



# From Harmful to Impactful Climate Finance in the Waste Sector

Learn from GAIA experts from around the globe how zero waste systems, policies, and practices could cut total methane emissions from the waste sector by 84% while ensuring a just transition for impacted communities. For more information visit

[www.no-burn.org/GAIACOP29](http://www.no-burn.org/GAIACOP29).



**SCAN ME**



11:30–13:00 | Official Side Event Room #9

## **GAIA MAIN EVENT: Climate Finance for Fast Action on Methane Reduction and Just Transition in the Waste Sector**

In order to support countries delivering methane actions to achieve the Paris Agreement and the Global Methane Pledge, we need not only more climate funds, but also better delivery of climate finance. In this event, GAIA and Climate Policy Initiative will share findings from a new report that aim to identify opportunities and challenges in delivering a just and equitable climate finance for delivering fast action on methane reduction in the waste sector. This event will inform governments and encourage decision-makers at COP29 to deliver more resources fast and effectively to abate methane from the waste sector in a justice-centred manner. We will also learn from case studies from Brazil and Indonesia, perspectives from Chilean waste pickers and a city official representing from the Zero Waste Cities Network Philippines on climate finance for the waste sector.

[LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE at https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents](https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents)

# **GAIA@COP29**

**no-burn.org**



**14:00–15:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion**

**Economic Strategies for Reducing Landfill Methane Emissions**

As methane emissions from landfills continue to pose a significant threat to our climate, implementing effective financial and regulatory measures is crucial. This event will explore economic strategies for diverting organic waste from landfills to compost and biogas. Experts will discuss various financial mechanisms, including the potential inclusion of landfills in the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), to ensure that methane generation is appropriately penalised.

**18:30–19:30 | Brazil Pavilion**

**Financing and just transition in the solid waste sector: Overview, bottlenecks and perspectives for expanding and strengthening the work of waste pickers and cities in methane mitigation**

The solid waste sector is responsible for 16% of methane emissions in Brazil, with landfilling of organic waste as the main source. The country, a signatory to the Global Methane Pledge, aims to reduce these emissions by 30% by 2030. Implementing solutions such as composting and biodigestion, with the participation of waste pickers and local governments, is crucial for mitigation and the generation of decent jobs. The panel will discuss the current situation, bottlenecks and opportunities for financing in the country, highlighting priorities to make the just transition effective by COP30.



## 11:00-12:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion

### **Zero Waste Best Practices: Waste Methane Reduction across the World**

With UN recognition of the importance of sustainable waste management, there is a critical need for political and financial support to scale successful community-led zero waste initiatives, ensuring environmental justice and delivering essential co-benefits. This event will highlight examples from Philippines, Tanzania, and Ghana that show the vital role of zero waste strategies in reducing methane emissions for a just transition. Learn how waste prevention, source separation of organic materials, and other innovative methods can significantly cut waste methane emissions and contribute to the Global Methane Pledge and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

## 13:00 - 14:00 | Action on Food Hub Pavilion

### **Investing in Tomorrow: Youth-Driven Innovations to Reduce Food Loss and Waste**

GAIA is participating in this event.



**13:00 - 14:00 | Nigeria Pavilion**

**Advancing Methane Reduction through Zero Waste: Strategic Recommendations for Nigeria's NDC 3.0**

This session will explore the critical role of zero waste in methane reduction, with insights from leading experts on successful initiatives and transformative zero waste projects across Africa, including a World Bank-funded zero waste investment in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The event will present diverse insights, with speakers sharing African success stories and a European perspective on energy from waste. A representative from Nigeria's official delegation will deliver an opening remark on Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and methane reduction goals.

**16:45-18:15 | Official Side Event Room 9**

**Unlocking the potential for financing methane mitigation from solid waste for the NDCs and beyond**

Methane is responsible for a third of global warming. Yet, funds for abating methane are small relative to those for CO<sub>2</sub>. Waste is the third largest source of anthropogenic methane and growing rapidly. The panel will explore solutions for unlocking finance for methane abatement from the waste sector

[LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE at https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents](https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents)



## 10:00-11:00 | Bangladesh Pavilion

### **Community-led best practices for fast action on waste methane reduction and a just transition: recommendation for NDCs update**

This event will present best practices for fast action on methane reduction through an environmental justice lens. Key experts will share about best practices on organic waste management from Bangladesh, India, Ghana, and the United States. These models will also provide insights on integrating zero waste solutions with agroecology and local food production. We will also provide insights and tools for updating NDCs for a just transition in the waste sector. There will be several publication and initiative launches made in this event, such as GAIA's NDCs Checklist, ESDO's Policy Brief on Bangladesh NDCs for the waste sector, and The Cities Methane Pledge.

## 14:00-15:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion

### **Climate Finance for Fast Action on Methane Reduction and Environmental Justice**

In this event, GAIA and Climate Policy Initiative will share findings from a new report on justice-centered climate finance for methane abatement in the waste sector. This report contains two case studies from Brazil and Indonesia which allow us to define ways in delivering a just and equitable climate finance for waste methane reduction projects. A representative from ANARCH will launch a new CCAC-funded pilot project in Valparaíso where the local waste pickers cooperative in collaboration with the local authorities work together to deliver source-separated waste collection and organic waste treatment, offering valuable insights about the opportunities and challenges of financing such projects.



**11:30 - 13:00 | SFOC Asia Climate Solutions Pavilion**  
**Update on Indonesia Second NDC**

GAIA is participating in this event.



