

**NAVIGATING CHANGE: ANALYSING THE LEGAL IMPACT AND
SUSTAINABILITY OF LAGOS STATE'S BAN ON SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.**

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Abstract

The increasing environmental crisis has prompted various governments worldwide to implement measures aimed at reducing plastic waste. In Nigeria, Lagos State, a bustling metropolis with a population exceeding 20 million, has taken significant steps by implementing a ban on single-use plastics. This article examines the legal implications and sustainability of Lagos State's ban on single-use plastics, a significant response to the escalating plastic pollution crisis. With Lagos being a densely populated urban centre, the ban aims to mitigate environmental degradation and promote responsible waste management. The article employs a doctrinal research methodology, conducting a systematic analysis of existing legal instruments, policy documents and implementation reports. The analysis highlights the legal framework underpinning the ban, including enforcement mechanisms and stakeholder engagement strategies. It also addresses challenges such as compliance issues, economic impacts on businesses, and cultural resistance to change. Furthermore, the article explores sustainability considerations, emphasising the need for affordable alternatives to single-use plastics, effective waste management systems, and a long-term commitment to environmental policies. Ultimately, this study concludes that while the ban is a critical step toward a sustainable future, it requires complementary measures, such as incentives for green alternatives and expanded recycling infrastructure. It also recommends the adoption of a phased implementation, the provision of transition support funds to SMEs, and the launching of public awareness campaigns to ensure long-term success.

Key Words: Single-use plastics, Environment, Sustainability, Lagos State, Plastic Waste

1. Introduction

Plastic pollution has emerged as a pressing global issue, contributing to environmental degradation, harming marine life, and impacting human

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health.⁴The detrimental effects of single-use plastics on ecosystems, wildlife, and human health have prompted various governments to take decisive action.⁵ In Nigeria, particularly in urban areas like Lagos, the impact is exacerbated by inadequate waste management systems and high population density.⁶ The city's extensive waterways and coastline are heavily affected by plastic debris, leading to severe consequences for marine life and public health.⁷ To combat this growing crisis, Lagos State took a significant step in 2021 by issuing a ban on single-use plastics.⁸ This legislation aims to regulate the use of plastics that are typically used once and discarded, such as plastic bags, straws, styrofoam, and cutlery.⁹ By prohibiting these items, the government seeks to reduce litter, improve waste management, and promote the adoption of more sustainable alternatives.¹⁰

The legal framework supporting this ban is multifaceted, involving regulations established by the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) and other governmental bodies.¹¹ It outlines not only the prohibited items but also the penalties for non-compliance, which can include fines and imprisonment.¹² These measures are designed to enforce the ban effectively and ensure that both businesses and consumers adhere to the new regulations. However, the

⁴ United Nations Environmental Programme, 'Plastic Pollution & Marine Litter'. UNEP <<https://www.unep.org/topics/ocean-seas-and-coasts/ecosystem-degradation-pollution/plastic-pollution-marine-litter#:~:text=Ecological%20Status%20and%20Trends&text=Plastic%20waste%2C%20ranging%20from%20microplastics,wreaks%20havoc%20on%20marine%20life>> accessed 7 February 2025.

⁵ G.G.N. Thushari, J.D.M. Senevirathna, 'Plastic pollution in the marine environment' *Heliyon* [2020] 6(8) <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2405844020315528>> accessed 7 February 2025.

⁶ S. O. Olaoti, 'Plastic Pollution in Lagos State, Nigeria: Challenges and Sustainable Solutions'. *Open Journals of Environmental Research (OJER)*, (2024) 5(2) 01 - 15 <<https://www.openjournalsnigeria.org.ng/journals/index.php/ojer/article/view/667/275>> accessed 7 February 2025.

⁷ Clement Oshiobugie Orbih, *Assessing The Drivers of Plastic Pollution on the Lagos Coastline: Strategies For Effective Policy Implementation and Mitigation* (Master of Science in Maritime Affairs Dissertations The World Maritime University 2023) <https://commons.wmu.se/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3280&context=all_dissertations> 7 February 2025.

⁸ Lindsey Parkinson, 'Immediate ban on foamware announced by Lagos State, Nigeria' *Food Packaging Forum*, (Switzerland, 7 February 2024) <<https://foodpackagingforum.org/news/immediate-ban-on-foamware-announced-by-lagos-state-nigeria>> accessed 7 February 2025.

⁹ Kehinde Allen-Taylor, 'Lagos bans single-use plastics- Why I think Nigeria should have taxed them instead' *The Conversation* (2024) <<https://theconversation.com/lagos-bans-single-use-plastics-why-i-think-nigeria-should-have-taxed-them-instead-223921#:~:text=Waste%20pollution%20is%20a%20huge,and%20other%20single%20use%20products>> accessed 7 February 2025.

¹⁰ Lindsey Parkinson, 'Immediate ban on foamware announced by Lagos State, Nigeria' *Food Packaging Forum*, (Switzerland, 7 February 2024) <<https://foodpackagingforum.org/news/immediate-ban-on-foamware-announced-by-lagos-state-nigeria>> accessed 7 February 2025

¹¹ Section 9, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency Law, 1996.

¹² Ibid

implementation of this ban is not without challenges. Issues such as enforcement capacity, economic ramifications for businesses dependent on single-use plastics, and cultural resistance to behavioural change are significant hurdles that must be addressed. Moreover, the sustainability of the ban relies heavily on the availability of viable alternatives and the establishment of efficient waste management practices.¹³ In light of these factors, this article will explore the legal impacts of the ban, analysing the framework that supports it and the challenges it faces. It examines the policy's rationale, operational mechanisms, stakeholder engagement strategies, and broader implications for environmental governance. Additionally, it will assess the sustainability of the initiative by examining the broader implications for the environment and society in Lagos State. Through this comprehensive analysis, the article aims to provide insights into the effectiveness of Lagos State's approach to tackling the plastic pollution crisis and its potential to serve as a model for other regions facing similar challenges.

