

WASTE & ITS CLIMATE CONTEXT: INVESTING IN PREVENTION, REDUCTION & CIRCULARITY

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*Sixth global dialogue and investment-focused event under
the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and
implementation work programme*

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5-6 September 2025



The Climate & Clean Air Coalition

UNEP-convened since 2012

Global, voluntary partnership of committed countries & organisations

Dedicated to addressing short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs)

The CCAC Secretariat provides secretariat services to the Global Methane Pledge



97

State
partners

131

Non-State
partners



Meet the Super Pollutants

Ugly, annoying, destructive. Super pollutants are running wild everywhere you look but can't see. Warming the planet and wreaking havoc on our health in the process, they're responsible for 45% of global warming to date.

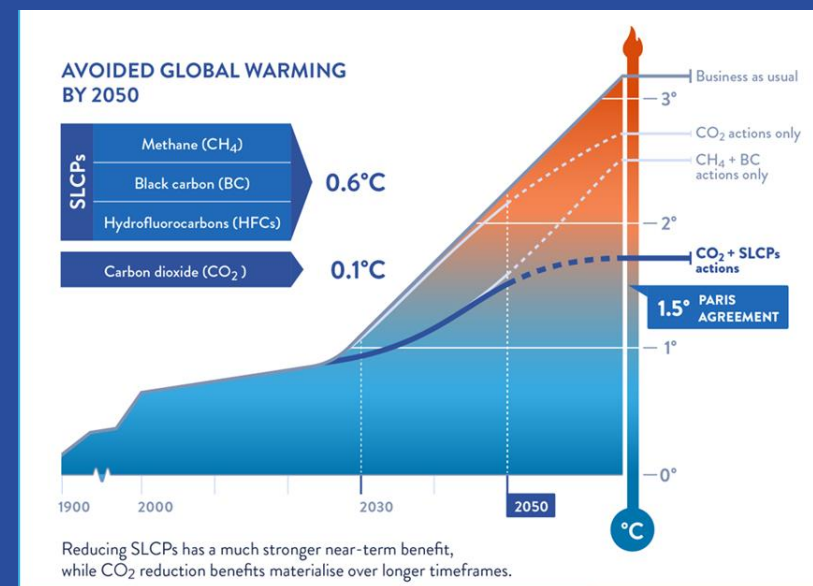
With your help, we can curb them.



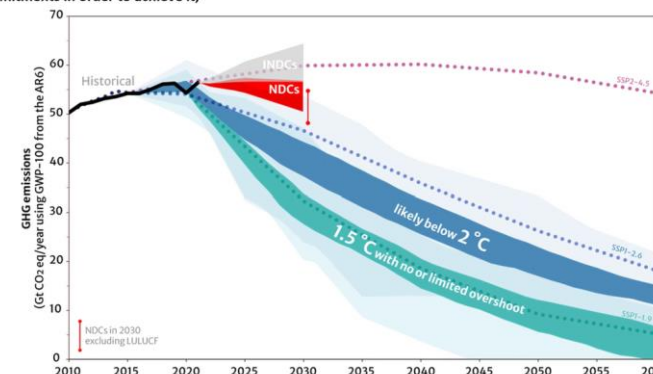
#WorldCleanAirDay
7 September 2024

Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs)

- Consist of Methane (CH₄), black carbon (BC), HFCs, tropospheric ozone and Nitrous Oxide (N₂O)
- Powerful climate forcers responsible for half of global temperature rise
- Air pollutants that are harmful to people, ecosystems and agricultural productivity
- Present in the atmosphere for a few days up to a decade
- Increasingly important target given slow progress on decarbonization & increasing concerns over health and air quality



Notes with significant concern that, despite progress, GHG emissions trajectories are not yet in line with the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement, and that there is a rapidly narrowing window for raising ambition and implementing existing commitments in order to achieve it;



Notes with concern the findings of the IPCC AR6 that policies implemented by the end of 2020 are projected to result in higher global greenhouse gas emissions than those implied by the nationally determined contributions, indicating an implementation gap, and resolves to take action to urgently address this gap;

