

Solid Waste Management Practices and Profitability Among Santa Rosa Market Vendors: Basis for Restructuring Program

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to examine the relationship between solid waste management practices and profitability among market vendors in Santa Rosa City, specifically focusing on the dry and food sections of the public market. The research sought to assess the vendors' level of knowledge, practices, and the extent to which these factors influence their business profitability. Furthermore, the study intended to propose a restructuring program to improve waste management practices and enhance vendors' profitability. The study employed a descriptive-correlational research design. 74 market vendors, who were of legal age and had been engaged in vending, were selected through purposive sampling. A structured survey questionnaire was utilized to gather data regarding their knowledge, practices, and profitability related to solid waste management. The statistical tools used in analyzing the data included frequency and percentage distribution, weighted mean, and Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient.

The findings revealed that market vendors possess a moderate level of knowledge regarding proper solid waste management, while their practices ranged from moderate to low, particularly in waste segregation and recycling. The study also found a significant relationship between the vendor's knowledge and solid waste management practices. Moreover, it was concluded that proper waste management practices have a positive influence on the profitability of market vendors, as they help reduce operational costs, attract more customers, and maintain a clean and healthy market environment. Based on the findings, the study recommended the development of a restructuring program focused on intensive information dissemination campaigns, provision of waste management facilities, regular monitoring, and training activities to improve the waste management practices of market vendors in Santa Rosa City. The study emphasized that strengthening solid waste management practices is essential not only for environmental sustainability but also for increasing business profitability.

Keywords: Solid Waste Management, Practices and Profitability, market vendors in Santa Rosa City, development restructuring program based on the findings.

1. INTRODUCTION

In urban environments, solid waste management (SWM) is a major challenge, especially in fast-growing areas like Santa Rosa, Laguna. Because marketplaces are centers of economic activity, the trash produced by market operations has a big influence on vendor profitability as well as environmental sustainability. When incorporated into market operations, efficient SWM techniques can lower operating expenses, improve the marketplace, and boost vendor profitability. However, the use of such methods is still uneven and frequently hindered by a lack of resources, understanding, and enforcement of policies. Market sellers are essential to local commerce in Santa Rosa, fostering community well-being and economic prosperity. Despite their importance, limited research exists on how these vendors perceive and implement SWM practices and how these practices influence their profitability.

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Solid waste management (SWM) has become an increasingly urgent concern in many urban centers in the Philippines, including Santa Rosa City, Laguna. The rapid urbanization and commercialization of the city have significantly increased waste generation, particularly in public markets that serve as daily points of convergence for trade and consumption. Marketplaces, while vital to local economies, are also critical nodes for solid waste production due to the high volume of goods, especially perishable food items, being sold and consumed daily. In this context, the role of market vendors in implementing and maintaining proper waste management practices becomes vital to the sustainability and cleanliness of the city's public spaces.

Santa Rosa City is a progressive and highly urbanized area in Laguna, known for its industrial estates and growing population. Despite local ordinances on environmental protection and waste segregation, the public market continues to face challenges related to improper waste disposal, unsanitary surroundings, and limited compliance among vendors. These issues not only affect public health and the environment but may also influence the profitability and operational efficiency of vendors. Consumers are more likely to patronize clean, well-managed stalls, and vendors who maintain hygienic practices may incur lower costs related to sanitation violations or pest control.

Previous studies have shown that sustainable SWM practices can lead to cost savings, enhanced customer trust, and increased sales among small to medium-sized enterprises. However, there is limited local research specifically examining the link between waste management practices and profitability within the context of public market vendors in the Philippines, particularly in Santa Rosa. Furthermore, most SWM programs at the local level tend to focus on enforcement rather than capacity-building or incentives that can encourage vendor participation and long-term behavior change.

Understanding the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors of market vendors toward solid waste management and how these relate to their business performance is crucial for designing effective interventions. This study seeks to fill this gap by assessing the current SWM practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, analyzing their perceived and actual impact on profitability, and using the findings

to propose a data-driven restructuring program. By integrating environmental and economic considerations, the proposed program aims to promote a cleaner, more sustainable, and economically resilient market environment.

GLOBAL AND LOCAL CONTEXT

Global Context.

Globally, solid waste management (SWM) has become a critical aspect of environmental sustainability and economic resilience, especially in urban commercial settings such as public markets. Studies across developing countries have shown that adopting effective SWM practices, such as waste segregation, composting, and recycling, not only mitigates environmental impact but also leads to financial benefits for market vendors. For instance, in South Africa, Naidoo and Patel (2020) demonstrated that market vendors who engaged in waste-to-resource strategies, including composting and the resale of organic materials, achieved improved profit margins even in resource-constrained environments. Similarly, Jain and Gupta (2020) found that small-scale vendors in India who practiced basic waste segregation reduced their disposal costs and gained additional income from recyclable sales, despite facing challenges in infrastructure and awareness. In urban China, Wang and Chen (2020) reported that participation in formal government recycling initiatives led to financial incentives such as reduced waste collection fees and tax benefits, highlighting the role of state-backed programs in boosting vendor profitability through SWM.

These international findings affirm the economic and environmental synergy that can arise from solid waste management practices. However, they also point to persistent challenges in scalability, infrastructure availability, and regulatory enforcement—factors that remain particularly critical in emerging economies and informal market structures. While substantial research has been conducted in Asia and Africa, there remains a gap in the literature that thoroughly examines the influence of SWM practices on profitability within Southeast Asia's evolving urban markets, particularly in the Philippine setting.

Local Context.

In the Philippines, market vendors operate within a mixed economy characterized by informality, resource limitations, and evolving environmental policies. Public markets are central to local commerce, but also major contributors to urban waste. The study of Ocampo and Mendoza (2021) in Metro Manila showed that vendors who actively participated in waste segregation programs experienced both environmental benefits and cost savings, reinforcing the economic potential of sustainable practices. Likewise, Villanueva and Santos (2019) analyzed public markets in Laguna and found that vendors who implemented composting and waste reduction strategies attracted environmentally conscious customers, resulting in increased sales and reduced operational costs.

In Santa Rosa City, the local government has taken active steps toward addressing SWM challenges through the implementation of its Environmental Code. According to Cruz and Alvarado (2022), vendors who complied with the code's mandates, such as waste segregation and engagement in recycling initiatives, benefited from lower waste disposal expenses and supplementary income from recyclable materials. However, the same study emphasized consistent monitoring, capacity-building, and infrastructure development to ensure long-term vendor compliance and economic sustainability.

Despite these efforts, gaps persist in the full integration of SWM practices among market vendors, particularly those in the dry and food sections of public markets. Issues such as inconsistent policy enforcement, limited vendor education, and lack of infrastructure continue to hinder broader adoption. This reflects the need for a strategic restructuring program that not only reinforces environmental compliance but also aligns with vendors' economic interests.

By situating this study within both global and local frameworks, it becomes evident that solid waste management is not merely a regulatory requirement but a potential driver of profitability and resilience for public market vendors. The research, therefore, seeks to bridge knowledge and policy gaps by evaluating SWM practices in Santa Rosa's market vendors and proposing a restructuring program informed by best practices and contextual realities.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to determine the relationship between solid waste management (SWM) practices and profitability among market vendors in Santa Rosa City, Laguna, and to use the findings as a basis for proposing a restructuring program that promotes sustainable and economically beneficial waste management practices.

More specifically, the study seeks to:

1. **Assess the level of SWM practices** among market vendors, particularly in terms of waste segregation, recycling, proper disposal, attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control.
2. **Measure the level of profitability** associated with these practices, focusing on additional revenue streams, cost reduction, and improved customer retention.
3. **Determine whether a significant relationship exists** between SWM practices and vendor profitability.
4. **Propose a restructuring program** based on the study's findings to enhance profitability and sustainability in market operations.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The following are expected to benefit from this study:

Santa Rosa Market Vendors. This study empowers vendors with practical knowledge on effective waste management, enhancing their business practices and sustainability efforts. It can help vendors reduce waste-related costs, improve compliance with regulations, and boost their reputation among eco-

conscious customers. Vendors adopting sustainable practices may see increased customer loyalty and support from the community may lead to profitability.

Customers or Shoppers. Shoppers benefit from a cleaner, more organized market environment, promoting a more enjoyable and healthier shopping experience. The study raises shopper awareness of responsible consumption, encouraging them to support vendors prioritizing sustainability. Customer participation in sustainable practices can motivate vendors to continue their waste management efforts.

Market Administration. Insights from this study help market administration design efficient waste management policies and improve communication with vendors. It aids in creating a cleaner, more attractive market environment that can increase foot traffic and vendor satisfaction. Effective waste practices streamline operations, enhancing the overall market experience for all stakeholders.

Local Government. The study provides valuable data to inform waste management policies and environmental initiatives at the local level. It supports the government's public health goals and strengthens the city's reputation as an environmentally responsible community. This information also aids in assessing the effectiveness of current waste regulations and identifying areas for improvement.

Community and Environment. By fostering better waste management practices, the study contributes to a cleaner and healthier community, reducing pollution and environmental degradation. It educates the public on the importance of responsible waste practices, leading to increased community involvement. Sustainable waste practices help conserve local resources, benefiting residents and the surrounding environment.

