

Country profile – Kenya

NDC link/date of latest update: [link](#) (submitted on April 30, 2025)

Key pledge: No pledges or commitments made for the waste sector.

Total score:

3/30

1. Respect planetary boundaries to ensure intergenerational equity (1/16)	2. Respect for all waste pickers and waste workers (0/6)	3. Enhance inclusion and build from local knowledge (1/2)	4. Respond to pollution and environmental harm with accountability (0/2)	5. Support holistic solutions through systems change (1/4)
1-1. Does the NDC explicitly recognize the waste sector's GHG impact and set specific reduction targets?	2-1. Is the country planning to recognize and integrate waste pickers into the formal system?	3-1. Are there plans for meaningful consultation with local orgs, unions, integration of best grassroots practices?	4-1. Does it explicitly rule out waste-to-energy incineration, cement kiln burning, chemical recycling/pyrolysis?	5-1. Does this country recognize the co-benefits of waste sector climate action?
The NDC notes that the waste sector accounts for about 5% of national emissions and mentions the goal of sustainable waste infrastructure, but it does not include any sector-specific targets or detailed implementation plans.	No acknowledgement or integration plan for waste pickers in the NDC.	Commits to gender-responsive, inclusive climate planning processes, but without waste-sector-specific stakeholder engagement or mechanisms for participation.	Does not explicitly exclude incineration, cement co-processing, chemical recycling, or other false solutions.	No waste-sector relevant co-benefits identified.
1-2. Is the country following the ZW hierarchy? Based on detailed approaches mentioned in NDC	2-2. Does the country include waste pickers as one of the key stakeholders?			5-2. Does this country highlight the importance of addressing class, race, and gender-based injustices? Particularly in the waste sector?
Mentions waste management in general terms but provides no upstream prevention commitments, concrete measures for reuse, recycling, composting, etc.	No mention of waste pickers as stakeholders.			Highlights inclusion and gender equity in the national climate plan but not in the waste sector.
	2-3. Does the country provide financial resources to waste pickers? No mention of financial support.			

Analysis

What's good about Kenya's NDC?

Kenya's NDC acknowledges the waste sector's emissions contribution and incorporates high-level commitments to inclusive, gender-responsive climate planning. This sets a baseline for integrating broader social equity considerations into environmental policy.

What's not good?

The NDC contains no waste-sector-specific targets, upstream prevention measures, or plans for implementing the zero-waste hierarchy. Waste pickers are absent from all aspects of the plan, as there is no recognition, integration strategy, or financial support. The document does not rule out harmful waste-to-energy approaches, and there is no articulation of waste-sector co-benefits that could drive cross-sectoral action.

Summary

Kenya's NDC recognizes the waste sector only in passing and provides no concrete commitments for action. Without measurable targets, hierarchy-based measures, or inclusion of waste pickers, the plan risks leaving the sector's mitigation potential untapped. No notable change in waste-sector ambition compared to the previous NDC.