



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG  
METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY



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## MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 08 October 2025

### MAJOR GRANT SECURED FOR ALTERNATIVE WASTE TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Today, the City of Johannesburg takes a bold and decisive step forward in our commitment to sustainable waste management and environmental leadership. I am proud to announce that we have successfully secured a substantial grant of EUR 27.5 million (approximately R548 million) from Invest International Public Programmes, a prominent Dutch development finance institution. This funding is not just an achievement; it is a critical investment in our Alternative Waste Treatment Technology (AWTT) Project, set to transform the way we handle waste in our city.

This formal agreement was signed on Wednesday, 8 October 2025, in Sandton, during a significant ceremony held alongside, the G20 Trade Ministerial. I extend my sincere gratitude to Ms. Aukje de Vries, the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Trade and Development, as well as Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) in this powerful collaboration. The AWTT project is a cornerstone of our vision for a cleaner, greener Johannesburg. It aligns perfectly with South Africa's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) objectives, reinforcing our determination to build a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

This initiative integrates seamlessly into our Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) and adheres to the National Waste Management Strategy. Our objectives are clear and ambitious: to minimise waste, drastically reduce our reliance on landfills, and harness renewable energy. This grant represents not only funding but also a strong endorsement of our vision for Johannesburg. It signifies a pivotal transformation in our approach to waste management. We are moving decisively from a linear model of 'take, use, and dispose' to an innovative circular economy that positions waste as a valuable resource.

The impact of this project will be far-reaching and transformative. We will drive environmental benefits by achieving cleaner air and creating a healthier urban environment. Moreover, we are committed to social transformation by uplifting our waste picker communities, generating green jobs, and ensuring gender equality within this framework. By converting waste into energy and new materials, we will ignite economic growth and innovation in our city. This partnership not only highlights Johannesburg's leadership in sustainable urban development but also cements our unwavering commitment to building a cleaner, more resilient, and inclusive future for all our residents.

On behalf of the City of Johannesburg, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Invest International, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Infrastructure South Africa for their invaluable support. Together, we are embarking on a transformative journey that will fundamentally redefine our approach to sustainability and secure a brighter, greener future for Johannesburg.

ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

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