

Promoting Inclusive Sustainable Practices in the South African Clay brick Sector

BACKGROUND

South Africa, like most emerging and developing countries has rapidly urbanized over the past few decades. The South African clay brick manufacturing sector is both a diverse and geographically distributed industry which provides employment in both the organised, formal sector, as well as an informal sector made up of brickmakers located mostly in the rural under-developed areas.

The sector which produces approximately 3.6 billion clay bricks per year provides around 20,000 direct jobs with an additional 160,000 jobs within the clay brick market system.

The South African clay brick sector is largely represented by the Clay Brick Association of South Africa (CBA) who has, with its members, been promoting its sustainability agenda for over a decade. The sector seeks to mitigate environmental degradation, resource depletion, energy usage and related emissions. The Informal Clay Brick sector has so far not been addressed despite its obvious inefficiencies and negative environmental impacts.

As part of its latest initiative the CBA, EcoMetrix Africa (EMA) and Partners for Innovation (Pfi) are in the process of implementing this European Union co-funded project for the promotion of sustainable practices in the clay brick sector. The project runs from January 2018 till December 2020.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the project is to promote inclusive sustainable practices for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the South African clay brick sector. The project is executed by means of four Work Packages (WPs):

- Support Sustainable Clay Brick Production Practices - To support sustainable clay brick production practices by empowering sector participants towards the transformation to more sustainable production practices
- Promote Sustainable Building Practices (SBPs) - To promote Sustainable Building Practices in the clay brick sector
- Realise Sector-Based Sustainability Monitoring and Reporting - To realise sector-based sustainability monitoring and reporting.
- Stimulate Informal Brick Making Awareness - To stimulate SCP awareness in the informal / small-scale brick making sector

ACTIONS/ ACTIVITIES

- Develop an overview of options and business cases for sustainable production practices and publish sustainability good practices factsheets.
- Develop an inclusive sector sustainability transformation plan.
- Facilitate access to SCP financing.
- Increased awareness for the clay brick sector of the importance of Sustainable Building Practices.
- Develop an externally-oriented action plan for the clay brick sector to influence the sustainable building movement.
- An internally-oriented action plan developed to position the clay brick sector in alignment with sustainable building objectives.
- Implement a system for sustainability data collection, analysis and benchmarking.
- Monitored and reported SCP performances at sector/facility level.
- Apply sustainability data to provide guidance to policy makers.
- Create and develop a Sustainability Desk within the CBA which will Identify SCP practices in relation to the informal / small-scale clay brick making sector, create a comprehensive database containing information on stakeholders, including informal brick makers, co-ops and relevant government bodies as well as develop information toolkits and training materials,
- Establish a Q&A platform for stakeholders to obtain expert advice and feedback on issues pertinent to the sector as well as networks and alliances for knowledge and experience sharing.
- Develop a multi-stakeholder report with needs assessment and main lessons learned in order to be able to facilitate multi-stakeholder engagements to bring together relevant government bodies (local and national) and other stakeholders.



Claybrick Association of Southern Africa - Coordinator

Contact: Mariana Lamont
mariana@claybrick.org.za

EcoMetrix Africa

EcoMetrix Africa - Partner

Contact: Lodewijk Nell
lodewijk.nell@ecometrix.net



Partners for Innovation - Partner

Contact: Emiel Hanekamp
e.hanekamp@partnersforinnovation.com



Duration:
36 months



Total budget:
963,435 Euros

Location:
South Africa

