MANUFACTURING IN KENYA

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The Kenyan Case

In a 2012 report, data by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics indicates that output from the

manufacturing industry has shown an upward trend. Output stood at 742 million, 770 million,

842 million and 1 billion shillings in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively. Although Kenya's

economy is largely dependent on agriculture, the government recognizes the importance and

contribution of manufacturing. In the Vision 2030 development blueprint, the Government of

Kenya sought to improve the industry's position through attracting large strategic investors,

import reduction and increasing market share to 15% from 10% from the year 2012. The Kenya

Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) estimates that as of 2013,

manufacturing comprised about 70% of industrial contribution to Kenya's GDP. With this in

mind, manufacturing is positioned as a top performing industry in Kenya. Despite government

intervention however, KIPPRA notes that manufacturing GDP contribution reduced to 9.2%

from 9.6% while growth reduced from 3.4% to 3.1% in the period between 2011 and 2012.

In Kenya, the manufacturing industry contributes up to 14% of the national GDP. The Kenya

Association of Manufacturers (KAM hereon) identifies specific sectors which fall under the

manufacturing industry...

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