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GREEN MANUFACTURING: PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN UGANDA

Why green manufacturing in Uganda?

Manufacturing enterprises in Uganda tend not to be very resource-efficient, meaning that they are generally characterized by high production costs in terms of materials, energy and water. In addition, they can largely be categorized as high polluters.

Green manufacturing improves resource productivity and profitability by reducing the resources required while diminishing the associated adverse environmental and social impact, thus enhancing competitiveness and sustainability.

GREEN MANUFACTURING STRATEGY IN UGANDA

- ▶ The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, with support from SWITCH Africa Green, has developed a green manufacturing strategy in collaboration with the Uganda Cleaner Production Centre.
- ▶ The strategy will create an enabling environment for the development of green businesses that internalize sustainable consumption and production practices to improve resource productivity and environmental performance and contribute to sustainable manufacturing while creating jobs and improving livelihoods.
- ▶ The Green Manufacturing Strategy is being implemented in accordance with the national priorities set out in Uganda Vision 2040, national development plans and the Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy.



Gaps: Barriers to green manufacturing approaches



In Uganda, greening the manufacturing sector is hindered by a number of challenges:

- ▶ A low level of public awareness of the benefits of resource efficiency, including among policymakers;
- ▶ Lack of information and expertise on green manufacturing technology and practices;
- ▶ Limited access to green financing;
- ▶ Limited technical support for the implementation of green innovations;
- ▶ Limited enforcement of environmental regulations and standards;
- ▶ A lack of appropriate structures for fostering partnerships between industry and public-sector institutions;
- ▶ Poor financial accounting and monitoring systems.



What should the Government and enterprises do to foster green manufacturing?



- ▶ The Government should adopt a mix of incentives and regulatory-based policy instruments to support enterprises in adopting green manufacturing technologies and practices. It should also foster innovation along the value chain and make the appropriate financial resources available to support technological and non-technological innovation for green manufacturing.
- ▶ Enterprises should adopt innovative business models that promote sustainability throughout the life cycle of a product and build end-of-life considerations into product design, including recycling, reuse and recovery possibilities.
- ▶ Enterprises should also adopt green technologies, substitute non-hazardous materials for hazardous materials, switch to the use of renewables, and use sustainably sourced raw materials.
- ▶ The Government should provide an enabling environment for the implementation of the “six R’s” (renew, rethink, reduce, reuse, recycle and recover), which are the cornerstone of green manufacturing.
- ▶ Micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises should adopt internal policies that ensure the adoption of the six R’s, which are crucial not only for manufacturing enterprises but also for the growth of the national economy.

SWITCH Africa Green is funded by the European Union and provides policy support to Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda in promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns in their transition to an inclusive green economy. The programme provides financial and technical support for the development of policy frameworks that support the greening of four key sectors: agriculture, integrated waste management, manufacturing and tourism.