BACKGROUND

Rwanda, a small country in East Africa with a population of 12 million people, will experience increased population growth and accelerated urbanization over the next thirty years, in line with the rising population figures throughout the continent. Already today, population growth and changing environmental patterns cause pressure on land, water, food and energy resources. In response to these challenges, the Government of Rwanda decided to fundamentally change the way cities are built with the ambition of setting standards for sustainable urban development and initiating a paradigm shift towards green urbanisation in Rwanda and the entire region.

This commitment marks the birth of the Green City Kigali, the first green city in Africa.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Green City Kigali is planning a new sustainable neighbourhood for low and middle-income residents under the guidance of Rwanda’s Green Fund FONERWA and with the financial support from the German Development Cooperation through KfW Development Bank. First-of-its-kind in Africa, the sustainable and affordable district will integrate green building and design, efficient and renewable energy, recycling and inclusive living as well as homegrown solutions and local construction materials. As a result, the residents of Kinyinya Hill should be able to enjoy the social and economic benefits of urbanization while minimizing ecological footprints. The 600 ha city extension is expected to serve as a model for sustainable urban development that can be replicated in Rwanda and the wider region.

KEY FIGURES

- 600 HA project area
- CA. 30,000 HOUSING UNITS
  - The number refers to the entire 600 ha project area.
- Framework for achieving ZERO-CARBON by 2050
- around 150,000 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES
  - with the potential to create approx. 16,000 JOBS when fully developed
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**OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS**

Green City Kigali is collaborating with a wide range of local and international partners to enhance local capacities, raise awareness about the relevance and necessity of sustainable urban development and introduce the Green City Kigali. With this in mind, the project is strengthening institutional and entrepreneurial capacities by:

- Engaging local communities throughout workshops, trainings and local events
- Creating educational tools, such as a children’s book to promote the vision of sustainable urban development among every social and age group
- Closely cooperating with universities and educational institutions to launch a Summer School and a master’s program in sustainable urban development
- Promoting the project throughout sustainable, reusable and locally produced merchandising

**OBJECTIVES**

- To serve as a model for sustainable urban development linking affordable housing with climate change adaptation and mitigation measures
- To set standards for adequate housing and sustainable urban development in Rwanda and in Africa
- To strengthen government institutions and other stakeholders’ capacity to apply appropriate housing and urban development principles

**TIMELINE**

**PHASE A**

**Feasibility Assessment**
Analysis of the current situation in Kinyinya Hill and design of sustainable and green solutions framework
November 2018 until August 2019

**PHASE B**

**Design Competition**
Unique opportunity to develop a Urban Master Plan for Kigali’s Kinyinya Hill by an internationally renowned architecture firm
September 2019 until May 2020

**PHASE C**

**Detailed Design**
The Design Competition winner will develop a detailed plan for a 18ha pilot site
May 2020 until December 2020

**PHASE D**

**Construction**
Construction for a first 18 ha affordable housing pilot
January 2021 - end 2023