Assessment of Difusion of Best Environmental Management Practices in Tanzania

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Abstract

This study evaluated the extent of diffusion of best management practices (BMP) in some chemical industries in Dar es Salaam. The data were collected from ten (10) different chemical industries through structured questionnaires and observations. The data were statistically analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 11.5. The Chi-square (χ^2) test at the 5% level of significance was frequently used to test the homogeneity or the significance of respondents (general managers, production managers and laboratory technicians) against several environmental aspects (variables). The findings indicate that most of the industrial staff are not aware of best management practices and the level of awareness did not differ ($P>0.05$) among respondents. Lack of information regarding BMP, inadequacy of pollution management training and lack of corporate environmental policy (CEP) were considered to be the major factors which contribute to low level of awareness among industrial employees. The study found further that lack of expertise hindered the formulation of CEP, implementation of cleaner production technologies and certification to ISO 14001. In order to comply with pollution prevention and control strategies, the study proposes and recommends the adoption of a BMP procedural model. This model includes strategies, practices and efforts that are intended to reduce environmental pollution (environmental best management practices) resulting from chemical industrial activities.