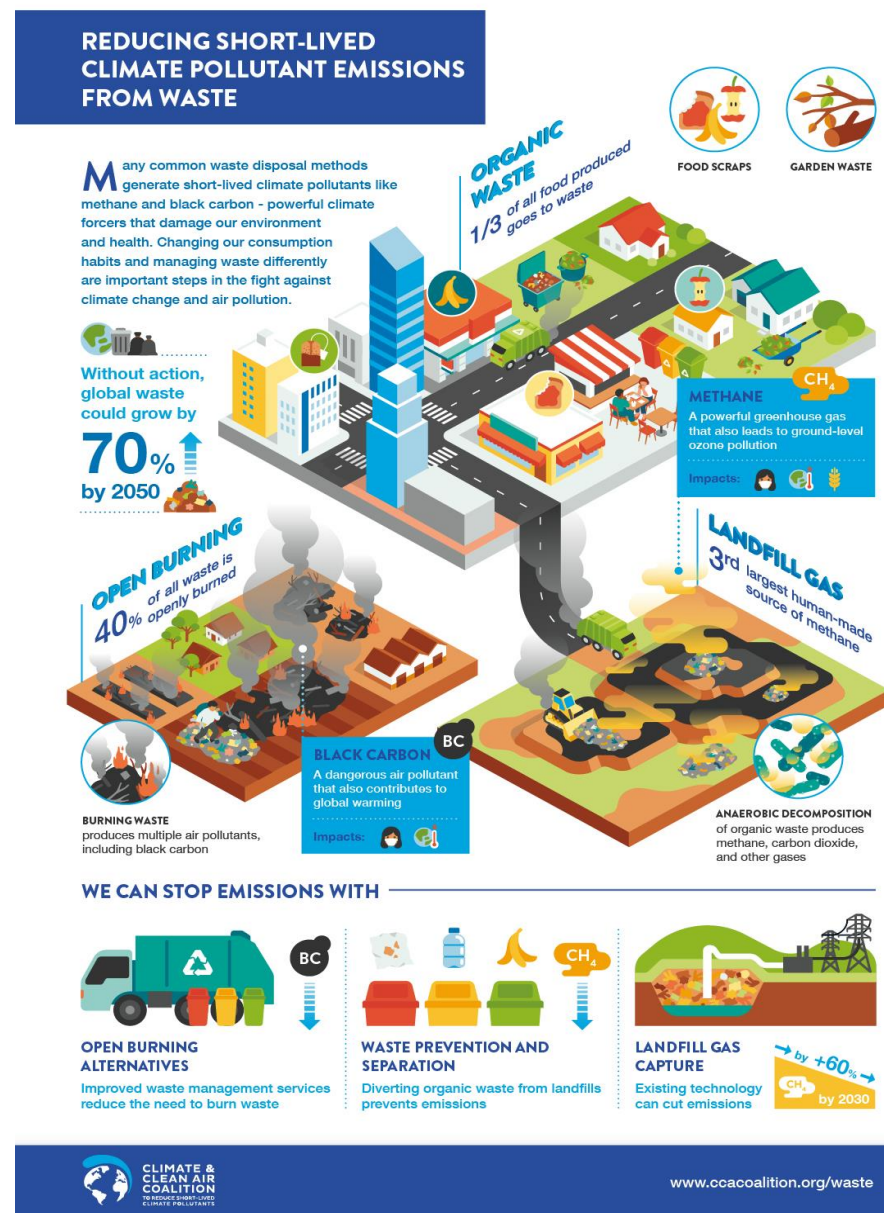
Waste and its Climate Impacts

Waste accounts for **20%** of anthropogenic methane emissions

1.5°C-consistent global reductions of **30-35%** below 2020 levels by 2030 and nearly **55%** by 2050

