



# THE GLOBAL FORUM OF CITIES FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT, MARCH 2026







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# Contents

<b>FOREWORD FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2. ABOUT THE GLOBAL FORUM OF CITIES FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY (GFCCE)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>3. THE COMMON AGENDA FOR ACTION: AN OVERVIEW</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>4. COUNTRY-WISE REPORTS ON THE COMMON AGENDA</b>	<b>26</b>
Agenda 1: Solid waste quantification and characterization	28
Agenda 2: Separation (segregation) of waste at source	37
Agenda 3: Redesign of concessionaire agreements	44
Agenda 4: Investing in behaviour change communication	50
Agenda 5: Optimizing cost on waste collection and transportation	57
Agenda 6: Prioritizing a decentralized approach	64
Agenda 7: Integration of the informal sector	71
Agenda 8: Managing bulk waste generators	77
Agenda 9: Using municipal bylaws as a legal instrument to address segregation and home composting	83
Agenda 10: Ban dumping of biodegradable and combustible waste	89
Agenda 11: Implementing the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste management	95
Agenda 12: Imposing a landfill tax	101
Agenda 13: Closure of existing dumpsites	106
Agenda 14: Introducing Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS)	112
<b>5. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED NEW ELEMENTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMMON AGENDA FOR ACTION</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>6. CONCLUSION</b>	<b>120</b>

# Countries featuring in the report

Cote d'Ivoire

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Ghana

Kenya

Lesotho

Madagascar

Mozambique

Namibia

Senegal

South Africa

Tanzania

Uganda

Zambia

Zimbabwe

# Foreword from the desk of the Director General

The challenge of solid waste management in the Global South is defined by both its staggering scale and its urgent complexity. As we stand on the precipice of a projected 300 per cent increase in urban solid waste generation in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2050—rising from 174 million tonnes in 2016 to 522 million tonnes—the imperative to act has never been clearer. For too long, the traditional linear model of ‘take-make-dispose’ has dominated our cities, resulting in over 70 per cent of waste being dumped in the open, leading to irreversible environmental damage that came with staggering economic loss over decades.

The Global Forum of Cities for Circular Economy (GFCCE) was established in 2022 to answer this challenge. Facilitated by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), the Forum has evolved into a vibrant community of 18 member states committed to fostering South–South cooperation. Our collective goal is to replace unsustainable practices with a circular economy ecosystem that views waste not as a burden, but as a resource.

This Annual Progress Report (March 2026) captures the strides made by our member nations in implementing the ‘Common Agenda for Action’. This 14-point agenda, agreed upon during the third GFCCE meeting, serves as our roadmap for reform. It prioritizes fundamental shifts: moving from mixed dumping to source segregation, transitioning from centralized landfills to decentralized processing, and recognizing the vital role of the informal sector. Drawing on shared learnings—including insights from India’s *Swachh Bharat Mission*—the agenda emphasizes that sustainable waste management requires not just infrastructure, but behaviour change, robust data systems, and policy enforcement.

In the following pages, we present a country-wise analysis of progress across nations such as Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Madagascar, Lesotho, Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania, among others. The reports reveal a landscape of growing commitment and innovation. We see countries establishing legal frameworks for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to address plastic waste, piloting decentralized composting to manage organic loads, and striving to integrate informal waste pickers into the formal economy.

However, this report also offers a candid assessment of the systemic hurdles that remain. From the lack of reliable data hindering effective planning, credible investment plan to the financial constraints of municipal governments, the path to circularity is fraught with challenges. The continued reliance on dumpsites and the struggle to enforce segregation at source underscore the need for deepened support. Consequently, this report outlines proposed new elements for our common agenda, focusing on strengthening municipal finance, legal instruments and institutional capacity to bridge the gap between policy intent and on-ground implementation.

The GFCCE stands today as the collective voice of the Global South on solid waste management. This report is not merely a record of what has been done, but a testament to our shared resolve to build cities that are resilient, resource-efficient and developed as future models of circular economy in managing the ever increasing municipal solid waste.



**Sunita Narain**

*Director General*

Centre for Science and Environment

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## The imperative for circularity

The Global South faces an escalating solid waste management crisis compounded by rapid urbanization, economic expansion and unsustainable consumption on one side, and limited investment, infrastructure, policies and capacity on the other. In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, urban solid waste generation is projected to triple from 174 million tonnes in 2016 to 522 million tonnes by 2050.

Currently, about 70 per cent of all waste in Sub-Saharan Africa is dumped in the open, creating severe economic challenges and irreversible environmental damage. Since the scale of the challenge was complex and to a large extent homogeneous, cutting across national boundaries, the Global Forum of Cities for Circular Economy (GFCCE) was established in 2022, facilitated by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), to foster South–South cooperation and transition nations from linear ‘take-make-dispose’ models to circular ecosystems.

This Annual Progress Report (March 2026) documents the progress of 15 out of the 18 current member nations—Cote d’Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe—in implementing the ‘Common Agenda for Action’. This agenda, adopted during the third GFCCE meeting and aiming to institutionalize circular economy principles in urban governance, draws on learnings from India’s *Swachh Bharat Mission* and other countries in Africa and the Global South.

## Reporting by the GFCCE member states on the common agenda for action

The GFCCE member states agreed upon 14 core agenda items to incentivize waste processing and disincentivize landfilling through appropriate policies, institutional arrangements and implementation practices. This report provides a country-wise analysis of all the agenda items, revealing a landscape that recognizes the push from GFCCE, where policy frameworks often exist, but on-ground implementation varies significantly due to inadequate investment, infrastructure gaps, data paucity and limited capacity.

**1. Solid waste quantification and characterization:** Reliable primary data on waste composition is a prerequisite for effective planning, monitoring and policy making, yet it remains a critical gap across the Sub-Saharan Africa. While South Africa has operationalized a robust National Waste Information System (SAWIS) and Kenya is advancing data collection under its 2022 Act, many nations like Ethiopia, Ghana and Madagascar rely on fragmented, project-based studies rather

than systematic national inventories. Countries such as Cote d'Ivoire and Lesotho have identified the urgent need for technical support from GFCCE to standardize methodologies and institutionalize data collection to guide investment decisions.

**2. Separation of waste at source:** Source segregation is foundational to the circular economy but remains one of the most significant challenges across the continent. South Africa and Kenya have established legal mandates for segregation, yet enforcement remains uneven. Eswatini and Zambia reported pilot initiatives in specific towns or markets, but widespread household compliance is hindered by weak enforcement and a lack of separate collection and processing infrastructure. Countries such as Ethiopia have introduced fines for mixing waste, but consistency remains a challenge.

**3. Redesigning concessionaire agreements:** Traditional contracts often pay private operators based on the quantity of mixed waste tipped at landfills, which actively discourages recovery, reuse and recycling. The report highlights a critical need to redesign these agreements to incentivize source-separated collection and processing. While South Africa is seeing progress through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) partnerships, most nations, including Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, still operate under contracts that prioritize collection coverage and disposal over recovery. The community has sought further support from GFCCE in the form of a policy brief.

**4. Investing in Behaviour Change Communication (BCC):** Changing citizen behaviour is essential for segregation, yet investment in BCC remains sporadic and project based. Countries such as Kenya and South Africa implement campaigns through schools and community groups, but these lack the sustained funding required for long-term impact. The report notes that the investment required for BCC is significantly lower than that for infrastructure, yet it remains underfunded. Most member states have proposed a draft roadmap from GFCCE to trigger further discussion in their countries and push this agenda forward.

**5. Optimizing collection and transportation costs:** Collection and transport consume over two-thirds of waste management budgets, often due to inefficient routing and distant landfill sites. Mozambique and Lesotho are exploring decentralized transfer stations to reduce haulage distances. However, in countries such as Ethiopia and Madagascar, high operational costs continue to strain municipal finances, necessitating a shift toward decentralized processing to minimize the volume of waste transported. Member states have requested further

technical support and standard operating procedures from GFCCE to redesign the collection and transportation of municipal solid waste to optimize the cost.

**6. Prioritizing decentralized approach:** To reduce costs and improve recovery, the agenda promotes treating waste closer to the source. This approach is very relevant considering the current state of waste collection and processing. Ethiopia and Kenya have successfully utilized micro-enterprises and youth groups for primary collection and small-scale processing. However, centralized systems remain dominant in countries such as Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire, where decentralized infrastructure for organic waste is still limited. The majority of the member states recognize that adoption of a decentralized approach is a potential solution to their existing challenges, but such a step would require necessary policy reinforcement. The community has sought case studies of cities/countries where a decentralized approach has been successfully implemented to be able to use them to influence their leadership for policies and implementation.

**7. Integration of informal sector:** Informal waste-pickers are the backbone of recycling in the Global South, especially in Africa. Yet this very efficient workforce is frequently excluded from formal systems. South Africa leads with specific Waste Picker Integration Guidelines and EPR regulations that recognize these workers. Kenya and Ghana are making strides in registering waste pickers and forming cooperatives, but in many countries such as Madagascar and Zimbabwe, integration remains informal and lacks social protection. The community, however, recognizes the true potential of the informal sector, especially the benefit of integrating it. They are seeking further documented good practices of successful models in the Global South to explore further possibilities.

**8. Managing bulk waste generators:** Large generators such as hotels and markets place a disproportionate burden on municipal systems. South Africa has advanced regulations requiring bulk generators to manage their own waste. Conversely, in countries like Eswatini and Tanzania, bulk generators are often serviced by general municipal systems without differentiated tariffs, leading to poor cost recovery. The Indian legal mandate to bulk waste generators is a model for the entire Sub-Saharan Africa, and with more evidence on the co-benefits of specific policies for bulk waste generators members will continue to work on this agenda with support from GFCCE and CSE.

**9. Municipal bylaws as legal instruments:** Local bylaws are essential for enforcing segregation and littering fines. While widely used for general sanitation, their application for enforcing home composting or segregation is limited outside of

South Africa and specific Kenyan counties. Strengthening these legal instruments is identified as a priority for enforcement in countries such as Ghana and Zambia. Strengthening local mandates through municipal bylaws also requires adequate constitutional power delegated to the local governments, such as the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Acts of India. Many members have sought support from CSE to develop a model framework with embedded circularity measures, along with good practices to advance the agenda in their respective countries.

**10. Ban on dumping biodegradable and combustible waste:** Prohibiting the dumping of recoverable waste is a powerful policy tool, but implementation is rare. South Africa has introduced progressive restrictions on liquid and organic waste at landfills. However, in the majority of reporting nations, including Cote d'Ivoire and Ethiopia, organic and combustible waste continues to be landfilled due to a lack of alternative processing facilities. However, member states unanimously agreed that this can be a strong deterrent to reduce the traditional practice of landfilling valuable waste and sought the reference of legal provisions to explore the possibility of adopting such measures in their policies going forward.

**11. Implementing the Polluter Pays Principle (PPP):** The PPP, particularly through EPR for plastics, is gaining traction. South Africa and Kenya have established legal frameworks and are operationalizing EPR schemes to finance waste management. Other nations, such as Ghana and Zambia, are in the early stages of drafting regulations or relying on voluntary producer engagement, which has proven insufficient. The community felt that a common EPR framework not limited to plastic waste is the future of the circular economy in managing solid waste and proposed that a harmonized EPR document be made available to GFCCE for further engagement.

**12. Imposing landfill taxes:** To make recycling economically viable, landfilling must be disincentivized with appropriate policy barriers. South Africa employs landfill tariffs, but in most other member states, disposal costs are unpriced or subsidized, undermining the economic case for diversion. Countries such as Namibia and Eswatini report that low or non-existent gate fees result in continued reliance on dumpsites. Despite the current state in terms of considering landfill tax as a deterrent, almost all the GFCCE members have unanimously opined that this is one critical reform that could truly be a game-changer in disincentivizing indiscriminate dumping of waste. Member states have specifically sought further technical support, model policy and good practices to strengthen further engagement with the nations.

**13. Closure of existing dumpsites:** The transition from open dumps to sanitary landfills is urgent to prevent environmental disasters. However, the construction and maintenance of sanitary landfills are very expensive, unless systems such as landfill tax or other revenue models are deployed. Mozambique is undertaking the closure of the Hulene dumpsite, and Kenya is working on rehabilitating major sites. However, in countries such as Madagascar and Lesotho, financial constraints and lack of technical standards mean that hazardous open dumpsites remain the norm. In addition to standards, technical and financial capacity, closure of dumpsite requires installation of waste recovery, treatment and processing facilities to match the current and projected generations, which is currently one of the limiting factors to the entire Sub-Saharan Africa. However, GFCCE has resolved to work together to gradually reduce the reliance on the dumpsites by investing more on sustainable circular infrastructure. The community recognized that the Indian Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 is a global example of biomining of dumpsites for reclaiming land and reusing them for setting up waste processing infrastructure or other gainful economic purpose.

**14. Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS):** Absence of systems to generate credible data for sanitation governance is a common gap in the entire Sub-Saharan Africa that limits the governments from making informed decisions on policy investment and practice. South Africa's SAWIS serves as a model for the region. In contrast, most GFCCE countries suffer from fragmented data, which hinders infrastructure planning and policy formulation. Establishing national inventories is unanimously agreed upon as a critical next step and SWIMS is one of the most sought-after agendas that all the member states wish to adopt with support from GFCCE.

### Strategic gaps and proposed new agenda elements

The country reports reveal that while the technical agenda is sound, implementation is stalled by systemic governance weaknesses. Local governments are legally responsible for waste but lack the financial, institutional and human capacity to execute reforms. Consequently, many initiatives remain stuck at the pilot stage.

To address this 'implementation gap', the member states have proposed restructuring the common agenda into baskets such as circular policy, public-private partnerships, institutional arrangements, and implementation practices. The members have proposed adding four new cross-cutting elements to the existing GFCCE Common Agenda:

- 1. Strengthening municipal financial frameworks:** Ensuring predictable financing through ring-fenced budgets and rationalized user charges.

2. **Developing model legal and operational instruments:** Creating adaptable bylaws, procurement templates, and contracts to help cities operationalize policies.
3. **Strengthening institutional capacity:** Building the technical and managerial skills of municipal staff for planning and contract management.
4. **Mainstreaming waste into urban and climate planning:** Integrating waste management into broader urban development and climate resilience strategies to unlock new resources.

## **Conclusion**

The 2026 GFCCE progress report underscores a convergence of priorities across the Global South, the urgent need to move away from dumpsites, improve source segregation and secure sustainable financing. While policy frameworks are maturing, evidenced by the rise of EPR and circular economy strategies, the challenge remains in bridging the gap between policy intent and on-ground execution. The GFCCE serves as the vital platform for this transition, moving from intention to implementation, and member states from fragmented pilots toward scalable, evidence-based, inclusive and affordable waste-management systems.

**ABOUT THE  
GLOBAL  
FORUM OF  
CITIES FOR  
CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY  
(GFCCE)**

Over one-third of the population on the planet is challenged by a severe waste management crisis. The Global South, which includes nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, is where the issue is a lot more concerning than the rest of the world. Waste generation in this area is rapidly increasing due to urbanization and economic expansion, while its management, in line with the principle of circular economy is very limited. Generation of urban solid waste is estimated to increase by 300 per cent in Sub-Saharan Africa from 174 million tonnes in 2016 to 522 million tonnes by 2050. While about 70 per cent of the current generation is dumped in the open, this region is witnessing a burgeoning waste-management crisis that is leading to irreversible environmental damage, as well as proving to be a serious economic challenge.

The Global Forum of Cities for Circular Economy (GFCCE) was created in 2022 as a collective platform of countries in the Global South, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, to foster circularity in solid waste management to replace traditional practices that had very limited consideration of waste as resource.

### **Challenge of unsustainable linear consumption patterns**

Considering the complexities and scale of the challenge, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) facilitated the formation of the Global Forum of Cities for Circular Economy (GFCCE) in 2022 as a forum to foster South-South cooperation to improve the solid waste management ecosystem in the Global South by identifying and addressing the critical elements of circularity. Currently GFCCE is a community of government representatives from 18 member-states (Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The Forum operates as an international platform for knowledge exchange, capacity building and coalition-building, dedicated to mainstreaming circular-economy principles into the very fabric of urban solid-waste governance.

Accelerating the urban circular transition requires a coordinated, multi-stakeholder approach that empowers city governments, policymakers, practitioners and communities with knowledge, tools and collaborative networks to design and implement effective circular economy strategies. This is achieved through:

- 1. Building a global community:** Creating a vibrant network of cities committed to sharing best practices, innovations and challenges in circular urban management.
- 2. Generating actionable knowledge:** Producing context-specific research, case studies and practical toolkits focused on key elements of the urban solid waste management ecosystem.

- 3. Enhancing capacity:** Providing training, technical guidance and policy advocacy support to help cities develop, finance and execute localized circular economy action plans.
- 4. Improved policy:** Supporting the development of enabling policies and governance frameworks at local, national and global levels to scale circular urban solutions.

During seven rounds of physical consultations in different African nations and India between 2022 and 2025, GFCCE has evolved as a collective voice of the Global South to steer the forum by identifying and acting on the basis of a set of common agendas for action to transition towards circular policies and practices.

**THE COMMON  
AGENDA FOR  
ACTION:  
AN OVERVIEW**

The third GFCCE meeting and workshop in India was attended by senior government officials from as many as 19 countries from the Global South, to learn from the implementation of the flagship Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission). Apart from a strong set of policies to govern environmental sanitation, including solid waste management in India, Clean India Mission was launched in 2014 by the Government of India with the largest-ever financial devolution to more than 250,000 rural and 4,800-plus urban local governments with well-defined objectives, strategy and milestones. The world’s largest sanitation performance assessment system, Swachh Survekshan was introduced in 2016 to create a strong ecosystem of collecting performance data from the urban local governments to help shaping the policies and re-design institutional arrangement and implementation of a circular approach.

During the third GFCCE, the member states agreed to adopt a set of 14 common agendas for action to institute a circular ecosystem of solid-waste management in their respective nations. The overarching focus of the common agenda was to incentivize waste treatment and processing and disincentivize the traditional practices of landfilling (see *Table 1: Overview of agenda items*).

