



*and Final*  
THE SEVENTH  $\wedge$  ANNUAL  
**DEVOLUTION  
CONFERENCE**

**REPORT  
2021**





*and Final*  
THE SEVENTH <sup>^</sup> ANNUAL  
 DEVOLUTION | REPORT  
**CONFERENCE** | **2021**

---

**THEME:**

MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR CLIMATE ACTION, SUB-NATIONAL  
MOBILIZATION IN UNLOCKING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF CLIMATE  
ACTION DURING AND AFTER PANDEMICS

**HELD ON**

23<sup>RD</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**AT**

MAKUENI BOYS HIGH SCHOOL,  
MAKUENI COUNTY

---



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PG. 3</b>	TABLE OF CONTENTS
<b>PG. 8</b>	ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS
<b>PG. 11</b>	FOREWORD
<b>PG. 12</b>	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
<b>PG. 13</b>	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
<b>PG. 14</b>	<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION AND OPENING CEREMONY</b>
<b>PG. 14</b>	1.1 INTRODUCTION
<b>PG. 14</b>	<b>DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021</b>
<b>PG. 14</b>	1.2 OPENING REMARKS
<b>PG. 14</b>	1.2.1 H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces
<b>PG. 18</b>	1.2.2 Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development
<b>PG. 20</b>	1.2.3 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Embu County and Chairman of the Council of Governors
<b>PG. 21</b>	1.2.4 Rt. Hon. Sen. Kenneth M. Lusaka, EGH, MP, Speaker of the Senate
<b>PG. 21</b>	1.2.5 Dr. Fred Matiang'i, EGH, PhD, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government
<b>PG. 22</b>	1.2.6 Hon. Charles Keter, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution
<b>PG. 23</b>	1.2.7 Hon. Keriako Tobiko, CBS, SC, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry
<b>PG. 23</b>	1.2.8 Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice Chair, Council of Governors
<b>PG. 24</b>	1.2.9 Governor Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Governor, Makueni County
<b>PG. 26</b>	1.1.10 Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate
<b>PG. 26</b>	1.1.11 Sen. Hon. Samuel Poghio, EGH, MP, Majority Leader, Senate
<b>PG. 27</b>	1.1.12 Sen. Hon. SC. James Orengo, EGH, MP, Minority Leader, Senate
<b>PG. 27</b>	1.1.13 Host Senator, Sen. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr, CBS, MP, Senator Makueni County and Senate Minority Whip
<b>PG. 28</b>	1.2.14 Hon. Ndegwa Wahome, MBS, Chairperson County Assemblies Forum (CAF), Speaker Nyandarua County Assembly
<b>PG. 28</b>	1.2.15 Mr. Albert Mwenda, Director General, Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs, National Treasury on behalf of Amb. Ukur Yatani, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning
<b>PG. 29</b>	1.2.16 H.E. Amb. Ole Thonke, Chairperson of the Devolution Donor Working Group
<b>PG. 30</b>	1.2.17 Mr. Abdessamad Sekkal, President of United Regions Organization (Oru Fogar)
<b>PG. 31</b>	1.2.18 Dr. Juma Nyende, Director of EAC Regional Office of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA) on behalf of Mr. Jean Pierre Elong-Mbassi, Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA)





**PG. 32** 1.2.19 Mr. Hosea Kili, MD/CEO

**PG. 32** 1.2.20 Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President for Energy, Power, Climate Change and Green Growth, Africa Development Bank

**PG. 34** 1.3 TREE GROWING EXERCISE AT THE DEVOLUTION FOREST

**PG. 36** 1.4 EXHIBITIONS

**PG. 37** 1.5 OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF G47 UGATUZI SACCO

**PG. 37** 1.6 OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE FINANCING LOCALLY-LED CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM (FLLoCA)

**PG. 38** **CHAPTER 2: OPENING REMARKS**

**PG. 38** DAY 2: THURSDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 38** 2.1 OPENING REMARKS

**PG. 38** 2.1.1 Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EBS, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya

**PG. 40** 2.1.2 Hon. Rev. Dr. Mirium R. Chikukwa, MP, Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee of Local Government, Public Works & National Housing, Republic of Zimbabwe

**PG. 40** 2.1.3 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Embu County and Chairman of the Council of Governors

**PG. 41** 2.1.4 Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate

**PG. 41** 2.1.5 Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice-Chair, Council of Governors

**PG. 42** 2.1.6 Hon. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Youth

**PG. 42** 2.1.7 Governor Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor, Makueni County

**PG. 44** **CHAPTER 3: PLENUM SESSIONS**

**PG. 44** DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 44** 3.1 *Sub-Theme 1: Impact of Climate Change and Pandemics on Sub-National, Continental and Global Peace and Security*

**PG. 44** 3.1.1 Introduction

**PG. 45** 3.1.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 45** 3.1.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

**PG. 47** DAY 2: THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 47** 3.2 *Sub-theme 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management*

**PG. 47** 3.2.1 Introduction

**PG. 48** 3.2.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 49** 3.2.3 Way Forward/ Action points

**PG. 51** 3.3 *Sub-theme 3: Financing Climate Action at the Sub-National Level*

**PG. 51** 3.3.1 Introduction

**PG. 51** 3.3.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 52** 3.3.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

**PG. 53** 3.4 *Sub-theme 4: Vulnerability and resilience in the face of climate change*



**PG. 53** 3.4.1 Introduction

**PG. 53** 3.4.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 54** 3.4.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

**PG. 55** DAY 3: FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 55** *3.5 Sub-theme 5: Effective Waste Management in Climate Action: From Policy to Community Level*

**PG. 55** 3.5.1 Introduction

**PG. 55** 3.5.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 56** 3.5.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 58** CHAPTER 4: SECTOR BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

**PG. 58** DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 58** URBAN

**PG. 58** *4.1: Building urban resilience: pathways to sustainable urbanization in Kenyan Counties in the wake of climate change and pandemics*

**PG. 58** 4.1.1 Introduction

**PG. 58** 4.1.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 59** 4.1.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 60** AGRICULTURE

**PG. 60** *4.2: Building resilient food systems in Kenya in the wake of climate change and pandemics*

**PG. 60** 4.2.1 Introduction

**PG. 61** 4.2.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 62** 4.2.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 63** NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

**PG. 63** *4.3: Rethinking Sustainable Natural Resources Management in the Wake of Climate Change*

**PG. 63** 4.3.1 Introduction

**PG. 63** 4.3.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 64** 4.3.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

**PG. 65** HEALTH

**PG. 65** *4.4: Climate Change and Health at County Level: Burden, Impact, Interventions and Lessons Learnt*

**PG. 65** 4.4.1 Introduction

**PG. 66** 4.4.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 66** 4.4.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 68** CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

**PG. 68** *4.5: Prevention and Management of Climate Change Instigated Conflicts: Collaborative Responses*

**PG. 68** 4.5.1 Introduction

**PG. 68** 4.5.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 69** 4.5.3 Way Forward/Action Points





**PG. 70** DAY 2: THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 70 TOURISM**

**PG. 70** *4.6: Tourism Post-COVID-19: Building a Resilient Tourism Sector*

**PG. 70** 4.6.1 Introduction

**PG. 70** 4.6.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 71** 4.6.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 72 BLUE ECONOMY**

**PG. 72** *4.7: Building A Sustainable Blue Economy Sector in the Wake of Climate Change and Pandemics*

**PG. 72** 4.7.1 Introduction

**PG. 72** 4.7.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 74** 4.7.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 75 TRADE AND MANUFACTURING**

**PG. 75** *4.8: Recovery and Re-Engineering of Local Trade and Manufacturing in the Wake of Climate Change and Pandemics*

**PG. 75** 4.8.1 Introduction

**PG. 75** 4.8.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 76** 4.8.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 78 GENDER**

**PG. 78** *4.9: Mapping and amplifying women's voices in climate action*

**PG. 78** 4.9.1 Introduction

**PG. 79** 4.9.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 79** 4.9.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 81 HEALTH**

**PG. 81** *4.10: Building Resilience and Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19*

**PG. 81** 4.10.1 Introduction

**PG. 81** 4.10.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 83** 4.10.3 Way Forward/Action Points

**PG. 84** DAY 3: FRIDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 84 ENERGY**

**PG. 84** *4.11: Embracing Renewable Energy as a Driver of Climate Change Action in the Wake of COVID-19 and Other Pandemics*

**PG. 84** 4.11.1 Introduction

**PG. 84** 4.11.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 84** 4.11.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

**PG. 86 INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**

**PG. 86** *4.12: Enlivening and integrating indigenous knowledge in climate action at the sub-national level in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic*



**PG. 86** 4.12.1 Introduction

**PG. 87** 4.12.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 87** 4.12.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

## **PG. 89 YOUTH**

**PG. 89** *4.13: Elevating Youth Voices and Harnessing Innovations in Climate Change*

**PG. 89** 4.13.1 Introduction

**PG. 90** 4.13.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 91** 4.13.3 Way Forward/Action Points

## **PG. 93 ASALs**

**PG. 93** *4.14: Sustainable Development of ASAL Areas in the Wake of Climate Change*

**PG. 93** 4.14.1 Introduction

**PG. 93** 4.14.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

**PG. 94** 4.14.3 Way Forward/Action Points

## **PG. 96 CHAPTER 5: CLOSING CEREMONY**

**PG. 96** DAY 3: FRIDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PG. 96** 5.1 AWARD OF EXHIBITORS

**PG. 96** 5.1.1 Award of Exhibitors

**PG. 97** 5.2 VOTE OF THANKS

**PG. 97** 5.2.1 Vote of thanks by Governor Alex Tolgos, EGH, the Whip, Council of Governors

**PG. 98** 5.3 CLOSING REMARKS

**PG. 98** 5.3.1 Chief Guest: Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary of Defence and immediate former Cabinet Secretary of Devolution 100

**PG. 99** 5.3.2 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Chairperson, Council of Governors

**PG. 100** 5.3.3 Governor (Prof.) Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor

**PG. 101** 5.3.4 Senator Dr. Alice Milko, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Education in the Senate on behalf of the Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, EGH, MP

**PG. 102** 5.3.5 Ms. Judy Oduma Wangalwa, Chief executive Officer, County Assemblies Forum (CAF)

**PG. 103** APPENDICIES

**PG. 103** Appendix 1 - The Conference Program

**PG. 103** Appendix 2 - Photo Gallery

**PG. 106** Appendix 3 - Signed Communique

**PG. 116** Appendix 4 - List of partners





## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<b>AGPO</b>	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
<b>AMDA</b>	Africa Mini-grid Developers Association
<b>ASAL</b>	Arid and Semi-Arid Land
<b>ASGTS</b>	Agricultural Sector Growth and Transformation Strategy
<b>AWAK</b>	Association of Women in Agriculture in Kenya
<b>CAF</b>	County Assemblies Forum
<b>CAJ</b>	Commission on Administrative Justice
<b>CBC</b>	Competency-Based Curriculum
<b>CBS</b>	Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear
<b>CC</b>	Climate Change
<b>CCDR</b>	Centre for Community-Driven Research
<b>CDRMC</b>	County Disaster Risk Management Committees
<b>CECM</b>	County Executive Committee Member
<b>CFAs</b>	Community Forests Associations
<b>CGH</b>	Chief of the Order of the Golden Heart of Kenya
<b>CHVs</b>	Community Health Volunteers
<b>CIDPs</b>	County Integrated Development Plans
<b>CoG</b>	Council of Governors
<b>CPF</b>	County Pension Fund
<b>CPRM</b>	County Peer Review Mechanism
<b>CRA</b>	Commission on Revenue Allocation
<b>EAC</b>	East African Community
<b>EBS</b>	Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear
<b>EGH</b>	Elder of the Order of the Golden Heart of Kenya
<b>EMCA</b>	Environmental Management and Coordination Act
<b>EPRA</b>	Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization
<b>FLLoCA</b>	Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Programme
<b>GCF</b>	Global Climate Fund
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GODAN</b>	Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition
<b>HIGDA</b>	Health Informatics Governance and Data Analytics
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communication Technology
<b>ICUs</b>	Intensive Care Units





<b>IGRTC</b>	Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee
<b>ILEPA</b>	Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>KAM</b>	Kenya Association of Manufacturers
<b>KEMRI</b>	Kenya Medical Research Institute
<b>KEMSA</b>	Kenya Medical Supplies Agency
<b>KEPSA</b>	Kenya Private Sector Alliance
<b>KIPRA</b>	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
<b>KIWASH</b>	Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project
<b>KLRC</b>	Kenya Law Reform Commission
<b>KURA</b>	Kenya Urban Roads Authority
<b>KYEOP</b>	Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project
<b>LAPSSET</b>	Lamu Port-South Sudan -Ethiopia – Transport
<b>MBS</b>	Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear
<b>MGH</b>	Moran of the Order of the Golden Heart
<b>MoD</b>	Ministry of Devolution
<b>MP</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>MSMEs</b>	Medium, Small and Micro-Enterprises
<b>MTP</b>	Medium Term Plan
<b>NCA</b>	National Construction Authority
<b>NCIC</b>	National Cohesion and Integration Commission
<b>NDMA</b>	National Disaster Management Authority
<b>NDRMA</b>	National Disaster Risk Management Authority
<b>NEDF</b>	National Emergency Drought Fund
<b>NEMA</b>	National Environment Management Authority
<b>NEPAD</b>	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>NHIF</b>	National Hospital Insurance Fund
<b>NITA</b>	National Industrial Training Authority
<b>NMK</b>	National Museums of Kenya
<b>NPI</b>	Natural Products Industry
<b>OGW</b>	Order of the Grand Warrior
<b>PHC</b>	Primary Health Coverage
<b>PPP</b>	Public-Private Partnership
<b>PWDs</b>	Persons with Disabilities





<b>SBM</b>	State Bank of Mauritius
<b>SC</b>	Senior Counsel
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SMEs</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>SRC</b>	Salary and Remuneration Commission
<b>UCLGA</b>	United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
<b>UHC</b>	Universal Health Coverage
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNCDF</b>	United Nations Capital Development Fund
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children’s Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WASH</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>WASH-FIN</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene Finance
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WSP</b>	Water Service Provider





## FOREWORD



*Governor Hon. Martin Wambora  
EGH, Chairperson, Council of Governors*

The 7th Annual and Final Devolution Conference was convened in the backdrop of recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Guided by the theme 'Multi – Level Governance for Climate Action' and the sub-theme 'Sub-National Mobilization in Unlocking the Full Potential of Climate Action During and After Pandemics', the conference's overall objective was to delve into the role County Governments play in the post COVID-19 period and in climate action.

