Country Report - Kenya

Kenya National Training on Circular Economy Indicators, 10-21 March 2025

under the European Commission funded project on Enhancing countries' capacity for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy, 2024-2026

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1. Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has elevated the profile of the environmental dimension of development and its monitoring. The UN Environment Assembly adopted Resolution 5/11 (2022) on Enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production invites Member States to integrate circular economy approaches into national and regional strategies and action plans. In this regard, the UNECE Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy, formed of international, regional and national organizations, developed the statistical framework intended to be the international statistical framework used to measure the progress of countries in their transition to a circular economy.

This project aims to build capacity to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy in the context of sustainable development at different levels. Enhancing institutional technical capacities to regularly produce circular economy and waste datasets is imperative to inform and develop evidence-based policies. The project focuses on various Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators and others related to Sustainable Consumption and Production (material footprint, domestic material consumption, circular material use rate, material productivity), waste (municipal solid waste, hazardous waste, national recycling rate, food waste and loss), water (water stress, pollutants discharges to water bodies) and emissions (greenhouse gas emissions).

Newly developed tools were used to assist in the compilation of the data necessary to calculate the above-mentioned indicators. These tools are formed of (i) Excel spreadsheets containing detailed variables that are calculated together to generate the value of indicators, and (ii) step-by-step documents to guide government officials on filling the Excel spreadsheets.

2. General training information

The training was held at the Sarova Stanley hotel between 10 and 21 March 2025 in Nairobi, Kenya. The training was attended by 35 participants, 60% were females and 40% were males. Participants attending the training were government officials (by alphabetical order) from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, KIPPRA, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Mining, Nairobi City County, National Environmental Management Agency (NEMA), SDWS, State Department for Economic Planning, State Department for Petroleum, WASREB Kenya and Water Resources Authority.

Participants attended the sessions on sustainable consumption and production indicators including the following indicators: Material footprint (SDG indicator 8.4.1/12.2.1), Domestic material consumption (SDG indicator 8.4.2/12.2.2), Circular material use rate, Material productivity, water indicators including Water stress (SDG indicator 6.4.2) and Wastewater (SDG indicator 6.3.1) and the sessions on waste indicators including Municipal solid waste (SDG 11.6.1), Hazardous waste (SDG indicator 12.4.2), National recycling rate (SDG indicator 12.5.1) and Food waste and loss (SDG indicator 12.3.1). All materials were shared with participants during the training, including presentations, Excel tools as well as other training related materials.

3. Key observations and recommendations

Training participants were eager to learn about the various calculations of the presented indicators. Although environmental data is scarce, participants tried to collect data from multiple published reports to be able to have a benchmark for indicators calculations.

Participants from the National Environmental Management Agency (NEMA) were active and eager to compile data relevant to the indicators. They shared information about the data availability and tried to compile data to be used during the training. Participants voiced the need for further financial assistance to be able to regularly collect and disseminate statistics related to the environment.

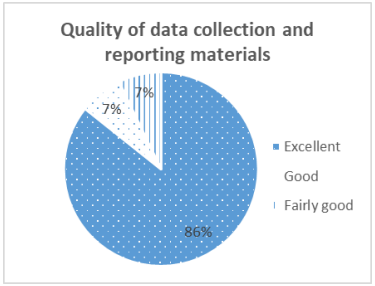
In addition, at the sub-national level, and more specifically Nairobi City County, participants showed interest in calculating the indicators at county level. However, financial assistance is required, especially for waste, water, wastewater and GHG emissions indicators at county level.

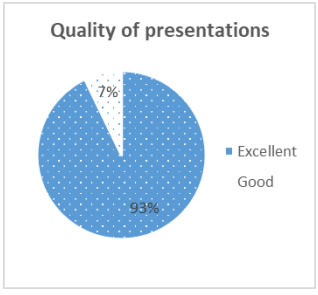
4. Training Evaluation

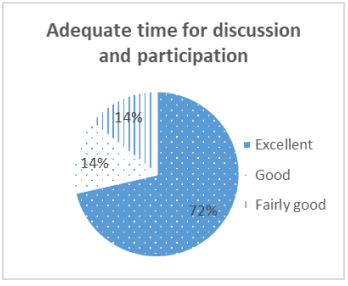
Quality of technical material

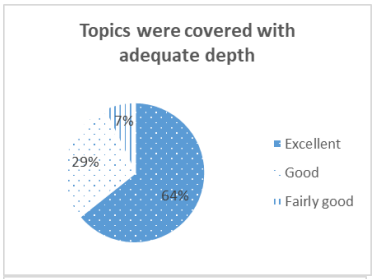
Fourteen participants (40% of total participants) responded to the survey of the training, which was available online for three weeks. 86% of respondents evaluated excellent the quality of data collection and reporting materials and 93% rated excellent the quality of presentations. 72% of respondents rated excellent the time allocated for discussion and participation and 64% stated that topics were covered with adequate depth. 72% and 64% of respondents rated excellent the clarity of conclusions reached and the extent to which training objectives were reached, respectively, while 86% rated excellent the improved knowledge acquired because of the training. 93% of respondents rated excellent or good the overall value of the training.

