

Harare Institute of Technology Sustainability Lab

Background

The project of change focuses on the development of an innovative platform, in partnership with a local academic institution, that is Harare Institute of Technology (HIT), able to host and nurture innovative project. As a result of this collaboration, the “HIT Sustainability Lab” was launched on 8 November 2019, during the “Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Cities Forum” co-organized with the host institution (HIT).

Aim of the project

Public-Private Partnership for sustainable development. Bringing local government, academia, business and citizens to promote sustainable development through innovation.

Key Stakeholders/Partners

Local Government

Harare City Council (Chief Environmental Officer Mr Mabika, Deputy Mayor Councillor Mupamawonde, Talent development Manager Mr Mungofa)

Academia

Harare Institute of Technology (Dean of Students, Director of EMREC, Lecturers, Students)
Lund University & RWI representative (Dr Alejandro Fuentes)

Private Sector

Clean City Africa (CEO Mr Lovemore Nyatsine)

Matsimba Technologies

Glytime Foods (CEO Mr Lesley Marange)

Civic Organizations

Harare Residents Trust

Green Institute

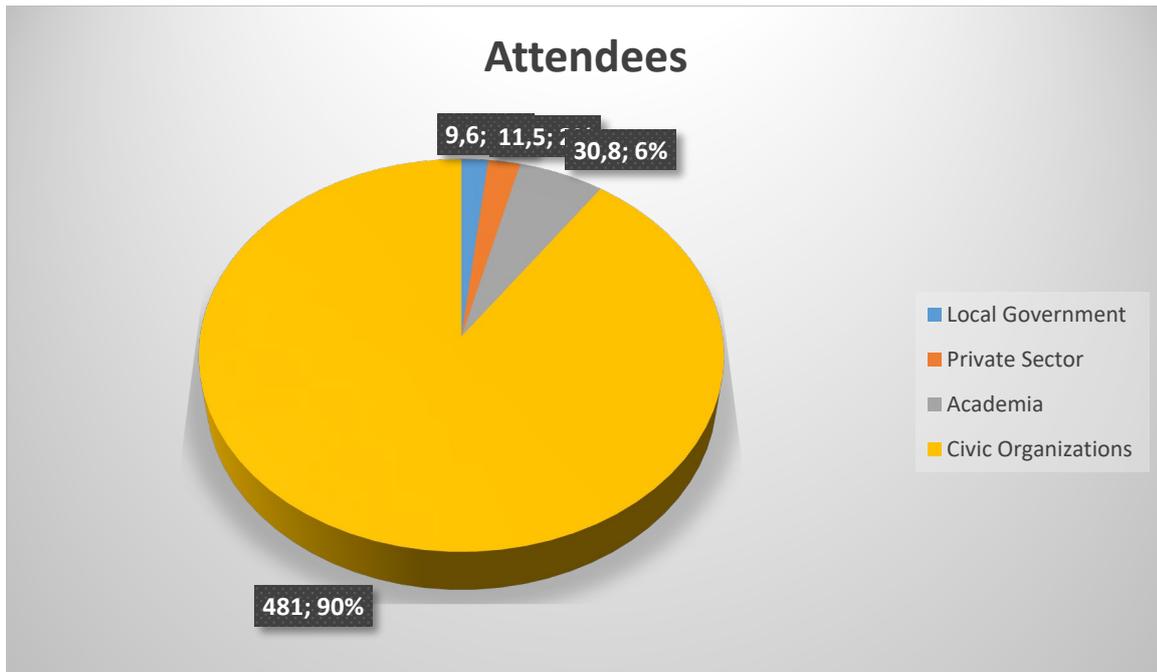


Fig1: Number of attendees based on sector.

Stakeholders Engagement

Local Government – Formal letters of invitation were submitted to the clerk’s office at Harare City directed to the Mayor His Worship Councillor Herbert Gomba and then presented to other departments for engagement.

Private Sector – Emails were sent with detailed invitations of the engagement process and launch of the sustainability hub.

