



# jotoafrika

## Low emission and climate change adaptation actions

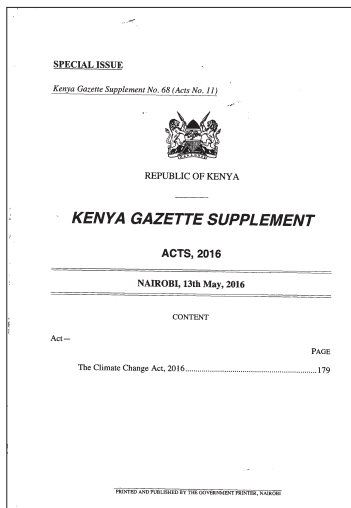
April Issue 20, 2017

### Highlights

- Pg 2 Coordination of Climate Change Responses in Kenya
- Pg 3 Mainstreaming Climate Change into National and County Planning
- Pg 4 Mobilizing Resources for Climate Financing in Kenya
- Pg 5 Wajir County Climate Change Financing
- Pg 6 Private Sector Responses to Climate Change
- Pg 7 Climate Change Experiences by Non-State Actors in Kenya
- Pg 8 Effective Climate Information Services for Communities
- Pg 9 Adaptation Good Practice (AGP) Checklist
- Pg 10 Gender and Climate Change in Kenya
- Pg 11 Faith-based Organisations Championing Climate Change Issues
- Pg 12 Crop Insurance for Subsistence Farmers

### About Joto Afrika

*Joto Afrika* is a series of printed briefings and online resources about low emission and climate change adaptation actions. The series helps people understand the issues, constraints and opportunities that people face in adapting to climate change and escaping poverty. *Joto Afrika* is Swahili; it can be loosely translated to mean 'Africa is feeling the heat'.



Climate Change Act 2016  
[www.kenyalaw.org](http://www.kenyalaw.org)

## National and County Government Response to Climate Change

### Editorial

**Climate change response requires coordination across the different stakeholder categories, and between national and county government institutions. This ensures synergy between national and county government efforts to address climate change. It also minimises duplication and wastage of resources and reduces institutional conflicts.**

The Climate Change Act (2016) recognises the complimentary roles of the national and county governments in climate change affairs. The Act, consequently, recognises that climate change impacts are localised, placing the county governments in a better position to identify and address them.

One of the objectives of the Act is, therefore, to “integrate climate change into the exercise of power and functions of all levels of governance, and to enhance cooperative climate change governance between the national government and county governments.”

The establishment of a high-level National Climate Change Council chaired by the President gives climate change coordination the much-needed political leverage. Membership of the Council includes the Chair of the Council of Governors to ensure county government concerns are brought to the fore in the business of the Council.

Private entities representation includes the private sector, civil society, academia, and marginalised communities. This ensures participation of non-state actors in the business of the Council, in addition to tapping from the unique experiences and expertise of different stakeholder groupings.

Further, the Act establishes a legal and institutional framework to mainstream climate change at the national and county government levels. There is, however, recognition that implementation will be done mainly by private entities, while government provides enabling environments. Incorporating reporting on

constraints and gaps related to capacity, technology, and finance; support received; and impact of the action and support enhances transparency of action and support. This, in turn, enhances the capacity to meet international reporting obligations under the Climate Convention and the Paris Agreement.

Studies have indicated technical and institutional capacities, and low levels of awareness as challenges inhibiting successful response to climate change. The National Government is, in this respect, obligated to provide, through the Climate Change Directorate, technical assistance on climate change actions and responses to county governments, based on mutual agreement and needs cited by the county governments. The Directorate shall also provide analytical support to the sector ministries, agencies and county governments.

Counties like Makueni and Wajir have already established institutional frameworks for climate change, including funding arrangements. There are many other unique success stories across different counties that provide early lessons and best practices.

Information and knowledge management and mainstreaming of climate change in formal and informal curricula are core aspects of Kenya’s framework to address climate change.

There is also recognition of the need to mainstream gender and intergenerational concerns in climate change initiatives.

This issue focuses on National and County Government response to climate change and highlights contributions from other non-state actors.

**Stephen M. King’uyu**  
 Climate Change Directorate  
 Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources  
[stephen.kinguyu@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.kinguyu@gmail.com)

# Coordination of Climate Change Responses in Kenya



A woman heading to fetch water using her camels in Garissa County. Climate change has put a strain on water resources ©James Ochweri

**Kenya's Climate Change Act (2016) provides a regulatory framework to guide National and County government response actions to address the impacts of climate change. As climate change effects escalate in Kenya, national and county governments must coordinate to develop processes in support of a climate resilient development pathway as envisaged in the Country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).**

Following are excerpts from an interview with Dr John Kipkorir Chumo, Nandi County Executive Committee (CEC) Member for Lands, Environment, and Natural Resources; and Chair of the Caucus for CEC Members for Environment, Water, Land and Mining on the coordination between National and County governments in addressing climate change.

## **How are national and county governments coordinating on climate change matters?**

County governments implement climate change policies while the National government formulates the policies and legal frameworks related to climate change.

The Kenya Climate Change Act (2016) establishes a high-level National Climate Change Council chaired by the President, whose membership includes the Chair of the Council of Governors to ensure incorporation of county government concerns in decisions and actions of the Council.

The Act requires the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change affairs, through the Climate Change Directorate, to provide technical assistance on climate change response actions to county governments, based on each county's needs.

## **What are some of the achievements realised as a result of coordination between the national and county government in addressing climate change?**

County governments have integrated the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) into County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) and County sectoral plans. This has ensured the mainstreaming of climate change in county planning, budgeting and development.

Development of the Climate Change Act was an inclusive process involving National and County Governments, civil society and private sector. The Act has enabled the formation of county climate change units. The Act also obligates the Governors to designate a County Executive Committee (CEC) Member to coordinate climate change affairs.

## **How are county governments financing climate change initiatives?**

Some counties already have County Climate Change Funds (CCCF) while others are formulating the relevant legislations. The legislations are aligned to the Climate Change Act (2016), NCCAP, CIDP and Public Finance policies and laws. This will help counties to mobilise climate finance from domestic and international sources.

