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Circular Economy in Africa

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Presentation Outline

- Africa at a Glance: *Political & development indices, renewable resources*
- Some understanding of circular economy
- Governments' effort in promoting CE in Africa
- Private Sector effort in promoting CE
- Sample CE Projects in Africa
- Challenges in achieving CE in Africa
- Way Forward
- Conclusion

Africa at a Glance I - Political and Development indices

- Area: 30.37 million km sq
- Population: 1,216,000,000
- Electricity Access: 47%
- Solid Waste Generation: 125 million tonnes/yr *
- Unemployment: 30% Average**



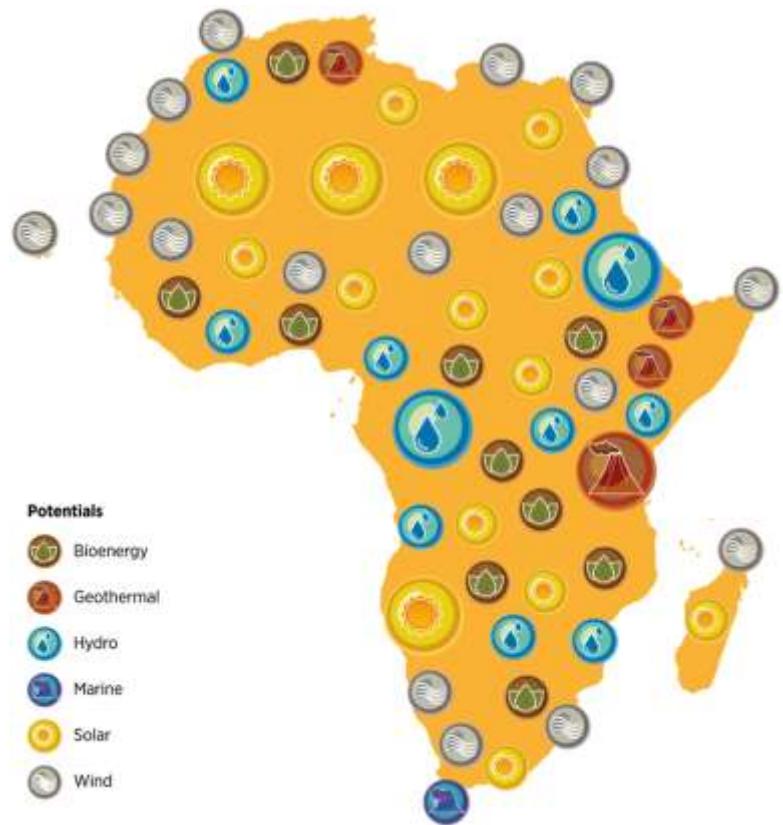
* UNEP 2018

** ILO



Africa at a Glance II - *More Than Just Mineral Resources*

Renewable Energy





Some Understanding of Circular Economy: I

A circular economy is an alternative to an old-style linear economy (make, use, dispose) in which resources are being in use repeatedly.

It is a well planed way of utilizing raw materials which reduces waste of materials at the end of their useful time.

Maximum value is extracted from them at the same time as in use, then materials are recovered, and products are regenerated at the end of each life.





Some Understanding of Circular Economy: II

1. Based on three principles:

- Design out waste and pollution
- keep products and materials in use
- regenerate natural systems

2. Based on 7 key Elements



Government Effort in Promoting CE in Africa

Africa Circular Economy Alliance

- Conceived at the World Economic Forum in Kigali in 2016 and launched in Bonn at COP 23.
- The Alliance was founded by three countries Rwanda, Nigeria and South Africa along with UN Environment and the World Economic Forum.
- The Alliance held its first Annual meeting and board meeting at the Africa Green Growth Summit in November 2018 in which Niger, Senegal, Malawi and the DRC joined the Alliance.



