

*Approaches to urban commons:
Reflections to conceptualize
integrated solid waste
management with social
inclusion*

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“Now that garbage is worth money,
waste pickers are garbage”



This presentation:

- ➔ We aim to analyse waste as an urban commons and the conflicts generated by the expropriation or "enclosures" of waste pickers.

- ➔ We propose a reflexive exercise that mix the theoretical proposal of the commons with the urban problem that is Integrated Solid Waste Management. Bogota is used as a case study.

- ➔ We find how waste pickers suffers a the *enclosures process* in waste management, based on Stuart Hodgkinson's proposal:
 - a) Privatization
 - b) Dispossession
 - c) Capitalist subjectivity

Public

WASTE

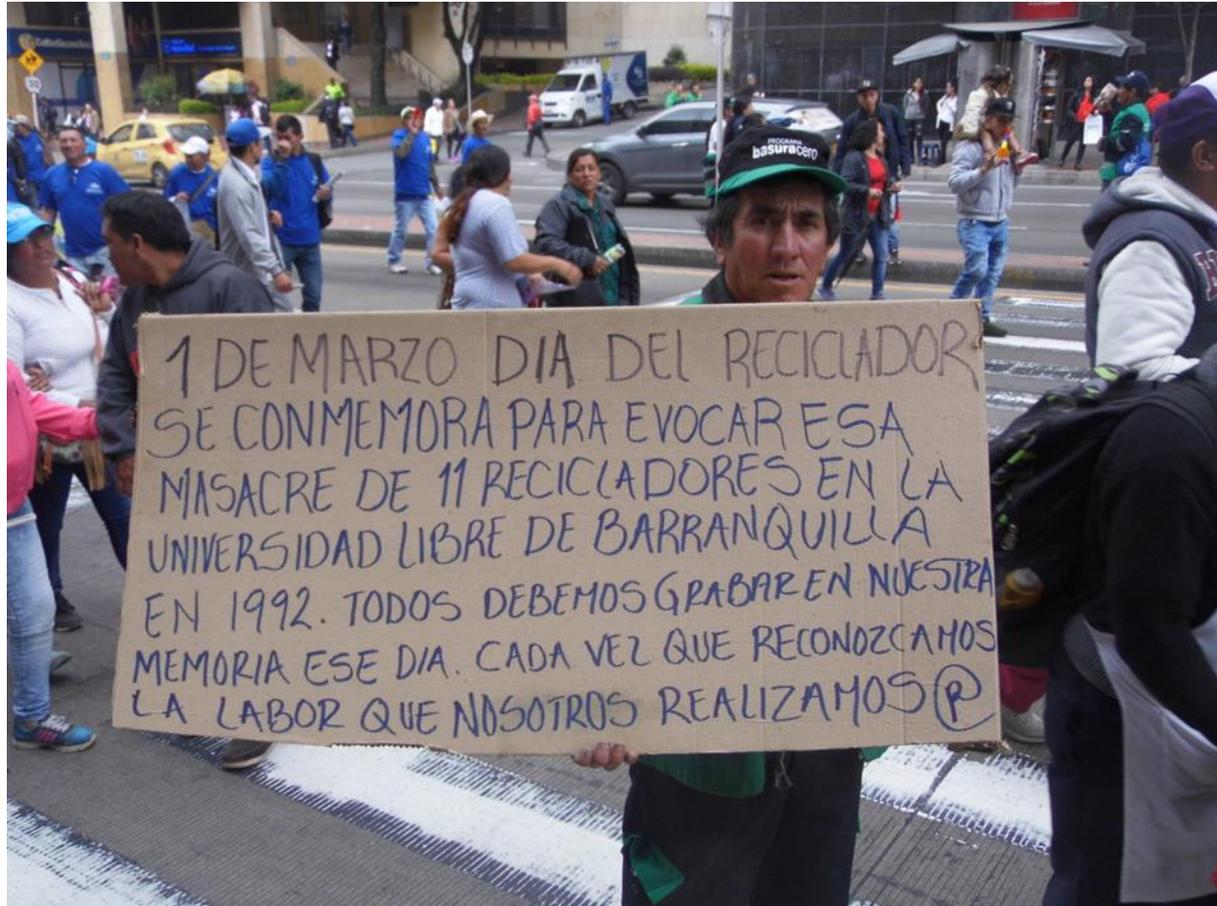
Private



Municipal solid waste management



March 1st Waste Pickers Day



This day evoke massacre of 11 waste pickers at Barranquilla in 1992. “We all must remember in our memory that day. Let's recognize the work that we do”

“Our work is a service”



Solid waste management as urban commons



Communities

- Municipal authorities
- Private operators
- Waste pickers
- Residents (landfills)
- Industrial companies



Waste Management

Institutions and practices



Waste as a common resource



Three big lines to approach to the common goods and the common

- 1. *Community regards from the institutional economy*** (Cárdenas & Ostrom, 2004; Ostrom, 2009a, 2010; Poteete, Janssen, & Ostrom, 2012)
- 2. *The common not only as a resource, but as a search and existence of individual and collective welfare*** (Espósito, 2003; Esteva, 2014; Foster, 2011; Hardt & Negri, 2009; Mitlin, 2008)
- 3. *From the political economy against the enclosures of capitalism*** (De Angelis, 2004; Escandell, 2015; Harvey, 2012; Hodgkinson, 2012; Lee & Webster, 2006).

