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Kisumu Symbiocity Working group after a workshop session with the facilitators

DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED CHANGE PROJECT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The Symbiocity Kenya program held a four-day Urban Sustainability Review (USR) workshop dubbed “Chunky workshop” at Sarova Hotel in Nakuru County.

The workshop that began on 27th November to 1st December, 2017 was convened for Symbiocity working groups from Kisumu and Homa Bay Counties to review their change project by narrowing on the focus, formulating the overall goal, setting objectives, brainstorming on solutions and pitching the project.

Symbiocity is a concept that provides guidance and tools to support sustainable urban development based on the principles of symbiosis; integrated across departmental, inclusive participatory planning and development.



CEC Tourism Sports and Culture, CEC Business Energy and Industry after a courtesy call to their departments by the team from SALAR and the Kisumu Symbiocity working group

SETTING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE CHANGE PROJECT



Eng. Ojwang' Making a presentation on the change project goal formulated by the Symbiocity Kisumu working group

The facilitator Madam Karin took the participants through setting of goals and objectives during the “chunky Workshop” held in Nakuru. Both working groups from Kisumu and Homa Bay had a chance to formulate their goals and objectives in line with the change projects.

The session embraced a participatory approach. Kisumu team came up with the following goal; **To enhance the livelihood of Ahero people by making river Nyando clean, safe and attractive to residents, visitors and business.**

The specific objectives formulated were as follows: to reduce waste management by 10%, to develop a recreational park with necessary amenities along river Nyando, to improve the drainage system and storm water management from the market to the river, to reduce air pollution and improve aesthetics by planting trees along circulation area and other



FROM VISION TO ACTION



Mr. Mat making a presentation during the workshop at Nakuru

The participants were enlightened on how to actualize their vision of the change project.

Mr. Mat outlined some of the key issues involved in the process as follows:

- When working with a complex situation, the project may require a lot of things to solve the problem
- One can't solve problems with the same way of thinking we used when we created them. Think innovatively (symbiocity allows one to think creatively)
- There is always more than one way to do things. Consider the scenarios.
- Don't let objectives restrain you. Break free.
- A good solution has multiple components. Think programmatically (multiple stakeholders, hard and soft programs)
- Find the right way of focusing your project
- Types of focus: geographic, thematic, a goal, a system and sector.

PROGRESS REVIEW OF THE CHANGE PROJECT



The CEC Physical Planning, Lands, Housing and Urban Development Hon.Nerry Achar hosted consultants from Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) at the town council offices in Ahero on the 6th December 2017.

The official visit was set to discuss the progress of the change project in line with the achievements, challenges faced and also to chart the way forward on the implementation stage.

The meeting culminated with a tour around river Nyando, the Park, bus stage and the urban council market being the slotted areas set for improvements as per the needs of the members of Ahero community.

SYMBIOCITY PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION KICKS OFF



After undertaking an urban review, Symbiocity programme in Kisumu County is set for implementation. These include finalizing projects within Ahero town. The identified projects include: unclogging of drains, installation of waste bins, sensitization of the community on waste management practices and also to train environment champions on how they can utilize waste.

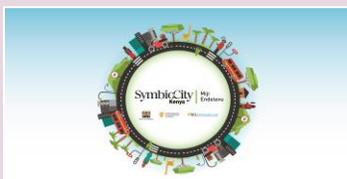
According to the Project Coordinator, Mr. Stephen Sule, the opening up of five Kilometer drain and construction of culverts is part of the implementation process and the proposal has already been approved for the same purpose.

Kisumu County symbiocity chapter settled on Ahero town due to its proximity to the city. It also serves as an entry point to Kisumu from the other neighboring counties.

THE VISION: “A clean, healthy, resilient, convergent and people centered city of prosperity”

CONTRIBUTORS

1. *Emily A. Mikwa*
2. *Innocent Oleche*
3. *John Willis*
4. *David Wadulo*



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P.O. Box 2738-40100

info@kisumu.go.ke

website: www.kisumu.go.ke

Twitter: @KisumuCountyKE



The County Government of Kisumu

info@kisumu.go.ke