

<b>City</b> Cape Town	
<b>Country</b>	South Africa
<b>Population</b>	4,420,472
<b>Title of policy or practice</b>	Western Cape Green Economy Greencape
<b>Subtitle (optional)</b>	
<b>URL video</b>	
<b>Category</b>	Food Waste
<b>SDGs</b>	SDGs:1, 2, 3, 11, 13, 17.
<b>Brief description</b>	<p>The benefits of organic waste management to your business include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Savings on waste management costs (through savings on landfilling and collection costs);</li> <li>• Receiving income by selling organic wastes after proper sorting;</li> <li>• Helping businesses achieve sustainability goals which can be illustrated in an organisation's integrating reporting to stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>The following sections highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential benefits of organic waste management to your business;</li> <li>• Alternative solutions to sending organics to landfill;</li> <li>• Best practices for managing organic waste onsite;</li> <li>• Important waste regulations to be aware of.</li> </ul>
<b>Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)</b>	Ongoing
<b>Actors and stakeholders involvement</b>	<p>There are different departments involved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. City of Cape Town: Urban Management, Recreation &amp; Parks, Social Development, Property;</li> <li>2. Western Cape Government: Department of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development &amp; Land Affairs, Department Education - Social-Health;</li> <li>3. Universities: Stellenbosch (US), Cape Town (UCT), Western Cape (UWC) &amp; Peninsula (CPUT);</li> <li>4. NGOs: Greencape, Abalimi Bazekhaye, Soil for Life, Urban Harvest and Keep the Dream. Local communities in the different regions.</li> </ol>
<b>Approach</b>	<p>3.3.3 PRECONDITIONS FOR ASSISTANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project brief background and purpose of the project;</li> <li>• A written approval: a formal lease, permit or letter of consent;</li> <li>• Confirmation of access to water or source of water available;</li> <li>• If a group of people apply, they should be formally organized.</li> </ul> <p>The City work with businesses and NGOs to assist the local communities with Food waste projects and with market access.</p>
<b>Innovation</b>	<p>6.1 In terms of direct interventions aimed at improving and creating a stable, resilient and adaptable food system:</p> <p>Food waste is being recycled into compost heaps and back into the soil and sold to retailers.</p>

2. Food waste interventions and partnerships  
 Two key interventions and strategies are proposed:  
 1) A formal retailer food optimisation pyramid;  
 2) Improved data collection. Additional interventions for consideration are discussed, such as improved cold chain management, packaging to avoid spoilage, a food waste reduction roadmap and household and food service sector campaigns.

2.1. Retailer Food Optimisation Pyramid

In the absence of comprehensive data that would help to identify where the most nutritious foods are being lost or wasted in the province, this strategy focuses on the minimisation of food lost or wasted by formal retailers<sup>2</sup> and markets operating in the province. In order to frame food waste in a positive light and inform retailers of the economically viable options for reducing food waste, the development of a Retailer Food Optimisation Pyramid is proposed.

- Improve cold chain management and logistics;
- Improve packaging to avoid food spoil;
- Develop a food waste reduction road map;
- Household consumer food waste campaign;
- Food service sector campaign.

**Impact**

Impacts of food waste  
 Food loss and waste represents a tragic waste of high value resources that could have been used to improve social and economic conditions in the country, and the province, and which equates to environmental damage for water and energy.

Environmental impacts  
 The highest carbon footprint of food waste occurs at the consumption phase 37%.  
 A great deal of water is required to produce most foods, which makes food waste avoidance an important sustainability issue in a water-scarce region like South Africa, and particularly in a drought-stricken province like the Western Cape.

Social impacts  
 In an inequitable society like Western cape, with high levels of food insecurity<sup>1</sup>, wasting food that could otherwise have met the needs of the poor is a missed opportunity to address social ills in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner. In an annual assessment of global hunger, yet at the same time an estimated one in eight people suffer from chronic undernourishment.

Economic impacts  
 Food waste can impact on food prices and contribute to more strained commodity markets, and therefore an increase in food prices, which raises concerns about the impact on the poor. For the grower, on-farm losses can threaten their financial survival. This is prevalent amongst South African farmers, as in terms of weight and volume, more food waste occurs on farm and during processing than at the consumption end of the food supply chain.

**Inclusion**

The Western Cape has numerous organic waste management solutions for homes, and industrial and commercial businesses.

Waste-to-Pharma/Chem:  
 Conversion of organics to fine chemicals for the chemical / pharmaceutical industry.

Waste-to-Food:

Redistribution of surplus / obsolete food to initiative feeding people.

Waste-to-Feed:

Forwarding of food and organic waste to animals/livestock.

Waste-to-Soil:

Processing food and organic waste into compost, soil enhancers, vermiculite and worm farming.

Waste-to-Energy:

Processing of organic waste into fuels or generate heat/electricity, biogas and diesel.

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**Adversity coefficient**

Impact of Severe Drought:

Cape Town is currently confronted by serious shocks, stresses and urban challenges, contributed to the drought phenomena with the associated risks of acute water shortages.

Resilience in the urban context is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, business and systems to survive and to adapt and grow no matter what kind of chronic stress and acute shocks is experience.

The agrarian activities associated with the food gardens were impact on the prevailing drought situation over the past two years as they are linked to municipal water resources and infrastructure.

Cape Town is winter rainfall area and drought area; solely with significant reliance on precipitation.  
Howe

These food garden projects are ongoing that is implemented by the City of Cape Town in partnership with provincial and national government state departments and its entities, to assist with contributed financing for these projects. Some of the initiatives includes well-points, boreholes and harvesting rainwater from the roofs into tanks.