

Kumasi, Ghana

The DEALS Kumasi project works towards city deals in the field of **decongestion, slum development and circular economy**. The project comprises efforts towards decongesting the city's Central Business District, upgrading satellite market infrastructure and improving the quality of life of resident through circular economy initiatives. It does so by bringing together the key stakeholders into new forms of cooperation. Through **an integrated and multi-stakeholder approach**, the decongestion process should result in economic opportunities and tangible improvements for inhabitants of slum areas as well, that are to become new hubs of economic and social activity.

Project activities

Technical assistance through interventions such as:

- Supporting interdepartmental cooperation
- Training for staff of Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly on topics like citizen communication, interdepartmental cooperation and scenario planning
- Multi-stakeholder cooperation related to pilot sites
- Mapping of functions of central- and satellite markets
- Supporting the development of a strategic plan for decongestion of Kumasi Metropolitan area
- Strengthening the capacity of stakeholders to unlock the potential of Public-Private Partnerships
- Supporting the development of civic education and engagement initiatives

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Context

Kumasi is the second largest city of Ghana and a typical corridor secondary city. The 2010 census shows Kumasi as home to 1,517,000 inhabitants. The current population is estimated at more than 2.599 million.

The city of Kumasi faces various challenges in the field of sustainability, most notably the very fast growing population due mainly to an influx of people from other parts of Ghana. This results in haphazard development, congestion of the city centre, housing shortage, waste management challenges and environmental pollution. Since many years rural-urban migration has intensified the formation and growth of slums in metropolitan areas of Ghana. This migration has resulted from both pull factors (e.g., the attraction of urban economic and livelihood opportunities) and push elements (e.g., rural labour surplus because of growing population in the north of the country and fewer opportunities in agricultural and pastoralist activities). Inhabitants of slum areas face many challenges in their daily life. One of the main problems regarding slum development is the lack of affordable land for social housing. There are strong ties between slum areas and the city's markets. Many people make their living working at the central market of Kumasi. The Central Market consists not only of physical infrastructures connecting supply and demand, but is built of social, economic, cultural, gender, ethnic and power relationships that constitute the intangibles of the concept of a market.



- Development of the Kanko Circular Economy Hub
- Organising circular challenges to promote circular economy initiatives
- Study visit to the Netherlands and peer learning with Sèmè-Podji in Benin
- Support to enhancing multilevel governance

Results

Improved capacity of Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly for integrated, multi-level, and inclusive approaches to the challenges in slum development and decongestion of the central market area.

Involved parties

- *City departments:* Planning Department, Waste Management Department, Environmental Health Department, Transport Department, Department of Social Welfare, Market management, Public Relations Department, Urban Roads Department, Physical Planning Department
- *Governmental:* Various line Ministries, Other local governments in the metropolitan area, National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana
- *Non-governmental:* Women Groups, Youth Groups, Market Manager, Market Queen, Traditional leaders, Civil Society Organizations, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Cooperatives engaged in recycling, Religious community leaders



Multi-stakeholder meeting on decongestion organised in Kumasi

Prince Aboagye Anokye, DEALS City Focal Point: "The DEALS project since its inception continues to offer the critical ingredients needed by the City of Kumasi to improve urban governance, an essential input for a sustainable city. It is abundantly evident that stakeholders achieve a lot more if silos are torn down and city actors work as teams for the collective good of society. Development takes on a whole new meaning when participation improves in depth, breadth and timing. The ripple effects of these are transparency, accountability and efficiency, which results in improved urban service delivery, enhanced willingness to pay and better cost recovery, milestones for sustainable cities."