My fellow Governors approved the theme and sub-theme based on the premise that subnational governments are central in the implementation of climate action strategies and post COVID-19 recovery plans. For the past two (2) years, County Governments have had to contend with the double jeopardy of cushioning communities from the effects of the ravaging COVID-19 and the harsh impacts of the changing climate.

The conference attracted implementers, practitioners and experts from different sectors to discuss and develop strategic interventions in areas such as health, renewable energy, urban resilience, water and sanitation, indigenous knowledge and food security. For two and a half days, the conference was a platform for rich and insightful discussions on climate action,

coming right after the conclusion of the COP 26 in Glasgow. The uniqueness of the conference was in the fact that the climate change discourse was taken to the subnational level.

As the second generation County Governments exit in August 2022, I hope that those who take over after us will prioritize two issues: 1) building and strengthening service delivery systems so that they are effective, efficient and resilient; and 2) mainstreaming and funding climate action programs across the sectors.

As I conclude, I would like to thank the Steering Committee, the Planning Committee, the CoG secretariat, our partners and all who took time to travel and participate in the conference. May the synergy that was witnessed in the planning and execution of the conference be extended to the implementation of the communique that was generated from the deliberations of the conference.

**H.E. Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH**  
**Chairman, Council of Governors**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We would like to appreciate the Steering Committee co-chairs of the 7th Annual Devolution Conference- the Ministry of Devolution, the Senate and the County Assemblies Forum - for their dedication and zeal during the planning of the Conference that was held at Makueni Boys High School in Makueni County. We appreciate their leadership and the members who showed commitment from the beginning to the end. And to the Multi-Agency Planning Committee Members, we extend a special appreciation to you for the time you sacrificed to plan the conference. Thank you.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, for gracing the conference in the Opening Ceremony and delivering a powerful virtual message to the participants. His commitment to making devolution work has been unwavering.

To the Chief Guests- Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EBS and Rt. Hon. (Eng). Raila Odinga, EGH, AU High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa- we say thank you for being with us at the conference.

We cannot forget the host Governor of Makueni County H.E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH and the entire team from Makueni County Government for their support to ensure that the conference was a success. We would also like to appreciate the management of Makueni Boys High School for availing the facility to hold the conference.

Gratitude is also conveyed to the overall conference facilitators Ms. Winfred Lichuma and Dr. Conrad Bosire, the sector facilitators, moderators and all the session panelists for making the deliberations vibrant and for their valuable contributions.

And to all our sponsors, partners and suppliers, and all the institutions that participated in the exhibitions-asanteni.

**Mary Mwiti**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Secretary, Multi-Agency Planning Committee



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 7th and final Annual Devolution Conference was convened jointly by the Council of Governors, (CoG), Ministry of Devolution (MoD), Senate and County Assemblies Forum (CAF) between 23rd and 26th November 2021 at Makueni Boys High School, Makueni County. The overall conference theme 'Multi-Level Governance for Climate Action: Sub-National Mobilization in Unlocking the Full Potential of Climate Action During and After Pandemics', not only resonates with current challenges faced by the citizenry but also global challenges to the existence of humanity. The conference offered stakeholders the platform to discuss and deliberate on roles as well as how to unlock opportunities to turn around the climate change effects, especially during and after the pandemics.

The first part of the report presents the official opening by His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, the President of the Republic of Kenya; Rt. Hon. (Eng). Raila Odinga, EGH, AU High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa; Hon. Martin Wambora, Chairperson CoG; Rt. Hon. Sen. Kenneth M. Lusaka, Speaker of the Senate; Dr. Fred Matiang'i, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government; Hon. Charles Keter, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution; Hon. Keriako Tobiko, CBS, SC, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, among other speakers. The Chapter also captures the opening remarks from the development partners, including H.E Amb. Ole Thonke, Chairperson of the Devolution Donor Working Group; Dr. Juma Nyende, Director of EAC Regional Office UCLGA; Mr. Hosea Kili, MD/CEO, County Pension Fund; and Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President for Energy, Power, Climate Change and Green Growth, Africa Development Bank.

The second part of the report presents the keynote

address by Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EBS, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya; Hon. Rev. Dr. Mirium R. Chikukwa, MP, Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee of Local Government, Public Works & National Housing, Republic of Zimbabwe and Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Chairman Council of Governors among other speakers.

Key emerging issues and recommendations from the plenum sessions are captured under part three of the report. The deliberations included the various sub-themes, including the Impact of Climate Change and Pandemics on Sub-National, Continental and Global Peace and Security; Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management; financing Climate Action at the Subnational Level; Vulnerability and resilience in the face of climate change; and Reflective Waste Management in Climate Action.

Part four of the report captures the sector breakaway sessions' discussions. The chapter focuses on the key emerging issues and recommendations in the urban, health, natural resource management, conflict management, trade and manufacturing, blue economy, gender, energy, ASALs, indigenous knowledge, youth and agriculture sectors.

The last part of the report presents the closing remarks from the Chief Guest, Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary for Defence and immediate former Cabinet Secretary for Devolution, and other speakers at the closing ceremony. The communique and list of partners is also annexed.





## CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION AND OPENING CEREMONY

### 1.1: INTRODUCTION

The Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference was convened jointly by the Council of Governors (CoG), the Senate, the Ministry of Devolution (MoD) and the County Assemblies Forum. It was held between 23rd and 26th November 2021 at Makueni Boys High School, Makueni County. The theme of the Conference, Multi-Level Governance for Climate Action: Sub-National Mobilization in Unlocking the Full Potential of Climate Action During and After Pandemics, not only resonated with challenges faced by the citizenry locally but also globally.

Climate change is significantly impacting a large number of communities in the country, causing loss of lives, diminished livelihood and severe flooding. Notably, those who suffer the most tend to be the vulnerable groups that include women, children, people living with disabilities, and the elderly. By enacting the Climate Change Act No. 11 of 2016, Kenya demonstrated its commitment to taking climate change seriously as the Act requires the government

to develop a National Climate Change Action Plan that guides the mainstreaming of adaptation and mitigation actions into sector functions of the county and national governments. With this prospect, it is imperative for the government while developing these policies and legislations to put into consideration the specific needs of the vulnerable groups and how severely they are affected by the impact of climate change. Also, the existing policies and legislations developed, are of no benefit to the society if not implemented, hence the need to come up with institutional frameworks for committed and transparent implementation of these policies.

The conference was critical in ensuring that sub-national governments, both local, regional and across the globe, have a platform to discuss and deliberate on their role in unlocking opportunities to turn around the climate change effects in their communities, further worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and to conserve our environment for the current and future generations.

#### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### 1.2: OPENING REMARKS

#### 1.2.1 H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces

The President began by thanking the County Government of Makueni for accepting to host the event. He noted that devolution conferences have become a key platform through which both National Government and County Governments come together to evaluate and benchmark their performance on policy and implementation, the legislative framework, accountability, and service delivery. Further, he noted that the conferences are also an opportunity for the two levels of government to demonstrate commitment and dedication to achieving the dream of devolution through cooperation.

Of all the programmes Kenya has implemented since independence to spur socio-economic development, the President noted that devolution has had the deepest and most far-reaching impact on the lives of Kenyans. He observed that devolution achievements and dividends are a visible reality in all parts of the country through empowered communities and major improvements in infrastructural development, health care and basic services, as well as service delivery across the country.

In the last decade, the President noted that the country had come a long way on the devolution journey, but it remains a work in progress. He urged the two levels of government to build on the successes and strengthen areas where progress has been slow, to deliver on



*H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces*

the promise of devolution to Kenyans. In this regard, the President highlighted two areas where stronger cooperation and coordination between the National Government and County Governments could enable the country to reap the fruits of devolution faster and more effectively. First, is to build on the solid public finance management legal framework to ensure the distribution of resources between and within regions is more equitable, and to focus more sharply on getting better value for money. Second, is to work towards becoming a truly responsive government, by promoting and increasing accountability at all levels, and ensuring that citizens are actively engaged in decisions and actions, that impact their lives.

He underscored that such an enhanced spirit of cooperation, coordination, inter-dependence, and support between, and amongst ourselves, has served the country remarkably well since March 2020 when the first case of the COVID-19 virus was reported in Kenya. He lauded the two levels of government for swiftly coming together, forging a formidable alliance with the private sector, development partners and faith-based institutions, in the formulation of a comprehensive action plan to win the war against the pandemic.

The President expressed no doubt that the country shall win the fight against COVID-19 through such collaborative efforts which include the ongoing nationwide vaccination campaigns. The President

encouraged the use of this approach, to tackle new challenges, including the challenge of climate change, the theme of the conference for the year 2021.

He was delighted to note that the 7th Annual Devolution Conference theme focused on climate change, specifically the Multi-Level Governance for Climate Action whose aim is to strengthen sub-national governments for them to act on climate change through the development of more robust and focused execution of mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The President noted that climate change is both a present and future problem that is a serious threat to all countries across the world. With great concern, he noted that climate change poses an existential threat to Kenya even though the country's role in precipitating the problem is negligible — the country contributes less than 1% of current global greenhouse gas emissions. To understand the gravity of the climate change threat, the President urged the participants to consider these numbers: globally, Kenya is ranked as the 31st most vulnerable country to climate change; climate change impacts lead to a loss of about 3% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) annually.

In the last two years, the President noted that the country witnessed the worst locust outbreak in 25 years, which left about one million people food-insecure in the Horn of Africa. The rising water levels of the Rift Valley lakes; Lake Victoria and Turkwel Gorge Dam have displaced



nearly 400,000 people in 13 Counties while affecting biodiversity, including flamingos in Lake Nakuru should be of concern. Also, about 2.5 million people in 23 Counties are facing famine because of drought.

Recognizing that no single nation can alone manage the challenges of climate change, the President noted that the world had come together and established the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Kenya participated and made significant contributions during the then concluded 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, United Kingdom.

At the national level, the President noted that his administration had adopted a comprehensive set of policies, rules, and procedures to address climate change. This effort has culminated in the development of the following key instruments:

- a) The Climate Change Act (2016)
- b) The National Drought Management Authority Act (2016)
- c) The National Climate Change Framework Policy (2018).
- d) The National Climate Finance Policy (2018)
- e) The National Climate Change Action Plan (2018–2022)
- f) The National Adaptation Plan (2015-2030) and
- g) The Green Economy Strategy Implementation Plan (2016–2030).

These laws and policies, he observed, are currently being mainstreamed into the forestry, agriculture, water, energy, waste management and health sectors. He underscored that since most of these functions are devolved under schedule 4(2) of the Constitution, the two levels of government need to work closely if the two levels of government are to execute them effectively.

This effort reflects Kenya's resolve and desire to play its part in the international community's efforts to address climate change, including preventing global temperatures from rising above 1.50 Celsius. Further, the President noted that Kenya recently joined the

Adaptation Action Coalition (AAC) and the UN Call for Action on Adaptation and Resilience.

By partnering with these two institutions, the President noted that Kenya was sending a clear political statement that Kenya will continue to work with like-minded governments, institutions, businesses, and civil societies to accelerate action to moderate the negative impacts of climate change, facilitate adjustment to expected climate impacts and strengthen the capacity to absorb, and recover from climate change effects.

The President further noted with appreciation, that 33 County Governments had developed County-specific laws on climate change, and that a few of them are providing strong leadership on this agenda. Among the Counties cited include; Makueni, Wajir, Garissa, Isiolo and Kitui, which have established policies and supporting legislation on climate change. Additionally, the President noted that they have also established climate change units, and operationalized the Kenya County Climate Change Fund (CCCCF) mechanism.

The President further noted that the National Climate Change Action Plan (2018–2022) spells out bold strategies that put Kenya on a sustainable growth path. He underscored the need for adaptation and enhanced climate-change resilience for vulnerable groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities and the marginalized communities.

He noted that one of the key deliverables in the Action Plan is to increase Kenya's forest cover in the medium term, from approximately 6.9% of our land area to at least 10% by 2022 in line with the Constitution, concerning maintaining a clean and healthy environment for all. He urged Kenyans to ensure that the environment is protected and conserved, not just for us but for the benefit of future generations.

The President further expressed his delight that in the recent past, the Counties of Kajiado, Kiambu, Kisumu, Kitui, Marsabit, Murang'a, Nakuru and Tharaka Nithi had participated in tree planting exercises and urged other Counties to follow suit.





He urged the National Government and County Governments to continue working together through the support of the National Climate Change Council, to achieve the 10% forest cover, and protect our water towers and wetlands.

Further, the President noted that Kenya has a pioneering and commanding lead in climate change action in the continent. For example, Kenya is a leader in the generation of renewable energy and it is ranked fifth globally on geothermal energy where our potential stands in excess of 10,000 MW, while only 10% of it has been exploited to date.

He also noted that the country is using innovative approaches to expand access to energy through off-grid solar power and other clean cooking energy sources, to deliver 100% clean cooking energy sources by 2028. It was pointed out that the Lake Turkana Wind Power is now fully operational; with an output of about 310 MW of clean energy. This undertaking is the biggest of such installation in Africa.

Kenya has outlawed the use, manufacture, and importation of single-use plastic bags, as a way of protecting and conserving our environment. The two levels of government were therefore urged to invest in sustainable waste management projects to achieve net-zero plastic waste by 2030. The President lauded several Counties, including Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa that had started reclaiming green urban spaces. He further observed that Nairobi had successfully reclaimed Michuki Memorial Park, the Nairobi Arboretum, and the Nairobi City Park, and encouraged other Counties to explore opportunities to create green urban spaces.

While implementing these policies and programmes requires substantial financial resources, the President noted that Kenya had committed to reduce her greenhouse gas emissions by 32% by 2030. This, he said, will cost KSh. 6,874 billion (US \$ 62 billion). Out of this figure, the President confirmed that Kenya will mobilize 13% from domestic sources, and the balance of 87% from external sources.

The President remained hopeful that, unlike previous conferences, the Glasgow Climate Change Conference

will deliver on funding commitments, which Kenya will attract into a Green Climate Fund. During the Glasgow Conference, the President had noted that top of his agenda was the attraction of green investments such as the electric boda bodas, and tapping into innovative finance such as blended financing to de-risk private investment. These efforts, he observed, will open up new avenues for green manufacturing and new job opportunities.

The President also noted that Kenya had a strong policy and institutional framework for the two levels of government to work together to adapt to climate change and reduce the threat that it currently poses to our country. Going forward, he urged both levels of government to strengthen collaboration and coordination on:

- leveraging digital technologies to provide real-time climate-related data and information to farmers and other stakeholders.
- raising awareness and building capacity, especially on adaptation with a particular focus on women who are at the heart of crop and livestock production and are the most affected by climate change adversities.
- sharing information and good practice examples on mitigation and adaptation. Such examples include climate-resilient projects such as mangrove restoration in Gazi at the Coast, the Masue Rock Catchment and Ngai Ndethya Sand Dam in Makueni County, and Kinna Livestock Laboratory in Isiolo County.
- developing and implementing County spatial plans with a climate change lens.

