

Dump Death toll reaches 113

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A landslide in Koshne, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that was made of tons of rubbish has claimed 113 lives. This landslide happened on the 11th March, since the death toll has risen to 113 as of Wednesday the 15th. The event was caused by construction in the area, bulldozers are said to have destabilized the mountain of waste. The landslide has destroyed a slum that was built on the biggest landfill site in Ethiopia.

The residents of the slums make their living by collecting and reselling rubbish; some of the residents lived on top of the mound of waste, this meant that they lived in a very unhealthy and unclean environment. The landfill site is a dangerous area to live in due to small fires erupting because of the methane gas that the decomposing waste produces. Now that their makeshift homes have been destroyed many people are now homeless. The residents of the slums also have no job as the landfill site is now too dangerous to work on, and for many of the residents that was their only source of income which they survived on. The government at the time were trying to rehome many of the slum settlers as the government had been building a factory to convert the waste products into energy to power the country.

The Ethiopian government are doing all they can. So far they have transferred 290 of the slum settlers, who were unharmed by the landslide, to a temporary shelter in a youth centre in the capital Addis Ababa. Unlike a similar event in China 2015, the Ethiopian government have provided support for the victim's families by paying for their funerals.



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