**Table 1: Overview of agenda items**

Serial	Agenda	Description
1.	<b>Solid waste quantification and characterization</b>	<p>Solid waste characterization refers to the systematic process of identifying and categorizing the types, composition and properties of waste generated in each area (e.g. organic, plastic, paper, metal, hazardous waste etc.). Solid waste quantification involves measuring the amount of waste generated by various generators such as individual households, commercial establishments like markets, shopping complexes and institutions like schools, colleges, offices etc. Together, solid waste quantification and characterization provide essential data for designing effective, sustainable and economically viable solid waste management (SWM) systems to make critical decisions such as the number of sanitation workers, number and types of collection vehicles, design capacity of plants for treatment and processing of waste, and even the designed capacity of controlled or engineered landfill.</p> <p>Despite being such an important and fundamental step, solid waste quantification and characterization have not found a place in the policies of many African nations and therefore have very limited examples of practice.</p>

Serial	Agenda	Description
2.	<b>Separation (segregation) of waste at source</b>	<p>Source separation (segregation) refers to the separation of different types of waste, such as biodegradable and non-biodegradable, at the point of generation, typically in households, commercial establishments and institutions. This practice is foundational and non-negotiable to efficient waste management, enabling higher rates of recycling, composting and recovery while reducing contamination and landfill burden. Separation of waste at source is critical to many co-benefits such as creating a business ecosystem around waste as a raw material, fostering public-private partnership, creating jobs and, most importantly, reducing the burden on the extraction of natural resources and keeping the materials in the circularity loop, typically termed as the circular economy.</p> <p>Despite its clear co-benefits, implementing effective source separation across African countries remains a fundamental challenge, driven by infrastructure and service gaps, high organic waste content and its decomposition, limited public awareness and focus on behavioural change, and, most importantly, weak policy enforcement and institutional practices.</p>
3.	<b>Redesign concessionaire agreement</b>	<p>Waste management services, especially door-to-door collection and transportation, treatment, processing, disposal etc. are often contracted out to private companies by the municipal governments. In many cases, procurement terms have traditionally been based on the tipping-fee model, where the concessionaire (contractor) is paid for the total quantity of mixed waste collected for landfilling or processing. The same holds true for cities in the Global South, especially in Africa. Such practices have been found to be deterrents to promoting source separation. Therefore, a concessionaire agreement should always be signed based on the processing of various waste streams that must be collected as source separated and transported separately, aligned with the principles of the circular economy through sustainable procurement. The forum also agreed to implement a concessionaire agreement focusing on maximizing source separation and processing of waste arising from the need for a national procurement policy.</p>
4.	<b>Investing in behaviour change communication</b>	<p>Limited waste separation at source has been globally established as a practice that emerged from a heavy reliance on unsustainable technological solutions and a dearth of investment in changing the behaviour of waste generators. The Indian experience from the implementation of the Clean India Mission established that systematic investment in changing the behaviour of waste generators can bring long-term benefit to secure source separation, home composting etc., which also makes the technologies far more efficient in terms of generating revenue from waste and contributing to financial sustainability. Waste minimization is a common element across the legal mandates in the majority of African countries, but its implementation, including allocation of investment, continues to be a common problem. The agenda of behaviour change is particularly important considering the participation and shared responsibility by the citizens. The agenda therefore is to create a long-term, robust communication strategy, which is inclusive and recognizes the role of communities in waste management. Such a strategy also needs to be adequately funded. The quantum of investment requirement for behaviour change is far less than that for creating infrastructure and technologies for services. GFCCE members felt that a behaviour change communication strategy and roadmap must be one of the top priorities and should be an agenda for shared learning.</p>

Serial	Agenda	Description
5.	<b>Optimizing cost of waste collection and transportation</b>	<p>Over two-thirds of all operating expenses are spent on waste collection and transportation worldwide. According to the World Bank report <i>What A Waste</i>, ineffective planning for collecting waste at the neighbourhood level, using smaller tipper trucks, and the distance each vehicle travels to reach the landfill outside the city limits are frequently the causes of the high collection and transportation costs. This makes waste management activities economically unsustainable, especially given the extremely low returns from waste processing and treatment.</p> <p>In order to design a cost-effective primary collection, the Indian city of Pune replaced the compact motorized vehicles used for door-to-door collection with pushcarts connected to a vehicle at a secondary location. Additionally, the material recovery facility for dry waste and the composting or bio-methanation plant for wet waste significantly reduce the amount of waste transported to landfills, thereby lowering the cost of secondary collection using larger vehicles. The GFCCE member states agreed that the platform should gather evidence of economically sustainable models of collection and transportation for collective learning.</p>
6.	<b>Prioritizing decentralized approach</b>	<p>Centralized waste management systems, which collect and process all of the city's waste at a single location outside of the city limits, have long been a source of higher costs and limited recovery and revenue. Most often, collected waste ends up in landfills, causing major health, environmental, and financial challenges due to low rates of source separation. It is, therefore, critical to transition to a decentralized system of waste management, which uses low-cost technology, local resources and investments to treat the source-separated waste closest to the point of collection.</p> <p>In this method, cities are divided into smaller pockets, such as clusters of municipal wards, where dry and wet waste processing facilities are established with the capacity to handle the amount of waste generated within their catchment areas. This strategy significantly lowers transportation. GFCCE member states agreed that learning from successful models of decentralized waste management could benefit the community in the long run.</p>
7.	<b>Integration of informal sector</b>	<p>In urban Africa, informal waste-pickers form the backbone of recycling and recovery, yet they remain largely excluded from formal municipal solid waste management systems. Their integration is not merely an equity issue, but a strategic imperative for building effective, sustainable and inclusive waste management across the continent. With global learning on the capacity of the informal sector and its contribution to recovery and recycling, it is now an established fact that integration of the informal sector is actually a great opportunity in every facet of sustainability parameters. During the third GFCCE, member states could see for themselves in the Indian city of Pune (Maharashtra) how a cooperative of more than 4,500 informal waste-pickers partnered with the municipal government for doorstep collection of source-separated waste from more than 900,000 properties every day. Such a mechanism not only secured the livelihoods of waste pickers but also proved to be a financially sustainable model that can be replicated in cities of the Global South.</p>

Serial	Agenda	Description
8.	<b>Managing bulk waste generators</b>	<p>Sources such as commercial establishments, market complexes, hotels, schools, colleges, housing societies and high-rise buildings generate significant amounts of waste as single sources, typically termed as bulk generators or bulk waste generators. While the municipal governments collect the large volumes of their waste, which burdens the system much more than sources generating smaller quantities of waste, it often does not result in the generation of user charges proportionate to the waste that bulk generators produce. Therefore, a policy mandate to address bulk generators as a separate category of sources can bring many co-benefits such as reducing the waste management burdens on the municipal governments by partially transferring the responsibilities on the sources themselves and levying higher tariffs on them for providing collection and transportation services.</p> <p>According to the Indian policy, sources that generate more than 100 kg of waste every day, including all waste streams, are referred to as the bulk waste generators (BWGs). The law mandates them to manage their biodegradable waste through composting or bio-methanation inside their premises and hand over the other waste streams to agencies authorized by the city government. During the third GFCCE, the forum members visited a few BWGs and learnt how they were adhering to the legal mandate by managing their organic waste within their premises and handing over their dry waste to the municipalities by paying the tariffs. The forum members agreed that the provision of BWGs is something that all the Global South cities must consider for adopting in their policies going forward.</p>
9.	<b>Using municipal bylaws as a legal instrument to address segregation and home composting</b>	<p>Most African nations have constitutionally empowered local governments to adopt and enforce local laws known as bylaws to address local development priorities, including the enforcement or amendment of tax regimes in accordance with the services provided by local governments to citizens within their jurisdictions. This goes beyond the basket of national policies that govern the solid waste management services provided to the citizens by the local governments. The municipal bylaws have played a pivotal role in enforcing many aspects of solid waste management and hold citizens accountable for matters such as source separation, anti-littering, paying waste-collection user fees, and the collection of penalties for non-compliance, among other things. Bylaws have also been used to incentivize source segregation, home composting etc. to complement behaviour change drives. GFCCE members received a comprehensive overview of how circular-economy practices are being implemented in cities through municipal bylaws, and they agreed that comparable measures in cities in the Global South could significantly change the current solid-waste governance structure.</p>
10.	<b>Ban dumping of biodegradable and combustible waste</b>	<p>A legal prohibition on the disposal of combustible and biodegradable waste in dumpsites is one of the best policy measures to encourage source separation, recovery and recycling of source-separated waste and to discourage the indiscriminate disposal of municipal solid waste, which has been practised for decades. The majority of policies in European countries include clear provisions to prevent the dumping of any waste with revenue potential and the potential to cause environmental hazards. The Indian government is considering several legislative measures to implement these prohibitions, such as imposing a landfill fee to compel local governments to cover the cost of materials brought in for disposal. The GFCCE members felt that initiating a discussion on the possibility of enacting such a policy should feature on the common agenda as a strong legal instrument to promote circularity and sustain solid waste management systems financially and environmentally at the local government level.</p>

Serial	Agenda	Description
11.	<b>Implement the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste management</b>	The Polluter Pays Principle (PPP) is a foundational environmental law concept that holds producers and brand-owners financially responsible for the environmental costs of their products throughout their lifecycle. In the context of plastic pollution, PPP is increasingly recognized as one of the most effective legal and economic instruments to both reduce plastic generation and finance waste management. PPP has transitioned beyond mere clean-ups to systemic change. It transforms plastic pollution from a public cost into a corporate liability, creating a powerful economic signal for prevention while unlocking the sustained financing needed for effective plastic waste management. By making pollution expensive for its creators, PPP stands as one of the most direct, equitable and sustainable legal instruments to combat the plastic crisis. While many GFCCE member states have laws that could be correlated to the concept of PPP, there is still an absence of clear enforceable measures in many cases. GFCCE therefore felt that harmonizing the PPP into instruments like the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) must feature as one of the important agendas.
12.	<b>Impose landfill tax</b>	Incentives for source separation, treatment and processing, and disincentivizing landfilling or dumping are two of the most well-known and talked-about strategies for implementing the circular economy in solid-waste management. To discourage landfilling, several nations in the Global North have robust policies and implementation procedures in place. The Indian government is actively considering implementing a comprehensive policy that would impose a fee on waste disposal to discourage it and promote the largest possible share of processing and treatment. GFCCE felt that a landfill tax is an effective strategy to reduce the amount of waste dumped in landfills. Some African countries have such a system in place, but it hasn't had the expected impact on results due to lax enforcement. The forum decided to explore every option within their government to impose a landfill tax to make the solid-waste management system more sustainable.
13.	<b>Closure of existing dumpsites</b>	In many Sub-Saharan African (SSA) nations and other developing economies, the overwhelming reliance on dumpsites as the final destination for waste disposal highlights a serious issue with the dominant linear economy model. This traditional practice has only led to a massive waste of precious resources by frequently disposing of waste and end-of-life products in landfills without scientific treatment or recycling. Clear and uniform standards for the design of scientific landfills, site selection, and operational procedures are lacking in many, if not most, cases. The number of such controlled or uncontrolled landfills has already exceeded their capacity and often leads to major accidents, leading to loss of human lives, apart from causing irreversible environmental pollution to air, water and soil. GFCCE therefore recognized and adopted the agenda for consideration. The community also agreed to learn from global good practices to close over-utilized landfills and adopt a scientific approach for the operation and maintenance of existing and operational landfills.

Serial	Agenda	Description
14.	<b>Introduce Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS)</b>	<p>Effective waste management in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is critically hindered by a lack of accurate, timely data. Authorities lack insights into waste quantity, composition and generation patterns, leading to challenges in planning and resource allocation. For example, investments in inappropriate technologies, such as composting and material recovery facilities, may result from the lack of basic compositional data. Additionally, the informal waste sector's significant role remains largely unmeasured, obscuring its impact. The overarching issue stems from weak local governance and inadequate infrastructure, perpetuating ineffective waste management practices. To overcome these challenges, a coordinated effort is essential, focusing on strengthening local institutions, enhancing infrastructure, and establishing robust data-collection and monitoring systems for sustainable waste management. GFCCE unanimously agreed that creating a national source inventory of solid-waste management data is critical to shaping the future of policies, resource allocation and institutions. Recognizing the urgency, GFCCE adopted a comprehensive solid-waste management information system (SWIMS) to collect consistent, reliable information on how solid waste is generated, collected, and managed. The focus is on municipal solid waste, which includes waste from households, small businesses, markets and all institutions to take informed decisions on planning, budgeting, infrastructure and human resources, apart from monitoring, assessing quality of service and reporting performance data to other administrative verticals in the urban local governance for critical policy decisions.</p>

**COUNTRY-WISE  
REPORTS ON  
THE COMMON  
AGENDA**

This chapter briefly presents the progress reported by the GFCCE member states on the common agenda for action, where some progress has been made following the continuous deliberation, capacity building and technical support from the collective. This chapter details the progress of 14 member countries, including Cote d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The reports on each agenda from the member states have been structured around the following broad elements:

- a) Whether the agenda features in the existing policies for the local governments;
- b) Whether the agenda is being implemented and the state of implementation;
- c) Whether any good practices have been observed around the agenda by the local government;
- d) Whether there are plans to strengthen the agenda in policies or implementation; and
- e) Whether the country needs any specific support from GFCCE around the agenda

# AGENDA 1

## SOLID WASTE QUANTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION



## **COTE D'IVOIRE**

The agenda of solid waste quantification and characterization features in Cote d'Ivoire's Code of Environment Articles 28, 35, 36, 37 and 38. Articles 28, 35 to 38 of the code establish the foundational legal framework for environmental protection and management. The articles in focus outline general obligations and specific mandates regarding waste, which directly shape national solid waste management policies.

This framework is the bedrock upon which Côte d'Ivoire's national waste-management strategy, EPR initiatives and urban sanitation policies are built. It legally mandates a shift from a purely municipal/public waste management burden to a shared responsibility that includes producers, thereby aiming to reduce pollution and finance improved systems. The effectiveness, however, hinges on the adoption and enforcement of the detailed decrees authorized under Article 38.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that waste quantification and characterization are currently undertaken by both municipal authorities and private actors. However, the enforcement of legal provisions mandating quantification and characterization as a prerequisite for informed investment decisions in municipal solid-waste management remains uneven and requires greater consistency. The country has highlighted several good practices, including quantification and characterization at the stage of waste transfer to collection centres, during transport to technical landfills, through the involvement of informal waste collectors in city-level waste management, and at points of recovery of recyclable and non-recyclable materials. Côte d'Ivoire now needs to identify mechanisms to scale and replicate these practices across all local governments. As reported, the country will continue to refine its policy mandate and anticipates further capacity building and technical support from GFCCE to strengthen this agenda.

## **GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI**

Solid waste quantification and characterization are provided for under Eswatini's Waste Regulations of 2000, primarily through licensing and record-keeping requirements for waste generators and managers, including mandatory disclosure by private entities of waste types, quantities, and chemical and physical characteristics (Regulations 9 and 11). These provisions have been implemented mainly for industrial and hazardous waste streams, reflecting the regulations' focus on regulated wastes. Under the earlier National Waste Strategy, waste characterization exercises were carried out through the 2017 local and 2022 national studies. However, the lack of explicit provisions for municipal solid waste,

along with delays linked to pending parliamentary approval of updated waste policy instruments, has resulted in uneven and largely ad hoc characterization practices among urban councils.

Eswatini reported good practices from cities such as Ezulwini, Siteki and Manzini, where municipal governments have undertaken waste characterization studies. These efforts are complemented by the UNDP-supported Waste Management Information System (WMIS), under which waste generators and local authorities submit bi-annual waste quantity reports to the Eswatini Environment Authority (EEA). The country is currently seeking parliamentary approval for a Chemical and Waste Management Strategy that calls for nationwide waste characterization and quantification studies to further strengthen implementation. To sustain and scale these efforts, Eswatini requires affordable, frequent nationwide waste assessment methodologies, for which technical support from GFCCE would be valuable.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Solid waste quantification and characterization in Ethiopia is anchored in the Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and the newly ratified Proclamation No. 1383/2025 of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The Proclamation provides the overarching legal framework for solid waste management and establishes the responsibilities of waste generators and local authorities, implicitly requiring data on waste types and quantities to support planning, collection, treatment and disposal systems. While the legal framework exists, the mandate for systematic and standardized waste quantification and characterization is not elaborated through detailed national guidelines, resulting in fragmented data practices across cities and regions. Only Addis Ababa has seen considerable progress.

Ethiopia reports that implementation of waste quantification and characterization remains limited due to resource constraints, lack of standardized methodologies, and insufficient technical capacity at the municipal level. However, good practices are emerging through community-based initiatives involving waste segregation, composting of organic waste, and public-private partnerships in recycling. The government is revising existing policies to expand obligations to industrial and commercial waste generators through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), which is expected to strengthen data generation on waste streams. Ethiopia has indicated the need for GFCCE support in connecting with international cities that have successfully institutionalized waste quantification and characterization systems.

## **GHANA**

In Ghana, solid waste quantification and characterization is addressed through multiple legal and regulatory instruments, including the Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification), Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (L.I. 2250), the National Guidelines for Health Care Waste Management (2020), and the Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124). These frameworks empower the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to require industries and regulated facilities to measure and report waste quantities and composition, with a strong emphasis on industrial, hazardous, healthcare, and electronic waste streams. Enforcement (for quantification and characterization) at the municipal level is enabled through MMDA sanitation and waste management bylaws. Though municipal solid-waste characterization is not explicitly mandated at scale, many local governments largely rely on academic studies to inform planning.

Ghana reports that waste quantification and characterization is implemented mainly for regulated waste streams and permitted facilities such as composting plants and material recovery facilities. A substantial body of academic and practitioner-led studies on municipal solid waste characterization exists and is frequently used by policymakers. To address existing gaps, the EPA has initiated the development of Draft Technical Guidelines for Managing Municipal Solid Waste through Source Segregation, Reuse and Recycling, which are expected to institutionalize waste quantification and characterization for MSW once finalized. Ghana has identified the need for GFCCE support in finalizing these guidelines and developing a national implementation strategy to enable consistent application across Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies.

## **KENYA**

Kenya has a relatively advanced legal basis for solid waste quantification and characterization under the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 and the Nairobi City County Solid Waste Management Act, 2022. These instruments mandate evidence-based planning and data-driven waste management at both the national and county levels. In Nairobi, waste quantification has historically been supported by the Integrated Solid Waste Master Plan (2010) and subsequent waste characterization studies, including surveys conducted with support from UN-Habitat, providing baseline data for infrastructure planning and service optimization.

Kenya reports that waste quantification and characterization is currently being implemented, particularly in Nairobi City County, though much of the existing data requires updating. Ongoing efforts focus on strengthening data management

systems, improving institutional capacity, and aligning county-level practices with national legislation. The country has highlighted the need for capacity-building and technical support to improve data collection and analysis and its use in decision-making, particularly as counties domesticate the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act and expand circular economy initiatives.

## LESOTHO

In Lesotho, solid waste quantification and characterization is explicitly included in the **Lesotho Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024)**, which provides a national framework for data-driven waste-management planning. The Strategy recognizes waste characterization and quantification as essential for improving collection efficiency, enabling recycling and supporting informed investment decisions. This represents a clear policy commitment to institutionalizing waste data systems at the national and local government levels.

Lesotho reports that waste quantification and characterization is already being implemented, supported by emerging data systems and periodic assessments. Good practices have been reported, and the country plans to review and refine its approach within three years of implementation. Further progress, however, depends on strengthening the national waste information system and expanding data coverage. Lesotho has identified the need for technical and financial support from GFCCE to enhance data generation, improve system robustness and ensure consistent use of waste data across municipalities.