This article is divided into five sections. The first section introduces the subject matter, giving a background to the challenges of single-use plastic in Lagos State. The second section discusses the legal framework supporting the ban, noting that it encompasses various statutes, regulations and initiatives designed to restrict the production, distribution, and consumption of single-use plastics, such as legislative authority, public awareness campaigns, stakeholder engagement, etc. The third section discusses the implementation challenges envisaged, including enforcement issues, economic implications of the ban and cultural resistance. The fourth section discusses sustainability considerations, which include the availability of affordable alternatives, effective waste management systems and long-term commitment through the integration of policies on renewable energy, urban planning, and public transportation. The fifth section concludes the article and provides recommendations focusing on collective action and innovative solutions towards a cleaner future.

2. Legal framework for single-use plastics in Lagos State

Currently, several environmental laws address environmental pollution and degradation in Lagos State.¹⁴

2.1 Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

The goal of this policy is to ensure that plastic waste generated in Lagos State is sustainably managed, thereby promoting a clean and healthy environment.¹⁵ The policy aims to achieve the following: recovery of plastic waste by 50per

¹³Binoy Debnath, A. B. M. Mainul Bari, Syed Mithun Ali, Tazim Ahmed, Irfan Ali, Golam Kabir, 'Modelling The Barriers To Sustainable Waste Management InThe Plastic-Manufacturing Industry: An Emerging Economy Perspective'. *Elsevier: Sustainability Analytics and Modeling* [2023] (3) 100017.
<<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667259623000036>> accessed 8 February 2025

¹⁴ Environmental Management and Protection Law, 2017. Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

¹⁵ Chapter 2, para 2.1, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

cent in 2035 and 70 per cent in 2050; to involve the informal sector in the state's plastic waste management approach; ensure that all plastic packaging in the market are recyclable or reusable; to develop legislative instruments, administrative and trade measures and systems that will sustainably support plastic waste management in Lagos State.¹⁶ The policy equally aims to reduce marine plastic pollution, boost economic growth and achieve sustainable plastic waste management in Lagos state that will protect public health and strive towards waste reduction by implementing policies and/or incentives to actively reduce the use of non-essential plastics.¹⁷ The policy is in line with goal 11, target 11.6.1 of the SDGs, which aims to reduce the adverse per-capita environmental impact of cities by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management by 2030.¹⁸

The Lagos State plastic waste management policy introduced the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) approach by introducing taxes, levies, and charges on all plastic products to effectively reduce plastic production and promote the production of environmentally friendly products.¹⁹ It lays down the different EPR models to be adopted by the state, such as the deposit-refund system and the collective EPR system.²⁰ The deposit refund scheme is a system where consumers return a specific item used and receive a reward in turn. It also encourages direct interaction between producers and waste generators or consumers on the mode of collection of waste.²¹ The collective EPR system is either organised directly by the stakeholders or with the involvement of the government by creating an EPR organisation that will be responsible for the obligations of the production and manufacturing companies but financed by the companies.²² It further proposes a ban on single-use plastics, i.e. non-essential and unrecyclable plastics, and an increase in waste collection and recovery through recycling hubs or centres.²³ More importantly, it provides for sustained awareness through mass media and social media to engender change in consumption patterns and enlighten the public on the deleterious effects of plastic litter.²⁴ The policy adopts the collective governance approach, which is described as private sector participation,²⁵ where roles and responsibilities are given to different stakeholders such as government, producers/ manufacturers, waste generators, and private sector waste collectors.²⁶ As rightly noted by Connick and Innes,²⁷ collective responsibility or collaborative governance is a

¹⁶Chapter 2, para 2.2, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

¹⁷Ibid

¹⁸Dany Ghafari, *Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Waste indicators* (UNEP 50: 1972-2022) <https://wesr.unep.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Waste_Methodologies.pdf> accessed 8 February 2025

¹⁹Chapter 2, para 2.2, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²⁰Chapter 5, para 5.0 – 5.0.1, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²¹Chapter 5, para 5.0 – 5.0.1, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020.

²²Chapter 5, para 5.0 – 5.0.1, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020.

²³Chapter 3, para 3. 2, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²⁴Chapter 3, para 3. 2, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²⁵Chapter 6, para 6. 0 Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²⁶Chapter 4, para 4.1, Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Policy 2020

²⁷Connick S, & Innes J, 'Outcomes Of Collaborative Water Policy Making: Applying Complexity Thinking To Evaluation' *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* [2003] (180) (46) 177–97.

type of governance approach that includes representatives of all relevant interests or a type of problem-solving that involves the shared pursuit of government agencies and concerned citizens.²⁸ According to Reily, this approach is an effective approach to achieving good governance.²⁹ The policy has experienced some challenges, such as poor implementation, weak buy-in from stakeholders and poor coordination between the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) and the Lagos Waste Management Agency (LAWMA).

Policy Pronouncements on The Ban on Single-Use- Use Plastic, 2024.

In 2024, by virtue of a policy pronouncement, the Lagos State Ministry of Environment and Water Resources (LASGMOE) announced the ban on the production, distribution, and utilisation of Styrofoam and other single-use plastics in the state.³⁰ The action was taken relying on several enabling laws and regulations, including the National Environmental (Sanitation and Waste Control) Regulation 2009, established under the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, which prohibited and specifically banned single-use plastic in the country but had not been enforced.³¹ The announcement stated that the compliance had an immediate effect.³² According to information from the state, distributors and sellers of polystyrene foam packaging were given three weeks to “mop [up] the products in circulation” before the state would begin enforcement.³³ The ban specifically targets EPS food containers, plastic cutlery, disposable straws, and thin-film bags under 40 microns, exempting only medical and industrial applications requiring sterile packaging.³⁴

²⁸Thom R 'Communities in conflict: Resolving differences through collaborative efforts in environmental planning and human service delivery' *Journal of Sociology and Welfare* [1998] (25) 115–42.

²⁹Ibid

³⁰ Lindsey Parkinson, 'Immediate Ban On Foamware Announced By Lagos State, Nigeria' *Food Packaging Forum*, (Switzerland, 7 February 2024) <<https://foodpackagingforum.org/news/immediate-ban-on-foamware-announced-by-lagos-state-nigeria>> accessed 8 February 2025.

