



Presenter: Aditi Ramola

**-> Towards Zero Waste:
*Accelerating policy and
practice for waste
management and resource
circularity***



ISWA

ISWA is the world's leading network promoting professional and sustainable waste- and resource management.

ISWA represents all aspects and stakeholders within the waste management sector: the public, the private and the academic.

With more than 1,300 Members in 109 countries, ISWA has a unique global network.



**To Promote and Develop
Sustainable and
Professional Waste
Management Worldwide
and the transition to a
Circular Economy**

- Our mission



Humans are driving major changes to the planet's ecosystems

Triple Planetary Crisis





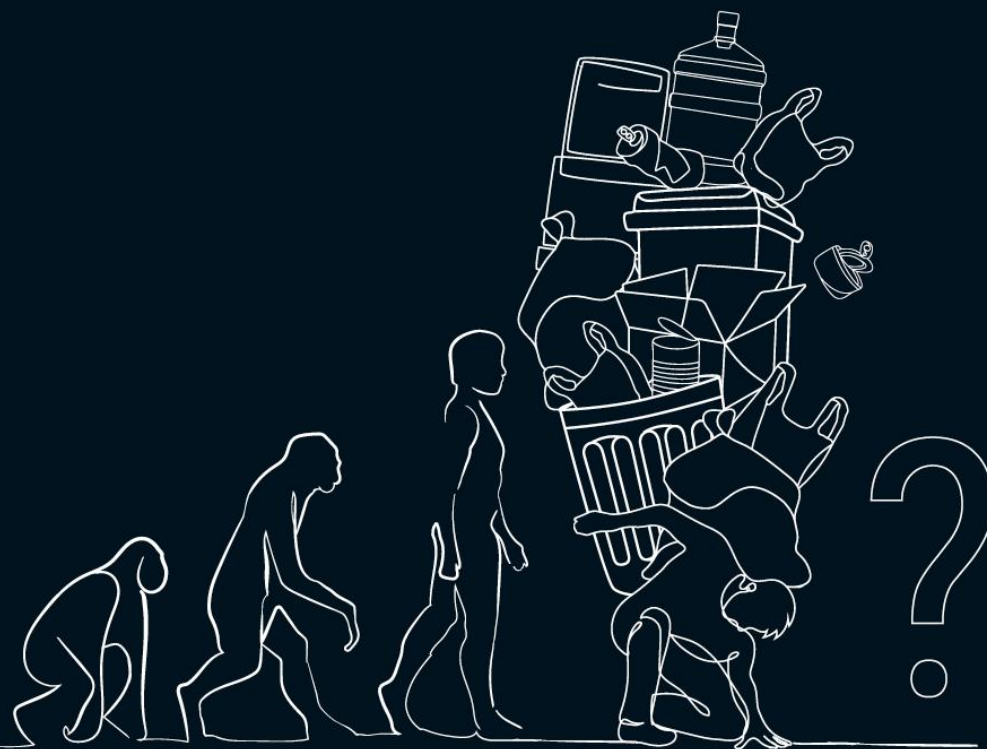
It is also a humanitarian crisis



**RE
SET**

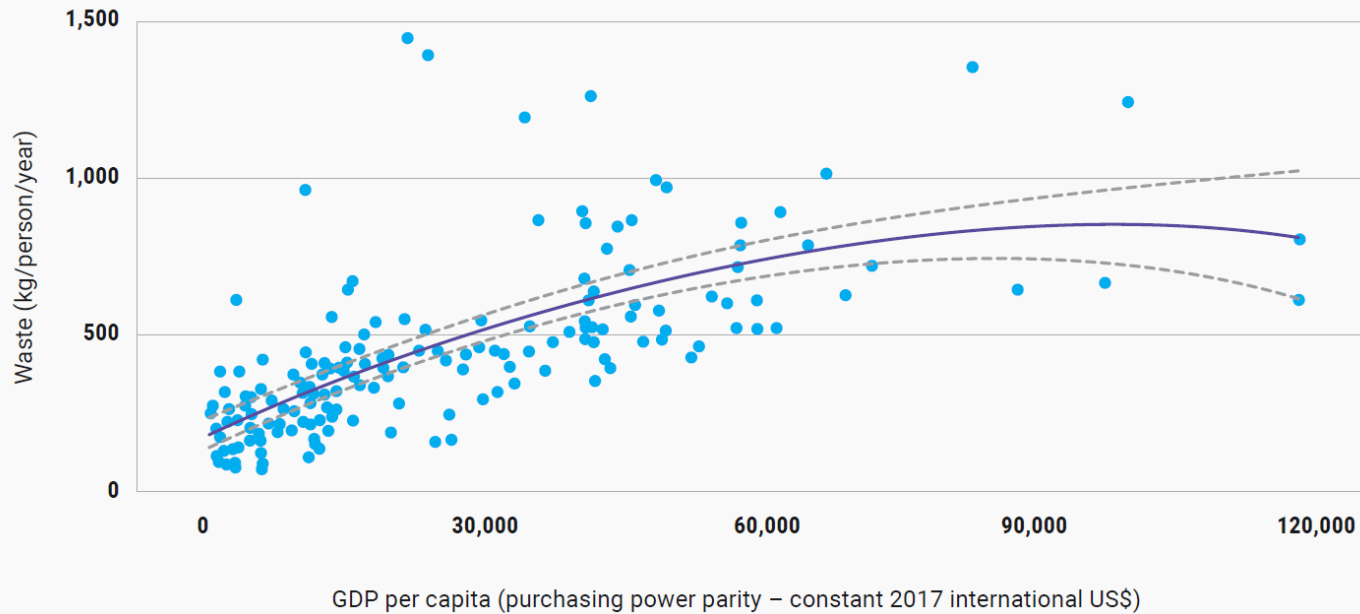
Beyond an age of waste

