Because women often have a harder time than men accessing important public information, The Carter Center is working with 13 international cities to help them get information to women about beneficial city services. Today, we’re speaking with Jefferson Tamba Koijee, mayor of Monrovia, about the campaign there.

What service(s) are you highlighting?
The Monrovia city government will be promoting women’s access to the city’s solid waste management service, specifically in the community of Clara Town.
Why did you choose to focus on these services?
Solid waste management is a challenge in Monrovia, as many households do not subscribe to the city collection system, which leads to many communities being littered with waste; this contributes to environmental and health dangers.

Lack of access to information about the service is one of the main reasons this problem persists, so increasing information about it will result in more families’ subscribing. When more families subscribe, the environment will be cleaner and communities will be healthier. This campaign targets women specifically because women are typically in charge of waste disposal.

How are you using the Inform Women, Transform Lives grant to reach more women?
Through this campaign, we will target 300 women in the Clara Town community. The Monrovia city government will target influencers and stakeholders to commit to and participate in promoting access to information about solid waste management. We will reach out to women through a direct door-to-door campaign, town hall meetings, and flyer distribution.

More generally, why do you think it’s important for women to have access to information?
Information is a key catalyst for transforming lives and society in general, and women are an important factor in the process of transformation. Having women informed will enable them to contribute significantly to the societal transformational process.

The Carter Center wishes to thank IrishAID for their support of the Inform Women, Transform Lives campaign in Monrovia.