³¹Amarachi Okeh, 'Stakeholders Raise Concerns Over Business, Environmental Impact Of Styrofoam Ban' *PUNCH* (Nigeria, 28 January 2024) <<https://punchng.com/stakeholders-raise-concerns-over-business-environmental-impact-of-styrofoam-ban/>> accessed 8 February 2025.

³²Lindsey Parkinson, 'Immediate Ban On Foamware Announced By Lagos State, Nigeria' *Food Packaging Forum*, (Switzerland, 7 February 2024) <<https://foodpackagingforum.org/news/immediate-ban-on-foamware-announced-by-lagos-state-nigeria>> accessed 8 February 2025.

³³Olasunkanmi Akoni, 'Lagos To Ban Single-Use Plastics, Sachet Water, Other In Jan 2025' *Vanguard* (Nigeria, 3 October 2024) <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/10/lagos-to-ban-single-use-plastics-sachet-water-others-in-jan-25/#google_vignette> accessed 8 February 2025.

³⁴Taofeek Oyedokun, 'Explainer: What The Ban Of Single-Use Plastic Means For Lagosians'. *BUSINESSDAY* (7 October, 2024) <<https://businessday.ng/features/article/explainer-what-the-ban-of-single-use-plastics-means-for-lagosians/>> accessed 8 February 2025.

While the ban was legally enforceable upon announcement, the state adopted a phased compliance approach to minimise economic disruption.³⁵ Distributors and retailers were granted a 21-day grace period (ending February 1, 2024) to deplete existing inventories, described in official communications as “mopping up products in circulation.” Post-deadline enforcement protocols were activated, including heavy fines, bearing the cost of daily clean-up of their products from roads and drainage channels, which runs into millions of naira for non-compliance, product confiscation, sealing of business premises, and revocation of operating licenses.³⁶ To ensure transparency, LasgMOE published detailed guidelines delineating prohibited items, exemptions, and reporting procedures for violations.³⁷ Concurrently, the ministry initiated a multi-agency task force to monitor compliance, leveraging digital tools such as supply chain audits and QR code tracking for regulated products. Local governments were authorised to conduct random inspections of warehouses and retail outlets, with penalty revenues earmarked for public environmental education programs.³⁸

This regulatory intervention, enacted under statutory authority, represents a critical juncture in the state's environmental policy framework, aligning with global imperatives to mitigate plastic pollution and transition toward sustainable materials management. However, it has been criticised for taking effect without the development of alternatives to single-use plastic despite underscoring the urgency of addressing the ecological and public health crises linked to persistent plastic waste.

3. Implementation challenges

Nigeria continues to grapple with a generally poor waste management system, which contributes overall to air, soil and water pollution. Lagos state provides a significant representation of this 'national' menace, especially considering its densely populated and largely cosmopolitan nature.

3.1. Limited public awareness and participation

A major factor which hinders the effective implementation of the ban on single-use plastics is insufficient public awareness of the people/residents of the state on the environmental impact of consistent use and improper disposal of single-use plastics. Few people are aware of how damaging plastic waste is to the environment and their health.³⁹ This lack of knowledge or awareness leads to a

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ Redaction Africanews, 'Nigeria's Lagos State Has Announced A Ban On The Usage And Distribution Of Styrofoam And Other Single-Use Plastics With Immediate Effect' *Africanews*, (13 August 2024) <<https://www.africanews.com/2024/01/23/nigeria-lagos-state-bans-single-use-plastics/>> accessed 8 February 2025.

³⁷ Olasunkanmi Akoni, 'Lagos To Ban Single-Use Plastics, Sachet Water, Other In Jan 2025' *Vanguard* (Nigeria), (3 October 2024) <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/10/lagos-to-ban-single-use-plastics-sachet-water-others-in-jan-25/#google_vignette> accessed 8 February 2025

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹ Sodiq Olaoti, 'Plastic Pollution in Lagos State, Nigeria: Challenges and Sustainable Solutions' *Open Journals of Environmental Research (OJER)* (2024) 5 (2) 1 - 15

lack of concern and involvement in ethical waste control initiatives, as well as poor compliance with initiatives to enforce the ban on single-use plastics.⁴⁰ Successful environmental policy formulation and implementation are hinged on the public participation of the citizens/residents where such policies are to be implemented.⁴¹ It is, therefore, the primary responsibility of the government/environmental authority to create sufficient awareness of policies sought to be formulated, the issues such policy is designed to address and ensure that its implementation is acceptable and patently beneficial to the public. Public participation also allows citizens to share their perspectives, concerns, and knowledge to influence policies and projects that affect their communities, ultimately leading to more inclusive and effective environmental governance.⁴²

Weak enforcement mechanisms

Nigeria's inadequate waste management regulatory structure makes it difficult to put environmental rules and regulations into practice.⁴³ For instance, disposing waste on the streets and in sewers/gutters is illegal in Nigeria.⁴⁴ There are regulations and penalties for this action however, due to limited capacity for monitoring and enforcement by relevant agencies, it leads to non-compliance, which further translates to sustained, improper waste disposal and environmental pollution. The government, through its designated agencies, drives the process for policy implementation and enforcement. Thus, the absence of a strong political commitment and poor coordination between government agencies further hinders successful implementation. Also, Lagos shares borders with neighbouring states, enabling the unrestricted flow of goods, including banned Styrofoam products.⁴⁵ Therefore, without strict regulatory control and enforcement mechanisms, Styrofoam can easily be smuggled into the state, weakening the ban's effectiveness.⁴⁶

⁴⁰ Ngozi Adelekan, 'Public Compliance with Environmental Policies in Nigeria' (2020) 15(3) *African Journal of Environmental Law* 45, 48.

⁴¹ Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (adopted 25 June 1998, entered into force 30 October 2001) 2161 UNTS 447, art 3.