Turning rubbish into a resource



Economic growth and waste generation remain closely linked

Figure 1: Relationship between gross domestic product (GDP) and waste generation in most recent year available between 2010 and 2020

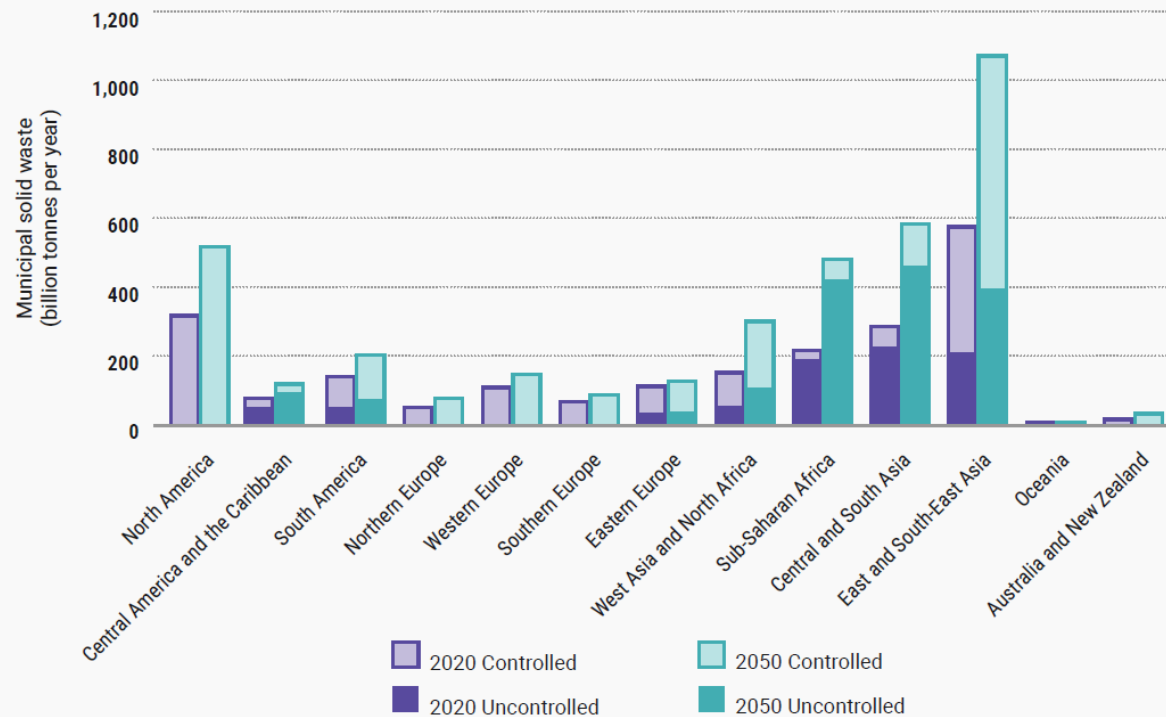


Higher income countries (settings) generate more waste per person – unsustainable levels of resource use.

Note: Each dot represents a country, with GDP data for the corresponding year converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. Data is in constant 2017 international US dollars, corresponding to the World Bank International Comparison Program 2023 (World Bank 2023c).

Large projected increase in dumping and burning by 2050

Figure 5: Municipal solid waste generation and how much of this waste was uncontrolled in 2020, with projections for 2050 unless urgent action is taken.



