

# South Africa: Waste Governance and funding

African Clean Cities Platform

August 2025

Yokohama

Japan

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Map of South Africa
2. Demographics
3. Legislation and policies
4. Waste governance
5. Financing mechanisms
6. Funding reforms



# MAP OF SOUTH AFRICA



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# South Africa's population in 2024

FEMALE 32,129,704

**Total population 63,015,904**

MALE 30,886,200

BLACK FEMALE 26,242,328

**Black 51,509,312**

BLACK MALE 25,266,984

COLOURED FEMALE 2,738,174

**Coloured 5,338,586**

COLOURED MALE 2,600,412

INDIAN/ASIAN FEMALE 799,478

**Indian/Asian 1,628,794**

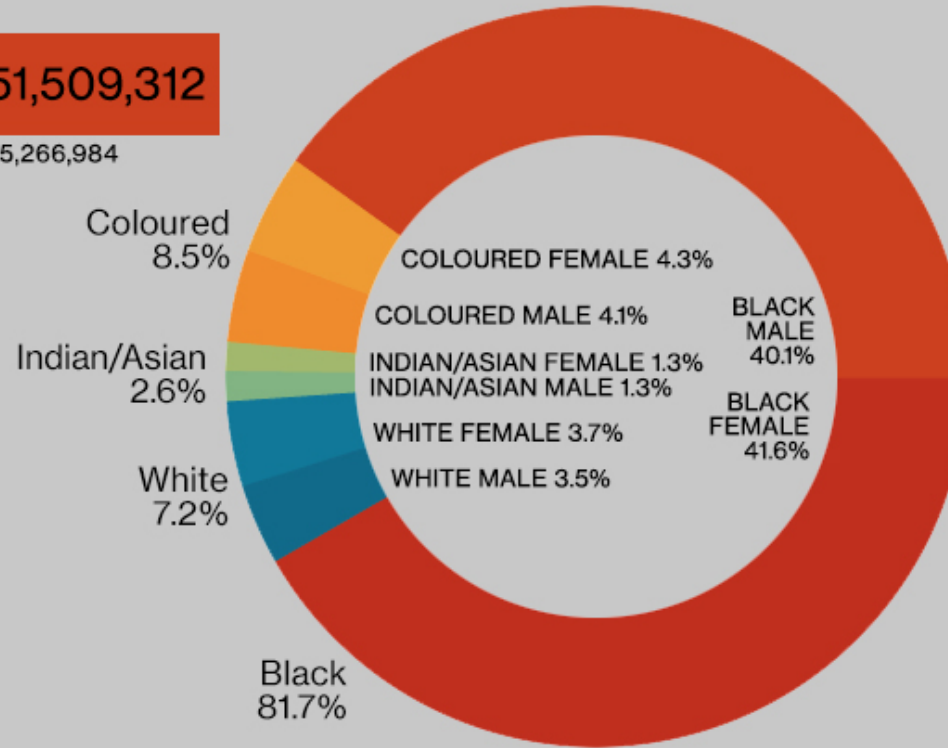
INDIAN/ASIAN MALE 829,316

WHITE FEMALE 2,349,724

**White 4,539,212**

WHITE MALE 2,189,488

South Africa's four "population groups" – black, coloured, Indian/Asian and white – are based on colonial and apartheid racial categories. Stats on these groups help track efforts to reduce inequality since the dawn of democracy in 1994.



51.5 million black people make up 81.7% of the population

5.3 million coloured people make up 8.5% of the population

1.6 million Indian/Asian people make up 2.6% of the population

4.5 million white people make up 7.2% of the population

SouthAfrica-Info.com

GRAPHIC: MARY ALEXANDER • DATA: STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA MID-YEAR POPULATION ESTIMATES 2024



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# LEGISLATIVE MANDATE (NATIONAL)