Government Effort in Promoting CE in Africa- Contd

African Circular Alliance

LONG TERM AMBITION

- Create an alliance of African countries represented at the Ministerial level and advocate for the circular economy

OBJECTIVES

- Share best practices for the creation of legal and regulatory frameworks and creation of circular economy projects
- Advocate for and raise awareness of the circular economy at a national, regional and global level
- Bring about new projects and partnerships within individual or multiple countries



Private Sector Effort in Promoting CE

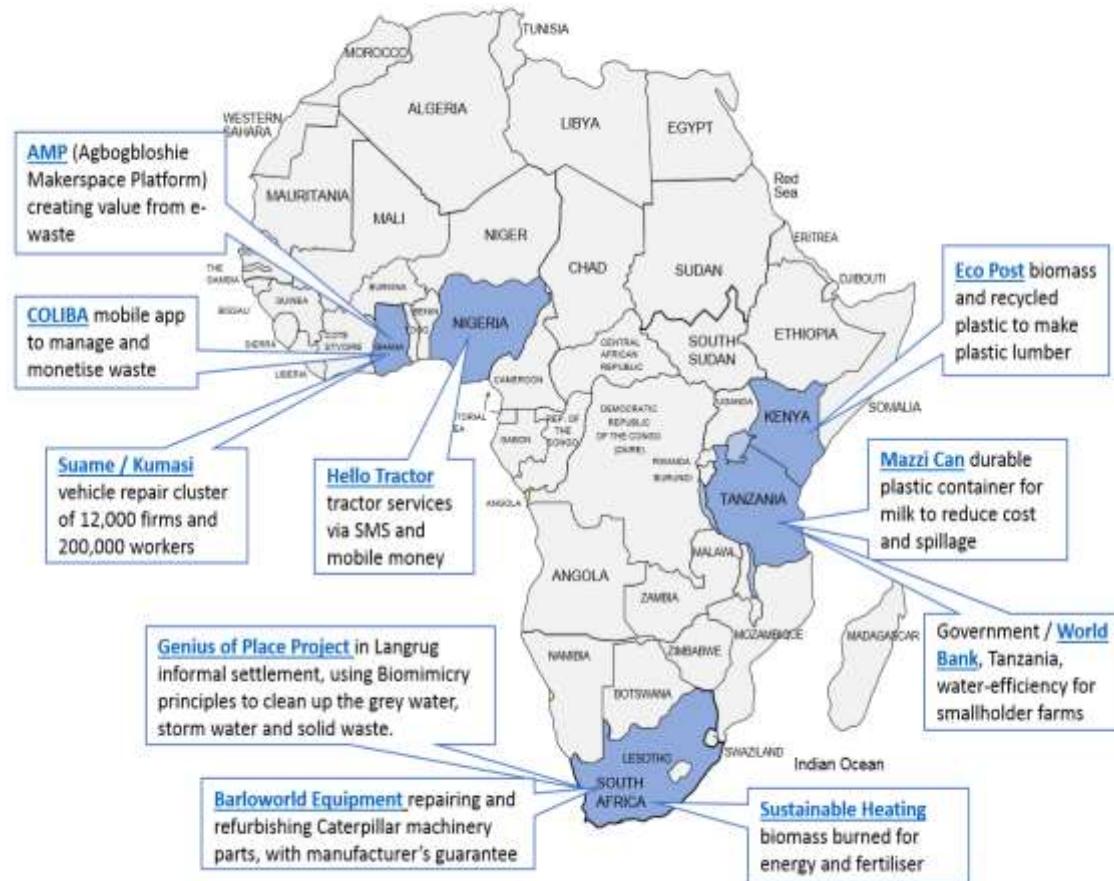
Africa Circular Economy Network (ACEN)

- Non-Governmental, Non-Profit Organisation
- Registered in South Africa
- Representatives in 29 African Countries:-
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina-Faso, cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, La-Reunion Island, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Somali, S/Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- aiming to “build a restorative African economy that generates well-being and prosperity inclusive of all its’ people through new forms of economic production and consumption which maintain and regenerate its environmental resources”.