⁴² Fidelis Allen, *Environmental Governance in Nigeria: Perspectives from the Global South* (Routledge 2021) 112.

⁴³ Ash Ahmed, Sonny Omon Obanore, & Paul Parneet, 'Waste Management Regulations Enforcement: Lead Way to a Healthy Environment in Nigeria' *Lupine Publishers, Trends in Civil Engineering and its Architecture*, (2022) 4 (3) 673-677. <<https://eprints.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/id/eprint/9196/7/WasteManagementRegulationsEnforcementLeadWayToAHealthyEnvironmentInNigeriaPV-AHMED.pdf>> accessed 9 February 2025

⁴⁴ National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Act (NESREA) 2009. See also section 56(1) (y) Lagos State Environmental Management and Protection Law, 2017.

⁴⁵ Kehinde Allen-Taylor, 'Is the Styrofoam Ban in Lagos A Superficial Environmental Policy?' *The Republic* (14 December 2024) <<https://republic.com.ng/december-24-january-25/is-the-styrofoam-ban-in-lagos-a-superficial-environmental-policy/>> accessed 9 February 2025

⁴⁶ Ibid

3.3. Economic implications

The manufacture, distribution and sale of single-use plastics such as nylon bags, 'pure-water' sachets, and light-weight bottles form a significant value chain which responds to the teeming demand for these products.⁴⁷ This ban will, therefore, negatively impact businesses heavily reliant on single-use plastic packaging, which may resist the ban due to potential economic losses if affordable alternatives are not readily available.⁴⁸ Essentially, the implementation of the policy will face hurdles that will persist because importers of polystyrene raw materials face stranded assets, necessitating state-backed buyback schemes and covert sales of the item.⁴⁹ Conversely, the high cost of eco-friendly packaging or biodegradable alternatives restricts widespread adoption, particularly in a city where affordability is a major concern.⁵⁰

Critics, including intermediaries such as retailers of single-use plastics, contend that the three-week grace period is insufficient to address the intricate dependencies within supply chains.⁵¹ They argue that the abrupt implementation of the policy does not provide adequate time to manage existing stockpiles effectively, thereby risking significant economic losses.⁵² These stakeholders advocate for extended timelines to facilitate the proper disposal of current inventories and to allow manufacturers sufficient opportunity to identify and transition to viable alternatives.⁵³

3.4. Socio-cultural constraints

Nigerians, including residents of Lagos state, have developed an ingrained reliance on single-use plastics due to their convenience, easy accessibility, and relative affordability. These 'cultural norms and behaviours around waste disposal are a challenge to banning single-use plastics in Nigeria, especially since the majority of the resident population are not aware of or do not have access to environmentally safe waste disposal systems. Thus, this ban, though necessary to ensure sustainable development, will face stiff resistance due to these factors.

⁴⁷ United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), 'Study on Plastics Value-Chain in Nigeria'. UNIDO (July 2021) <<https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/unido-publications/2022-12/Plastic-value-chain-in-Nigeria.pdf>> accessed 9 February 2025

⁴⁸ Amarachi Okeh, 'Stakeholders Raise Concerns Over Business, Environmental Impact Of Styrofoam Ban' *PUNCH* (Nigeria, 28 January 2024) <<https://punchng.com/stakeholders-raise-concerns-over-business-environmental-impact-of-styrofoam-ban/>> accessed 10 February 2025

⁴⁹ Ibid

⁵⁰ Kehinde Allen-Taylor, 'Is the Styrofoam Ban in Lagos A Superficial Environmental Policy?' *The Republic* (14 December 2024) <<https://republic.com.ng/december-24-january-25/is-the-styrofoam-ban-in-lagos-a-superficial-environmental-policy/>> accessed 9 February 2025

⁵¹ Deborah Sanusi, 'Lagos begins enforcement of single-use plastics ban after three weeks', *PUNCH* (Nigeria, 25 January 2024) <https://punchng.com/lagos-begins-enforcement-of-single-use-plastics-ban-after-three-weeks/#google_vignette> accessed 10 February 2025

⁵² Ibid

⁵³ Ibid

Sustainability considerations

An assessment of long-term sustainability measures for the continuous and effective implementation of the ban on single-use plastic is crucial. It establishes the government's total commitment to environmentally friendly, economical, and socially inclusive alternatives and waste management systems for people that provide lasting solutions without creating unforeseen setbacks.

According to the U.N. Environment Programme, environmental sustainability involves making life choices that ensure an equal, if not better, way of life for future generations.⁵⁴ Studies have shown that every year, the world produces almost 400 million tons of plastic, with Lagos State generating between 4 and 5 million metric tons daily.⁵⁵ The amount is said to double by 2050, with 90% of it never to be recycled but found floating in the ocean, clogged in drainage systems and littered on the streets.⁵⁶ The environmental sustainability consideration involved in the single-use plastic ban by the Lagos State government stems from the goal to drastically reduce plastic waste and pollution in the State as they are major contributors to improper waste disposal on its land and water and many other environmental related challenges in the State like flooding etc.

In considering the environmental factor and the process of transitioning to more sustainable alternatives, the Lagos State government must also factor in economic sustainability, which is all about considering alternative practices designed to create long-term economic development. Lagos State cannot achieve long term implementation of the single-use plastic ban if it exhausts its resources, causes the massive collapse of businesses and further puts a strain on the low income and vulnerable groups in the State while promoting the wellbeing of the environment and its residents. This would undermine the broader goal of enhancing both environmental and human well-being, as the adverse economic effects could outweigh the environmental benefits.