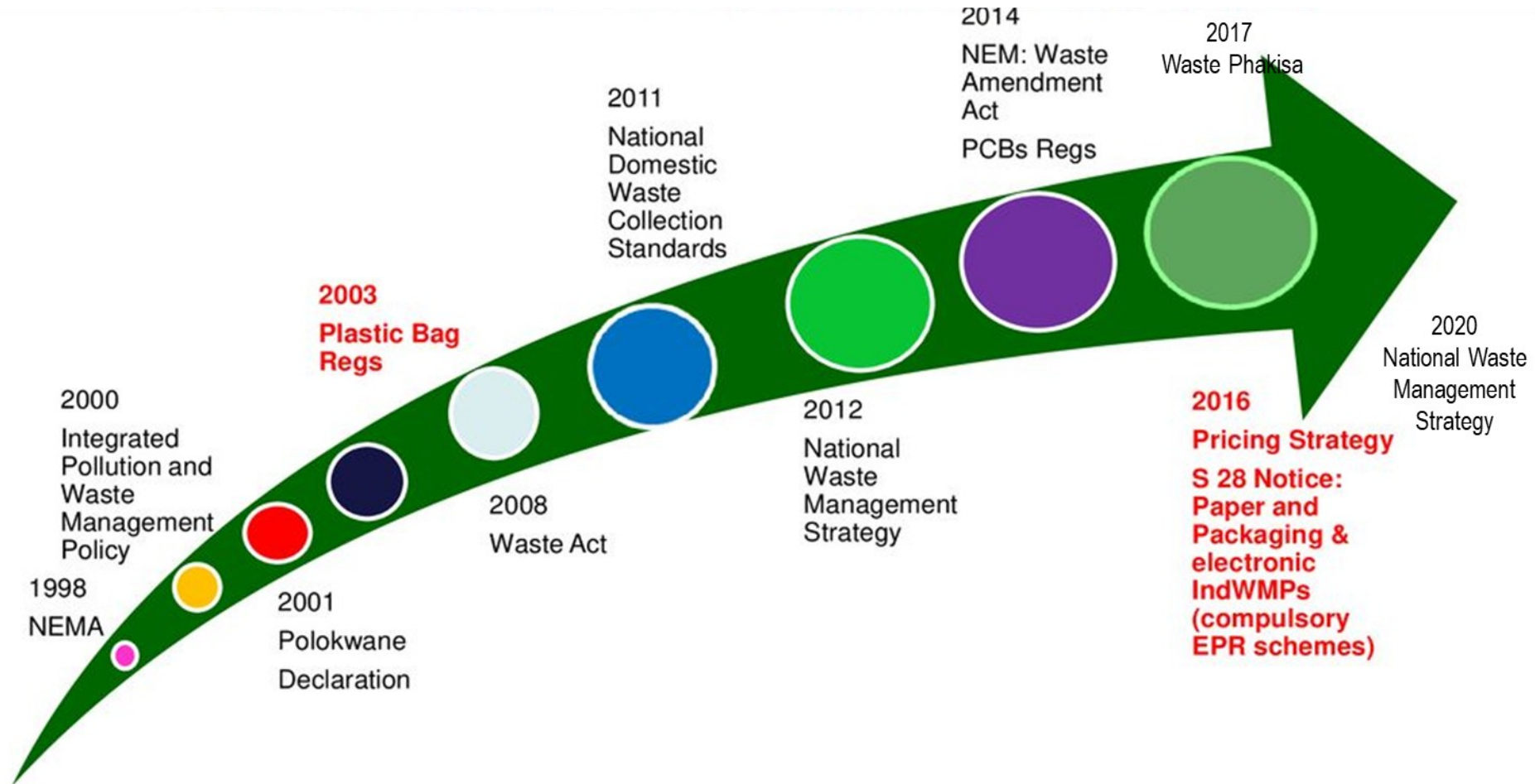
To an **environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being**

- I. **Prevent pollution and ecological degradation**
- II. Promote conservation
- III. Secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic development