## MADAGASCAR

Madagascar currently does not have a national policy or legal mandate requiring systematic solid waste quantification and characterization. As a result, waste data remains limited, fragmented and largely project-based. The absence of a national solid waste-management policy has constrained the ability of local governments to institutionalize waste characterization studies, particularly beyond the capital city. This gap has been explicitly acknowledged by the country in its reporting to GFCCE.

Madagascar has identified waste quantification and characterization as a priority area requiring foundational support. Planned actions include conducting comprehensive waste characterization studies in major cities and developing a national solid waste management policy that formally mandates data collection and reporting. The country has requested GFCCE's technical support and facilitation of access to funding to establish baseline data systems, which are seen

as prerequisites for effective planning, investment and the gradual transition toward circular waste-management practices.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Solid waste quantification and characterization in Mozambique is guided by the Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014), which establishes the basis for sustainable solid waste management, including waste characterization, segregation, collection, treatment and final disposal. The regulation provides a national framework applicable to municipalities and aims to protect public health and the environment while promoting recycling and reuse. While the regulation creates a clear policy basis for waste characterization, it does not prescribe standardized national methodologies, resulting in varied approaches across cities.

Mozambique reports that waste quantification and characterization is being implemented in several cities through periodic campaigns and studies, including documented exercises in Pemba, Nacala, Maputo and Beira. These initiatives often involve partnerships with universities, community engagement in selective collection, and training of waste collectors. However, comprehensive and consistent data remain limited due to infrastructure and capacity constraints. The country is advancing Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management Plans (PGIRSU) at the municipal level and has identified the need for GFCCE support in developing standardized tools, strengthening monitoring systems and building technical capacity to institutionalize waste-data collection nationwide.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) provides the primary policy framework for waste quantification and characterization and assigns responsibilities to local authorities and regional councils. The Strategy recognizes waste data as essential for planning and service delivery and encourages municipalities to quantify and report waste generation and disposal. However, implementation is largely devolved to local governments, leading to uneven application across the country.

Namibia reports that waste quantification and characterization is partially implemented, with notable practices in cities such as Windhoek, Walvis Bay, Swakopmund and Oshakati, where buy-back centres and satellite dumping sites generate waste data. Despite these examples, most local authorities lack systematic record-keeping and reporting mechanisms. The country has identified the need to

expand training in data management and reporting and seeks GFCCE support for capacity building to strengthen waste information systems across all regions.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal does not currently report a clearly articulated national mandate specifically requiring systematic solid waste quantification and characterization. While broader waste management initiatives exist—such as the PROMOGED project aimed at improving integrated waste management and circular economy practices—formal requirements for nationwide waste characterization studies remain limited or implicit rather than codified.

As a result, Senegal reports limited institutionalized practice on waste quantification and characterization. Existing efforts are largely project-based and focused on infrastructure improvement and service delivery in selected urban areas. The country has emphasized the need for stronger enabling policies, improved infrastructure and capacity building to support data-driven waste management. Senegal has also highlighted the importance of integrating incentives for recycling and circular-economy approaches, alongside environmental education, as foundational steps toward establishing systematic waste-data practices.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa has one of the most comprehensive legal and institutional frameworks for solid waste quantification and characterization, anchored in the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (NEMWA), the National Waste Management Strategy (2020), the Waste Information Regulations, and mandatory Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMPs). These instruments require municipalities and waste facilities to conduct waste characterization and report waste quantities through the South African Waste Information System (SAWIS), with IWMPs subject to review every five years.

South Africa reports that waste quantification and characterization is implemented nationwide in principle, supported by mandatory reporting obligations. However, challenges persist related to non-compliance and incomplete reporting to SAWIS, particularly at the municipal level. While the framework provides robust data for planning waste collection fleets, treatment facilities and diversion targets, effectiveness depends on consistent enforcement and capacity. South Africa has expressed interest in knowledge exchange with countries that have demonstrated high compliance and advanced waste data systems to further strengthen implementation.

## **TANZANIA**

Waste quantification and characterization in Tanzania is anchored in the National Solid Waste Management Strategy, which recognizes waste data as a critical input for planning and decision-making. Local governments are encouraged to conduct waste audits, supported by the broader legal framework set out in the Environmental Management Act No. 20 of 2004. However, detailed operational guidelines for standardized waste characterization are still under development.

Tanzania reports that waste quantification and characterization is being implemented through periodic waste audits conducted by local governments and civil society organizations. These efforts remain uneven and limited in coverage. The Vice President's Office is currently working on guidelines and policies specifically addressing waste quantification, characterization, source segregation and behaviour change, which are expected to strengthen implementation. Tanzania has identified the need for technical support in data management systems and analytical capacity to enable consistent and reliable waste data generation across municipalities.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 provide the legal basis for waste management, including provisions relevant to waste quantification and characterization. These regulations establish responsibilities for waste generators and managers and are complemented by landfill guidelines and sector-specific requirements, particularly for medical and hazardous waste streams.

Uganda reports that waste quantification and characterization is implemented in some areas and is more developed for medical waste than for municipal solid waste. A key gap identified is the absence of a comprehensive national waste database that covers generation, transportation, treatment, and disposal. Uganda has highlighted the need to develop such a database and strengthen data collection systems, particularly in light of recent incidents underscoring the risks of inadequate waste management. Support from GFCCE is seen as important for advancing data systems and improving evidence-based planning.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018, together with the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan (2022–2026), provides a clear mandate for waste quantification and characterization. These

instruments emphasize the importance of data for improving service delivery, infrastructure planning and regulatory oversight, particularly at the municipal level.

Zambia reports that waste quantification and characterization was undertaken in Lusaka in 2023 with support from JICA, generating baseline data for the capital city. Implementation in other local authorities is at an early stage, and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development is working to build capacity to replicate these efforts nationwide. Zambia has identified the need for technical assistance to support local authorities in undertaking waste studies and using data to inform investments and policy decisions.

## **ZIMBABWE**

In Zimbabwe, waste quantification and characterization is guided by the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan and the Environmental Management Act (Chapter 20:27). These instruments provide the policy basis for waste planning and management, with implementation largely driven by local authorities, especially in major urban centres such as Harare.

Zimbabwe reports that waste quantification and characterization have been implemented in Harare, with sampling exercises conducted across residential areas and institutions. However, coverage remains limited, and there is a need to expand sampling sizes and standardize methodologies. The country has highlighted the need for standard operating procedures and technical guidance to improve the consistency and reliability of waste data. Support from GFCCE is sought to strengthen local authority capacity and facilitate wider adoption of systematic waste characterization practices.

# AGENDA 2

## SEPARATION (SEGREGATION) OF WASTE AT SOURCE



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Source segregation in Côte d'Ivoire is embedded in the country's Code of Environment, which establishes general obligations for environmentally sound waste management and enables municipalities to regulate waste-handling practices through subsidiary instruments. While the Code provides the legal basis for segregation at source, the operationalization of mandatory segregation depends largely on implementing decrees and municipal enforcement mechanisms.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that segregation at source is practised in limited contexts, often linked to recycling and recovery activities at collection centres, transfer stations and technical landfills. However, systematic household-level segregation remains inconsistent across municipalities. Good practices exist where segregation is integrated into recovery operations, but replication across all local governments remains a challenge. Strengthening enforcement, expanding public awareness, and building municipal capacity are identified as key needs to scale up segregation practices nationwide.

## ESWATINI

In Eswatini, segregation of waste at source is mandated under the Waste Regulations of 2000 with obligations placed on waste generators and licensed waste handlers, with a stronger regulatory focus on industrial and hazardous waste streams. More recent policy instruments, including the Chemicals and Waste Management Strategy and the National Development Plan, explicitly mandate source segregation as a national objective. In practice, source segregation is being implemented with limited capacity in selected towns such as Ezulwini, Mbabane, Manzini, Siteki, Kwaluseni and Malkerns, supported by awareness-raising activities and the provision of separate containers.

Good practices include school-based segregation initiatives and the deployment of trained litter pickers for segregated collection in towns such as Kwaluseni, Siteki and Malindza. However, enforcement remains weak and coverage uneven across urban areas. Eswatini has identified the need to strengthen regulatory enforcement, scale up public awareness and support the development of recycling markets. In addition, the country has requested technical guidance on designing incentive schemes to promote segregation at source and improve compliance.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and the newly ratified Proclamation No. 1383/2025 explicitly mandates segregation of recyclable waste at source, placing responsibility on households and businesses to

separate waste destined for recycling from waste for final disposal. This provision establishes a clear legal obligation for source segregation as a foundational element of the national waste management framework.

Ethiopia reports that segregation at source is under implementation but constrained by limited infrastructure and enforcement capacity. Addis Ababa has introduced fines for households that mix single-use plastics with kitchen waste. There is also a target to achieve 75 per cent of organic waste collected separately. Other good practices include community-based awareness programmes, provision of separate bins, school-level composting initiatives, and private-sector involvement in recycling. Despite these efforts, segregation remains inconsistent. Ethiopia has identified the need for stronger enforcement mechanisms, expanded public education, and support for local recycling industries to sustain and scale segregation efforts.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's policy framework for source segregation is articulated through the National Environmental Sanitation Policy (2016), the National Waste Management Policy (2016), the National Plastics Management Policy (2020) and the National Guidelines for Health Care Waste Management (2020), all of which support EPA guidelines. These instruments encourage segregation of waste into organic, recyclable, hazardous and electronic streams, with a stronger regulatory focus on industrial and hazardous waste.

Ghana reports that segregation at source is being piloted, particularly in regulated facilities and selected municipal programmes. Public awareness campaigns and local bylaws support segregation efforts, but enforcement challenges persist due to legacy concession arrangements and limited public compliance. The EPA has developed draft technical guidelines for municipal solid waste segregation, and Ghana has identified the need for support in finalizing these guidelines, training local authorities and scaling up implementation.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's legal framework for segregation at source is anchored in the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022, and is complemented by county-level legislation such as the Nairobi City County Solid Waste Management Act. These instruments mandate waste generators to segregate waste and empower counties to enforce compliance through regulations and bylaws.

Kenya reports that segregation at source is ongoing, with practices observed in households, schools and organized institutions. Awareness campaigns and

community initiatives support compliance, but full domestication of national legislation at the county level is still underway. Kenya has identified the need for capacity building, regulatory alignment, and expanded awareness programmes to strengthen segregation across urban and peri-urban areas.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) explicitly prioritizes source segregation to improve recycling, reduce reliance on landfill, and support circular-economy outcomes. The Strategy provides policy direction for nationwide implementation, supported by planned regulatory tools.

Lesotho reports that segregation at source is yet to commence at scale, with pilot projects supported by UNIDO planned as an entry point. Some good practices exist through citizen-led recycling initiatives. The country aims to expand segregation nationwide and establish buy-back centres to support local recycling. Technical and financial support is required to develop regulations, infrastructure and sustained sensitization programmes.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar does not yet have a national policy mandating segregation of waste at source. Existing segregation practices are largely voluntary and limited to plastic waste separation by households and organizations for resale or donation. In Antananarivo, a developing city-level SWM Strategy promotes segregation of biodegradable waste for composting.

Madagascar reports that segregation at source remains limited and unregulated. The country has identified the urgent need to develop a national SWM policy that mandates segregation and to invest in infrastructure enabling segregation from source to processing facilities. Technical assistance and access to funding are required to establish foundational systems and scale up segregation practices.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's waste management regulations promote environmentally sound waste practices but do not explicitly mandate source segregation at the national level. As a result, segregation remains largely discretionary and dependent on local initiatives.

Mozambique reports that segregation at source is not widely implemented but is emerging through municipal awareness campaigns, distribution of separate bins and community workshops in cities such as Maputo and Quelimane. These

efforts remain fragmented and pilot based. Mozambique has identified the need for national policy guidance, infrastructure investment and capacity building, and seeks support to scale up segregation practices.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) promotes source segregation as a core principle and assigns responsibility for implementation to local authorities. Municipal bylaws operationalize segregation in selected jurisdictions.

Namibia reports partial implementation of segregation, with good practices such as buy-back centres and two-wheel bin systems in cities like Windhoek and Swakopmund. However, most local authorities lack infrastructure and trained personnel. The country seeks support for capacity building and the nationwide rollout of segregation practices.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal does not report a specific national mandate requiring segregation at source. While integrated waste management and circular economy initiatives are underway, segregation has not yet been institutionalized through enforceable regulations.

As a result, segregation practices remain limited and project-based, often driven by civil society or donor programs. Senegal has emphasized the need for stronger enabling policies, environmental education, and infrastructure investment, noting that decentralization must be aligned with local capacity to avoid widening implementation gaps.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's framework for segregation at source is anchored in the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, the National Waste Management Strategy (2020), and municipal Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMPs), with segregation positioned as a cornerstone of national waste minimization and circular economy objectives and supported by Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes. While segregation at source is promoted nationally, implementation remains uneven across municipalities, with stronger uptake in metropolitan areas than in smaller and rural municipalities.

In practice, IWMPs provide the primary operational basis for segregation at source, but their effectiveness depends heavily on municipal budgets, collection logistics, and levels of public participation. Targeted initiatives such as the

Waste Economy Presidential Programme and metropolitan pilot projects have demonstrated progress, yet scale-up remains constrained by limited funding and capacity. Although EPR schemes have helped strengthen recycling markets, consistent enforcement of mandatory segregation requirements at household and commercial levels remains limited, underscoring the need for sustained financing, enforcement, and capacity building to achieve nationwide coverage.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's Environmental Management Act No. 20 of 2004 and the National Solid Waste Management Strategy enable segregation at source through local government initiatives, though detailed operational requirements remain limited.

Tanzania reports partial implementation through community-led segregation initiatives and civil society support. Segregation remains inconsistent and small-scale. The government is developing guidelines on segregation and behavioural change and has identified the need for technical and financial support to expand programmes and strengthen municipal capacity.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 provide a legal basis for source segregation, particularly for regulated and industrial waste streams.

Uganda reports that segregation is practiced in well-regulated industries and medical facilities, but municipal solid waste segregation remains limited, especially in smaller towns. The country has identified the need for pilot projects and stronger enforcement mechanisms and seeks support to scale up segregation nationwide.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 and the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan mandate source segregation as part of efforts to improve recovery and reduce landfill disposal.

Zambia reports segregation initiatives in selected markets in Lusaka, supported by material recovery facilities with dedicated channels for recyclable plastics and biogas digesters for effective organic waste management. Many projects remain pilot-scale, with plans to establish additional transfer and sorting stations. Zambia seeks support in appropriate technologies, capacity building, and scaling up segregation beyond pilots.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan references segregation, but municipal by-laws do not yet comprehensively mandate it, leaving most segregation voluntary.

Zimbabwe reports segregation practices in government buildings, schools, and selected residential areas using colour-coded bins. Coverage remains limited, and statutory instruments are planned to make segregation mandatory. The country seeks technical guidance, low-cost solutions, and shared policy examples to institutionalized segregation practices.

# **AGENDA 3**

## **REDESIGN OF CONCESSIONAIRE AGREEMENTS**



## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

In Côte d'Ivoire, waste management services, including collection, transportation, and disposal, are largely delivered through municipal arrangements supported by the national environmental legal framework. While the Code of Environment enables municipalities to contract private operators, concessionaire agreements have traditionally focused on collection and disposal outcomes rather than source-separated collection or material recovery, with limited alignment to circular economy principles.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that existing concessionaire models continue to prioritize mixed waste collection and disposal, which constrains incentives for source separation and recycling. Some good practices are emerging where private operators are involved in recovery activities at transfer stations and landfills. However, the country has identified the need to redesign procurement frameworks to explicitly link payments and performance indicators to segregation, recovery, and processing of distinct waste streams. Strengthening procurement guidance and municipal capacity remains a key priority.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste management services are delivered through a mix of municipal operations and outsourced arrangements enabled under existing waste regulations. While licensing and contractual mechanisms exist for private service providers, there is no dedicated national procurement policy that mandates performance-based contracts aligned with source-separation and circular-economy outcomes.

Eswatini reports that concessionaire agreements currently focus on service provision and compliance rather than incentivizing segregation or material recovery. As segregation initiatives expand, the country recognizes the need to revise concessionaire terms to support the separate collection and processing of waste streams. Eswatini has expressed interest in technical guidance and model contracts to support this transition.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's waste management system operates through a decentralized model where municipalities outsource collection and transportation services to private companies and youth associations under the Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025. These arrangements are guided by decentralized procurement guidelines, but contracts are largely service-based and focus on collection and disposal performance.

Ethiopia reports that current concessionaire agreements do not adequately incentivize source separation or circular economy outcomes. While community-led collection systems and private sector recycling initiatives exist, procurement

frameworks have yet to integrate segregation, recovery, and processing targets. Ethiopia has identified the need to redesign concessionaire agreements to incorporate circular economy principles and seeks GFCCE support for developing model contracts aligned with national legal frameworks.

## **GHANA**

In Ghana, concessionaire agreements for waste management services are governed by the Public Procurement Act and associated regulations, with Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies responsible for contracting private service providers. These contracts are typically structured around collection coverage and disposal, with limited performance indicators related to segregation or recovery.

Ghana reports that while procurement processes are transparent and competitive, monitored and standardized by the Public Procurement Authority. Existing concessionaire agreements require further refinement to integrate source separation and collection of segregated waste as a core performance indicator. Enforcement challenges linked to long-term franchise contracts have constrained flexibility. Ghana has identified the need for support to redesign concessionaire agreements and align them with emerging technical guidelines for municipal solid waste management.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's waste management procurement framework is anchored in the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022, complemented by county-level procurement policies. While counties are empowered to contract private operators, concessionaire agreements have traditionally prioritized collection efficiency and disposal rather than recovery and circularity.

Kenya reports that existing concessionaire arrangements do not yet fully support segregation and circular economy outcomes. Some sector-specific initiatives, such as plastic-free hospitality operations, demonstrate potential pathways. The country is working to align county-level contracts with national legislation and has identified the need for awareness, policy alignment, and capacity-building to redesign concessionaire agreements.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) explicitly supports the use of private service providers and public-private partnerships for waste collection and transportation. Concessionaire agreements are implemented in urban centres and have improved collection efficiency compared to fully municipal systems.

Lesotho reports that while outsourcing has improved service delivery, concessionaire agreements require strengthening to better incorporate stakeholder participation, segregation and recovery objectives. The country has identified the need for technical and financial support to develop standard operating procedures, guidelines, and model contracts that align procurement with circular-economy goals.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar does not yet have a formal national framework governing concessionaire agreements for solid waste management. Waste collection and disposal are often managed directly by municipalities or through ad hoc arrangements with private actors, constrained by limited financing and institutional capacity.

Madagascar reports the absence of structured procurement mechanisms for outsourcing waste services. The country has identified the urgent need to develop sustainable financing models and build private-sector capacity to enable outsourcing of waste management services, particularly for large-scale treatment and recycling facilities. Technical support is sought to design concessionaire frameworks aligned with long-term system development.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's concessionaire agreements are governed by Public Procurement Regulations (Decree No. 5/2016) and the Public-Private Partnership Law (Law No. 15/2011). These frameworks apply to waste management services contracted by municipalities and provide the legal basis for outsourcing collection and related services.

