UN-HABITAT and the Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme

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WHAT IS KENSUP

- A collaborative initiative between the GoK and UN-HABITAT outlined in a MoU signed on 15 January 2003 and launched during the World Habitat Day on October 2004.

- KENSUP’s aim is to improve the livelihoods of people living and working in slums and informal settlements in the urban areas of Kenya through the provision of security of tenure and physical and social infrastructure, as well as opportunities for housing improvement and income generation.

- The GoK is one of the few governments in Africa that acknowledges the real importance of slum upgrading. It has consequently formulated a specific slum upgrading strategy that is in line with national policies on poverty reduction and the global MDGs. KENSUP thus enjoys strong political will from the central government and has its own budget line within the national budget.
SITUATION ANALYSIS

60 to 80% of Kenya’s urban population lives in slums, characterized by lack of access to water and sanitation, adequate housing, and secure of tenure.

In Nairobi, 60% of population lives in slums that occupy only 5% of the total land area of the city. 1 to 5 homes is connected to electricity; 4% of the households has individual piped water connections; solid waste disposal services barely exists.

In Mombasa, 44% of the population lives below the poverty line.

In Mavoko, 50% of the population has no access to safe drink water, sanitation, or sewage facilities, and solid waste collection is poor.
THE PARTNERS

Broad-based partnership is necessary in slum upgrading for meaningful interventions. The main KENSUP partners have specific roles:

1. **UN-HABITAT** provide technical advice through its special expertise in human settlement development, slum upgrading, mobilising finances, and undertaking training and capacity building. In addition, it implements pilot projects and tests their applicability in order to find sustainable, cost-effective solutions for slum upgrading.

2. The **GoK** is responsible for the execution and management of KENSUP. It is responsible of land use and tenure issues, resource supply, the legal, institutional, and policy frameworks, and for creating conditions favourable to slum upgrading and poverty alleviation.

3. The **local authorities** are key actors in urban management and governance, as their mandate is to implement the projects, undertake urban planning functions, and provide and maintain physical and social infrastructure.

4. The **participating local communities** are really important partners as they know what they need, and can guarantee programme ownership and sustainability.

5. **Civil society organisations** have a lot of expertise on different issues relevant to KENSUP, whether technical or community-based. They enhance participation, helps mobilise local communities, and promotes consensus building for slum upgrading.

6. The **private sector** has an important role to play in the management and financing of utilities in urban areas.
UN-HABITAT ROLE

- Promote and facilitate broad-based partnerships utilising consensus building and consultation among all the stakeholders.
- Build institutional and human resources capacities at local and national levels for the sustainability of the slum upgrading interventions.
- Facilitate the implementation of innovative and replicable pro-poor slum upgrading models through pilot projects, delivery strategies, and approaches.
- Assist the GoK in the development of financial strategies and the mobilisation of funds for slum upgrading.
- Undertake collection and dissemination of information for the promotion of sustainable slum upgrading practices and the provision of linkages to global best practices.
KENSUP PROJECTS

- KIBERA INTEGRATED WATER, SANITATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT, NAIROBI
- CITIES WITHOUT SLUMS, KISUMU
- SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRAMME, MAVOKO
- MOMBASA SLUM UPGRADE PROGRAMME, MOMBASA
- YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME, KIBERA AND MAVOKO
- KIANDUTU SLUM YOUTH PROJECT, THIKA
- KAHAWA SOWETO PROJECT, NAIROBI
- KOROGOCHO SLUM UPGRADE PROGRAMME, NAIROBI
Kibera integrated water, sanitation and waste management project, Nairobi

Approximately 800,000 inhabitants on 250 hectares (a quarter of the city of Nairobi’s population).

Soweto East
70,000 inhabitants

Lack of basic urban services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, waste management and electricity), high population, high unemployment levels and illiteracy.
Kibera integrated water, sanitation and waste management project, Nairobi

OBJECTIVE

To contribute towards improving the livelihoods of the urban poor in Soweto East, by supporting small-scale community based initiatives in water, sanitation and waste management, and by providing basic services, infrastructure, and capacity building.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

• Improve water, sanitation and waste management conditions, including the drainage system in Soweto East (storm water drains, communal water and sanitation facilities, door-to-door waste collection and recycling services).
• Improve the mobility within Soweto East, by constructing a low-volume road.
• Establish Non-Motorised Transport as an alternative and efficient tool for creating income earning opportunities and for waste management.
• Provide household power connections in conjunction with KPLC.
• Enhance information and technology skills among the population, by establishing a Community Information and Communication Technology Centre.
• Strength the institutional and technical capacities of selected target groups, by conducting training courses.