Civic Organizations – Most organizations were engaged through social media as most of them are active on the platforms.

Key Activities

After conceptualization of the project of change (sustainability lab) Harare Institute of technology was engaged through their EMREC Department – An Environmental club at the institute, the person of contact Dr. Phiri at the institute who is the Director of the club and a lecturer at the Department of Environmental Studies signed an MOU with the Zimbabwean team so that the sustainability lab could be established. To formalize and launch the sustainability lab an event was organised being coordinated by the EMREC Department under Mrs Musademba Patron of the club in partnership with the HIKS Zimbabwean team.

The key success of the launch of the sustainability lab was based on fruitful stakeholder engagements. So key stakeholders were profiled that invites could be sent to local government, private stakeholders and civic organizations. The key activities of the event would involve presentations of individual change projects by HIKS Zimbabwean Team. The projects included:

1. Smart toilet for public spaces - Developed by Trust Mutekwa & Massy Warakula in partnership with EMREC department.
2. Smart Park – Leonard Muyambo

3. Biodiesel plant – Ray Chipendo

Human rights & Sustainability lab

The Disabled Act of the Zimbabwean constitution was the highlight of the smart toilet and parks projects as it highlighted inclusivity and rights of people living with disabilities when it comes to the access of public facilities. Vulnerable groups were represented by civic organizations and debates were established during the presentations of projects of change.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diverse team• Strategic Partnerships between HCC, Clean City Africa and Harare Institute of Technology	Weaknesses <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budgetary Constrains to host follow up meetings• Lack of full-time employees to run the lab
Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expansion of the sustainability lab to other universities• Using the web to integrate labs in Zimbabwe	Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Political will from local government• Instability in Zimbabwe

Description of the activities

In the framework of the HIKS project “Sustainable, Inclusive and Climatedesilient cities”, the Zimbabwe team developed and implemented a project of change, in the period September – December 2019. The project of change focuses on the development of an innovative platform, in partnership with a local academic institution, that is Harare Institute of Technology (HIT), able to host and nurture innovative project. As a result of this collaboration, the “HIT Sustainability Lab” was launched on 8 November 2019, during the “Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Cities Forum” co-organized with the host institution (HIT). The workshop was well attended, in particular by local authorities and academic community. Among participants, it would be important to mention that the Deputy Mayor of Harare, Councilor Enock Mupamawonde, delivered the opening speech. In addition, a panel on “Development of Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Cities – How Cities can Leverage Public Private Partnership?” was organized. This panel counted with the participation of the Chief Environmental Officer of the City, Mr. Charles Mabika; the CEO of Clean City, Mr. Lovemore Nyatsine; the Director of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Renewable Energy (Hit University), Dr. Phiri; and Alejandro Fuentes of HIKS.

This multi-sectorial panel not only provided the audience with an in-depth reflections on the role of local authorities in building cities that are inclusive sustainable and climate resilient, but also helps other panellist in framing the conceptual issues at stake. After these initial

discussions, the Zimbabwe team not only presented the “HIT Sustainability Lab”, as an open space that could support the development of sustainable ideas, but also discussed with the public their own innovative projects, including: (1) the construction of Smart and Inclusive Toilets in Harare Gardens; (2) the development of Smart Parks in Mutare; and (3) the production of Biodiesel using cooking oil. After the realization of the workshop, local public authorities of the City of Harare gave green light to the realization of Smart and Inclusive Toilets in Harare Gardens. However, in order to materialize this initiative, the team is focusing in a fund raising campaign involving potential private donors. To conclude, the preliminary assessment of the implementation of the Zimbabwe team’s project of change indicates that their efforts in building a platform that could support the development of innovative, sustainable and climate-resilient initiative was successful. However, in order to be truly sustainable, funds need to be secured.

Attachments

- List of participants
- Financial report
- Receipts of the costs
- Programme (schedule) of the follow-up activity
- Visual documentations from the follow-up activity (photos, videos etc)