As the Chairman of the National Climate Change Council, the President reiterated his commitment to remain at the forefront to ensure that the desire to achieve a low carbon resilient and prosperous future is realized. The President then declared the 7th Annual Devolution Conference officially open.





*Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development*

### 1.2.2 Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development

The former Prime Minister began by recalling the painstaking process of entrenching devolution in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. He noted that at the National Constitutional Conference at the Bomas of Kenya, devolution was the most contentious chapter of the then proposed Constitution and that it attracted opposition from many quarters. He made special mention of some of the iconic leaders who passionately advocated for a devolved system of governance, among them; Dr. Odhiambo Mbae, the chairperson of the committee on devolution.

Rt. Hon. Odinga mentioned that Kenya was celebrating a decade since the inception of the two levels of government in Kenya, noting that it has been a remarkable journey despite several challenges. He posited that the theme for the 7th Annual Devolution Conference was a clear indication that Counties are coming of age and venturing into some of the greatest existential threats to humanity such as climate change.

In his view, climate change is bigger than the 2022 elections. With grave concern, the former Prime Minister observed that the existential threats due to climate change are a matter of life and death, having affected everyone on the planet. He gave examples of

the adverse consequences of climate change in Kenya such as higher temperatures, droughts, floods and rising sea levels. The extreme weather events have led to the loss of lives and damaged infrastructure. He expressed concern that the key enablers to Kenya's economy, that is agriculture, water, tourism and wildlife, are extremely sensitive hence the need to address climate change to grow the economy.

He further observed that County Governments are better placed to conduct public participation within the communities, given that they have a strong presence at the grassroots level. In this regard, the former Prime Minister urged County Governments to take up the critical role by taking leadership and educating the communities on climate change. He echoed the President's observation that to date, 33 Counties had enacted climate change policies and legal frameworks while others were in the process of formulating the same. Garissa, Isiolo, Kitui, Makuani and Wajir received special mention for having formulated their climate change action plans.

The two levels of government were urged to be bold by abandoning ideas that are not working and coming up with new ones. To be able to renew devolution, the former Prime Minister urged that there was a need to allocate more resources to the Counties, noting that delays in allocation and disbursement of funds to the Counties had hindered the optimum implementation



of devolution and its associated programmes. Thus, it was his opinion that a partnership between the two levels of government and a clear understanding that no level can succeed if another is failing was paramount.

Concerning economic growth, he noted that the high cost of living should be a shared concern for the National Government and County Governments. He observed the need to renew the social contract between the people and the government to promote inclusion. He reiterated that the citizenry must be part of the solutions to the problems bedeviling the nation, observing that it is in such forums where the two levels of government can have a candid discussion with a view to devising contemporary ways to deal with challenges at the county or national level.

The former Prime Minister mentioned that he would want to see increased agricultural productivity to increase incomes and enhance employment opportunities. Therefore, he advocated for the need for a clear programme for mechanization, fertilizer subsidy, proper water management and irrigation, deployment of officers and functioning systems of market access as key enablers to the devolved system of governance.

He called on the County Governments to diversify into manufacturing and value addition beyond agriculture. He noted that it is concerning that only seven Counties are involved in some kind of manufacturing and recommended robust manufacturing in all the Counties to enhance employment opportunities. He

urged the Counties to adopt the rallying call — One County, One Product. He also called for the revival of agricultural- cooperative societies to promote growth in the Counties and absorb rural labour. He urged the National Government to allocate more funds for County infrastructural development to attract investment in the rural areas.

In the same breath, Counties were urged to improve on their revenue collections through efficiency and broadening the likely revenue sources. To enhance efficiency, the former Prime Minister advised Counties to fully adopt automation in their processes to scale down on financial loss and haemorrhage.

Rt. Hon. Odinga urged County Governments to review their spending priorities by focussing more on development than on recurrent expenditures. Accordingly, he noted that at least 30% of the spending should be on development. However, most Counties spend up to 50% of their revenues on recurrent expenditure, due to limited funds disbursement. As a result, there is a need to increase disbursement while ensuring adherence to the Public Finance Management Act.

The former Prime Minister likened devolution to a revolving system where the pendulum of power and roles can swing back and forth between the National Government and County Governments. He reiterated the need for the two levels of government to work together and urged the country to remain united.





*Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH,  
Embu County and Chairman of the Council  
of Governors*

### 1.2.3 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Embu County and Chairman of the Council of Governors

The Chairman noted that the devolution conference affords the key stakeholders and the citizenry to reaffirm their commitment to the realisation of the fruits of devolution. He also observed that the theme for the 7th Annual Devolution Conference was apt and timely, especially when Kenya, and the world, were addressing climate change. He expressed optimism that the deliberations at the conference would help in developing a strategy on how to deal with climate change. He also expressed his delight that the devolution conference came up after the close of COP26 discussions, presenting because the two levels of government an opportunity to align their plans to those of the Glasgow conference.

The Chairman also highlighted the great achievements since the inception of the County Governments, particularly sectors relevant to the livelihoods of the citizenry such as health, water, sanitation, and early childhood education. He observed that public participation was now a principle well understood by the citizenry to the extent that the County Governments had become more people-centred and driven. In this regard, he highlighted that a huge chunk of the budget is allocated to development projects and projects that have a huge impact on people's livelihoods. For instance, he mentioned that in the last financial year, Counties

had allocated 7.3% of their budgets to agriculture, up from 6.3% for mechanization and improved access to facilities and seed distribution to farmers.

The Governor also stated that Africa's socio-economic development is mostly rural-based. He therefore urged the two levels of government to adopt strategies that are responsive to environmental and climatic challenges in line with Agenda 2063 which compels states and local governments to identify, co-operate and coordinate their activities as stakeholders in addressing climate change and risks associated with it.

In terms of the legal framework, he noted that at the national level, Kenya is a signatory to various agreements on climate change and that the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, provides for the environment and land rights which is further complemented by the Climate Change Act, 2016, which provides for a normative framework to guide climate action. He also took this opportunity to laud the efforts of more than 29 Counties to implement climate change laws aimed at reducing the effects of climate change.

The governor further noted the existence of county integrated development actions and financing of the locally-led climate action is likely to yield better outcomes. To achieve this, he reminded the County Governments that they bore the greatest burden. He concluded by appreciating the role played by the development partners such as the County Pension Fund, FAO and UNDP, among others.



*Rt. Hon. Sen. Kenneth M. Lusaka, EGH, MP, Speaker of the Senate*

#### 1.2.4 Rt. Hon. Sen. Kenneth M. Lusaka, EGH, MP, Speaker of the Senate

The Speaker of the Senate underscored the importance of the Devolution Conference as a forum for the two levels of governments and key stakeholders to have candid conversations. He observed that climate change is disrupting national economies and affecting lives with the weather becoming erratic and more extreme. He, therefore, urged the key stakeholders to take action to deal with climate change.

The Honourable Speaker said it was important to adopt a multifaceted approach in addressing climate change problems. He qualified this by noting that climate change and its associated problems manifest simultaneously, and as such, there was no 'one-size-fits-all solution'. He reminded the County Governments

that they were duty-bound to take deliberate climate actions to sustain the Counties and hand them over to the next generation. He recommended an audit of all action plans to determine whether they positively or negatively contribute to climate change.

Observing that climate change had become a matter of life and death, he noted that there shall be no industrial, social or economic gains without climate change gains. Only bold actions will deliver 26 trillion pounds to the global economy and 65 million new carbon jobs by 2030. He urged County Governments to return a shilling to climate change actions.

Going by recent statistics, the Speaker noted that adverse human activities continue to hurt marine life. He noted that published research shows that climate change is affecting marine species due to rising temperatures. He cited the massive deaths of fish species at various lakes, including Naivasha, Turkana and Victoria as a crisis that the region needed to arrest urgently to save the current and future generations.

He urged the two levels of government to develop and implement policies and strategies that take into account roles that enable action. The need to strengthen climate action and ensure uniformity of focus is not optional, and involves calling upon the citizenry to think about sustainable actions.

He ended by quoting President Barack Obama - *"We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last that can do anything about it."*

#### 1.2.5 Dr. Fred Matiang'i, EGH, PhD, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government

In his address, the Interior Cabinet Secretary requested the Chairperson of the Council of Governors to allow him and his Ministry to engage with the Committee of Council of Governors on matters of security. He underscored the importance of redesigning the national security strategy to address contemporary security threats, and observed that the recent security threats to the country were more sophisticated and



*Dr. Fred Matiang'i, EGH, PhD, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government*



complex compared to the those faced in the last two decades and these required a high level of cooperation between the two levels of government to address them, hence the need to review the National Security Strategy to build a stronger inter-governmental coordination network.

He reiterated that climate change is a security threat and noted that some of the conflicts experienced in the recent past, especially in Baringo, Laikipia and the North Rift region had a climate change dimension as a predisposing factor. He divulged that the country spends 25–30% of its budget in addressing climate change and associated issues.

The Cabinet Secretary was quick to confirm that though the government was making significant progress in

addressing climate change, its progress is hampered by resource constraints. The number of personnel deployed to deal with the conflicts is overwhelming them.

In his concluding remarks, the Cabinet Secretary outlined initiatives that his Ministry had adopted to address security threats, including those associated with climate change. He urged the County Governments to build capacity and train their personnel better on climate change; create new structures of conflict resolution; adopt equitable distribution of resources to avert conflict; deepen inter-governmental cooperation and coordination in all spheres; and realign and/or re allocate resources to reduce over-dependence on development partners.



*Hon. Charles Keter, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution*

### 1.2.6 Hon. Charles Keter, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution

The Devolution Cabinet Secretary informed the delegates that the three-day conference had brought together all the stakeholders in devolution to evaluate the progress in legislation, accountability, good governance and service delivery to the public, marking nine years of devolution, almost a decade where laws have been initiated, established and nurtured to the current state. He observed that the challenges encountered had taught us lessons that would define the development story, moving into the second decade. He noted devolution is a process and not an event, and

requires a state implementation with who to innovate, test and adapt.

He mentioned that Kenya had become the first country to hold a Climate Change conference just two weeks after Glasgow. Climate Change holds a threat to devolution, especially in developing countries where food security, high unemployment and increased industrialization activities are always a matter of concern.

He mentioned that his Ministry had continuously supported devolved systems through the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP) which Counties had benefited from. To support the legal and policy framework, he noted that the Ministry is currently undertaking the review of the Intergovernmental Relations Act, 2012, to respond to emerging issues since the beginning of devolution. He noted that the entire process is undergoing validation.

He also noted that his Ministry had since adopted the Alternative Dispute Resolutions mechanism in addressing some of the intergovernmental challenges. The coordination among the two levels of the government at the sector level was therefore expected to use this forum to deliberate on issues and come up with recommendations as it ushered in its second decade.



*Hon. Keriako Tobiko, CBS, SC, Cabinet Secretary,  
Ministry of Environment and Forestry*

### 1.2.7 Hon. Keriako Tobiko, CBS, SC, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry

The Environment Cabinet Secretary noted that over 2 million Kenyans were facing the effects of climate change, especially drought and famine. He urged that stakeholders should work together to raise the resources needed for climate change action as the resources received from development partners are not enough.

He further warned that climate change does not

discriminate, and our communities equally bear the impact of climate change. He echoed the need for capacity building to ensure devolved units can handle adversities brought about by the effect of climate change. He also outlined the achievements of President Uhuru's government in offering solutions to climate change and associated problems. He reminded the delegates to look out for climate action mainstreaming in the manifestos of the 2022 polls presidential aspirants. This was important in securing President Uhuru's legacy on climate action. He called for less talk and more action in addressing the challenges.

### 1.2.8 Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice Chair, Council of Governors

Governor Ongwae thanked all the members of the steering committee together with the Council of Governors Secretariat and County Assemblies Forum.

He observed that it had been nine years since devolution started in Kenya, and despite the challenges, the Counties have developed a means of coping. He also indicated that going forward, the Counties would be holding the devolution conferences after every two years as opposed to the annual devolution conference. He also stated that the devolution conference had served as a scorecard for development, especially in the County Governments to ensure services were undertaken cost-efficiently. He updated on the implementation of the following major areas that were part of the communiqué of the 2019 devolution



*Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice Chair,  
Council of Governors*

conference held in Kirinyaga:

- a) The Own-Source Revenue Policy was developed and disseminated by the National Treasury.
- b) The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics developed the strategy of statistics to harmonize statistics in



the national statistics system.

- c) Performance contracting is being implemented in the Counties.
- d) The National Commission for Science and Technology will now be able to operationalize research
- e) The affordable housing agenda is being implemented
- f) Civic Education is underway in the Counties.

The Governor further emphasized that climate change is real, and currently, two million Kenyans are suffering from drought. Also, in Madagascar, Somalia and other parts of Africa, the effects can be felt. There is also a new phenomenon of atmospheric rivers in Canada.

He reiterated that climate change affects all irrespective of tribe or political affiliations. Communities and economies such as ours in Africa are more delicate. Therefore both levels of government must work together in terms of capacity building and resource development moving forward.

He mentioned that as we approach the 2022 general elections, climate change should be mainstreamed and the environment in our political discourse to add to the tremendous milestones the President had achieved in climate change. He mentioned that so far the political aspirants were yet to propose anything on climate change, and given that climate change is a serious threat to humanity, they needed to share their climate change manifestos.



*H.E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Governor, Makueni County*

### 1.2.9 H.E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Governor, Makueni County

The host Governor noted that devolution had come of age and in the nine years many things had happened. He encouraged the delegates to visit the various exhibitions to see some of the Counties' innovations.

He also observed that devolution in Kenya was deeply entrenched and thus irreversible. He applauded Counties for their efforts in the sphere of climate change. He noted that, more than 33 Counties

had already passed county climate change legal frameworks and policies and even dedicated funds for climate change adaptation, which reflected how the Counties were dealing with the climate change issue.

He reiterated the need for both National Government and County Governments to work together to ensure sufficient funding for climate change. He mentioned that the County Governments, including Makueni County, had established climate change planning committees and dedicated funding to climate change. He advised that the implementation must be at the grassroots because if the local level is not included, it will not be possible to achieve the desired outcome.