Mozambique reports that while procurement frameworks exist, concessionaire agreements are still evolving and do not yet systematically incentivize source separation or recovery. Some municipalities are experimenting with public-private partnerships, and national programmes such as the Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management Strategy are expected to guide reforms. Mozambique has identified the need for GFCCE support in redesigning concessionaire agreements to align procurement with circular economy principles.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia currently lacks a dedicated national policy to guide the redesign of concessionaire agreements for waste management. Outsourcing of services occurs at the municipal level under the Local Authorities Act, but contracts largely focus on service delivery rather than segregation or recovery.

Namibia reports that concessionaire agreements are either absent or limited in scope and that there is a need to introduce redesigned contracts that incentivize improved waste management outcomes. The country has identified training and financial support as necessary to develop procurement policies and implement performance-based concessionaire agreements.

## SENEGAL

Senegal has not reported a specific policy framework governing concessionaire agreements for waste management services. While waste management reforms are being pursued under integrated projects such as PROMOGED, procurement arrangements remain largely focused on infrastructure and service provision.

Senegal reports limited use of redesigned concessionaire agreements aligned with segregation and circular economy objectives. The country has emphasized the importance of developing incentive-based procurement mechanisms and strengthening institutional capacity to support private-sector participation in recycling and circular-economy initiatives.

## SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's procurement of waste management services is guided by the National Waste Management Strategy (2020) and broader public procurement legislation. Concessionaire arrangements increasingly involve partnerships with Producer Responsibility Organizations under Extended Producer Responsibility regulations, supporting infrastructure development and recovery.

South Africa reports that redesigned concessionaire agreements are being implemented in some contexts, particularly through EPR-driven partnerships. However, scaling up such models requires continued resource mobilization and knowledge exchange. South Africa has identified the need to share best practices and to strengthen performance-based contracting aligned with circular-economy outcomes.

## TANZANIA

Tanzania's procurement of waste management services is governed by national public-private partnership policies and local government laws. These frameworks support transparent procurement processes but do not explicitly mandate concessionaire agreements linked to segregation or recovery performance.

Tanzania reports that while public-private partnerships exist, concessionaire agreements require further development to align with circular-economy principles. The country has identified the need for policy development support to

design transparent, performance-based procurement frameworks that incentivize segregation and processing of waste streams.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste management procurement is supported by the Public-Private Partnership Act, 2015 and the National Sustainable Public Procurement Policy, with increasing use of electronic procurement systems. These frameworks provide a basis for outsourcing waste services but have not yet been fully aligned with segregation or circular economy objectives.

Uganda reports that concessionaire agreements are evolving, with efforts to formalize private-sector participation. However, contracts remain largely service-focused. Uganda has identified the need to integrate waste segregation and recovery criteria into procurement processes and seeks support to redesign concessionaire agreements accordingly.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 provides the legal basis for contracting waste management services, supported by the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan. Current franchise contracts include provisions encouraging recycling, but implementation remains limited.

Zambia reports that concessionaire agreements have not yet been fully redesigned to operationalize segregation and recovery targets. The country has identified the need to learn from other cities and countries on implementing performance-based contracts and seeks support to align procurement with circular economy principles.

## **ZIMBABWE**

In Zimbabwe, concessionaire arrangements for waste management are limited and largely informal, with some cities subcontracting private operators for collection and transportation. There is no comprehensive national policy guiding concessionaire agreements in the waste sector.

Zimbabwe reports emerging practices where private operators are engaged at neighbourhood or city levels, but these arrangements are not yet institutionalized through municipal bylaws or procurement frameworks. The country has identified the need to develop concessionaire policies, share model procurement documents and build local authority capacity to redesign contracts that support segregation and recovery.

# AGENDA 4

## INVESTING IN BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION





## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

In Côte d'Ivoire, behaviour change communication (BCC) related to waste management is enabled through the broader environmental governance framework under the Code of Environment, which promotes environmental protection, public awareness and shared responsibility. While the legal framework recognizes the importance of waste minimization and environmentally sound practices, it does not establish a dedicated national mandate or funding mechanism specifically for sustained behaviour change communication on waste segregation and minimization.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that behaviour change efforts are largely implemented through project-based awareness campaigns led by municipalities, civil society organizations and private actors. These initiatives have contributed to improved practices in specific localities but remain fragmented and time-bound. The country has identified the need for a long-term, well-funded communication strategy that integrates community participation and aligns with waste management reforms. Support is sought to strengthen institutional capacity and scale up behaviour change programmes across local governments.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste management regulatory framework recognizes waste minimization and public awareness as important components of environmentally sound waste management. Behaviour change communication is addressed through environmental education and compliance requirements. The dedicated National Development Plan (2023–2028) and Chemicals and Waste Management Strategy has earmarked funding for sustained communication efforts.

Eswatini reports that behaviour change initiatives are implemented through awareness programmes in schools, communities and urban centres, often supported by government agencies and development partners. While these efforts have improved understanding of waste management practices, they remain limited in reach and continuity. Eswatini has identified the need to strengthen behaviour change communication through structured programmes, improved funding and integration with municipal waste services, and has expressed interest in shared learning through GFCCE.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025 emphasizes waste minimization, segregation and

public participation, creating a policy basis for behaviour change communication. Environmental education and public awareness are recognized as supporting measures to improve compliance with waste management obligations, especially at the municipal level.

Ethiopia reports that behaviour change communication is implemented through community mobilization, school-based programmes, and local awareness campaigns linked to composting and recycling initiatives. These efforts have recently been reinforced by the National Circular Economy Roadmap (2025), which promotes the integration of circular economy concepts into high-school and university curricula, and by national public campaigns such as the Clean Ethiopia Initiative (2025) on waste management led by the Environmental Protection Authority. Ethiopia has identified the need for structured, long-term investment in behaviour change communication and seeks support to design scalable and inclusive communication models.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's policy framework for waste management, including the National Environmental Sanitation Policy (2016) and the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2020), recognizes waste minimization and public education as core principles. In particular, Pillar 4 of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy calls for the development of a comprehensive national behaviour change communication (BCC) strategy to improve waste segregation, recycling and environmental hygiene. While BCC is promoted as a cross-cutting intervention, implementation mechanisms remain largely decentralized.

In practice, behaviour change initiatives are led by local governments, the Environmental Protection Agency and civil society organizations through public awareness campaigns and educational programmes. Good practices have also emerged through incentive- and recognition-based approaches piloted in some areas, such as rewards for waste segregation and community participation. However, limited and inconsistent funding has constrained the long-term impact and scale-up of these initiatives. Ghana has therefore identified the need to operationalize a coordinated national BCC strategy, supported by dedicated resources and capacity building, to enable sustained behavioural change nationwide.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 explicitly recognizes public awareness, education and citizen participation as essential components of effective waste management. Countries are empowered to invest in behaviour

change communication as part of their waste management responsibilities, in line with national policy direction.

Kenya reports that behaviour change communication is actively pursued through community outreach, school programmes, media campaigns and partnerships with civil society. However, the scale and effectiveness of these initiatives vary across counties due to differences in funding and institutional capacity. Kenya has identified the need to strengthen coordination, allocate sustained funding and align behaviour-change efforts through assisted-compliance initiatives, particularly targeting community transfer stations, material recovery facilities and industries that promote circular-economy practices to improve adherence to waste segregation and sustainable waste-management requirements.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) explicitly highlights behaviour-change communication as a critical enabler of waste segregation, recycling, and sustainable consumption. The Strategy recognizes the role of citizens and communities in waste management and calls for awareness and education as foundational interventions. These include through citizen-led recycling initiatives and strengthening School Environment Clubs and other community-based structures to foster long-term behavioural change.

Lesotho reports that behaviour change communication is at an early stage, with planned pilot initiatives supported by development partners such as UNIDO. Existing efforts include limited public awareness activities and citizen-led initiatives. The country has identified the need for technical and financial support to design and implement a nationwide behaviour change strategy that is inclusive, sustained, and linked to service delivery improvements. Lesotho has identified the need for technical and financial support to develop standard operating procedures, guidelines, and communication tools, as well as to expand and sustain sensitization and awareness programmes.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar's environmental education framework includes waste management as a thematic area, implemented through a Policy on Environmental Education for Sustainable Development and coordinated by a National Council comprising public, private and civil society stakeholders. While this framework raises awareness of waste issues, it does not constitute a dedicated behaviour-change communication strategy for solid waste management.

Madagascar reports that behaviour change initiatives are implemented through periodic campaigns led by the Ministry of Environment, often linked to international observances such as World Environment Day and Zero Waste Day. These initiatives have improved awareness but lack the continuity and scale needed. Madagascar has identified the need to strengthen behaviour change communication through capacity building, diversified communication tools and sustained funding, and seeks support from GFCCE to institutionalize this agenda.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique does not currently have a specific national policy mandating investment in behaviour change communication for waste management. However, awareness-raising and public participation are encouraged through broader environmental and sanitation frameworks, with initiatives led by local governments, civil society and development partners.

Mozambique reports a growing number of behaviour-change initiatives, including community education programmes, school-based activities and local campaigns promoting waste segregation and composting. Despite these efforts, reliance on short-term projects limits long-term impact. Mozambique has identified the need to integrate behaviour change communication into national waste management strategies and seeks GFCCE support to develop sustainable communication models and funding mechanisms.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Strategy (2019) provides a structured framework for promoting environmental awareness, including waste management. The Strategy supports behaviour-change communication through engagement with schools, communities, local authorities, and regional councils.

Namibia reports that behaviour change initiatives are partially implemented, with a focus on awareness-raising among key stakeholders. While these efforts have improved understanding of waste management practices, coverage remains limited. Namibia has identified the need to expand CEPA implementation, strengthen funding, and enhance capacity-building to achieve broader, more sustained behaviour-change outcomes.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal has emphasized environmental education and awareness as critical components of sustainable waste management, though behaviour change

communication is not yet formalized through a dedicated national waste-focused strategy. Educational initiatives are promoted as part of broader environmental and circular economy objectives.

Senegal reports that behaviour change activities are implemented through civil society engagement, school-based education, and project-linked awareness campaigns. The absence of a structured, long-term communication strategy, however, limits scale and effectiveness. Senegal has highlighted the importance of integrating environmental education into school curricula and of strengthening incentives for recycling and circular-economy practices.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Environmental Management: Waste Act, National Waste Management Strategy (2020), and the Good Green Deeds Presidential Programme provide a strong institutional basis for behaviour change communication. These frameworks promote environmental justice, waste minimization and citizen participation through nationwide campaigns and community engagement.

South Africa reports that behaviour change communication is actively implemented through clean-up campaigns, waste minimization initiatives and public education programmes linked to job creation and the waste economy. While these efforts are ongoing, sustaining and expanding impact requires continued investment and innovation. South Africa has identified the need for support to strengthen best practices, build capacity, and ensure long-term programme sustainability.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework recognizes public awareness and community participation as essential elements of sustainable waste management. Behaviour change communication is promoted through national strategies and implemented primarily at the local government level.

Tanzania reports that behaviour change initiatives are underway through public awareness campaigns and community engagement but remain limited in scope and funding. The government is developing guidelines on behaviour change communication as part of broader waste management reforms. Tanzania has identified the need for financial resources and technical expertise to design and roll out effective, long-term communication campaigns.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's Draft National Urban Solid Waste Management Policy recognizes the importance of behaviour change communication in improving waste management outcomes. Public awareness and education are seen as enabling factors for segregation, waste minimization and compliance with regulations.

Uganda reports that behaviour change communication remains limited, with few structured programmes currently in place. The country has identified the need to develop and implement comprehensive behaviour change strategies, especially in urban areas, and seeks support to strengthen communication capacity and funding.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 and the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan provide a basis for community engagement and public awareness on waste management. Behaviour change communication is recognized as a supporting intervention to improve cleanliness and reduce illegal dumping.

Zambia reports successful localized behaviour change efforts, including community-led clean-up initiatives and competition-based approaches to improve neighbourhood cleanliness. These practices demonstrate potential but remain limited in coverage. Zambia has identified the need to reclaim communal dumping sites and scale up behaviour change programmes through sustained investment and shared learning.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan includes education, awareness and publicity as core components of waste management. Behaviour change communication is implemented through schools, government institutions and public spaces, with increasing use of social media platforms. For instance, The Environmental Management Agency and Zimbabwe Sunshine Group are implementing a programme funded by UNICEF Zimbabwe in four districts in schools. The change programme is raising environmental awareness and equipping children to take action at the community level.

Zimbabwe reports that behaviour change initiatives are in place but require expansion and modernization to reach wider audiences. Leveraging digital platforms and influencers is being explored. The country has identified the need for technical guidance, effective communication strategies, and capacity-building to strengthen behaviour-change outcomes and community participation.



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

In Côte d'Ivoire, waste collection and transportation systems are governed by the national environmental framework and implemented primarily at the municipal level. While policies recognize the importance of efficient waste-management services, there is no explicit national mandate focused on cost optimization through decentralized collection models, route planning or reduction of transport distances to disposal facilities.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that waste collection and transportation costs remain high, particularly due to reliance on motorized vehicles and long haulage distances to technical landfills. Some good practices involve sorting and partially recovering waste at transfer centres, reducing the volume transported for final disposal. However, these practices are not yet systematized across cities. The country has identified the need to strengthen planning capacities, invest in decentralized infrastructure, and learn from cost-effective models through GFCCE platforms.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's waste management regulations empower local authorities to organize collection and transportation services, with cost-recovery mechanisms largely determined at the municipal level. While affordability and service efficiency are recognized concerns, there is limited policy guidance on optimizing collection and transportation costs through system design.

Eswatini reports that waste collection costs pose a significant challenge for municipalities, particularly in urban areas where reliance on motorized vehicles and limited transfer infrastructure increases operational expenditure. Some local authorities are exploring improvements in routing and service scheduling, but practices remain ad hoc, such as reduced collection frequency due to segregation, prevalence of communal drop-off points, and use of compactor trucks. Eswatini has identified the need for technical guidance on cost-effective collection models and support to pilot decentralized systems that reduce transportation burdens.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's waste collection and transportation services are managed by municipalities under the Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025 with increasing involvement of micro and small enterprises and youth groups in primary collection. The legal framework allows flexibility in service delivery models but does not prescribe cost-optimized system designs.

Ethiopia reports that collection and transportation costs are a major financial burden, particularly due to rapid urban expansion and the distance to disposal sites. Good practices include the use of pushcarts and small-scale collection by community groups for primary collection, with transfer to larger vehicles at secondary points. However, limited transfer infrastructure and treatment facilities constrain cost reduction. Ethiopia has identified the need for investment in decentralized processing facilities and systematic planning to optimize collection logistics.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's waste collection and transportation systems are structured through municipal concessionaire arrangements under the National Solid Waste Management Strategy for Ghana, 2020 and guided by national sanitation policies. While service coverage has improved in major cities, high operational costs continue to challenge financial sustainability.

Ghana reports that collection and transportation account for a substantial share of municipal waste budgets, driven by motorized door-to-door collection and long-distance hauling to disposal sites. Some cities have introduced transfer stations and are exploring decentralized composting and recycling facilities to reduce transport volumes. Ghana has identified the need for stronger planning tools, improved infrastructure and shared learning on cost-optimized collection models.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 provides a framework for efficient waste service delivery, including collection and transportation, implemented primarily at the county level. While counties are encouraged to adopt systems that minimize waste volumes and improve operational efficiency, high collection and transportation costs remain a key challenge, especially in rapidly growing urban areas where disposal facilities are located far from city centres.

To address this, counties and private operators are piloting decentralized collection models, improved route planning, and the construction of Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), including facilities supported by UN-Habitat, to reduce the volume of waste requiring long-distance transportation. Ongoing initiatives also promote recycling and link waste pickers and other waste management actors to markets, helping to lower collection and transport burdens. Implementation, however, remains uneven across counties. Kenya has identified the need for financial and technical support to scale up MRF development and to integrate these facilities into collection and transportation systems through enabling policies and standard operating procedures.

## LESOTHO

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes cost efficiency in waste collection and transportation as a critical factor for system sustainability, highlighting the role of decentralized facilities and improved logistics in reducing operational costs. In practice, waste collection and transportation costs remain high relative to municipal budgets, largely due to reliance on centralized disposal facilities and limited treatment infrastructure. Route planning and scheduled waste collection are being applied on a limited scale to improve operational efficiency, but these practices are not yet systematically implemented across municipalities.

While outsourcing of collection services has improved coverage, it has not consistently resulted in cost reductions. Public-private partnerships are nevertheless being strengthened to enhance service delivery efficiency. In addition, local beneficiation of recyclables is increasingly recognized as a potential cost-reduction measure by lowering transportation distances to centralized disposal facilities. Lesotho has therefore identified the need for decentralized transfer and processing facilities and seeks technical support to pilot cost-effective collection and transportation models suited to its urban context.

## MADAGASCAR

Madagascar lacks a national framework specifically addressing cost optimization in waste collection and transportation. Municipalities face significant financial constraints and rely on limited vehicle fleets to service large urban populations, often transporting waste over long distances to disposal sites. As a result, high collection and transportation costs undermine service reliability and contribute to illegal dumping.

In Antananarivo, cost optimization measures are being advanced through the GESDA Project, implemented in partnership with the Japan International Cooperation Agency, alongside the development of a city-level solid waste management strategy. These initiatives assess alternative service delivery scenarios, including the use of tricycles for door-to-door collection, the establishment of transfer centres and decentralized composting to reduce collection and transportation costs. Madagascar has identified the need for continued technical support and access to funding to scale such cost-effective collection and transportation systems beyond pilot areas.

## MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique's waste management framework allows municipalities to design collection and transportation systems under the Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014), with national strategies recognizing the need

to improve service efficiency and financial sustainability. Initiatives such as the National Strategy for Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management (2013–2025) seek to expand waste collection coverage in major cities, including Nampula and Beira, by improving planning and operational efficiency.

Mozambique reports several good practices in cost optimization, including the integration of waste collection fees into electricity bills in Maputo, the use of digital platforms to improve service monitoring, and the establishment of transfer centres to reduce haulage distances. These efforts are being complemented by the NAMA Support Project–Sustainable Waste Management for a Circular Economy (launched in 2024), which promotes investments in integrated waste treatment and disposal facilities in municipalities such as Nampula, Nacala and Pemba, with the objective of reducing transportation distances and associated costs. In addition, the planned development of sanitary landfills in major municipalities, as outlined in national environmental planning instruments, is expected to further improve transportation efficiency. Future programmes, including the Programme for Sustainable Waste Management (2024–2029), urban sanitation feasibility studies and life cycle assessments of plastic waste management are intended to inform cost optimization and investment planning. Mozambique has identified the need to scale decentralized facilities and optimize logistics and sees GFCCE as a platform for sharing and learning from proven models.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia’s waste collection and transportation services are governed by the Local Authorities Act, 1992 and municipal bylaws, with cost recovered through tariffs and service fees. The National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) encourages efficiency but leaves implementation to local authorities.