Fast-growing economies that still rely on open burning and dumping have the largest projected waste growth – **unsustainable levels of leakage and pollution.**

Three waste management priorities

01

To prevent runaway negative impacts from municipal solid waste, actions must be taken urgently to halt waste growth and to shift towards zero waste and circular economy models.

02

Municipal solid waste management must be prioritised, in order to provide all communities with affordable services and end the harmful and widespread practice of open dumping and waste burning.

03

Producers and retailers need to be motivated to provide goods and services in ways that avoid waste generation, while the most problematic and polluting materials should be phased out.

Key Messages

- Business-as-usual is exhausted
- A paradigm shift is urgently needed
- Urgent transition from “**waste as garbage**” to “**waste as a resource**”
- Imperative to adopt **zero-waste circular practices**
- A Global Push is needed

A move towards -> Zero Waste

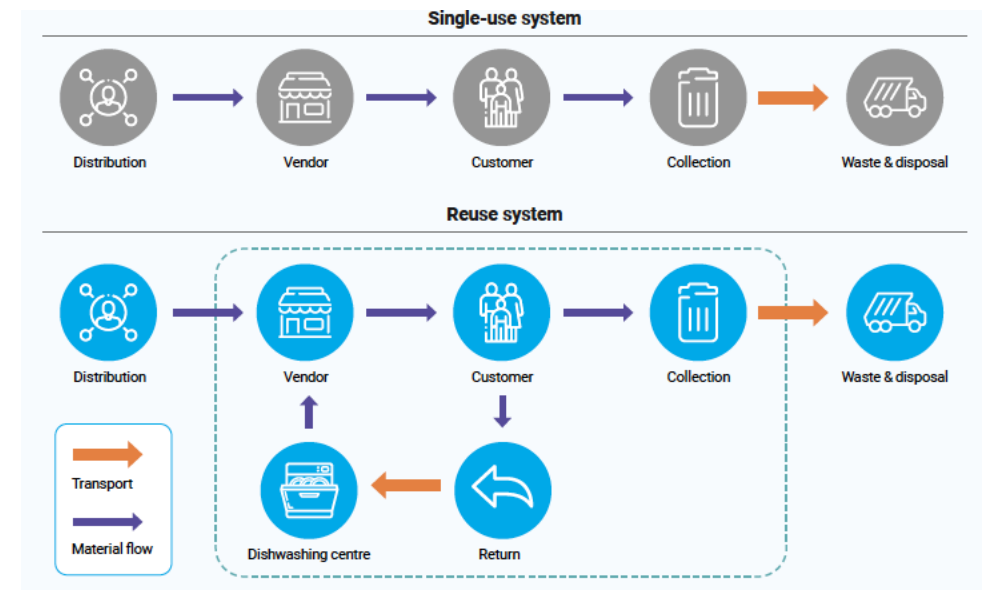


Zero waste principles promote the **highest and best use of materials to eliminate waste and pollution, emphasizing a closed-loop system of production and consumption**, moving toward the goal of zero waste through the core principles of:

- Pursuing 'upstream' re-design strategies to reduce the volume and toxicity of discarded products and materials, and promote low-impact or reduced consumption lifestyles;
- Fostering and supporting reuse of discarded products and materials to stimulate and drive local economic and workforce development; and
- Improving 'downstream' recycling of end-of-life products and materials to ensure their highest and best use.

Case studies

- Kamikatsu, Japan
- Quezon City, Philippines
- Street vendors, India
- Zero-waste villages, India
- Zero-waste cities, China
- SUP bans, Global
- Food loss and food waste initiatives, Global



The role of the private sector

- Recognize the vital role and responsibility of the private sector in waste prevention- design thinking
- Recognize the role of the ‘informal sector’
- Pursue business models that achieve financial savings through resource efficiency, such as refill, deposit return systems and design-for-recycling
- Support governments with efforts to regulate waste generation, recognizing that regulation creates a level playing field and gives certainty
- Participate in regulation over voluntary targets which only add to uncertainty
- Avoid greenwashing.

What can we do?

- Be aware of what and how much we consume
- Refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle
- Source segregate where possible - infrastructure
- Choose sustainable options
- (Try home composting)
- Advocate for change and educate others



Thank You!

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The GWMO 2024 is a guide and call for action to catalyse collective efforts to support bold and transformative solutions, revert the adverse impacts of current waste management practices, and provide clear benefits to every individual living on this planet.

Carlos Silva Filho
President of International Solid Waste Association



The Future Ahead (2024-2030) and beyond



- Bring waste and resource management onto the MAIN agenda
- **Attract the NECESSARY Funding**
- **Catalyze SUBSTANTIAL Partnerships**