Sample CE Projects in Africa

Circular economy examples in Africa



By Peter Desmond, Rethink

*Sample CE Projects in Africa:-*Contd

Africa Plastic Recycling Alliance

At the Africa CEO Forum in March 2019 in Kigali Rwanda, the Coca Cola Company, Diageo, Nestlé and Unilever launched the Africa Plastic Recycling Alliance. Each of these companies also has individual corporate-level commitments in line with efforts to achieve SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production).

- The Coca Cola Company aims to use at least 50 percent recycled material in its packaging by 2030
- Diageo is working to ensure that 100 percent of its plastic can be recycled or reused/composed
- Nestlé is making 100 percent of its packaging recyclable or reusable by 2025, and is eliminating non-recyclable or hard-to-recycle plastics as part of its corporate initiatives to accelerate action to tackle plastic waste
- Unilever aims to achieve 100 percent reusable, recyclable or compostable and 25 percent recycled plastic content by 2035 while also reducing its packaging weight by one-third and halving waste associated with product disposal by 2020.



*Sample CE Projects in Africa:-*Contd

Africa Collect Textiles

Africa Collect Textiles (ACT) is an initiative to collect used textiles and footwear for re-use and recycling in Kenya.

- Worldwide, an estimated 60 billion kilo of textiles and footwear is lost (burned or landfilled) every year.
- Kenya is importing yearly, more than 100 million kilograms of 'Mitumba', second hand clothes.
- what happens after they are used in Kenya? at the end everything ends up at the overflowing dumping sites like one of the Africa's biggest landfill in Dandora, or the items are burned in the open air.
- stopping this linear way of treating the materials is done by creating a recycling loop for textiles and footwear
- recycling textile and footwear is beneficial and sustainable; economically, socially and environmentally.
- The current total amount of textiles discarded by the public and other parties (traders, tailors, etc) in urban Kenya is estimated at 35 million kg yearly (of which 20 million kg is in Nairobi. Within the next 10 years, ACT aim to collect and recycle more than half of Kenya's waste textiles.



Sample CE Projects in Africa:-Contd

Chanja Datti, est 2015

- Established by Mrs. Olofunto Borrofice
- Waste collection and recycling company based in Abuja and Akure
- Employs about 200 persons for collection and processing the waste
- Recycling hubs spread across the cities where you exchange trash for money

Geocycle Nigeria, launched 2018

- Is a global waste management brand of LafargeHolcim
- approximately 58 million tonnes of waste generated annually in Nigeria, of which about 90% are dumped, resulting in serious environmental impacts
- Wastes targeted are industrial, municipal solid waste, tires and biomass
- Managing waste through co-processing technology enables the recovery of energy and recycling of materials.
- It contributes to the overall reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the conservation of natural resources.



Challenges of achieving CE in Africa

While there are opportunities identified that lie in nearly unlimited resources of renewable energy sources and the area's low level of systematic recycling, there are challenges in achieving circular economy in African Countries, some of which are:

- Inadequate awareness toward the need for sustainable development
- Inadequacy of technical skills which can be overcome by training and more collaboration with experts from other parts of the globe
- Lack of wide coverage of Government support for the Scheme
- Inadequate coverage of private sector participation and advocacy
- Weak enforcement of environmental policies and regulation even if they exist
- Lack of financing for circular business propositions and high upfront investment cost



Way Forward-

1. Strengthen Policy and Regulations on CE within the continent with associated enforcement mechanism
2. Increase collaboration between Public and Private Sectors as this brings huge business opportunity with high potentials for Return on Investment
3. Consideration of Circular Economy in project planning and development
4. Incentivize CE programs and projects by entrepreneurs
5. Intensify awareness of the importance of CE among students and general public



Conclusion-

While some concepts of Circular Economy is not entirely new to the African countries, the need to embrace it whollistically is very essential now in view of the increasing population, unemployment figures and environmental concerns. There is a huge business opportunity for propective investors from within and outside the continent, with potentials of good returns on investment.



Thank you

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