Researchers. This study offers significant benefits to researchers by providing empirical data on the relationship between solid waste management practices and profitability among market vendors, serving as a foundation for validating, expanding, or comparing findings across various contexts. It contributes to theoretical and practical frameworks that integrate environmental sustainability with business performance, facilitating interdisciplinary research into policy impacts, sustainability initiatives, and the economic roles of vendors in waste management. The proposed restructuring program provides a model for evaluating program effectiveness and long-term outcomes, supporting future research on balancing economic growth with environmental stewardship.

Future Researchers. This study provides a foundational reference for future research on the link between environmental sustainability and economic outcomes in urban markets. By analyzing solid waste management practices and profitability among Santa Rosa market vendors, it offers empirical data for validating or expanding findings and establishes a baseline for comparative studies. It highlights frameworks connecting environmental management with business performance, supporting interdisciplinary research on waste management policies and vendor contributions to sustainability. The proposed restructuring program serves as a model for assessing long-term impacts on vendor practices, market sustainability, and profitability, enriching discourse on balancing economic growth and environmental stewardship.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Waste Segregation and Solid Waste Management Practices

Solid waste management (SWM) practices, particularly waste segregation, are fundamental to achieving environmental sustainability and improving the economic viability of businesses. Studies conducted in global contexts demonstrate that market vendors tend to adopt sustainable waste practices when these are perceived to result in tangible benefits such as improved public health, community welfare, and business profitability. For instance, Grodzińska-Jurczak et al. (2020) and D'Souza and Taghian (2019) found that vendors across Europe and North America were more likely to engage in proper segregation and recycling when aware of the long-term socio-economic gains. Similarly, research in Asia highlights the influence of cultural norms, government policies, and incentives in promoting SWM. Rajapaksha et al. (2020) and Tan et al. (2019) emphasized that consistent government support and awareness campaigns drive the adoption of waste management strategies among market vendors.

In the Philippine context, particularly in the province of Laguna, the literature reveals a growing awareness of the role of SWM among market vendors. Flores and Medina (2020), Montalvo and Castro (2020), and Lozano and Reyes (2022) reported that increased environmental education has positively influenced vendors' attitudes and behaviors toward sustainable waste practices. However, infrastructural challenges and policy enforcement gaps hinder full compliance. De Guzman and Santiago (2021), as well as Reyes and Villanueva (2019), pointed out that the weak implementation of Republic Act No. 9003 and the lack of accessible waste management facilities contribute to low participation among vendors in Laguna's public markets.

2. Barriers to Effective Solid Waste Management

Despite the recognized benefits of solid waste management, multiple barriers continue to affect its effective implementation. Globally, structural issues such as inadequate infrastructure, lack of policy consistency, and poor logistical support limit the efficiency of waste segregation and disposal systems. Holm et al. (2019), Jabbour et al. (2021), and Alam et al. (2019) underscore how insufficient government support systems in both developed and developing countries hinder proper waste handling practices.

On a local scale, the Philippine experience reflects similar challenges. Bautista (2021) and Lozano and Reyes (2022) revealed that market vendors face logistical and financial constraints that reduce their willingness to participate in SWM programs. These include a lack of waste bins, collection services, and financial rewards for segregating or recycling waste. To overcome these challenges, a multi-dimensional approach is necessary—one that includes infrastructure upgrades, financial incentives, community education, and consistent policy enforcement.

3. Economic Profitability from Recycling and Proper Disposal

There is a significant body of literature supporting the economic potential of recycling and proper waste disposal for businesses, including market vendors. Globally, recycling initiatives have been shown to reduce operational costs and enhance environmental performance. According to the Aluminum Association (2021), the recycling of aluminum reduces carbon emissions by up to 94%, providing substantial cost and energy savings. Kant and Ghosh (2020) further emphasized that industrial recycling practices in India led to increased efficiency and cost reduction.

In the Philippine context, Coca-Cola Philippines (2020) serves as a leading example, having invested in recycling infrastructure that turns post-consumer PET bottles into new packaging materials. This initiative not only addresses plastic pollution but also provides a revenue-generating model. Nonetheless, barriers such as high upfront costs, contamination in waste streams, and the dominance of informal waste sectors limit the profitability of recycling, especially for small enterprises (Pepino, 2020).

4. Adoption of Circular Economy Models

The integration of circular economy principles in waste management has gained global traction. These models prioritize the "reduce, reuse, and recycle" (3R) framework to create closed-loop systems that minimize waste and maximize resource utilization. Geissdoerfer et al. (2019) and Murray et al. (2019) argue that circular models can significantly lower costs and increase revenue, particularly in sectors reliant on raw materials.

Government policies that reward recycling behavior also play a crucial role. Matheson (2019) and Trihadiningrum (2020) highlighted how fiscal incentives, such as waste taxes and recycling credits, can stimulate sustainable business practices. Moreover, Fitzgerald and Keating (2019) stressed that businesses adopting eco-friendly operations not only benefit from reduced costs but also enjoy improved customer loyalty and brand reputation. Despite these advantages, the circular economy's adoption among market vendors is still limited due to resource constraints and policy inconsistencies.

5. Theoretical Perspectives: Subjective Norms and Perceived Behavioral Control

The Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) provides a behavioral framework for understanding the adoption of waste management practices. Subjective norms—social expectations that influence individual behavior—have been found to significantly affect business decisions in the context of environmental practices. Yuriev et al. (2020) and Fang et al. (2022) demonstrated that businesses aligning with community expectations on sustainability benefit from increased customer loyalty and, ultimately, higher profitability.

Perceived Behavioral Control (PBC), another key component of TPB, refers to the confidence of individuals in their ability to perform certain behaviors. Studies by Al Mamun et al. (2018) and Afroz et al. (2015) suggest that businesses are more likely to implement waste management systems when they feel they possess the necessary skills, resources, and knowledge. However, Rios et al. (2020) and Reyes and Valenzuela (2021) found that in many developing contexts, including the Philippines, implementation is constrained by high costs, poor infrastructure, and inconsistent policy support.

3. METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This research will adopt a descriptive-correlational research design, exploring relationships among variables related to solid waste management (SWM) and the level of profitability. As outlined by Aprecia et al. (2022), descriptive correlational research aims to describe and assess the degree of relationships among variables, collecting data without alteration and analyzing it to identify potential patterns or associations. This approach is particularly useful for understanding the connections among

factors, allowing the researcher to offer a detailed overview of how various aspects are interrelated without drawing conclusions about causality.

By employing a descriptive-correlational design, this study will enhance the understanding of solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa Market Vendors within the restructuring program, assessing how these practices impact the level of profitability.

Research Locale

The study was conducted in the Santa Rosa Public Market. It offered a targeted approach to understanding the interplay between Practices on Solid Waste Management among Market Vendors and their profitability level. By focusing on this geographical area, the researcher could uncover localized insights that contributed to a deeper understanding of practices on waste management effectiveness within the Santa Rosa Public Market.

Respondents Of The Study

A total of 74 respondents compose of market vendors will participate in the survey from the total of 90 population using Raosoft calculator with 95% level of confidence and 5% margin of error, there are 69 vendors from the dry section stalls (groceries) and 5 vendors from the food section stalls, vendors for dry good stall made up 93.24% of the population and vendors for fast food stall 6.75%.

Sampling Design

A simple random sampling will be used in this study, which is a method where each member of a population has an equal likelihood of being chosen for the sample, ensuring representativeness and reducing selection bias. In practice, researchers randomly select respondents from a complete list of the population, often using the fish bowl technique or other randomization tools. This sampling approach is favored for its ease of implementation and statistical robustness, making it particularly useful for studies requiring generalizable results. According to Etikan and Bala (2019), this method facilitates unbiased estimates and straightforward data analysis, though it can be limited by the need for a comprehensive population list and by potentially high resource demands.

Evaluation And Scoring

To assess the manifestation of solid waste management (SWM) knowledge and practices among Santa Rosa Market vendors, the survey questionnaire is divided into two primary sections. **Part 1 focuses on the vendors' practices of solid waste management**, while **Part 2 determines the profitability of solid waste management practices**. The questionnaire will be validated by three experts in the field to ensure its reliability and relevance to the study objectives.

A structured numerical rating system will be utilized, complemented by a defined numerical range, categorical responses, and corresponding verbal interpretations to measure responses accurately. This systematic approach will provide a comprehensive understanding of vendors' solid waste management practices and profitability, facilitating effective analysis and interpretation.

4. EVALUATING AND SCORING

Assigned Points	Numerical range	Categorical Response	Verbal Interpretation
4 3.25 - 4.00		Strongly Agree (SA)	Always Practiced
3 2.50 – 3.24		Agree (A)	Practiced
2 1.75 – 2.49		Disagree (D)	Rarely Practiced
1 1.00 – 1.74		Strongly Disagree (SD)	Never Practiced

Assigned Points	Numerical range	Categorical Response	Verbal Interpretation
4 3.25 - 4.00		Strongly Agree (SA)	Highly Profitable
3 2.50 – 3.24		Agree (A)	Profitable
2 1.75 – 2.49		Disagree (D)	Slightly Profitable
1 1.00 – 1.74		Strongly Disagree (SD)	Not Profitable

5. DATA GATHERING PROCEDURE

This section outlines the systematic steps for collecting data regarding the practices of solid waste management among Santa Rosa Market vendors in relation to their profitability. In the preparation phase, this is for approval and coordination, the researcher seeks permission from the appropriate authorities (e.g., market administrators, local government units) to conduct the study within the Santa Rosa Market. Coordinate with market leaders or vendor associations to explain the purpose and significance of the research and to request their support in facilitating the survey. Afterwards, the proponents develop a survey instrument, the proponents design a survey questionnaire based on the research objectives, incorporating items aligned with the Theory of Planned Behavior and Circular Economy Theory, and focusing on the practices of solid waste management and profitability. The questionnaire will include Likert scale questions and other relevant sections (solid waste management practices and profitability-related questions). The next phase is pretesting the Instrument, which will conduct a pilot test of the survey with 15 market vendors to assess the clarity, reliability, and validity of the questionnaire, then refine the survey instrument based on feedback.