Namibia reports that collection and transportation costs remain high, especially in smaller towns with dispersed populations. Some municipalities have introduced tariff systems and improved service scheduling, but cost optimization through decentralized facilities is limited. Namibia has identified the need for capacity-building and awareness on cost-effective collection approaches.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal’s waste management reforms focus on improving service delivery and infrastructure, especially under national programmes such as PROMOGED. While improving efficiency is an implicit goal, specific strategies for optimizing collection and transportation costs are still emerging.

Senegal reports that high operational costs remain a challenge, especially in dense urban areas. Investments have focused on infrastructure upgrades, but decentralized collection and processing models remain limited. Senegal has identified the need to complement infrastructure investments with system redesigns that reduce transport distances and improve economic sustainability.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Waste Management Strategy (2020) and municipal Integrated Waste Management Plans promote waste minimization and diversion as key pathways to reduce reliance on landfilling and associated transportation costs. Collection and transport services are delivered through a mix of municipal operations and outsourced arrangements, with partnerships under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes supporting cost sharing for the collection, sorting, and transport of recyclable waste streams.

Despite these measures, transportation remains one of the costliest components of waste management, particularly for municipalities covering large geographic areas. Some cities have invested in regional waste facilities, transfer stations and separation-at-source programmes to reduce the volume of waste transported. South Africa has identified the need for further capacity development, dissemination of best practices, and shared learning among municipalities to improve the cost efficiency of waste collection and transportation systems, alongside continued investment and innovation in economically sustainable models.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste collection and transportation systems are organized by local governments under national environmental frameworks. Cost efficiency is a recognized concern, though explicit policy instruments for optimization are limited.

Tanzania reports that collection and transportation costs are high due to inefficient routing, limited transfer infrastructure and distant disposal sites. Public-private partnerships and community involvement are being explored as practical approaches to improving cost efficiency in waste collection and transportation. Tanzania has implemented some cost-effective waste management systems through expanded PPP models and community-based collection arrangements, and has identified the need for financial and technical support to design such systems and reduce operational expenditure.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste collection and transportation services are managed by local governments under the National Urban Solid Waste Management Policy and

Local Government Act, supported by national waste regulations. Municipalities increasingly rely on private operators to deliver services.

Uganda reports that high collection and transportation costs strain municipal budgets and limit service coverage. The absence of adequate transfer stations and decentralized treatment facilities exacerbates the problem. Uganda has identified the need to improve system planning, develop transfer infrastructure and adopt cost-efficient collection models to enhance financial sustainability.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 and the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan recognize the importance of improving efficiency in collection and transportation. Current efforts focus on expanding service coverage while managing costs.

Zambia reports initiatives to establish transfer and sorting stations in densely populated areas to reduce transport distances and promote recovery. However, cost recovery remains a major challenge, particularly in low-income communities. Zambia has identified the need for innovative financing mechanisms and evidence-based collection models to improve cost efficiency.

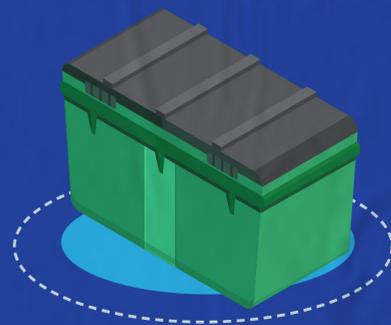
## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste collection and transportation systems are guided by municipal plans and the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, with services delivered through a combination of municipal operations and subcontracted private operators. Inefficient collection practices and long transport distances have contributed to high operational costs and service gaps, leading to illegal dumping in some areas. Emerging approaches such as decentralized collection through private subcontractors and recovery centres are being used to reduce the volume of waste transported to landfills.

Good practices have also been reported, including implementing more efficient, regular waste-collection schedules across residential areas to improve service coverage and operational efficiency. In addition, GeoPomona Waste Management, in partnership with the City of Harare, has procured 45 waste compactors to serve Harare, significantly strengthening collection capacity and transportation efficiency. Zimbabwe has identified the need for further technical support to design cost-effective systems and strengthen municipal capacity.

# AGENDA 6

## PRIORITIZING A DECENTRALIZED APPROACH



## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

Côte d'Ivoire's waste management framework allows municipalities to plan and implement solid waste systems under the national environmental legal architecture. While decentralization of governance is recognized, waste management systems have historically been designed around centralized collection and disposal, with limited explicit policy direction promoting decentralized treatment and processing close to the point of generation.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that waste management systems continue to rely heavily on centralized landfills, contributing to high transportation costs and limited material recovery. Some decentralized practices exist at the level of recovery activities in transfer centres and at technical landfills, but these are not embedded within neighbourhood-scale systems. The country has identified the need to promote decentralized processing infrastructure for segregated waste streams and to strengthen municipal planning capacities and seeks shared learning through GFCCE on scalable decentralized models.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste management regulations provide local authorities with responsibility for waste services, creating an enabling environment for decentralized approaches. However, policy and operational practices have largely focused on centralized collection and disposal, with limited investment in neighbourhood-level treatment or recovery infrastructure.

Eswatini reports that decentralized waste management remains underdeveloped, with most waste transported directly to disposal sites. While some local initiatives explore small-scale recovery and composting, these are not yet systematized. The country has identified the need to strengthen decentralized waste management through technical guidance, infrastructure investment and capacity building, and sees GFCCE as a platform for learning from proven decentralized models.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025 support decentralized service delivery by empowering municipalities and sub-city administrations to manage waste locally. The legal framework allows flexibility in adopting community-based and small-scale waste management systems.

Ethiopia reports that decentralized approaches are already visible in primary collection systems operated by micro and small enterprises and youth groups using pushcarts

and neighbourhood-level aggregation points. However, decentralized treatment and processing infrastructure for segregated waste remains limited. The country has identified the need to expand decentralized composting, recycling and small-scale processing facilities to reduce reliance on distant landfills and lower system costs.

## GHANA

Ghana's Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936), legally empowers decentralized governance and participatory decision-making at the local level, and the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2020) as policy anchors for decentralized waste management. Local governments are working on improving efficiency and sustainability, but waste systems remain largely centralized, particularly in major urban areas where waste is transported to distant disposal facilities. Decentralized treatment and recovery are not yet institutionalized as core system components.

Ghana reports emerging decentralized practices, including community-based composting initiatives and pilot material recovery facilities. However, these remain limited in scale and integration with municipal systems. Ghana has identified the need to promote decentralized infrastructure for organic and recyclable waste and to strengthen planning frameworks that enable cities to adopt ward- or zone-level waste-processing models.

## KENYA

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 provides a strong policy basis for decentralized waste management by mandating counties to prioritize waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery. The Act enables counties to plan waste systems that minimize transportation and promote local processing.

Kenya reports that decentralized approaches are being explored through material recovery facilities, community-based composting and sector-specific waste-reduction initiatives. Implementation, however, varies widely across counties. Kenya has identified the need for technical support, financing mechanisms and shared learning to scale decentralized waste management systems aligned with circular-economy principles.

## LESOTHO

Lesotho's **Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024)** explicitly recognizes decentralization as a key strategy to improve efficiency, reduce costs and enhance recovery. The Strategy promotes the establishment of decentralized facilities for treatment and recycling, particularly in urban areas.

Lesotho reports that decentralized waste management is still at a preparatory stage, with limited infrastructure currently in place. Planned initiatives include pilot decentralized processing facilities supported by private and public partners. There is development of specific byelaws through public consultation processes to operationalize decentralized waste management approaches. Expansion of community buy-back centres is being explored as part of decentralized recovery systems to promote recycling and reduce transportation to centralized disposal facilities. The country has identified the need for technical assistance and funding to operationalize decentralized systems and integrate them into municipal service delivery.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar currently lacks a national solid waste management policy mandating decentralized approaches. Waste systems remain largely centralized and under-resourced, with most waste transported directly to disposal sites or unmanaged dumps.

Madagascar reports growing recognition of decentralized waste management as part of city-level strategies, particularly in Antananarivo, where decentralized composting and recovery facilities are being proposed. However, implementation is constrained by limited financing and institutional capacity. The country has identified the need for technical support and investment to develop decentralized infrastructure as part of a broader system reform.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's decentralized approach to waste management is anchored in the Constitution of Mozambique (2004), which assigns responsibilities for environmental protection to the State and local authorities, and is further supported by the Environment Act (Law No. 20/97) and the Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 13/2006). National programmes increasingly emphasize decentralized service delivery and improved efficiency by strengthening municipal roles.

In practice, decentralized waste management is being supported through national initiatives such as the National Urban Development and Decentralization Project and the Municipal Development Program (PRODEM), which focus on enhancing municipal planning, governance and service delivery capacities. Fiscal decentralization measures, including those assessed under Fiscal Decentralization and Urban Sanitation Services initiatives, are enabling municipalities to mobilize and manage resources for local waste and sanitation services. Mozambique reports several decentralized practices, including community-based waste management, transfer centres, and proposals for neighbourhood-level recycling and composting facilities, often implemented through public-private partnerships. However,

implementation remains uneven. Mozambique has identified the need to further strengthen decentralized infrastructure and planning capacities and seeks GFCCE support for knowledge exchange and technical assistance.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's Decentralization Policy (1997) and National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) provide a clear institutional basis for decentralized waste management. Local authorities and regional councils are responsible for waste services and are encouraged to develop context-specific solutions.

Namibia reports that decentralization is implemented administratively, but waste processing and disposal remain largely centralized. Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) have been prepared by some local authorities and regional councils for their waste disposal facilities, providing a basis for improved local environmental management. There is also an ongoing effort to encourage all local authorities to develop and implement EMPs for waste-disposal sites as part of strengthening decentralized waste governance. Namibia has identified the need for capacity building, funding and technical guidance to operationalize decentralized waste-management models.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's decentralization framework assigns waste management responsibilities to local governments, but in practice, waste systems continue to rely heavily on centralized infrastructure. Decentralized processing and recovery remain limited.

Senegal reports that while infrastructure investments are improving collection and disposal, decentralized waste management approaches have not yet been widely adopted. The country has highlighted the need to align decentralization in waste management with local capacities and resources, and to explore decentralized treatment models that reduce transportation costs and improve recovery.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Environmental Management: Waste Act and National Waste Management Strategy (2020) promotes regionalization and decentralized approaches, including the development of regional waste management eco-parks and localized treatment facilities.

South Africa reports progress in adopting decentralized and regionalized waste management models, particularly for organic waste diversion and recycling.

Implementation of decentralized and regional facilities requires alignment of waste permits, licensing conditions and tariff structures to ensure cost-effective and environmentally sound operations. Although recognized as an ideal model, decentralized and regionalized waste management remains an area for further exploration and phased nationwide rollout. South Africa has identified the need for shared learning and best practices to support wider adoption.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste-management framework allows local governments to implement decentralized waste-management approaches. Community involvement and zero-waste models are increasingly recognized as viable pathways to reduce reliance on centralized disposal.

Tanzania reports emerging decentralized practices, including community-led waste management and small-scale treatment initiatives. However, these remain limited in scale and institutional support. Tanzania has identified the need for capacity building, technical guidance and financing to expand decentralized waste management systems across municipalities.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's Local Government Act assigns waste management responsibilities to local governments, providing an institutional basis for decentralized approaches. National waste regulations support environmentally sound waste management but do not explicitly mandate decentralized processing.

Uganda reports that decentralized waste management remains limited, with most waste transported to central disposal sites. The lack of transfer stations and neighbourhood-level treatment facilities contributes to high costs and operational risks. Uganda has identified the need to develop decentralized infrastructure and strengthen planning to improve system resilience and sustainability.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act no. 20 of 2018 and the Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan support decentralized waste management through transfer stations and community-level recovery facilities.

Zambia reports initiatives to establish decentralized transfer and sorting stations in densely populated areas to reduce transport distances and improve recovery.

While promising, these initiatives are still limited in scale. Zambia has identified the need to expand decentralized infrastructure and learn from proven models to strengthen implementation.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework allows municipalities to plan and implement decentralized service delivery, though waste systems remain largely centralized in practice.

Zimbabwe reports emerging decentralized approaches, including subcontracting private operators for neighbourhood-level collection and establishing recovery centres to reduce landfill-bound waste. However, decentralized processing infrastructure remains limited. The country has identified the need for technical support and capacity-building to design and implement effective decentralized waste management systems.

# AGENDA 7

## INTEGRATION OF THE INFORMAL SECTOR



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire's waste management framework recognizes private-sector participation in waste services but does not explicitly define the role of informal waste-pickers within municipal solid-waste management systems. Existing legal instruments primarily focus on formal service providers, with limited policy guidance on recognizing or integrating informal actors.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that informal waste-pickers play a critical role in recycling and recovery, particularly at transfer stations, collection centres and technical landfills. However, their engagement remains informal and unprotected, with no contractual arrangements or social safeguards. The country has identified the need to develop structured integration mechanisms, including recognition, capacity building and formal partnerships with municipalities, and seeks shared learning through GFCCE on replicable integration models.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's waste regulations emphasize licensing and regulation of waste handlers, with limited explicit reference to informal waste-pickers. While municipalities have discretion in organizing waste services, the Chemicals and Waste Management Strategy addresses the integration of the informal sector, which reports that implementation is already reported as ongoing.

Eswatini reports that informal waste-pickers are active in the recovery of recyclable materials, particularly plastics and metals. There is some informal-sector engagement at landfills and time-bound incentivized door-to-door collection in Ezulwini, Siteki and Kwaluseni, but operate mostly without formal recognition or support. The country has identified the need to explore pathways for integration through cooperatives, training, and partnerships with local authorities, and has expressed interest in learning from international examples of inclusive waste management.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025 acknowledge the roles of private actors and community participation in waste management, thereby creating an enabling environment for informal-sector engagement, although informal waste-pickers are not explicitly defined within the legal framework.

Ethiopia reports that informal waste pickers and micro and small enterprises are already deeply embedded in waste collection and recycling activities, particularly

in urban areas. Their integration into municipal systems, however, remains uneven and largely informal; some efforts on certification and registration mechanisms are underway. The country has identified the need to strengthen formal recognition, improve working conditions and establish structured partnerships between municipalities and informal-worker groups to enhance recovery outcomes and livelihoods.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2020), particularly Pillar 2, calls for formalization and legal recognition of waste pickers and other informal service providers (e.g. Borla taxis), and the role of Assembly bylaws in enabling integration. The waste management policies recognize private sector participation but provide limited explicit guidance on the role of informal waste pickers. Informal recycling activities operate alongside formal concessionaire systems, often without coordination.

Ghana reports that informal waste-pickers are central to recycling value chains, especially for plastics, metals and electronic waste. Despite their contribution, they remain excluded from municipal service contracts and lack access to social protection although some efforts to integrate the informal sector have already started through identification of informal groups and/or associations and issuance of ID cards. Ghana has identified the need to integrate informal workers into formal systems through supportive policies, cooperatives and engagement with Producer Responsibility Organizations, and seeks knowledge exchange on effective integration models.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 explicitly recognizes waste pickers as key stakeholders in the waste management system and calls for their integration through inclusive policies and programmes. The Act provides a strong legal basis for recognizing informal workers within municipal and county waste systems.

Kenya reports ongoing efforts to integrate informal waste-pickers through registration, training and partnerships with county governments, private operators and construction of buy-back centres at informal areas. While progress varies across counties, pilot initiatives demonstrate the potential for improved recovery and livelihoods. Kenya has identified the need to scale successful models, strengthen institutional support and ensure access to social protection for informal workers.

## LESOTHO

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) acknowledges the contribution of informal actors in recycling and recovery and highlights the importance of their inclusion in future waste-management systems. The Strategy recognizes informal-sector integration as both a social and an operational priority.

Lesotho reports that informal waste-picking exists but remains limited in scale and unstructured. Planned reforms include exploring cooperative models and partnerships with municipalities as segregation and recycling systems are developed. Lesotho has identified the need for technical assistance and capacity building to design inclusive integration frameworks suited to its urban context.

## MADAGASCAR

Madagascar currently lacks a national policy framework explicitly addressing the integration of informal waste-pickers. Waste-recovery activities are largely informal and concentrated around landfills and urban centres.

Madagascar reports that informal waste-pickers play a significant role in material recovery, particularly plastics, but operate under precarious conditions without recognition or support. The country has identified the need to formalize informal workers through cooperatives, capacity building, and integration into emerging recycling and recovery facilities, and seeks GFCCE support to advance this agenda.

## MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique's waste management policies recognize community participation and private-sector involvement, creating space for informal-sector engagement, although informal waste-pickers are not formally defined in national legislation.

Mozambique reports initiatives to integrate informal waste collectors, known locally as *catadores*, into waste-management systems through training, community-based projects, and support under national programmes such as the Programme for Sustainable Waste Management (2024–2029). While these efforts are promising, broader institutionalization is required. Mozambique has identified the need for policy support, cooperative development and market access for recyclables collected by informal workers.

## NAMIBIA

Namibia's waste management framework, including the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) and municipal bylaws, allows for engagement with informal actors, though integration is largely left to local authorities.

Namibia reports that informal waste pickers are engaged through initiatives such as buy-back centers and partnerships with small businesses in selected cities. However, these practices are not yet widespread. Namibia has identified the need to replicate successful initiatives, provide training, and strengthen institutional arrangements to support informal sector integration.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms focus on improving infrastructure and service delivery, with limited explicit recognition of informal waste pickers within formal systems. Informal recovery activities persist alongside municipal services.

Senegal reports that informal waste-pickers contribute significantly to recycling but remain excluded from structured municipal arrangements. The country has identified the need to develop inclusive policies that recognize informal workers and link them to emerging recycling and circular economy initiatives, while ensuring alignment with decentralized governance capacities.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa has one of the most advanced policy frameworks for informal-sector integration, supported by Waste Picker Integration Guidelines and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations. Informal waste-pickers are formally recognized as key stakeholders in the waste economy.

South Africa reports ongoing integration efforts through EPR schemes, municipal programmes, and national consultations, including engagement of waste pickers in international policy processes related to plastic pollution and just transition. While progress is significant, challenges remain in achieving consistent integration across municipalities. Continued capacity-building and best practice sharing are priorities.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework does not explicitly define informal waste-pickers but recognizes community participation and local initiatives. Informal waste-pickers operate across urban centres, primarily in recycling and recovery activities.

Tanzania reports progress in integrating informal waste-pickers through health and safety training, registration of waste picker groups, and collaboration with municipalities. These efforts remain limited in scale. Tanzania has identified the

need for legal recognition, organizational support and financial mechanisms to formalize informal-sector participation.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's Public-Private Partnership Act, 2015 and waste regulations support private-sector participation, creating indirect opportunities for informal-sector integration. Informal waste-pickers are active across cities, particularly in recycling.

