



The Impact Report:

WAPAN-SFC Capacity Building Project on Sustainable Plastic Waste Recycling

Prepared by
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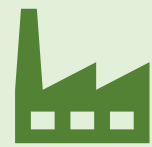
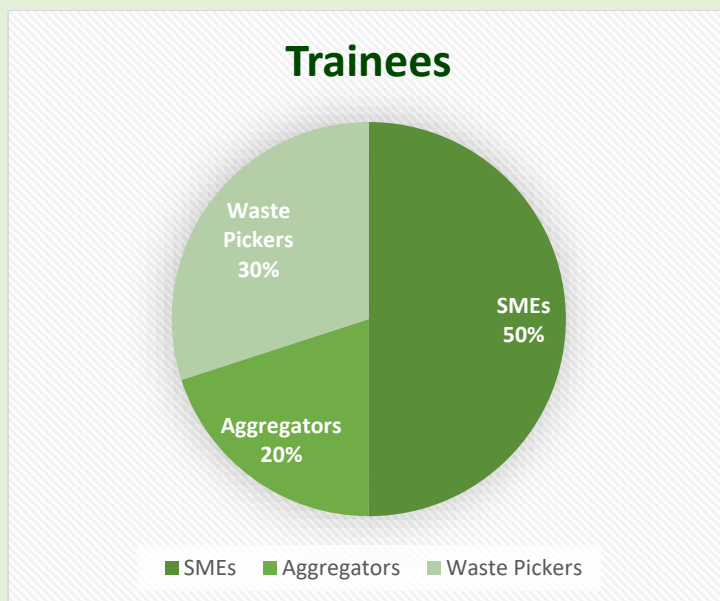


Executive Summary

The **Waste Pickers Association of Nigeria (WAPAN)** and **SFC Academy** launched a transformative **Capacity Building Project on Sustainable Waste Recycling**, aimed at empowering **100 participants**—including **50 recycling SMEs, 20 waste aggregators, and 30 waste pickers**—with practical skills, advanced technology, and entrepreneurial knowledge.

The project successfully addressed critical challenges in **plastic waste recycling, health and safety standards, and market access**, leading to **measurable improvements in efficiency, economic opportunities, and environmental impact**.

This report evaluates the project's **impact, sustainability, and future scalability**, highlighting its contributions to Nigeria's circular economy.



SMEs.



AGGREGATORS



Waste Pickers

Training Approach

Training

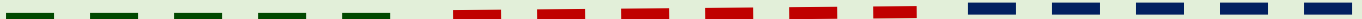
Practical hands-on training
led by experienced
technical teams

Technology Adoption

Technology integration to
enhance waste
management efficiency.

Business Growth

**Entrepreneurship and
trade facilitation** to link
beneficiaries to global
markets.



Technology Adoption Impact

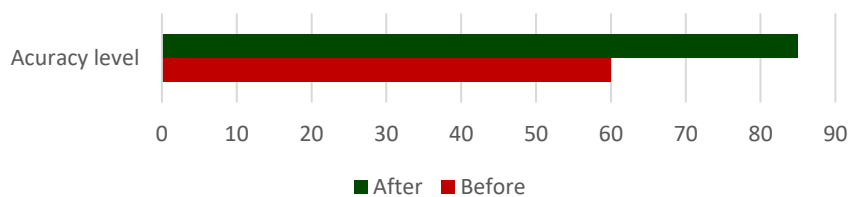
Trinamix Stereoscope for Plastic Identification

Problem Addressed: Many recycling SMEs struggled to identify and process low-value and hard-to-recycle plastics, reducing efficiency and profitability.

Solution & Impact:

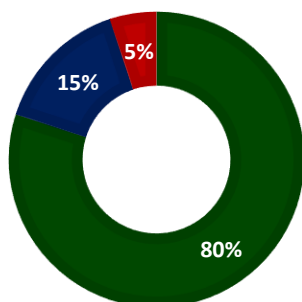
- Trinamix **increased plastic identification accuracy by 40%**, enabling SMEs to process more diverse plastic types.
- **85% of participating SMEs** reported a **reduction in sorting errors**, leading to **higher recycling rates** and lower operational costs.
- Waste pickers and aggregators **gained expertise in identifying and sorting previously unrecognized plastics**, improving the supply chain for recyclable materials.

Plastic Identification Accuracy Improvement



MARKET ACCESS & BUSINESS GROWTH

- Onboarded onto EmpowerEco
- Engaged in Export Trading
- Still in Mentorship Phase



EmpowerEco Tracking System for Market Access

Problem Addressed: Limited access to **plastic credit systems**, **carbon markets**, and **international buyers** restricted business growth.

Solution & Impact:

- **80% of participants** successfully onboarded onto EmpowerEco, linking them to **carbon credit and international trade platforms**.
- **15 SMEs** secured partnerships with international buyers, enabling them to **export processed recyclable materials**.
- A **post-training mentorship program** was launched, providing **long-term technical support** for navigating digital trade platforms.