Climate change actions are usually given low priority during budgeting processes, leading to low budgetary allocations for adaptation and mitigation.

## **What are some of the challenges faced by County governments in addressing climate change?**

Challenges encountered by counties include low institutional and technical capacities, inadequate financial resources, and lack of skilled personnel to effectively address the impacts of climate change and ensure a low emission climate resilient development pathway. Further, there is often a duplication of roles at both National and county levels and low awareness levels on climate change impacts.

The Climate Change Act 2016 requires the CEC Member for climate change affairs to report on the progress of implementation of climate change

actions to the County Assembly for review. However, most counties do not have the capacity to actualize this.

## **What is your recommendation for improving coordination between the national and county governments in addressing climate change?**

There is need to reduce duplication of roles and improve coordination between national and county governments on climate change issues. Roles and responsibilities of different climate change actors also need to be elaborated further.

Institutional and technical capacities need to be enhanced to ensure counties have the skills to meet their obligations under the Climate Change Act 2016. There is also need for all counties to establish County Climate Change Funds and access climate finance from both domestic and international sources. Public awareness also needs to be enhanced.

The rise in temperatures and increased frequencies and intensities of droughts and floods, erratic rainfall patterns, increases in pests and disease incidences and loss of fauna are clear indications of climate change. There is, therefore, need to increase funding for climate change interventions at national and county levels. The National Government, consequently, needs to increase budgetary allocations to counties for climate change related activities.

## **Dr. John Kipkorir Chumo**

Nandi CEC Member in Charge of Lands, Environment and Natural Resources Chair, Caucus for CEC Members for Environment, Water, Land and Mining  
[kipkorirchumo@yahoo.com](mailto:kipkorirchumo@yahoo.com)

*Interview conducted by Bob Aston-ALIN*

# Mainstreaming Climate Change into National and County Planning



*Stakeholders' consultative process on coordination of climate change responses in Kenya ©Phillip Dinga*

**The Climate Change Act, 2016 obligates the national and county governments to mainstream climate change responses into development planning, decision-making and implementation. The National Climate Change Council (NCCC) chaired by the President will provide an overarching national climate change coordination mechanism and functions by the national and county governments.**

The Council is mandated to offer advice to the national and county governments on legislative, policy and other measures necessary for climate response and attaining low carbon climate change resilient development.

The Ministry of Devolution and Planning is mandated to ensure that adaptation and mitigation measures in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) are mainstreamed in the planning processes at national and county levels. The inclusion of both mitigation and adaptation in the NDC was based on national circumstances and informed by decisions arising from the 19th and 21st sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is another key player in mainstreaming climate change in planning and development as it maintains standards and requirements, as well as tracking the progress in meeting national and international obligations. All government ministries, departments, and agencies, however, have an obligation to mainstream climate change across their functions and processes.

Besides the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary also play a role in mainstreaming climate change in planning and development. The Legislature ensures that there is a legal framework by passing laws, policies, and regulations related to climate change. The NCCC will also submit, every financial year, an evaluation report on performance of climate change duties by

public entities to the National Assembly for review, discussion and debate. The Judiciary helps in safeguarding climate change laws.

Entry points that the government is using to mainstream climate change in planning and development include legislations such as Climate Change Act (2016), National Climate Change Framework Policy, National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2013-2017), and international protocols such as the Paris Agreement.

The Government relies on the implementation of climate change response actions for mitigation or adaptation. The Climate Change Framework Policy provides an entry point for public institutions at both the national and county levels and non-state actors to play their role in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Counties are already mainstreaming climate change adaptation into County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP).

Mainstreaming of climate change at the National level is being done through the Medium Term Plans (MTP) and its sectoral plans and national policies like Energy Policy and Transport Policy. The government is using the Ending Drought Emergencies Strategy as one of the strategies in implementing the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, in collaboration with Kenya School of Government and Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), has developed a short course to equip the national and county government officials with the requisite knowledge, skills, and attitude to mainstream climate change in development, planning, decision-making, and implementation. KICD is also in the process of integrating climate change into formal curricula at primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

In addition, the country is climate-proofing policy measures by adopting international norms and standards.

This includes the domestication of international protocols ratified by the country. The process also includes capacity-building sessions on the mainstreaming of climate change and formulation of Climate Public Budget Expenditure Reviews (CPBER). The CPBER gave an indication of climate-relevant sector funding levels and costs. This helps actors to make better decisions on the utilisation of funds to climate proof projects.

The Country monitors progress in mainstreaming climate change in planning and development using the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) framework. This includes the submission to the UNFCCC secretariat of national communications every four years and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) every two years. The BUR reports contain updates on national circumstances and institutional arrangements; national inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) by sources and removal by sinks; mitigation actions and their effects; constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs, including support needed and received; and domestic MRV.

Mainstreaming climate change in planning and development has encountered some challenges that include; a low understanding of climate change adaptation and mitigation amongst some actors, low climate smart technologies uptake, high cost of adaptation, and low climate change adaptation capacity. Kenya is, however, on track to benefit from climate change related opportunities, given that it has already put in place the relevant legal and coordination structures.

**David W. Kiboi**

State Department of Planning and Statistics

Ministry of Devolution and Planning  
[davidwkiboi@gmail.com](mailto:davidwkiboi@gmail.com)

# Mobilizing Resources for Climate Financing in Kenya



Harvesting water for irrigation in Nguruman, Kajiado County. Climate finance is required for such community adaptation initiatives ©Noah Lusaka

**The collapse of the global carbon trading market more than five years ago was a big blow to developing countries, like Kenya, seeking to access green technologies. This has jeopardised future climate finance flows to the developing world. As a result, entities such as Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) that had invested heavily in lowering carbon emissions through environment friendly projects are no longer able to advance new Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects.**

Kenya now has a draft National Policy on Climate Finance and a climate change budget code, whose development was spearheaded by the National Treasury. The two documents were validated by stakeholders drawn from the government and non-governmental organizations.

This is in line with the recommendation of the National Climate Change Action Plan on the role of the National Treasury in delivering climate finance for the country to switch to a low carbon climate resilient development pathway and tracking of climate change relevant expenditure through Climate Budget Coding.

