

Dagoretti Market Biogas Latrine is a female-run, community-based initiative that uses renewable energy options (biogas and solar) to address multiple community needs in sanitation and energy under one roof.



Dagoretti Market Biogas Latrine, Kenya

BUSINESS MODEL

Dagoretti Market Biogas Latrine is run by the Community in Action for Change (CAC) women's group and provides a multitude of community services resulting from its biogas converter and solar energy panels. Customers are charged for toilet services and showers. Waste from the toilet facilities is converted into biogas, which is then used by the company's restaurant for cooking. Visitors can also have their mobile phones charged for a small fee and conduct M-Pesa money transactions.

Laundry and water kiosk facilities are to be added as a next step. While members of CAC are employed and paid a daily wage, the restaurant and MPESA shop are hired out to operators who remit a weekly fee.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Kiambu County, Kenya
Year founded	2014
Sector	Waste Management
Product/Service	Sanitation, complemented by catering and mobile charging services

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Social impacts:

- Serving an average of 300 people daily, especially women, with toilet, showering, laundry, restaurant, M-pesa and phone charging services.
- Improving the health environment in and around Dagoretti Market through a pleasant and hygienic setting.
- Offering specific enterprise development training to 15 women and ten young people on topics that include basic bookkeeping and profit and loss analysis.

Environmental impacts:

- Reducing pollution in the Kabuthi River through accessible sanitation.
- Converting human and animal waste into biogas, which is then reused for cooking and heating water at the facility.
- Using a solar energy kit for lighting and charging phones, replacing kerosene and diesel.

Economic impacts:

- Providing employment and livelihoods to more than ten women, mainly from managing the facility, cleaning, cooking and maintaining equipment.
- Generating revenue for CAC members, who are all women, through the distribution of annual surplus generated by the biogas latrine.
- Enabling the entrepreneurs to run the shower, restaurant, laundry and other facilities on low energy costs.

” The products and services of the enterprise meet a pressing need of women at the Dagoretti market, while reducing pollution of the Kabuthi river.

Scaling up activities:

- Purchase a submersible water pump situated 500 m away from Dagoretti Market in order to connect to the community's existing water network.
- Purchase and install appropriately sized water pipes to connect the bio-latrines' water storage tanks to the water network.
- Construct a water kiosk facility, including water meters, to enable water tank operators, individual consumers and the biogas latrine's laundrette facilities to access clean and affordable water services.
- Build additional infrastructure at the facility to accommodate a retail kiosk and shoe-shine parlour.



Partnership

• **Community in Action for Change** is a women's group and a Community-Based-Organisation (CBO) registered with the Ministry of Gender and Social Services. CAC was selected by the community to manage and run the biogas latrine.

• The **Ondiri, Nyangara, Kabuthi and Rungiri Water Resource Users Association (ONKARU)** develops community water and sanitation projects in the area.

• **Millennium Community Development Initiatives (MCDI)** constructed the biogas latrine and continues to provide technical support and link the enterprise with other potential partners.



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