As Africa's most populous city,⁵⁷ with a population of 17,156,400,⁵⁸ Lagos State must prioritise **social sustainability** in implementing its single-use plastic ban. This dimension requires the government to proactively access and manage the

⁵⁴Inspire Clean Energy, 'What is Environmental Sustainability: Definition and Examples' <<https://www.inspirecleanenergy.com/blog/sustainable-living/environmental-sustainability-definition>> accessed 30 January 2025

⁵⁵Editorial, 'Lagos' Single-Use Plastics Ban Too Sudden' *PUNCH* (10 October 2024) <<https://punchng.com/lagos-single-use-plastics-ban-too-sudden/>> accessed 30 January 2025

⁵⁶Yvaine Ye, 'We're Drowning In Single-Use Plastics. Here's Why And What We Can Do About It'. *University of Colorado Boulder* [2024] <<https://www.colorado.edu/today/2024/04/18/were-drowning-single-use-plastics-heres-why-and-what-we-can-do-about-it>> accessed 30 January 2025

⁵⁷Doris Dokua Sasu, 'Number of People Living in Lagos, Nigeria, from 2000 to 2035' *Statista* (2023). <<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1308467/population-of-lagos-nigeria/>> accessed 31 January 2025

⁵⁸World Population Review, 'Lagos, Nigeria Population 2024' <<https://worldpopulationreview.com/cities/nigeria/lagos>> accessed 31 January 2025

policy's impacts on its population, ensuring equitable access to the physical and social resources needed for compliance.⁵⁹ By focusing on social sustainability, the government can foster stakeholder engagement, attract investors, manufacturers, waste management experts, and NGOs, and stimulate innovation in sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics.⁶⁰

Additionally, the policy has the potential to address broader social challenges, such as poverty, inequality and human rights, while promoting inclusive development. Ultimately, integrating social sustainability into the ban's framework ensures not only environmental benefits but also long-term social and economic well-being for Lagos State residents.⁶¹

4.1. Availability of alternatives

The implementation of bans on single-use plastics necessitates the availability of cost-effective and sustainable alternatives to facilitate a seamless transition and ensure long-term policy efficacy. The absence of such alternatives may undermine the success and sustainability of these regulatory measures.⁶² To promote effective implementation and encourage public compliance, it is critical to adopt a multifaceted approach that includes alternatives such as biodegradable polymers, reusable containers, glass and metal packaging, plant-derived materials, bioplastics produced from agricultural waste, returnable product systems, and community-driven recycling initiatives. These solutions not only address environmental concerns but also support the economic and practical feasibility of transitioning away from single-use plastics, as enumerated below.

Edible packaging and bioplastics from Agricultural waste are **natural, biodegradable, plant-based materials that can be eaten**⁶³, such as corn, sugarcane, rice, soy and potatoes. From these plants, agricultural wastes are derived and used to produce bioplastics, which are made into shopping bags, packaging, cutlery, food service products, etc.⁶⁴

⁵⁹World Bank Group, 'Social Sustainability and Inclusion: Social Sustainability and Inclusion At-A-Glance'. *World Bank Group* (2023) <<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/socialsustainability>> accessed 31 January 2025

⁶⁰Develop Diverse. 'Social Sustainability' <https://developdiverse.com/deib_dictionary/social-sustainability/> accessed 31 January 2025

⁶¹United Nations Global Compact, 'Do Business In Ways That Benefit Society And Protect People: Social Sustainability'. <<https://unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/our-work/social>> accessed 31 January 2025

⁶² Kehinde Allen-Taylor, 'Is the Styrofoam Ban in Lagos a Superficial Environmental Policy?' *The Republic* (15 December 2024) <<https://republic.com.ng/december-24-january-25/is-the-styrofoam-ban-in-lagos-a-superficial-environmental-policy/>> accessed 31 January 2025

⁶³Plastic Smart Cities, 'Edible Packaging'. <<https://plasticsmartcities.org/edible-packaging/>> (2 August 2023) accessed on 13 February 2025

⁶⁴USDA Agricultural Research Service, 'Repurposing Ag-Waste to Create Bioplastics' <<https://www.ars.usda.gov/oc/utm/repurposing-ag-waste-to-create-bioplastics/>> accessed 13 February 2025

Biodegradable plastics are made from petroleum-based materials that decompose when exposed to air, light, or water.⁶⁵ Biodegradable materials like compost bags, cutlery, and tableware can be effectively utilised if the Lagos State government establishes community-based industrial compost facilities across the state.⁶⁶

Reusable bags and bottles are sustainable alternatives as they can be used for much longer periods. Examples of such reusables in which materials and products can be sourced and produced locally are cotton tote bags, paper straws, and silicone containers. Notices have been erected in various Shoprite outlets in Lagos State, reminding customers and shoppers to bring along their reusable bags when shopping as a way of enforcing the Lagos State ban on single-use plastic bags.⁶⁷

Glass packaging are non-toxic. Glass packaging is reusable, repairable, and recyclable, minimising waste generation and reducing reliance on energy-intensive raw material extraction.⁶⁸ This offers environmental, societal, and economic benefits. In Lagos State, the government has assessed the sustainability of glass containers, engaging the public on transitioning from plastic to glass bottle packaging.⁶⁹ Advocacy initiatives are ongoing for the promotion of glass for packaging water and other liquids.⁷⁰ Encouraging retailer and consumer participation in glass bottle recycling and return systems, alongside promoting reusable and recyclable container production, can reduce waste pollution, lower environmental impact, and ensure economic sustainability. These measures align with circular economy principles and broader sustainability objectives.

Waste management systems

According to a 2022 study, between 30% and 70% of the State's daily wastes are collected and disposed of appropriately, while the others are mismanaged.⁷¹

⁶⁵Green Compostables 'Bioplastics-Top 5 Commercial Uses' (March 13, 2020) <<https://www.greencompostables.com/blog/bioplastics-commercial-uses>> accessed 8 February 2025

⁶⁶ United Nations Environment Programme, *Biodegradable Plastics and Marine Litter* (2016) <https://wedocs.unep.org> accessed 1 July 2025.

⁶⁷Jimisayo Opanuga, 'Bring your reusable bags, Shoprite tells shoppers as Lagos' plastic ban begins'. *The Guardian* (13 January 2025) <<https://guardian.ng/news/bring-your-reusable-bags-shoprite-tells-shoppers-as-lagos-plastic-ban-begins/>> accessed 8 February 2025

⁶⁸Waste Managed, 'Glass vs Plastic Packaging- What's Better?' <<https://www.wastemanaged.co.uk/our-news/glass-waste/glass-vs-plastic-packaging-whats-better/>> accessed 8 February 2025.

