

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIC SECTOR COOPERATION (SSC) BETWEEN Kenya & Denmark, Annual report for 2019

Danish Authorities in International Cooperation



Project description

The purpose of the SSC is to assist Kenya in meeting both needs of economic and industrial growth and environmental protection by pursuing a green and circular economy road map, through:

- Direct support to development and implementation of new environmental policies related to industrial development and the national planning system.
- Piloting and demonstrating a conducive industry-authority collaboration, circular economy strategies, business models and regulatory operational approaches in an industrial zone in Nairobi, Ruaraka, among 35 industries. This entails a multi-stakeholder collaboration between authorities, researchers, BMOs and the private sector. The long-term objective is to make Ruaraka a model for eco-industrial parks in Kenya.
- Providing a structural multisector and –stakeholder approach to the adoption of circular economy policy making and development through awareness raising and capacity building among politicians, Ministries, Counties, and other decision makers.

Vision2030 is the national vision that sets out to make Kenya an upper middle-income country by 2030. The vision is being implemented through a number of sector strategies and national plans. The expansion of the manufacturing sector stands as one of 4 main pillars and is expected to play a pivotal role in the realization of Vision2030.

Kenya is simultaneously pursuing a low carbon and resource efficient strategy on greening the economy. The country is internationally active and a leading nation in the region on many areas related to environmental protection and protection of ecosystems.

Key activities in 2019

- A high-level study tour to Denmark on County environmental management and urban and industrial sustainable development with Governors from the 4 largest urban centres outside Nairobi.
- Knowledge, support and advocacy to the finalization and piloting of the new solid waste bill and policy.
- A 3-module training of trainers course in Kenya and Denmark on industrial inspection practices and environmental data management developed, with one conducted in 2019.
- Development of an outline for revising the environmental auditing procedures and reporting format.
- Capacity building for 79 staff members across 13 stakeholder institutions and authorities on circular economy, environment and water governance, solid waste and waste-water management courses in Denmark.
- Scoping and concept note Phase 2.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

In broad terms, 2019 has been a year of observing, planning and consolidating Danish environmental knowledge within the stakeholder system of the SSC. The SSC expands its outreach to the four largest urban and economic centres outside the capital, Nairobi.

There is an increasing awareness of the need for a systemic approach to improve industry to authority enforcement and the compliance framework.

A new plastics recycling action plan by the industry emerged from an integrated Danish multi-level approach based on Danish know-how and experiences. Circular principles are built into new solid waste and resources legislation due to multi-stakeholder approaches to advocacy, technical assistance and capacity building.

The private sector and other non-government actors increase awareness of the benefits of a green and circular economy through advocacy work and stakeholder dialogues.

Ruaraka public-private partnership grows through collective intelligence and synergies across Danish supported activities, including environmental networking, knowhow, business development, research and capacity building.

Status: Phase I programme finalised by mid 2020 and Phase II under preparation, expected start Q3 2020.

Main Partners: Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Cooperatives, National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) and Kenya Association of Manufacturers.

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