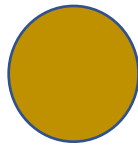


# Strengthening the Linkage Between National Policy Making and Regional and Global Frameworks: A Case of Nigeria's National Policy on Plastic Waste Management



At the 4<sup>th</sup> ACCP Assembly  
Pacifico Yokohama (Annex Hall, F 201-202)

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# Presentation Outline



**Context & Rationale:** Why plastics and why now?

• **Policy Content:** Core goals, targets, and principles of the NP-PWM

**Alignment:** Basel Convention, MARPOL, UNFCCC, ECOWAS Regional Action Plan, Plastic Treaty..

**Implementation:** National strategies, Institutional coordination, EPR

**Challenges:** Funding, Regulation, Enforcement, infrastructure gaps

**Recommendations & Way Forward**

“This is not just a policy review. It’s a bridge-building dialogue—connecting Nigeria’s national ambitions with its international obligations, and advancing coherence between domestic policy action and the global sustainability agenda.”

# Purpose of the Presentation

Looks at how the Nigeria's National Policy on Plastic Waste Management (NP-PWM) aligns with and contributes to global and regional environmental frameworks.

# Why Plastic Waste Management Matters

## ● Nigeria's Plastic Profile

- Over **2.5 million tons of plastic** consumed annually
- Urban hubs like Lagos generate over **15,000 tons of waste daily**, a large share of which is plastic
- Plastics critical to packaging, manufacturing, healthcare, and agriculture

## ● Socio-Economic Importance vs. Environmental Burden

- **Importance:** Jobs, innovation, economic growth, lightweight packaging
- **Burden:**
  - <10% recycling rate
  - Litter in rivers, lakes, coastlines
  - Health impacts: microplastics, toxins, open burning emissions
  - Harm to biodiversity, especially aquatic ecosystems

## ● Global Context

- **380+ million tons** of plastic produced globally each year
- 11 million tons enter oceans annually
- Strong link to SDG threats (especially Goals 3, 6, 11, 12, 14)



# Evolution of Nigeria's Policy Landscape



## ● 1991 – National Policy on the Environment

- Nigeria's first holistic environmental policy
- Established a framework for managing natural resources

## ● 2005–2018 – Solid Waste Management Focus

- Development of the **National Policy on Solid Waste Management**
- Addressed general waste, but lacked focus on plastic lifecycle

## ● 2020 – National Policy on Plastic Waste Management (NP-PWM)

- First policy to focus on plastic-specific risks and circularity
- Lifecycle approach: design → use → reuse → disposal
- Emphasizes prevention, reduction, and innovation

## ● Legal Backing

- **Section 20, Nigerian Constitution:**

*“The State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard the water, air and land, forest and wildlife of Nigeria.”*

**“This trajectory shows Nigeria’s policy thinking is maturing—from broad environmental awareness to precision-targeted plastic policy, rooted in constitutional obligations.”**

# Provisions



## ● Policy Goal

- Promote **environmental protection**, enable a **circular plastic economy**, and reduce **greenhouse gas emissions**

## ● Lifecycle Approach

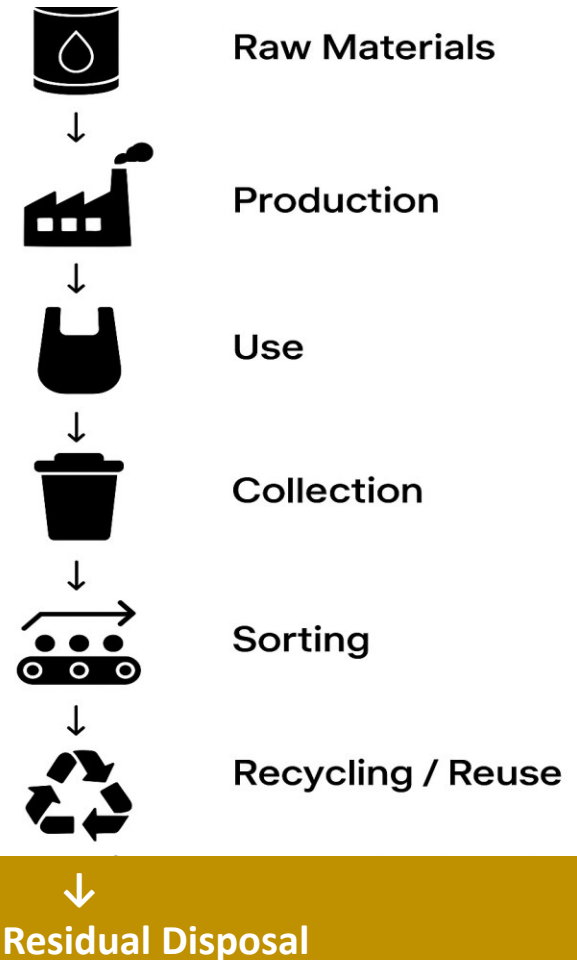
- Covers every phase of plastic:
  - **Design & production**
  - **Distribution & consumption**
  - **Collection, recycling & final disposal**
- Emphasizes **resource efficiency**, not just waste treatment