The second phase is the data collection phase, which is the recruitment of respondents. It needs to identify potential respondents through simple random sampling, ensuring that to meet the inclusion criteria (e.g., active market vendors engaged in solid waste management practices). Then the distribution of Questionnaires. It will administer the survey questionnaire to respondents using one of the following methods. On-Site Administration, the researcher will visit the Santa Rosa Market to distribute physical copies of the questionnaire and guide respondents in filling them out. To ensure the accuracy and completeness, the researcher will provide a brief orientation to respondents on how to answer the questionnaire. Check completed questionnaires for missing or inconsistent responses before concluding the session.

The third phase is the ethical considerations, the informed consent will be provided to the respondents with an informed consent form detailing the study's purpose, confidentiality of data, voluntary

participation, and the right to withdraw at any time. It will ensure anonymity and confidentiality by ensuring all data collected is anonymized, and responses are kept confidential to protect the identity of respondents. Compliance with Local Regulations by following ethical guidelines and obtaining any necessary permits from local authorities.

The last phase is the data organization and validation. For data encoding, the researcher will encode survey responses into statistical software (e.g., SPSS, Microsoft Excel) or a database for analysis. Review encoded data for errors, duplicates, or incomplete entries. Validate data through random checks or cross-referencing with observations (if applicable). Afterwards is the analysis and interpretation phase, which involves analyzing the data using descriptive statistics to determine the practices of solid waste management and use inferential statistics (e.g., correlation or regression) to explore the relationship between waste management practices and profitability. This procedure ensures the systematic collection of reliable and valid data, providing insights into the practices of solid waste management among market vendors.

6. TREATMENT OF DATA

The following statistical tools will be used to process and analyze the data gathered to assess the "Solid Waste Management Practices and Profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors: Basis for restructuring program."

Weighted mean will be employed to determine the level of practices regarding solid waste management and profitability among market vendors. This method will facilitate a comprehensive evaluation by assigning different weights to various factors based on their perceived importance. It will enable the research to provide a nuanced analysis of the vendors' practices, considering the varying degrees of significance within each category.

Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) will be utilized. This statistical method measures the strength and direction of the linear relationship between two continuous variables. By applying Pearson's r , we can determine if a significant correlation exists between vendors' waste management practices and their profitability. Understanding this relationship can provide valuable insights into how vendors' practices impact outcomes such as customer loyalty, environmental health, and the development of future strategies for sustainable waste management.

7. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The research titled "Solid Waste Management Practices and Profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors: Basis for Restructuring Program" rigorously adhered to ethical standards throughout its execution. Prior to data collection, the researcher obtained official approval from relevant authorities, including the City Market Administration. Respondents, comprising market vendors, city market staff, and customers, were fully informed about the study, enabling them to make voluntary and informed choices regarding their participation. Informed consent was secured from all participants, ensuring they

understood that their involvement was optional and that their identities would remain confidential. Participants were also assured they could withdraw from the study at any time without facing any negative repercussions.

Furthermore, the ethical guidelines followed in this study complied with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (Republic Act No. 10173) of the Philippines. The research team emphasized transparency and the legitimate use of personal data, ensuring participants were aware of how their information would be collected, processed, stored, and utilized. The study focused solely on relevant data, maintaining the anonymity and confidentiality of respondents at all times. In the event of a data breach, established protocols would be followed, including timely notifications to affected individuals and the National Privacy Commission (NPC). A designated Data Protection Officer (DPO) oversaw compliance with data protection strategies, thereby reinforcing the integrity and transparency of the research process while safeguarding participants' personal information.

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Attitude (waste segregation, recycling, proper disposal), subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control?_

Table 1.1

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Attitude on Waste Segregation

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. I believe that segregating waste is important for maintaining cleanliness in the market.	3.56	0.53	Always Practiced	1
2. I ensure that biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste are separated before disposal.	3.40	0.62	Always Practiced	3
3. I encourage others (e.g., fellow vendors) to segregate their waste properly.	3.27	0.65	Always Practiced	6
4. I feel responsible for ensuring waste is properly segregated.	3.32	0.52	Always Practiced	5
5. I believe waste segregation is essential for maintaining a clean and sustainable environment.	3.45	0.55	Always Practiced	2
6. Segregating waste before disposal is worth the time and effort.	3.38	0.59	Always Practiced	4

General Assessment**3.40****0.58****Always Practiced**

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

Level of Practices on Solid Waste Management among Santa Rosa Market Vendors in terms of Attitude on Waste Segregation

As presented in Table 1, the assessment of the level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors, in terms of their attitude toward waste segregation, yielded an overall mean of 3.40, verbally interpreted as Strongly Agree. This result indicates that vendors generally possess a positive attitude toward the importance of waste segregation in maintaining market cleanliness. Among the indicators, the statement “I believe that segregating waste is important for maintaining cleanliness in the market” obtained the highest mean of 3.56 (Strongly Agree), reflecting the vendors' strong recognition of the role of waste segregation in promoting sanitation.

Conversely, the lowest mean of 3.27 (Strongly Agree) was recorded under the indicator “I encourage others (e.g., fellow vendors) to segregate their waste properly”. This suggests that while vendors personally value proper waste segregation, they may be less proactive in influencing their peers to adopt the same practice. The slight variation between personal conviction and social encouragement highlights the need for strategies that promote collective responsibility, such as incentive schemes, peer-led initiatives, and policy enforcement. Strengthening these approaches may enhance vendor participation and foster a culture of shared accountability, thereby improving the overall effectiveness of solid waste management practices within the market setting.

The findings of this study align with recent research that examines the attitudes of small-scale market vendors toward waste management practices. Brach and Kasperowski (2020) investigated the perceptions of market vendors in Poland regarding waste segregation and found that vendors with heightened environmental awareness exhibited a greater propensity to engage in segregation practices. This behavior was particularly evident when adequate infrastructure and well-defined municipal guidelines were in place. Similarly, Flores and Medina (2020) noted that market vendors in urban areas, such as Metro Manila, recognized the significance of waste segregation in ensuring market cleanliness and mitigating health risks. Moreover, Williams et al. (2021) explored the attitudes of vendors operating in urban farmers' markets in the United States concerning proper waste disposal. Their study emphasized that vendors who acknowledged the direct benefits of waste management, such as reduced pest infestations and improved market sanitation, tended to exhibit more favorable attitudes and compliance. Furthermore, vendors who viewed waste management as a collective community responsibility demonstrated higher adherence to proper disposal practices. Conversely, negative attitudes were frequently associated with inadequate waste disposal facilities and weak regulatory enforcement.

Table 1.2

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Attitude on Waste Recycling

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Recycling is an effective way to minimize waste in the market.	3.44	0.50	Always Practiced	1
2. I actively seek ways to recycle materials that I no longer use	3.29	0.49	Always Practiced	4
3. I think recycling can help generate additional income or save costs.	3.27	0.48	Always Practiced	5.5
4. I feel positive about reusing materials to minimize waste.	3.27	0.48	Always Practiced	5.5
5. I believe recycling has economic and environmental benefits.	3.34	0.48	Always Practiced	3
6. I prioritize recycling efforts over disposal whenever possible.	3.40	0.49	Always Practiced	2
General Assessment	3.33	0.49	Always Practiced	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

Level of Practices on Solid Waste Management among Santa Rosa Market Vendors in terms of Attitude on Waste Recycling

As reflected in Table 2, the assessment of the level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of their attitude toward waste recycling yielded an overall mean of 3.33, verbally interpreted as Strongly Agree. This result indicates that vendors generally demonstrate a favorable attitude towards recycling as a vital component of sustainable waste management within the marketplace. The indicator “Recycling is an effective way to minimize waste in the market” obtained the highest computed mean of 3.44 (Strongly Agree), highlighting the vendors’ recognition of recycling as a practical waste reduction strategy.

Conversely, the indicators “I think recycling can help generate additional income or save costs” and “I feel positive about reusing materials to minimize waste” registered the lowest computed means of 3.27 (Strongly Agree). While still reflecting a positive attitude, these results suggest that vendors may be less motivated by the potential economic benefits of recycling. The minimal variance between the highest

and lowest mean scores indicates a consistent positive perception of recycling, primarily driven by environmental rather than financial considerations. These findings suggest the need for targeted interventions, such as information campaigns and incentive programs, to raise awareness of the potential economic benefits of recycling. Such initiatives may further enhance vendor participation in recycling practices and strengthen the overall implementation of solid waste management within the market context.

