

Bio4HUMAN - Identifying bio-based solutions for waste management applicable to the humanitarian sector

Bio-Based Solution Info Sheet

SANITARY PADS



Baseline alternative

Traditional non-compostable cotton sanitary pads



General description

Anandi Eco+ pads use no harmful chemicals and break down into manure after use, helping the environment and recycling resources.

- These affordable pads are produced and sold by local entrepreneurs in areas where sanitary pads are hard to get.
- They use natural, low-cost materials from locally available agriculture like jute, banana fiber, and plant waste to keep prices low.
- Each pad is made in a small factory run and staffed by local women. This creates jobs and helps women learn business and marketing skills. The factories use simple technology that makes high-quality, comfortable pads at low cost.



Lifespan

6 months. Single-use product: the film is used for bundling or transporting (it is a transport packaging); once used, it is discarded.



Cost

30 pads at 6 USD.



Environmental aspects - added value

End of life: 100% home compostable. In a compost environment, at least 90% of the pad are biodegraded within 90-180 days. The pads can be disposed easily in the backyard mud pit of any rural household to avoid polluting the environment and create bio-manure for agriculture.



Additional comments

- Free of harsh chemicals, fragrances & plastics.
- Each mini factory is easy to operate and maintain. With basic training, women can produce superior quality Anandi pads and eventually manage their own factories.
- The Mini-Factories require minimal electricity to operate and have a built-in quality standard.
- Operating for 8-10 hours per day, one mini-factory can provide a hygienic menstrual management option for 200,000+ women each month.



SCAN FOR BIO-BASED SOLUTIONS PORTFOLIO OF ALL SOLUTIONS

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