

# 2024 Global Methane Forum

## Mobilizing Methane Action

18-21 March 2024, Geneva, Switzerland



# Environmental Justice Considerations for the Implementation of Methane Reduction Projects

**Maribel Vilella**  
GAIA

# Who we are

GAIA is a global network of grassroots and national organizations from **92 countries around the world** who are working together on **waste and justice**, and one of our main strategic priorities for the next several years is supporting **organizing and policy work for methane reduction**.

Our members have deep expertise in the field and are strongly rooted in their communities and countries. Many of them have been working for decades on **reducing pollution from organic waste and implementing composting, biogas, and other zero waste solutions**.



# The question:

## How can we ensure a fair, just, and sustainable implementation of solutions?

**Environmental justice principles are often neglected** in waste management approaches, exacerbating social divisions and excluding critical stakeholders, especially in the informal sector.

### Main barriers:



Lack of alignment



Lack of strategy



Failure to engage issues of justice



Counterproductive technologies



# The need:

## The positive benefits related to the reduction of GHGs are more important than ever

**Effective climate action will not only reduce GHG emissions**, but also improve many of the most fundamental ways in which society functions through associated environmental, economic, social, and political and institutional benefits.

### The co-benefits:



Air quality



Food security



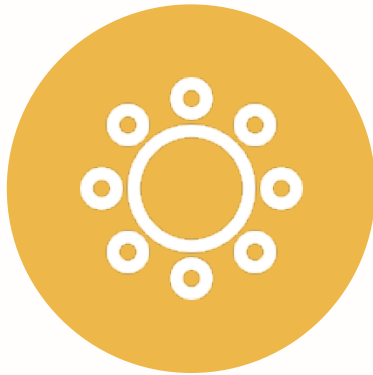
Employment



Political, institutional  
benefits



# What are we doing



We developed **environmental justice principles for fast action on methane in the waste sector**, with leaders from 41 countries



We are inviting other organizations - including all of you - to join us in **putting these principles into action**



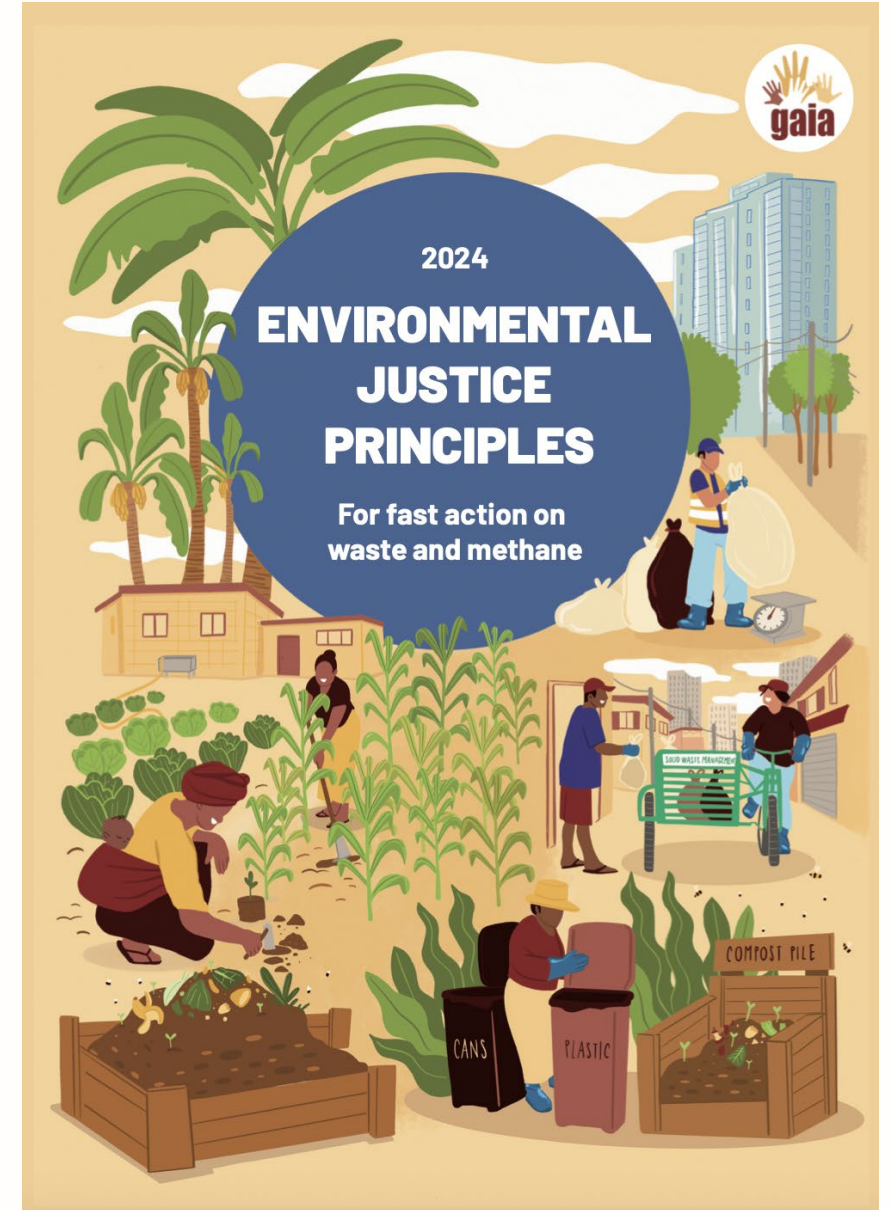
As GAIA we work with groups in **50+ countries** that are poised for action, and we aim to bring in **technical and financial support** for their efforts

# How to use the EJ Principles for Fast Action on Waste and Methane

**This set of EJ principles provide:**

- guidance to policymakers in developing methane reduction policies, including dumpsite closures.
- checklists for NDCs key stakeholders

**Download in various languages - up to 12: [here](#)**



**Five  
environmental  
justice  
principles for  
fast action the  
waste sector**



Respect planetary boundaries to ensure intergenerational equity



Respect for all waste pickers and waste workers



Enhance inclusion and build from local knowledge



Respond to pollution and environmental harm with accountability



Support holistic solutions through systems change



# Our event today: how do the EJ principles look in practice?



## Nothing left behind:

modelling Material Recovery and Biological Treatment's contribution to resource recovery and fighting climate change

Executive Summary

April 2023

Equanimator Ltd for Zero Waste Europe

[zerowasteurope.eu](http://zerowasteurope.eu)



Aliansi  
Zero Was  
Indonesia







www.no-burn.org

# Thanks!

Methane Matters: read it [here](#)

Zero Waste for Zero Emissions: read it [here](#)

A Key to Rapid Methane Reductions: Keeping Organic Waste From Landfills: read it [here](#)