The findings of this study are consistent with recent research highlighting the economic viability of recycling initiatives across various industries. Kant and Ghosh (2020), in their study published in the *Journal of Environmental Management*, examined the financial benefits of recycling within the Indian manufacturing sector. Their findings revealed that companies implementing comprehensive recycling systems experienced reductions in raw material costs and improvements in operational efficiency, ultimately resulting in higher profit margins. Similarly, Cruz and Mendoza (2020) investigated the profitability of recycling within the Philippine retail sector. Their study found that businesses incorporating recycling programs, particularly for materials such as paper, plastic, and glass, benefited from lower waste disposal expenses. Additionally, these businesses generated supplemental revenue by selling recyclable materials to scrap buyers. Furthermore, the Work Plan for Reduction of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) from Municipal Solid Waste Management in Medan City, Indonesia (2019–2025) underscores the significance of local regulations and community participation in strengthening waste management strategies. This policy framework prioritizes the reduction of SLCP emissions through enhanced waste segregation, recycling, and disposal practices, emphasizing the critical role of public engagement in achieving sustainable outcomes.

Recent literature in the Philippine context also underscores the economic potential of recycling, demonstrating its dual benefits of waste reduction and profit generation. The integration of recycling into business models has emerged as a lucrative opportunity, aligning environmental sustainability with financial viability. A prominent example is the initiative undertaken by Coca-Cola Philippines (2020), which invested P1 billion in establishing a state-of-the-art recycling facility, the first of its kind in Southeast Asia. This facility focuses on recycling post-consumer PET plastic bottles into new beverage containers, thereby promoting a circular economy approach. This investment not only contributes to plastic waste reduction but also creates substantial revenue opportunities by transforming waste into valuable resources, illustrating the profitability of sustainable business practices.

Table 1.3

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Attitude on Proper Disposal.

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Proper waste disposal reflects personal discipline and responsibility.	3.44	0.55	Always Practiced	3

2. I always dispose of waste in designated garbage bins.	3.34	0.56	Always Practiced	5.5
3. I avoid improper disposal practices, such as littering or dumping waste in non-designated areas.	3.34	0.63	Always Practiced	5.5
4. Proper waste disposal is essential for the market's cleanliness and hygiene.	3.53	0.55	Always Practiced	1
5. I feel a sense of responsibility to dispose of waste in designated bins.	3.38	0.54	Always Practiced	4
6. Improper waste disposal negatively affects everyone in the community.	3.48	0.56	Always Practiced	2
General Asseesment	3.42	0.57	Always Practiced	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

Level of Practices on Solid Waste Management among Santa Rosa Market Vendors in terms of Attitude on Proper Disposal

As presented in Table 3, the assessment of the level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of their attitude toward proper waste disposal obtained an overall mean of 3.42, verbally interpreted as Strongly Agree. This result indicates that market vendors generally exhibit a strong positive attitude toward proper waste disposal as an essential practice in maintaining market cleanliness and hygiene. Among the indicators, the statement “Proper waste disposal is essential for the market's cleanliness and hygiene” recorded the highest computed mean of 3.53 (Strongly Agree), reflecting the vendors' recognition of proper disposal as a key element in ensuring a clean and healthy market environment.

On the other hand, the indicators “I always dispose of waste in designated garbage bins” and “I avoid improper disposal practices, such as littering or dumping waste in non-designated areas” obtained the lowest computed means of 3.34 (Strongly Agree), indicating a slight gap between their attitude and consistent practice. The minimal variation in the mean scores suggests that while vendors acknowledge the importance of proper waste disposal, certain challenges may hinder their consistent compliance. Factors such as limited availability of waste bins, convenience, and enforcement mechanisms may influence this behavior. These findings underscore the need for strengthening the implementation of waste management policies, improving waste disposal facilities, and conducting educational campaigns to reinforce proper disposal practices. Additionally, introducing incentive-based programs or penalties

for non-compliance may encourage vendors to adopt more consistent and responsible waste disposal behaviors.

The findings of this study align with recent research examining the relationship between waste management practices and business profitability across various industries. Taylor and Williams (2021) investigated the impact of waste management on the financial performance of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) within the manufacturing sector. Their study revealed that SMEs implementing waste reduction strategies, such as waste segregation and proper disposal, experienced direct and indirect financial benefits. Direct benefits included lower waste disposal costs, while indirect advantages stemmed from enhanced operational efficiency and strengthened corporate social responsibility (CSR). These improvements not only attracted additional business but also contributed to long-term profitability. Similarly, Johnson, Smith, and Williams (2020) analyzed the effects of waste disposal practices within the hospitality sector. Their findings indicated that hotels and restaurants that invested in proper waste management systems, such as composting organic waste and recycling plastic and glass, realized significant cost savings related to waste disposal. Additionally, these establishments leveraged their environmental initiatives as a marketing strategy to attract eco-conscious consumers. This approach fostered customer loyalty, ultimately leading to increased profitability.

Furthermore, supporting these findings, Sukarno and Wijaya (2021) examined the role of sustainable waste management in the Indonesian hospitality industry. Their study demonstrated that hotels and resorts that implemented recycling programs and composting initiatives significantly reduced their waste disposal expenses. Moreover, these sustainability efforts appealed to environmentally conscious tourists, resulting in higher occupancy rates and improved financial performance. The authors emphasized that beyond cost reduction, effective waste management strategies enhance brand reputation, which translates into tangible economic benefits. Collectively, these studies reinforce the critical role of waste management in improving profitability by reducing costs, optimizing operational efficiency, and strengthening brand positioning. This underscores the financial viability of sustainable practices across diverse business sectors.

Table 1.4

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Attitude.

Indicator	Mean	S.D	Verbal Interpretation
Waste Segregation	3.40	0.093	Always Practiced
Recycling	3.33	0.066	Always Practiced
Proper Disposal	3.42	0.071	Always Practiced
Overall General Assessment on level of practices in solid waste	3.38	0.077	Always Practiced

management in terms of attitude.

These findings suggest a high level of commitment among market vendors to effective waste management practices, which align with previous studies on recycling behaviors and waste management attitudes. Garcia and Villanueva (2021) emphasized that vendors who recognized the economic benefits of recycling, such as selling recyclables to junk shops, exhibited more favorable attitudes toward recycling practices. However, limited access to recycling facilities and insufficient knowledge were identified as barriers to active participation. Similarly, Bautista and Ramos (2019) explored market vendors' attitudes toward proper waste disposal in Cebu City and found that vendors with positive attitudes were motivated by the desire to maintain market cleanliness and reduce health risks. Nonetheless, challenges such as inadequate infrastructure and limited municipal support hindered full compliance, leading the authors to recommend waste management training as part of market operations.

Furthermore, Dela Cruz and Santos (2020) examined waste segregation practices among public market vendors in Metro Manila. Their study revealed that environmental awareness and compliance with local regulations fostered positive attitudes toward waste segregation. However, issues such as the lack of waste bins and inconsistent enforcement by local government units (LGUs) limited the effectiveness of these practices. Collectively, these studies underscore the critical role of awareness, infrastructure, and policy enforcement in promoting sustainable waste management among market vendors. Enhancing access to recycling facilities, providing targeted training programs, and ensuring consistent policy implementation are essential strategies to improve vendors' waste management practices.

Table 1.5

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of Subjective Norms.

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. My fellow vendors encourage me to follow proper waste management practices.	2.71	0.72	Practiced	5.5
2. I feel social pressure to segregate, recycle, and properly dispose of waste.	2.77	0.75	Practiced	4
3. Local authorities or market management expect vendors to practice proper solid waste management.	2.71	0.82	Practiced	5.5
4. Community members or customers appreciate vendors who manage waste responsibly.	3.12	0.67	Practiced	3

5. I believe following proper waste management practices improves my reputation as a vendor.	3.21	0.62	Practiced	2
6. Vendors who practice waste management are more respected in the market.	3.23	0.68	Practiced	1
General Assessment	2.96	0.71	Practiced	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of subjective norms yielded an overall mean score of 2.96, verbally interpreted as "Agree." This result indicates that while vendors recognize the influence of social norms on their waste management practices, such influence remains moderate and less dominant compared to other factors. The highest mean score of 3.23 was recorded for the indicator, "Vendors who practice waste management are more respected in the market," suggesting that proper waste disposal is viewed positively and contributes to a vendor's social reputation within the market. However, the lowest mean scores of 2.71 were observed for the indicators, "My fellow vendors encourage me to follow proper waste management practices," and "Local authorities or market management expect vendors to practice proper solid waste management." These results reflect relatively weak social and regulatory pressures from peers and authorities in promoting compliance.

The gap between the highest and lowest mean scores highlights the presence of recognition for proper waste management but a lack of consistent encouragement or enforcement mechanisms. This suggests the need to strengthen social reinforcement strategies, including peer-driven initiatives, recognition programs, and active involvement of local authorities. Implementing community-based waste management programs, enhancing policy enforcement, and developing reward systems for compliant vendors may foster a stronger culture of collective responsibility toward sustainable waste management practices.

The level of solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, specifically in terms of subjective norms, was found to be at an "Agree" level. This finding is supported by the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), introduced by Ajzen (1991), which posits that subjective norms and perceived behavioral control significantly shape individuals' intentions to engage in specific behaviors, including business-related practices such as waste segregation and recycling. Within the context of waste management, businesses are increasingly influenced by social and regulatory pressures, which serve as key motivators for the adoption of sustainable practices (Ajzen, 1991; Gainau, 2020). Moreover, the effectiveness of sustainable waste management behaviors, such as the economic benefits derived from waste segregation and recycling, is often reinforced by a positive organizational environment and strong internal norms that align with societal and environmental expectations (Antoh & Sholihin, 2021; Smaili & Arroyo, 2019). In a study conducted by Fang et al. (2022) in Taiwan, the researchers examined the

influence of social norms and attitudes on waste reduction behaviors. Their findings revealed that both attitudes and social norms had a significant and positive impact on individuals' intentions to adopt sustainable practices. Additionally, the study underscored the role of perceived behavioral control in shaping these intentions, highlighting that individuals who felt a sense of control over their waste management practices were more likely to engage in sustainable behaviors.

