Africa Waste Audit Project
The Kenyan Experience

Background

- An Audit of the accountability framework for solid waste management at national and local government level in Kenya

- A collaborative and simultaneous pilot audit on Solid Waste Management conducted in South Africa , Ghana, Mauritius, Ethiopia and Kenya as well as in Fiji.

- A Follow up project for the IDI – WGEA Environment Audit Workshop, held in Nairobi February 2004.

Audit Planning and Methodology

- Collaborative planning, individual audits and reports plus one transversal report.
- Audit evidence was gathered mainly through interviews with clients and desk research.
- The audit was planned and conducted between December 2004 and March 2005.

Audit Planning and Methodology continued…..

- Audit Management software /Team- Mate/ was used in planning , documenting and reporting the audit
- All the participating SAIs used a common audit approach agreed upon at the planning meeting
- 15 key areas of questioning on Accountability framework were identified in each country from national perspective down to one local Government Council.

Audit Planning and Methodology continued…..

- The Assessment criteria for gathering and evaluating evidence was determined at the planning meeting
- The audit plan and methodology was reviewed by subject matter experts from South Africa and the WGEA.

The Auditees in Kenya

- The Kenya National Audit Office*KENAO audited
  - The National Environmental Authority (NEMA)
  - Nairobi City Council at local authority level

Findings

Accountability gaps

- The National framework did not provide for measurement and reporting of performance.
- Performance contracts for employees of the City Council audited did not exist or were insufficient and therefore criteria for assessing employee or Departmental performance was absent.

……..Findings (Accountability Gaps Continued ….)

- The City Council did not have in palce any mechanism for publicly reporting to the public its performance in achieving desired service levels in waste management.

- Training and education needs had not been assessed or provided for by the City Council.

….Findings Continued ….

Accountability strengths

- The Nairobi City Council had in their possession legally approved regulations and policies on Solid Waste management.
- Different aspects of service delivery in respect of solid waste have been comprehensively dealt within the policy and procedural documents of the Council.

……Findings continued…strengths……

- Service delivery agents at national and local levels had defined and documented roles and responsibilities in respect of solid waste

- The organisational structures of the solid waste Department of the Council were aligned to meet national requirements in terms of service delivery

…. . Gains to the Kenyan SAI Arising from the Audit …..

- Very efficient and timely audit/ execution a was completed in a record 21 days
- Gain of practical knowledge ,experience and skills in the use of *Teamate* audit management software by the Kenya National Audit Office
- First environmental audit completed by KENAO
- Rare opportunity for collaboration with other SAIs in the conduct of an audit

Challenges faced in Conducting the Audit

- Limited skills and experience in the use of Team mate software
- Initial difficulties in gaining confidence and cooperation of the two auditees .
- Constraints due to rigid procedures necessitated by the use of Teamate
- Limited availability of computer notebooks

….Challenges in Conducting the Audit continued …..

- The audit team were involved in other tasks as no EA Unit had , at the time of the audit been established at the KENAO .
- The audit report was not issued to the public as it did not easily fit into the existing KENAO reporting format which reports on performance of auditees rather their operating frameworks.

How we have confronted the the challenges

- KENAO has since set up a specialized audit department that includes environment audit.
- We have since progressed into auditing the actual performance of the Nairobi City Council in solid waste management.
- Plans to conduct Environmental Audit training on a wider scale within KENAO have been put in place

……Confronting the challenges continued …….

- Discussing the audit report with both the NEMA and the City Council has sensitized them on to the role of KENAO in environmental issues and the noble objectives of the the audit .

Thank You