Lastly, he noted that through the Local Conference of the Youth (LCOY), the young people of Kenya were very eloquent on what the youth should do to combat the climate crisis. They hoped that the youth and women would be central to making sure that the agenda is carried forward. In the upcoming bi-annual conferences, they hope to have a sub-national conference on climate change for them to keep on comparing notes and ensure there is funding at the local level through FLLOCA.







Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate

### 1.2.10 Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate

The Deputy Speaker of the Senate was the moderator for the opening ceremony. She welcomed everyone to the conference and requested the delegates to observe one minute of silence in honour of the Governors and Senators who lost their lives within the last four and a half years. She emphasized the need for everyone to protect the climate. She further called upon all the participants to commit to protecting the environment for a better climate and better lives. The Senator then proceeded to invite other speakers to give their opening remarks.

### 1.2.11 Sen. Hon. Samuel Poghiso, EGH, MP, Majority Leader, Senate

The Senate Majority Leader confirmed that the Senate is acutely aware of its role and actions needed for climate change in terms of legislation and as stated in the Constitution. The Senator informed that the Senate had passed several bills to enhance resource allocation and tackle issues of climate. He mentioned that so far, 20 bills concerning County Governments had been passed, and that the Senate is considering a start-up bill to promote issues dealing with climate change.

He further stated that dealing with climate change requires unity from the executive, legislature, and other actors, and the citizens should be empowered to hold their leaders to account. The Senator also noted that Kenya has suffered from climate change effects such as droughts, floods and pollution, among others, and climate change has socio-economic effects, affecting the GDP of the economy such as agriculture and tourism. He called upon the Counties to focus on innovation and technological development which have a link with climate change.



Sen. Hon. Samuel Poghiso, EGH, MP, Majority Leader, Senate

He concluded by encouraging Counties to use their respective Regional Economic Blocs to achieve climate change commitments and enhance climate change victory. He also noted the need for County Governments to prioritize policies on climate change, climate change-related projects and sustainable development and the deliberations of the devolution conference should mainstream climate change financing.

“

*The world must come together to confront climate change. There is little scientific dispute that if we do nothing, we will face more drought, famine and mass displacement that will fuel more conflict for decades. - Barack Obama*

”



*Sen. Hon. SC. James Orengo, EGH, MP, Minority Leader, Senate*

### 1.2.12 Sen. Hon. SC. James Orengo, EGH, MP, Minority Leader, Senate

Sen. Orengo started by pointing out that Makueni County is enjoying the benefits of devolution. In his remarks, the Senator applauded Makueni County for making devolution workable which he attributed to good leadership with a vision as well as adherence of the County to aspirations set out in the Constitution and the need to replicate the same to other Counties.

He further noted the contribution of Prof. Wangari Mathai in creating awareness on matters of climate change and global warming. He observed that the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change are long-lasting issues and depend on the level of preparedness, therefore, County Governments need to increase resources so that they can be able to deal with the pandemics at the County level.

He also called for the significant allocation of resources by the National Government in dealing with the impact of global warming and climate change.

### 1.2.13 Host Senator, Sen. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr, CBS, MP, Senator Makueni County & Senate Minority Whip

The Senator started his remarks by quoting one of the speakers in the United National Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, who said that we are digging our own graves; they come from beautiful cities in the world. While echoing the conference theme, he stated that for Kenya we are already in our graves. He stated that in their region, they have allowed polluters to pollute the source of water for Makueni, Machakos and Kitui. He contended that the Athi River is the most polluted water source in Kenya.

He further stated that what is lacking is political goodwill to firmly deal with the polluters who should pay for their actions. He further observed that the fine under the EMCA Act is easy to pay for the polluters and called for it to be reviewed to be more punitive.



*Host Senator, Sen. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr, CBS, MP, Senator Makueni County & Senate Minority Whip*





*Hon. Ndegwa Wahome, MBS, Chairperson County Assemblies Forum (CAF), Speaker Nyandarua County Assembly*

#### 1.2.14 Hon. Ndegwa Wahome, MBS, Chairperson County Assemblies Forum (CAF), Speaker Nyandarua County Assembly

The Chairperson of the County Assemblies Forum noted that the theme of the conference was timely and held in the right place. He further appreciated the progress made towards climate change and highlighted the role of Counties, noting that climate change must take

central stage in any discourse and should be integrated into economic models for prosperity. He thanked the 42 Counties that had domesticated the Climate Change Act as of November 2021.

He further stated the need to design and implement practical actions, including innovations and solutions to address climate change issues. He noted that the adverse effects of climate will be long-lasting if not addressed. Therefore, there is a need to develop mechanisms to counter climate change including, the adoption of the Climate Action Fund of 2016 and the establishment of the Climate Change Council as well as a commitment to SDGs and climate action.

He pleaded with Parliament to consider amending Section 109 of the Public Finance Management Act, No. 18 of 2012, to give financial independence to the County Assemblies and ensure that they are facilitated and supported to effectively oversight County Governments without compromise. Lastly, he stressed the need to enact legislation to change the County Assemblies Forum to National Council for County Legislators to define a better way for devolution.

#### 1.2.15 Mr. Albert Mwenda, Director General, Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs, National Treasury on behalf of Amb. Ukur Yatani, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning

The Director-General, Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs at the National Treasury, thanked County Governments for organizing the conference at a time when the government was implementing FLLoCA. He noted that the event marked an important step in sharing ideas between stakeholders and policymakers on how to handle climate change and imbibe climate adaptation.

He pointed out that issues of environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity in the country needed to be addressed. Kenya is among the countries classified as vulnerable to climate change. He noted that the fiscal liability of floods is equivalent to 5.6% of GDP while that



*Mr. Albert Mwenda, Director General, Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs, National Treasury on behalf of Amb. Ukur Yatani, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning*

of climate change is equivalent to 8.0% of Kenya's GDP.

There is a need to ensure emissions of greenhouse gasses are cut and reduced significantly by 2030, and that a 55% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is possible using normal methods like the use of



clean energy. He also underscored the need to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the green transition.

The Director-General also echoed the need to enhance the capacity of County Governments to ensure they can address climate-related issues. This would be up-scaled by engaging the private sector to come up with innovations on climate change and sustainability. He urged the County Governments and stakeholders to prioritise the identification of new investments in specific areas of climate change.

On the milestones achieved by the National Treasury, he noted that it is currently implementing the National Climate Policy of 2018 and has created a climate financing curriculum and a climate financing programme. It is also supporting South-to-South cooperation.

To enhance access to climate financing in Kenya, he mentioned that Treasury had taken steps to create and

promote the uptake of green bonds in Kenya. Further, it has developed draft regulations on the establishment of a National Climate Change Fund.

Mr. Mwenda noted that Kenya contributes approximately 0.1% of total greenhouse gas emissions. However, on a positive note, Kenya has the largest number of projects (14) in Africa approved as climate-friendly.

He also noted that FLLoCA seeks to mobilize US\$ 5 million in five years to ensure County Governments have access to financing and can take action against climate change. He urged Counties to establish climate change units within Counties. The Director also informed the delegates that NEMA and KCB have been accredited by Green Climate Fund (GCF) to finance green projects. While concluding, he observed that these efforts will support Kenya's effort to build a better and resilient economy against the backdrop of the ravaging COVID-19 pandemic while preparing for future pandemics and taking necessary action against climate change.



*H.E. Amb. Ole Thonke, Chairperson of the Devolution Donor Working Group*

### 1.2.16 H.E. Amb. Ole Thonke, Chairperson of the Devolution Donor Working Group

In his introductory remarks, Amb. Thonke mentioned that since the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, devolution has had a positive impact in both urban and rural areas of Kenya. There is more accountability and improved service delivery to the citizens, specifically at the grassroots, and reduced

inequality across the Counties. He stressed the need for devolution to be participatory as per the Constitution for actions taken to be all inclusive and informed, considering the needs and challenges of all citizens, youth, men and women. For better service delivery by County Governments, intergovernmental collaboration between the central level and decentralized level will be necessary. The development partners are part of this collaboration. He mentioned that the Ministry of Devolution has also revitalized the Devolution Sector Working Group.

He noted that Kenya had tackled the COVID-19 pandemic in an orderly and disciplined manner, which includes the efforts done by Counties and the efforts have led to the recovery of Kenya's economy after the pandemic.

He also stated that Kenya is leading in the African continent on climate change following the just concluded COP26 in Glasgow where a lot of pledges and plans were made to tackle climate change. He warned that, with the current emissions, we are heading towards an



average 2.7 degrees Celsius global warming and Kenya will be affected by this with some parts experiencing drought while others having too much rainfall.

He also encouraged both levels of government to take actions towards climate adaptation through the

adaptation of climate change mitigation strategies and putting up climate change funds. He explained that climate mitigation needs global solutions, whereas climate adaptation needs local solutions since the impact of climate change is felt at the local level.



*Mr. Abdessamad Sekkal, President of United Regions Organization (Oru Fogar)*

### 1.2.17 Mr. Abdessamad Sekkal, President of United Regions Organization (Oru Fogar)

Mr. Sekkal addressed the conference through a pre-recorded video and indicated that he was not able to travel due to the COVID-19 crisis which requires that they work at a distance. He said he would have wished to be present and hoped that it will soon be a possibility.

In his opening remarks, he expressed his great pleasure and honour to be accorded an opportunity to give his remarks at the opening of the Devolution Conference, 2021. He stated that United Regions Organization (ORU Fogar) is an association of almost 600 members of regions and several networks of regions with a presence in three continents — Africa, Europe and Latin America. He explained that the organization is a network at the service of the development of regionalization, development of corporation between regions in a logic of bilateral and partisan corporation, notably between the northern and southern regions.

He also stated that the organization defends the role of regions at the international and global level and the role of regions in addressing the major challenges our

territories (Counties) face, in particular those linked to the three major global agendas, namely climate change, the sustainable development and urban development, and expressed his satisfaction that our network is a member of the organization at the bureau level.

He also noted the major challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis to all territories such as the need to ensure local services to all citizens, including health services and also challenges in ensuring the condition for sustainable development of the territories in very uncertain conditions. He also acknowledged the reality of COVID-19 and the possibility of similar crises in the future. Therefore, it is important to develop a governance structure of countries to give more importance to the role of territories.

He encouraged the government to refocus all public policies more on the citizens as all human beings must be at the centre of interest and the work of all levels of government. He also called upon the government to move towards a much more intelligent distribution that respects the subsidiarity principle and gives a very important role to the territory for the development of an integrated vision of the development of territories and the implementation between the different levels of governance.

He also noted that the issues raised will be much more important for Africans for the reason that the African continent is already facing many development challenges and will experience one of the highest population growth rates in the future. This that governments meet the needs of their populations, which will require an improvement in the models of governance in the different countries and between the levels of governance in these countries, the strengthening of cooperation between our countries



and therefore between our territories and our regions. Mr. Sekkal concluded by inviting development partners within the regions of Kenya and all governors to join the ORU Fogar network to strengthen them in future and to work together to solve the challenges that our territories are experiencing today to prevent them from becoming more serious in the future. He hoped

that the conference will be a success and requested for the conclusions and resolutions of the conference to be shared with their organization for them to take advantage of what they can do at the organizational level and also disseminate the same to the different member regions of the organization.



*Dr. Juma Nyende, Director of EAC Regional Office of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA) on behalf of Mr. Jean Pierre Elong-Mbassi, Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA)*

### **1.2.18 Dr. Juma Nyendo, Director of EAC Regional Office of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA) on behalf of Mr. Jean Pierre Elong-Mbassi, Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA)**

Director Nyende noted that currently, there is growing global concern on climate change and COVID-19 pandemic challenges. He further indicated that poor planning and delayed action on these challenges will worsen the situation in the future. Dr. Nyende observed that the impact of COVID-19 has been felt from the global to the local level. The challenges faced by the common citizen include food shortage,

water scarcity, diseases, political unrest, and hostile weather. Interventional planning should involve sub-national structures and must start at the local levels. Dr. Nyende also noted that devolution is the most ideal decentralized form of government and Kenya is a role model in the implementation of devolution in Africa.

He further thanked the Government of Kenya for accepting to host and support the UCLGA region office in Nairobi and accepting to host the upcoming Africities Summit in Kisumu from 17th to 22nd May 2022 under the theme, The Role of African Intelligent cities in the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030 and AU Agenda 2063.





*Mr. Hosea Kili, MD/CEO, County Pension Fund*

### 1.2.19 Mr. Hosea Kili, MD/CEO, County Pension Fund

In his introduction, Mr. Kili highlighted the importance of pension funds and their critical role in combating the adverse effects of climate change. He noted that about USD47 trillion of the world's budget is channelled towards pension funds.

He indicated the need to make pension membership and contribution mandatory for all and to explore

ways of investing in clean energy action and setting up emergency funds for pensioners' use during tough times like the COVID-19 pandemic and other calamities.

He also called upon the government to lease at least 10% of its land to pensioners to plant trees in line with clean energy action and increase the forest cover. He highlighted the need to encourage more pension memberships to invest in climate change projects that can enhance the pension industries' contribution to "greening" Kenya and achieving 10% forest cover.

Mr. Kili further stated that sustainable investments need to be taken into consideration while developing the mechanism to avert climate change. He emphasized the need to actualize Article 43 of the Constitution and to ensure enough budgetary allocation to the pensions fund and gave an example of Norway as one of the countries that developed a universal fund that has gone a long way building infrastructure. He also highlighted the need to pass a law on tree planting along the transport corridors to earn carbon credits and at the same time create employment for the youth.

### 1.2.20 Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President for Energy, Power, Climate Change and Green Growth, Africa Development Bank

Dr. Kariuki noted that COP26 highlighted worrying trends and findings that global temperatures are likely to increase. Climate change is an existential threat; thus, the Government of Kenya must be commended for taking action on climate change. In the Glasgow conference, President Uhuru Kenyatta had announced Kenya's pledge to stop using coal and reduce methane gas. He noted that African countries are spending 7 billion dollars a year in climate areas.

He further noted that there is need to prioritize climate resilience and prosperity in Africa due to the increasing levels of poverty in the continent. He noted that Africa is blessed with abundant solar, that is, 40% of global solar potential and 60% of the world's arable land.

Dr. Kariuki observed that there are measures outlined that constitute up to 3 trillion investment opportunities by 2030. Africa's potential presents an opportunity every year of 20 billion. The Africa Development Bank recognizes Kenya's leadership in climate action and has enacted policies and plans on climate action for the National Government and County Governments. There is a need to reduce greenhouse emissions by 32% by 2030. Dr. Kariuki also noted the significant resources of around U\$62 billion dollars needed to achieve this target while reiterating the Bank's resolve to support climate change actions. Equally, to support Kenya's climate change adaptation, the Bank has funded projects such as rural water supply programmes implemented in Kitui, Siaya and Bondo 2011–2017 fiscal year. These projects provided 6,000 people with water and sanitation and reduced water-bound incidences by 50%.





