

# Concept Note

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## Urban Waste Solutions: Sustainable Waste Management in Bangladesh's City Corporations

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### 1. Background and Context

Rapid urbanization in Bangladesh has led to a sharp rise in municipal solid waste, posing a serious challenge to environmental health and urban sustainability. Major city corporations—such as Barishal, Khulna, Rajshahi, Dhaka North and South, Chittagong, and Sylhet—are struggling with insufficient infrastructure, low public awareness, and limited capacity for waste processing and recycling.

The consequences are severe: urban flooding due to blocked drainage, air and water pollution, rising public health hazards, and increasing plastic and electronic waste. These cities are vital economic and cultural centers; therefore, a sustainable waste management strategy is critical for the overall development of Bangladesh.

Kachua Dalima Association (KDA) recognizes this pressing need and proposes a community-centric and technologically adaptive waste management initiative targeting Bangladesh's major urban centers.

### 2. Goal and Objectives

#### Overall Goal :

To build cleaner, healthier, and more climate-resilient cities through integrated, inclusive, and sustainable waste management solutions.

#### Specific Objectives:

1. Strengthen community awareness and behavior change around waste segregation and disposal.
2. Develop low-cost, decentralized waste collection, recycling, and composting units.
3. Empower informal waste workers through training, protection, and integration into formal systems.
4. Partner with city corporations to institutionalize digital waste tracking, monitoring, and smart bin systems.
5. Promote circular economy practices including plastic reuse, organic compost, and e-waste upcycling.

### 3. Proposed Interventions

Area	Key Activities
Community Engagement	Awareness campaigns, digital media outreach, school programs, waste segregation training
Infrastructure Support	Set up of smart bins, community collection points, mobile collection vehicles
Technology Integration	Mobile apps for collection alerts, waste monitoring dashboards, data-driven waste analytics
Green Jobs	Skill training and employment for women, youth, and informal waste pickers
Policy Collaboration	MoUs with city corporations, inclusion in urban development policies and climate plans

### 4. Target Locations

The proposed initiative will cover the following City Corporations:

- Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC)
- Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC)
- Chittagong City Corporation
- Sylhet City Corporation
- Khulna City Corporation
- Rajshahi City Corporation
- Barishal City Corporation

These cities have high waste generation rates and strategic significance for national urban development.

### 5. Expected Outcomes

- 100,000+ urban residents reached with awareness campaigns
- 50+ community waste hubs and smart bin stations established
- 500+ informal workers trained and engaged in green waste jobs
- Urban plastic waste reduced by 30% in pilot wards
- Waste data systems operational in at least 5 city corporations

## 6. Partnerships and Stakeholders

- City Corporations: DNCC, DSCC, CCC, SCC, KCC, RCC, BCC
- Development Partners: UN-Habitat, UNDP, ADB, World Bank, GIZ, INGO
- Private Sector: IT firms, recycling companies, packaging industry
- Local NGOs and Waste Worker Cooperatives

## 7. Sustainability Approach

- Revenue from waste-to-resource value chains (compost, plastics, recyclables)
- Public-private partnerships for cost sharing and maintenance
- Integration with city budgets and policies for long-term viability

## 8. Budget Estimate

BDT 60,000,000 (~USD 525,000)

(For 3 years across 7 city corporations; includes staff, tech systems, infrastructure, training, and advocacy)

## 9. Conclusion

Effective urban waste management is crucial for sustainable development and climate resilience. Through this initiative, Kachua Dalima Association (KDA) seeks to model a scalable, tech-enabled, and community-driven solution for Bangladesh's rapidly expanding cities, bridging the gap between environment, health, and digital innovation.