



Gender Dimensions on Chemicals and Waste management: Case studies in Kenya and Rwanda

By

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Virtual



Outline

- About CEJAD
- Aims of the Case Studies
- Challenges faced at the intersection of gender and chemicals management on the ground
- Solutions (good practices).
- Constructive suggestions or ideas for improvement

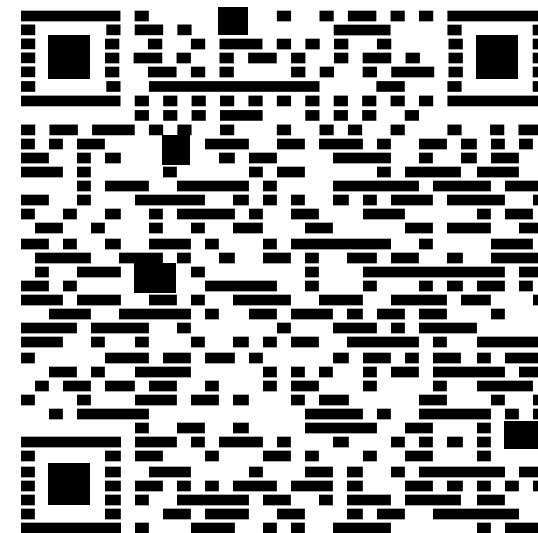
NEW

TACKLING TOXICS

CASE STUDIES KENYA & TUNISIA 2022



GENDER DIMENSIONS OF
CHEMICALS AND WASTE
POLICIES IN RELATION
TO BRS CONVENTIONS



[WECF.org/Resources](https://wecf.org/Resources)



ABOUT CEJAD

- ❖ A public benefit organization in Kenya, founded in 2012.
- ❖ Vision: A just and sustainable society free of toxic chemicals and waste
- ❖ **Mission:** To safeguard human health and the environment from harmful chemicals, with a focus on vulnerable groups, children and women



1

Plastics & Waste
Management



2

Mercury Elimination



3

HHPs Elimination



4

Lead Paint Elimination



5

Ozone & Climate



Aims to understand 3 gender dimensions:

- How are **women and men differently impacted** in their health by hazardous chemicals and waste?
- How do women and men's **occupations and the roles at home and at work** influence exposure to hazardous chemicals and waste?
- What **best practices** with women and men's leadership exist to substitute and eliminate hazardous chemicals and waste?

Policy Status - Kenya

- New Constitution since 2010 – legislative framework for implementing National Gender and Equality Act 2011, Key Treaties CEDAW & Maputo Protocol 2019 National Policy on Gender & Development
- Article 42: Right of a clean and healthy environment (aim to half all environment-related diseases)
- 2022: Sustainable Waste Management Act (EPR regulations, 2024)

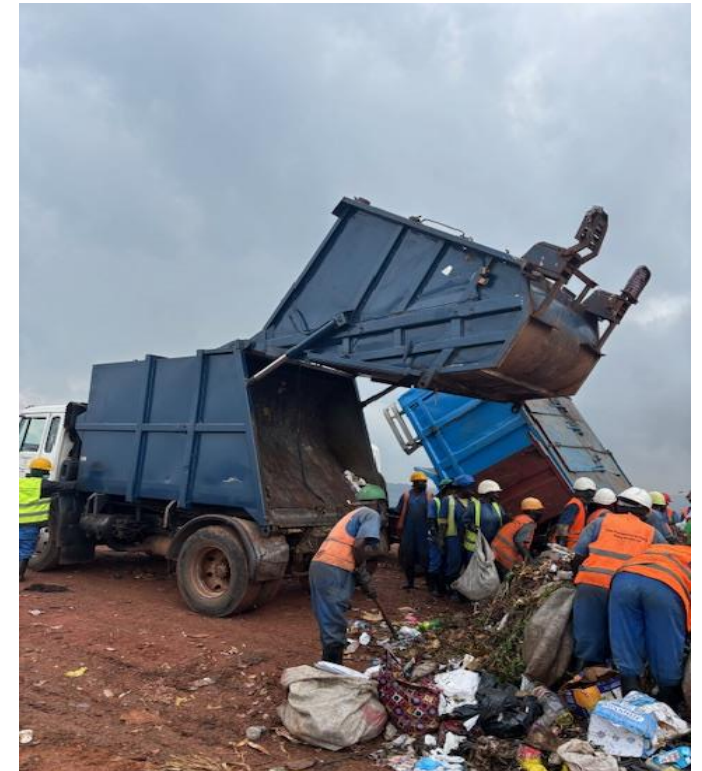
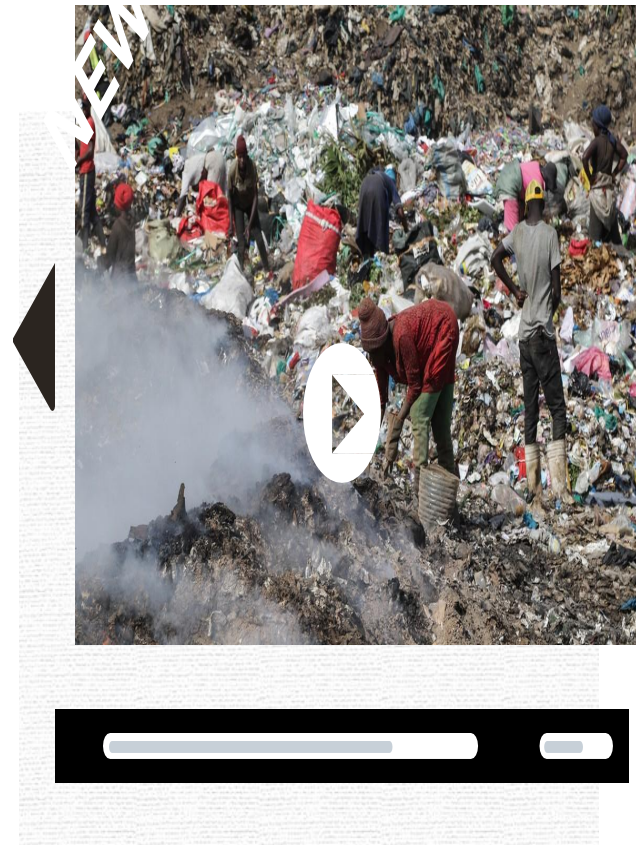
Policy Status - Rwanda

