



EcoKiln Technology Promoted through Information Sessions at Malawi

Red bricks are inevitable building products in Malawian construction industries practice. The current growth of construction in the public and housing project led to the higher demand for quality bricks production technologies. Due to the current trend of the deforestation, Malawi demands an alternative brick firing technology which does not demand fuel wood and EcoKiln was identified as a suitable alternative with a variable parameter such as modularity, alternative fuel, energy efficient and easy to adopt in the Malawian context. A pilot unit enterprises (EcoMatter Ltd) was realized in 2015 by CCODE with the support of TARA (Not-for-profit entity of Development Alternatives) and GIZ Malawi. To achieve technical transformation in an industry, the Development Alternatives (DA) Group conducted Information Sessions on EcoKiln technology from 18th to 26th March 2019 to promote EcoKiln technology in prime business cities of Malawi - Blantyre, Zomba, Karonga, Mzuzu, Mchinji and Lilongwe.

The objective of the sessions was to create awareness on the EcoKiln technology among brick manufacturers, large scale entrepreneurs and building contractors in order to create an ecosystem that enables them to adopt the technology in Malawi. This will in turn, enable the process of producing quality bricks using the alternatives fuel for the firing of the clay bricks. More than 124 attendees were made aware of EcoKiln technology and consulted for technology adoption.

The EcoKiln technology is based on vertical shaft brick kiln principles and is one of the most energy efficient technologies available in the world for fired clay brick production. This technology relies on the principle of counter current heat exchanger in order to achieve high thermal efficiency. It is expected that the adoption of EcoKiln and the use of locally available coal and industrial waste materials will go a long way in reducing the use of fuel wood in brick firing in Malawi and thus arrest large scale deforestation in Malawi.