MANAGEMENT OF INCLUSIVE WASTE
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA
INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

• Managua produces an average of 40,000 tons of garbage per month.
• Lack of legal framework that articulates efforts: generation of waste, reuse, management, recycling, elimination and final disposal of waste.
• 2007-2012: Closure and privatization of the municipal landfill: La Chureca, located on the shores of Xolotlán Lake, Managua.
• 2010: REDNICA, national network of waste pickers.
• 2014: The special law seeks to visualize and dignify the work carried out by waste pickers, traditionally called "churequeros" (pending task).
CREATION OF WASTE PICKER ORGANIZATIONS

• 13, 500 waste pickers

• Motivation of Waste picker organizations:
  • Unemployment
  • Municipality and International Cooperation Agencies Projects
  • Environmental protection

• 2008: efforts to create these initiatives as self-managed groups

• Waste pickers have always existed individually, dedicating themselves to the collection, cleaning and classification of waste from the landfill.
DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVES

• Cooperatives: 27 members on average, mostly aged between 16 and 49 years, with low levels of education and with high rates of illiteracy for the most adults.

• On average, they receive an income less than one dollar a day.

• 39% - 67% of the total of members are women

• Women are the ones who lead the directives in their majority.

• Services: collection, cleaning, transport and classification of waste without added value, which are then sold to the middlemen.
CHALLENGES

• Lack of local government collaboration: restriction of collecting garbage in the municipal landfill.
• Lack of a legal framework that recognizes their work and needs to formalize this sector to access social security and education
• Difficulties in organizing and administrating the Cooperative
• Difficulties in working as a collective.
• Difficulties in transporting the materials
• Lack of infrastructure, machinery to process new products
ACHIEVEMENTS

• Model of the alliance with the Municipality developed by two initiatives: Ciudad Sandino and Ometepe Island.
• Creation of alliances with companies, households and municipalities
• Establishment of collection routes from the source (homes, companies, schools)
• Organization of cooperatives
Fotos: Cooperativa Nueva Vida Limpia, Cooperativa Chureca Guardabarranco, Cooperativa Mujeres de la Chureca