## ● Key Guiding Principles

- **5Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle, Recover**
- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)**
- **Polluter Pays**
- **Zero Waste & Environmental Offsetting**
- **Precautionary, Inter- and Intra-generational equity**



“NP-PWM is not just a clean-up plan; it is a circularity plan—designing plastics to never become waste.”



## Linkage to Global & Regional Frameworks



- **Basel Convention**
- **MARPOL:** Controls marine plastic pollution
- **UNFCCC:** Carbon emissions reduction
- **ECOWAS** Regional Action Plan
- **Global Plastics Treaty (in progress)**



“Enforcement doesn’t begin with penalties—it begins with well-synched institutions across all tiers.”

## ● Multi-Tier Responsibilities

- **Federal Level:** Legislation, policy formulation, national coordination
- **State Level:** Target setting, enforcement, infrastructure provision
- **Local Governments:** Waste collection, public awareness, community compliance
- **Community Level:** Sorting, recycling, and informal sector integration

## ● National Steering Committee on PWM (NSCPWM)

- Oversees coordination among ministries, regulators, private sector, civil society

## ● Legislative Instruments

- **EPR schemes, levies on single-use plastics, bans** (e.g., Styrofoam), and mandatory recycling standards

# Policy Implementation Mechanisms



## ● Targeted Bans & Timelines

- Ban on plastic bags, cutlery, straws by **January 2025**
- Phase out Styrofoam (Micron  $>30\mu$ ) by **December 2028**

## ● Implementation Tools

- **Color-coded bins** (Green, Blue, Yellow, Black)
- **Plastic recycling hubs** across states
- **Recycling targets**: 50% of all plastic waste by 2030
- **Recycled content** (rPET, rHDPE)

## ● Incentives

- **Bottle deposit schemes** (5% refund)
- **EPR levies** and **user charges**
- **Regulatory standards** for packaging thickness and recyclability

**“This policy is both ambitious and grounded in actionable mechanisms—designed to evolve with capacity and innovation.”**

# Funding & Resource Mobilization- Financing the Future of Plastic Waste Governance



## ● Current Gaps

- No dedicated budget line for PWM in many states
- Heavy reliance on Private sector & informal sector

