



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Report: Influential mission on Circular Economy in Africa "Developing actions towards Transitions"

Commissioned by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency

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International.*



Report: Influential Mission on Circular Economy in Africa “Developing Actions towards Transitions”



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PREFACE

This mission, organized by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and Holland Circular Hotspot (HCH), has been set up to support selected African countries in their transition towards a circular economy. It was an event where challenges and opportunities in the Africa region were discussed and where further collaboration with Dutch circular companies and organizations was explored. Assisted by The Dutch embassies in seven African countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and South Africa) we engaged influentials from those countries around three high issue themes: plastics, e-waste, and agriculture. The mission was further professionally supported by our partners from the African Circular Economy Network who brought in an African expert perspective next to our Dutch perspective.

It was also a great honour and opportunity for me to be the moderator for the two days event. Attending from the RVO studio in The Hague, The Netherlands, I witnessed the enthusiasm and noted the ambitions from the participant when talking about circular economy to counter various sustainable and economical challenges. I observed that the participants came to the realisation that they have a lot in common with each other. They shared limited access to technology, all need to work on capacity building, they have limited access to financing, and struggle with EPR implementation. This mission helped all the participants to understand that even though they are on a different point of the circular development curve, they have very similar goals.

Sharing insights and approaches from the Dutch showcases was intended as a game changing element in the mission and we think we came close to that objective. We designed this session based on the survey from the participants on their barriers, driven, and hopes for future steps. We had invited at least three Dutch best practices on each main theme (plastics, e-waste, and circular agriculture) with hands-on experience in Africa region, and willing to have further collaboration with the African countries. The result was quite rewarding! Collaboration in skills set trainings, in knowledge transfers for technologies, in local communities' empowerment are just a few of the outcomes. In the meantime, several follow up actions already have been planned.

Stakeholders who have been active in the field of sustainability in Africa have realized that with the rapid growth of population in Africa, a circular economy approach can be a way out to overcome the wasteful practices today and create meaningful job opportunities in the process. Circular Economy is an inspiring concept that is, true to its name, about the economy, and viable business models. But it is also about sustainability and living within the planetary boundaries. The concept of keeping the value of products and materials in the loop as high and long as possible is very central in this vision. But a circular economy is also about renewable energy, respect for biodiversity and social inclusiveness. It is about people and businesses that interact and find new ways of collaboration and preserve and create value.

The Netherlands is at the forefront of many of these processes. Our environment made us innovative and collaborative: a living lab to pioneer solutions for global challenges. Over 150 years, we have learned what interventions works and what doesn't work. Often, we have learned the hard way - from experience. By joining forces, Holland Circular Hotspot and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency have shared insights, networks, and resources to make this mission happen. We would like to thank all the participants in the seven African countries and the Dutch expert and entrepreneurs we have spoken to who inspired us during the mission. Let's continue to work together and build stronger collaborations to accelerate the transition to a circular economy!

Freek van Eijk
Managing Director Holland Circular Hotspot



INTRODUCTION

Digging Through the Mission

This mission is linked to the ambition of The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) to stimulate circular business models globally. As circular economy is an important theme for both participating countries and their respective Dutch embassies, the idea developed to organize mission together, between The Netherlands and the seven African countries. This implies discussing the challenges and opportunities towards the transition towards a circular economy, as well as matchmaking with Dutch organizations which can share their best practices in circular business models. The mission lasted two days, starting with an offline kick-off and an online exchange session between the seven African countries. The online session focused on the current conditions and regulations in circularity of the country, as well as their challenges and opportunities for the three main themes: plastics, electronic waste (e-waste), and agriculture. It was organized bilingually, allowing participants to follow the event in English and French due to simultaneous translation. The sessions were led by the Managing Director of Holland Circular Hotspot and was supported by moderators from the African Circular Economy Network.

On the first day, the mission was hosted by the Dutch embassies in participating countries. Representatives from the Dutch embassies organized a physical session in each participating country, inviting key stakeholders from both public and private sector and discussing the current issues and their contributions on circular economy in the country. The first day of the mission continued with a digital session, organized by The Netherlands Enterprise Agency from the studio in The Hague. During this session, representatives of the African countries shared their local context and efforts to achieve circularity. During the Q&A sessions, panellists had the opportunity to react to the presentations and to ask questions to the other participants. At the end of the day, there was a wrap up from the representatives of the African Circular Economy Network.