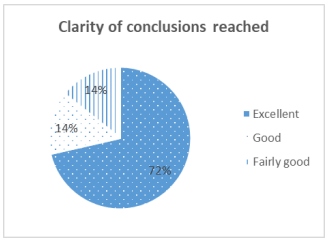
Additional comments received from the evaluation respondents can be summarized into (a) the usefulness of training and tools, detailed level of presented indicators and practical exercises; (b) the presented structured technical material capturing all aspects of what is needed for waste, water and GHG emissions indicators; (c) identification of data gaps, as a result of the training, which will help in focusing on closing such gaps and improve data collection; (d) the need to have enhanced data transparency in Kenya; (e) the need to have more time for exercises; (f) more sectoral support is needed to collect data and improve reporting; and (g) benchmarking training on the countries which are collecting data.

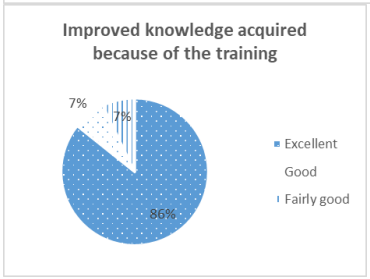


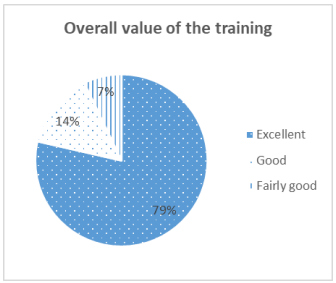










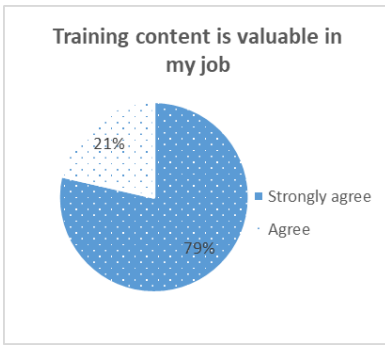


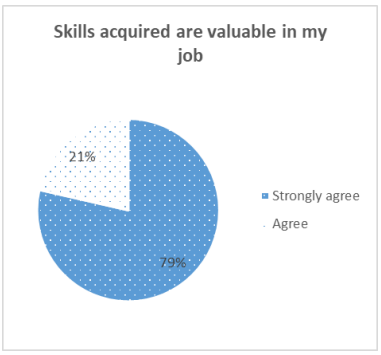
Content and conduct of the presentations

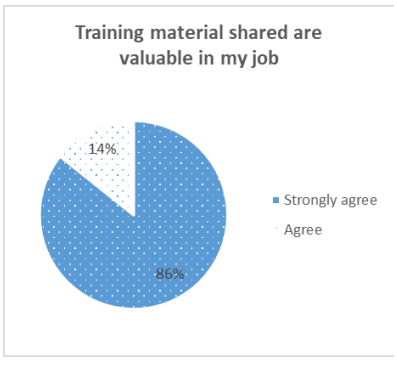
Seventy nine percent of respondents strongly agreed that the training content and skills acquired are valuable to their job while 86% strongly agreed that training material shared are valuable to their job and 72% strongly agreed that the Excel tools are helpful and will use them in their data-related work. 57% strongly agreed that the discussions held were helpful to better understand methodologies and apply them correctly. In relation to the organizational aspect, 57% of respondents rated excellent the duration of each session, 43% the format of the training and 50% the overall planning and organization of the training.

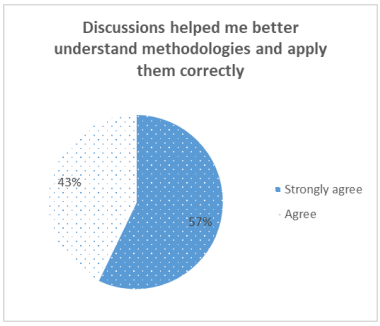
Generally, respondents were thankful for the training, rated (a) the trainer as knowledgeable, engaging and effectively breaking down complex topics, (b) the content as very good, detailed, informative and valuable, (c) the beneficial interactive discussions, making the training more engaging encouraging active participation and exchanging ideas, and (d) applicable to enhancing circular economy in Kenya.

