

**Preliminary proposal for a Household Hazardous Waste Management Program  
for the city of Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico**

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**ABSTRACT**

A study was conducted in year 2000, reviewing the Mexican Regulation for environment protection and the household hazardous waste (HHW) management programs developed in different cities of the United States, with the objective of design a preliminary proposal for a program based on a multiparty work between the local Government, Universities, private sector and community as well.

The program was considered as a tool to prevent the indiscriminate disposal of HHW, and also include, as a key part for the program success, the development of an Environmental Education Program and the introduction, through it, of concepts such as sustainable development, pollution prevention and cleaner production in the different participant sectors. The overall project was also evaluated under the scope of sustainability; with the purpose of generate a product that indeed bring benefits for the environment, and to the cultural, social and economic components as well.

The preparation of this project allow the authors the possibility of characterize the factors that challenge the projects of the kind in Countries and Cities with limited capacity, in terms of economics and technical development. The most important factors identified were: Economics, this factor affected the project definition due the fact that there are scarce programs focused in supporting those projects addressed to pollution prevention under the scope of the sustainable development. The lack of effective relationship between the academic and research institutions, and from those with governmental institutions, affects the research process for accurate and fair information, relevant for this type of projects. In addition, the lack of basic research, in Countries such Mexico, on this matter limit the good achievement of settled goals for the research.

One constrain found during the development of the project was the lack of support mechanisms for academic research for students in graduate level in the sustainable development field; this supports are essential for the quality of the basic research and for the implementation and test of the findings.