Proceedings of the sixth global dialogue and investmentfocused event under the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme

- 1. The sixth global dialogue and investment-focused event under the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme¹ took place in Addis Ababa from 5 to 6 September 2025, in hybrid format, with 164 registered in-person participants and 156 registered virtual participants.
- 2. Considering the submissions received, the co-chairs communicated in a message to Parties, observers and other non-Party stakeholders² their chosen focus area for the dialogues taking place under the work programme in 2025–2026, and that the sixth global dialogue would focus on enabling mitigation solutions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches.
- 3. During the dialogue participants discussed two key areas within this focus area:
- (a) First area of discussion: best practices and solutions to address challenges and barriers to mitigation action in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches;
- (b) Second area of discussion: approaches to enable means of implementation for actions and solutions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches.
- 4. The first area of discussion addressed two themes:
 - (a) Waste management, reduction and prevention;
 - (b) Circular economy.
- 5. The second area of discussion addressed two themes:
 - (a) Finance, capacity and technology;
 - (b) Policy and governance.
- 6. The sixth global dialogue can be revisited via the webcast links on the event web page.³
- 7. The dialogue was followed by an investment-focused event, which was organized by the secretariat under the guidance of the co-chairs of the work programme and held on 6 September in hybrid format. The investment-focused event, which included a scene-setting presentation, regional case studies and a pitch hub, can be revisited via the webcast links on the event web page.⁴
- 8. Welcome remarks were provided by Julia Gardiner, Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, and were followed by an introduction to the sixth global dialogue and investment-focused event by the co-chairs of the work programme.
- 9. The opening session was followed by a scene-setting session, consisting of presentations and panel discussions on the two areas of discussion. The scene-setting presentations on the first area of discussion were delivered by Donovan Storey from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition secretariat and Miranda Schnitger, Climate Lead at the Ellen

¹ Organized in accordance with decision <u>4/CMA.4</u>, paras. 8 and 11.

² Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/645941.

https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/workstreams/sharm-el-sheikh-mitigation-ambition-and-implementation-work-programme-mwp/sixth-global-dialogue-and-investment-focused-event-under-the-sharm-el-sheikh-mitigation-ambition-and.

⁴ As footnote 3 above.

MacArthur Foundation. Their presentations underscored the role of the waste sector in the climate context and the contributions circular economy approaches can generate.

- 10. The scene-setting presentations were followed by a panel discussion on the first area of discussion, which was moderated by Miranda Schnitger. Panellists included Neil Tangri, Senior Director of Science and Policy at the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives; Mattias Philipsson, Chief Executive Officer of Swedish Plastic Recycling and chair of the Swedish delegation for circular economy (virtual); Jacob Rognhaug, Vice-President Public Affairs and Head of Global Engagement, TOMRA (virtual); Nawaf Essam Bilasi, President of the Conference of the Parties at the eighteenth session of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, Chief Executive Officer Advisor and Multilateral Environmental Agreements main negotiator, National Center for Waste Management, Saudi Arabia (virtual); and Jingxian Tao Polly, Environmental, social, and governance Director, Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Limited.
- 11. The scene-setting presentations on the second area of discussion were delivered by Catalina Marulanda, Manager, Urban, Resilience and Land Practice, East Africa, at the World Bank (virtual), who presented on means of implementation for actions and solutions in the waste management sector, and Alphayo Lutta, Research Fellow of the Stockholm Environment Institute, who presented on waste and its climate context, including investing in prevention, reduction and circularity.
- 12. The scene-setting presentations were followed by a panel discussion on the second area of discussion, which was moderated by Meredith Ryder-Rude, Associate Vice-President of Global Engagement and Partnership for the Environmental Defense Fund. The panel included Satyendra Kumar, Director, Green Transition, Climate and Environment Division of the National Institution for Transforming India, Government of India; Davinah Milenge Uwella, Chief Programme Coordinator of the African Development Bank; Jinjia Ma, Director of the International Cooperation Department of the China Association of Circular Economy (virtual); Mohamed A. Sultan, Africa Lead at the Global Methane Hub; and Urszula Kasperek, Head of National Engagement for Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships C40 Cities and Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy joint programme.
- 13. Following the scene-setting presentations and panel discussions on both areas of discussion, two rounds of breakout group discussions were held on two themes under the first area of discussion. These sessions built upon the themes and issues highlighted during the scene-setting presentations and panel discussion on the first area of discussion and provided participants with the opportunity to share best practices and solutions with a view to exploring key aspects for mitigation action in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches.
- 14. The breakout sessions were organized in two consecutive rounds, with two groups convening in parallel during each round, allowing participants to select the group they wished to join. Each breakout session concentrated on a distinct thematic area drawn from the preceding scene-setting presentations and panel discussions.
- 15. The breakout group sessions were facilitated by the co-chairs of the work programme, with each co-chair facilitating the discussion on both themes in one of the breakout rooms.
- 16. For the breakout session on waste management, reduction and prevention, Jacob Steen, Chief Executive Officer of Brukspecialisten, provided an icebreaker intervention. The guiding questions were:
- (a) What are the best practices and actionable solutions in your country or region to reduce GHG emissions from waste, including through integrated and effective waste management systems for solid waste, organic waste, food loss, wood and agricultural residues, and wastewater?