On the second day, there were three online theme sessions during which speakers from Dutch organizations shared their best practices on the different themes. The sessions were held in the RVO studio in The Hague. During every session, panellists from the African countries could share their comments and ask questions to the speakers. The sessions started with a general overview presentation of each theme, given by speakers on their own expertise. This was aimed to give a general understanding on circularity in plastics, e-waste and agriculture. The sessions continued with presentations from the Dutch organizations (some of them present in the studio, others connected digitally), Questions & Answers sessions, and ended with a wrap up from a representative of the African Circular Economy Network.

During the mission, The Netherlands Enterprise Agency provided a B2Match platform where all participants and speakers could share their contacts, interests, and knowledge on transitioning to a circular economy. In addition, the platform provided participants with information related to the programmes, rundowns, organizers, and guidance on how to use the platform for networking. All the questions from participants, which were not answered during the mission due to limited time, were uploaded on the platform with the answers from the designated speakers.

Acknowledging the Organizers



The Netherlands Enterprise Agency & Incoming Visitors' Programmes

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) supports entrepreneurs, NGOs, knowledge institutes and organizations. We aim to facilitate entrepreneurship, improve collaborations, strengthen positions and help realize national and international ambitions with funding, networking, know-how and compliance with laws and regulations. RVO is a government agency which operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. Its activities are commissioned by the various Dutch ministries and the European Union.

RVO organizes incoming (virtual) missions on behalf of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in close cooperation with the Dutch embassies. RVO takes care of the planning, content, and logistics. They work closely together with partners from government, business, and knowledge institutions in the Netherlands during the development and execution of the programme.

The programmes are aimed at fostering the exchange of knowledge, building networks, and exploring opportunities for cooperation with the Netherlands – either in G2G, K2K, B2B or a combination – in a specific sector or on a specific theme. The programmes cover various themes, including water management, agriculture & horticulture, food security, logistics, circular economy, smart mobility, port development & infrastructure, peace & justice, international law, human rights and LGBTI rights.

Holland Circular Hotspot

Holland Circular Hotspot (HCH) is a private-public platform in which the HCH foundation, (local) government authorities, knowledge institutions and companies intensively and internationally collaborate and exchange knowledge with the aim to stimulate entrepreneurship in the field of circular economy.

The activities of Holland Circular Hotspot are:

- Offer insights in and access to the network of Dutch circular pioneers;
- Develop and exchange knowledge on international market opportunities for circular economy;
- Create circular opportunities internationally by matching offer and demand;
- Support companies and organizations that want to contribute to internationalization of circular economy;
- Stimulate cooperation between the private sector, knowledge institutions, governments and other relevant parties;
- Provide international visibility of Dutch CE innovations/best practices;
- Facilitate access to Dutch and international (financing) instruments and programmes.

The founding of HCH was one of the actions from the Dutch government programme “Nederland Circulair 2050”. HCH works together with Special Envoys, selected circular economy experts who can represent the Holland Circular Hotspot Foundation worldwide.

Supportive partner: African Circular Economy Network

The African Circular Economy Network (ACEN) was established in July 2016. Its purpose is to build a restorative African economy that generates well-being and prosperity inclusive of all its people through new forms of economic production and consumption which maintain and regenerate its environmental resources.

This is achieved through: research, training & awareness, knowledge sharing, networking & events, and capturing & reporting circular case studies. As a result of these activities, ACEN continues to be a recognized source of expertise in Africa for information about the circular economy.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to rapid population increase, urbanization, and growing economies, a common challenge for many African countries is waste management. The Sub-Saharan Africa region generated 170 million tonnes of waste in 2016, at a rate of 0.46 kilograms per capita per day. It is the fastest growing region, with waste expected to nearly triple by 2050. (World Bank, 2018). On those matters, many African countries are exploring circular economy initiatives. As one of the frontrunners on circular economy, The Netherlands wanted to support circular economy transitions in other countries. The efforts of the Dutch embassies in seven African countries (Ivory Coast, Ghana, Senegal, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and South Africa) reflect how the Netherlands is an important partner for the region in the transition to circularity. Hence, the two-days digital mission for the seven African countries in circular economy was set up. It became valuable to develop a mission together, between The Netherlands and participating African countries, discussing the challenges and opportunities towards circular economy transition, as well as matchmaking with Dutch companies and other organizations which have accelerated their businesses using circular models.

