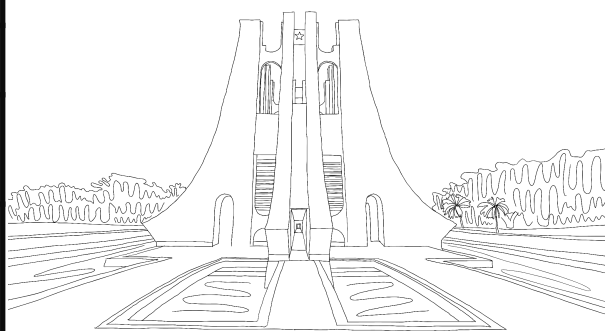


# Accra, Ghana

<b>Population</b>	2.3 million people
<b>Size</b>	167 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>GHG Profile</b>	2,413,057 tCO <sub>2</sub> e total 1.13 tCO <sub>2</sub> e per capita in 2020
<b>High-emission sectors</b>	Energy & Buildings (35%) Transport (33%) Waste (32%)



## From Planning to Implementation

Accra is at a pivotal moment in implementing its Climate Action Plan, as energy and waste account for 67% of emissions, and rapid urban expansion strains infrastructure. With over 95% of waste sent to distant landfills and buildings reliant on fossil-fuel electricity, the city is scaling solutions to cut emissions and improve efficiency. The **Urban Climate Action Programme – Climate Action Implementation (UCAP CAI)** is **strengthening governance, embedding climate priorities** into policy and finance, and equipping city leaders to **unlock investment and scale impact**.



### Energy & Buildings

Boosting Energy Efficiency and Solar Power in Public Buildings

Strengthens energy governance frameworks and institutional capacity for long-term energy efficiency and renewable energy implementation.

- **Draft by-law recommendations developed**, aligning city-level priorities with national building codes and enabling integration of energy efficiency into the building permitting process.
- **Data from energy audits shared with national partners**, supporting smart metre installations and municipal solar PV planning through collaboration with CoM SSA and the Ministry of Energy.
- **Energy Efficiency Capacity Building Workshop delivered**, training stakeholders from city administration, schools, hospitals and the private sector to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions across public and private buildings.



### Waste Management

Optimising Waste Management Through Policy and Strategy Reform

Establishes a regulatory and strategic foundation for inclusive, citywide waste diversion and resource recovery.

- **Waste Optimisation Strategy and Source Separation Roadmap completed**, outlining roles, costs, and timelines to scale waste diversion and material recovery across Accra.
- **Sanitation by-law reviewed and submitted for council approval**, embedding source separation, organic waste diversion, recycling, and formal recognition of informal waste workers into law.
- **Funding mechanisms identified**, enabling future implementation and sustainability of the waste strategy.



### Climate Mainstreaming

Integration of climate action into policies and governance structures

Institutionalises CAP governance and embeds climate action into budgeting, planning, and interdepartmental operations.

- **Climate Change Steering Committee and Technical Implementation Committee operationalised**, providing sustained political and technical leadership to oversee CAP implementation across city departments.
- **City-led GHG inventory capacity strengthened**, with workshops equipping officials to independently update and analyse emissions data.
- **Climate finance gap analysis reviewed and budgeting dialogues held**, strengthening Accra's ability to secure funding for priority actions.

## Pioneering Change: Accra's Bold Journey to Climate Leadership

A quiet revolution has been underway in Accra. Recognizing the urgent need to address climate change, the city launched a pioneering effort to **mainstream climate action into its governance**. A Climate Change Steering Committee was established, bringing together political and technical leaders to drive climate action. With UCAP CAI support, city staff received **training and capacity-building support**. A big breakthrough came with the **update of Accra's Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHGI)** from 2015 to 2020. As Accra's climate leadership grew, so did its reputation as a hub for climate innovation with the city attracting support from **Bloomberg Youth Climate Fund, the Energy Commission of Ghana, and IFC Edge programme**. Today, Accra stands as a beacon of climate resilience in West Africa.



**Figure 1:** Climate Change Steering Committee meeting conducted in Accra



*"The UCAP-CAI initiative has been an invaluable catalyst to the city of Accra in advancing tangible climate actions. Through energy audits of 13 municipal buildings and training it has unlocked transformative opportunities for renewable energy and energy efficiency, setting a powerful example for sustainable urban development in Ghana."*

**Victor Kotey**, Deputy Director of Waste Management Department

**By constructing a new compost plant in 2026 (diverting 40,515 tonnes/year of organic waste in the first year and 162,060 tonnes/year by 2042), the city could\*:**

Avoid **47,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** per year by 2026

Avoid **189,000tCO<sub>2</sub>e** per year by 2042. This represents 32% of the city's domestic waste emissions in 2023 (595,680 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year).

Supported by UK government funding (2022–2025), the Urban Climate Action Programme – Climate Action Implementation (UCAP CAI) accelerates progress against the delivery of Climate Action Plans (CAPs) in 15 Global South cities, in line with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C target.

**UCAP CAI Cities:** Accra - Addis Ababa - Dar Es Salaam - Johannesburg - Lagos - Nairobi - Tshwane - Bogota - Guadalajara - Lima - Medellin - Mexico City - Jakarta - Kuala Lumpur - Quezon City

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Climate Action  
Implementation

