

National Assembly question: Question 118

Mr S J Njikelana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Energy:

- 1) Whether her department contributes to the (a) Witsand integrated Energy Environment Empowerment-Cost Optimisation (iEEECO) housing initiative in Atlantis, and (b) Kuyasa Projects in the Western Cape; if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, (i) what type of contribution does her department make in each case and (ii) what is the envisaged duration of her department's contribution in each case.
- 2) Whether any impact resulted from her department's contribution; if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, what are the relevant details
- 3) Whether her department identified any lessons during its contribution to the specified projects; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2437E

REPLY

- 1) (a) No, the Department has never been furnished with a request to participate in the project.
(b) Yes. (i) The Designated National Authority (DNA) within the Department of Energy issued a letter of approval to Kuyasa in 2005. A letter of approval is a prerequisite for any project that wishes to participate in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The rules and procedures governing the CDM require a Letter of Approval from the DNA of the host country which confirms that the project activity assists the country in achieving sustainable development.
(ii) This was a once off process from the Department and the project could receive the CERs if its performance receives approval from the Executive Board. The accreditation period for this project is 7 years.
- 2) Indirectly, yes. Please note that DNA does not provide any financial support to projects; it does however provide technical support relating to clarification on CDM rules and procedures.

Kuyasa was the first South African CDM project to be registered and was the First Gold standard project in the world. In 2008 DNA nominated Kuyasa for the UNFCCC/CDM International Photo Contest 2008 under the theme: "Changing lives" which it subsequently won.

It received capital grants from the Department of Environment Affairs and the Provincial Government Department of Housing. The project has retrofitted 2310 houses with solar water

heaters, ceiling insulation, electrical wiring and compact fluorescent light bulbs. The greenhouse gas emission reductions are estimated to be approximately 2.8 tonnes per household per year over the period of 7 years. The project will generate income from the sales of Carbon emission reduction certificates. A ton of certified emission reduction can be traded at approximately 10 to 13 Euros on the spot market.

- 3) Yes, the Department noted some lessons from the project. The project can be replicated throughout the country. Kuyasa has created a focus of attention for dealing with renewable energy in households and throughout the country. Another similar project called SASSA Low Pressure Solar Water Heater Programme was registered by the CDM Executive Board on 12 April 2011 and a number of projects are underway including Cosmo City Solar Water Heater Project (City of Johannesburg) Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Solar Water Heating Project and Ekurhuleni Municipality Solar Water Heating Program. These projects are also benefiting from the Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management fiscal allocations.