- Constitution mandate gender equality and guarantees a minimum 30% representation of women in all decision-making bodies
 - A target the country has far exceeded, with 63,75% of parliamentary seats held by women
- Key institutions advancing gender equality include Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), the Gender Monitoring Office (GMO), and the National Women's Council.
- Rwanda implements gender budgeting across all ministries and incentivizes the private sector to adopt gender equality measures.



Challenges

- Recycling - plastic components often contain brominated flame retardants, which are carcinogenic.
- Informal workers – particularly women – remain vulnerable
- Rwanda -many women work as licensed plastic collectors under regulated conditions (with protective gear and health insurance)

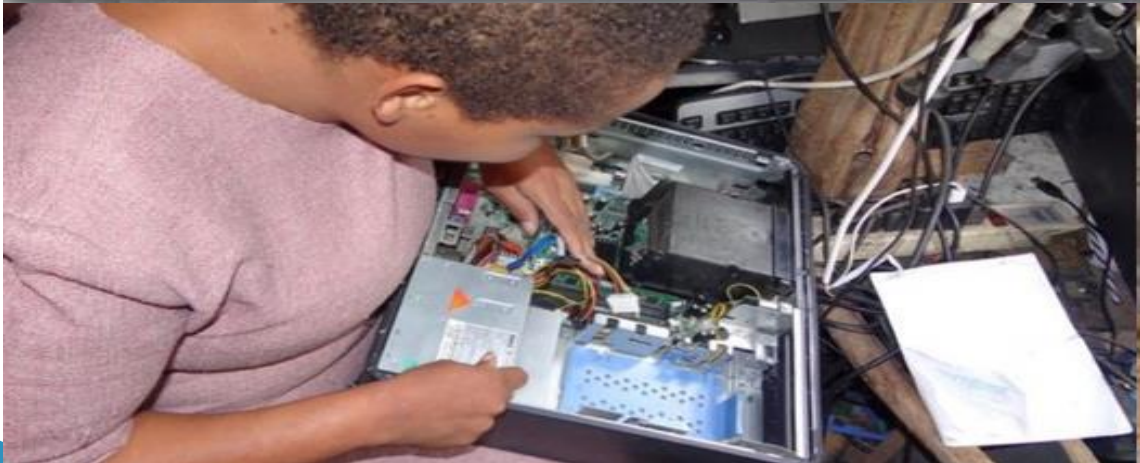




Good practices identified

- Biogas production from waste Waste separation, collection & recycling
- Replacing bad pesticides
- Ending gender-based violence in the workplace
- Women's entrepreneurship for a transition to green and circular economy
- Training on smart agro-ecological systems

Good practices identified in Kenya



Gender mainstreaming in policies

Gender data and analysis	Legal and institutional	Barriers to equality
Scoping studies on different impacts and roles (by sex) predominantly about males	Gender equality strongly anchored in Constitution/Laws	Public policies to reduce burden of care on women lack: e.g. affordable healthcare, (pre-)schools
Laboratory analysis e.g. POPs in human body (by sex) predominantly about males	Government policies include gender equality analysis and plan, but lack resources	Policies for equal decision-making women & men in public/private sector: less in rural, informal sectors
Monitoring chemical's use and restrictions & gender roles need specific resources for women	Public and private sector integrate gender equality in institutions, including on SEAH	Policies to ensure work and living spaces are free of sexual violence: mostly voluntary basis, not enforced



