



# Community-Driven Waste Management Initiatives in Accra's Slums: Participation Rates and Environmental Health Impacts

Kofi Asare<sup>1,2</sup>, Abena Boakye<sup>3</sup>, Yaw Gyekye<sup>1,4</sup>, Esi Bonsu<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ashesi University

<sup>2</sup> Food Research Institute (FRI)

<sup>3</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi

<sup>4</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Food Research Institute (FRI)

<sup>5</sup> University of Ghana, Legon

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**Correspondence:** [kasare@outlook.com](mailto:kasare@outlook.com)

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## Author notes

*Kofi Asare is affiliated with Ashesi University and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

*Abena Boakye is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

*Yaw Gyekye is affiliated with Ashesi University and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

*Esi Bonsu is affiliated with University of Ghana, Legon and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Community-driven waste management initiatives are gaining traction globally as a sustainable approach to addressing urban environmental challenges, particularly in resource-scarce settings like Accra's slums. The research employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data from surveys with qualitative insights from focus group discussions among slum residents. Recycling participation rates were notably higher (65%) among women compared to men (40%), suggesting gender-specific factors influencing engagement. Focus groups highlighted the importance of community-led clean-up events and education campaigns in fostering recycling habits. Community-driven waste management initiatives show promise for improving environmental health, though they require tailored strategies to engage all demographic segments effectively. Local governments should prioritise inclusive planning that includes women's perspectives and innovative financing mechanisms to sustain these programmes long-term.

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Sub-Saharan, Community Engagement, Participatory Research, Waste Reduction, Sustainability Assessment, Environmental Justice*

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