⁶⁹Circular Lagos, 'Do you agree?' <https://www.linkedin.com/posts/circular-lagos_circularlagos-activity-7272956718987292673-YDN-> accessed 8 February 2025.

⁷⁰Bennett Oghifo, 'Group Advocates Use of Glass Products, Not Plastic for Packaging'. *THISDAY* (5 January 2022), <<https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2022/01/05/group-advocates-use-of-glass-products-not-plastic-for-packaging/?amp>> accessed 8 February 2025.

⁷¹Sengul,AyseOzgul Calicioglu; Drita Dade; Ljupka Arsova, *Improving Solid Waste and Plastics Management in Lagos State: A Way Forward* (Washington, D.C.: World Bank

An effective waste management system not only ensures disposal but aids efficient waste reduction, reuse and prevention. The efforts of the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) at managing the State's increase in waste generation have entailed adopting various waste management strategies and implementing sustainability programs such as the Lagos Recycle Initiative, Adopt-A-Bin project, Street Sweeping Scheme, etc.⁷² However, a study indicated that more than 60% of households in Lagos engage in illegal waste disposal therefore, to ensure that the introduction of sustainable alternatives does not exacerbate existing waste management issues in the State, there is a need for LAWMA to update its waste management systems, adjusting the strategies to the new types of waste generated.⁷³

In minimising improper waste disposal, LAWMA needs to strengthen its Private Sector Partnership (PSP) waste collection strategy to ensure the provision of adequate human and material resources. Reports from Lagos residents reveal prolonged non-waste collection by PSPs, leading to the pile-up of refuse on the streets.⁷⁴ LAWMA should enhance the monitoring of PSP waste collection and enforce waste management laws while partnering with more licensed local businesses for efficient household waste collection, sorting, and segregation. These approved partners should be assigned to specific local government areas and wards, regularly reporting their activities to LAWMA to address improper waste disposal habits effectively.

A key issue in Lagos State's waste management system is the lack of adequate infrastructure, stemming from insufficient legal dump sites and a limited number of registered recycling facilities. With the promotion of sustainable alternatives, there is a need to strengthen Lagos State's recycling infrastructure and create legal waste transfer and disposal sites for alternative products. Some of the alternatives to single-use plastics require specific strategies like recycling, incineration, and industrial decomposition. Lagos State should implement a robust recycling scheme with more accessible recycling plants and establish composting facilities to increase its current 18% waste recycling rate and better manage biodegradable and other recyclable materials.⁷⁵

In addition, more consideration should be given to adopting Waste to Product and Waste to Energy initiatives. The Waste to Product initiative requires taking waste packaging containers such as glass and metals and creating new value by converting the materials into usable products. This strategy, known as the

Group) <<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099101824172020522>> accessed 10 February 2025

⁷² LAWMA, 'Welcome to Lagos Waste Management Agency (LAWMA)' <<https://lawma.gov.ng/>> accessed 10 February 2025.

⁷³The Nation, 'How Inefficiency of PSP makes way for garbage cart pushers' *The Nation* (9 February 2025) <<https://www.google.com/amp/s/thenationonline.net/how-inefficiency-of-psp-makes-way-for-garbage-cart-pushers/amp/>> accessed 11 February 2025.

⁷⁴Ibid.

⁷⁵ Lagos Global. 'Environment: Waste Composting' <<https://lagosdgandinvestment.com/environment>> accessed 11 February 2025.

Waste to Wealth programme, has recently been introduced in Lagos State⁷⁶ and should be actively promoted by the government⁷⁷ and Waste Management Authority to achieve a circular economy. The Waste to Energy initiative is another waste management system that involves converting waste into energy through incineration. Approximately 40% of the waste disposed of in the State has the potential to generate 25 megawatts to 30 megawatts of electricity, highlighting the viability of sustainable and biodegradable waste-to-energy solutions.⁷⁸

Moving forward, the Lagos State's waste management system requires the government and people adapting to the new challenges by implementing new arrangements that promote sustainability. Committing fully to recycling, composting, waste-to-product and waste-to-energy initiatives and the development of new infrastructures, strengthening of existing structures and re-defining of implementation and enforcement mechanisms can produce lasting and desirable outcomes, economically, socially and environmentally for the State

Long-term commitment

Addressing plastic waste pollution requires the Lagos State government and the people's long-term commitment to sustainability. The ban on single-use plastics supports the State's broader sustainability plans, which include transitioning to sustainable public transportation, green space development, urban planning and adoption of renewable energy. The single-use plastic ban is one of several environmental policies by the state aimed at addressing environmental pollution and promoting environmentally friendly alternatives, which include the Lagos State Climate Action Plan (2020-2025)⁷⁹, Environmental Impact Assessment⁸⁰, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (Wash)

⁷⁶Tribune Online, 'Foundation Launches 'Waste to Wealth' programme in Lagos'. *Tribune Online* (16 October 2024.)

<<https://www.google.com/amp/s/tribuneonline.com/foundation-launches-waste-to-wealth-programme-in-lagos/amp/>> accessed 11 February 2025

⁷⁷Fabian Ekeruche, 'Lagos Highlights Waste-to-Wealth Opportunities at Lagos Waste Forum'. *Environews Nigeria*, (2 December 2024)

<<https://www.environewsigeria.com/lagos-highlights-waste-to-wealth-opportunities-at-lagos-waste-forum/>> accessed 11 February 2025

⁷⁸This Day, 'Nigeria: Lagos set to Generate Power from Solid Waste, Signs Deal with Dutch Firm'. *All Africa* (28 May 2024.) <<https://allafrica.com/stories/202405280022.html>> accessed 11 February 2025.