**13:00 – 13:30 | We Don't Have Time Studio, Media Center (Zone D)**

**Press Conference**

**WASTE NOT THE GLOBAL METHANE PLEDGE: Civil society calls for shift on climate financing and inclusion of environmental justice in NDC 3.0**

Join the Global Alliance for Incinerators for a press conference on how community-centered zero waste systems, policies, and practices contribute to fast action on methane reduction in the waste sector while ensuring just transition and integration of waste pickers and other impacted communities; and know why they need to be in this conversation.

**14:00-15:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion**

**Waste methane abatement through energy recovery: North-South discussions on energy access and efficiency of various technologies**

It is critical to align technology adoption with the waste hierarchy and local contexts, particularly for waste methane abatement projects in enhancing energy access for communities worldwide. In this side event, we will learn from small-decentralized biogas systems in Kerala to large-scale anaerobic digestion, that harness waste for energy recovery. We will also hear from the perspective of local civil society to the proposed waste-to-energy (WTE) incinerator in Lagos City. Zero Waste Europe will also share findings from a recent research by Equanimator about the inefficiencies of WTE incinerators in Europe.



**15:30 - 16:00 | We Don't Have Time Studio, Media Center (Zone D)**

**Interview with We Don't Have Time**

GAIA will be interviewed by We Don't Have Time on the Climate Finance for Fast Action on Methane Reduction and Just Transition in the Waste Sector report.



## 10:00–13:00 | Action on Food Hub Pavilion

### **Workshop: How to Meet the Global Methane Pledge in Food System**

GAIA is participating in this workshop.

## 13:15–14:45 | Official Side Event Room 1

### **The methane crisis: where are we now and what do we need to accelerate mitigation?**

This side event will explore financial mechanisms, policies, and corporate accountability frameworks to accelerate methane mitigation efforts globally and offering insights from both Global South and Global North perspectives.

[LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE at https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents](https://www.youtube.com/@UNClimateChangeEvents)

## 15:00 | Ghana Pavilion

### **Thriving Zero-Waste Models Amidst Widespread Waste-to-Energy Plans in Africa**

GAIA is participating in this event.



**16:00–17:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion**

**Accelerating Methane Reduction:  
Subnational Challenges and Solutions**

This event will highlight the challenges and opportunities that subnational governments face in reducing methane emissions. It aims to foster discussions on policy barriers, potential solutions, and collaborative pathways for methane mitigation focusing on waste, agriculture and energy sectors.



## 9:00-10:30 | Food and Agriculture Pavilion

### **Community-led best practices on food waste prevention, composting and agroecology in Asia**

This event will present best practices for fast action on methane reduction through an environmental justice lens. It offers a holistic perspective on zero waste and agroecology as sister solutions, including policy and financial recommendations for a just transition. Key experts will share: (1) food sharing model for food waste prevention in Surakarta (Indonesia); (2) zero waste and agroecology implementation in Kerala (India); and (3) zero waste communities and organic food production in Rangpur (Bangladesh).

[LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE at https://tinyurl.com/Food-Waste-Prevention](https://tinyurl.com/Food-Waste-Prevention)

## 9:00-10:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion

### **Transforming Waste: Driving Down Emissions through Government and Civil Society Initiatives**

Waste sector actions have historically been developed to address environmental health and public sanitation. With the global methane pledge, there is a huge push to address emissions from the solid waste sector. This event will consist of two panels to showcase the steps being taken by Government and Civil Society in driving forward change and driving emissions down.

## Ghana Pavilion

### **Fostering Collaborative effort between public and private sectors to advance sustainable practices in Agriculture and Food Security**

GAIA is participating in this event.



10:00 - 11:00 | German Pavilion

**Methane Matters: How to Implement the Climate Impact Brake**

GAIA Africa/Green Africa Youth Organization's Desmond Alugnoa will join a discussion on how to drastically reduce methane emissions from energy, waste, and agriculture hosted by Deutsche Umwelthilfe and the #MethaneMattersCoalition.

Watch here: <https://german-climate-pavilion.de/?nav=Program-Page&pgm=83>

07:00 New York / 14:00 Cape Town / 16:00 Baku / 20:00 Manila | Online

**Press Conference - COP29 PRESIDENCY DECLARATION ON REDUCING METHANE FROM ORGANIC WASTE: BOON OR BANE?**

Join the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives as civil society and frontline communities respond to the Declaration, share a set of environmental justice criteria to ensure waste methane reduction delivers truly transformative action, and call for a higher ambition on reducing waste methane.



## 11:00–12:30 | GMH Methane Action Hub Pavilion

### **Environmental Justice as a Key to Waste Action**

The implementation of the Global Methane Pledge needs to be founded in environmental justice principles, recognising human, political, economic, social and cultural rights, democratic decentralization and accountable governance. This event will look at how to advance this agenda in the waste and agriculture sectors. Integrating environmental justice principles into methane reduction activities will accelerate mitigation, build public support, and deliver co-benefits.

## NGO Pavilion in Green Zone

### **Info Session: Green Environment and Economy**

GAIA is participating in this event.

## 14:30–16:30 | Asia Climate Solutions Pavilion

### **Pathway for Methane Reduction in Asia: Leveraging Technology, and Economic Opportunities in the Agriculture and Waste Sectors**

This side event will discuss technologies that can significantly reduce methane emissions in agriculture and waste sectors, while unlocking economic opportunities such as job creation. It will also open up discussion for exploring opportunities for regional cooperation to scale up methane reduction efforts and create a sustainable, low-emission future, with a focus on the Asian context.



**16:45–18:15 | Official Side Event Room #3**

**People-Centered Transition to a Circular Economy:  
Creating the Enabling Factors**

The circular economy provides a systemic solution to the climate crisis, and a people-centered approach emphasizes the critical role of human behaviors, needs, and values in its success. Our event will feature 5-6 speakers from around the world, discussing enabling factors like policy, community engagement, and consumer behavior that accelerate the transition to a circular economy.

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