## Norms & Standards

# FROM INTEGRATED POLLUTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY TO 2020 NWMS.



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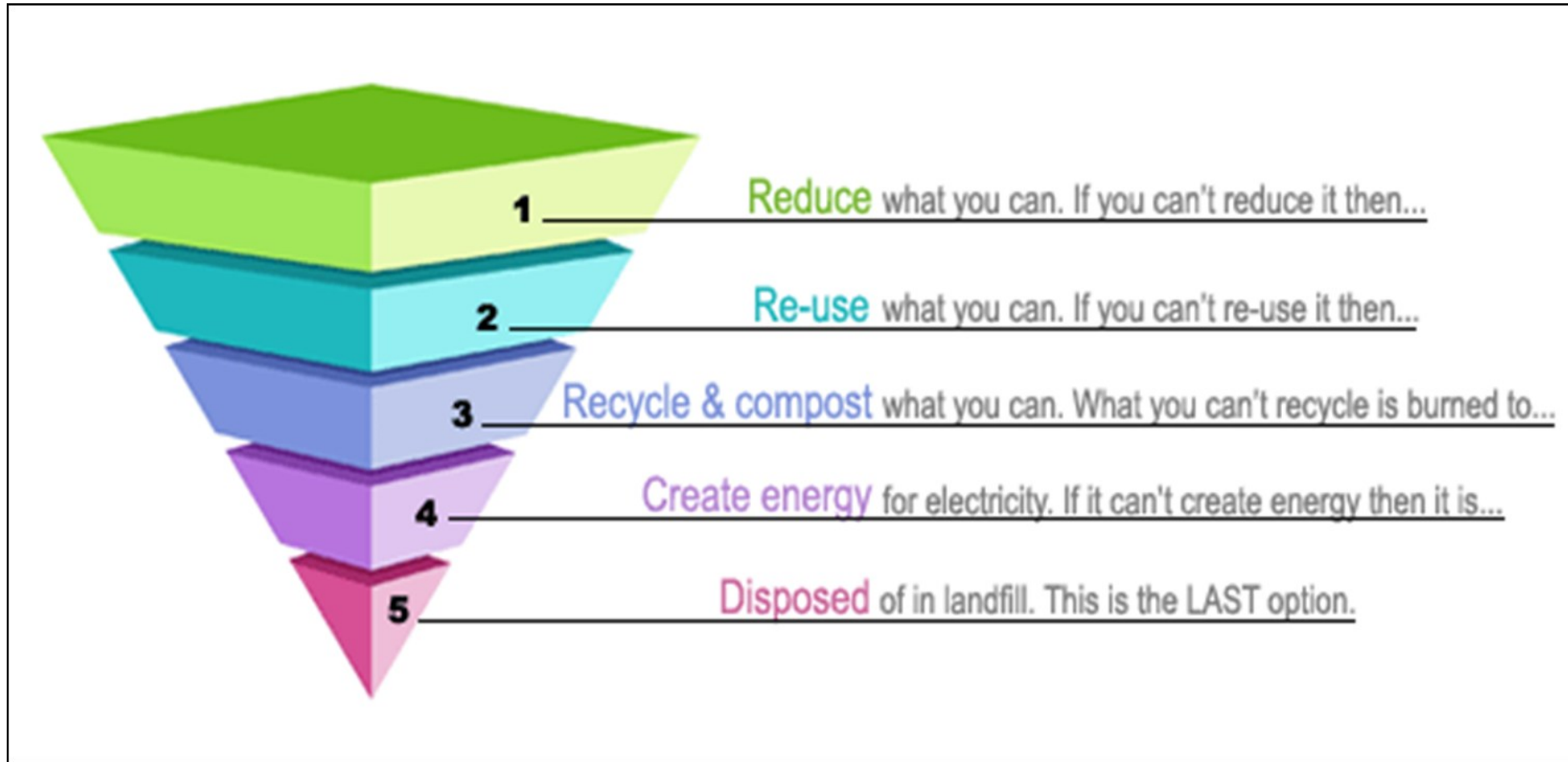
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# GENERAL APPROACH

## *Based on the Waste Management Hierarchy*



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# NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY KEY PILLARS (NWMS 2020)

## 1. Waste Minimisation:

Prevent waste, and where waste cannot be prevented, divert 45% of waste from landfill within 5 years through reuse, recycling, recovery and alternative waste treatment; 55% within 10 years; and at least 70% within 15 years leading to Zero-Waste going to landfill.