The policy was formulated through an inclusive process, cutting across Government and non-state actors, in line with Kenya's Constitutional requirement of public participation.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the second operating entity of the UNFCCC financial mechanism and, so far, the most capitalised climate finance institution. The National Treasury is Kenya's GCF National Designated Authority (NDA), with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) being the only National Implementing Entity (NIE), so far, accredited by the GCF.

NEMA is also Kenya's Adaptation Fund NIE. The Climate Finance Secretariat within the Department of Financial and Sectoral Affairs of the Directorate of

Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs at National Treasury provides facilitation and broad strategic oversight of the GCF funded projects in the country.

Access to GCF resources is a country driven process. The NDA regularly provides information on access modalities for GCF resources to finance adaptation and mitigation initiatives. The NDA is, in this capacity, responsible for accreditation of National Implementing Entities (NIEs) by the GCF and issuance of Letters of "No-Objection" for proposals submitted to the GCF, in line with GCF project development criteria. The National Implementing Entity then scrutinizes the proposals, including budgetary requirements. Executing Entities (EE) prepare concept notes and actualise the project activities implementation.

**"The Climate Investment Fund Framework will develop an investment plan for low-emission projects at county level in line with the Nationally Determined Contributions."**

GCF readiness and preparatory support activities constitute an on-going process to strengthen a country's engagement with the Fund, and can be through 'direct' or 'indirect' access. Direct access is through the NDA, and in this respect, an application by the National Treasury has been approved. Indirect access is through any other institution well-versed in readiness activities, and for Kenya, this is the World Resources Institute, UNDP and UNEP, with a GCF allocation of US\$1.3 million.

The Climate Investment Fund Framework will also develop an investment plan for low-emission projects at county level in line with the Nationally Determined Contributions. Structures are currently being put in place to guide the process.

Institutions based in Kenya will access GCF funds based on four categories namely: micro level (up to US\$10 million); small category (US\$10 million-50

million); medium (US\$ 50 -250 million); and large (US\$ 250 million and above). Institutions accredited for direct access until December 2016 include NEMA (national) and Acumen (regional).

Those accredited for indirect access include UNDP, African Development Bank (AfDB), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), French Development Agency (AFD) and KfW Development Bank (international). Accreditation is based on the institution's ability to manage funds in line with the Fund's fiduciary standards for the scale and type of funding sought.

To access GCF funds, executing entities develop concept notes and funding proposals in partnership with the relevant accredited implementing entities. Other Kenyan institutions at different stages of the accreditation process include: Kenya Commercial Bank; Geothermal Development Corporation; ACTS; and East African Development Bank (EADB).

Domestically, the Climate Change Act 2016 establishes a Climate Change Fund (CCF) as a financing mechanism for priority climate change actions and interventions in the country. The Fund shall be administered by the National Climate Change Council, also established in the Act, and managed by the Principal Secretary for climate change affairs.

**Peter Odhengo**  
The National Treasury  
[odhengo@gmail.com](mailto:odhengo@gmail.com)

**Dr Adano Wario**  
Mineral Resources/Climate Finance Unit  
The National Treasury  
[wradano@yahoo.com](mailto:wradano@yahoo.com)



<https://twitter.com/jotoafrika>

# Wajir County Climate Change Financing



Women fetching water from a project funded through the Wajir County Climate Change Fund ©Mohamed Turane

**Transitioning to a low carbon climate resilient development pathway as envisaged in the National Climate Change Action Plan (2013-2017) requires substantial funding and investment. Some counties in Kenya have formulated regulations to help raise funds for climate change actions and achieve low carbon climate resilient development.**

Among these counties is Wajir, through the Wajir County Climate Change Fund Act, 2016. On 24 May 2016, Wajir Governor Ahmed Abdullahi signed the Act into law and its implementation commenced in June 2016. The Act was formulated through a participatory process that included communities and development partners, and guided by the Kenya Climate Change Act, 2016 and the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, in tandem with the Constitution of Kenya.

The Act commits the County Government to set aside not less than 2 percent of its development budget for climate change projects, programmes and activities. This is provided for in the Climate Finance Framework under the Act, ensuring the sustainability of the Fund.

Seed money equivalent to KSh 62,709,714 million (USD 615,000) was provided by the Department for International Development (DfID) through the Strengthening Adaptation and Resilient to Climate Change in Kenya (StARCK+) project to kickstart the implementation of the Act.

The seed money is being used to fund 12 water-related projects, including fencing and rehabilitation of 10 pans, and drilling of two boreholes that will be powered using a solar system.

Wajir is the second county in Kenya and Africa to set up such a legislation after Makueni. Other counties in the process of developing similar legislation include Kitui, Isiolo, and Garissa. The Act places Wajir County in a strategic position to access climate finance from the National Government, development partners, and international sources.

The Fund facilitates climate change financing in Wajir through establishing climate finance mechanisms, facilitating and planning for climate change adaptation and mitigation in the county planning and budgetary framework, and initiating and coordinating finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation activities at community level, among others.

The Adaptation Consortium (ADA), with funding from DfID, supports the five county governments named above under the StARCK+ Project to access climate finance in support of adaptation and climate resilient development. The consortium is also supporting the five counties to mainstream climate change into their planning processes.

The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) coordinates the work of the consortium, which brings together Christian Aid (CA), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) and UK Met office.

The Act provides a framework for sharing of finances in the Climate Change Fund, with 10% being set aside for administrative costs, 70% for projects in the wards, and 20% for county-wide projects. Further, it makes public participation mandatory, where each

Ward Planning Committee is obligated to convene, during the first quarter of every financial year, at least three community consultation forums in three different locations for climate change awareness, project eligibility criteria, and identification of priority projects from community members. In addition, the Act promotes transparency in planning, budgeting and tendering of climate change initiatives.

Since the formation of County governments, Wajir has spent the highest proportion of its development budget in funding water related projects. This exemplary work led to the appointment of the Governor of Wajir, Ahmed Abdullahi, as Water Ambassador for all the 47 counties by the Water and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary Hon. Eugene Wamalwa.