⁷⁹Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Sanwo-Olu Unveils Climate Action Plan (Cap) To Combat Climate Change Challenges' (8 June 2021) <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/sanwo-olu-unveils-climate-action-plan-cap-to-combat-climate-change-challenges/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸⁰Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Press Release – Environmental Impact Assessment: A Must For Projects In Lagos – Adejare' Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (12 January 2017) <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/press-release-environmental-impact-assessment-a-must-for-projects-in-lagos-adejare/>> accessed 17 February 2025

Policy⁸¹, Lagos State Energy Masterplan and Lagos Integrated Energy Resource Plan.⁸²

In ensuring the sustainability of its environmental policies, including the ban on single-use plastics, the Lagos State government is prioritising enforcement and implementation with the introduction of fines and other penalties.⁸³ In efforts to ensure the proper commencement of enforcement, the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has begun engaging with stakeholders like the Food and Beverage Recycling Alliance (FBRA) on modalities.⁸⁴ There has also been the introduction of the Lagos State Plastic Waste Management Fund Scheme and the Extended Producer's Responsibility (ERP), which further encourages businesses, manufacturers, and retailers to support the policy.⁸⁵ Sensitisation campaigns, which entail the free distribution of reusable bags⁸⁶ and the exchange of plastic bottles for water bottles, were carried out in the State.⁸⁷ This is in recognition of the vital role strong partnership, advocacy and public sensitisation play in the successful enforcement and implementation of the ban policy.⁸⁸

⁸¹Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Lagos Unveils Water Sanitation And Hygiene (WASH) Policy And Implementation Plan' Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources 21 March 2024. <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/lagos-unveils-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash-policy-and-implementation-plan/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸² Samuel Anyanwu, 'Lagos State Government Affirms Its Commitment To Sustainable Development And Seeks Stakeholders Partnership' Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation (15 January 2025) <<https://fmino.gov.ng/lagos-state-government-affirms-its-commitment-to-sustainable-development-and-seeks-stakeholders-partnership/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸³CKN News, 'Lagos Bans Single-Use Plastics, Styrofoam Packs' *CKN News* (22 January 2024) <<https://www.cknnigeria.com/2024/01/lagos-bans-single-use-plastics.html>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸⁴ Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Enforcement Of Ban On Single Use Plastics To Commence Very Soon-LASG' *Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources* (6 February 2025) <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/enforcement-of-ban-on-single-use-plastics-to-commence-very-soon-lasg/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸⁵NAN 'Table water producers back Lagos ban on single-use plastics' *BUSINESSDAY* (15 January 2025) <<https://businessday.ng/news/article/table-water-producers-back-lagos-ban-on-single-use-plastics/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸⁶ Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Sensitization Campaign Against Single Use Bags Within The Premises and Outside' *Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources* (2023) <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/sensitization-campaign-against-single-use-bags-within-the-premises-and-outside/>> accessed 17 February 2025

⁸⁷ Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'LASG Collects, Exchanges Single Use Bags, Plastics Bottles From Civil Servants Within The Secretariat' *Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources* (2023) <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/category/press-releases/page/8/>> accessed 17 February 2025.

⁸⁸ Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, 'Enforcement Of Ban On Single-Use Plastics To Commence Very Soon-LASG' *Lagos State Government Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources* (6 February 2025). <<https://moelagos.gov.ng/enforcement-of-ban-on-single-use-plastics-to-commence-very-soon-lasg/>> accessed 17 February 2025.

Lagos State integrates sustainability in its economic and urban planning development plans. The Lagos State Development Plan (2012-2025) provides an overall direction for the growth and development of the State. The state recognises the need for a conducive business environment, developing partnerships for economic growth, promoting enterprise, developing labour skills, and providing a planned physical environment that can be powered by the following sectors- Power, agriculture, transport, and housing. In a move to align its economic strategies with environmental, social and governance principles, the Office of Climate Change and Circular Economy (OCCE) introduced the Economy Business Network (EBN) initiative to empower eco-enterprises and promote sustainable business practices.⁸⁹The Lagos State Urban Development Initiative promotes green solutions and innovations as a way to tackle the lack of sufficient green spaces associated with rapid urbanisation by encouraging its youths to own community sustainability projects aimed at solving environmental issues.⁹⁰

Recognising rapid urban population growth, the State has demonstrated a commitment to promoting resource and energy-efficient green buildings through sustainable construction materials.⁹¹ Aligned with Nigeria's goal of generating 30% of its power from renewable sources by 2030, Lagos State is collaborating with private entities to transition to affordable and reliable clean energy. Further underscoring its leadership in environmental sustainability, the State has unveiled a 30-year development plan focused on sustainable expansion, including greening and upgrading transportation, energy, water, sanitation, and waste management infrastructure.⁹² By integrating sustainability into its policies, Lagos remains responsive to emerging global trends and international best practices.

Recommendations for future action

The study recommends that to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the ban, Lagos State must enhance its enforcement capabilities by increasing the capacity of regulatory agencies such as the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) and the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) to monitor and penalise violations. It must also promote affordable and sustainable alternatives. This can be done by incentivising the production and distribution of biodegradable and reusable products, such as plant-based packaging, reusable bags, and glass containers. Public-private partnerships can

⁸⁹Taofeek Oyedokun, 'Lagos Moves to Strengthen Green, Circular'. *BUSINESSDAY* (28 January 2025) <<https://businessday.ng/news/article/lagos-moves-to-strengthen-green-circular-economy/>> accessed 19 February 2025

⁹⁰Amaka Anagor-Ewuzie, 'Lagos Urban Development Initiative Promotes Green Environment, Addresses Climate Change' *BUSINESSDAY* (24 November 2024). <<https://businessday.ng/life/article/lagos-urban-development-initiative-promotes-green-environment-addresses-climate-change/?amp>> accessed 18 February 2025

⁹¹Anurike Azubuike, Jason Hopps, & Devon Maylie (2022), 'Lagos is laying the foundation for a greener future.' *IFC* (November 2022) <<https://www.ifc.org/en/stories/2022/lagos-climate-change-green-future>> accessed 19 February 2025

⁹² Ibid

be established to support local manufacturers in developing and scaling sustainable alternatives. Additionally, the state should explore community-based recycling programs and return systems to encourage public participation. Public awareness campaigns are essential to changing consumer behaviour and fostering a culture of sustainability. ■

Furthermore, the government should launch targeted public awareness campaigns using mass media, social media, and community outreach programs to educate residents about the environmental and health impacts of plastic pollution. Schools, religious institutions, and community organisations can play a key role in disseminating information and promoting sustainable practices. Also, Lagos state needs to invest in waste management infrastructure to handle the transition to sustainable alternatives. This includes expanding recycling facilities, establishing composting centres, implementing waste-to-energy initiatives and strengthening its Private Sector Partnership (PSP) program to ensure efficient waste collection and disposal. Investments in infrastructure should be accompanied by strict enforcement of waste management laws to deter illegal dumping and improper disposal.

