


Lucia Fernandez, Wastepicker's Global Coordinator  
WIEGO



Brief overview from 4 latinamerican cities,  
where municipalities are investing in **wastepickers**  
**integration**

# LATIN AMERICAN WASTEPICKER NETWORK:

- 12 national movements, networks and associations are members of the LAWPN, creating in 2005
- They have done 5th Latin American Conferences and now extending contacts in Centroamerican through a WPs ground-mapping



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**Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
12,801,364 population  
100 000 wastepickers  
(2001)  
5000 T per day of waste  
collected



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Zero Waste Law 1854 (2005)

City level contracting process (bid)  
for waste collection (2011)

Wastepickers organizing since 2001  
(economic crisis)



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### **MTE (Excluded Workers Movement)**

Cooperative of 1800 wastepickers workers,

Receiving payment compensation for work (minimum wage)

Plus acces to recyclable materials

Plus transportation costs

Plus MRFC

They collected more than 40 ton a day using 21 collection routes

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## Cooperative El Ceibo

Socio-environmental project formed 15 years ago based mainly with women WPs.

100 wastepickers, working in a 1,500 m<sup>2</sup> space, on land ceded by the State. It has a scale for weighing trucks and presses for different materials from 15 tons of materials recovered and ready for sorting.



PLANTA SOCIAL DE SEPARACIÓN Y RECICLAJE  
"Esperanza del Libertador"



APADRINA:

Programa de  
Responsabilidad Social



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**Montevideo, Uruguay**

1,700,000 population  
2000 ton per day of waste  
generated  
9000 wastepickers

Packaging Law (2004)

Social Development  
Minister (2006)



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### **Ave Fenix Cooperative**

Supported additionally by UNDP and UNEP.  
20 members collecting, procesing, only recyclable  
materials (source segregation programme)

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**Santa Cruz, Bolivia**

largest city in the country,  
and one of the fastest  
growing cities in the world  
1,616,063 population  
Aprox 1000 ton per day of  
waste generated  
3000 wastepickers

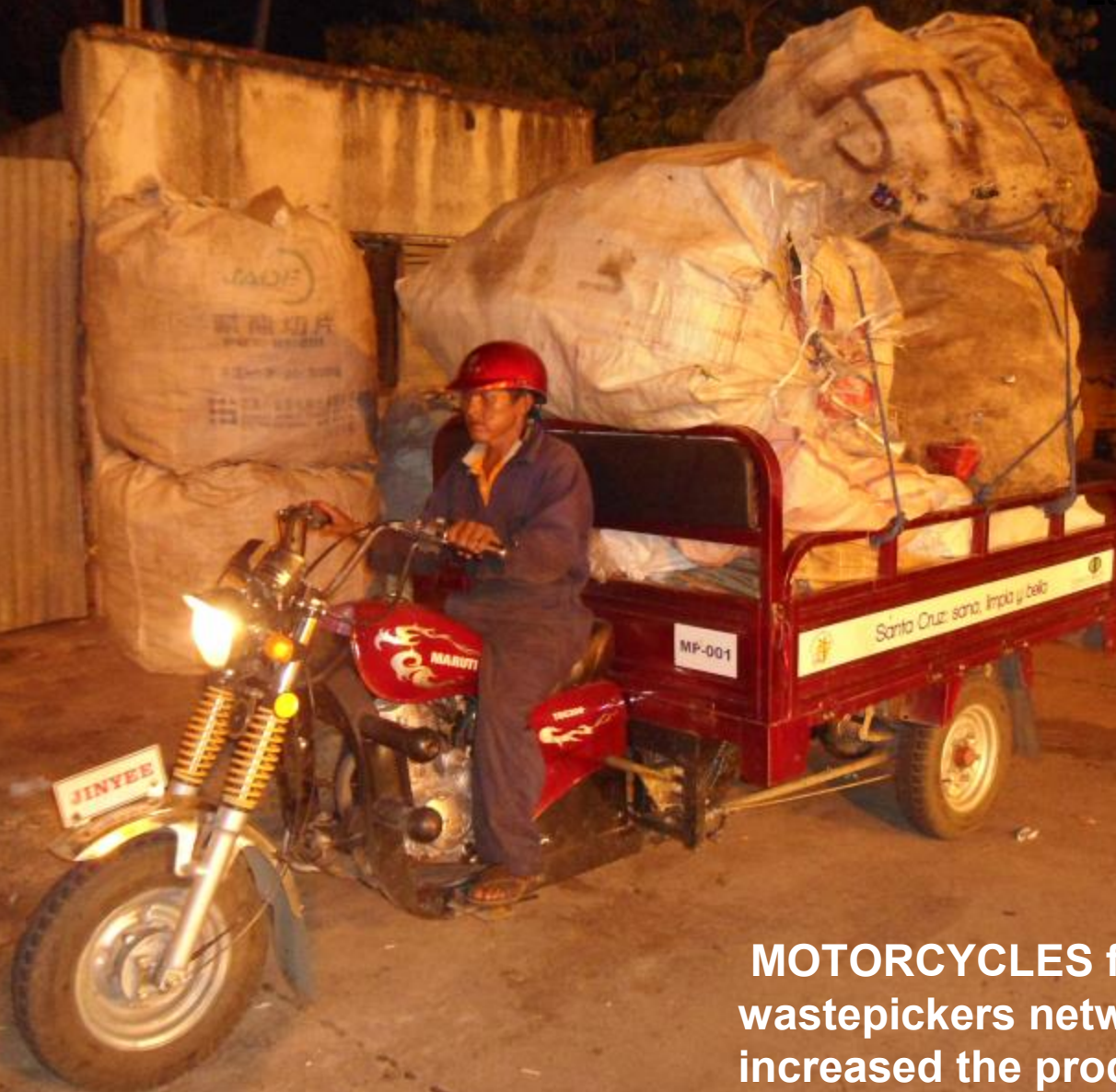
Nacional Policy Draft (2011)