The two-days digital mission in seven African countries generated great enthusiasm from participating countries, their respective Dutch embassies, and the Dutch organizations. Most participants realized how some of the countries share similar challenges in circularity, as well as opportunities that can be explored. Some countries could also learn from other ones how the government regulates the EPR for WEEE and plastics or where the regulatory aspects for all three themes still need to be improved. Furthermore, bringing the participant countries together during COVID-19 pandemic was fundamental noticing the common struggles and ambitions in improving circularity. Next step is to seek how the public and private sectors can engage together to develop roadmaps on circularity as well as deliver a strong implementation in the field.

From the three main themes which were discussed (plastics, e-waste, and agriculture) on the second day, participating countries shared the same issues on limited technology, human capabilities, access to financing, and EPR implementation. Collaboration in skillset trainings, knowledge transfer for technologies and research, engagement with multinational organizations and other governments for possible funding, local communities' empowerment was identified as initiatives that could be beneficial for the transition towards a circular economy.

Collaborating more intensively with the frontrunners from the private sector can be an option as many of the drivers are coming from them. There are several follow up projects identified and in the planning after the mission. Some actions will be empowering informal sector in plastics, e-waste, and agriculture and giving them trainings on how to collect and processing the wastes. Other actions are focused on creating more localized models and initiatives, also sparked from the knowledge exchange of the Dutch best practices. Finally, initiatives to create healthier working conditions within the present circular business have surfaced as a plan of action.

“As the population is growing rapidly in Africa, we have to work together and accelerate Circular Economy transition within African countries. From this digital mission, we shared and gained the knowledge and experiences from key stakeholders on this initiative, then we can bring them into project development perspectives, scale up opportunities, then create meaningful changes.”
(Chris Whyte – African Circular Economy Network)

Chapter 1: Presenting the Key Stakeholders

Participating Countries in Africa

Seven African countries participated in this mission. These countries are Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and South Africa. In all seven countries key stakeholders were selected from the public sector, the private sector, and knowledge institutes by the Dutch embassies. In total, 150 participants took part in the mission, including the participants from the Dutch showcases. All participants are listed in annex 1.

Dutch Showcases

Based on the input from the questionnaires, Dutch organizations and initiatives on each main theme were invited to share their best practice. Every organization has hands-on experience in Africa and is willing to have further collaboration with the African countries. The list of Dutch showcases can be found below.

Theme: Plastics

Name	Organization	Function
Niels van de Hoek	Sweep Smart	Director and Co-Founder at Sweep Smart
Mark Beerten	Colubris Clean Tech	Sales Manager Waste Solution
Martijn van Rijn	Plastic Pact NL	Senior Advisor Circular Economy at Rijkwaterstaat and Secretary at Plastic Pact NL
Anna-Lena Henkel	Searious Business	Business Analyst and Consultant at Searious Business

Theme: E-Waste

Name	Organization	Function
Herman Huisman	A4Waste	Founder at A4Waste and Special Envoy at Holland Circular Hotspot
René Eijsbouts	Stichting Open	Strategy Advisor at Stichting Open and Witteveen+Bos
Closing The Loop	Reinhardt Smit	Director Supply Chain at Closing The Loop

SNEW	Martijn van Engelen	Founder and CEO at SNEW
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Theme: Agriculture

Name	Organization	Function
Willemien van Asselt	Top Sector Agri&Food	Director for International Relations and Cooperation at Top Sector Agri&Food
Lara van Druten	The Waste Transformers	CEO at The Waste Transformers
Jeroen Wouters	Food Valley NL	Global Ecosystem Development at Food Valley NL

Chapter 2: Elevating the Opportunities

Based on our observations, there are three main themes which the participating African countries are focused on in their transition towards a circular economy: Plastics, E-Waste, and Agriculture. Therefore, on the second day of the mission, separate thematic sessions were organized, together with Dutch organizations, to share knowledge and experiences, as well as discuss how to turn challenges into opportunities, and future actions.

