

Working Notes – Debris and Recycling - Hurricane Melissa

(Changes with this revision are noted in **red**.)

These working notes pull together various sets of information on debris and recycling in Jamaica as part of the post-Melissa humanitarian response. The notes will be updated as new information is available.

Disaster Debris

The basic approach to managing the disaster debris is to **reuse, repair, repurpose, recycle** (“4R”) the debris and **dispose of** the remaining debris into a properly designed storage facility. Ideally, using the 4R approach means only 10% of the original volume of the debris is eventually deposited in a storage facility.

Note that reuse, repair and repurpose should best take place at the origin of the debris, before it is collected and delivered to a processing site. This allows items of potential use to remain with the disaster survivors rather than becoming part of the debris processing cycle.

However, if widespread sorting of debris before collection is not expected to happen, then collection of all debris at one time, and sorting at the debris processing site, is a reasonable alternative.

The good practice guidance for debris management is [**Disaster Waste Management Guidelines**](#). Technical support on debris management is available from the Global Shelter Cluster (email: environmentoperations@globalshelter.org).

Although there is a national solid waste management authority in Jamaica, operational responsibility for disaster debris management appears to have devolved to the Parish level. A national debris management plan does not appear to have been developed to date.

Individual agencies have been involved in disaster debris management. IOM will be issuing debris management agreements in the near future. All debris management efforts should follow the 4R approach and the [**Disaster Waste Management Guidelines**](#).

Debris and Waste Processors

The Logistics Cluster [**WREC Project**](#) has identified the organizations, listed in the following table, as involved in waste processing in Jamaica. The information collected for this table does not indicate the scope of effort, or adherence to rules, regulations or good practices. These factors need to be assessed separately. More information on the list is available at <https://logcluster.org/en/wrec-waste-management>.

Scale of Melissa Disaster Debris in Jamaica

According to satellite-based analysis from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the storm has left over 4.8 million tonnes of debris blocking roads, obstructing access to schools, hospitals and clinics, farms, and markets, slowing the delivery of relief supplies, and delaying the restoration of key services.

UNDP estimates the debris would fill approximately 480,000 standard truckloads. It includes approximately 2.1 million tonnes of building debris, 1.3 million tonnes of vegetation debris, and 1.4 million tonnes of personal property waste. These are minimum estimates based on the latest damage data from UNOSAT and Copernicus and are expected to increase as additional analyses and field assessments are completed. Source: <https://www.undp.org/latin-america/press-releases/more-48-million-tonnes-debris-left-hurricane-melissa-across-western-jamaica-according-un-development-programme-analysis>.

Name	Physical Address	Phone	Web Address	Email	Materials Handled
Jamaica Recycles	164 Spanish Town Rd, Kingston 11	(876) 758-8700	https://jamaicarecycles.com/	jadmin@jamaicarecycles.com	Corrugated Cardboard Packaging (plastics/others - PET and PT), Packaging (HDPE Plastics), Newspaper, Fiberboard, Paper (office), Aluminum, Glass, Corrugated Cardboard, Packaging (plastics/others - PET and PT)
Recycling Partners of Jamaica	25 Retirement Road, 1st Floor, Kingston 5.	(876)-618-2925, (876)-948-7381	https://recyclingja.com/	info@recyclingja.com	Packaging (plastics/others - PET and PT)
Jamaica Environment Trust	123 Constant Spring Road, Unit 5, Kingston 8	(876) 960-3693	https://jamentrust.org/recycling-depot	jamaicaenvironmenttrust@gmail.com	PET, HDPE
Smilozone Cares	1330 Ironshore Crescent, Montego Bay	876 569-8600, 876-801 3167	https://www.smilozonecares.com/desination-zero-waste-jamaica/	info@smilozonecares.com; carlton@smilozonecares.com	Glass

The list of recyclers at right is from the [Jamaica Environment Trust](#). The list includes some organizations listed in the previous list and has some internal duplications (e.g., Recycling Partners of Jamaica).