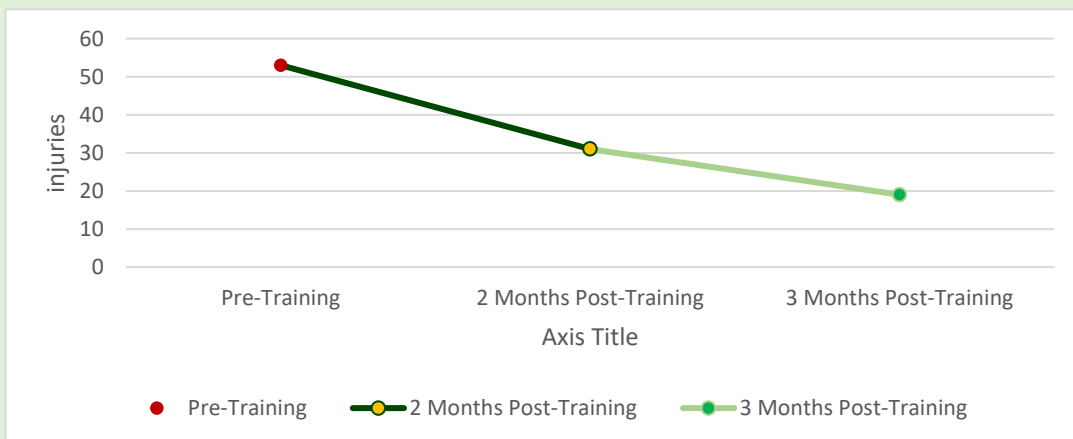
Health & Safety Improvements

Workplace Safety Training & PPE Distribution

Problem Addressed: Many waste pickers and SMEs operated in hazardous environments without proper protective equipment.

Solution & Impact:

- **100% of participants** received Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including gloves, masks, and boots.
- Workplace injuries reduced by **30% within three months**, with **better compliance with safety protocols** reported among SMEs.
- **Follow-up assessments** showed a **90% retention rate of PPE usage**, indicating strong long-term adoption of safer practices.



Entrepreneurship & Trade Facilitation

Business Growth & Export Readiness Training

Problem Addressed: SMEs and aggregators lacked knowledge of export processes and business sustainability strategies.

Solution & Impact:

- **25% revenue growth** reported among SMEs **three months post-training**, attributed to better financial management and market expansion.
- **15 SMEs and aggregators** successfully initiated **export activities**, capitalizing on international demand for processed plastics.
- A **dedicated mentorship program** now supports beneficiaries engaged in international trade, ensuring continuous business development.

Entrepreneurship & Trade Facilitation



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Solution & Impact:

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Sustainability & Long-Term Impact

This initiative has established a **strong foundation for sustained impact** in Nigeria's waste recycling sector by:

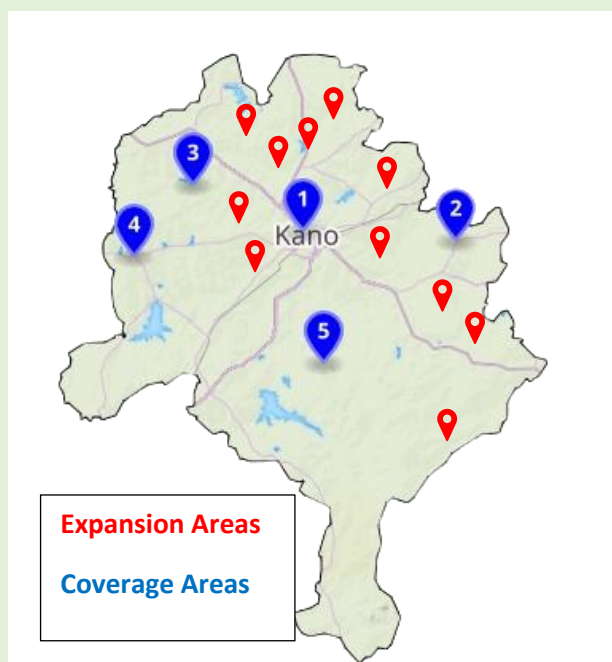
- ✓ **Enhancing technology adoption** for higher efficiency and profitability.
- ✓ **Improving workplace safety** through long-term PPE access and compliance.
- ✓ **Strengthening market access** by integrating SMEs into global trade networks.
- ✓ **Ensuring post-project mentorship** to sustain business growth beyond the training.

Projected Long-Term Impact (5-Year Forecast)

- **5,000+ additional waste pickers & SMEs** to benefit from **expanded training programs**.
- **40% increase in plastic recycling efficiency** across participating SMEs.
- **Potential revenue boost of \$500,000+** from newly established export activities.



Acknowledgement



Final Thoughts & Acknowledgment

The WAPAN and SFC Academy Capacity Building Project stands as a **landmark initiative** in **Nigeria's journey towards a circular economy**. By **empowering waste pickers, aggregators, and SMEs**, this project has:

- **Bridged critical skill gaps** in waste management.
- **Introduced innovative technologies** to scale recycling efficiency.
- **Created sustainable economic opportunities** in both local and international markets.

Moving forward, **scaling up this initiative** will **unlock even greater environmental and economic benefits**, positioning Nigeria as a leader in **sustainable plastic waste management**.



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