



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



UNIDO-GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA COOPERATION

Centre of Excellence for the Circular Economy in Ghana

CONTEXT

Ghana is committed to becoming a global leader in the just transition to a circular economy, a crucial step towards sustainable development. The transition to a circular economy promises to stimulate economic growth, create new jobs in various economic sectors, support innovation and digitalization, all while improving the state of the environment. Critically, a circular economy supports the reduction and elimination of pollution and waste, helps to mitigate climate change and ensures resilience. The circular economy model also places emphasis on social inclusion, ensuring that all, particularly the most marginalized and vulnerable, can participate in and benefit from this transformative shift.

Achieving this just transition will require significant investments, adoption of circular economy best practices, capacity-building, acquisition of state-of-the-art technologies and business know-how, and the establishment of proper legal frameworks to create and enforce policies. Ghana has already made significant strides towards this goal, particularly in the area of plastics and plastic waste, with the development of the National Plastic Management Policy overseen by the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation.

STRATEGY

To take advantage of the economic, social and environmental opportunities for transitioning to a circular economy, the Centre of Excellence for the Circular Economy project will assist Ghana-based organizations and individuals, including women and youth small-scale entrepreneurs, the private sector and informal sector, to develop and deploy innovative circular economy technologies and business models.

The Centre will be based at a tertiary education institute and work with partners around the country, including the local entrepreneurial ecosystem, to deliver circular economy training and capacity-building and business development services including business concept validation and technology prototyping.

The Project will also work with the financial sector to train local financial institutions on the evaluation of circular businesses and develop financial instruments that will enhance access to financing for women and youth entrepreneurs for their circular businesses.

Knowledge materials, including circular roadmaps specific to local value chains and products will be produced by the Project to enhance coordination and policy making that supports the transition to a circular economy.

REGION



GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Ghana



DURATION

2022 -2027



TOTAL BUDGET

CAD 7.3 million



PARTNERS

Global Affairs Canada,
Ministry of Environment,
Science, Technology and
Innovation, Ghana



CONTACT

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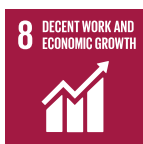
EXPECTED RESULTS

The Project will reach **6,000 beneficiaries directly**, comprised of 2,000 small-scale entrepreneurs, including 40-60% women and at least 50% youth, 3,400 informal sector workers and 600 private sector employees. Expected results include:

- **500 people** (40-60% women, 50% youth) newly employed in relevant sectors supported by the Centre;
- **2,000 small-scale entrepreneurs** trained in business and technology development through the Centre;
- **4,000 participants** from the private and informal sectors trained on circular economy practices and technologies;
- **500 circular economy technologies and business concepts** piloted and tested, and 200 validated;
- **CAD 10 million in private capital raised** by small-scale entrepreneurs;
- **15 circular economy conferences**, consultative forums and private-public dialogues hosted by the Centre;
- **20 national, regional and international exchanges** arranged;
- **15 sectoral circular economy roadmaps** developed.

WORKING TOWARDS THE SDGs

The Project will contribute to multiple SDGs, especially SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 13 supporting the country in achieving its national target for emissions reduction for sustainable production in industry under the 2021 Nationally Determined Contributions.



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Ultimate Outcome

Enhanced circular economy-based inclusive economic prosperity and low-carbon economy, particularly for women and youth in Ghana.

Intermediate Outcome 1

Increased use of financial and/or business and clean technology development services by small-scale women and youth entrepreneurs supported by the Circular Economy Centre.

Intermediate Outcome 2

Increased adoption of circular economy solutions by private and informal sector businesses and organizations led by women and youth with support from a local ecosystem.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