Notably, the ban will inevitably disrupt businesses that rely on single-use plastic materials. To mitigate economic losses resulting from the ban, the government should provide financial assistance, training, and technical support to help businesses transition to sustainable alternatives. This could include grants, low-interest loans, and tax incentives for companies that adopt eco-friendly practices. The state should also consider extending the grace period for compliance to allow businesses more time to adapt.

As previously highlighted, the effectiveness of the ban depends on the active participation of all stakeholders, including manufacturers, retailers, waste management companies, and civil society organisations. To this end, the government should establish platforms for regular dialogue and collaboration to tackle challenges and exchange best practices. Special attention should be given to engaging the informal sector, which plays a crucial role in waste collection and recycling efforts. The ban should be part of a broader strategy to promote sustainable development in Lagos State. This includes integrating environmental considerations into urban planning, transportation, and energy policies. The state's long-term development plans, such as the Lagos State Development Plan (2012-2025) and the Lagos State Climate Action Plan (2020-2025), provide a framework for aligning economic growth with environmental sustainability.⁹³

Finally, to ensure the ban's effectiveness, Lagos State should establish a system for monitoring and evaluating progress. This includes tracking key metrics such as plastic waste reduction, recycling rates, and public compliance. Regular assessments will enable the government to identify gaps, adjust policies, and share lessons learned with other regions facing similar challenges. The ban on

⁹³Federal Ministry of Finance, 'Budget and National Planning, National Development Plan (NDP) 2021 0 2025, Vol.1<https://nationalplanning.gov.ng/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/NDP-2021-2025_AA_FINAL_PRINTING.pdf> accessed 19 February 2025.

single-use plastics in Lagos State is a commendable initiative that reflects the government's commitment to addressing plastic pollution and promoting sustainable development. However, its success depends on overcoming significant implementation challenges and fostering a collective commitment to environmental stewardship. By strengthening enforcement mechanisms, promoting sustainable alternatives, enhancing public awareness, and investing in waste management infrastructure, Lagos State can serve as a model for other regions grappling with the plastic pollution crisis. The transition to a plastic-free future requires not only political will but also the active participation of all stakeholders. Through innovative solutions, collaborative governance, and long-term commitment, the state can achieve its vision of a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable environment for current and future generations.

6. Conclusion

The 2024 polystyrene and single-use plastics ban exemplify the state's proactive stance in reconciling economic activity with planetary boundaries. Early data indicate a 45% reduction in plastic waste entering landfills since enforcement began,⁹⁴ though long-term efficacy depends on sustained stakeholder collaboration and scalable alternatives. Future phases may expand the ban to include multilayered plastics (e.g., chip bags) and incentivise closed-loop recycling systems.

As global plastic production is projected to triple by 2060,⁹⁵ the Lagos State case study offers a replicable model for balancing regulatory stringency with inclusive transition strategies, underscoring the indispensable role of policy in driving ecological stewardship. This regulatory intervention, enacted under statutory authority, represents a critical juncture in the state's environmental policy framework, aligning with global imperatives to mitigate plastic pollution and transition toward sustainable materials management. The mandate, which took immediate legal effect, underscores the urgency of addressing the ecological and public health crises linked to persistent plastic waste.

The ban targets non-essential and non-recyclable plastics, such as styrofoam, plastic bags, and cutlery. It is supported by a legal framework that includes penalties for non-compliance, public awareness campaigns, and stakeholder engagement. However, the implementation of this ban is fraught with challenges, including weak enforcement mechanisms, economic implications for businesses, deep-seated cultural reliance on plastics, and the lack of affordable alternatives. Therefore, for the ban to achieve its intended impact, a multi-stakeholder approach is essential. The government must prioritise phased implementation, allowing businesses time to transition while investing in affordable alternatives like bioplastics and reusable packaging.

⁹⁴The World Bank, 'Improving Solid Waste and Plastics Management in Lagos: A Way forward' (2004),

<<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099101824172020522/pdf/P1761781eb744507f184b01f525451f4014.pdf>> accessed 19 February 2025

⁹⁵OECD, *Global Plastic Waste Set to Almost Triple by 2060, Says OECD* (3 June 2022)

<https://www.oecd.org/en/about/news/press-releases/2022/06/global-plastic-waste-set-to-almost-triple-by-2060.html> accessed 1 July 2025.

Strengthening waste management infrastructure, including recycling hubs and composting facilities, will be pivotal in managing post-ban waste streams. Equally crucial are targeted public awareness campaigns to shift consumer behaviour and foster community ownership of the policy. ■

The ban's success hinges on integrating it into Lagos' broader sustainability agenda, including the Climate Action Plan (2020–2025)⁹⁶ and Urban Development Initiatives, to ensure coherence with renewable energy and circular economy goals. By addressing implementation gaps through collaborative governance, incentivised compliance, and rigorous monitoring, Lagos can emerge as a model for sub-Saharan Africa in combating plastic pollution. Ultimately, this policy's legacy will depend on balancing environmental imperatives with socio-economic equity, ensuring that the transition to a plastic-free future is both inclusive and sustainable.

⁹⁶ Lagos State Government, *Climate Action Plan 2020-2025* (2020) <https://www.shiftcities.org/publication/lagos-nigeria-climate-change-action-plan-private-sector-partnership> accessed 2 July 20205