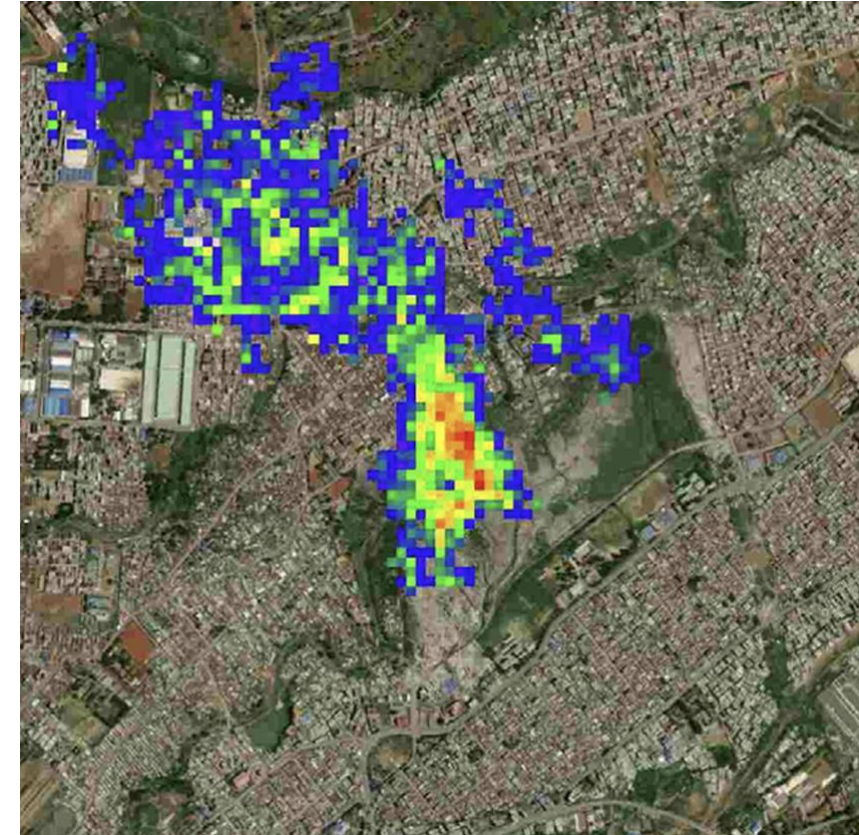
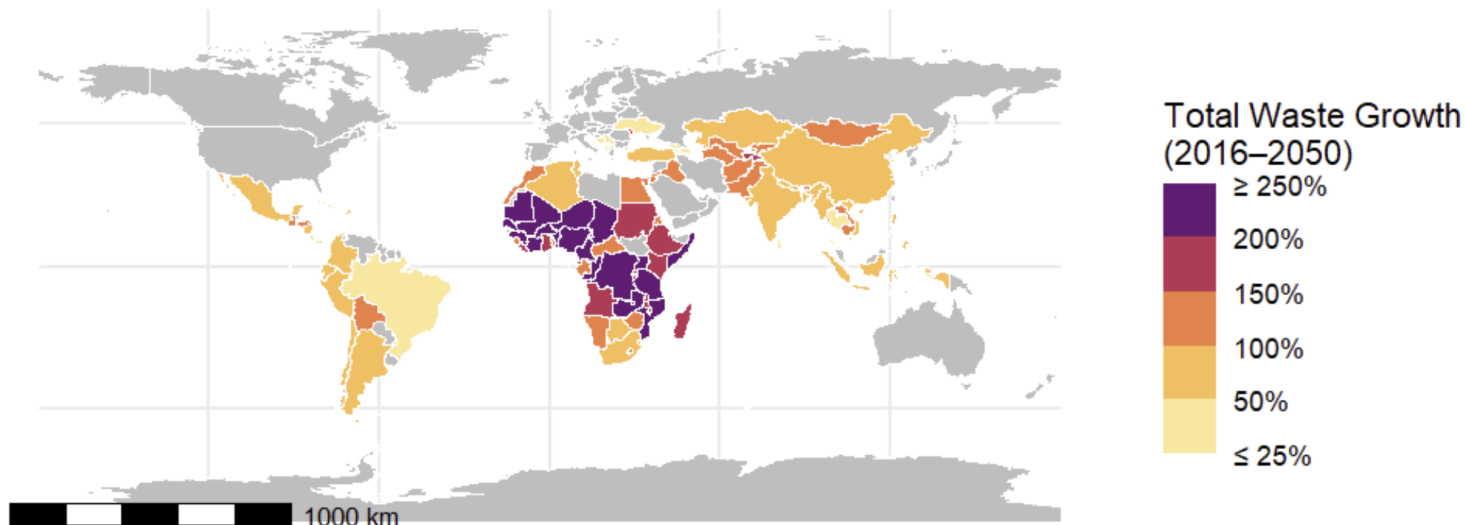
But, if current trends continue, the amount of waste will increase by over 70% to 3.88 billion tons per year by 2050 growing at 2.4%/year

Emissions from waste will consequently double by 2050 compared to 2016.