Uganda reports that informal waste-pickers have begun organizing themselves into associations to engage more formally with government and private actors. While these developments are encouraging, comprehensive integration into municipal systems remains limited. Uganda has identified the need to strengthen legal recognition, improve working conditions and develop structured partnerships.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 and Lusaka Solid Waste Management Improvement Plan (2022-2026) recognizes the role of multiple actors in waste management and provides a basis for informal-sector engagement. Integration initiatives are emerging at the city level.

Zambia reports pilot initiatives to integrate informal waste-pickers into collection systems, especially in secondary collection arrangements where informal collectors support primary collection. These initiatives are still in early stages. Zambia has identified the need to expand integration models and learn from successful international experiences.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework does not explicitly address informal sector integration, though informal waste-pickers are widely present in urban areas and contribute significantly to recovery.

Zimbabwe reports early steps toward integrating informal waste pickers through registration and mobilization efforts in cities such as Harare. Plans are underway to support the formation of cooperatives and strengthen municipal engagement. Zimbabwe has identified the need for technical support and policy guidance to formalize integration pathways.

# AGENDA 8

## MANAGING BULK WASTE GENERATORS



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire's waste management framework does not explicitly categorize bulk waste generators as a distinct class of waste sources. Commercial establishments, institutions and large residential complexes are generally treated under the same collection and service arrangements as other urban waste generators, with limited differentiation in regulatory or tariff structures.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that bulk waste generators place a disproportionate burden on municipal collection and transportation systems. While some large establishments engage private operators for waste handling, these arrangements are not systematically regulated or linked to source-level responsibility. The country has identified the need to develop specific policy provisions for bulk waste generators, including differentiated tariffs and on-site management of organic waste, and seeks shared learning through GFCCE on effective regulatory models.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's waste regulations primarily address waste generators through licensing and compliance requirements, with a stronger emphasis on industrial and hazardous waste streams. Bulk municipal waste generators are not clearly defined as a separate category within the regulatory framework.

Eswatini reports that large waste generators such as hotels, markets and institutions contribute significantly to urban waste volumes but are largely serviced by general municipal systems. Limited differentiation in user charges constrains cost recovery. Eswatini has identified the need to recognize bulk generators as a distinct category and to introduce tailored obligations and tariffs to reduce pressure on municipal systems.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and 1383/2025 proclamation place responsibilities on waste generators to minimize and properly manage waste but do not explicitly define bulk waste generators as a separate category. Obligations apply broadly across households, institutions and businesses.

Ethiopia reports that bulk waste generators, especially markets and commercial establishments, generate large quantities of organic waste that strain municipal systems. Some cities are piloting on-site composting and market-level waste-management initiatives. These practices, however, are not yet institutionalized through national policy. Ethiopia has identified the need for clearer regulatory provisions, differentiated tariffs and technical guidance for bulk waste generators.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's management of bulk waste generators is enabled under the Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124); detailed and enforceable provisions are, however, still pending, as the Environmental Assessment Regulations (L.I. 1652) are proposed to be revised to explicitly identify, classify and regulate bulk waste generators. Policies encourage polluter responsibility and cost recovery but do not formally define bulk waste generators as a separate regulatory category. Commercial and institutional generators are often serviced through municipal or concessionaire systems under standard arrangements.

Ghana reports that markets, hospitality establishments and institutions contribute disproportionately to waste generation, especially organic waste. Some municipalities have introduced higher service fees for commercial entities and piloted market-level composting initiatives. Ghana has identified the need to formalize bulk generator provisions within policy and procurement frameworks to strengthen compliance and reduce municipal burdens.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 empowers counties to impose differentiated obligations and charges on waste generators, creating a legal basis for identifying and regulating bulk waste generators. Counties are authorized to require waste minimization on-site management measures and ensuring daily waste collection.

Kenya reports that some counties have begun categorizing large waste generators such as malls, hotels and housing estates and encouraging on-site waste management. However, implementation varies and remains limited in scope. Kenya has identified the need for clearer operational guidelines and capacity building to effectively regulate bulk waste generators across counties.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the need to improve waste management practices among commercial and institutional generators but does not yet establish a formal bulk waste generator category with specific obligations.

Lesotho reports that bulk waste generators contribute significantly to urban waste streams, particularly organic waste from markets and institutions. Some private-sector service providers are engaged to provide waste-collection and management services to bulk waste generators. Planned reforms include introducing differentiated service

arrangements and encouraging on-site waste management. The country has identified the need for technical support to design regulatory provisions and operational models for bulk waste generators.

## MADAGASCAR

Madagascar currently lacks a national framework defining or regulating bulk waste generators. Commercial establishments and institutions are generally serviced under municipal waste systems, often without differentiated tariffs or obligations. Madagascar reports that bulk waste generators place substantial pressure on already constrained municipal systems. Emerging city-level strategies propose requiring large generators to manage organic waste on-site and pay higher service fees. The country has identified the need for national policy guidance and financial mechanisms to regulate bulk waste generators more effectively.

## MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique's Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014) establishes responsibilities for waste generators and municipalities but does not explicitly define bulk waste generators as a separate category, leaving municipalities with discretion to impose service fees and conditions. In practice, markets, commercial establishments and institutions generate large volumes of waste that significantly increase collection and transportation costs.

Local governments in cities such as Maputo, Beira and Nampula are addressing this challenge through partnerships with private-sector service providers to improve the management of waste from bulk generators, especially in markets, shopping centres and industrial areas. Integrated waste management approaches, including Maputo's Integrated Solid Waste Management Model, are being applied to better manage high-volume waste streams through differentiated tariffs and service arrangements. However, Mozambique has identified the need for further capacity building and policy development—including training programmes, awareness campaigns and clearer regulatory frameworks—to clarify the roles and responsibilities of bulk waste generators. Additional support is required to refine national guidance and municipal bylaws that explicitly define bulk generators and their obligations within municipal waste management systems.

## NAMIBIA

Namibia's National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) promotes the polluter pays principle and allows municipalities to impose tariffs on waste generators, providing a basis for regulating large waste producers. However, bulk waste generators are not formally categorized at the national level.

Namibia reports that some local authorities levy higher tariffs on commercial and institutional generators and require private waste services. These practices are uneven across the country. Namibia has identified the need to standardize approaches and develop clear guidelines for managing bulk waste generators.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms focus on improving service delivery and infrastructure, with limited differentiation among waste generators. Bulk waste generators are not explicitly addressed as a separate regulatory category.

Senegal reports that markets and commercial establishments generate significant volumes of waste that strain municipal services. Some local initiatives require private collection or higher fees, but these are not consistently enforced. Senegal has identified the need to introduce regulatory provisions for bulk waste generators as part of broader system reforms.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Environmental Management: Waste Act and municipal bylaws provide a strong legal basis for regulating large waste generators. Many municipalities classify certain commercial and industrial establishments as bulk generators and impose specific obligations, including waste minimization and on-site management.

South Africa reports that bulk waste generators are increasingly required to implement waste separation and on-site treatment, particularly for organic waste, and to contract licensed service providers for collection. While implementation varies across municipalities, South Africa presents a relatively advanced example of regulating bulk waste generators. Continued enforcement and harmonization remain priorities.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework allows local governments to regulate waste generators through bylaws, but bulk waste generators are not uniformly defined or regulated at the national level.

Tanzania reports that large waste generators, such as markets and institutions, generate high volumes of organic waste, increasing collection costs. Some municipalities are exploring market-level waste management and differentiated service fees. There are plans to develop specific regulations for BWGs in the near future. Tanzania has identified the need for national guidance to support consistent regulation of bulk waste generators.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 place general responsibilities on waste generators but do not explicitly define bulk waste generators as a distinct category. Commercial and institutional generators are often treated similarly to households for service provision.

Uganda reports that bulk waste generators significantly contribute to urban waste volumes, particularly organic waste. Pilot initiatives include requiring private collection for large generators and encouraging on-site management. Uganda has identified the need to formalize bulk generator provisions and strengthen enforcement to reduce municipal burdens.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 supports the polluter pays principle and enables differentiated service charges. This provides a legal basis for regulating bulk waste generators, though operational guidelines remain limited.

Zambia reports emerging practices where markets and large institutions are required to engage private service providers or pay higher tariffs. However, these practices are not yet consistently applied. Zambia has identified the need for clearer policy direction and capacity building to regulate bulk waste generators effectively.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework does not explicitly categorize bulk waste generators, though municipalities have discretion to impose tariffs and service conditions through bylaws.

Zimbabwe reports that bulk waste generators contribute significantly to waste volumes and service costs. Some cities are considering higher tariffs and on-site management requirements for large generators. Zimbabwe has identified the need for policy guidance and shared learning to adopt structured provisions for bulk waste generators.



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire's decentralization framework empowers municipalities to adopt local regulations to manage public services, including solid waste management. While national environmental laws provide overarching guidance, municipal bylaws serve as an important tool for translating policy intent into enforceable local obligations related to waste handling and public cleanliness.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that municipal bylaws regulate issues such as littering, waste disposal practices, and user charges. However, bylaws specifically mandating source segregation and home composting are limited in scope and enforcement. The country has identified the need to strengthen municipal regulatory instruments to complement behaviour change initiatives and improve compliance with segregation norms.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's Urban Government Act of 1969 allows municipalities to enact bylaws to regulate service delivery and environmental management within their jurisdictions. These bylaws address waste collection practices, public hygiene and compliance requirements.

Eswatini reports that municipal bylaws are primarily used to control dumping and enforce general cleanliness standards. Their use as instruments to mandate segregation or incentivize home composting remains limited. The country has identified the need to enhance municipal regulatory capacity and develop model bylaws aligned with national waste management objectives.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's decentralized governance system empowers city administrations and sub-cities to issue municipal regulations to manage urban services, including solid waste management. These local instruments complement national legislation such as the Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation 383/2025.

Ethiopia reports that municipal bylaws have been used in some cities to promote source segregation, regulate waste collection fees and support community-level composting initiatives. However, application remains uneven across cities. Addis Ababa and Bishoftu have seen some progress. Ethiopia has identified the need to standardize municipal bylaws and strengthen enforcement mechanisms to support segregation and home composting at scale.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's Local Governance Act empowers Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies to enact bylaws to regulate sanitation and waste management services. These bylaws are a key instrument for enforcing local service standards and user obligations.

Ghana reports that municipal bylaws are widely used to address littering, sanitation offences and payment of user charges. However, bylaws mandating source segregation and home composting are not uniformly applied. Ghana has identified the need to strengthen and harmonize bylaws to support segregation initiatives and complement national waste management guidelines.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's devolved governance framework grants counties the authority to enact county laws and regulations governing waste management services. County-level legislation and bylaws are central to enforcing segregation, user fees and compliance with waste management standards.

Kenya reports that several counties, including Nairobi City County, have enacted county laws and bylaws that promote waste segregation at source and encourage reuse and recycling practices among waste generators. However, enforcement capacity varies significantly. Kenya has identified the need to strengthen institutional capacity and share best practices to improve the effectiveness of municipal regulatory instruments.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's local government system empowers urban councils to adopt bylaws to manage municipal services, including waste management. The Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the importance of local regulatory instruments in enforcing waste management practices.

Lesotho reports that municipal bylaws currently focus on cleanliness and waste disposal, with limited provisions addressing segregation and home composting. Planned reforms include revising bylaws to support segregation and decentralized waste treatment. The country has identified the need for technical assistance to develop and implement effective local regulations.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar's decentralization framework allows municipalities to adopt local regulations to manage waste services. However, the absence of a comprehensive national solid waste policy limits the scope and consistency of municipal bylaws.

Madagascar reports that municipal bylaws are used primarily to regulate dumping and sanitation, with limited enforcement capacity. Bylaws promoting segregation and home composting are emerging at the city level, particularly in Antananarivo, but remain limited. Madagascar has identified the need to strengthen municipal legal instruments and enforcement mechanisms.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's local government framework empowers municipalities to enact bylaws governing urban services, including waste management. These local instruments complement national regulations such as the Environment Act (Law No. 20/97), the Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 13/2006) and the Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014).

Mozambique reports that municipal bylaws are used to regulate waste collection services and user fees. However, bylaws explicitly mandating segregation and home composting are limited. Maputo and Beira have made some notable progress. Mozambique has identified the need to strengthen municipal regulatory frameworks and develop model bylaws to support circular economy practices.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's Local Authorities Act, 1992 provides municipalities with the authority to adopt bylaws regulating waste management services. These bylaws are central to enforcing service standards and cost-recovery mechanisms.

Namibia reports that municipal bylaws are commonly used to regulate dumping, waste storage and user charges. Their use to mandate segregation and incentivize home composting remains limited and uneven. Namibia has identified the need for guidance and capacity building to strengthen municipal regulatory approaches.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's decentralization framework assigns waste management responsibilities to local governments, enabling them to enact bylaws to regulate sanitation and waste services. Municipal bylaws are an important tool for local governance.

Senegal reports that bylaws are used to enforce general cleanliness and anti-dumping measures, but their application to segregation and home composting is limited. The country has identified the need to strengthen local regulatory instruments and align them with broader waste management reforms.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's constitutional framework empowers municipalities to enact waste management bylaws under the Municipal Systems Act, the National Environmental Management: Waste Act. The National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS), 2020 and the National Organic Waste Composting Strategy also provide guidance on the laws. Municipal bylaws are a cornerstone of waste governance and enforcement.

South Africa reports extensive use of municipal bylaws to mandate separation at source, regulate waste services, impose penalties for non-compliance and incentivize waste minimization. Implementation is at the metro level, where initiatives focus on diverting organic waste from landfills through integrated and sustainable waste management planning, including composting and structured separation systems. Future plans indicate a partnership with the private sector in advancing segregation and organic waste management initiatives. South Africa demonstrates the effectiveness of local legal instruments in advancing circular economy practices. Continued harmonization and capacity building remain priorities.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's local government framework empowers municipalities to enact bylaws governing waste management services. These bylaws are key instruments for enforcing sanitation standards and service compliance.

Tanzania reports that municipal bylaws are used to regulate waste disposal and user fees, but provisions for segregation and home composting are limited. The country has identified the need to revise and strengthen bylaws to support emerging segregation and decentralized waste management initiatives.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's Local Government Act empowers municipalities to enact ordinances and bylaws to regulate waste management services. These local instruments complement national waste regulations.

Uganda reports that municipal bylaws address waste disposal practices and user charges, but enforcement of segregation and home composting through bye-laws remains limited. Uganda has identified the need to strengthen municipal legal frameworks and enforcement capacity.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's local government framework allows councils to enact bylaws regulating waste management services, supported by the Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018.

Zambia reports that municipal bylaws regulate dumping and sanitation, with emerging efforts to include segregation requirements. However, enforcement capacity remains a challenge. Zambia has identified the need to strengthen municipal legal instruments and share best practices.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's Urban Councils Act empowers municipalities to enact bylaws regulating waste management and sanitation services. These bye-laws are central to local waste governance.

Zimbabwe reports that municipal bylaws regulate waste disposal and impose penalties for illegal dumping. Provisions addressing segregation and home composting are limited but under consideration. Zimbabwe has identified the need to strengthen bylaws and enforcement mechanisms to support improved waste-management outcomes.

# **AGENDA 10**

## **BAN DUMPING OF BIODEGRADABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE WASTE**



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire's environmental legal framework regulates waste disposal and landfill operations, with provisions to prevent pollution and environmental harm. However, the framework does not explicitly prohibit the dumping of biodegradable or combustible waste in dumpsites or landfills, nor does it differentiate disposal rules based on the resource or revenue potential of waste streams.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that biodegradable and combustible waste continue to be disposed of alongside mixed municipal waste, contributing to landfill pressure and environmental risks. While recovery and treatment activities exist at certain facilities, these are not driven by a legal prohibition on dumping. The country has identified the need to explore regulatory instruments that restrict landfilling of recoverable waste streams and promote diversion toward composting, recycling and energy recovery.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's waste regulations control waste disposal practices and require environmentally sound waste management. However, there is no explicit national ban but advocacy for the prohibition of dumping biodegradable or combustible waste in disposal sites.

Eswatini reports that most municipal waste, including organic and combustible fractions, is disposed of at dumpsites or landfills. While some initiatives promote waste reduction and recovery, the absence of a legal prohibition limits large-scale diversion. Though some changes are expected under the National Development Plan (2023–2028) and National Energy Policy for promoting biomass-to-energy. Eswatini has identified the need to assess policy options such as landfill restrictions or economic instruments to reduce disposal of recoverable waste streams.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation No. 1383/2025 regulate waste disposal and encourage waste minimization and recovery. However, the law does not explicitly ban the disposal of biodegradable or combustible waste in landfills.

Ethiopia reports that most of the organic and combustible waste is still disposed of in landfills, contributing to methane emissions and land degradation. Pilot composting and recycling initiatives demonstrate the potential for diversion, but the absence of a disposal ban constrains scale. Ethiopia has identified the need to strengthen regulatory measures and consider restrictions on landfilling recoverable waste as infrastructure and systems mature.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124) provides an enabling framework for environmentally sound waste management. There is currently no explicit regulatory prohibition on the dumping of biodegradable or combustible waste in landfills. Such a ban would require detailed subsidiary legislation. Regulatory instruments will allow control over disposal practices.

Ghana reports continued reliance on landfilling for organic and combustible waste, despite growing recovery potential. Composting and recycling facilities exist, but diversion is driven by projects rather than regulatory mandates. Ghana has identified the need to consider policy measures that discourage the disposal of recoverable waste, including differentiated landfill charges and regulatory restrictions.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 provides a strong legal basis for waste diversion, recovery and reduction of landfill dependence. The Act empowers authorities to regulate disposal practices and promote alternatives to landfilling.

Kenya reports that county governments play a key role in enforcing disposal restrictions through alignment with county solid-waste-management laws and regulatory actions. Though biodegradable and combustible waste continue to be landfilled in many areas, the legal framework enables future restrictions on such practices. Counties are beginning to explore diversion strategies, including composting and waste-to-energy. Kenya has identified the need for phased implementation of landfill restrictions aligned with infrastructure readiness.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the environmental and economic risks of continued landfilling of organic and combustible waste. The Strategy promotes waste diversion but does not establish a legal ban on dumping such waste.

Lesotho is intensifying the application of the 3Rs principles (reduce, reuse, recycle) to progressively minimize disposal of biodegradable and combustible waste. Though biodegradable waste continues to be disposed of in dumpsites. Planned reforms include strengthening diversion through composting and recycling, with the potential to introduce future regulatory restrictions. The country has identified the need for technical support to assess policy instruments such as landfill bans or fees.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar lacks a national legal framework regulating landfill disposal based on waste characteristics. As a result, biodegradable and combustible waste are commonly disposed of in dumpsites or unmanaged disposal areas.