## 2. Effective and Sustainable Waste Services:

All South Africans live in clean communities with waste services that are well managed and financially sustainable

## 3. Compliance, Enforcement and Awareness:

Mainstreaming of waste awareness and a culture of compliance with zero tolerance of pollution, litter and illegal dumping



# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- **National Government**

- Responsible for matters pertaining to Hazardous waste, coordinating the implementation of the Waste Act and development of national regulations and policies
- Co-ordinating the development and implementation of the National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS)
- Support Provinces and Local Government

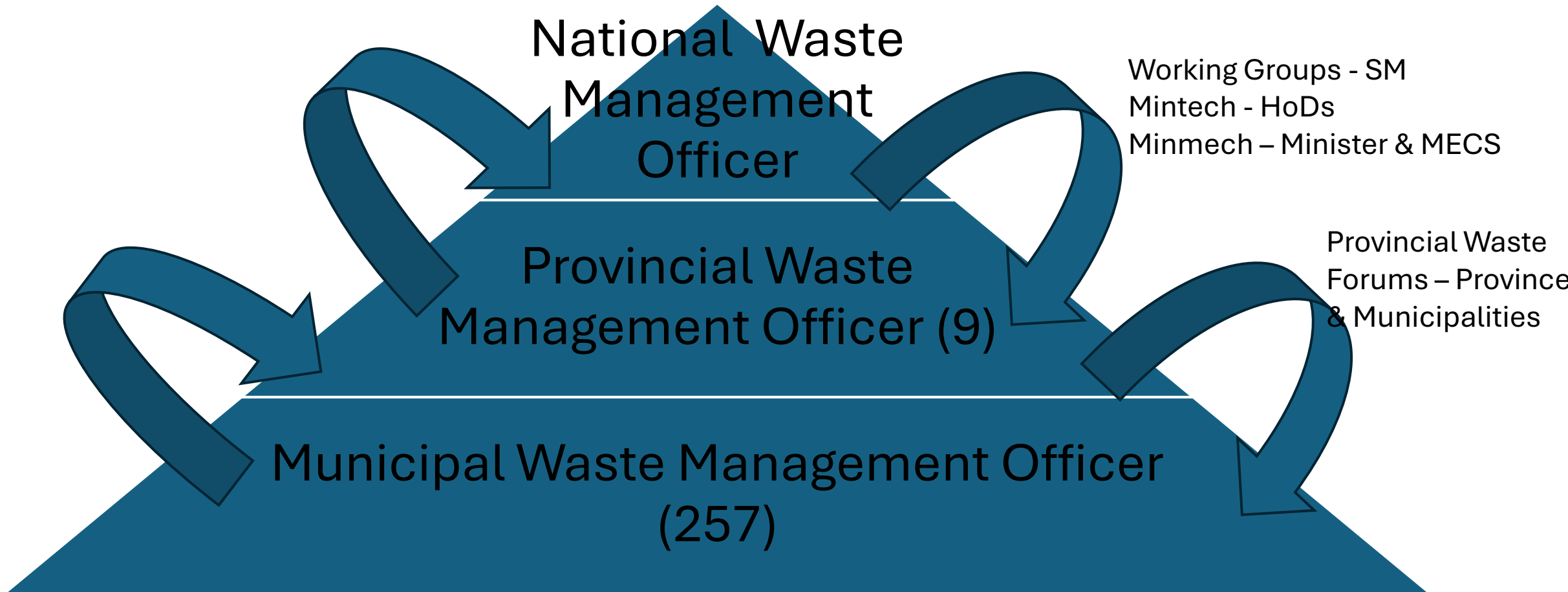
- **Provincial Government**

- Regulatory authority on general waste matters
- Coordinating the implementation of the waste act in provinces
- Support district and local government