PROJECTED GROWTH IN WASTE GENERATION BETWEEN 2016 AND 2050 (SOURCE: AFD)

- In low-income countries, waste production is expected to triple by 2050
- This primarily will be organic waste (short to medium term)
- Collection rates will likely increase as this is a national goal for many
- A continued reliance on large, deep unmanaged landfills



WASTE AND MITIGATION HIERARCHY

Taking actions to reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants



AVOID, DIVERT, VALORISE and INVEST in INFRASTRUCTURE

How Waste Actions Can Lead Global Climate Goals

- 90% of methane emissions from waste could be avoided by 2050 using existing technologies
- More than one strategy is critical to keep below 2 degrees
- Halving waste/diversion & treatment of organics/retrofitting landfills
- Next decade is critical to achieve CH₄ reductions in line with the GMP
- Multi-stakeholder approach needed: regulation/economic incentives/social mobilisation

Hoy et.al (2023)

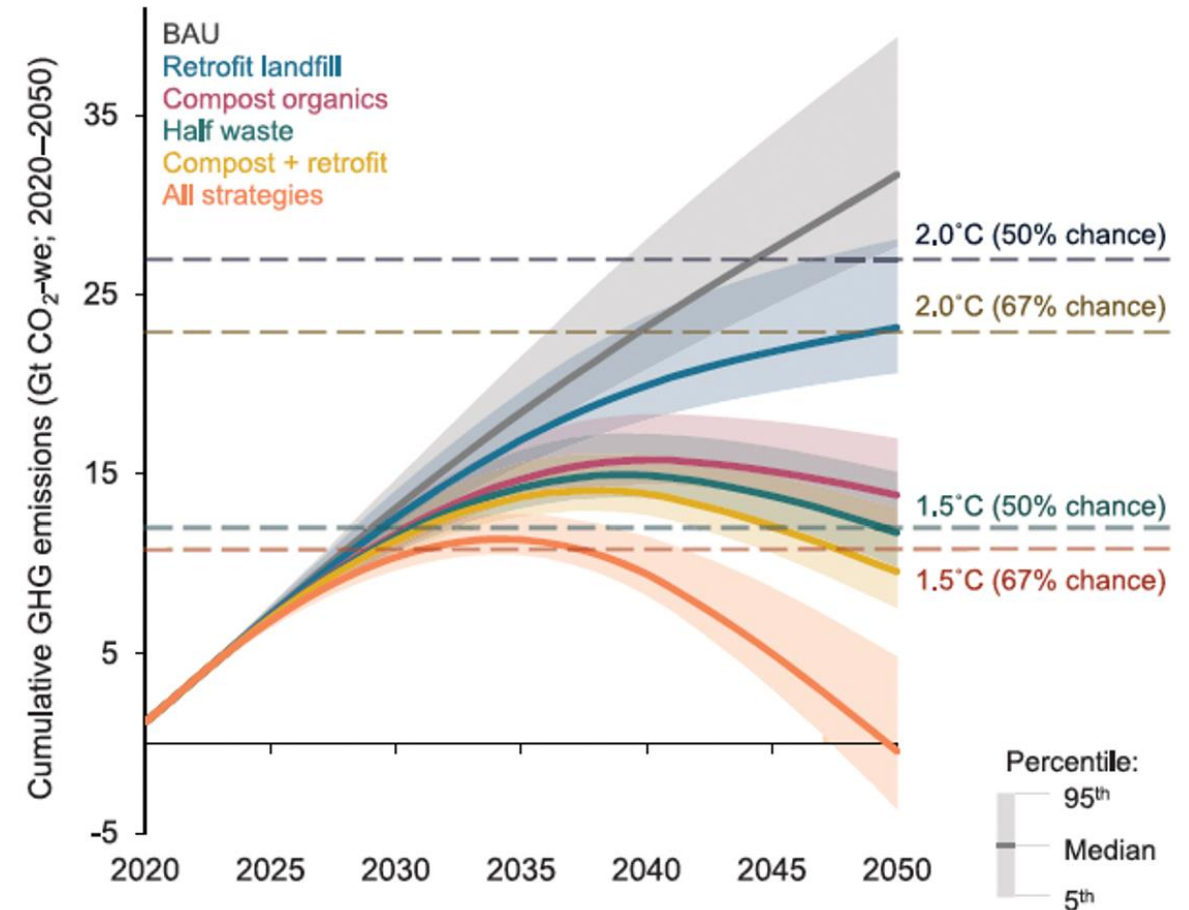


Figure 3. Impacts of waste sector methane solutions on cumulative emissions compared to 1.5°C and 2°C emissions budgets (2020-2050). Source: Hoy et al. 2023.

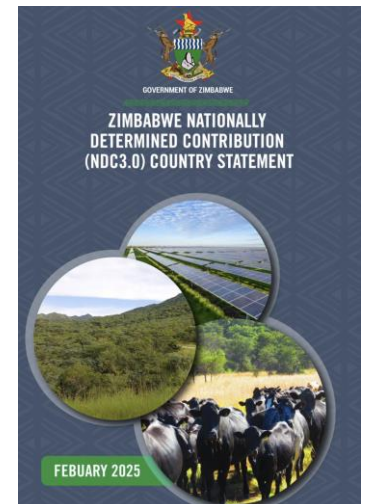
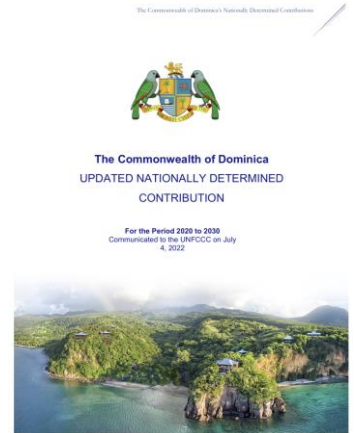


COP29 DECLARATION ON REDUCING METHANE FROM ORGANIC WASTE

- At COP29, held in 2024, over 30 countries signed the COP29 Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste. **Today there are 65 signatories.**
- The Declaration calls on signatories — who represent nearly half of global methane emissions from organic waste — to set national targets, implement policies, and invest in technologies to curb these emissions