Madagascar reports severe environmental and health impacts arising from open dumping of organic and combustible waste. Emerging city-level strategies are exploring composting and waste reduction, but legal prohibitions are absent. Madagascar has identified the need for foundational policy reforms, including restrictions on dumping recoverable waste streams.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014), Environment Act (Law No. 20/97) and the National Waste Management Strategy (2018–2025) governs waste disposal and encourages environmentally sound management. There's a policy push to reduce disposal of biodegradable or combustible waste in landfills.

Mozambique reports ongoing disposal of organic and combustible waste, contributing to high landfill volumes and transport costs. Some municipalities are piloting composting and recycling initiatives. Mozambique has identified the need to explore regulatory and economic instruments, including landfill restrictions, to strengthen diversion.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's waste management framework regulates landfill operations and disposal standards, but does not explicitly ban the dumping of biodegradable or combustible waste.

Namibia reports that most organic and combustible waste is disposed of at landfills, despite opportunities for recovery. Some municipalities are exploring composting and recycling options. Namibia has identified the need to evaluate landfill bans or economic disincentives as part of broader waste management reforms.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms focus on improving collection, disposal and infrastructure, with limited emphasis on restricting landfill inputs based on waste type.

Senegal reports continued disposal of biodegradable and combustible waste at dumpsites and landfills. While integrated waste management projects promote

recovery, legal prohibitions are absent. Senegal has identified the need to consider stronger regulatory measures to discourage the disposal of recoverable waste streams.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Environmental Management: Waste Act and National Waste Management Strategy (2020) provide a robust framework for waste diversion and landfill regulation. While there is no blanket national ban on landfilling biodegradable or combustible waste, progressive restrictions and diversion targets are embedded in policy.

South Africa reports increasing use of landfill bans and diversion requirements at municipal or provincial levels, particularly for organic waste. Some progress has been made across different parts of the country, addressing food loss and reducing disposal. Extended Producer Responsibility schemes and landfill tariffs support diversion. South Africa presents a more advanced policy environment, though consistent enforcement remains a challenge.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework regulates disposal practices but does not prohibit the dumping of biodegradable or combustible waste in landfills.

Tanzania reports disposal of organic and combustible waste, contributing to landfill pressure. Pilot composting and decentralized initiatives show promise. Tanzania has identified the need to explore regulatory measures, including landfill restrictions, as part of system reform.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste regulations promote environmentally sound disposal but do not include explicit bans on dumping biodegradable or combustible waste.

Uganda reports continued landfilling of organic and combustible waste, despite opportunities for composting and recycling. The country has identified the need to strengthen policy instruments and explore landfill disincentives to promote diversion.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 supports waste minimization and environmentally sound disposal, but does not explicitly ban landfilling of biodegradable or combustible waste.

Zambia reports disposal of organic and combustible waste at landfills, with limited diversion. Planned reforms include promoting composting and recovery, with consideration of regulatory measures to discourage disposal. Zambia has identified the need for technical analysis and shared learning on landfill bans and fees.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework regulates disposal practices through municipal by-laws and national legislation but does not explicitly prohibit dumping of biodegradable or combustible waste.

Zimbabwe reports continued disposal of organic and combustible waste at dumpsites. Some municipalities are exploring composting and waste diversion initiatives. Zimbabwe has identified the need to strengthen legal instruments and consider landfill restrictions to improve environmental outcomes.

# **AGENDA 11**

## **IMPLEMENTING THE POLLUTER PAYS PRINCIPLE FOR PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT**



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire's environmental legal framework incorporates general principles of environmental responsibility and pollution control, which align conceptually with the Polluter Pays Principle (PPP). However, plastic waste management has not yet been fully operationalized through dedicated economic instruments such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that plastic waste management remains largely a municipal responsibility, with limited financial contribution from producers and brand owners. Informal recovery plays a significant role in plastic recycling. The country has identified the need to strengthen regulatory instruments that translate PPP into enforceable obligations for producers, including financing collection and recycling systems, and sees GFCCE as a platform for learning from operational EPR models.

## ESWATINI

Eswatini's waste regulations emphasize environmentally sound management and licensing of waste handlers, embedding the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste through producer-level financial responsibility. Including the Control of Plastic Bags Regulations (2021, in force from 2023) requiring license fees and plastic levies from manufacturers and importers

Eswatini reports that plastic waste management costs are largely borne by municipalities, with minimal contribution from producers or importers. While voluntary initiatives exist, enforceable PPP mechanisms are absent. Eswatini has identified the need to explore EPR-type instruments and harmonize national policy with emerging global approaches to plastic pollution.

## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 1383/2025 and environmental policy frameworks recognizes pollution prevention and shared responsibility, creating conceptual alignment with the Polluter Pays Principle. However, plastic waste management is not yet governed by a comprehensive EPR or producer-financed system.

Ethiopia reports that plastic waste collection and recycling rely heavily on informal actors and small enterprises, with limited financial contribution from producers. Discussions on introducing EPR and plastic-specific regulatory instruments are emerging. Ethiopia has identified the need for technical assistance to design PPP-aligned mechanisms suited to its market and institutional context.

## **GHANA**

Ghana has taken notable steps toward operationalizing the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste through the National Plastics Management Policy, 2020, the National Environmental Sanitation Policy (2016)/National Waste Management Policy (2016) and associated regulations. While plastic-specific EPR is not fully implemented, the legal framework provides a strong foundation.

Ghana reports ongoing efforts to design and operationalize EPR systems for plastics, including engagement with producers and recyclers. However, implementation challenges remain, particularly around enforcement, fee structures and integration of informal recyclers. Ghana has identified the need for capacity building and policy harmonization to fully embed PPP in plastic waste management.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 explicitly incorporates the Polluter Pays Principle and provides a legal basis for implementing EPR schemes, including for plastic waste. This represents one of the more advanced policy positions among GFCCE member states.

Kenya reports progress in developing EPR regulations and engaging producers in financing plastic waste management. Pilot initiatives and partnerships with Producer Responsibility Organizations are emerging. Kenya has identified the need to strengthen enforcement, expand coverage and ensure inclusion of informal waste pickers within EPR systems.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Environment Act, 2008 explicitly incorporates the Polluter Pays Principle as a guiding environmental management principle, establishing a legal basis for holding polluters financially responsible for pollution, including waste-related pollution such as plastics. However, the Act does not operationalize this principle through plastic-specific instruments or producer responsibility mechanisms, which are yet to be developed.

Lesotho reports that plastic waste management costs are largely absorbed by municipalities, with limited producer involvement. As part of broader waste management reforms, the country has identified the need to introduce PPP-aligned instruments, potentially through EPR, and seeks technical support to design appropriate frameworks. Expansion of waste collection services is recognized as a necessary supporting measure to strengthen the implementation of the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste.

## MADAGASCAR

Madagascar lacks a dedicated legal framework implementing the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste. Plastic waste management remains primarily a public responsibility, with informal recovery supplementing it.

Madagascar reports growing challenges from plastic pollution and limited financing for waste management. While awareness of PPP and EPR is increasing, enforceable mechanisms are absent. Madagascar has identified the need for foundational policy reforms and technical assistance to introduce producer responsibility instruments.

## MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique's environmental legislation reflects the Polluter Pays Principle but lacks a comprehensive PPP or Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework for plastic waste. An environmental tax on packaging materials was introduced under Decree No. 79/2017; however, implementation challenges have limited its impact, and the instrument was under review in 2024. Plastic waste management remains largely dependent on municipal services and informal recycling, with limited producer financing.

Complementary measures, including Sustainable Consumption and Production programmes and the Policy and Strategy of the Sea (POLMAR), reinforce accountability for plastic pollution, particularly in marine environments. Nonetheless, limited infrastructure and enforcement capacity constrain effective implementation. Mozambique has identified the need for policy development support and shared learning to operationalize PPP and EPR mechanisms for plastic waste management.

## NAMIBIA

Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) explicitly incorporates the Polluter Pays Principle, including provisions under Section 20 that allow environmental officers to issue compliance orders and recover costs from polluters. This principle is further reinforced in the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018). However, plastic waste management is not yet supported by structured, enforceable economic instruments such as producer levies or mandated Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes.

Namibia reports pilot initiatives and voluntary producer engagement in plastic recovery, but these remain insufficient to finance system-wide waste management. The country has therefore identified the need to move beyond voluntary approaches

toward mandatory, PPP-aligned instruments, including EPR, to operationalize the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms focus on improving infrastructure and service delivery, with limited application of the Polluter Pays Principle to plastic waste at the producer level.

Senegal reports that plastic waste management costs are primarily borne by public systems, despite the growing volume of plastic waste. The country has identified the need to introduce incentive-based and regulatory mechanisms to shift financial responsibility toward producers and brand owners.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa has one of the most advanced PPP frameworks for plastic waste, with mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations under the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, which require producers to finance the collection, recycling, and recovery of plastic waste. Operational EPR schemes now cover multiple plastic streams and have increased funding for recycling infrastructure and informal-sector integration.

Good practices include strengthened compliance and enforcement under the EPR Regulations, supported by coordination with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Compliance and Enforcement Unit. The development of tracking and tracing systems to monitor products from production through post-consumer recycling is underway to improve regulatory oversight. Addressing free riders remains a priority, with enhanced collaboration among government, producers, Producer Responsibility Organizations and other stakeholders through information sharing, awareness and education, and targeted enforcement.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework recognizes environmental responsibility but does not yet embed the Polluter Pays Principle through enforceable plastic-specific instruments.

Tanzania reports that plastic waste management relies on municipal systems and informal recycling. Policy discussions around producer responsibility and plastic levies are emerging. Tanzania has identified the need for technical assistance and legislative development to operationalize PPP.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's environmental regulations support pollution control and cost recovery, but do not explicitly implement PPP for plastic waste through producer responsibility schemes.

Uganda reports that plastic waste management remains underfunded and dependent on municipal services, and the National Environment (Extended Polluter Pays Principle) Regulations are planned. The country has identified the need to explore EPR frameworks and strengthen legal instruments to ensure producers contribute to plastic waste management costs.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 supports the Polluter Pays Principle in general terms, but plastic-specific EPR mechanisms are still under development.

Zambia reports early discussions on producer responsibility and plastic levies, alongside pilot recovery initiatives. The country has identified the need to develop enforceable PPP-aligned instruments and build institutional capacity for implementation.

## **ZIMBABWE**

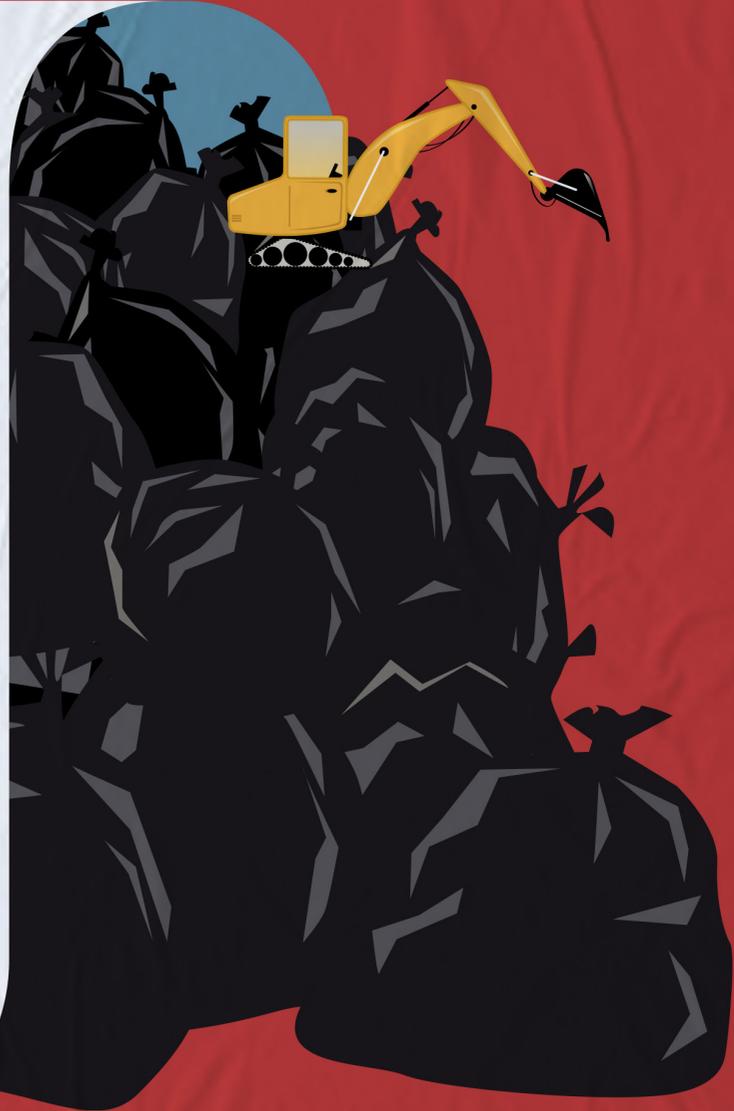
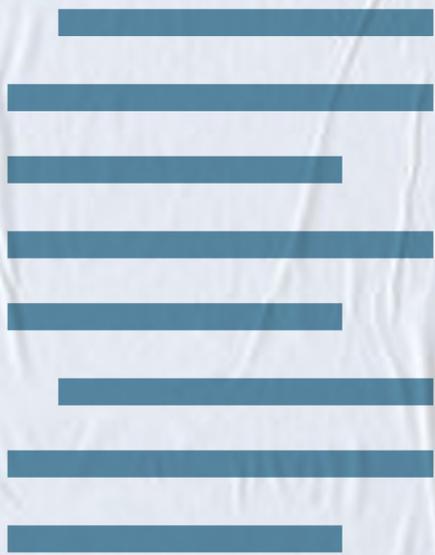
Zimbabwe's waste management framework incorporates cost recovery and environmental protection principles but does not explicitly operationalize the Polluter Pays Principle for plastic waste.

Zimbabwe reports increasing pressure from plastic pollution and limited financing for waste management. The country has identified the need to introduce producer responsibility mechanisms and align national policy with emerging global approaches to plastic pollution.

# AGENDA 12

## IMPOSING A LANDFILL TAX

**TAX**



## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

Côte d'Ivoire's waste management framework regulates landfill operations and disposal practices but does not currently include a landfill tax or disposal fee designed to discourage landfilling. Cost-recovery mechanisms for waste services are largely focused on collection rather than disposal impacts.

Côte d'Ivoire reports continued reliance on landfilling as the primary disposal method, with limited financial disincentives to promote diversion. The absence of a landfill tax reduces incentives for investment in processing and treatment infrastructure. The country has identified the need to explore economic instruments, including landfill taxes, as part of broader reforms to improve financial and environmental sustainability.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste regulations allow municipalities to recover costs for waste services, but there is no national policy mandating a landfill tax or disposal fee linked to waste volumes or characteristics.

Eswatini reports that landfilling remains the dominant waste disposal practice, with limited diversion. While disposal fees may exist at the facility level, they are not structured to function as deterrents. Eswatini has identified the need to assess the feasibility of landfill taxes and strengthen enforcement to achieve a meaningful impact.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's waste management framework encourages waste minimization and recovery, but does not include a landfill tax as an economic instrument. Disposal costs are largely absorbed by municipal budgets.

Ethiopia reports increasing pressure on landfills due to rapid urbanization and limited treatment infrastructure. The absence of a disposal tax limits incentives to divert waste from landfills. Ethiopia has identified the need to explore phased economic instruments, including landfill fees, aligned with improvements in segregation and processing capacity.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's waste management policies promote cost recovery and sustainable financing, but do not currently impose a dedicated landfill tax to discourage disposal.

Ghana reports that landfill operations incur significant public costs, with limited economic signals to promote diversion. Discussions on introducing disposal fees

and strengthening cost recovery are ongoing. Ghana has identified the need to align landfill taxation with improvements in treatment capacity and enforcement mechanisms.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 provides a legal basis for introducing economic instruments to discourage waste disposal and promote recovery, including fees and charges related to waste management.

Kenya reports, although landfill taxes are not yet widely implemented, the legal framework enables counties to introduce disposal fees. Counties are exploring a range of financing mechanisms as part of broader waste reforms. Some private service providers and community groups have established material recovery facilities (MRFs) and community buy-back centres, which support waste diversion and complement efforts to discourage landfilling. Kenya has identified the need for technical guidance and shared learning to design effective landfill tax systems.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the importance of economic instruments in reducing landfill dependence and improving system sustainability. However, a landfill tax has not yet been implemented.

Lesotho reports that disposal costs remain largely unpriced, contributing to continued reliance on dumpsites. The country has identified the need to assess landfill taxation as a policy option, supported by improved enforcement and alternative treatment infrastructure.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar lacks economic instruments to address landfill disposal, and waste is commonly disposed of without disposal charges that reflect environmental costs.

Madagascar reports severe environmental impacts from unmanaged dumping and landfilling. The absence of landfill taxation limits incentives for waste reduction and recovery. Madagascar has identified the need to introduce basic fiscal instruments, including landfill fees, alongside foundational waste management reforms.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's waste management framework allows for user charges and service fees, but does not mandate a national landfill tax.

Mozambique reports some municipal-level disposal fees, but enforcement and impact remain limited. Through participation in platforms such as the African Clean Cities Platform, Mozambique is engaging in shared learning and exploring financial and technical mechanisms to improve waste management, including potential landfill-related charges. Though landfilling continues to dominate waste-management practices, Mozambique has identified the need to strengthen economic instruments and align landfill taxation with decentralized processing initiatives.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's waste management framework includes cost-recovery mechanisms for waste services, and some municipalities levy disposal fees at landfill sites.

Namibia reports that while landfill charges exist in certain cities, they are often insufficient to deter disposal or promote diversion. Weak enforcement further limits effectiveness. Namibia has identified the need to review landfill fee structures and strengthen compliance to achieve desired outcomes.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms have focused on infrastructure development and service delivery, with limited application of landfill taxation as a deterrent.

Senegal reports that disposal costs are largely subsidized, reducing incentives for diversion. The country has identified the need to explore landfill taxation as part of a broader strategy to improve financial sustainability and reduce landfill dependence.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa has introduced landfill tariffs and waste disposal charges at the municipal and provincial levels, supported by the National Environmental Management: Waste Act and related fiscal instruments.

South Africa reports that landfill taxes and gate fees are used to discourage disposal and finance waste management activities. However, enforcement and tariff levels vary across municipalities, affecting impact. South Africa demonstrates the potential of landfill taxation, while highlighting the importance of consistent application and complementary diversion infrastructure.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework allows local governments to impose fees for waste services, but landfill taxation is not widely implemented as a deterrent.

Tanzania reports continued reliance on landfilling with minimal economic disincentives. The country has identified the need to explore landfill taxation and other fiscal tools to support waste diversion and system sustainability.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste management regulations support cost recovery for waste services, but do not include a landfill tax to discourage disposal.

Uganda reports increasing landfill pressures and limited diversion. The country has identified the need to explore economic instruments, including landfill fees, to support sustainable waste management reforms.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 provides a basis for cost recovery and waste-related charges, though landfill taxes are not yet widely implemented.