*Dr. Conrad Bosire, one of the facilitators of the conference.*

Dr. Kariuki informed the delegates that the Bank is also preparing a programme to build food and nutrition resilience. The programme will contribute to poverty reduction through increased agricultural production and household incomes. He also noted that AFDB shall be prioritizing the energy sector and is keen to support Kenya to increase its clean energy sources.

He expressed concern that forest loss was a key outcome of COP26, noting that the Bank will continue to work closely with the government of Kenya through the Kenya Green Zone Project — Kenya Forest, to improve forest conservation and community livelihoods. He also urged the private sector to play a more central role to close the gap. To this end, he proposed that there should be incentives to attract private investment in the areas of energy, transport, water land use and tourism.

According to Dr. Kariuki, it is commendable that the Kenya Climate Change Fund has been devolved to County Governments, including Makueni and Wajir. He noted that the Emissions Trading System is a progressive step for financing green projects.

Dr. Kariuki concluded by noting that there was a need to support national domestic resource mobilization

initiatives through the National Alliance for Climate Change and support climate flows to climate-resilient investment.

He reiterated that the Bank is supporting Africa's Green Growth Agenda through the Technology for Africa Agriculture project, and that close to, 780,000 Kenyan farmers in the western region have benefited from climate-resilient maize seeds. He further observed that the Bank is at the centre of the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Programme designed to scale adaptation solutions in African countries while seeking to mobilize US \$25 billion for adaptation in Africa.

Dr. Kariuki concluded by expressing his pride that the efforts by the Africa Development Bank in mitigating climate change are unmatched. However, he urged parties to play their roles if the US \$100 billion annual finance pledge is to be achieved by 2023. He reiterated that they will continue to enhance and double contributions to US \$25 billion by 2025.

He informed the delegates that the Bank is proud to have been recognized by the UN Secretary General to have achieved parity between adaptation and finance



### 1.3: TREE GROWING EXERCISE AT THE DEVOLUTION FOREST

Photo gallery for the Tree Growing exercise at the Devolution Forest.







## 1.4: EXHIBITIONS

Photo gallery for the Exhibitions.





## 1.5: OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF G47 UGATUZI SACCO

G47 Ugatuzi Sacco was officially launched by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Odinga. The Sacco is an investment savings platform for the devolution family, which includes the Governors, Deputy Governors, Members of County Assemblies, and employees of the

Council of Governors, County Governments, County Assemblies, the Senate, the County Assemblies Forum, the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee, Commission for Revenue Allocation, Ministry of Devolution, and the County Pensions Fund.



## 1.6: OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE FINANCING LOCALLY-LED CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM (FLLoCA)

The FLLoCA Programme was officially launched by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Odinga. The purpose of the programme is to deliver locally-led climate resilience actions and strengthen National Government and County Governments' capacity to manage climate risks. It aims to strengthen local resilience to the impact of climate change, natural hazards, and other shocks/stressors by building the country's capacity to plan, implement, and monitor resilience investments in partnership with all the County Governments and communities.

FLLoCA focuses on capitalizing the National and County Climate Change Funds (CCCF) as an innovative

financing instrument of locally-led actions. Counties have committed to capitalizing CCCFs with at least 1.5% of their development budgets, in addition to the institutional and investments grants they will receive from the FLLoCA Programme.

The Programme is being implemented across the 47 Counties and is designed to support and cascade Kenya's ambitious climate agenda to the local level by empowering local communities to have greater influence in identifying, prioritizing, implementing and monitoring climate adaptation investments and solutions.



DAY 2: THURSDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

## CHAPTER 2 DAY 2 OPENING REMARKS



*Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EBS,  
Chief Justice and President of the Supreme  
Court of Kenya*

### 2.1.1 Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EBS, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya

Chief Justice started her remarks by noting the importance of the devolution conference in the calendar of the country. She noted that the conference offers an opportunity to take stock of what has been done in the Counties and congratulate the Counties for the strides made so far.

She noted that climate change has direct consequences such as low agricultural productivity leading to food insecurity, negative impacts on the people's health conditions, damage to critical infrastructure that interrupts transport system as well as water and sanitation infrastructure hence the need for quick action to embrace measures that promote adaptation to the new reality and put in place policies and measures to mitigate the impact of climate change on our communities and ecosystems.

The Chief Justice stated that personal ethics impedes a moral obligation on each one to change their behaviours in response to environmental concerns. She further noted that all state organs have an obligation to promote adaptation to this climate reality and adopt

policies and measures to mitigate its impacts on the people and future generations. Effective and equitable climate actions demand that mitigation and adaptation policy interventions in response to climate change are pursued in multiple scales of governance at the global, national and sub-national levels.

She pointed out that while the setting of mitigation standards is often made at the international levels and national levels, adaptation and mitigation activities are often implemented at the local levels where the impacts are. She, therefore, noted that the County Governments are best placed to implement the actions intended to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The County Governments have a heavy responsibility for climate action due to the link between the functions assigned to the Counties and the impact of climate change.

She also noted the likelihood of the emergence of many life-threatening diseases in the future, due to the impacts of climate change. She stated that apart from COVID-19, there are increased incidences of Ebola and other bird viruses. She stated that climate change is therefore likely to have a drastic impact on healthcare and this imposes an obligation on the County Governments to strengthen their primary healthcare



systems to respond to the health impacts.

On Agriculture, the Chief Justice highlighted the failed crop agricultural production and the effects of drought on animal husbandry which will expose Kenya to food insecurity and increased risk of malnutrition, increased food prices and incidences of starvation. She called upon the County Governments to incorporate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in the agricultural policies and legislations. She further mentioned that water stress is expected to be worsened by climate change and the citizens and communities are likely to be subjected to water scarcity and water-borne diseases. She also called upon the County Executives and Assemblies to be alive to these realities and begin to adopt mitigation and adaptation measures before it goes out of hand.

She advised both levels of government not to wait to be caught unawares but make serious efforts to prepare for the looming threats to the current and future generations and acknowledged that the consequences of failing to act now, will likely outweigh any considerations that are hindering us from adopting any adaptations required.

On the issue of climate action and climate justice, the Chief Justice informed the delegates that the Judiciary recently launched a new vision dubbed, Social transformation through access to justice and social justice jurisprudence. She pointed out that Article 10 of the Constitution articulates foundational values and principles, including human dignity as well as rights to a clean and healthy environment. Therefore, there is climate action with a justice element. She then stated the four elements of the social justice aspect which include the following:

- a) Prevention:** County Governments must prevent climate change.
- b) Intergenerational sustainability:** Future generations should not inherit deducted life opportunities due to unsustainable use of natural resources and degradation of eco and climatic systems. Article 42 of the Constitution puts an obligation on everyone to take sufficient action to

prevent dangerous climate change. She pointed out that the courts have already enforced this, for example, the Save Lamu case where a coal-fired plant was being built in Lamu.

**c) Protection of the rights of the most vulnerable:**

This involves reducing exposure and increasing the adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable communities and population groups. Also, avoid entrenching the existing inequalities by creating disproportionate financial impacts on poor households. County governments have a responsibility to ensure that communities access socio-economic goods as part of mitigation and adaptation measures. This also ensures that their rights are not affected by climate change. The cost of adapting to climate change should not fall on the poor and vulnerable communities and increase inequality in our society.

**d) Fair participation is key for all stakeholders:**

More so for the participation of the marginalized and vulnerable groups. Citizens, especially the vulnerable and marginalized groups, should be engaged in policy development and implementation. Through their inputs, the mitigation and adaptation policies will be owned by the people they will affect.

The Chief Justice pointed out that the four elements of the social justice aspect are enforceable as justiciable claims and the courts are already developing jurisprudence to give effect to them, thus the National Government and County Governments should be on notice to take climate action obligations seriously, otherwise they will be taken to court for breach of climate change.

She further noted that Constitution imposes a climate action obligation on all state actors, more so for both levels of government under the Charter for Sustainable Development, therefore, there is a need to bear in mind the social justice imperative in the Constitution that requires that our mitigation and adaptation measures and policies protect the vulnerable and excluded population groups among the current and future generations.





*Hon. Rev. Dr. Mirium R. Chikukwa, MP, Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee of Local Government, Public Works & National Housing, Republic of Zimbabwe*

### 2.1.2 Hon. Rev. Dr. Mirium R. Chikukwa, MP, Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee of Local Government, Public Works & National Housing, Republic of Zimbabwe

Hon. Chikukwa conveyed greetings from the H.E. President Emerson Mnangagwa, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the Speaker of their Parliament,

members of parliament and the people of Zimbabwe. She indicated that Zimbabwe believes they can learn a lot from Kenya in devolution and use that to suit their culture. She noted that as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee of Local Government, Public Works & National Housing in the Republic of Zimbabwe, she plays a key role in the oversight of devolution in Zimbabwe.

In her words, between 2013 and 2018, there was no traction in the implementation of devolution in Zimbabwe but devolution has now been championed by the new dispensation. The outcome of the referendum process in Zimbabwe enabled people to be in charge of their devolution agenda. They also expressed the need for inter-governmental funds transfers to all local authorities for devolution programmes.

She further noted that Section 5 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, 2013, provides for tiers of government to share the local and national resources. The focus, therefore, is to work towards a coherent government and to foster peace in Zimbabwe.

### 2.1.3 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Embu County and Chairman of the Council of Governors

Governor Wambora welcomed the Chief Justice to the devolution conference and recognized the presence of Dr. Rev Miriam Rutendo Chikukwa and appreciated her for attending the conference. He reiterated that it was important to learn governance and climate action from each other.

Citing the theme of the conference, the Chairman stated that County Governments have a role to play in dealing with challenging climate action with a sub-national lens. Both levels of government should adopt climate-smart solutions that enhance sustainability and resilience in local communities. Climate change has posed a serious threat to the survival of the planet and the people therein. He called upon sub-national governments all over the world to rise and take their place in the efforts to combat the impacts of climate change. As the temperatures get warmer and more



*Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Embu County and Chairman of the Council of Governors*

people move to the urban areas, he noted that County Governments must put in place systems that guarantee proper planning in cities, municipalities and townships, and develop green spaces for their residents.

Food security is another major issue the governor talked about. He stated that food systems have been threatened by the changing climate. With the rising





temperatures, it is important to realize food security among small scale farmers. He reminded the delegates about the launch of FLLoCA and expressed his wish for the programme to support sub-national climate action from communities up to the ward levels.

He concluded by thanking the judiciary for protecting devolution, whenever it was under attack and going forward, he recommended the need to consult each other.



*Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate*

#### 2.1.4 Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Senate

Senator Kamar noted that climate change is real and the effects are real and we have suffered from the effects of climate change. One of the effects discussed in the conference and the Senate is the resource conflicts that result from climate change. She gave

examples of resources such as grass, water and grazing grounds. She informed the delegates that the security committee of the Senate had been on a mission to Laikipia and Baringo, due to the conflicts that arose from long droughts and flooding that came thereafter and emphasized the need to walk together to deal with the effects of climate change.

She informed participants of a bill coming up in the Senate, sponsored by Senator Zani on how to start involving the primary and secondary school children on the issues of climate change. The bill, if enacted will ensure that at the basic education level, climate change and environmental issues are taken seriously. The Deputy Speaker of the Senate concluded by calling for the inclusion of a practical approach in dealing with climate change in the Competency-Based curriculum.

#### 2.1.5 Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice-Chair, Council of Governors

Governor Ongwae who moderated the sessions started by welcoming the Chief Justice, Hon. Rev. Dr. Mirium R. Chikukwa, and all the guests who found time to attend the conference. He informed the guests that the conference was officially opened the previous day by the President of the Republic of Kenya and Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Odinga gave the keynote address. Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Fred Matiangi, who represented the president, and other cabinet secretaries and Governors also graced the occasion.

He also informed the guests and the delegates that so far, the conference had handled the sub-theme on



*Governor James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS, Kisii County & Vice-Chair, Council of Governors*

the impact of climate change and pandemics on sub-national, national, continental and global peace and security, and climate change and risk management, among other sub-themes.





*Hon. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Devolution.*

### 2.1.6 Hon. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Youth

Hon. Korir recognized the presence of the Chief Justice and welcomed her to the conference. He mentioned that through the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, Kenyans made a key decision to devolve governance. He mentioned that since the first era of devolution, the devolution conferences have taken place annually and there was only a break in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He stated that in the devolution conference, the two levels of government recommit themselves to ensuring

that the fruits that were anticipated under the devolution would be realized. It is a time where they take stock of where they are, where they have come from and where they want to go. It is also a time when they take lessons learnt to make Kenyans realize the fruits that they anticipated with the constitutional change.

In 2021, climate change was found to be a major pressing challenge facing the country, hence the need to consider how to address and mitigate the challenges resulting from climate change and possibly alleviate them. He indicated that the ministry has been able to share with the Counties, the government and citizens, the instruments available on how to alleviate the challenge.

He further noted that several efforts have been agreed on, recognizing that combating climate change requires the collaboration of all levels of government. The two levels of government and the courts should collaborate to combat this challenge. The National Government has played their part in the commitments required globally and is now cascading them to the County Governments.



*Governor Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor, Makueni County*

### 2.1.7 Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor, Makueni County

Governor Kibwana welcomed the Chief Justice and other guests to Makueni County and was grateful that he was able to participate in the conference, to discuss how to deal with climate change at the local level. He

noted that the attendance was very good so far and there had been no reported incidences since the start of the conference. He also thanked the delegates for taking part in the conference despite the postponements due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He also stated that climate change is complex at the local level and it is still a struggle to find an equivalent of the word 'climate change' in the local language. He however noted only recently we got a Kiswahili word for climate change —mabadiliko ya tabia ya nchi, which proves that in the past, climate change was not an issue, hence there was no language for it.

The governor also explained that civic education on climate change is key in the communities to foster genuine conversations and called upon Maarifa Centre to develop information on what climate change and related terminologies are, in an easy language. All the frameworks developed can be customized so that



all sectors at the grassroots level can engage in the conversations.

He also indicated that something new will emerge in terms of climate justice. In the courts, the people may demand climate justice rights, just like the socio-

economic rights, thus a new jurisprudence may emerge. Communities are battling climate change. Their activities must be factored in terms of our responses, including the cause. He concluded by emphasizing the need for continuous COVID-19 vaccinations.



## CHAPTER 3 PLENUM SESSIONS

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### 3.1 SUB-THEME 1: Impact of Climate Change and Pandemics on Sub-National, Continental and Global Peace and Security



#### Session Objective:

To deliberate on lasting solutions to human security challenges caused by climate change within the Counties, nationally, within Africa and globally.