Red Recicladores (Network of Wps, 2009)



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**MOTORCYCLES for Santa Cruz  
wastepickers network: in 30 days  
increased the productivity by 56%**

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**Londrina, Diadema, Natal,  
Belo Horizonte, Brasil**  
192,376,496 population  
800 000 aprox wastepickers

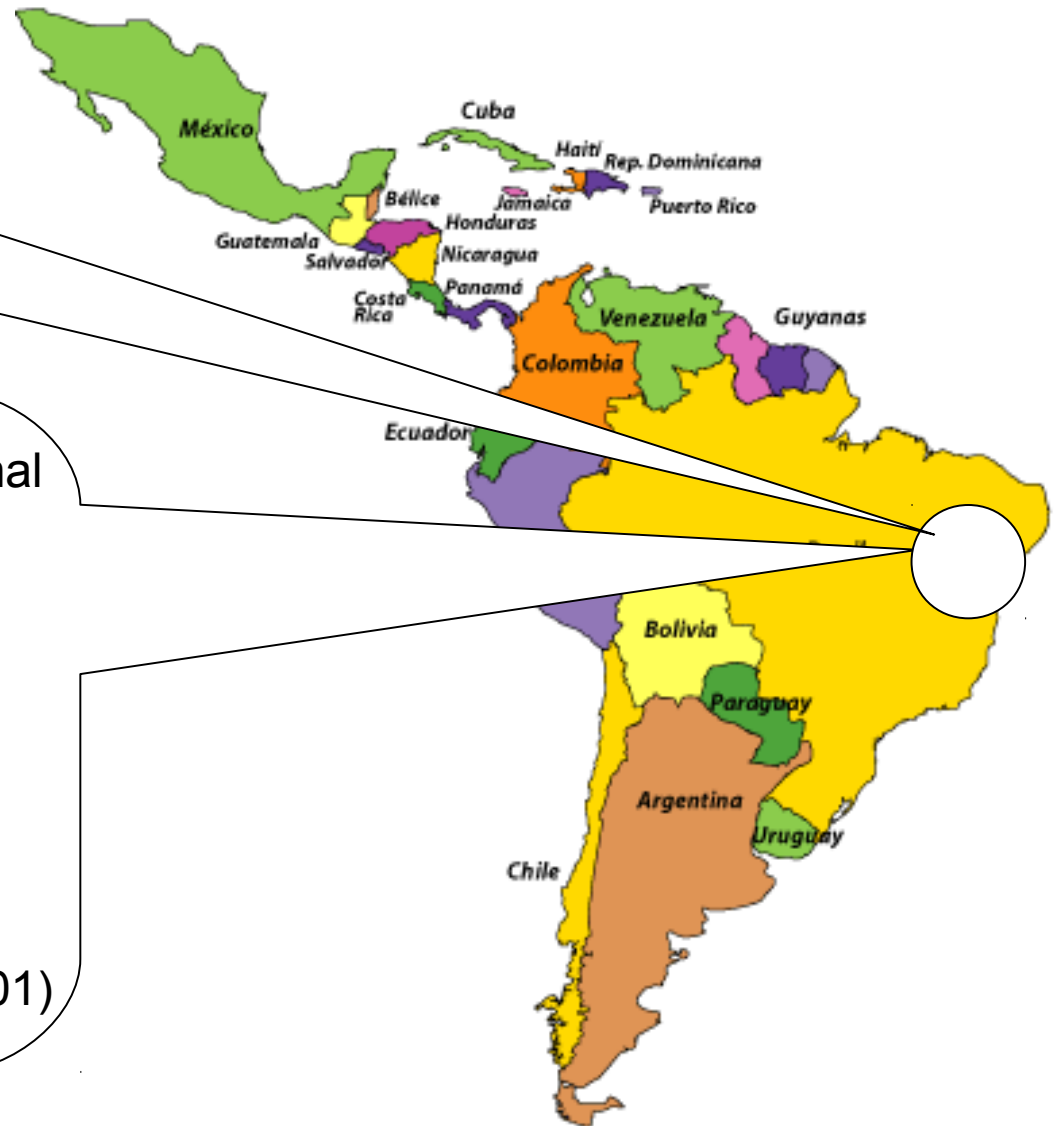


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Solid Waste Management National  
Law (2010)  
Closing dumpsites  
Source segregation  
Recyclable materials for Wps  
Inclusion of Wps into SWM  
systems

National Mouvement MNCR (2001)



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**Belo Horizonte-** The first plastic recycling facility for and by  
wastepickers! Supported by Brazilian Government and run by  
MNCR/Cataunidos (1.5M U\$)

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**Diadema** was the first city in the country to pay the waste pickers per ton collected. They received \$ per ton of material collected and also the amount paid by the company that buys recyclables. 1640 ton of recyclable materials recovered by Wps in Diadema during 2010

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**All over Brazil:** electric push-carts can transport more than 300 kg load. Its autonomy is 4-5 hours, which gives an average of 25 km / day continuous motion.

It costs approx 2000\$ each and State Bank will provide the Mouvement with 22000 of them!

### 3 Key learning process:

- 1) **Legal Frameworks**, nationally but mostly locally implemented which can ensure sustainability beyond local elected bodies that change over time
- 2) Mobilization & Advocacy from both wastepickers groups and social society in order to **create political willingness!**
- 3) **Organizational strenght for wastepickers** groups and capacity building for them to be properly integrated (& recognized) into the solid waste system