1. Plastics

Plastic packaging is a popular packaging option in Africa, driven by the gradual increase of local industries, especially agro-processing. Thus, Environmental Sciences Europe reported there will be approximately 344,000 tons of polymer and plastics in Africa continent by 2030 if there are no strict regulations to change the trend. Furthermore, Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) is the largest driver of plastic waste because it is very affordable in the market. PET recycling is then becoming the solution to manage plastic waste. Opportunities in redesigning plastic packaging can be opportunities to increase green jobs, as well as improve circularity in plastics.

As every country has different complexities of plastic waste, African countries also have different level of initiatives and actions to address the issue. EPR in plastics sector is mostly still voluntary. There are examples where the EPR was set to be mandatory, thus other African countries in the region could learn from each other. Furthermore, it is important that EPR regulations are supported through strong implementation in the field. This is experienced to be difficult. Creating a plastic pact can boost the efforts on circular plastic initiatives.

During this theme session, there were 39 key stakeholders from the participating countries and 4 Dutch companies that shared their best practices and initiatives: Sweep Smart, Colubris Clean Tech, Plastic Pact NL, and Searious Business. As there were some live comments during the mission on limited capabilities and awareness on collecting and recycling plastics in Africa, Sweep Smart mentioned their experiences on engaging with local partners and communities who know the plastics supply chain well. Working with NGOs, municipalities, and local waste management companies were the suggestions given during the session. Searious Business also shared their awarded project on collecting and recycling PET bottles through incentives, involving local municipality, local supermarket, the consumers, and a local waste management company.

Limited technology for recycling plastics is another challenge in Africa. Colubris Cleantech shared their expertise and experiences on developing equipment from pre-treatment/sorting in plastic waste into alternative products such as biogas, compost, stabilized residue, and RDF. This can make the plastics business more circular and support in closing the loop. The speakers and participants realized that the technology could not be directly replicated, yet there was a commitment for future collaboration to facilitate the knowledge transfer and find the suitable technology for the African region. Last challenge addressed

was related to funding. All the Dutch speakers agreed that access to finance can come from any side of the world, such as governments, big NGOs, research institutes, and even universities.

2. Electronic Waste (E-Waste)

In 2020, The Global E-Waste Monitor reported that the total e-waste in the world has increased by 9.2 million metric tons (21%) since 2014. Many of it was exported to Africa. African countries have done significant work to reach circularity for electronic waste management. However, there are still issues regarding EPR and the informal setting in which collecting, and recycling e-waste takes place on the continent. Therefore, special attention should be paid to increasing producer responsibility and investing in recycling facilities. In addition, knowledge transfers and experience sharing on redesigning the product as well as reducing resource consumption and energy use can be beneficial to improve the outcomes in the informal sector and drive the business to extend product lifetime.

During this theme session, there were 20 participants from 7 African countries and 4 Dutch companies to share their best practices: A4 Waste, SNEW, Closing the Loop, and Stichting Open. All participants and speakers agreed that e-waste management is a future opportunity to make waste compensation the norm. Also, global EPR on e-waste is the target. Yet, there are small steps which need to be taken towards that. For example, practical short-term solutions in the e-waste landfill, as Closing The Loop shared, to facilitate knowledge transfer and trainings to the informal collectors. They also engaged with local communities to encourage more local repair and reuse. Furthermore, SNEW, Dutch Circular Telecom and IT, can assist to build circular hubs/tech centres/upcycling centres in Africa. They have ongoing projects on extending the product lifecycle with a proper service level and make ICT accessible for everybody. With these options on the table, there were some participants interested to discuss further collaboration with SNEW in the Africa region.

