

GHANA CLEAN MARKET INITIATIVE

Sorteer Straat Ghana — Project Brief

A proposed market waste-management, drainage-protection and green-jobs model for Ghana

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Status: **Independent proposal seeking government, market-association, technical, community and funding partners.**

1. The opportunity

Ghana Clean Market Initiative proposes a practical system that connects source separation, high-capacity underground waste containers, scheduled collection, recycling, drainage maintenance, public-space cleanliness and measurable local jobs. The first concepts focus on Agbogbloshie in Accra and Kejetia in Kumasi.

The aim is to move from recurring clean-up activity toward a permanent, accountable service model that can be tested, measured and adapted before wider rollout.

2. Proposed operating model

Sort → Collect → Recycle → Maintain → Measure

Service	Purpose
Sort	Separate organic waste, plastics, paper/cardboard, metals and general waste.
Collect	Use secure, high-capacity collection points and scheduled vehicles.
Recycle	Recover useful materials and connect them with recycling businesses.
Maintain	Keep market areas and drains clean through scheduled local teams.
Measure	Track collections, tonnes, jobs, maintenance and service performance.

3. Starting points

Agbogbloshie, Accra: a proposed pilot concept using four collection zones, underground high-capacity containers, controlled collection access, recycling points and drainage protection. Exact infrastructure locations require professional surveys and approvals.

Kejetia, Kumasi: a site-specific expansion concept designed around market, transport and pedestrian flows, with underground containers, collection-truck access, recycling education and monitoring.

4. Youth and community participation

The initiative recognises the work of Ghanaian youth environmental organisations such as BuzStopBoys. The proposed model is intended to complement community action by adding durable infrastructure, organised services and pathways to paid work in collection, sorting, recycling, maintenance, logistics and monitoring.

5. Partnership with Antwerp and Belgium

The project seeks a knowledge partnership in which relevant Antwerp experience can inform Ghanaian adaptation. The goal is not to copy another city's system, but to learn from operating practices and adapt them to Ghanaian market, climate, governance and economic conditions.

Potential partner contributions include technical expertise, waste-system design, training and mentorship, operational lessons, recycling connections and funding pathways.

6. What we are asking government and partners to consider

- Support a feasibility and site-assessment phase.
- Engage relevant assemblies, market associations and sanitation stakeholders.
- Review underground-container and collection options with qualified engineers and waste operators.
- Establish clear roles, service standards, safety requirements and accountability mechanisms.
- Explore a measurable pilot with transparent performance indicators.
- Identify sustainable financing and public-private partnership options.
- Evaluate the pilot before considering adaptation to additional markets.

7. Suggested pilot measures

Indicator	Pilot measurement
Participants	Registered traders / workers / participating groups
Waste	Tonnes collected and collection frequency
Recycling	Tonnes of recyclable material recovered
Drainage	Length / locations of drains maintained
Jobs	Cleaning, collection, sorting, recycling and maintenance roles
Service	Collection-point uptime and complaints resolved

8. Important project note

This document presents a concept, not an engineering design or government-approved project. Final container locations, chamber design, drainage works, traffic arrangements, collection equipment, environmental requirements, accessibility, fire safety, procurement and operating costs must be established through qualified studies, stakeholder engagement and the relevant approvals.

9. Contact

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The website also contains the AI concept video, project visuals and the BuzStopBoys community section.