- **Local Government**

- Exclusive authority to collect and dispose waste
- Implementation of the Waste Act, Policies, Regulations etc

# GOVERNANCE MODEL



# SOURCES OF FUNDING

Source Type	Source description	Institution
Government grants	Municipalities may apply to national/ provincial government for grants for infrastructure development e.g. Municipal Infrastructure Grant which funds infrastructure for basic services targeting the poor	National/ Provincial Departments
Contributions from revenue	Funding acquired from rates and taxes. Considered cheaper than external/ internal loans. Can be used to pay for smaller capital items such as furniture and equipment	Municipality
Donations and public contributions	Donations may be from local/ foreign donors for specific need e.g. disadvantaged communities	Individuals, Banks

# SOURCES OF FUNDING

Source Type	Source description	Institution
Equitable share	Funding that municipalities receive on a yearly basis from government. The amount a municipality gets depends mainly on the number of low-income people in the area- rural municipalities usually gets more	National Treasury
Service charges/ Tarrifs	Charges applicable for services rendered e.g. waste collection to households/ businesses	Municipality
Property rates	Property owners (e.g. business, residents) are charged “Property rates” which is a yearly tax based on the value of the property	Municipality
Fines	Penalties charges payable for not obeying the law e.g. Traffic fines. These may also generate additional income for municipalities. NB! Should come with motivating users to obey the law.	Municipality



# SOURCES OF FUNDING

Source Type	Source description	Institution
Public Private Partnerships (PPP)	Capital costs may be paid for by partnerships between private sector and the municipality	Private Sector/ Municipality
Internal loans	Funding acquired from “internal savings” such as Capital Development Funds or Consolidated Loan Fund. Can be used for the purchase of capital/ development items	Municipality
External loans	Loans (from a bank or financial institution) should only be used to finance the purchase of major capital items such as roads, sewerage works, buildings.	Bank

# Comparing Alternative Service Delivery Options

Procurement Alternatives

Option	Asset Ownership	Operations and Maintenance	Capital Investment	Commercial Risk	Duration
Service Contract	Public	Public and Private	Public	Public	1-2 Years
Management Contract	Public	Private	Public	Public	3.5 Years
Lease	Public	Private	Public	Shared	8-15 Years
Concession	Public	Private	Private	Private	25-30 Years
BOT/BOO	Private and Public	Private	Private	Private	20-30Years
Divestiture	Private or Private and Public	Private	Private	Private	Indefinite (may be limited by license)



## Opportunities and financing

- **Municipal Infrastructure Grant** which was only for immovable assets was amended in 2021 to allow for the purchase of waste vehicles
  - Improve waste collection
  - Clear illegal dumping
  - Improve landfill site management
- **Introduced Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations in 2020**
  - Packaging waste,
  - Electronic waste,
  - Lighting,
  - Pesticides,
  - Portable batteries,
  - Lubricant
- **Process to review metro trading services** underway in partnership with world bank
  - Metropolitan municipalities are struggling to improve basic services
  - Incentive grant has been established for municipalities to restructure their waste divisions to be stand-alone entities to improve:
    - Accountability
    - Balance sheet



## Opportunities and financing

- Process to review funding of local government underway:
  - Funding for local government is currently 90% from rates and 10% from national government
  - Due to economy in South Africa struggling, the communities are unable to pay for services
  - The review intends to find ways to finance local government efficiently as they are responsible for majority of implementation
- Undertaking feasibility studies to pilot alternative treatment technologies for organic waste and plastics through partnership with GCF and end to plastic alliance
  - 6 Municipalities have been selected to undertake a full feasibility study for introducing treatment technologies for organic waste
  - Scale up the implementation of the technologies to the rest of municipalities and reduce green house gas emissions
  - Raise revenue from sale of products produced e.g. biogas, compost etc
- Waste Bureau entity of National Government from plastics levy
  - Levy collected from sale of plastic to be used to assist municipalities



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