These findings are particularly relevant for businesses, as they suggest that the implementation of proper waste disposal and sustainable waste management practices can be significantly driven by social pressures and internal beliefs regarding control and responsibility. This underscores the importance of fostering a supportive regulatory environment and promoting awareness of waste management benefits to enhance compliance and engagement among businesses.

Table 1.6

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of perceived behavioral control

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. I have the necessary knowledge to practice proper waste segregation, recycling, and disposal.	3.10	0.53	Always Practiced	1
2. There are sufficient resources (e.g., bins, recycling programs) available to help me manage waste effectively.	2.52	0.77	Practiced	6
3. I find it easy to integrate waste management practices into my daily routine.	2.89	0.61	Practiced	5
4. Even when I am busy, I can manage my waste properly.	3.05	0.60	Practiced	2
5. The lack of infrastructure (e.g., proper waste collection or recycling services) limits my ability to manage waste effectively.	3.00	0.71	Practiced	3
6. I find it easy to train my staff in proper waste management.	2.97	0.62	Practiced	4
General Assessment	2.92	0.64	Practiced	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

The level of practices on solid waste management among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of perceived behavioral control obtained an overall mean score of 2.92, verbally interpreted as "Agree." This result indicates that while vendors recognize their capacity to engage in proper waste management, their actual practices are influenced by existing structural limitations. The highest mean score of 3.10 was recorded for the indicator, "I have the necessary knowledge to practice proper waste segregation, recycling, and disposal," suggesting that vendors generally perceive themselves as knowledgeable about waste management practices. However, the lowest mean score of 2.52 was observed for the indicator, "There are sufficient resources (e.g., bins, recycling programs) available to help me manage waste effectively." This finding highlights a critical gap between knowledge and practice, where limited access to essential waste management resources constrains vendors' ability to implement proper waste disposal measures.

The disparity between perceived knowledge and resource availability underscores that knowledge alone is not sufficient to foster effective waste management practices. Structural support, including the provision of adequate facilities, waste bins, and recycling programs, is essential to enable vendors to translate their knowledge into consistent practice. Addressing these infrastructural barriers is vital to enhancing perceived behavioral control and promoting sustainable waste management behavior among market vendors.

The findings of this study align with the research of Meier, Evans, and Bryant (2020), who conducted a systematic analysis of the behavioral dimensions of solid waste management. Their study identified perceived behavioral control (PBC) as a crucial determinant of waste management behaviors, exerting a more significant influence on actual practices than attitudes and subjective norms. The authors emphasized that improving waste management behaviors requires addressing external constraints, such as inadequate waste disposal infrastructure, financial barriers, and weak regulatory enforcement. They further advocated for policy interventions that go beyond raising environmental awareness and instead focus on structural and institutional reforms. These include the implementation of comprehensive waste management policies, financial incentives for businesses and individuals engaging in recycling, and investments in sustainable waste disposal infrastructure. Cheng (2020) provided further empirical support for the role of PBC in waste management by examining waste segregation-at-source behavior in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

The study found that individuals with greater perceived control over waste segregation, such as access to designated waste bins, knowledge of proper disposal techniques, and institutional support, were more likely to comply with waste management regulations and adopt sustainable disposal behaviors. Cheng suggested that facilitating enabling conditions, such as the provision of adequate waste collection systems, clear segregation guidelines, and economic incentives, can enhance individuals' perceived control, thereby improving adherence to proper waste management practices.

Within the broader context of sustainable waste management, PBC has been widely recognized as a critical factor influencing recycling behaviors. Applications of the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) have consistently demonstrated that individuals with higher perceived control over recycling, facilitated by access to recycling facilities, availability of waste sorting resources, and minimal structural barriers, exhibit stronger recycling intentions and are more likely to engage in responsible waste disposal

practices. Studies have suggested that effective recycling programs should integrate strategies that strengthen PBC by minimizing logistical constraints, ensuring the availability of accessible recycling stations, and implementing educational initiatives that enhance awareness of proper recycling procedures. Addressing these factors can create an environment that empowers individuals to actively participate in sustainable waste management initiatives. In the Philippine context, recent research has highlighted the significance of PBC in shaping waste management behaviors. Farin (2022) examined solid waste management (SWM) practices among high school students and found that heightened awareness significantly influenced proper waste segregation and disposal behaviors. While the study focused on students, its findings suggest that enhancing PBC through targeted education and resource provision can contribute to improved waste management practices across various sectors.

Strengthening perceived behavioral control through strategic interventions can enable key stakeholders, including government agencies, private enterprises, and environmental organizations, to cultivate a culture of responsible waste management. Enhancing PBC not only promotes environmental sustainability and compliance with waste management policies but also generates economic benefits for market vendors and other stakeholders engaged in waste-related industries.

Table 1.7

Summary Table of Solid Waste Management Practices

Indicator	Mean	S.D	Verbal Interpretation
Attitude	3.38	0.077	Always Practiced
Subjective Norms.	2.96	0.093	Practiced
Perceived behavioral control	2.92	0.066	Practiced
Overall General Assessment on level of practices in solid waste management in terms of attitude.	3.09	0.079	Practiced

The findings suggest a high level of commitment among market vendors to effective waste management practices, particularly in Attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control (PBC). Yuriev et al. (2020) emphasized that subjective norms and PBC are critical drivers of pro-environmental behaviors, influencing business performance and profitability. Businesses that align with socially expected environmental practices often benefit from enhanced reputation and customer loyalty, translating into increased profitability.

Further supporting this, Kotyza et al. (2024) conducted a multicountry study highlighting that PBC significantly predicts recycling behavior. Individuals perceiving greater control over recycling are more likely to engage in environmentally responsible actions, indicating the necessity of institutional support, resource accessibility, and policy interventions to strengthen sustainable waste management practices. Madrigal (2020), in a study on solid waste management (SWM) among students in a Philippine Catholic school, found high levels of awareness across genders, suggesting that interventions should focus on enhancing perceived control by addressing external barriers and providing necessary resources. Creating

an enabling environment where individuals feel empowered to manage waste effectively is essential to improving sustainable waste management behaviors.

The level of profitability on solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, along with Additional revenue stream, Cost reduction, and Improved customer retention?

Table 2.1

The level of profitability on solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, along with an Additional revenue stream.

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Recycling materials such as bottles, cans, or cardboard has generated additional income for my business.	3.08	0.55	Profitable	1
2. Selling reusable or recycled products provides an extra source of revenue.	3.05	0.60	Profitable	3
3. Composting biodegradable waste and selling the compost is a viable business opportunity.	3.07	0.63	Profitable	2
4. Solid waste management practices have helped me identify new business opportunities.	2.99	0.63	Profitable	4.5
5. Proper waste disposal helps reduce waste management expenses.	2.99	0.51	Profitable	4.5
6. Creating or selling products from recycled materials (e.g., eco-bags, crafts) has added to my income.	2.92	0.70	Profitable	6
Average Weighted Mean	3.02	0.60	Profitable	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

The profitability of solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, in terms of additional revenue streams, obtained an overall mean score of 3.02, verbally interpreted as "Profitable." This finding suggests that vendors generally recognize the potential of solid waste management practices to contribute to business profitability, albeit at a moderate level. The highest mean score of 3.08 was recorded for the indicator, "Recycling materials such as bottles, cans, or cardboard has generated additional income for my business." This indicates that selling recyclable materials is perceived as the

most practical and accessible method for generating supplemental income. This also reflects the presence of an existing recycling ecosystem within Santa Rosa that enables vendors to monetize certain waste materials.

Conversely, the lowest mean score of 2.92 was recorded for the indicator, “Creating or selling products from recycled materials (e.g., eco-bags, crafts) has added to my income.” This result implies that while vendors recognize the potential profitability of upcycling waste materials, it is less commonly practiced due to challenges such as required skills, additional resources, and limited market demand. Overall, the findings reveal that while solid waste management practices can generate additional revenue, their profitability is largely dependent on the ease of implementation and market opportunities. Recycling for resale appears to offer more immediate financial benefits compared to value-added recycling activities such as upcycling, which may require greater investment and effort.

The findings of this study align with the research conducted by Davis and Williams (2021), which examined the potential of recycling initiatives as an additional revenue stream for small businesses operating in urban markets. Their study revealed that market vendors who actively segregated and sold recyclable materials such as plastics, metals, and cardboard were able to generate supplementary income from waste that would have otherwise been discarded. This additional revenue helped offset waste disposal costs, leading to improved profit margins. Furthermore, vendors who engaged in large-scale recycling efforts by selling significant quantities of recyclables to recycling centers or businesses involved in upcycling experienced notable increases in profitability. Similarly, Dela Cruz and Santos (2020) explored the economic implications of recycling programs in public markets across Metro Manila. Their research demonstrated that vendors who segregated and sold recyclable materials, including plastic, paper, and metal, to junk shops not only generated additional income but also reduced their overall waste disposal expenses. Additionally, the study highlighted that vendors engaged in sustainable waste management practices experienced higher customer satisfaction, as environmentally conscious consumers preferred to patronize businesses that demonstrated a commitment to sustainability. The authors emphasized the need for improved market-level infrastructure to support recycling initiatives, ensuring that vendors have the necessary resources and facilities to effectively implement sustainable waste management strategies.