Increased water funding and better management has reduced water-related conflict in the county, and reduced water collection distance, enabling women and children to easily access water including watering points for livestock compared to previous years. Wajir County has consequently increased technical capacities of local experts and transparency of adaptation and mitigation funding.

**Abdirahman Ibrahim**  
CEC Environment Energy & Natural Resource  
Wajir County  
[admaalim@yahoo.com](mailto:admaalim@yahoo.com)

**Bob Aston**  
Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN)  
[baston@alin.net](mailto:baston@alin.net)

## Subscribe to *Joto Afrika*

You can subscribe by sending an email to [jotoafrika@alin.net](mailto:jotoafrika@alin.net)  
Please include your organisation and your full postal address.



# Private Sector Responses to Climate Change



A farmer fixing his portable solar system that is used for water pumping and lighting ©Noah Lusaka

The Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) is Kenya's lead representative organization for manufacturing value-add industries in Kenya. Established in 1959, it advocates for the creation of an enabling environment that supports Kenya's industrialization and offer services in support of the entrepreneurs in the sector. KAM has evolved into a dynamic, vibrant, credible and respected voice of industry in Kenya and across the region.

The manufacturing sector in Kenya is susceptible to the adverse impacts of climate change. KAM is cognisant of the role of manufacturing in enhancing climate resilience and adaptive capacity. KAM is working with partners to ensure the increase in global temperatures remains below 2 °C and to pursue efforts to keep the temperature increase to below a 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

KAM recognises that while members' investments may be adversely impacted by climate change, it will also occasion opportunities across the value addition process that members can take advantage of.

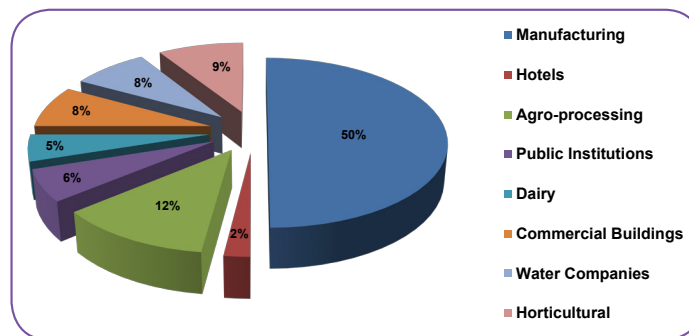
KAM advocates for responsible production and consumption and undertakes firm-level interventions on resource audits, including for energy and water across large, medium and small sized facilities. This is in line with its deliberate effort to contribute to the global temperature goal, by ensuring that the sector's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions remains minimal.

To date, the Centre for Energy Efficiency and Conservation has undertaken 850 energy audits across the country. The spread cuts across the manufacturing sector (50%), agro processing (12%), horticulture (9%), water companies and commercial buildings (8% each), public institutions and dairy industry (6% and

5% respectively), and hotels at 2%. The audits are subsidized, with the support of the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum and DANIDA, to enable increased uptake of energy efficiency programmes in the manufacturing sector.

## Beneficiaries of CEEC Energy Audits

Other programmes include those aimed at strengthening business sector engagement on climate change and catalysing investments in renewable energy. KAM is in the forefront of working with County governments to develop clean energy policies and action plans that foster the nexus between sustainable energy and climate change.



KAM introduced water and wastewater audit programmes targeting both the private and public sectors in Kenya. This takes cognisance of the fact that one of the drivers of high water demand is inefficient use practices and fixtures. This calls for the adoption of best practices and water efficient fixtures for demand side management. This, in turn, increases industry ability to manage climate change impacts along supply chains.

Through this service, KAM empowers members to develop water use benchmarks for various water-consuming sectors. Examples include dairy, food and beverage, fresh produce and textile sectors. This aims at creating awareness on water and wastewater management systems inefficiencies and associated losses in terms of water, energy and chemicals. In addition, the initiative also provides learning platforms for companies to showcase

technological interventions on smart metering and water accounting systems. To date over 150 industry personnel have been trained on water and wastewater auditing and 15 companies are already benefiting from the subsidized service. KAM also convenes platforms for innovations exchange, like the 2017 Clean Energy week and conference.

Most private sector organisations lack capacity on water and wastewater management. KAM is filling this gap through water professional skills enhancement courses. The private sector's engagement in the green growth agenda is articulated in Kenya's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). NDC implementation support includes finance, technology and capacity building. This has the potential to enhance private sector involvement in climate change response actions, including climate finance.

Key priority areas like expansion of geothermal, solar and wind energy production, increasing energy and resource efficiency and climate proofing of industry

and infrastructure require significant investments. The private sector can provide support to such initiatives in form of finance, investment, technology development and transfer and capacity building.

The Manufacturing sector can innovate and modify their products and services to meet the new and emerging market demands created by climate change. Kenyan firms supporting the "Buy Kenya, build Kenya" initiative are, for example, producing, assembling and distributing energy-efficient products such as 'Pay as you go' solar home kits, energy efficient cook stoves and efficient light bulbs which play an integral part in addressing climate change response.

## Victor Gathogo

Kenya Association of Manufacturers  
victor.gathogo@kam.co.ke

# Climate Change Experiences by Non-State Actors in Kenya



Farmer training on intensive agriculture at a demonstration farm in Nakuru County ©Act!

**Kenyan communities have always had to contend with the impacts of climate change. Therefore, there is need for the participation of local citizenry with first-hand experience on the coping mechanisms in the formulation of development of policies and strategies. It is on this basis that Act Change Transform (Act!) chose to work with other Non State Actors (NSAs) to support climate change response through awareness creation and funding research in the area of climate change with the aim of gathering evidence for policy and practice.**

Act!, in partnership with UK Aid and the Embassy of Sweden, and in recognition of the challenges presented by climate change, implemented the Changieni Rasili Mali (CRM) Facility. The implementation was from 2011 to 2016 with the aim of improving citizen participation in the governance and sustainable utilization of natural resources in Kenya. This was informed by the results of a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) done in 2011, where priority gaps in the climate change sector were identified.