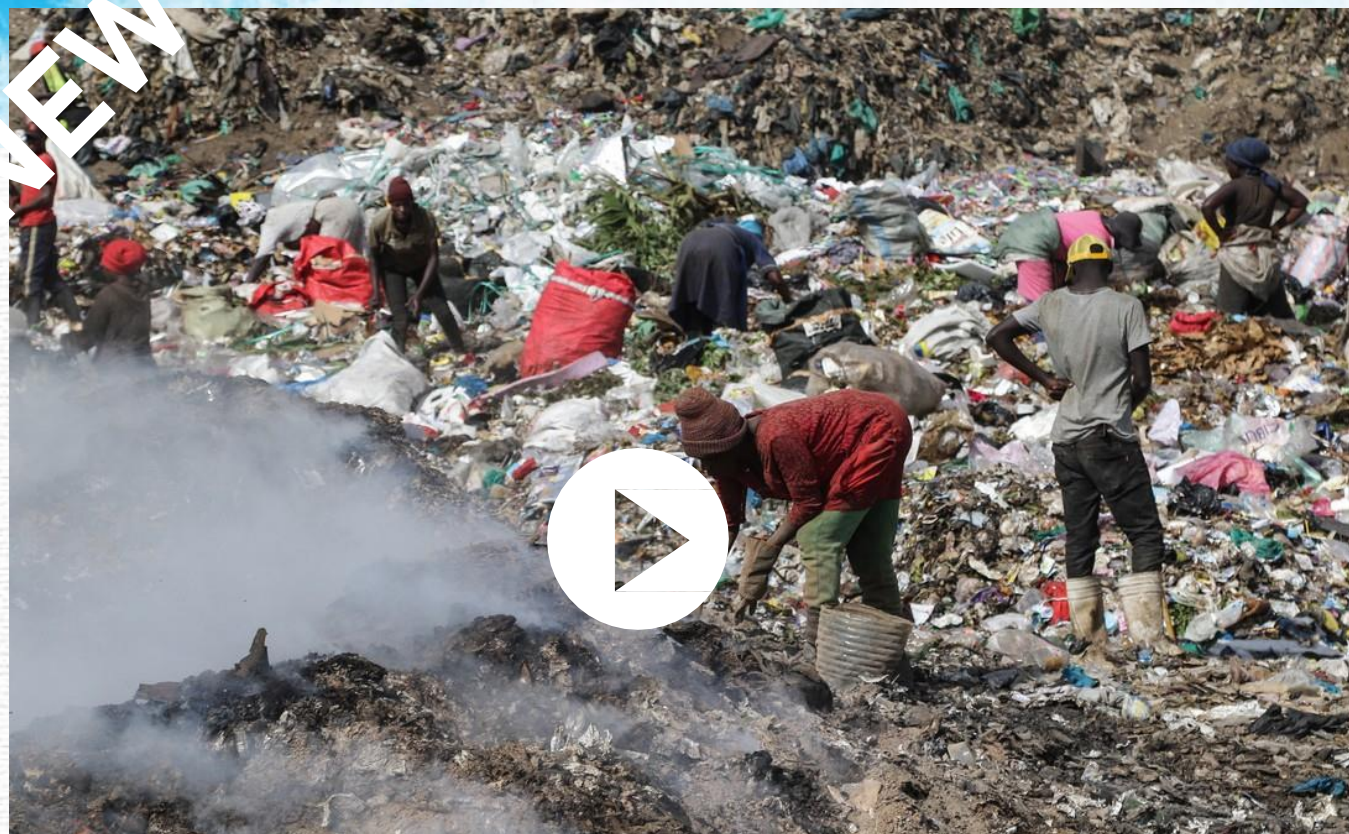
Recommendations

Gender-equality requires a multi-sectorial and multi-faceted approach by government and other actors

- ✓ Equal Participation and Leadership to advance gender equality in relation to chemicals and waste
- ✓ Capacity building and Gender Data
- ✓ Access to finance and resources for gender equality and women's empowerment
- ✓ Gender-equal Just transition to sustainable and toxic-free economies

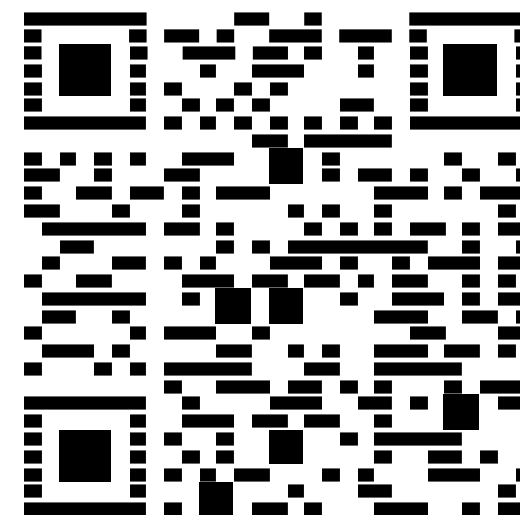


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