These findings underscore the economic viability of integrating recycling into business operations, particularly in market settings. By adopting structured waste segregation and recycling programs, vendors can enhance profitability while simultaneously contributing to environmental sustainability. The implementation of supportive policies and infrastructure improvements can further encourage the adoption of these practices, fostering a more sustainable and economically beneficial waste management system.

Table 2.2

The level of profitability on solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, along with Cost reduction.

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Customers appreciate vendors who practice proper solid waste management.	3.21	0.50	Profitable	1
2. My environmentally friendly practices have increased customer loyalty.	2.99	0.49	Profitable	3
3. Customers are more likely to support vendors who promote sustainability.	3.07	0.48	Profitable	2
4. Solid waste management practices improve the image of my business and attract more customers.	2.90	0.50	Profitable	4
5. Proper waste management enhances the cleanliness and appeal of my stall, encouraging repeat customers.	2.75	0.62	Profitable	5
6. Customers are more likely to return and recommend my business because of my environmental practices.	2.66	0.65	Profitable	6
General Assessment	2.93	0.54	Profitable	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

The evaluation of profitability from solid waste management (SWM) practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, particularly in terms of cost reduction, yielded an overall mean score of 2.93, interpreted as "Profitable." This suggests that vendors recognize the financial benefits of SWM practices, especially in reducing operational costs. However, the moderate agreement implies that the direct impact of these practices on profitability may be inconsistent or limited. Among the specific indicators, the statement "Customers appreciate vendors who practice proper solid waste management" recorded the highest mean score of 3.21 (Profitable), indicating that vendors believe environmentally responsible practices positively influence customer perception and goodwill. This aligns with research

showing that consumers support businesses that demonstrate sustainability, especially in retail and food markets. Nonetheless, the stronger customer appreciation does not necessarily translate to increased sales or significant financial gains.

In contrast, the indicator "Customers are more likely to return and recommend my business because of my environmental practices" had the lowest mean score of 2.66 (Profitable). This result suggests a weaker link between environmental efforts and customer loyalty or word-of-mouth referrals. The discrepancy between customer appreciation (3.21) and customer loyalty (2.66) underscores the limited direct impact of SWM practices on repeat purchases and referrals. It indicates that product quality, pricing, and service experience may play a more significant role in driving customer loyalty and business profitability. This highlights the need for vendors to complement their sustainability efforts with strategies that foster stronger customer engagement and marketing.

Recent studies support the result of this study and highlight the economic advantages of solid waste management practices, particularly waste segregation and recycling, for small-scale retailers and market vendors. Johansson, Eriksson, and Bergström (2019) examined the financial benefits of waste segregation and recycling among small-scale businesses, emphasizing that vendors who directed recyclable materials to certified recycling centers experienced a substantial reduction in waste disposal costs. The study found that lower landfill fees and waste collection expenses had a direct impact on vendors' profitability. Furthermore, businesses that integrated recycling into their operations benefited from reduced material costs, as some recyclables were repurposed for operational use. The study concluded that these practices not only resulted in cost savings but also enhanced operational efficiency, allowing vendors to allocate financial resources to other aspects of their businesses. Similarly, research conducted by O'Donnell and Peterson (2021) in the United States examined the effects of composting and organic waste management on small business operational costs. The findings revealed that businesses that opted for composting organic waste, rather than sending it to landfills, significantly lowered waste disposal expenses while minimizing their environmental footprint. By transforming food waste into compost, vendors not only reduced costs but also generated additional income by selling compost to local farmers and gardening enterprises. Moreover, the study emphasized that adopting composting initiatives enhanced vendors' sustainability profiles, making them more attractive to environmentally conscious consumers and strengthening their market competitiveness.

Additionally, Kumar and Singh (2020) explored the role of waste segregation and recycling in reducing operational costs for small-scale vendors in urban markets. Their study found that businesses that systematically separated recyclable materials from general waste paid lower waste management fees. Moreover, vendors who sold recyclables to scrap dealers or recycling firms generated supplemental revenue streams, further offsetting waste-related expenditures. The research underscored that the implementation of effective waste segregation strategies not only reduced financial burdens associated with waste disposal but also helped vendors recover investments in waste management infrastructure, ultimately contributing to increased profitability. Collectively, these studies suggest that sustainable waste management practices, particularly waste segregation, recycling, and composting, provide tangible financial benefits for small vendors. While profitability varies based on implementation strategies and local waste management policies, these findings reinforce the notion that strategic waste management can serve as both an environmental and economic advantage for market vendors.

Table 2.3

The level of profitability on solid waste management practices among Santa Rosa market vendors, along with Improved customer retention.

Indicator	Mean	SD	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Proper waste management reduces the cost of waste collection or disposal services.	3.29	0.63	Highly Profitable	2
2. Reusing materials (e.g., packaging) has helped lower my operating costs.	3.16	0.53	Profitable	6
3. Recycling or repurposing waste has reduced my expenses on new materials.	3.22	0.56	Profitable	3.5
4. Reducing waste generation leads to overall cost savings for my business.	3.22	0.53	Profitable	3.5
5. I've experienced overall savings by reducing the volume of waste generated.	3.32	0.50	Highly Profitable	1
6. Creating or selling products from recycled materials (e.g., eco-bags, crafts) has added to my income.	3.18	0.71	Profitable	5
General Assessment	3.23	0.58	Profitable	

Legend: Note: **3.25-4.00 Strongly Agree (SA)** **2.50-3.24 Agree (A)**
1.75-2.49 Disagree (D) **1.00-1.74 Strongly Disagree (SD)**

The findings from Table 2.3 indicate that solid waste management (SWM) practices have a positive impact on the profitability of Santa Rosa market vendors, with an overall computed mean of 3.23, interpreted as " Profitable." This suggests that vendors recognize the financial advantages of effective waste management, particularly in reducing costs and improving business sustainability. Among the indicators, the statement "I've experienced overall savings by reducing the volume of waste generated" recorded the highest mean of 3.32, interpreted as " Highly Profitable," highlighting that waste reduction directly leads to cost savings through decreased waste disposal fees, raw material procurement, and operational inefficiencies.

Conversely, the indicator "Reusing materials (e.g., packaging) has helped lower my operating costs" had the lowest mean of 3.16, though still interpreted as "Profitable."

This suggests that while vendors acknowledge the potential cost savings from material reuse, its perceived impact is less significant than waste reduction. This could be attributed to challenges related to the availability, quality of reusable materials, and additional costs for preparation. Despite this, material reuse remains a viable strategy for cost reduction, especially in sectors where packaging costs are a significant operational expense. These findings provide valuable insights for policymakers and market administrators in designing initiatives to promote sustainable waste management among vendors. Encouraging training and incentives for waste reduction and material reuse could further optimize profitability while fostering environmental responsibility. Future research should explore the long-term financial benefits of SWM adoption and address barriers to full implementation among small business owners.

The result of this study is supported by Recent studies that have emphasized the role of sustainable waste management practices in enhancing customer retention and profitability among small market vendors. Rathi and Kumar (2020) investigated the impact of waste segregation and recycling on customer retention, revealing that vendors who adopted these practices attracted environmentally conscious consumers. The study found that customers demonstrated greater loyalty to vendors who actively reduced waste, as they perceived such businesses as socially responsible. As a result, vendors who implemented solid waste management (SWM) practices differentiated themselves from competitors, fostering long-term customer relationships and improving profitability. Similarly, Tan and Cheong (2021) examined the connection between corporate social responsibility (CSR) and customer loyalty among vendors in Singapore's local markets. Their findings indicated that businesses that prioritized sustainability, such as reducing plastic waste and increasing recycling efforts, experienced heightened customer satisfaction. This, in turn, led to stronger customer retention, as consumers preferred to support businesses committed to environmental sustainability. The study emphasized that effective waste management not only enhances consumer trust but also plays a crucial role in ensuring long-term business success. Furthermore, Nanda and Berruti (2021) highlighted the financial advantages of waste management initiatives, demonstrating that vendors who engaged in recycling and composting not only reduced operational costs but also generated additional revenue streams. Their research suggested that businesses that prioritized waste reduction benefited from increased consumer trust and regulatory incentives, ultimately strengthening their financial standing.

In Taiwan, Lee and Huang (2022) explored the influence of waste management practices on customer behavior in food markets. Their study found that vendors who adopted sustainable waste strategies, such as composting organic waste and utilizing biodegradable packaging, attracted environmentally conscious consumers. These customers were more likely to return to businesses with their values, reinforcing that effective waste management contributed to customer loyalty. The study concluded that by integrating sustainable practices into daily operations, vendors could enhance their market competitiveness and ensure long-term business growth. Collectively, these studies underscore the significance of sustainable waste management in fostering customer retention and profitability. Vendors who implement waste reduction strategies not only gain financial benefits through cost savings and additional income streams

but also strengthen consumer trust, positioning themselves as responsible and competitive businesses in the marketplace.

Table 2.4

Summary table on Additional revenue stream, Cost reduction, and Improved customer retention.

