



FINAL REPORT

# Applying Japanese Waste Management Practices to Mauritius: Opportunities and Challenges

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#### THE PROBLEM TO SOLVE

## Mauritius still relies heavily on landfill disposal

Mixed waste collection keeps recyclables and organics together, limiting resource recovery and increasing pressure on Mare Chicose.

**498,309**

tonnes of solid waste disposed at Mare Chicose in 2024



### One engineered sanitary landfill

Mare Chicose is the national final-disposal point.



### Circularity is blocked upstream

Source segregation is not yet nationwide at household level.

## WHAT JAPAN DEMONSTRATES

# Separation becomes a social norm when the system is clear.

Households sort waste into categories, municipalities provide guides and schedules, and compliance is visible at collection points.



Separate



3Rs



Schedule



Participate

Observed practice: improperly sorted waste can be left uncollected and marked with a warning sticker.



### Tokyo "War on Waste"

Public participation and awareness



### Suginami Incineration Plant

Waste-to-energy technology with strict emission control



### Green Springs, Tachikawa City

Sustainable urban development and green infrastructure



### Mitaka City

Local governance and community participation



### Wakabada Elementary School

Environmental education from an early age



### Shikashima House

Community engagement and sustainable lifestyles

Note: AI generated pictorial description for presentation purposes only

## APPLYING THE PRACTICE IN MAURITIUS

# Start with clarity before enforcement

The Waste Segregation at Source Project can be strengthened with simple guides, visible schedules and phased corrective measures after residents are familiar with the system.



Guides



Schedules



Bags / bins



Feedback

Use the District Council of Black River as a pilot project to learn, monitor and refine before nationwide rollout.



## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

# Behaviour change starts in schools and communities

Japan's experience shows that awareness-raising, school activities and shared responsibility can turn waste reduction into a daily habit.



### Educate

Residents know what goes where.



### Public Awareness

Messages are repeated and practical.



### Normalize

Neighbours see each other participating.

## LONG-TERM RECOVERY OPTION

# Resource recovery reduces pressure on landfill

Enhance existing facilities through innovation  
Explore waste-to-energy technologies, such as modern waste incineration plants.



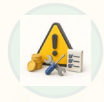
Feasibility first: financial, technical and institutional capacity must be validated.



## CHALLENGES & LIMITATIONS

# Adapt the Japanese model to Mauritian Context

The lesson is not to copy Japan directly — it is to translate the discipline of the system into a Mauritian model that citizens can sustain.



### Investment

Waste-to-energy and expanded collection require significant capital.



### Behaviour change

Segregation depends on continuous awareness and visible norms.



### Operations

Monitoring, staffing and technical expertise must scale with the system.



### Local context

Assess the cost benefit analysis for use of garbage bags instead of 3 colour coded bins and animals scattering waste.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

## A phased path toward circular waste management

### Outcome

Cleaner surroundings, better local authority efficiency and reduced reliance on landfill.



**Awareness**

Build shared responsibility



**Pilot**

Monitor Pilot Project at The District Council of Black River



**Schedules**

Separate collection days



**Scale**

Recover more resources



**Assess WTE**

Validate feasibility

**Arigatou Gozaimasu**  
**Thank you for your attention**