Enclosures of the commons: the GIRS with social inclusion in Bogotá

A. Privatization of solid waste management

B. Dispossession of the means of production and threats to subsistence

C. New waste entrepreneurs

A. Privatization of solid waste management (I)



“Recycling for waste pickers, not for private companies”

A. Privatization of solid waste management (II)

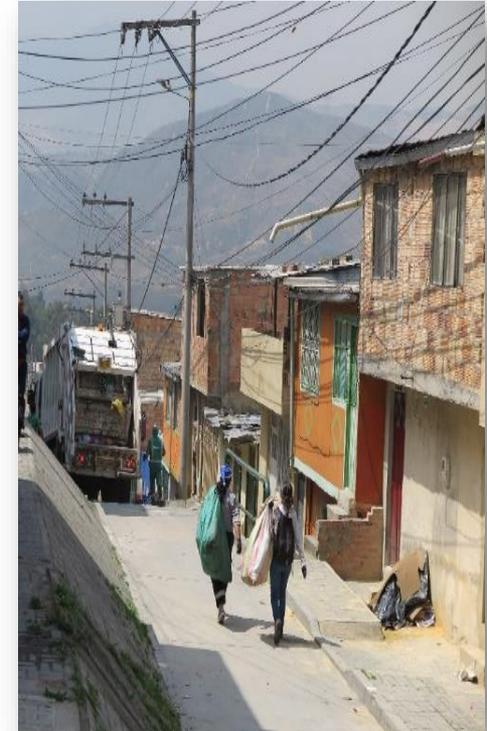
“RECYCLE white bag”



*“RECYCLE white bag
for waste pickers”*



A. Privatization of solid waste management (III)



B. Dispossession of the means of production and threats to subsistence (I)

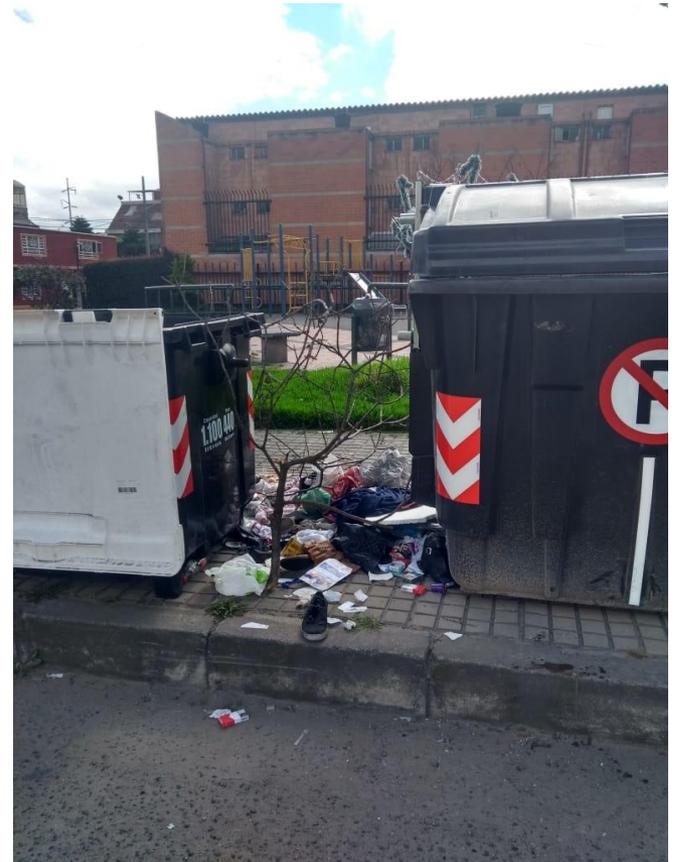


*“Not to
containers”*

B. Dispossession of the means of production and threats to subsistence (II)



B. Dispossession of the means of production and threats to subsistence (III)



C. New waste entrepreneurs (I)

¡Formalízate!
son muchos beneficios para ti,
conócelos y haz parte del nuevo
modelo de reciclaje del país

Un proyecto de: **MINVIENDA**

Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá

Apoyado por: **iRR** Iniciativa Regional para el Reciclaje Inclusivo

Ejecutado por: **cempre**

“Formalize! They are many benefits for you, know them and make part of the new recycling model of the country”

C. New waste entrepreneurs (II)



“Recycling is for waste pickers, not for impostors”

“Waste pickers do not give up their work, their rights, neither their conquests”

C. New waste entrepreneurs (III)



Conclusion remarks



Conclusion remarks



Conclusion remarks





Thanks for your attention...