#### Moderator:

Mr. Waihiga Mwaura

#### Panellists:

1. Governor Francis Kimemia, EGH, CBS, Governor, Nyandarua County
2. Governor Hassan Ali Joho, EGH, Governor, Mombasa County
3. H.E. Jane Marriott, OBE, British High Commissioner to Kenya
4. Dr. Stephen Jackson, UN Resident Coordinator
5. Cap. Rtd. Dr. Simiyu Werunga, Security Expert

#### 3.1.1 Introduction

Climate Change has brought scarcity of food and water, and displaced people. It has forced displacement of communities, wiped out livelihoods and these have affected people. When people are displaced, there is a security problem. When people lack food and water, they are forced to forcefully look for it, creating insecurity and conflict. It is, therefore, necessary to look out for the impacts of climate change and pandemics on peace and security and to think about such climate risks.

During this session, discussions were held around issues of how climate change is a threat to local economies, especially in developing countries where food insecurity and high unemployment rate are key matters of concern. The seventh devolution conference was convened after the close of COP26 discussions, thus the National Government and County Governments had an opportunity to align their discussions to those of



the Glasgow conference.

### 3.1.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

It was noted that:

- a) Counties need to look into the management of shared resources with a view to mitigating conflict. For instance, in Laikipia, Pokot and Turkana Counties, the major cause of conflict is pasture management, while in Nyandarua, the issue is water which is consumed by the other surrounding Counties.
- b) Investing in science and technology is key in addressing security issues brought about by climate change.
- c) Conflicts are borderless, and as such, there is a need for collaborative approach in dealing with them.
- d) There is no structured way of engaging with the private sector in handling issues of security within the Counties.
- e) Both levels of government have not been able to design programmes that are proactive in dealing with conflict and climate change. Rather, they fight the harm caused by climate change.
- f) There is a need to revive the environmental clubs in schools for the children to plant trees.
- g) There is a need to think about climate risk and the vulnerable in society, as there is a clear impact of climate change on them. For instance, women and girls have to go for long distances in search of water and the youth and children could miss school.
- h) There is a need to focus on cash transfer initiatives as opposed to giving relief food to promote the local economy.
- i) The International Climate Finance through the UK was behind the due listing of Kenya's green bond on sustainable eco-friendly housing. This helped Kenya develop guidelines and green jobs and create e-borders.
- j) There is a need for political goodwill and enforcement of the law for those found guilty of contravening the law.

- k) Climate change is real and therefore our communities and economies must work together in terms of capacity building and resource development.
- l) To support the legal and policy framework, the Ministry of Devolution is currently undertaking the review of the Intergovernmental Relations Act of 2012 to respond to emerging issues since the beginning of devolution.
- m) Recent research shows that climate change is affecting marine species and this is attributed to rising temperatures.
- n) Participation and consultation of people in the Counties has led to a governance process that is sensitive to the people's needs at the county level.
- o) The County Governments are developing specific laws on climate change and 33 County governments have implemented Climate Change laws to reduce the effects of climate change.
- p) There is a need to create time and discuss issues of security in depth.

### 3.1.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need for adequate and predictable funding with proper mechanisms for planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluating the outcomes.
- b) There is a need to review the penalties for the polluters of the environment under the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) since it is easy to pay.
- c) Create structures to involve the local community in conflict management
- d) There is a need to invest in science and technology. Both levels of government should work together to create centres of science and technology.
- e) There is a need to think outside the box and involve the private sector by developing private sector development policy.
- f) Both levels of government should come up with clear structures incorporating the Polluter-Pays Principle and those who preserve the environment to be paid back.



- g) There is a need for the two levels of government to enhance the spirit of cooperation, collaboration and interdependence in dealing with insecurity issues brought about by climate change.
- h) The County Governments to progressively operationalize the County Policing Authorities and support the development of security infrastructure, including County Action Plans, and new structures to facilitate joint engagements for conflict resolution in alignment with the redesigned national security strategies.
- i) National Government to work on climate diplomacy at the global level.
- j) County Governments should develop frameworks to deal with insecurity problems that have arisen out of climate change.
- k) There is a need for political goodwill for enforcement of the law.
- l) The forestry sector should be utilized for changing livelihoods and possibly introduce economic activities such as beekeeping, by having

the beehives there together with other possible economic activities.

- m) It is important that we mainstream climate change and the environment in our political discourse.
- n) The national security strategy needs to be re-looked at to see how it can build stronger inter-governmental co-ordination on matters security.
- o) There is a need for a new framework and a new approach for budgeting since the number of personnel deployed to deal with the conflicts is affecting their personnel.
- p) There is a need for resource alignment. We cannot over-depend on development partners. We need to set aside resources to deal with climate change.





DAY 2: THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

## 3.2 SUB-THEME 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response and reconstruction in the wake of climate change and pandemics.

### Moderator:

Mr. Victor Orindi, ADA Consortium

### Panellists:

1. Governor Capt. Ali Roba - Governor, Mandera County
2. Amb. Carla Mucavi - FAO Representative in Kenya
3. Mr. Walid Badawi - Resident Representative, UNDP
4. Ms. Stella Marias Aura, MBS - Director General, Kenya Meteorological Department
5. Mr. James Oduor - Director General, National Drought Management Authority

### 3.2.1 Introduction

Climate-related disasters continue to worsen. Progress has been made in the policy space in terms of putting in place legislative and policy frameworks. It is important to see how best we can anticipate the likely scenarios in the near future to ensure preparedness in case of adverse effects.

County Governments form the first line of response to disasters. Therefore, there is a need to build resilience in climate change mitigation and adaptation to minimise the frequency of disaster occurrence. Counties have programmes that have mainstreamed issues of disaster preparedness and management. This has been through infrastructure development like constructing bridges and drifts sections to manage storm waters and afforestation.

It is also important to note that disasters are highly contextual and are, at times, location-specific, susceptible to particular risks. Therefore, risk mapping

and identification are important as part of disaster risk management. As an example of disaster risk management, the UNDP developed and implemented disaster risk management interventions in response to forest fires in South Africa in 2017. The interventions, which included early warning systems to increase awareness through the use of technology and natural hydrants, were an investment from a global investment facility. Disaster risk management investments pay off as they avert catastrophes and loss of lives.

### 3.2.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Some of the interventions put in place to address climate change and disaster risk management include legislative interventions such as the enactment of various legislations and their accompanying policies, for example, the Climate Change Act, Climate Adaptation Fund Act, and County Disaster Management Acts, among others.
- b) Climate change mitigation varies from region to region. For example, the County Government of Mandera spent over 880 million in planting trees in Mandera town and its environs as a way of climate change adaptation. The County has also grown about 301 million trees despite the challenge of lack of rainwater. A lot of after-care is required for a period of two to three years until the trees can withstand the climate challenges.
- c) County Governments face a financial burden for response and management of disasters and pandemics. Resources are pooled from other budget lines to be able to respond to an emerging challenge.
- d) There is a need to build resilience of communities.
- e) Kenya is number 31 in terms of vulnerability to climate change. Some Counties have around 2.5 million people facing food insecurity. This is also accompanied by the increase of diseases, particularly on livestock, and infestation by desert locusts in Kenya from 2019 to 2021.
- f) Both levels of Government and local communities need to be able to anticipate disasters and mobilise resources to respond to emergencies.

- g) There is a need to leverage new technology to survey and provide information to allow for quick responses. FAO is working in collaboration with the Counties to provide for early warning and response.
- h) Leadership at all levels plays a critical role in disaster risk management. Kenya has expressed commitment at high National and County levels to address climate change disasters. Leadership involves all of us, to ensure disaster risk reduction and prioritization. The leadership has to be enlightened and visionary.
- i) Policies form the enabling environment of disaster risk management. The framework is still in its early stages in Kenya. The rising lakes and desert locust invasions are examples of climate change risks in Kenya. Therefore, there is a need for a robust governance structure, policies and plans at national and county levels to address climate change risks. Early warning systems are examples of such policies that significantly reduce damages.
- j) Global, regional, national, county and sub-county level partnerships are necessary to ensure that climate disasters are responded to appropriately. The partnerships help attract climate change finance needed in adaptation and mitigation capacity. The implementation of Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions requires KSh. 2 billion, which can be sourced through partnerships. Examples of funds that can be used to mitigate climate change are the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund. International finance is not enough for resilience building, hence, local finance at county levels should also be considered.
- k) Focus should be on programmes that are centred on human development and peace. For example, programmes bringing in the youth in the agroforestry industry should tackle youth vulnerability, radicalisation and climate change simultaneously.
- l) Multi-hazard risk mapping is important for better





disaster risk management.

- m) The humanitarian development and peace nexus should be at the centre of the new-generation programmes.
- n) The creation of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in 2011, reinforced the NDMA Act of 2016. Before the NDMA creation, droughts were being managed through time-limited projects and donor-funded projects. A permanent institution allows for learning and continuous improvements that lead to better drought management.
- o) Devolution has enabled County Governments to be at the forefront of drought management and offer a quick and appropriate response. Due to this, the speed and quality of response has improved.
- p) Drought early warning systems. These provide information to stakeholders monthly, and more frequently when needed. They draw from various sources, including communities, visual assessments, government technical information and satellite data. The systems are constantly evolving and refined and have been in use for 30 years.
- q) Both levels of government must have the means to act when they need to act, without delay. Resources can be in terms of finances or skilled and experienced personnel. Availability of resources has always been the missing link between early warning and response.
- r) National Drought Emergency Fund. The legal framework has already been approved. NDMA already has systems to be used in dispatching the funds. The fund will better facilitate early warning and early response.
- s) Disaster Risk Finance. Kenya was the first African country to develop the Disaster Risk Finance Strategy, supported by the World Bank. The finance helps in response to the shocks and hastens assistance.
- t) There is a need to coordinate and collaborate. No single stakeholder can manage to go at it alone as

drought management is a major task. Therefore, all relevant stakeholders need to be involved. The government leads and coordinates the major different actors. Poor coordination wastes time and valuable resources and can cause harm. Sustainable development can reduce vulnerability and we all have a part to play. Drought is a development issue.

- u) NDMA has been trying to bring together counties and the private sector to collaborate in drought management. Shared vision and a common approach will lead to better drought management.
- v) The drought management system in Kenya has been in use for a long time and its strengths being acknowledged by international experts. This has been possible through the efforts and support from partners. Drought risk management is the responsibility of all and each should act accordingly.

### 3.2.3 Way Forward/ Action points

There is a need to build the counties' capacity. Devolution is about nine years old and some areas have been left behind extensively in infrastructural development.

There is a need for the following:

- a) Both the National Government and County Governments to play a role in mainstreaming climate change issues in all aspects of their planning.
- b) Both levels of government and other non-state actors to mainstream climate change issues, to help in mitigating the effects.
- c) Proper implementation of existing policies and the development of new policies where they are non-existent to help address climate change.
- d) A proper coordination and cooperation framework to ensure necessary policies are domesticated.
- e) To build resilience and to strengthen capacity at the local, sub-national and national level. Investment in multi-hazards early warning systems that have the capability of providing the needed data for proper planning is important.





- f) Both levels of government to think of long-term solutions where international organisations and governments develop a common goal towards enhancing food security. This will entail the construction of silos for food storage to be used during the dry seasons.
- g) To leverage the use of technology for storage and come up with targeted strategies that are geared towards increasing production levels from the farm level.
- h) County Governments to develop long-term solutions to having targeted response mechanisms with their specificities to enhance the livelihoods of the communities.
- i) The value chains, especially for women and other vulnerable groups, need to be enhanced. Capacity needs to be enhanced to facilitate the flow of goods across the value chains, from transportation, packaging and processing, thus creating decent jobs for women and youth.
- j) Coordinated policy dialogue at the National and County levels, and the use of an intergovernmental structure is important for developing a framework of disaster management and disaster preparedness and response.
- k) National Government and County Governments need to have policy dialogue that would lead to legislation. Policy consensus should precede legislation.
- l) To strengthen County policy, institutions, and human capacity on disaster management.
- m) To strengthen and create multi-hazard early warning systems and enhance joint participatory scenario planning on disaster management.
- n) To enhance robust financing mechanisms at both levels of government on disaster management.
- o) Kenya to consider drought insurance under the Africa risk capacity as well as have a robust framework to encourage county insurance facilities that can cushion individuals in times of calamities.
- p) Both levels of government should have a conducive tax regime for liquefied petroleum gas and other clean energy technologies to ease access by the communities.
- q) Joint financing for afforestation efforts, especially in ASAL Counties, to increase vegetation cover.

“

*The strongest governments on earth cannot clean up pollution by themselves. They must rely on each ordinary person, like you and me, on our choices, and on our will. - Chai Jing*

”



### 3.3 SUB-THEME 3: Financing Climate Action at the Sub-National Level



#### Session Objective:

To discuss the opportunities and challenges in financing climate action at the Sub-national level.

#### Moderator:

Mr. Jotham Mutoka, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, State Bank of Mauritius (SBM)

#### Panellists:

1. Governor Ndiritu Muriithi - Governor, Laikipia County
2. Sen. Charles Kibiru, MP - Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget
3. Dr. Julius Muia, CBS - Principal Secretary, National Treasury
4. Dr. Fadel Ndiame - Deputy President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
5. Dr. Dmitry Pozhidaev - UNCDF Global Advisor, Local Transformative Finance

#### 3.3.1 Introduction

The session focused on the opportunities and challenges in financing climate action.

#### 3.3.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Instruments should be put in place for County Governments to utilize climate change funds, and to strengthen institutions at the sub-national level.
- b) It is important to decentralize and devolve climate change funds.
- c) The capacity building of County Governments is being undertaken through FLLoCA to enable counties to undertake climate change actions.
- d) Climate change action has been included in the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) to ensure that the medium and long-term plans are incorporated.



- e) So far, 33 County Governments have established climate change funds, and out of these, 7 have developed climate fund regulations.
- f) It is important for County Governments that are yet to pass climate change laws to consider passing them in readiness for FLLoCA.
- g) The National Government aims to support Counties build their capacity on climate financing.
- h) County Governments must diversify their revenue sources for climate action and identify other innovative sources of finance other than relying solely on FLLoCA, for example, by developing bankable projects.
- i) The Senate plays a role in considering policies and laws related to local climate financing.
- j) Public-private partnerships are avenues for the County Governments to undertake projects that are essential for mitigating climate change.
- k) The National Treasury has been giving support to institutions that seek accreditation for purposes of tapping into climate or green finance.
- l) The Treasury should consider having Counties venture into PPP projects without necessarily seeking approval from the National Treasury.
- m) Kenya has access to different climate change funds such as Climate Investment Fund and Green Climate Fund, among others.
- n) The National Treasury has been providing leadership and funds to address national disasters and has been championing disaster management through the National Emergency Drought Fund (NEDF).
- o) The Treasury is also undertaking various reforms towards disaster management, especially by supporting development of a policy.
- p) A compensation fund has not been set up to compensate developing countries for the effects of climate change.
- q) The UNCDF has been working with other international organizations such as the IMF to provide technical assistance to improve the

revenue administration of County governments, and asset management.