Note also that the list includes organizations which deal with toner cartridges, car batteries, electronics, scrap metal and lead products.¹ All these items can be part of the waste

RECYCLERS IN JAMAICA					
Last updated May 2024					
COMPANY	MATERIAL	ADDRESS	PARISH	PHONE	CONTACT/EMAIL
Recycling Partners of Jamaica Kingston Depot	Plastics	Lot 7, Henderson Drive, Naggo Head	St. Catherine	(876) 948 7381 (876) 796 3675	Leighton Wisdom, marketing@recyclingja.com
Jamaica Environment Trust (Drop off)	Plastics (PET1, HDPE2)	123 Constant Spring Road, Unit 5, Kingston 8	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 906 9385 (876) 960 3693	jamaicaenvironmenttrust@gmail.com
Recycling Partners of Jamaica Martins Hill Disposal Site	Plastics	Grove Place (Top of the ground site)	Manchester	(876) 813 2847 (876) 948 7381	Dave Bryan, recyclingpartnersjalt@gmail.com
Recycling Partners of Jamaica Greenwood, Montego Bay Depot	Plastics	Greenwood, Montego Bay	St. James	(876) 437 3155	Sophia Kerr, s.kerr@recyclingja.com
Recycling Partners of Jamaica Whitehall, Negril Depot	Plastics	Whitehall, Negril	Westmoreland	(876) 292 3526	Marsha Black-Clarke, whitehalldepot@recyclingja.com
Jamaica Recyclers	Cardboard, paper, plastic bottles	164 Spanish Town, Kingston 11	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 758 8700 (876) 385 6950	Stephen Harker, sharker@jamaicarecycles.com tholt@jamaicarecycles.com
Garbage Disposal & Sanitation System Ltd (GDSS)	Glass bottles (clear, brown, green)	25 Brighton Ave, Off Spanish Town Road	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 383 0938 (876) 656 9953	Kaydie Forbes, admin@gdssja.com
Printware Online Jamaica Limited	Toner cartridges	8 Haining Road, New Kingston	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 960 4785	Shauna-Kay Johnson, info@printwareonline.com
Caribbean Export Recycling (formerly Caribbean Recycling Company Ltd)	Car batteries, lead products	78 Marcus Garvey Drive	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 382 6729	Anthony Wilson, swanson10@hotmail.com
INET Jamaica Limited	Car batteries, electronics, scrap metal	225 1/2 Marcus Garvey Drive, K11 (drop off) 30 Warminster Ave, Kings. 20 (office)	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 371 2583 (876) 297 3808	Kirk-Lyle Hall, kylehall@gmail.com
Sweet Craft	Plastics (clear bottle)	2-2B Shortwood Road	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 569 6158	Beverly Scarlett, jodie.gregg@sweetcraftjm.com
Kurbitron	Scrap metal	Clarendon Park	Clarendon	(876) 322 8999 (876) 296 5565	Shawn Dundur, shaggy601@hotmail.com
Damlog Global Traders	Plastics, Paper, Electronics	12 Ruthven Road Kingston 10	St. Andrew	(876) 920 9459	
CM Recycling CO LTD	metals	383 Spanish Town Road, Kingston	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 758 3781	
Cartridge Collection Limited	Toner cartridges	Mannings Hill Road	Kingston & St. Andrew	(876) 387 2230	

¹ Under the Basel Convention, waste cannot be exported to a country without prior informed consent. Items to be recycled or reprocessed (e.g., tires, batteries, etc.) are not considered as waste when

stream generated by humanitarian organizations. These items can become part of a humanitarian-agency-specific recycling program involving waste generated by organizations themselves.

As noted, this table does not indicate the scope or adherence to rules, regulations or good practices. These factors need to be assessed separately.

Future work on debris and waste capacities will focus on assessing the scope and capacities of these organizations to handle waste and debris generated as part of humanitarian operations.

The Jamaica Shelter Working Group is working on a survey of the listed recyclers to collect information on scope and scale of operations.

Plastic Tarps

Incomplete reporting indicates that over 50,000 plastic sheets or tarps have been distributed for use emergency shelter in Jamaica. Detailed information on the actual specifications used for individual procurements is not available, but not all tarps are expected to have met current IFRC/ICRC/UNHCR specifications.

Emergency shelter plastic tarps can be expected to degrade into microplastics over time. This will happen sooner for poorer quality tarps, and something beyond two years for best standards items.

Good practice is that the party which provided the plastic tarps, or a 3rd party taking on the specific task, should facilitate the collection of used tarps and assure their reprocessing. As plastic tarps intended for reprocessing have a monetary value, the collection and preparation of tarps for reprocessing can be based on an income generation model.

Additional options for processing plastic tarps will be explored with recycling and reprocessing organizations in Jamaica as time and resource permit.

For additional information, please email environmentoperations@sheltercluster.org.

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exported for recycling or reprocessing. However, such efforts should conform to the prior informed consent concept, and the recycler should meet legal and good practice criteria and be subject to auditing.