Indicator	Mean	S.D	Verbal Interpretation
Additional Revenue Stream	2.92	0.70	Profitable
Cost Reduction	2.93	0.19	Profitable
Customer Retention	3.23	0.58	Profitable
Overall Weighted Mean of profitability in solid waste management practices.	3.03	0.49	Profitable

The analysis of the level of profitability on solid waste management (SWM) among Santa Rosa market vendors in terms of attitude suggests that vendors generally perceive SWM practices as beneficial, particularly in customer retention, cost reduction, and additional revenue streams. This finding is supported by recent studies, such as Hao, Guo, and Wu (2021), who found that businesses integrating SWM practices benefit from cost savings and enhanced customer loyalty, reinforcing that sustainability-driven businesses attract more environmentally conscious consumers. Similarly, Nanda and Berruti (2021) highlighted that effective waste management strategies reduce operational costs and create additional income opportunities through recycling and composting initiatives. In waste management, gain financial benefits through increased consumer trust and regulatory incentives, ultimately improving overall profitability.

Relationship between the Level of Solid Waste Management Practices and Profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors

The pursuit of sustainable business practices has increasingly emphasized the role of effective solid waste management (SWM) in contributing to organizational efficiency, cost reduction, and overall profitability. Within local market operations, particularly among small-scale vendors, the relationship between SWM practices and financial performance remains a subject of growing academic and practical interest. Recognizing the potential economic benefits alongside environmental stewardship, this study investigates the correlation between the level of solid waste management practices and the profitability among Santa Rosa Market vendors. By employing quantitative analysis through Pearson correlation, the study aims to determine whether improvements in SWM practices are significantly associated with enhanced profitability. The findings are interpreted in light of existing literature, offering a nuanced understanding of the complexities and external factors that mediate the relationship between environmental practices and economic outcomes in the marketplace setting.

Table 3.1**Relationship between the Level of Solid Waste Management Practices and Profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors**

	Pearson r value	p-value	Interpretation
The level of relationship of solid waste management practices and profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors.	.458	.056	significant

Table 3.1 revealed analysis indicates a moderate positive correlation ($r = 0.458$) between solid waste management practices and profitability among Santa Rosa Market Vendors. This suggests that as solid waste management practices improve, profitability tends to increase as well, though the relationship is not very strong.

However, the p-value is 0.056, slightly above the common significance level of 0.05. This means the relationship is not statistically significant at the 0.05 level, although it is close to being significant. In statistical terms, this implies that we cannot confidently say the correlation did not occur by chance, although it may still be meaningful in practical terms. The analysis in Table 3.1 indicates a moderate positive relationship between solid waste management (SWM) practices and profitability among Santa Rosa Market vendors, with a correlation coefficient (r) of 0.458. However, the p-value of 0.056 suggests that this correlation is not statistically significant at the 5% level, implying that we cannot confidently conclude that better SWM directly leads to higher profitability based on this analysis.

The moderate positive correlation ($r = 0.458$) between solid waste management (SWM) practices and profitability, though not statistically significant ($p = 0.056$), is supported by several recent empirical studies. Valente (2020), in her study titled "Waste Pricing and Household Behavior: Evidence from Italy", found that waste pricing policies led to reductions in waste generation and modest economic benefits; however, the effects varied significantly among households, indicating that improvements in SWM practices do not uniformly translate to significant financial gains (Valente, Marica. 2020. arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.01105).

Similarly, Evangelista, Marco, and Agostino Santaniello (2022) conducted a systematic review on waste management and profitability and concluded that while enhanced waste practices may contribute to cost savings and environmental benefits, the financial impact on small-scale enterprises tends to be context-dependent and often marginal in the short term (Journal of Cleaner Production, 347, 131262).

Moreover, in the Philippine context, the case study of Lihok Filipina documented by Abella, Flora, and Enriquez, Maria Kristina (2024), emphasizes the socio-economic empowerment potential of waste-to-

income programs, yet the financial returns remained modest for individual participants, aligning with the notion of practical, though statistically non-significant, profitability benefits (Abella, Flora & Enriquez, Maria Kristina. 2024. *Journal of Human and Applied Social Sciences*, [Emerald Insight]). Lastly, Amankwah, Kwasi, and Nartey, Felix (2023) noted in their study on urban informal markets in Ghana that while proper SWM can lead to improved vendor image and customer satisfaction, the direct correlation with profitability remains inconclusive due to varying business models and external economic conditions (*Waste Management & Research*, 41(2), 204–215).

Collectively, these studies support the present finding that although better SWM practices are associated with increased profitability, the statistical significance of this relationship is often modest, and further investigation is warranted to account for intervening variables. In summary, while there is evidence to suggest a positive relationship between SWM practices and profitability, the strength and significance of this correlation can vary depending on multiple factors, including the specific waste management strategies employed, the sector in which the business operates, and external environmental and socioeconomic challenges. The non-significant p-value observed in the Santa Rosa Market study may reflect these complexities, indicating that while a moderate positive correlation exists, it is not strong enough to be deemed statistically significant in this context.

RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM

In response to the identified challenges and opportunities in solid waste management (SWM) practices among Santa Rosa Market vendors, this restructuring program titled Market Address for Responsible Sustainable Waste Management (M.A.R.S Waste Management) was developed. The program is a strategic initiative designed to systematically enhance the environmental sustainability, operational efficiency, and economic viability of market operations through targeted interventions.

Anchored on empirical findings and best practices, the program outlines a comprehensive framework that integrates skills development, incentive mechanisms, public-private partnerships, infrastructure improvements, eco-friendly business practices, and continuous monitoring. Each component of the restructuring plan is carefully aligned with specific goals, assigned responsibilities, defined timelines, and measurable success indicators to ensure effective implementation and tangible outcomes.

Through this holistic approach, the program seeks not only to address existing gaps in waste management practices but also to reinforce profitability, customer loyalty, and long-term environmental stewardship within the Santa Rosa marketplace.

Table 4.1
Restructuring Program
Market Address for Responsible Sustainable Waste Management
(M.A.R.S Waste Management)

Program Component	Goals	Responsible Party	Timeline	Budget (Php.)	Resources Needed	Expected Outcome	Success Indicator
1. SWM Skills Development Seminar	Conduct regular seminars and workshops focusing on waste segregation, recycling, composting, and eco-friendly packaging.	City Environment & Natural Resources Office (CENRO), Market Administration City Information Office	1-6 months	Php. 10,000.00	Training facilitators Informational materials	Increased awareness and improved SWM practices among vendors. Additional profit and cost reduction for market vendors	90% of vendors trained demonstrate improved waste management practices in audits.
2. Incentive-Based Waste Management Program	Implementation of a reward system for vendors who consistently practice proper waste management (e.g., rental discounts, certificates)	Market Administration	1-6 month	Php. 10,000.00	Monitoring staff	Motivation for vendors to actively engage in SWM practices. Additional cost reduction	At least 75% of vendors participate and meet SWM standards for incentives
3. Partnerships	Create linkages	City Market Administration	1-6	Php. 5,000.00	Monitoring	Reduced waste volume	50% reduction

p Junk Shops & Recycling Centers	with recycling centers and junk shops for proper disposal of recyclable materials, with potential for additional vendor income.	ion Market Vendors Private Sector Partners	months 0	0	staff	and additional income for vendors Additional income for Market vendors	in recyclable waste volume; 50% of vendors report additional income.
4. Centralize d Waste Collection & Segregatio n Area	Establish a properly maintained segregation facility within the market for easier waste collection and sorting.	City Market Administrat ion City ENRO City Engineering Office	2-3 years	Php. 100,000	Bins, training materials Monitoring staff	Efficient waste collection, reduced litter, improved market cleanliness Additional income	Fully operationa l segregatio n area within the first year; 70% complianc e rate among vendors.
5. Eco- friendly Packaging Initiative	Encourage or mandate the use of biodegradabl e or reusable packaging materials to minimize non- biodegradabl e waste.	City Market Administrat ion City ENRO City Cooperative Office City	2-6 months	Php. 5,000.0 0	Informatio nal materials	Reduced plastic waste, environmenta lly-friendly market branding Additional cost reduction Increase Customer	60% reduction in plastic packaging usage among vendors.

		Information Office			loyalty	
6.	Regular monitoring of SWM practices, profitability reports, and waste audits to assess program effectiveness .	City Market Administration Market Vendors City ENRO	6 months	Php. 0.00	Monitoring staff	Continuous improvement of SWM practices and profitability tracking

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The implementation strategy of the proposed program will be carried out in four (4) distinct phases to ensure systematic execution and sustainability.

Phase 1, referred to as the Preparation Stage, will focus on conducting a comprehensive needs assessment and gathering baseline data to establish the current conditions of solid waste management (SWM) practices among market vendors. Furthermore, this phase will include organizing planning workshops with key stakeholders to foster collaboration, clarify roles, and align objectives.

Phase 2, known as the Capacity Building Stage, will involve the implementation of a series of seminars and training sessions specifically designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of market vendors regarding responsible and sustainable SWM practices. These capacity-building initiatives aim to promote behavioral change and equip participants with practical strategies for effective waste management.

Subsequently, Phase 3 will focus on the Execution and Monitoring Stage, wherein the M.A.R.S Waste Program activities will be formally rolled out within the market setting. Regular monitoring will be conducted to track the progress of program implementation, and timely feedback will be provided to market vendors to reinforce positive practices and address identified challenges.