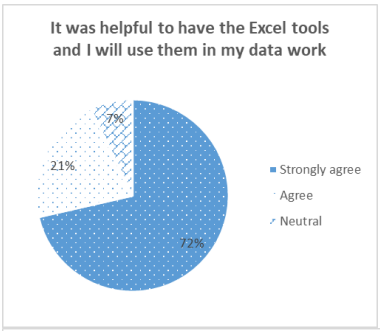
More specific comments related to (a) the need to have development partners that could assist with seed money to pilot implementation of specific circular economy topics; (b) the usefulness of providing more information on the impact of waste and benefits of waste; (c) more time to dive more in-depth in data collection and completing the excel tools; and (d) providing more real example data presentations that have different gaps and presenting how to handle such issues.

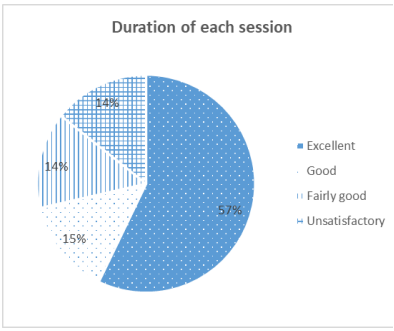


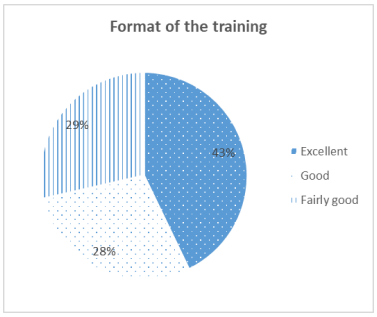












Organization of the training

Overall, participants were happy with the training and had comments on the preparations of the training (venue and facilities suitable for learning, ensuring a comfortable environment for discussions and networking; send invitations ahead of time and follow-up on participants nominations by the coordinating office- Kenya National Bureau of Statistics; logistical and transport costs), technical post-training materials and activities (resources, networking opportunities, be part of a pilot project on waste management at county level; simulation of the process of data collection and analysis to have a realistic understanding of the implementation of circular economy). It was also flagged that more participation was needed from the agencies and officers from the statistical offices and that agencies trained are expected now to take action to reap the benefits of the training to close data gaps.

5. Training documentation

List of participants

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Agenda

Week of 10-14 March 2025	
Monday 10 March 2025	
Session 1: Opening and introduction	
08:30 – 9:30	Welcome remarks - Macdonald G. Obudho, Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics - Alexandre Caldas, Chief Early Warning and Data Analytics Branch, UNEP
9:30 – 10:30	Presentation of the project and training objectives Introduction of participants Introduction to the training and presentation of the agenda and materials.
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Presentation by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics about environment statistics and environmental accounts in Kenya. National data sources and main stakeholders.

	Presentation by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics about Material Flow Accounts. National data sources and stakeholders.
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
Tuesday 11 March 2025	
Session 2: Material Flow Accounts (EW-MFA)	
08:30 – 10:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
Wednesday 12 March 2025	
Session 3: Waste (Municipal solid waste and hazardous waste)	
08:30 – 10:30	Presentation by Kenyan institutions (the National Bureau of Statistics and any other agencies or ministries) about waste statistics and accounts. National data sources and stakeholders.
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about waste indicators
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about waste indicators
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about waste indicators
Thursday 13 March 2025	
Session 4: Level of water stress and wastewater treatment	
08:30 – 10:30	Presentation by Kenyan institutions (the National Bureau of Statistics and any other agencies or ministries) about the level of water stress and wastewater production and treatment. Water statistics and accounts. National data sources and stakeholders.
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
Friday 14 March 2025	
Session 5: Air emissions and Material Flow Accounts (WE-MFA)	

08:30 – 10:30	Presentation by Kenyan institutions (the National Bureau of Statistics and any other agencies or ministries) about the air emissions statistics, accounts and inventories. National data sources and stakeholders.
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about Material Flow Accounts

Week of 17-21 March 2025	
Monday 17 March 2025	
Session 6: Indicators related to Material Flow Accounts	
08:30 – 10:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
Tuesday 18 March 2025	
Session 7: Indicators related to Material Flow Accounts	
08:30 – 10:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
Wednesday 19 March 2025	
Session 8: Waste (Municipal solid waste and hazardous waste)	
08:30 – 10:30	Practical work about waste indicators
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about waste indicators
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about waste indicators
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about waste indicators
Thursday 20 March 2025	
Session 9: Water stress, wastewater discharges and food indicators	
08:30 – 10:30	Presentation by Kenyan institutions (the National Bureau of Statistics and any other agencies or ministries) about food waste and food loss index. National data sources and stakeholders.
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*
14:00 – 15:30	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*
16:00 – 17:00	Practical work about water stress and wastewater discharges indicators
Friday 21 March 2025	
Session 10: Material Flow Accounts and related indicators. Closing of the training.	
08:30 – 10:30	Practical work about indicators related to MFA
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Presentation of training outcomes and conclusions Next steps Closing remarks
12:30 – 14:00	*Lunch*

Photos