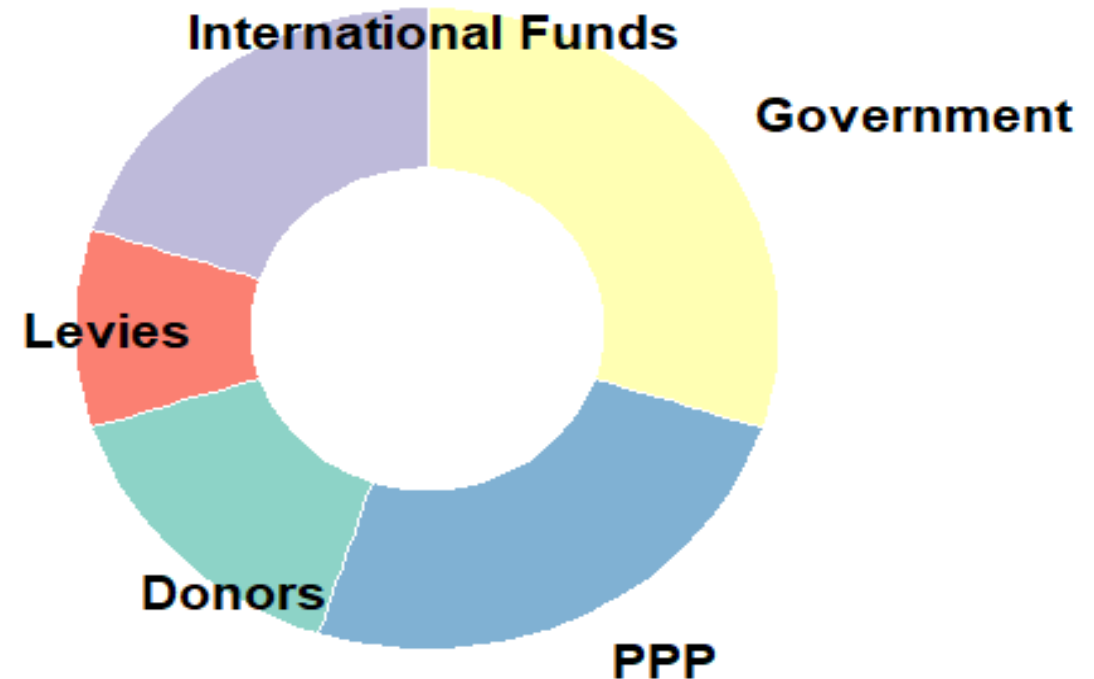
## ● New Resource Strategies

- Plastic tax regimes**, waste levies, deposit refund systems
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)** for infrastructure and innovation
- Partnerships with **manufacturers, recyclers, and retailers**

## ● Global Finance Access

- Leverage international climate, pollution, and circular economy funds
- Alignment with **Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF), UNEP, World Bank, EU**

A policy is only as sustainable as its funding. Finance must reflect ambition.



# Monitoring, Evaluation & Adaptive Learning- What Gets Measured, Gets Managed



## ● Lifecycle-Based Monitoring

- Track plastic from production → usage → disposal
- Require regular **waste audits** and **eco-labeling compliance**

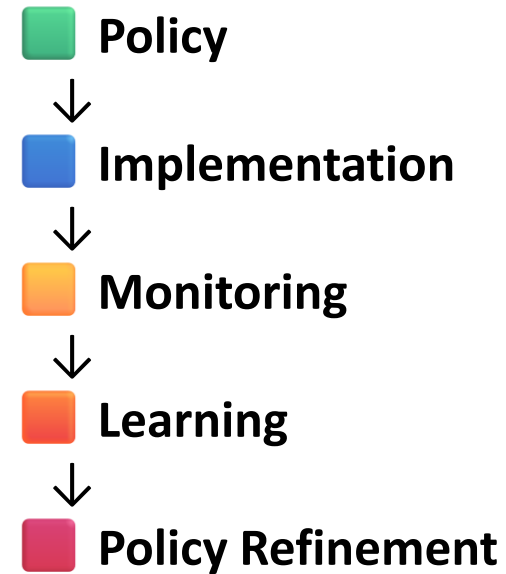
## ● Feedback-Driven Adjustments

- Mid-cycle policy reviews every 5 years
- M&E feeds into planning, investment priorities, and public education

## ● Institutional Learning Loop

- Learning from pilot states and city-level innovations
- Create M&E dashboards and reporting platforms

**Policy must breathe—learning from data, communities, and frontline feedback.**



# Key Takeaways & Way Forward-From Local Action to Global Impact



## ● Key Takeaways

- NP-PWM aligns national environmental goals with global frameworks
- Implementation requires multi-level synergy and steady financing
- Circularity and EPR are game changers—but need enforcement muscle

## ● Way Forward

- Empower state and local actors with tools and data
- Institutionalize adaptive learning
- Build inclusive coalitions with informal recyclers, innovators, and youth

## ● Call to Action: ACT, EMBRACE & COLLABORATE

**“Think global, legislate nationally, act locally.”**



**Thank you for your attention.**

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