Zambia reports early discussions on introducing landfill fees as a disincentive, alongside efforts to improve diversion. The country has identified the need for technical analysis and enforcement capacity to implement landfill taxation effectively.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework allows municipalities to levy fees for waste services, but landfill taxation remains limited and inconsistently applied.

Zimbabwe reports continued reliance on landfilling and dumping, with weak economic disincentives. The country has identified the need to strengthen fiscal instruments, including landfill taxes, to support waste diversion and financial sustainability.

# AGENDA 13

## CLOSURE OF EXISTING DUMPSITES



## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

Côte d'Ivoire's environmental framework regulates waste disposal and landfill operations, with provisions aimed at environmental protection and public health. However, legacy dumpsites continue to exist alongside technical landfills, reflecting historical reliance on non-engineered disposal practices. Clear national standards for systematic closure and remediation of dumpsites are limited.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that several dumpsites have exceeded their design capacity, posing environmental and health risks to surrounding communities. While investments have been made in technical landfills, closure and rehabilitation of older dumpsites remain slow. The country has identified the need to adopt scientific closure protocols, strengthen monitoring, and learn from international best practices on landfill remediation through GFCCE platforms.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste management regulations govern disposal practices and assign responsibility for waste facilities to local authorities. However, formal guidelines for the closure and remediation of dumpsites are limited.

Eswatini reports continued reliance on dumpsites in some urban and peri-urban areas, with some progress made in creating common landfills. Environmental and health risks associated with open dumping remain a concern. Eswatini has identified the need for technical guidance and financial support to close non-compliant dumpsites and transition toward controlled disposal facilities.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's Solid Waste Management and Disposal Proclamation No. 513/2007 and Proclamation 1383/2025 provide a framework for waste disposal and landfill management. However, historical reliance on open dumpsites has resulted in significant environmental and social risks, underscored by past landfill-related accidents.

Ethiopia reports efforts to transition from open dumpsites to engineered landfills, including the closure of hazardous sites in major cities. Despite progress, several dumpsites remain operational beyond capacity. Ethiopia has identified the need to adopt uniform standards for landfill design, operation and closure, and seeks technical support to safely rehabilitate legacy sites.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's Landfill Guidelines 2002 promotes environmentally sound disposal and landfill development. However, open dumpsites continue to coexist with engineered landfills, particularly in rapidly growing urban areas.

Ghana reports that many dumpsites are overutilized and pose risks to nearby communities. Closure and rehabilitation efforts are constrained by funding and land availability. Ghana has identified the need to strengthen landfill standards, improve enforcement, and develop phased plans to close existing dumpsites while expanding alternative treatment capacity.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 establishes a strong legal basis for regulating disposal facilities and transitioning away from open dumping. The Act empowers authorities to set standards for landfill operation and closure.

Kenya reports ongoing efforts to close or rehabilitate major dumpsites, including phased interventions at large disposal sites. However, challenges related to financing, relocation and alternative treatment capacity persist. Kenya has identified the need for technical expertise and global learning on safe dumpsite closure and post-closure management.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the environmental and public health risks associated with open dumpsites and calls for improved disposal practices, including closure of non-compliant sites.

Lesotho reports continued reliance on dumpsites with limited engineering controls. Closure initiatives are at an early stage, constrained by financial and technical limitations. Lesotho has identified the need for external support to develop scientific landfill standards and implement safe closure and rehabilitation plans.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar lacks comprehensive national standards for landfill design and dumpsite closure. Open dumping remains widespread, particularly in urban and peri-urban areas.

Madagascar reports severe environmental and health impacts from uncontrolled dumpsites, including air and water pollution. Closure and remediation efforts are limited. The country has identified the urgent need for foundational policy reforms, technical guidance and investment to close hazardous dumpsites and transition to safer disposal systems.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's Urban Solid Waste Management Regulation (Decree No. 94/2014) governs waste disposal and promotes environmentally sound landfill operations. While legacy dumpsites continue to operate alongside improved facilities, the country has initiated concrete measures to close and remediate existing sites, most notably the Hulene dumpsite in Maputo, which has been identified as a significant environmental and public health concern. In parallel, with support from the World Bank, a new sanitary landfill is being developed in KaTembe under the Maputo Urban Transformation Project, providing a planned alternative to open dumping and supporting the gradual transition toward safer disposal infrastructure.

Mozambique reports initiatives to upgrade disposal facilities and rehabilitate dumpsites in selected cities. However, many sites remain non-compliant and overburdened. Mozambique has identified the need for stronger standards, more robust monitoring and shared learning on dumpsite closure and landfill management.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's waste management framework regulates landfill operations, and several municipalities have developed environmental management plans for disposal facilities. Under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007), the closure of dumpsites is formally managed through environmental authorities, which often issue Environmental Clearance Certificates (ECCs) to authorize decommissioning, closure, and rehabilitation. While open dumpsites persist in smaller towns and rural areas, efforts to close and rehabilitate these sites are increasingly linked to broader waste reduction strategies aimed at reducing the volume of waste disposed of and extending the lifespan of engineered landfills. In some cases, rehabilitated dumpsites have been successfully repurposed for community uses such as recreational spaces and sports fields, demonstrating beneficial reuse of former disposal sites.

Namibia reports that some dumpsites are being upgraded or phased out, but progress is uneven. Limited resources constrain closure and rehabilitation. Namibia has identified the need for technical assistance and funding to close non-compliant dumpsites and ensure long-term environmental protection.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms focus on improving infrastructure and service delivery, with greater attention to standards of disposal facilities. However, closure of existing dumpsites remains a challenge.

Senegal reports that several dumpsites continue to operate beyond capacity, contributing to pollution and public health risks. Efforts to upgrade or close sites are ongoing but constrained by financial and institutional capacity. Senegal has identified the need to adopt scientific landfill standards and structured closure plans.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's National Environmental Management: Waste Act provides comprehensive standards for landfill licensing, operation, and closure. Clear regulatory requirements exist for rehabilitation and post-closure monitoring.

South Africa reports progress in closing or rehabilitating non-compliant dumpsites and upgrading disposal facilities. However, challenges remain in enforcing standards uniformly across municipalities. South Africa demonstrates the importance of regulatory clarity while highlighting the need for continued capacity building and oversight.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework regulates disposal practices but lacks comprehensive standards for systematic closure of dumpsites.

Tanzania reports widespread reliance on dumpsites, many of which exceed capacity and pose environmental risks. Pilot initiatives to rehabilitate disposal sites are emerging. Tanzania has identified the need for national guidelines and technical support to close hazardous dumpsites and improve landfill management.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste management regulations govern disposal facilities, but open dumping remains prevalent in several urban areas.

Uganda reports environmental and health risks associated with over-utilized dumpsites. While efforts to upgrade disposal facilities are underway, the closure of existing dumpsites remains limited. Uganda has identified the need for technical assistance and financing to implement scientific closure and rehabilitation measures.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 supports environmentally sound disposal practices and improved landfill management.

Zambia reports ongoing efforts to upgrade disposal sites and reduce reliance on open dumpsites. However, several sites remain non-compliant. Zambia has identified the need for technical expertise and investment to close hazardous dumpsites and adopt scientific landfill management approaches.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework regulates disposal through municipal by-laws and national legislation, but enforcement remains inconsistent.

Zimbabwe reports continued operation of dumpsites that exceed capacity and pose significant risks. Some municipalities are planning to close and rehabilitate, but progress is slow. Zimbabwe has identified the need for technical guidance, funding, and global learning to close dumpsites and improve landfill operations safely.

# AGENDA 14

## INTRODUCING SOLID WASTE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SWIMS)





## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

Côte d'Ivoire's waste management framework recognizes the importance of data for environmental planning and service delivery. However, there is no dedicated national solid waste information management system that systematically captures data on waste generation, composition, collection, treatment and disposal across municipalities.

Côte d'Ivoire reports that waste-related data is currently generated through fragmented municipal records, project-based studies and facility-level reporting. The absence of a unified system limits evidence-based planning, budgeting, and performance monitoring. The country has identified the need to establish a national SWIMS to consolidate municipal data, improve decision-making and support policy reforms, and sees GFCCE as a platform for shared learning and system design.

## **ESWATINI**

Eswatini's waste management regulations include reporting requirements for licensed waste handlers, particularly for industrial and hazardous waste. However, municipal solid waste data collection remains limited and decentralized.

Eswatini reports that the lack of consistent data on municipal solid waste hampers planning and investment decisions at the local government level. Existing data systems are largely manual and incomplete. Eswatini has identified the need to introduce a structured SWIMS to support planning, monitoring and coordination across institutions.

## **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia's waste management framework places responsibility for service delivery and planning on municipalities, supported by national oversight. While data is recognized as important, there is no integrated national system for municipal solid waste information.

Ethiopia reports that waste data is collected inconsistently across cities, often through ad hoc studies or donor-supported initiatives. The contribution of the informal sector remains largely undocumented. Ethiopia has identified the need to institutionalize waste data collection through a national SWIMS to guide infrastructure planning, human resource allocation and financial sustainability.

## **GHANA**

Ghana's Environmental Protection Agency and local governments collect waste-related data through permitting, compliance monitoring, and municipal reporting.

However, these datasets are not fully integrated into a comprehensive national solid waste information system.

Ghana reports that data gaps on waste composition, flows and recovery rates constrain effective planning and technology selection. Efforts are underway to improve data governance, but unified SWIMS is yet to be established. Ghana has identified the need for a national platform that consolidates municipal and facility-level data to support policy implementation and EPR systems.

## **KENYA**

Kenya's Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act, 2022 emphasizes evidence-based planning and reporting, creating a strong legal basis for systematic waste data collection. The Act enables the establishment of data systems to support monitoring and compliance.

Kenya reports progress in collecting waste data at the county level, particularly in major cities. However, data quality and coverage vary widely. Kenya has identified the need to develop a national SWIMS that harmonizes county data, integrates informal sector contributions, and supports performance monitoring and policy decisions.

## **LESOTHO**

Lesotho's Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (2024) recognizes the importance of data for planning and system improvement. However, waste data collection remains limited and largely project-based.

Lesotho reports that the absence of reliable waste data constrains infrastructure planning and service optimization. Plans include strengthening data systems as part of strategy implementation. Lesotho has identified the need for technical assistance to design and operationalize a national SWIMS aligned with municipal capacities.

## **MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar lacks a national framework for systematic collection and management of waste data. Municipal waste data is sparse, inconsistent, and often outdated.

Madagascar reports that the absence of reliable data severely limits planning, investment, and policy development. The role of informal waste pickers remains largely unquantified. Madagascar has identified the introduction of a national SWIMS as a foundational priority to establish baselines, guide investments, and strengthen governance.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

Mozambique's waste management framework includes reporting requirements under municipal solid waste management plans. However, data systems remain decentralized and inconsistent.

Mozambique reports that waste data is generated through municipal plans and periodic studies, but is not consolidated at the national level. The lack of a unified system limits monitoring and evaluation. Mozambique has identified the need to establish a national SWIMS to improve coordination, planning and performance assessment.

## **NAMIBIA**

Namibia's National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2018) recognizes the importance of data and reporting. Some municipalities maintain waste records and landfill data.

Namibia reports that data collection practices vary across local authorities, with limited standardization. The absence of a centralized system constrains national oversight and planning. Namibia has identified the need to strengthen waste data governance through a national SWIMS.

## **SENEGAL**

Senegal's waste management reforms include data generation through national programmes and projects, but there is no comprehensive system for the management of municipal solid waste information.

Senegal reports that waste data remains fragmented, limiting evidence-based policy and investment decisions. The country has identified the need to establish a national waste information system to support infrastructure development, monitoring, and circular economy initiatives.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa has an established South African Waste Information System (SAWIS) mandated under the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, requiring reporting by waste generators and facilities.

South Africa reports that SAWIS provides a strong foundation for waste data governance, supporting planning, compliance, and policy evaluation. However, data gaps remain at municipal level, particularly for informal sector activities. South Africa demonstrates the value of SWIMS while highlighting the need for continuous improvement and capacity building.

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's waste management framework recognizes the need for data to support planning, but systematic data collection remains limited.

Tanzania reports that waste data is collected sporadically by local governments and civil society organizations. The absence of a national system limits comparability and long-term planning. Tanzania has identified the need to introduce a SWIMS to support policy development and service optimization.

## **UGANDA**

Uganda's waste management regulations require reporting for certain waste streams, but data on municipal solid waste remains fragmented.

Uganda reports limited availability of reliable data on waste generation, composition, and flows. This constrains planning and investment. Uganda has identified the need to establish a national SWIMS to improve coordination, accountability and system performance.

## **ZAMBIA**

Zambia's Solid Waste Regulation and Management Act No. 20 of 2018 supports monitoring and reporting obligations. However, a comprehensive national waste information system is not yet operational.

Zambia reports growing recognition of data gaps and their impact on planning and budgeting. Pilot data collection efforts exist, but consolidation is limited. Zambia has identified the need to develop a national SWIMS to support policy implementation and infrastructure planning.

## **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe's waste management framework includes municipal-level reporting requirements, but data systems are largely manual and fragmented.

Zimbabwe reports that limited waste data constrain effective planning and monitoring. The country has identified the need to modernize waste data systems and introduce a national SWIMS to support evidence-based decision-making.

**OVERVIEW OF  
PROPOSED  
NEW  
ELEMENTS FOR  
INCLUSION IN  
THE COMMON  
AGENDA FOR  
ACTION**

The collective feedback emerging from the country reports indicates that while the existing GFCCE common agenda is comprehensive and technically sound, its effective implementation is constrained by systemic weaknesses at multiple levels. Across countries, local governments are legally responsible for solid waste management but often lack the financial resources, institutional capacity, operational tools, and governance mechanisms required to implement reforms in a sustained manner. As a result, many initiatives related to segregation, decentralized processing, landfill management, and circular economy practices remain limited to pilots or project-based interventions.

The current agenda largely addresses what needs to be done, but countries are seeking greater support on how these actions can be institutionalized and scaled within existing municipal systems. Addressing this gap requires focused attention on the enabling environment for implementation, particularly at the city level. GFCCE is well-positioned to respond to this need. As a platform for shared learning and practical exchange among countries facing similar challenges, GFCCE's critical role in strengthening the foundations of municipal solid waste management. Introducing a dedicated agenda focused on enabling conditions would reinforce all existing agenda items by improving implementation readiness, reducing dependence on short-term projects, and supporting long-term system reform. For these reasons, countries have proposed the inclusion of additional agenda elements that explicitly address these cross-cutting constraints.

### Proposed agenda elements for inclusion

Based on common themes emerging from country submissions, the following agenda elements are proposed for inclusion in the GFCCE common agenda for action:

1. **Strengthening municipal financial and fiscal frameworks for solid waste management:** Ensuring predictable and adequate financing through ring-fenced budgets, rationalised user charges, cost recovery mechanisms, and improved fiscal autonomy for waste services.
2. **Development and dissemination of model legal and operational instruments:** Providing adaptable model municipal bye-laws, concession agreements, procurement clauses, and enforcement tools to support cities in translating policy intent into operational practice.
3. **Strengthening municipal institutional capacity and human resources:** Building technical, administrative, and managerial capacity within urban local bodies for planning, contract management, enforcement, data analysis, and community engagement.

4. **Mainstreaming solid waste management into urban development and climate planning:** Integrating waste management considerations into urban planning, public health strategies, and climate mitigation and adaptation frameworks to maximise co-benefits and resource mobilisation.
5. **Strengthening governance, accountability, and performance monitoring mechanisms:** Enhancing transparency, monitoring of service providers, citizen feedback mechanisms, and data-driven accountability to improve service quality and public trust.

**CONCLUSION**

The country reports reviewed under the GFCCE framework present a coherent and consistent picture of the current state of solid waste management across the Global South. Despite differences in institutional structures and policy maturity, countries face largely similar challenges rooted in rapid urbanization, changing consumption patterns, and long-standing dependence on disposal-centric systems. These shared conditions have resulted in weak segregation at source, high collection and transportation costs, continued reliance on dumpsites and landfills, limited financial sustainability, and inadequate data for informed decision-making.

Countries broadly recognize the GFCCE common agenda for action as comprehensive and well aligned with these realities. A key observation emerging from the reports is the need to view the agenda as a sequenced pathway for reform rather than a set of independent actions. Foundational interventions such as behaviour-change communication, source segregation, municipal bylaws, and waste data systems are widely regarded as prerequisites for more advanced regulatory and economic instruments, including landfill taxes, dumping bans, and Extended Producer Responsibility schemes. Countries also emphasize the importance of operational clarity, noting that while policy direction is clear, municipalities often require practical tools, model instruments, and adaptable frameworks to translate policy intent into effective on-ground implementation.

Recent developments across countries indicate gradual but meaningful progress in the domain of solid waste management. Common trends include the formulation or revision of national solid waste management strategies, increased policy attention to segregation and decentralized processing, and growing exploration of producer responsibility mechanisms for plastic waste. Several countries report pilot initiatives in composting, material recovery, informal-sector integration, and improved landfill management. Although many of these initiatives remain limited in scale, they collectively reflect a shared shift in policy thinking toward recovery-oriented, accountable, and circular waste management systems.

Current national priorities articulated by countries show strong convergence. Reducing dependence on dumpsites and landfills, improving source segregation, and expanding treatment and recovery capacity are consistently identified as urgent needs. Strengthening municipal capacity, particularly in terms of finance, enforcement, and service delivery emerges as a central priority, alongside improving the availability and quality of waste data for planning, budgeting, and performance monitoring. Countries also highlight the importance of integrating into the informal sector, reducing the high costs of waste collection and transportation, and securing sustainable financing mechanisms to ensure long-term system viability.

Overall, the consolidated country perspectives reaffirm that solid waste management challenges are systemic and widely shared. The GFCCE common agenda for action is therefore well-positioned as a collective response to these challenges. By strengthening implementation support, promoting peer learning, and aligning actions with shared national priorities, GFCCE can play a critical role in helping countries move from fragmented initiatives and pilot projects toward scalable, sustainable, and inclusive solid waste management systems.



Urban solid waste in Africa is projected to increase threefold by 2050, with a significant share still disposed of through open dumping, underscoring the urgent need for structural reform.

Established in 2022 and facilitated by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), the *Global Forum of Cities for Circular Economy (GFCCE)* has emerged as a strategic South–South platform advancing systemic transition from linear disposal models to circular resource management. Bringing together 18 member states, GFCCE is operationalizing a 14-point Common Agenda for Action that strengthens waste data systems, institutionalizes source segregation, promotes decentralized processing, integrates the informal sector, advances Extended Producer Responsibility, and supports policy and procurement reforms that disincentivize landfilling.

This Annual Progress Report provides a structured assessment of country-level progress, identifies persistent governance and financing gaps, and outlines the next phase of reform. It reflects GFCCE's growing role in shaping evidence-based, financially viable and inclusive circular-economy frameworks across the Global South.



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