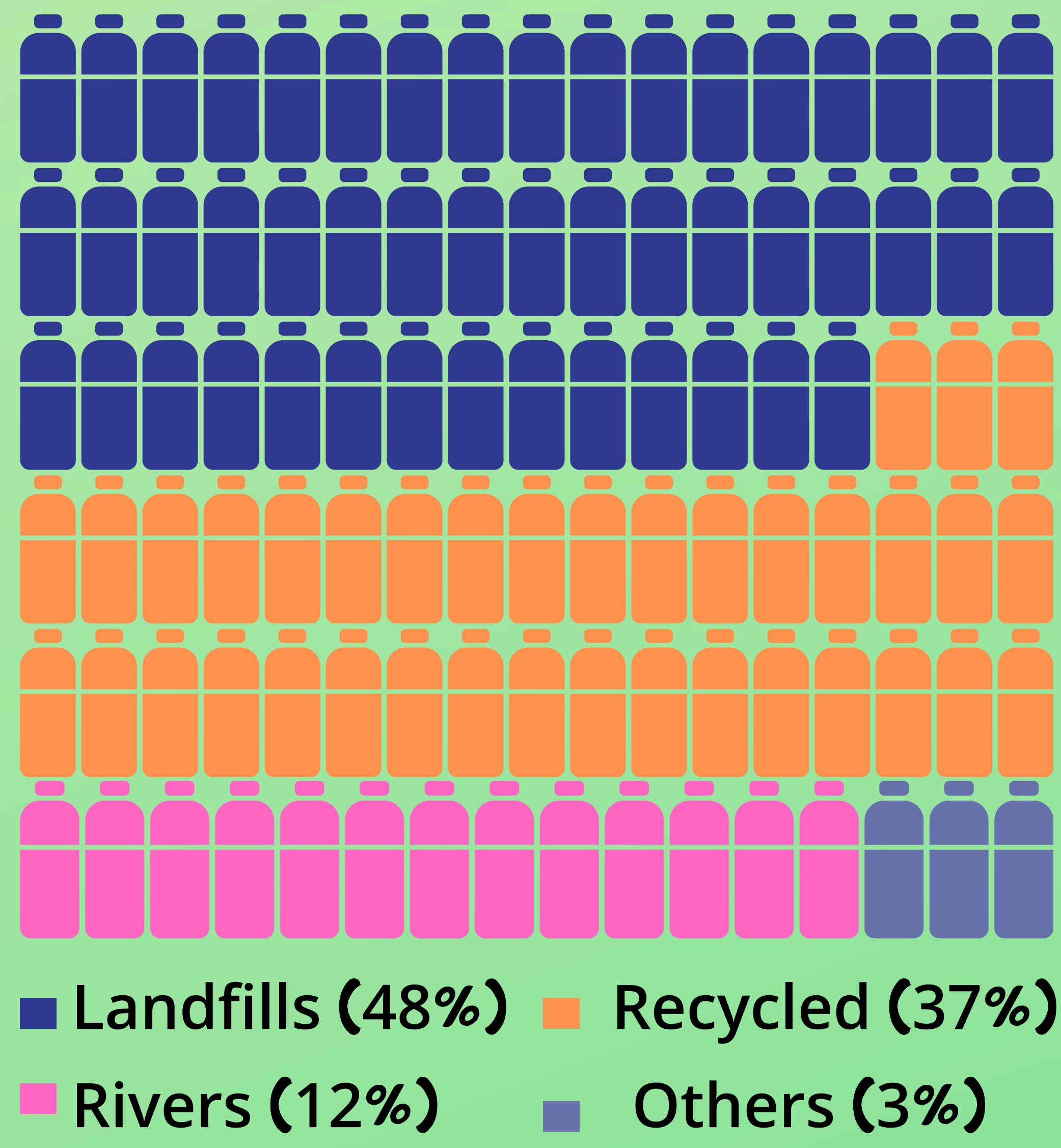# Wrapped in Plastic

Mismanaged plastics are on the rise in urban areas of Bangladesh

Overview of plastic pollution in Bangladesh

The total plastic waste in Dhaka was **646 tons** in 2020

- ■ Landfills **(48%)**
- ■ Recycled **(37%)**
- ■ Rivers **(12%)**
- ■ Others **(3%)**

Bangladesh was 10th among top 20 mismanaged plastic waste generating nations in 2010

Year	Per capita
2020	22.25 kg
2014	17.2 kg
2005	9.2 kg

Per capita plastic consumption has more than doubled in Dhaka in the last 15 years.

Top 20 mismanaged plastic waste generating nations in 2010

China
Indonesia
Philippines
Vietnam
Sri Lanka
Thailand
10th
Egypt
Malaysia
Nigeria
Bangladesh
South Africa
India
Algeria
Turkey
Pakistan
Brazil
Burma
Morocco
South Korea
United States

Effects of plastic pollution

Plastic articles degrade into microplastic, which endangers marine biodiversity significantly

Due to plastic pollution, one-third of Dhaka's canals cannot transport rainwater into rivers

In Bangladesh, plastic waste is often incinerated which leads to air pollution and human health hazard

The estimated clean-up cost of plastic waste for the government was as high as 30% of the total revised budget for the MoEFCC in 2020

The Way Forward

1. Plastic wastes have to be separated at the source which will enable waste collectors to sell all kinds of plastic wastes including single-use plastics (SUPs)

2. The city corporations need to facilitate a network between plastic manufacturers and waste collectors to increase the collection of all types of plastic items

3. The government and the private sector needs to collaborate to create a market for SUPs

4. Producers need to take responsibility to design products that are sustainable and easier to recycle

5. Research and development and investment are needed to explore the ways in which plastic wastes can be turned back into petroleum through pyrolysis

6. It is important to reduce the quantity of plastic entering the value chain by promoting the use of sustainable, affordable, and alternative materials to plastic

PLASTIC   ORGANIC   GLASS   PAPER

Green Cities Initiative