For the effort to elevate EPR on every level, Stichting Open shared how they collect and treat small domestic appliances in The Netherlands, involving municipalities, retail shops, regional sorting centres, and recyclers. However, all the participants and speakers were aware of the EPR development in The Netherlands which have been mandatory and fully supported by the government. Therefore, Stichting Open also offered alternatives which can help to boost the EPR in Africa region by identifying the values of every component in e-waste and engage with local producers to redesign the products. This would facilitate product dismantling and reduce the amounts of components what would be burnt. There were some participating countries who showed interest in engaging with Stichting Open for this solution.

All in all, on the continent, refurbished components are still more accessible than brand new ones, so this is a very good opportunity for getting people involved. The challenges for e-waste in Africa are the limitations on technology and knowledge for repairing and setting up circular hub centres. Yet, a lot of potential collaborations between Dutch companies and participating countries was noticed during the session to set up trainings, facilitations, and knowledge transfer on product design. With these partnerships, key stakeholders might be able to push for EPR and stimulate circular business in e-waste on a regional and international level.

3. Agriculture

Circular Economy initiatives in the agriculture sector can help the African countries feed its growing population while also improving employment rate. A more circular food system will enforce the continent to use resources efficiently, in terms of energy, water, and virgin materials. This can lead to increased productivity, minimized risk of post-harvest losses by maintaining better storage and transportation, improved agro-processing systems, and less food waste. African Agriculture report in 2017 concluded that agriculture and food systems will help to create a trillion-dollar industry and millions of inclusive green jobs.

During the event, there were 27 participants from the public and private sector, including 3 Dutch showcases Topsector Agri&food, Food Valley NL, and The Waste Transformers. As chat moderator at this event, Chris Whyte, from African Circular Economy Network stated that small steps towards transition is matters. As agriculture in Africa is amongst the sectors with the highest energy consumption, best practices and examples shared by Top Sector Agri&Food and Food Valley NL, to use smarter and more sustainable technologies and methods could help overcome the issues.

Integrating agriculture with other sectors can be beneficial for the sector and lead to economic stability and job opportunities. As the consumers are an important component for the change, it is important to include them in the process of waste collection, as the example of The Waste Transformers shows. Developing partnerships with Dutch business in waste technology is an opportunity that cannot be missed. Another option is engaging research institutes and universities, like Food Valley NL does, to look for new alternative crops using their developed biotechnology. As there is limited capacity in terms of using technology to develop agriculture systems and new alternative proteins in Africa's regions, these Dutch showcases are committed to facilitate the participating countries and look for the best options that can be adopted in the local context.

The Netherlands would like to support the African countries in producing sustainable agriculture products, which release less carbon, produce new alternative crops, and empower farmers to be more responsive towards transitioning towards circular practices.

Chapter 3: Driving Initiatives on The Regional Level

Based on the information gained from the Dutch embassies in participating countries, there are upcoming relevant events or important projects/initiatives regarding circular economy in the respective countries. The list is below.

No	Projects	Expected Time
	Official Launching event of the Impact Cluster Insects 4 Seeds	3 rd week of September 2021
	Launching event of Circular Business Plaform Lagos	1 st week of October 2021
	Launching event of Circular Lagos Initiative	October 2021
	Establishing a partnership between the AIVP and the Circular Economy Institute of Abidjan, The SIPEC program (Integrated Strategy for the Promotion of the Circular Economy) of MINEDD	Soon
	Co-piloting the proposition of a biodigester program by four ministries (Agriculture and rural development, Animal resources, Environment and sustainable development and finance) in Ivory Coast	Currently happening
	SARA 2022 (presentations, expo, and conferences) for agriculture sector in Côte d'Ivoire	2022
	Building the first biomass power plant with grid injection in Africa, on Biovea project in Côte d'Ivoire	September 2021 – September 2024
	EU Circular Economy Week in Ghana	Soon
	#cocreateMYCITY Johannesburg with a session on Biomass in Johannesburg, South Africa	November 2021

**“Localize the initiatives and scale up to the region level.
Local has to be local and global has to be global.”**

(Willemien van Asselt, Director for International Cooperation at
Top Sector Agri and Food)



Chapter 4: Setting Up Next Actions for Transitions

The mission came to an end with enthusiasm from participating countries, respective Dutch embassies, and the Dutch organizations to seek collaborations. Specifically, the facilitation of a platform for regional exchange was appreciated and valued.