Implementation was nationwide, cutting across the high potential and arid regions, in cognizance of key frameworks that support response to the climate change effects including the Constitution of Kenya (2010), the National Climate Change Response Strategy (2010) and the Climate Change Act of 2016, among many others.

Under the Climate Change thematic sector, the CRM facility has supported 36 organizations through grants and institutional capacity development to undertake various projects. To facilitate advocacy actions and community response to climate change impacts, the facility established and strengthened networks for national and county level policy engagements. At National level, 3 main networks were strengthened, namely, the Kenya Climate Change Working Group (KCCWG), Gender and Climate Change Working Group

(GCCWG) and Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA). KCCWG developed 7 County level climate networks in Isiolo, Kitui, Kajiado, Tana River, Wajir, Pokot and Turkana Counties.

To enhance capacity of legislators on climate change aspects, the Facility built the capacity of Kajiado County Executive Committee Members on gender and climate change and their implications on county development. As a result, the trained county officials in Kajiado County formed a committee to ensure that climate change aspects are mainstreamed in county policies and programmes. The Facility worked to create awareness among community members on climate change impacts targeting farmers, schools and the general community, using a number of approaches. During the development of the climate change policy and bill, the Facility supported

**“These projects have good prospects for integrating climate change into their activities, which should be optimized.”**

KCCWG to develop case studies on climate change adaptation practices that were disseminated to Kitui, Turkana, Isiolo, Kajiado and Pokot counties.

The Facility trained journalists in Trans Nzoia, Nyandarua, Laikipia and Kitui Counties on the basic concepts of climate change, adaptation and mitigation, and existing policies that govern climate change in Kenya and beyond, including effective reporting on climate change. The justification for this support was that the media plays a central role in influencing actions of key decision makers, and yet they had inadequate understanding of key climate change concepts.

Women and youth entrepreneurship groups were supported, through the Facility, to promote the adoption of renewable energy technologies through capacity building in renewable energy technologies and entrepreneurship. Microfinance models have been explored

and adapted to improve sustainability of solar energy interventions. This has led to the establishment and operationalization of 16 solar energy enterprises in Makueni and Kajiado Counties. Each of the enterprises was provided with seed capital of Ksh 80,000 to stock solar lighting accessories. Loan models were developed where the women get loans from other women groups depending on their savings.

The above measures contributed to improved community resilience and facilitated adaptation. The longer-term aims of climate change resilience building in agriculture, land, energy, water and environment sectors are supported by several projects within the programme. These projects have good prospects for integrating climate change into their activities, which should be optimized. Linking climate change initiatives to more immediate and tangible benefits will help provide a more conducive incentivized environment, as well as generate the resources and financial buffers needed to sustain adaptation and mitigation in the future.

**Julius Wairoma**  
Programme Manager  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Management, Act!  
[Julius.wairoma@act.or.ke](mailto:Julius.wairoma@act.or.ke)

## Write to us!

We welcome your feedback on this Issue 20 of Joto Afrika (<http://www.alin.or.ke/Joto%20Afrika>) Please send us your thoughts using the contact details on **Page 12**. Please include your full contact address or email. A selection of letters will be printed in the next issue.

# Effective Climate Information Services for Communities



*Elders use indigenous knowledge to discern the weather in Magadi ©Francis Muchiri*

**Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) recognises the vital importance of climate information services in reducing vulnerability to disasters by use of climate risk information in planning and policy formulation. In this respect, the Action Plan recognises the need to improve climate information services to strengthen the adaptive capacity of communities through provision of climate information, and mainstreaming climate change into agricultural extension services, among other sectors.**

The mandate to provide climate information and to archive climate data rests with the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), which also has the largest weather observational infrastructure in Kenya. Other types of climate information, like runoff, and water and lake levels are domiciled in other institutions, like the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Besides government institutions, international development agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector entities are supporting climate information services in Kenya. Data from such actors help supplement the normal climate observation network through increased rainfall data coverage.

Climate information services (CIS) include immediate and short-term weather forecasts and advisories, and longer-term information about new seeds and technologies and market developments. The provision of climate information services involves collating, analysing, packaging and distributing climate data on variables such as temperature, rainfall, wind, soil moisture, ocean conditions and extreme weather indicators.

Services received at community level include daily, weekly, monthly, and seasonal forecasts. Others include warning alerts and climatological summaries for specific areas. Seasonal forecasts issued at national level help government ministries and departments to plan. Downscaling the forecasts

has made it possible for the Kenya Meteorological Department to tailor forecasts at the County level.

To date 14 counties have established County Climate Information Services Plans (CCISP) in line with national and international development frameworks including the Constitution of Kenya, Kenya Vision 2030, the National Climate Change Response Strategy and National Climate Change Action Plan, as well as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)'s Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

The CCISP was piloted in Isiolo County before scaling up to other counties. This helps to develop and provide timely, relevant information in support of local sub-county and county level decision-making at timeframes of hours, days, weeks, months, seasons, and years. The plans help mainstream climate information at all levels within the county structure and processes.

The need for a standardised climate information service in counties led KMD to develop a framework that spelt out how climate information can best support the people in the county in addressing climate related challenges.

The CCISP template includes generic text appropriate for all county contexts, while also highlighting areas requiring county-specific input.

KMD is collaborating with stakeholders, to share weather and climate knowledge and information through Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP). The stakeholders interpret the seasonal forecasts and agricultural information into formats and languages that farmers and pastoralists can understand.

Dissemination of the sector-specific advisories through Short Message Service (SMS), radio, internet and public forums helps communities to better anticipate and respond to climate-related risks and to inform decision-making. This enhances the resilience of farmers, pastoralists, policymakers, infrastructure designers, private sector and government ministries and departments.

One of the impacts of climate change is variability in the rainfall patterns. Studies have for example, indicated fluctuations in the onset of rains, which makes the duration increasingly unpredictable. Climate information services help both the national and county governments prepare for such situations. This also ensures that policymakers at both levels have the necessary information to make evidence based decisions.

Kitui county farmers, for example, have been using climate information to plan operations like harvesting, drying, and storage of mangoes, among other farm produce. On the other hand, fishermen in Kisumu County use climate information to make decisions on fishing. In Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) like Isiolo, Wajir, and Garissa, pastoralists use climate information to plan their operations, including searching for pasture.

