana and some west African countries
- ✓ Efficient waste transportation system to deliver waste from all centres
- ✓ A zero waste processing scheme with environmental safeguards
- ✓ Resource efficiency and cleaner production model for recovering secondary raw materials from waste thus turning e-waste problem into opportunities

- ✓ An established e-waste components off-taker markets involving well known e-waste recycling plants (Boliden for Cu and Benz for Aluminum)
- ✓ Gender balance employment opportunities (62.5% females and 37.5% males)

PROJECT IMPACT

Environmental Impact

- ✓ Reuse of effluent from e-waste plastic components washing resulting in zero process water discharge.
- ✓ Recovery and cleaning of hazardous ULAB acid for reuse by battery recharging points and some were sent to high schools for science practical
- ✓ Zero burning of e-waste to recover components hence no air pollution.
- ✓ Diversion of waste from landfill due to non-disposal of plastic components as a result of recycling and reuse
- ✓ Improved energy efficiency by the installation and use of efficient lighting systems.
- ✓ Reduction in the purchase of oxidized cables

62.5% of workers
are female

Economic Impact

- ✓ Additional product (Acids, plastics and recovered components) streams sales
- ✓ Improved quality of products due to elimination of contamination during dismantling culminating into better retail prices
- ✓ Decent secured green jobs for the youth

Social Impact

- ✓ Improved working conditions for workers due to the elimination of risk in the work and workplace.
- ✓ Improved incomes and payment/ annual renewals of National Health Insurance Premiums of all workers and nuclear families
- ✓ Improved company image
- ✓ Access to niche market due to sustainable consumption and production practices
- ✓ Capacity building and skill acquisition for workers

300% reduction in
cost of water

QUOTES

"Blancomet now operates a circular economy where there is nothing like waste"

PHOTOS





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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New Plant (under construction) Teacher Mante



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATIONS

www.ncpcgh.org

GHANA NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTRE

