

Okota - Chanzi's waste management solution

Okota Waste Management was born out of necessity and innovation when Chanzi, a leading organic waste processing company in Arusha, found that their growing demand for food waste could no longer be met reliably by external waste collection agents. To secure a consistent supply of organic waste, Chanzi took the bold step of creating their own waste management arm—Okota. The company brought on board an experienced Managing Director with a robust background in managing municipal landfills and waste recycling, setting the stage for a new era in waste management in Arusha.

Okota quickly established itself as a key player in the city's waste management landscape. They purchased a fleet of vehicles and initiated residential waste separation projects in three of Arusha's 25 wards. In addition, they ran waste sorting initiatives across schools, businesses, hotels, and street markets. As a result, Okota now supplies the vast majority of Chanzi's organic waste, averaging around 18 metric tons per day, with all major markets in Arusha achieving zero waste to landfill.

But Okota's impact extends beyond just organic waste. They also sort and process the remaining inorganic waste streams, cleaning and preparing them for recycling. With Chanzi's facility in Arusha nearing full capacity and plans to expand its processing capability to 70 metric tons per day, the need for a more extensive waste supply became apparent. To meet this need, Okota is investing in the construction of a new Material Recovery Facility in Arusha. This facility, designed to divert 180 metric tons per day of municipal solid waste from landfills, will be capable of sorting, processing, and recycling nearly 95% of the waste it handles—covering almost 70% of the waste generated by a city of one million inhabitants.

As a subsidiary of Chanzi Holdings, which owns 85% of Okota, the company is poised to play a crucial role in transforming Arusha into a model for sustainable waste management. Through their efforts, Okota is not only ensuring a steady supply of waste for Chanzi but also contributing significantly to environmental conservation and resource recovery in the region.