Various challenges inhibit the use of climate information at the community levels. These include low literacy levels that makes it hard for communities to understand and interpret climate information, difficulty in accessing climate information in some parts of the County and some of the communication channels used for disseminating information do not reach some community members.

In addition, most communities do not understand that climate forecasts are probabilistic. In such cases when the forecasts do not go their way they stop utilising the information.

The KMD, with funding from UKAid, has initiated a Climate Information Prize (<http://www.climateinformationprize.org/>) as a way to spur climate information services providers to come up with new solutions. The Tambua, Wazo and Tekeleza prizes reward entrepreneurs and innovators who come up with solutions that use climate information to support vulnerable individuals, households, and communities in Kenya.

## **Ayub Shaka**

Senior Assistant Director  
Kenya Meteorological Department  
[ayubshaka@ymail.com](mailto:ayubshaka@ymail.com)



# Adaptation Good Practice (AGP) Checklist



A community group in Nguruman, Kajiado County, preparing to plant vegetables using drip irrigation ©Noah Lusaka

**Climate change impacts involve three defining features that are not always a part of other development challenges: they are diverse; they are both short and long-term; and they are not easily predictable.**

Adapting to these three traits is difficult because they create complexity and require context-specific and forward-looking planning regarding a variety of local climate impacts, risks and vulnerabilities when the future is highly uncertain. Adaptive capacity is central to building resilience and involves developing processes and capacities that enable continued response to a changing and uncertain climate over time.

The Paris Agreement creates the framework for increased financial flows for adaptation to the impacts of climate change. The Adaptation Good Practice (AGP) Checklist provides guidance on actions and criteria, which help to ensure that adaptation results in quality, impactful and long-term climate resilience for the most vulnerable people.

## **Purpose of the Adaptation Good Practice checklist**

The AGP checklist is an initial effort developed with the objective to guide

and ensure that actions proposed as adaptation do result in long-term effective impact. The checklist is for use in the context of designing and deciding financial support to policy, projects, programmes and all other types of initiatives that focus on adaptation specifically, or in which climate resilience is mainstreamed.

It presents nine practices that should feature in such initiatives in order to qualify as adaptation to climate change. The checklist includes a practical scoring method for use in screening concepts, proposals and implementation plans for their incorporation of and compliance with adaptation good practices.

## **AGP checklist, NDCs and Adaptation Finance**

The checklist fills a gap in the guidance for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and adaptation finance, and provides a one-stop shop to assess quality and comprehensiveness of an adaptation initiative or proposal. It makes the link between the conceptual guidance provided in Article 7 of the Paris Agreement and a wealth of detailed practical tools and approaches.

The nine practices in the AGP checklist define the range of activity areas that are needed for adaptation to climate change. They are derived from a synthesis of practical experience in Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Green Climate Fund documents on adaptation planning, finance, gaps, paradigm shifts, and social environmental safeguards.

The checklist supports design, decisions, capacity building, implementation, and monitoring of adaptation, in relation to the roll out of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), NAPs and adaptation finance. It can be used to inform or screen concepts, proposals, implementation plans and national budgets for their incorporation of and compliance with adaptation good practices, and to determine the focus of research and capacity building.

## **Using the Checklist**

The checklist can be used to, among others, engage proposal design teams in discussions on what good adaptation would look like in the particular context, vulnerable groups, prioritised sector and geographic areas agreed upon. It can also be used to guide project or programme designs, roll out of NAPs/ NDCs and implementation teams to include essential practices and approaches to support sustainable adaptation outcomes and impacts; guide appraisal, evaluation or screening of concepts and proposals in relation to adaptation content ensuring they satisfy the criteria for good adaptation at all levels; and guide content development of research, training and capacity building programmes for adaptation.

It can inform national climate finance budget coding; help in desk exercises or stakeholder discussions using the AGPs as a tool to trigger reflections on how good adaptation can be realised on the ground; and to inspire and document dynamic evolution of adaptation good practice as it continues to be informed by emerging learning from practical experiences in response to climate change and uncertainty.

## **Who is the checklist for?**

The Checklist is ideal for planners and proposal development teams to guide designs for NAPs, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund (AF) and other financing mechanisms; implementing Entities – multilateral, regional and national implementing entities (MIEs, RIEs, NIEs), development banks, donors, and the AF and GCF boards to evaluate quality and effectiveness; executing entities and programme implementers to guide detailed design of adaptation processes and activities with stakeholders and capacity building developers to design course curricula.

## **Emma Bowa**

Adaptation Learning Programme  
Care International  
[ebowa@careclimatechange.org](mailto:ebowa@careclimatechange.org)

## **AGP CHECKLIST**

### **1. RISK, VULNERABILITY & CAPACITY**

Analyse climate risks, differential vulnerability and capacity of people, ecosystems and institutions

### **2. PARTICIPATION, INCLUSION & GENDER EQUALITY**

Ensure participation, agency, transparency and inclusion of all groups

### **3. CLIMATE INFORMATION AND UNCERTAINTY**

Incorporate management of uncertainty and use of climate information

### **4. PLANNING & DECISION MAKING PROCESSES**

Promote anticipatory, flexible and forward looking adaptation planning and decision making processes

### **5. INNOVATION, LOCAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Promote innovation, local (including traditional and indigenous) knowledge and technology

### **6. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**

Ensure an integrated and holistic response with adaptive management of climate related risks and impacts over time

### **7. INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGES**

Establish institutional arrangements and linkages which facilitate multi-stakeholder engagement

### **8. LEARNING, CAPACITY BUILDING & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

Integrate learning, capacity building, monitoring and knowledge management processes

### **9. SCALING UP & SUSTAINABILITY**

Support ongoing and sustainable adaptation at scale

**Further Resources: AGP Flyer – pocket sized reminder of the nine practices**  
<http://careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation-good-practice-checklist/>

# Gender and Climate Change in Kenya



*Involvement of different gender in climate change decision making ©Philip Dinga*

**The concept of gender is now well known and has been differentiated from sex. Gender is defined as the social construction of the roles and responsibilities of men and women, boys and girls given by every society, and varies from one community to another. For example while the Maasai women are responsible for constructing Manyattas (houses), among the Luhya, this is a man's role.**

Gender defines what is expected, allowed and valued in a man, woman, boy or girl in a particular context, is dynamic and changes over time. When there are differences between gender roles ascribed to men and women, gender inequality may arise.

The threats of climate change are not gender-neutral since climate events like floods, droughts and storms have different effects and impacts on men and women that are determined by their social roles and responsibilities. The effects vary from regions, generations, income groups, abilities and occupations.

Kenya is a patriarchal society and traditionally men are privileged in many ways that often perpetuates discrimination in access to opportunities for women. Addressing gender inequality requires positive discrimination in favour of women (affirmative action).

There have been repeated calls to improve the participation of women in the representation of parties in bodies established under the convention and the Kyoto Protocol where women are underrepresented.

International and regional treaties like the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform of Action and the African Women Maputo Protocol and Commitments have put obligations on State Parties and called for recognition and empowerment of women to bring them into full participation on equal basis with men.

Gender and Climate Change is now a standing agenda item in UNFCCC negotiations. The Paris Agreement on

Climate Change acknowledges gender equality and empowerment of women and intergenerational equality.

## **Why Gender matters in climate change**

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) cites robust evidence for increased gender inequality as a result of weather events and climate-related disasters intertwined with socioeconomic, institutional, cultural and political drivers that perpetuate differential vulnerabilities.

Men and women have different access to the assets and resources required to respond to Climate Change, including finance, land, education, health and ability to participate in decision making systems.

The Constitution provides for gender equality and inclusion for women, persons with disabilities, children, youth, older members of society, ethnic minorities and marginalized communities and groups.

The Constitution also provides for affirmative action for women through the "two third Gender Rule." Studies indicate that women bear the brunt of poverty and inequality in all spheres; political, economic and social.

## **Sampled Statistics**

6% of agriculture land in Kenya is owned by women. Women make up 75%-89% of agriculture labour force. 54% of rural women and girls and 63% of urban women and girls live below the poverty line. 42.2% of female-headed households were poor in 2005/2006 compared to 30% of those headed by men.

Kenya has put affirmative action programmes in place such as the Women Enterprise and Uwezo funds. These programmes empower women by providing resources for income generating activities and access 30%

of procurement in all public entities. The National Gender and Equality Commission is an independent body that integrates principles of equality and non-discrimination in both public and private entities. At the implementation level, the Gender Directorate under the Ministry of Public Service, Youth, and Gender undertakes various activities.

The Kenya Climate Change Act, 2016 articulates guiding values to ensure equality and social inclusion in allocation of effort, costs and benefits to cater for special needs, vulnerabilities, capabilities, and responsibilities.

The Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change affairs is expected to formulate a national gender and intergenerational responsive public education and awareness strategy on climate change and an implementation programme that is to be approved by the National Climate Change Council established under the law.

The following is recommended for effective integration of gender into climate actions at national and county level;

- Access and analyse any situation before programming to identify the impact on men and women, boys and girls.
- Ensure gender responsive budgets to support gender-targeted interventions at National and County government levels.
- Disaggregate data by sex, age, ability, and quintile to enhance monitoring of implementation processes.
- Include gender responsive strategies in all interventions.
- Share gender responsive best practices across counties and communities.

## **Winfred Lichuma**

Chairperson National Gender and Equality Commission  
[wlichuma@ngeckkenya.org](mailto:wlichuma@ngeckkenya.org)

# Faith-based Organisations Championing Climate Change Issues



NCKK officially launching Mara Ecosystem land-use plan  
©NCKK

**The impacts of climate change are cross-sectoral, transiting religious and physical boundaries. Faith-based organisations have a crucial role to play in advocating for changes in behaviour at every level of society and across different economic sector. This augments the momentum of the civil society for enhanced action on climate change.**

As non-state actors, religious leaders have a critical role, not just in the formulation, but also in championing the implementation of frameworks for multi-stakeholder involvement in climate change response processes and execution.

The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCKK) is currently implementing a project dubbed “Southern Voices on Adaptation.” The project involves influencing adaptation planning and implementation using Joint Principles for Adaptation to ensure that national and sub-national policies and plans meet the needs and fulfil the rights of the most vulnerable people to adapt to climate change.

The Joint Principles for Adaptation are a statement by civil society organisations from across the world on what they consider a benchmark for good adaptation planning and implementation. Faith based organisations are involved in three critical areas of engagement in addressing climate change as outlined below.

## **Participating in National and County level processes**

In the run up to COP 21 in Paris, faith-based organisations facilitated the signing of over 600,000 petitions around the desired commitments of the state parties on climate change governance.

In 2014, through the Southern Voices support, NCKK called on the President to assent to the Climate Change Bill citing its provision for county government participation. NCKK held several sensitization forums among church leaders in Tharaka Nithi, Meru, and Isiolo Counties on climate change alongside

the Joint Principles of Adaptation. Implementation of the interventions is currently taking place in Makueni and Bomet Counties with a view of influencing the Country Environment Action Plans to integrate climate change.

NCKK is facilitating climate change mainstreaming in the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) through the development of a mainstreaming framework. Additionally, NCKK is using the Joint Principles for Adaptation to influence mainstreaming of climate change in the County Environment Action plans.

NCKK is supporting Turkana, Isiolo and Marsabit counties to ensure that their CIDPs integrate climate change adaptation. The development of the County Climate Change Mainstreaming Framework (CCCMF) will guide mainstreaming at the county level.

## **Organising communities for resilience building**

NCKK is championing the building of adaptive capacities of communities while promoting participatory climate governance principles at the county level. For the last 5 years, NCKK has trained farmers in Kwa-Vonza, Kitui County, to implement adaptive farming technologies like zai pit, crop association, soil cover, drip irrigation, and water harvesting.

Replication of the technologies in Kalemngorok, Turkana County and in Tharaka Nithi County has led to increased food production and security at the household level.