The first day of the event accommodated participants to understand the local conditions in each participating country. Most participants realized that African countries share similar challenges, as well as opportunities that are explored. Some countries could learn from other countries how the government regulates the EPR in WEE and plastics. The role from the Dutch embassies involved was crucial to make the mission succeed. Furthermore, the mission had a great number of participations, responses, and potential collaboration to be explored. Inviting the main stakeholders in participating countries as well as having The Netherlands Enterprise Agency and Holland Circular Hotspot to assist in identifying local context, challenges, and opportunities were key in setting up the whole programme. Next step is to seek how public and private sectors can engage together to continue the transition towards a circular economy. In addition, the Dutch embassies in seven African countries are eager to support the local transitions where necessary and requested. Furthermore, the Netherlands will explore ways for facilitating a platform for the regional exchange that was valued during the mission.

On the second day of the mission, participants had the opportunity to gain knowledge on each specific theme, share experience, and seek for further collaboration with Dutch organizations on the three main themes (plastics, e-waste, and agriculture). Participating countries shared challenges on limited technology, human capabilities, access to financing, and EPR implementation. There were countries whose EPR system is still fully voluntary. Based on the common challenges shared, there were some possible solutions formed as well. Collaboration in skillset trainings, knowledge transfers for technologies and research, engagement with multinational organizations and other governments for possible funding, and local communities' empowerment were initiatives that were drawn during the event for transitions towards circularity. Now, it is a matter of each stakeholder involved in this mission, as well as the participating embassies, to continue the discussions and planning to accelerate these solutions.

The drive to be circular also comes from private sectors that recognize the value of waste and alternative resources. Therefore, collaboration is a key to develop more circular economy initiatives within public and private sectors. Some actions can be empowering informal sector in plastics and e-waste and giving them trainings on how to collect and process waste. Others can be focused on creating more localized models and initiatives which derive from knowledge transfer of the best practices in Dutch showcases and other African countries showcases as well.

In terms of electronic waste (e-waste) sector, which is emerging in Africa, all stakeholders must not forget the people who work on the field. Collecting e-waste in landfills may still be done by the informal sector, but the partnership among different parties can be a better solution as it can improve the hazardous working conditions. Taking the health factor into account is also relevant in agriculture, as there are still a lot of practices involving chemical products which poison the lands. Other than that, developing new methods for cropping with new technology will help the region securing the food resources, as the population is rapidly growing. Therefore, as a close partner, The Netherlands is willing to explore how the further collaboration can be done in the future.

REFERENCES

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World Bank, Food System Jobs, 2018: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/food-system-jobs> (link as of 12/10/2021).

Annex 1: List of participants

Nigeria

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
Nwakama I Onyemelukwe	Coca Cola Nigeria	Director Public Affairs, Communication, and Sustainability	Private (FMCG)
Nubi Afolasade	University of Lagos	Principal Environmental Engineer	Public (Academic)
Adelopo AbdulGaniyu	University of Lagos	Researcher	Public (Academic)
Aniche Phil-Eboise	Togawa Renewable Technologies	CEO	Private (Agriculture)
Miranda Amachree	National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA)	Director, Inspection and Enforcement Department	Private (Plastics and E- Waste)
Adrian Clews	Hinckley	Managing Director	Private (E-Waste Recycling)
Kabir Yusuf	Federal Ministry of Environment	Technical Advisor to Minister of Environment	Public
Muyiwa Oyinola	DITCH Plastic/ De Montfort University	Researcher	Academic
Ibukun Faluyi	E-Waste Producers Responsibility of Organization of Nigeria (EPRON)	Executive Secretary	Private (E-Waste)
Natalie Beinisch	Circular Economy Innovation Partnership	Executive Director	Private (Education/Programme Management)
Dolape Fasawe	LASEPA	Managing Director	Public
Franklin Ngwu	Lagos Business School Sustainability Center and Associate Professor	Director	Knowledge
Arsene Lucia Onaghise	Food and Beverages Recycling Alliance (FBRA)	Executive Secretary	Private

