



CASE STUDY INFOGRAPHIC

eWASA Glassine Liner Take-Back Scheme



How a structured national collection model is turning release liner waste into a managed circular material stream in South Africa.

112 646 kg

Glassine liner waste recycled in 2025 through the scheme, working with producers and recyclers across Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

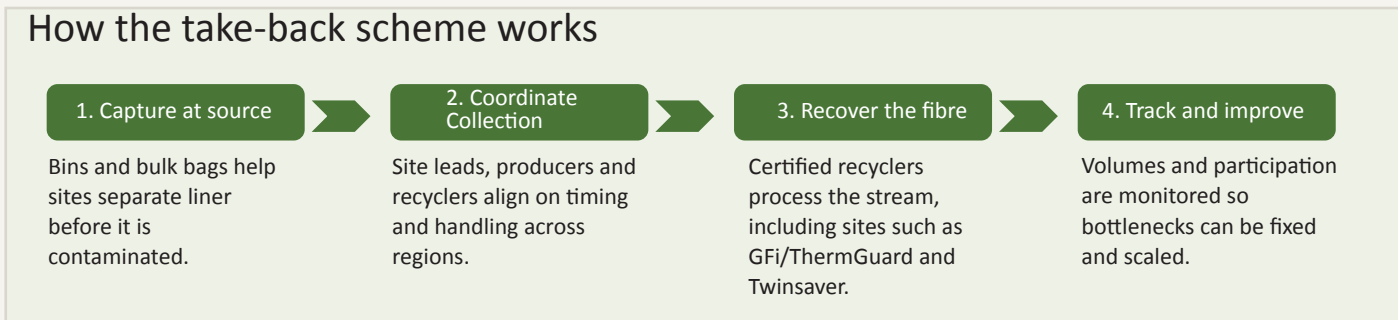
Why this stream was being lost

- Glassine liners were often treated as non-recyclable waste and sent to landfill.
- Awareness of recyclability was low, especially outside specialist label operations.
- Collection systems were fragmented, making consistent recovery challenging.
- Stakeholder coordination across producers, sites and recyclers was limited.

What the scheme changed

- A national take-back model linked producers to certified recyclers in three major regions.
- Bins and bulk bags were deployed at participating sites to make separation practical.
- Collections, processing and stakeholder engagement were coordinated through one structured programme.
- Monitoring and reporting created visibility on volumes, participation and operational gaps.

How the take-back scheme works



Impact and next steps

Results

- Access to certified recyclers across major metros.
- Higher stakeholder participation.
- A visible route for a stream once sent to landfill.

What it proved

- Collaboration across producers, recyclers and EPR structures unlocks recovery.
- Site infrastructure changes behaviour.
- Clear accountability improves collection performance.

Next priorities

- Use more of the existing collection capacity.
- Improve recycler responsiveness.
- Strengthen separation at source.