NCKK, with support from Act Change Transform (Act!), piloted an ecosystem-based management of natural resources in the Mau River basin to help communities adopt climate resilient farming practices like bee farming, terracing, and other soil conservation practices. This led to the development and publication of a land use plan for the Mara-Ecosystem. NCKK continues to build strong partnerships with the respective County governments for sustainability of these initiatives.

NCKK is also training clergy and using them as change agents in their congregations; they form part of community target groups trained on adaptive technologies; participating in the national climate change advocacy campaigns like cycling and signing of petitions, walks, and awareness creation through the use of media.

## **Monitor implementation at national and county level**

Religious leaders are watchdogs and drivers of targeted advocacy. This involves tracking progress in climate change adaptation and mitigation implementation at national level and reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In this respect, NCKK monitors the uptake of mainstreaming climate change at the county level, as well as the participation of communities and non-state actors in addressing climate change.

NCKK is collaborating with agencies working at the county level to champion the institutionalisation of climate resilience and ensure coherent planning.

Challenges leading to the low uptake of climate change response actions include inadequate technical capacities at county levels, climate change not being considered as a core business of county personnel, and low levels of awareness on existing policies and policy tools.

## **Joy Matanda**

Programme Officer, Environment and Natural Resource Management  
National Council of Churches of Kenya  
[jmatanda@nckk.org](mailto:jmatanda@nckk.org)

## **Obed Koringo**

Regional Facilitator for Africa  
Southern Voices on Adaptation  
Pan African Climate Justice Alliance  
[koringo@pacja.org](mailto:koringo@pacja.org)  
[koringo.obed@gmail.com](mailto:koringo.obed@gmail.com)



[www.facebook.com/jotoafrikamag](https://www.facebook.com/jotoafrikamag)



# Crop Insurance for Subsistence Farmers

Kenyan delegates with senior government officials and farmer representatives from the State of Haryana, India ©Sheila Mbiru

Kenya is currently undergoing a severe drought that impacted the performance of the 2016 short and long rainfall seasons. Kenya's agriculture is 98% rain fed, making it highly vulnerable to climatic hazards like droughts. The 2008-2011 drought, for example, caused losses estimated at US\$ 10.7 Billion with crops accounting for 14% (US\$ 1.5 billion).

The Government of Kenya has identified agricultural insurance as a key strategy to cushion farmers from the adverse effects of climate change. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MENR) supported the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MALF) through the Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development (LECRD) Project to fast-track the implementation of a multi-peril Area Yield Index insurance (AYII). The programme is being piloted in Nakuru, Bungoma and Embu Counties.

To formalize the programme, the Project supported the official launch of the Kenya Agricultural Insurance Risk Management Programme in March 2016 at Kipseyan Primary School in Rongai (Nakuru County). The event was graced by dignitaries including, Prof Judi Wakhungu (Cabinet Secretary MENR), Mr Japheth Ntiba (Principal Secretary – Fisheries, MALF), Mr William Kiprono

(MENR Administration Secretary); Mr Enock Kanyanya (USAID), World Bank representatives, Nakuru County government officials and insurance companies' representatives. Over 240 farmers attended the launch.

The project supported the roll out of the programme in Nakuru County, including stakeholder validation; sensitization of over 35 agricultural staff; awareness creation among County Government officials; data collection to establish the unit areas of insurance; farmers' sensitization barazas and registration of over 25,000 farmers. The project will also facilitate crop cut experiments.

In February 2017, the Project facilitated government officials from the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment to attend a 10-day experiential learning tour of India on crop insurance. India is a global success story in the area of crop insurance with a government-led multi agency programme that insured over 36 million farmers in 2016.

The objective of the tour was to benchmark with international best practices in agricultural insurance. The delegation interacted with a wide range of stakeholders to understand their roles in the crop insurance system. This included national and state governments, public

and private insurers and re-insurers, financial institutions, researchers and farmers.

Some of the key lessons from India's successful programme are the government's leadership role; engagement of all stakeholders in the development, design and implementation; and improvement of farmers' access to loans and subsidies and the use of technology to improve all aspects of program implementation.

Sale of insurance premiums has been on going, with over 400 farmers involved expressing their pleasure with this initiative that cushions them against climate change related crop losses. The crop insurance programme in Kenya will contribute towards an improved enabling environment for agricultural and rural enterprises as well as improving food security and build farmers resilience to climate risks amongst farming communities.

**Sheila Shefo Mbiru**  
Project Officer-Knowledge Management and Capacity Development  
LECRD Project  
[sheilambiru@gmail.com](mailto:sheilambiru@gmail.com)

This edition is produced as a joint effort between ALIN and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MENR) through the Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development (LECRD) Project. The Project is implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, with funding by USAID through UNDP.

This edition is supported by the LECRD Project. Articles from this edition of Joto Afrika may be re-used, provided the materials are distributed free of charge and the author(s) are credited. Please send copies to ALIN and LECRD.

Views expressed in Joto Afrika do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors or MENR, ALIN, LECRD, or their supporters.

**Guest Editor**  
Stephen M. King'uyu  
[stephen.kinguyu@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.kinguyu@gmail.com)

**Editorial Team**  
James Nguo- Chief Editor ALIN  
Bob Aston- Editorial Coordinator ALIN  
Noah Lusaka - ALIN  
Harun Warui (PhD) - LECRD Project  
Sheila S. Mbiru - LECRD Project  
Phillip Dinga - LECRD Project  
Jemimah Nyakwara - LECRD Project

**Design & Layout**  
Francis Muchiri

**The Principal Secretary,**  
**Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, State Dept of Environment**  
P. O. Box 30216-00100  
Nairobi, Kenya  
**Email:** [psoffice@environment.go.ke](mailto:psoffice@environment.go.ke)

**Arid Lands Information Network**  
P.O. BOX 10098-00100 G.P.O.  
Nairobi, Kenya  
**Tel:** +254 20 2731557  
**Fax:** +254 20 2737813  
**SMS:** +254 717032322  
**Email:** [jotoafrika@alin.net](mailto:jotoafrika@alin.net)  
[www.alin.net](http://www.alin.net)  
**ISSN 2075-5562**