Solape Hammond	Lagos State Governor on SDGs and Investments / Impact Hub Lagos	Special Assistant / Co-founder	Public and private
Sade Morgan	Nigerian Breweries Plc	Director Corporate Affairs	private
Olawale Adebisi	Wecyclers	CEO	Private (plastics)
Clem Ugorju	NPAP Nigeria (Nation Plastics Action Partnership)	Lead advisor	Private (plastics)
Seyi Ifelaja	Sahel Ranch and Fodder Agro	Director/ Partner	Private (agriculture)
Effiong Essien	Agriculture World bank	Consultant	knowledge and public (agriculture)

Ivory Coast

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
Kouakou Arsène Kouassi	Agriculture Solution for Africa (ASFA)	General Director	Private (agriculture)
Yaya Kone	COLIBA	CO-FOUNDER	Private (plastics)
Tenon Coulibaly	TENON CORPORATE (Digital Smart Trash)	Cofounder	Private (Selective Sorting and Recovery Waste)
Edi Abe Valère	EDINDIA INDUSTRY	CO-FOUNDER	Private (Renewable Energy)
Édith Kouassi	ECOPLAST INNOV	Manager	Private (Renewable Energy)
Evariste Aohoui	Electronic Waste Africa	CEO and Founder	Private (E-Waste)
Louise Antonia Bijleveld	LONO Innovation	Director of Business Development	Private (agriculture)
Kombo Ekra Noël N'guessan	LONO Innovation	Director of Operation	Private (agriculture)
Alain Serges Kouadio	Global Green Growth - Ministère de l'environnement et du développement durable (MINEDD)	Directeur de l'économie verte et de la responsabilité sociétale (MINEDD), Conseiller Global	Public

		Green Growth Institute	
Jacques Koffi	D3E - Ministère de l'environnement et du développement durable (MINEDD)	Coordonnateur du Programme PNGD, D3E, (MINEDD)	Public
Anon Berlin	MINADER - Ministère de l'agriculture et du développement rural (MINADER)	Directeur des Productions Vivrières et de la Sécurité Alimentaire au MINADER	Public
Jean Gbedji Douzo	European Union	Gestionnaire Programmes Point Focal Changement Climatique , Union européenne - Délégation en République de Côte d'Ivoire	Public
Brou Ahoua Eugenie Darge	AIVP (Association Ivoirienne de la Valorisation du Plastique)	Président de l'AIVP Coordonnatrice projets de l'AIVP	Private (plastics)

Kenya

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
Alex Kubasu	WWF Kenya	Programme Officer - Circular Economy Initiative	Private (Plastics)
Ayub Macharia	Environmental Education and Awareness Unit in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Director	Public
Antony Kamakia	Kenya School of Government	PhD / Lecturer	Public
Miriam Bomett	Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) + Kenya Producer Responsibility Organization (KEPRO)	Deputy Head Policy/ Manufacturing Sectors Sustainability Lead	Private (plastics)

Faith Ngige	P4G Partnership for New Plastics Economy Project Kenya	Coordinator	Private (plastics)
Peter Gachanja	Leafy Life (Recycling used diapers to make a fuel and construction material)	Director	Private (E-waste)
Bonnie Mbithi	WEEE Centre	General manager	Private (E-waste)
Mugechi Ngandu	iHub Kenya	Programme Associate	Private (E-waste)
Michael Koech	Safaricom	Sustainability manager	Private (E-waste)
Thule Lenneiye	Agricultural Transformation Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	Director	Private (Agriculture)
John Macharia	AGRA	Kenya Country Director	Private (Agriculture)
Clement Tulezi	Kenya Flower Council	CEO	Private (Agriculture)
Mary Nyaruai	Nyungu Afrika	Founder	Private (Agriculture)
Dennis Wachira Maguta	Leafy Life	Cofounder	Private