 - 1.5°C-consistent waste sector components informing the design of future NDCs
 - National and sub-national policies and actions
 - Stepping up finance
 - Data for action and transparency
 - Innovative partnerships
- Deliver in partnership with sub-national/municipal authorities (LOW-Methane)

Cutting Methane in the Waste Sector – Emergence in NDCs

- 122 countries (63 per cent) include policies/measures targeting major methane sources in their latest NDCs, a 30% increase compared with pre-2020 NDCs (90 countries).
- Of these, 100 countries (51 per cent) include measures addressing methane from waste
- **Venezuela:** National Sanitation Plan for 35 Landfills & control and capture and use of Methane (CH₄) generated. Actions will capture 17,134 Ton / year of CO₂ (eq).
- **Cameroon:** Strengthening waste management policies (by 2035, all major cities should have landfills with at least 70% methane capture). (UNFCCC, 2021)
- **Mexico:** Emission reductions for the waste sector by 28% in 2030. Actions are established in the “General Law of Climate Change” (LGCC). (Gobierno de México, 2024)
- **Nepal:** By 2025, 380 million litres/day of wastewater will be treated before being discharged, and 60,000 cubic meters/year of faecal sludge will be managed. Will reduce around 258 Gg CO₂ eq. (Government of Nepal, 2020)



THANK YOU & KEEP IN TOUCH!

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Resources and more information:
<https://www.ccacoalition.org>