- r) To enhance investment or bankable projects, it is critical to consider the payback period for such projects. Through bankable projects, it will be possible for Counties to engage in PPP initiatives.
- s) Counties also need to focus on enhancing their own-source revenues rather than relying on external finances.
- t) The equitable allocations of climate change funds will be channelled to specific projects and activities to ensure that the funds are utilized for the intended purpose.
- u) Lack of investable projects to fight climate change is a key challenge facing both the National Government and County Governments.
- v) Combating climate change requires collaboration between the existing levels of government.

### 3.3.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

- a) There is a need to put in place the right instruments to enable County Governments to roll out climate change-related programmes.
- b) It is important to provide technical support to County Governments and to build their capacity to access climate change funds.
- c) County Governments must participate in public-private partnerships to attract climate change-related projects.



## 3.4 SUB-THEME 4: Vulnerability and resilience in the face of climate change



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups and recommend actions that can be adopted to strengthen their resilience.

### Moderator:

Mr. Polycarp Igathe, Chief Operations Officer, Equity Bank

### Panellists:

1. Governor Hon. Josephat Nanok, EGH, Governor, Turkana County
2. Mr. Harun M. Hassan, Chief Executive Officer, National Council for Persons with Disabilities
3. Mr. Kimaren Riamit, Executive Director, Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners (ILEPA)
4. Mr. Emmanuel Bigeninama, Deputy Country Director, World Food Programme
5. Dr. Moses Sichei, Chief Executive Officer, Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA)

### 3.4.1 Introduction

There is an increased risk of accelerated vulnerability and conflict emanating from impacts of climate change. It is, therefore, necessary to ensure public participation, by bringing everybody on board for contribution. Addressing chronic marginalization requires thinking outside the box so that better solutions can be provided. The session focused on discussing the impact of climate change on vulnerable communities and the resilience necessary to be built to mitigate the impacts. The discussions also focused on addressing issues of increased vulnerability as a consequence of climate change.

### 3.4.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) It was noted that vulnerability is more about incomes.
- b) Most Counties have created a conducive legislative environment by enacting Climate Change Acts and other legislation to address issues of climate



change. For instance, Turkana County enacted the Climate Change Act and ensured that not less than 2% of the County's budget goes towards addressing climate change.

- c) Resource-based conflicts are increasing across the boundaries with other countries and even within the Country between Counties. For instance, the recent conflict in Laikipia where pastoralists moved into private farms to graze is a result of climate change.
- d) Impacts of climate change are differentiated and the impacts are different on different categories of people.
- e) The Equalization Fund should be utilised for climate action projects and programmes.
- f) There is a need to fully implement affirmative action as provided in the Constitution.
- g) Climate change affects water, soil fertility, and land productivity. Gains of devolution are at risk unless counties, the national government, and partners invest to entrench resilience.
- h) WFP supports the government to achieve food and nutrition security. In Kenya, WFP supports NDMA in responding to the needs of vulnerable groups.
- i) WFP supports communities develop irrigation schemes and to embrace modern water harvesting and storage methods.
- j) Allocation of revenue is informed by consideration of climate-sensitive sectors.
- k) Climate change could lead to loss of revenue streams for Counties.

### 3.4.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

There is need;

- a) To have policy solutions to ensure Counties respond to resource-based conflicts.
- b) For County Governments to invest heavily in water harvesting.
- c) For collaboration with development partners to ensure programmes are rolled out to address conflicts transcending refugees. Such programmes could focus on water harvesting and storage.
- d) To engage and improve the participation of PWDs in the conversation on climate change.
- e) To implement targeted policy interventions to ensure PWDs receive support in times of climate instigated conflicts and stress.
- f) For both levels of government to mainstream disability in all spheres of policy development and implementation.
- g) To move from macro-level interventions to micro-level interventions.
- h) Both levels of government should invest in building knowledge systems to implement evidence-based interventions.
- i) To strengthen the policy and legal environment on climate change and action and to give meaning to the existing legislation by converting them into action.
- j) To operationalize the equalization fund to ensure the marginalized communities in Kenya are considered.





DAY 3: FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

## 3.5 SUB-THEME 5: Effective Waste Management in Climate Action: From Policy to Community Level



### Session Objective:

To examine avenues through which community involvement in the management of waste can contribute to climate change mitigation and livelihood enhancement.

### Moderator:

Dr. Isaac Kalua, CBS, MBS, HSC, Founder, Green Africa Foundation

### Panellists:

1. Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo, Chairperson, CoG Environment and Climate Change Committee
2. Ms. Nzambi Matee, Founder, Gjenge Makers
3. Boniface Mbithi, CEO, WEEE Center
4. Mr. Thomas Emil Jensen, Co-Chair, Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency Partners Group — Royal Danish embassy
5. Mr. Michael Koech, Head of Department, Sustainable Business and Social Impact, Safaricom
6. Dr. Mamo Boru Mamo, Director General, NEMA

### 3.5.1 Introduction

Effective waste management needs to be a collaborative effort amongst the National Government, County Governments and the private sector. Through innovations, waste can be a source of opportunities. There is a need for counties to manage waste as a resource and look at the opportunities within this.

### 3.5.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) There is already a policy and legislation on waste management in place. 28 Counties have adopted the legislation and are implementing it.
- b) More than 24 Counties have 133 dump sites. However, there is a lack of proper management of the dump sites.
- c) Counties are coming up with innovations for managing waste, including entering into partnerships with the private sector to recycle waste.
- d) Refurbishing is one of the ways of managing waste

which ensures that usable parts of machines are brought back into the system. There is no harm in bringing in refurbished machines as long as we have a formula on how to get rid of them when they reach their end-of-life

- e) There are no stringent restrictions to control waste imports in Kenya, and this creates room for waste colonization where developed countries ship waste to third world countries.
- f) The private sector is taking an active role in the policy formulation of waste management.
- g) World Bank is supporting the development of the e-waste policy.
- h) There is eco-designing e.g., Safaricom is extracting less from the environment by providing smaller sim cards.
- i) There is a need to devise a better way to handle waste. Only 10% of our waste is manageable. Therefore, there is a need to use waste as a resource and not as refuse, and help Counties move to circular economies.

### 3.5.3 Way Forward/ Action Points

- a) Counties should use resources from the Urban Support Program to purchase machinery for sorting out waste.
- b) Both levels of government should provide incentives for waste management and subsidize the cost.
- c) Taxation needs to be reduced or tax havens provided to the recycling industries.



- d) The government needs to reduce the cost of electricity as it is a significant component needed for recycling.
- e) County Governments should provide infrastructure where waste is separated; organic and inorganic.
- f) Both levels of government should collaborate in creating awareness on how to get rid of machines when they reach their end-of-life.
- g) Counties need to customize policies on waste management to fit their situations.
- h) Both levels of government should establish recycling facilities to create more jobs.
- i) There is a need to harmonize licensing such that waste collectors do not need to have different licenses in every County.
- j) Both levels of government should work with private sector in waste management.





“

*We are in danger of destroying ourselves by our greed and stupidity. We cannot remain looking inwards at ourselves on a small and increasingly polluted and overcrowded planet.*

*- Stephen Hawking*

”



## CHAPTER 4 SECTOR BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### URBAN | 4.1: Building urban resilience: Pathways to sustainable urbanization in Kenyan Counties in the wake of climate change and pandemics



#### Session Objective:

To deliberate on strategies for building resilient cities and urban areas in Kenya in the wake of climate change and pandemics

#### Moderator:

Senator Moses Kajwang\*, MP, Chairperson, Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations

#### Panellists:

1. H.E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Governor, Makueni County
2. Mr. Charles Hinga, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing and Urban Development
3. Eng. Silas M. Kinoti, Director General, Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA)
4. Mr. Oumar Sylla, Director of Regional Office for Africa, UN Habitat
5. Mr. Stephen Ogenga, Director General, National Industrial Training Authority (NITA)
6. Eng. Maurice Aketch, Executive Director, National Construction Authority (NCA)
7. Mr. George Mochu, Citizen from Narok Municipality
8. Dr. Medhin Tsehau, UNAIDS Kenya County Director

#### 4.1.1 Introduction

Recognizing the immense disaster risks faced by cities and urban areas, both the National Government and County Governments must adopt effective actions to ensure that these cities and urban areas are prepared to respond to disasters. Cities and urban areas mark the level of civilization in any country. Therefore, civilization must be lifted to a level where we all have access to goods and services to have a better-quality life. To achieve this, Kenya must build resilience in the cities that will serve the people today and be sustainable in the next generation. The session therefore focused on discussing the pathways to sustainable urbanization in Kenyan Counties in the wake of climate change and pandemics.

#### 4.1.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Cities need to have spatial plans for sustainable urban development.
- b) It is important to have plans for the cities and urban



centres to achieve sustainable development.

- c) Measures are being taken to ensure climate change impacts do not destroy already existing roads. New roads are being built to ease congestion in the urban areas, and the old roads are also being re-carpeted to ensure that they are not damaged by the frequent occurrence of floods in the cities.
- d) There is over-dependence on the national government for funds to manage county disasters due to climate change.

#### 4.1.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) Being a signatory to the New Urban Agenda and the Quito Declaration of 2016 which calls for inclusive and resilient cities, Kenya must adopt and domesticate the new urban agenda and ensure cities and urban areas are resilient to climate change effects.
- b) Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA) to put measures in place to address the impact of disasters on road design and construction.
- c) Urban roads to be redesigned to minimize future damages because of climate change.
- d) To effectively respond to climate change threats, the National Government and County Governments should put in place structures, systems and processes for urban resilience in the municipalities and towns through the strengthening of urban entities to better respond to climate change and other disasters.

- e) Climate change committees must be established and members trained on how to deal with climate change.
- f) All Counties should have a County Spatial Plan that is synced with the County Integrated Development Plan to be able to achieve plan-led development in the County.
- g) Counties must increase their revenue so that they have resources to manage climate change effects like pandemics and floods if and when they occur and avoid fully depending on the National Treasury in such emergencies.
- h) Climate Change must be mainstreamed in all sectors in both levels of government.
- i) Strict prosecution measures should be taken against all individuals involved in activities that affect the climate, like tree cutting.
- j) There is a need to harness personnel and financial resources to drive urban resilience at National and County level.
- k) Counties should optimize own-source revenue to meet the rising needs of urban entities.
- l) There is a need to strengthen urban entities to better respond to worsening crises and climate change.

“

*When I was a boy in the 1930s, the carbon dioxide level was still below 300 parts per million. This year, it reached 382, the highest figure for hundreds of thousands of years.*

*- David Attenborough*

”



## AGRICULTURE | 4.2: Building resilient food systems in Kenya in the wake of climate change and pandemics



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on actions towards increasing agricultural productivity and building resilient food systems to achieve 100% food and nutrition security amidst the impacts of climate change and pandemics.

### Session Chair:

Sen. Canon Naomi Waqo, MP, Marsabit County

### Moderator:

Mr. John Macharia, AGRA

### Panellists:

1. Governor Dr. James Nyoro, Governor Kiambu County and Chair, CoG Agriculture and Cooperatives Committee
2. Mr. Laurence Omuhaka, Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives, representing the Ministry's Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Peter Munya, EGH,
3. Mr. Aboud Moeva, Principal Secretary State Department for Irrigation, representing Mr. Joseph W. Irungu, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Water Sanitation and Irrigation
4. Ms. Lauren Landis, County Director, World Food Programme
5. Ms. Elizabeth Obanda, Women Economic Empowerment Analyst and Team Lead, UN Women
6. Mr. Omondi Kasidhi, Director & Head of Sustainable Agriculture DigiFarm, Safaricom
7. Mr. Justus Kimeu, Farmer, Makueni County

### 4.2.1 Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has had profound implications on food systems and food supply chains. This has resulted in lower incomes and higher prices of food. The pandemic also affected food security and nutrition in Kenya as it led to strict lockdowns, market closure and the slowing down of economic activities, disrupting the food supply chain.

The National government's big four agenda has set food security as a national priority. Poverty and food insecurity persist, exacerbated by climate change and the inadequate rural infrastructure. To achieve 100% food and nutrition security, Kenya needs to scale up investment in Agriculture, livestock and fisheries by:

- Producing more and ensuring food security, especially for the poor who rely on agriculture.
- Enhancing resilience of farmers by improving their capacity to adapt to erratic weather.



- Pursuing lower emissions on each kilo of food produced and avoiding carbon out of the atmosphere.
- Raising the productivity in agriculture to lift households out of poverty and reduce reliance on rain-fed agricultural systems.
- Using modern technologies in extension systems, building the resilience of farmers; and improve agricultural market systems and infrastructure.

#### 4.2.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Even before climate change, both levels of government were not prepared in terms of agricultural productivity, technological innovation and mobilizing farmers. Climate change has worsened the situation.
  - b) There has been an increase in the number of technologies that can help farmers adapt to climate change yet farmers do not use the technology. Farmers should therefore seek information from the County Governments, the internet, media and also be willing to adopt and sustain technologies like climate-smart agriculture.
  - c) More emphasis is needed on water harvesting. Areas that did not need irrigation earlier, now need water to survive. About 1,000 to 3,000 cubic meters of water is needed for irrigation. The farmers also need capacity building on the maintenance of the water pans. Emphasizing community-based irrigation, farmers now have managed schemes to build their resilience against the adverse effects of climate change.
  - d) The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives has come up with various strategic interventions for food security. There is a need to ensure full implementation of the strategic interventions in the policies and regulations formulated.
  - e) Food systems in Kenya are fragile and not resilient. This fragility is exacerbated by climate change and COVID-19. There is also a gap in specific climate-smart agricultural policies. The few existing policies are also not gender-responsive. There is therefore a need for transformative approaches.
- f) For food systems to be resilient, both levels of government should look at all the players in the whole value chain from producers, to transporters, to the provision of input.
  - g) The challenge is that 80% of Kenyan land is Arid and Semi-Arid and 90% of agriculture is rain-fed.
  - h) The policies at the National level need to be customized for the County level. For food systems to be resilient, there is a need to look at the whole value chain.
  - i) Farmers are now able to obtain information relating to the climate through SMS from various platforms such as Safaricom, Airtel, digital platforms, national TV stations as well as vernacular TV and radio stations. The farmers also receive training and alerts that are easily understandable. The farmers also get information from the extension officers, the county governments, AGRA, and other development partners. They use this information to make decisions on what to plant, when to plant, and the technology to employ. Farmers also get warnings on the emergence of calamities like locusts, which aids in knowing which chemicals to spray and when.
  - j) 80% of Kenyan land is arid and semi-arid and 90% of agriculture depends on rain-fed agriculture. The opportunities are that Kenya is a very stable country. However, a holistic approach is required, to review how the farmers produce and grow, to reduce post-harvest losses. There is a need to go deep down in the rural areas where the farming is done and link the smallholder farmers to the market.
  - k) Safaricom, through the DigiFarm service, is focused on providing information, data, enabling real actions and delivering value. Safaricom provides connectivity and these actions assist farmers to innovate their way around the climate crisis.
  - l) In Kitui County, the focus is more on the value addition of the farm produce and textile industry. The County's textile manufacturing factory has





employed 700 youth who are trained in tailoring and are already receiving tenders from the government.

m) There is a concern that the average age of the farmer is 55 years, while the average age of Kenyans is 22 years.