Finally, Phase 4, termed the Evaluation and Sustainability Stage, will involve assessing the overall impact of the program on both SWM practices and the profitability of market vendors. This phase will

also include the institutionalization of successful practices into market policies and regulations to ensure the continuity and sustainability of the program beyond its initial implementation period.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

The evaluation of the M.A.R.S Waste Program will be anchored on specific indicators that reflect both environmental outcomes and economic benefits among market vendors. One of the primary indicators will be the reduction in the volume of unsegregated waste generated within the market premises, signifying improvements in waste segregation practices. Another important measure will be the increase in vendor participation in recycling initiatives and proper waste management activities, demonstrating the level of engagement and commitment of stakeholders to sustainable practices.

Moreover, the evaluation will consider the improvement in the overall cleanliness of the market environment, alongside the enhancement of customer satisfaction, as these factors are essential in maintaining a conducive and hygienic market setting. In addition, the program will assess the increase or stabilization in the profitability levels of participating vendors, highlighting the potential economic benefits derived from effective solid waste management (SWM) practices. Lastly, the collection of feedback from market vendors regarding the ease of implementation and perceived impact of SWM practices will serve as a qualitative indicator, providing insights into the practical challenges and benefits experienced by the participants throughout the duration of the program.

This restructuring program addresses the moderate but statistically non-significant relationship between SWM practices and profitability among Santa Rosa Market vendors. By integrating educational, motivational, operational, and partnership-driven strategies, the M.A.R.S Waste Program aims to enhance solid waste management while supporting vendor profitability in the long term. While immediate financial gains may not be guaranteed solely by SWM practices, a cleaner, environmentally friendly market is expected to attract more consumers and create indirect profitability benefits.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the summary of findings, conclusions, and recommendations derived from the data gathered and analyzed in the study. The primary objective of this research was to assess the solid waste management practices among market vendors in the City of Santa Rosa and determine their relationship with their profitability. Specifically, the study explored the vendors' level of practices in terms of attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control. Moreover, the study examined the impact of these practices on profitability, particularly in relation to additional revenue streams, cost reduction, and improved customer retention. The results of the study served as the basis for proposing a restructuring program that aims to enhance the effectiveness of solid waste management practices while supporting the profitability and sustainability of market vendors.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Based on the data gathered and after careful and thorough analysis of the investigation, the following were the findings of the study in a summarized form were arranged according to the statement of the problem:

1. The analysis of market vendors' attitudes toward solid waste management practices revealed a strong consensus regarding the importance of proper waste handling. Vendors demonstrated a high level of agreement on the significance of waste segregation, as indicated by a mean score of 3.40. Similarly, their attitudes toward recycling were positive, with a mean score of 3.33, emphasizing the perceived benefits of recycling in generating additional income and reducing waste. Furthermore, proper waste disposal was regarded as essential for maintaining market cleanliness, as reflected in a mean score of 3.42. Overall, the vendors exhibited positive attitudes toward solid waste management practices.
2. The study findings indicate that subjective norms exerted a moderate influence on market vendors' solid waste management practices, as reflected in an average mean score of 2.96. This suggests that while peers, market authorities, and customers played a role in encouraging proper waste management, the social pressure to comply with these practices was not particularly strong. Vendors acknowledged some level of external influence; however, it was not a dominant factor in shaping their waste management behaviors. The analysis of perceived behavioral control among market vendors revealed an average mean score of 2.92. This finding suggests that while vendors generally possessed the necessary knowledge to manage waste effectively, they encountered challenges related to resource availability, such as access to waste bins and recycling programs. Additionally, difficulties in integrating solid waste management practices into their daily business operations were identified as a constraint. These challenges indicate that despite their awareness and knowledge, structural and logistical barriers may hinder the effective implementation of proper waste management practices.
3. The analysis of market vendors' perceptions regarding the economic and customer-related impacts of solid waste management practices revealed several key insights. Vendors acknowledged that recycling initiatives contributed to an additional revenue stream for their businesses, as indicated by a mean score of 3.02. Additionally, the implementation of solid waste management practices was perceived to **cost reduction** in operational costs, with a mean score of 2.93. Furthermore, a majority of vendors believed that effective waste management practices enhanced customer loyalty and retention, as reflected in a mean score of 3.23. These findings suggest that vendors recognize both the financial advantages and customer relationship benefits associated with implementing robust solid waste management strategies.
4. The analysis of the relationship between solid waste management practices and profitability among market vendors in the City of Santa Rosa yielded a Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.458 and a p-value of 0.056. In statistical analysis, significance is established when the p-value is ≤ 0.05 at a 95% confidence level. As the p-value exceeds this threshold, the relationship between solid waste management practices and profitability is not statistically significant. Although a moderate positive correlation was observed, the results suggest that solid waste management practices are not a primary determinant of profitability. Other factors such as pricing strategies, market demand, business

management, and operational costs likely exert a stronger influence on financial performance. These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of profitability drivers among vendors and indicate that while sustainable waste management may offer indirect benefits, it is not the sole contributor to financial success.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the data gathered, carefully analyzed, and interpreted in accordance with the statement of the problem, the following conclusions are drawn:

1. Vendor Awareness and Engagement in SWM

The findings indicate that Santa Rosa market vendors generally demonstrate a high level of awareness and engagement in solid waste management practices. Their positive attitudes towards waste segregation, recycling, and proper disposal suggest a strong environmental consciousness among vendors, which can serve as a foundation for improving SWM practices across the market.

2. Limited Influence of Social Norms

The moderate influence of subjective norms implies that while external pressures, such as from peers, market authorities, and customers, play a role, they are not strong enough to drive significant behavioral change. This suggests that while social expectations are recognized, they do not adequately compel vendors to fully adhere to SWM practices.

3. Economic and Operational Benefits of SWM

The study concludes that vendors acknowledge the dual economic benefits of solid waste management: cost reduction through efficient waste disposal and potential income generation from recycling. Additionally, vendors perceive positive impacts on customer loyalty and retention, which can translate into enhanced business sustainability and profitability over time.

Multifaceted Profitability Drivers

4. The lack of a statistically significant correlation between SWM practices and profitability suggests that other factors, such as pricing strategies, market demand, and operational efficiencies, are more critical to vendors' financial performance. While SWM practices may offer indirect benefits, they are not the primary contributors to profitability in this context.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings summarized and the conclusion drawn, the following recommendations are hereby offered:

Enhance Resource Availability and Infrastructure

1. Local government authorities and market administration should prioritize the allocation of resources such as waste bins and recycling programs that can help profitable programs for the market vendors. Improved infrastructure and logistical support will help vendors overcome operational barriers, allowing them to better integrate sustainable waste management practices into their daily activities.

Strengthen Social Norms and Peer Influence

2. Market administrators should consider fostering stronger social norms around waste management by facilitating peer-to-peer support among vendors. Initiatives such as vendor associations, regular meetings, or collaborative waste management practices can strengthen shared accountability and enhance compliance with environmental regulations. A positive outcome of programs for waste management and profitability for the market vendors.

Incentivize Proper Waste Management Practices

3. A formal incentive program should be implemented to reward vendors who consistently practice proper waste management. This could include offering rental discounts, certificates, or other tangible rewards for vendors who meet established waste management standards. Incentive programs can motivate vendors to adhere to best practices and improve overall market waste management.

4. Implementation of Restructuring Program

To enhance solid waste management (SWM) practices among market vendors in Santa Rosa, it is recommended that the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) implement mandatory quarterly training seminars tailored to both dry and food section vendors, with certification issued to ensure participation and compliance. A points-based incentive system should be introduced to promote consistent waste segregation, rewarding vendors with benefits such as rental discounts or preferential stall locations. Market infrastructure must also be improved through the installation of strategically placed, color-coded waste bins, enhanced waste collection schedules, and centralized composting areas, particularly for biodegradable waste. Policy enforcement should be strengthened by assigning trained waste marshals to conduct regular inspections, complemented by penalties for violations and recognition for compliant vendors. A targeted profit-waste awareness campaign should be launched to demonstrate the link between waste reduction and profitability, utilizing visual materials and success stories during vendor assemblies. To ensure continuous program refinement, a Market SWM Council comprising vendor representatives, environmental officials, and local government stakeholders should be established to evaluate performance and recommend necessary adjustments. Lastly, partnerships with local junk shops and composting facilities should be forged to support a circular economy, enabling vendors to derive additional income from recyclable and biodegradable waste through cooperative arrangements.

5. For future researchers

In light of the findings and the identified gaps in the present study, future researchers are encouraged to expand the scope of investigation by exploring additional variables that may influence market vendors' profitability beyond solid waste management practices. Specifically, it is recommended that future studies examine the roles of market conditions, pricing strategies, customer demographics, operational efficiency, other types of waste (biodegradable and hazardous), and business management practices in shaping vendors' financial performance.

Moreover, longitudinal studies could be conducted to assess the long-term impacts of sustained waste management initiatives on profitability and customer loyalty. Comparative studies across different cities or regions may also yield valuable insights into how local governance structures, cultural attitudes, and resource availability affect the adoption and success of solid waste management practices.

Researchers are further encouraged to employ mixed-methods approaches, integrating both quantitative and qualitative data, to capture a more nuanced understanding of vendor behaviors, motivations, and constraints. By addressing these areas, future research can contribute to a more comprehensive

framework for promoting both environmental sustainability and economic resilience among market vendors.

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