Ghana

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
Vivian Ahiayibor	City Waste Recycling	Managing Director	Private (e-waste)
Lincoln Winimi Peedah	Neat Eco-Feeds Ltd	CEO	Private (agriculture)
Bertha Darteh	Team that developed a national solid waste management model for the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources	Consultant Waste Management and Circular Economy	Private
Richard Amfo-Otu	University of Environment and sustainable development	Researcher	Public (plastics)
Martha Adjoa Annan	Jekora Venture Limited	Innovation Manager	Private (Waste Management)
Ama Ofori Antwi	Environmental Service Providers Association	Executive Secretary	Private (Environmental Sanitation)
Christopher Gaitu	Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture	Pest Management Expert	Public

Victor C.B. Schäfer	JSO	Head of New Projects Desk	Private (waste management)
Kwame Asamoah Mensah Yawson	Ghana National Plastic Action Partnership	Engagement Lead	Private (Plastics)
Sampson Atiemo	Mountain Research Institute	Project Manager for sustainable recycling industries and GIZ E-Waste programme industries	Private (waste management)

South Africa

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
Malcolm Mogotsi	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment	Director: Municipal Waste Support	Public (plastics)
Henry Roman	Dept of Science and Technology	Director: Environmental Services and Technologies	Public (agriculture and plastics)
Chris Whyte	Africa Circular Economy Network	Country Lead	Private
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Douw Steyn	Plastics SA	Director Sustainability	Private (plastics)
Vincent Ojjo	CSIR	Principal Researcher: Advanced Polymer Composite	Private (plastics)
Cheri Scholtz	PetCo	Head of Economic Chamber	Private (plastics)
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Keith Anderson	E-Waste Association SA	CEO	Private (e-waste)
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Kgauta Mokoena	Dept of Environment, Forestry	Chief Director: Chemicals and Waste Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation	Public (agriculture)
Mbali Nwoko	AdvanceAG	Co-Director	Private (agriculture)
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Jolanda Andrag	Agri SA	Head of Economic Chamber	Private (agriculture)
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Blessed Okole	CSIR	Research Group Leader Agro- Processing in the CSIR Advanced Agriculture and Food Cluster	Private (agriculture)

Senegal

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
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Mbicine Khady Sarr	UCG (national waste management agency)	Coordinator PROMOGED projects	Public
Salimate Seck Wone	City of Dakar (municipalities are responsible for waste management)	Chef Département Etudes techniques et partenariats	Public
Mamadou Diaw	DMS and representative Holland Greentech in Senegal	General Manager	Private (Plastics)
Macoumba Diagne	Proplast	Director	Private (Plastics)
Khalil Hawili	Simpa	General Manager	Private (Plastics)
Ababacar Thiam	Senordur	Owner	Private (Plastics)
Julie Repeti	SetTIC	General Manager	Private (E-waste)
Mohamed Ndiaye	Senrecycle	General Manager	Private (E-waste)
Mochtar Ba	Dakar Fabrics	General Manager	Private (E-waste)
Jean Denis Faye	Organic Fertilization	General Manager	Private (Agriculture)
Abdoulaye Mbaye	UCG (national waste management agency)	Project Coordinator	Public

Al Assane Samb	UCG (national waste management agency)	Coordonnateur des Programmes techniques spéciaux	Public
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Morocco

Name	Organization	Function	Sector
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Mohamed Benyahia	Département de l'Environnement	Secrétaire général	Public
Houda Bouchtia	l'Initiative Entreprises Climat Maroc, CGEM (to compare with VNO-NCW)	Directrice	Public
Abdesslam Yahyaoui	FourniPro	Directeur général	Private
Brahim Haddane	Pdt. Asmapec	President	Private (Plastics)
Zakaria Hanish	APEFEL (secteur production sous-serre grand utilisateur de différents types de plastique)	Private (Plastics)	Private (Plastics)
Leila Akhmiss	Fondation CAM pour le Développement Durable (Programme en cours sur la gestion du plastique dans les filières agricoles et agroindustrielles)	Directrice	Private (Plastics)
Lahoucine Tijani	Fondation Mohamed VI pour l'Environnement	Président Délégué	Private (Plastics)
Rabia Janati	Developpement Durable, Ministry of Industry, Investments, Commerce and Digital Economy	Chef de Division	Private (Plastics)
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Roquia El Boudrari	Eljjsr	Directrice Développement	Private (E-Waste)
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