- (b) What are the challenges and barriers in your country or region in implementing GHG emission reductions from waste management and waste management systems?
- (c) For the breakout session on circular economy approaches, Simon Mayson, Manager of Sustainable Energy at ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Africa, provided the icebreaker intervention. The guiding question were:
- (d) What are the best practices and actionable solutions in your country or region for national policy and multilevel governance approaches to enable more effective mitigation action in the waste sector and a stronger circular economy, including through successful examples of the engagement of regional and local governance actors and other stakeholders?
- (e) What are the challenges and barriers in your country or region to developing and implementing coherent and effective policy and governance frameworks for the waste sector and circular economy approaches?
- 17. The co-chairs of the work programme opened the second day with a report back on the previous day's discussions in the breakout sessions under the first area of discussion and gave participants the opportunity to provide additional input.
- 18. Following the report back, the breakout sessions on the second area of discussion took place. Two rounds of breakout group discussions were held on two themes under the second area of discussion. These sessions built upon the themes and issues highlighted in the first day's scene-setting presentations and panel discussions on approaches to enabling means of implementation for actions and solutions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches, providing participants with an opportunity to contribute to the discussion on that area.
- 19. The breakout sessions were organized in two consecutive rounds, with two groups convening in parallel during each round, allowing participants to select the group they wished to join. Each breakout session concentrated on a distinct thematic area drawn from the preceding scene-setting presentations and panel discussions.
- 20. The breakout group sessions on the second day were also facilitated by the co-chairs of the work programme, with each co-chair facilitating the discussion on both themes in one of the breakout rooms.
- 21. For the breakout session on finance, capacity and technology, Max Russer, Climate Finance Associate, NDC Partnership, provided the icebreaker intervention. The guiding question were:
- (a) What are the best practices and actionable solutions in your country or region for financing models or approaches, technologies and capacities that have effectively supported the implementation of emission reductions in the waste sector and circular economy initiatives including mechanisms such as public finance, blended finance and efforts to incentivize markets for circular economy and what specific approaches and strategies have proven successful in scaling up private sector investment in these areas? From your experience, what role have data, technology or capacity-building efforts played and what role can they play in unlocking mitigation action in the waste sector and for circular economy approaches?
- (b) What are the challenges and barriers in your country or region in mobilizing and scaling public and private finance, technology deployment or capacity-building activities for waste sector implementation and circular economy approaches?
- 22. For the breakout session on policy and governance, Amira Halabi, Climate Justice and Africa Liaison Consultant at Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing, provided the icebreaker intervention. The guiding question were:
- (a) What are the best practices and actionable solutions in your country or region for national policy and multilevel governance approaches to enable more effective mitigation action in the waste sector and a stronger circular economy, including through successful examples of the engagement of regional and local governance actors and other stakeholders?

- (b) What are the challenges and barriers in your country or region to developing and implementing coherent and effective policy and governance frameworks for the waste sector and circular economy approaches?
- 23. At the conclusion of the breakout sessions on the second day, the co-chairs of the work programme reported back on the discussions that took place in the breakout groups under the second area of discussion and gave participants the opportunity to provide additional input. Following this closing session, the co-chairs opened the investment-focused event.
- 24. The investment-focused event featured a scene-setting presentation by Euan Low of the Green Climate Fund secretariat, who provided institutional perspectives on mobilizing the circular economy. This was followed by a pitch hub session and regional case studies session.
- 25. The pitch hub session was held to provide an opportunity for interested Parties to share their project ideas and interact with investors, financial institutions and policymakers with a view to receiving expert advice and insights on investment project preparation. Interested Parties were requested to submit a project proposal, using a template which can be found on the event web page,⁵ to be presented at the pitch hub. Project proponents made pitches to investors and policymakers on their project proposals under various thematic areas, including waste sector and circular approaches. The pitch hub took place in a breakout session format. A total of five projects were presented in two breakout rooms. Each breakout room accommodated an advisory panel of experts, who provided guidance and advice on the project proposals presented. A webcast of each breakout room is available on the event page.⁶

Sixth investment-focused event – pitch hub: projects pitched and advisory panel members

Meeting room	Party, and project name	Advisory panel members
MR01	Dominican Republic: methane reduction in schools: an educational approach to climate	 Gareth Phillips, Manager, Climate and Environment Finance, African Development Bank
	 Armenia: nature-powered Armenia: circular climate solutions for emission reduction and rural resilience 	 Mohamed A. Sultan, Africa Lead, The Global Methane Hub Rosa-Stella Mbulu, Lead for Strategic Partnerships, Mitigation Action Facility
	Brazil: National Productive Forests Program	 Max Russer, Climate Finance Associate, NDC Partnership
MR02	Türkiye: strengthening institutional and technical capacity in Türkiye's AFOLU sector for NDC implementation and the 2053 net zero target	 lead, Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility, United Nations Capital Development Fund Euan Low, Regional Lead – Eastern and Southern Africa, Green Climate Fund Bradley Todd Hiller, Lead Climate Change Specialist, Islamic Development Bank
	 Russian Federation: technology for obtaining and applying a soil improver based on biochar, which has the effect of sequestration of GHGs 	

^a Liberia was unable to present owing to a scheduling conflict but submitted its project presentation.

⁵ As footnote 3 above.

⁶ As footnote 3 above.

- 26. The regional case studies session showcased practical examples of mitigation actions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches. The regional case studies offered diverse regional perspectives. The presentations illustrated innovative investment approaches, enabling policy frameworks and key lessons learned in advancing mitigation action in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches. The following presenters presented the regional case studies from their regions:
- (a) Lelise Neme, Director General, Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority, Ethiopia;
 - (b) Pär Larshans, Chief Sustainability Officer, Ragn-Sells Group;
- (c) Jiro Hiratsuka, Director, Office of Climate Change Negotiation and Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment, Japan;
- (d) Andrea De Nigris Melgar, Manager, National Directorate of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment, Uruguay.