#### 4.2.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need for capacity building for farmers. This can be actualized through trainings offered by County Governments.
- b) Both levels of government should allocate more resources to agriculture to help build resilient food systems.
- c) Farmers should be encouraged to diversify their farming in order to increase productivity.
- d) There is need to ensure the implementation of strategic interventions formulated by the government to harness water harvesting following flooding.
- e) There is a need to emphasize community-based irrigation and farmers managed schemes to help them build their resilience against the adverse effects of climate change.
- f) It is important to enhance resilience by reducing vulnerability and improving capacity to adapt during longer-term dry seasons and erratic weather.
- g) There is a need to raise productivity in agriculture to lift households out of poverty and reduce reliance on rain-fed agricultural systems.
- h) Farmers should be encouraged to use technology

in extension systems to build their resilience and to improve agricultural market systems and infrastructure.

- i) Farmers need to adopt climate-smart technologies, e.g., the Village Based Advisor Model being piloted in Kiambu County.
- j) Counties need to allocate a bigger percentage of their budget to agriculture and create peer-learning platforms where they can learn from each other.
- k) Micro insurance should be prioritized to ensure the household economy is safeguarded against losses.
- l) There is a need to use more research and innovation, connect the cooperatives with markets, add value such as labelling and using bar codes, and ensure that there is quality, consistency and reliability for the marketplace.
- m) There is a need to focus on irrigated agriculture and reduce reliance on rainfall.
- n) Incentives should be offered to the youth, to increase the number of youths engaged in farming to secure the future of agriculture in Kenya.





## NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT | 4.3: Rethinking Sustainable Natural Resources Management in the Wake of Climate Change



### Session Objective:

To deliberate actions that state and non-state actors can take to re-engineer the Natural Resources Management sector in the wake of impacts of climate change and pandemics.

### Session Chair:

H.E. Dr. Wilber Ottichilo, Governor Vihiga County

### Moderator:

Dr. Barbara Senkwe, Senior WASH Governance Advisor for USAID's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Finance (WASHFIN) programme

### Panellists:

1. H.E. Gov. Francis Kimemia, EGH, CBS, Governor Nyandarua County & Chairperson, COG Water, Forestry and Natural Resource Management Committee
2. Sen. (Arch) Sylvia Kasanga, MP, Member of the Senate Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources
3. Mr. Joseph Irungu, CBS, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Water Sanitation and Irrigation, represented by Eng. Samuel Alima
4. Mr. Peter Odhengo, Head of Climate Finance and Green Economy Unit at The National Treasury and Planning, & Program Coordinator Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Programme.
5. Mr. Romualdo Mavedzenge, Regional Program Manager — Africa, International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
6. Mr. Victor Orindi, Coordinator, Adaptation Consortium

### 4.3.1 Introduction

Land degeneration is contributing a lot to climate change. It is, therefore, necessary to come up with proper mechanisms to ensure that wildlife and biodiversity are conserved. It is also necessary to look into sustainable management of water bodies, management of waste, research and innovation and data collection to re-engineer natural resource management.

### 4.3.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) The legal framework and the structure to address management of natural resources in the wake of climate change is already in place at the national level. However, there is a need to incorporate the same at both the County level and the lower administrative units.
- b) As at the date of the conference, fourteen (14) Counties had water plans in place while thirteen (13) Counties were developing theirs.
- c) The master plan done in 2013, showed that the water levels are going down from 443ml per person per year.

- d) Water and sanitation services is a devolved function.
- e) Several mechanisms have been put in place to address water shortage such as water reuse, water conservation through dams, and sector funding.
- f) Community Forests Associations (CFAs) are a key element in forest conservation and management as they are formed by communities living adjacent to the forests.
- g) The National Government is trying to relocate people from the forests to be able to conserve the forests.
- h) There is a framework in place to address cost-sharing of natural resources.
- i) Access to funds has been a challenge and remains a challenge, however, the National Treasury is working towards making it more accessible to all.
- j) There is a clear plan on how to implement the USD 100 million allocated for climate change.
- k) Awareness is a very important strategy to conserve the natural resources.

#### 4.3.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) County Governments are encouraged to partner with the Maarifa Centre in information sharing, capacity building, documentation and peer learning on transformative and innovative County models addressing climate change that have



worked, to accelerate their adoption by other Counties.

- b) Counties to come up with better ways to mobilize resources to be used for the conservancy of natural resources.
- c) More financial resources need to be allocated to the Counties to address water challenges in the country.
- d) The National Government should ensure full implementation of the on-cost sharing of the natural resources.
- e) There is a need to monetize the environmental resources/services (nature-based capital) at the County level, to get to establish Counties that contribute greatly to the National GDP.
- f) There is a need to strengthen the regulatory frameworks and policies for natural resource management at both levels of government.
- g) Counties should ensure that there is community inclusion and participation in the implementation process to enable communities to own the projects and make them sustainable even long after the end of the project.
- h) County Governments to include climate change in their County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs).







## HEALTH | 4.4: Climate Change and Health at County Level: Burden, Impact, Interventions and Lessons Learnt



### Session Objective:

To critically examine the impact of climate change on health in Kenya's devolved context.

### Session Chair:

H.E. Gov. (Prof.) Anyang Nyong'o, Governor, Kisumu County

### Moderator:

Dr. Emmanuel Wamalwa, Public Health expert

### Co-Moderator:

Carol Nderi, Communications Practitioner

### Panellists:

1. Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP, Senator for Narok County and Member of
2. Senate Standing Committee on Health
3. Hon. Catherine Mukenyang, Speaker, West Pokot County Assembly
4. Mr. John Kuehnle, Director of the Health, Population and Nutrition Office, USAID
5. Ms. Suada Ibrahim, Head of Partnerships and Resource Development, Kenya Red Cross Society

### 4.4.1 Introduction

Discussions about climate change and the future of the world matter and it is time to make deliberate efforts to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. The country needs to take the right steps in dealing with climate change, which is kind of a transitional measure towards establishing certain funds to operationalize climate action. Many countries are putting a lot of effort into climate action. The country has witnessed floods and droughts over the years, which are effects of climate change. The impacts of climate change and increasing population have led to increased disease outbreaks in areas traditionally not affected across the country.

The session provided a platform for the stakeholders to engage in addressing the burden, impact and interventions to address climate change and health at a County level. It was noted that it is high time for the County Governments to make deliberate efforts to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.



#### 4.4.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Africa least pollutes the environment, yet it is the major sufferer of the climate change effects compared to the island nations in the Caribbean and other developed economies.
- b) It is high time for the country and the world at large to talk about eradication as opposed to mitigation of climate change.
- c) The data from the World Health Organisation show that by 2030 climate change will contribute major adverse effects. Each year 0.25 million deaths are due to malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heatwaves leading to an annual 0.25 direct cost of U.S. dollars 2.4 billion.
- d) The impacts of climate change and increasing population have led to increased disease outbreaks in areas traditionally not affected across the country.
- e) There is increased migration of communities and hence increased vulnerability of women and girls. This has led to increased mental health issues among displaced populations and communities affected by resource-based conflicts.
- f) There is a lack of coordination among the institutions that work independently. There is a need to ensure that institutions are planning together for the different hazards.
- g) USAID has been working with the Counties to promote resilience and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. The activities started in 2011 through 2019 and, given the change in government, the climate change strategy is currently being reviewed.
- h) The budget allocated to the Ministry of Health is equivalent to about equitable share for five (5) Counties. Therefore, there is a need to realign the existing resources and engage with partners and see what can be done with existing resources.
- i) There is poor implementation of well laid out policies and legislations on climate change at the County levels.
- j) There is a misallocation of funds to the executive

to create all different kinds of authorities, yet the functions are devolved in the Constitution. This contravenes the principle of funds following functions.

- k) There is a lack of a climate shock responsive health system. There is a need to create a climate resilient health system capable of responding to the climate shocks.
- l) To prepare and respond to the different impacts of climatic hazards, the Kenya Red Cross has worked closely with the County Governments through structures such as the County steering groups.
- m) Other outbreaks include cholera following the floods in 2018 in Nairobi after it received extreme rainfall. Red Cross worked with the Nairobi City County Government to do joint planning and coordination to respond to the cholera through the County Disease Surveillance Unit and emergency health technical working groups.
- n) The health system has six building blocks, including leadership and governance. The absence of climate shocks responsive health systems, exposes the country to the adverse effects of climate change. It doesn't provide a simple mechanism on how to respond to climate shocks.

#### 4.4.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need for both levels of government to work towards a safe and clean environment in readiness for participation in COP 27 in 2022 in Cairo, Egypt.
- b) There is a need to ensure that there is coherence in the implementation of the climate change actions. The Climate Act and climate policies together with the strides made need to be coherent with the disaster risk management policies and disaster risk financing, and funds set aside to respond to the climate change.
- c) There is a need to have a collaborative approach across all sectors, such as the health sector, agricultural sector and environment sector, in addressing the impact of climate change to



promote resilience against climate change.

- c) There is a need to have a coordinated approach in dealing with matters of climate change, especially between the private sector and the County Governments. There is a need for this systemic approach by adopting innovative ways for digital healthcare financing by leveraging ICT and digital health.
- d) There is a need to have an integrated approach towards disease control and a proper mechanism of waste management to deal with water-borne diseases.
- e) There is a need to develop a more efficient system for dealing with waste and using water to manage waste.
- f) There is a need to reorient public policy and the institutions with duplicated mandates to cut on the cost to save resources to manage the issues of climate change
- g) More health funds should be allocated to County Governments since the National Government only houses around five hospitals at level 6 but the bulk of the healthcare work is at the Counties. For the health system to respond to climate change shocks, there is a need for more financing to the County Governments.
- h) There is a need to ensure the community understands what climate change is all about to have a common understanding and increase their participation in climate change issues.
- i) The country needs to interrogate the climate data well and monitor the upcoming trends to help in

proper planning and mitigation of climate change effects.

- j) Both the National Government and County Governments need to have an integrated approach towards disease control to reduce the communicable diseases outbreaks across the wetland areas. This requires the development of a more efficient system in dealing with waste management.
- k) There is a need for increased collaboration between the National Government and County Governments on health financing. This will ensure adequate resources are set aside for disaster response shocks.
- l) There is a need to ensure that both state and non-state actors coordinate and plan together for the different types of hazards to avoid duplication of efforts. Proper mechanisms and structures need to be put in place.
- m) The National Government needs to fund the health functions heavily since it supports the level-six hospitals across the country. This will allow for adequate resources to enhance disaster preparedness at the County level.



## CONFLICT MANAGEMENT | 4.5: Prevention and Management of Climate Change Instigated Conflicts: Collaborative Responses



### Session Objective:

To interrogate strategies that can be adopted by state and non-state actors to mitigate and manage conflicts arising from climate change.

### Moderator:

Ms. Emmy Auma, County Manager, Safeworld Kenya

### Panellists:

1. H.E. Gov. Ndiritu Muriithi, Governor, Laikipia County
2. Sen. Masitsa Naomi Shiyonga, MP, Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on National Cohesion, Equal Opportunity & Regional Integration
3. Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Devolution, Ministry of Devolution
4. Commissioner Sam Kona, National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC)
5. Mr. Willice Onyango, Executive Director, The Youth Café

### 4.5.1 Introduction

Climate change plays an important role in global peace and stability. The session focused on integrating strategies that can be adopted by both National Government and County Governments as well as other non-state actors in mitigating and managing conflicts arising from climate change impact.

### 4.5.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) There is a direct correlation between climate change and conflicts.
- b) Migration should form part of Kenya's climate action plans.
- c) Climate change may exacerbate existing tensions and conflicts in communities.
- d) Conflict analysis is very key in understanding conflicts and mitigating them.
- e) It is necessary to entrench the rule of law among Kenyans.
- f) Climate change has affected migratory patterns



of wildlife.

- g) There is a need for communities to open up and talk about mental health. Mental health issues are regarded as taboo yet there exists an opportunity for treatment.
- h) Securitizing conflict involving the youth may not be sustainable. There is a need to enhance deep-rooted solutions to problems facing the youth.
- i) Youth could be a source of conflict, especially when deprived of opportunity. It is, therefore, necessary to expand youth's access to opportunities to reduce issues of conflict by the youths.
- j) Movement of people, wildlife and livestock does not follow the boundaries approach. It is, therefore, necessary to use Regional County Economic Blocs in mitigating climate change.

#### 4.5.3 Way Forward/Action Points

There is a need to do the following:

- a) Come up with a legislative framework for conflict management at the County level.
- b) Review various legislations to ensure enacted laws reflect emerging issues like climate change.
- c) Embrace an alternative approach to rangeland management.
- d) Use basic technology to rehabilitate and regenerate the resources and to reverse some of the adverse effects.
- e) Discourage political leaders from exploiting community vulnerabilities for their gain.
- f) Since water is normally the source of conflict, construction of dams could help reduce incidences of conflicts, including cross-border conflicts, especially between Kenya and Ethiopia. These can be called peace dams.
- g) Nurture a culture of peace among the youth and promote the creation of green jobs for the youths.
- h) The National Government should redesign the national security strategies that enable a regional approach to identify and address challenges of climate -instigated conflicts.
- i) The County Governments should progressively

operationalize the County Policing Authority and support the development of security infrastructures, including County Action Plans, and new structures to facilitate joint and collective engagements for conflict resolution in alignment with the redesigned national security strategies.

- j) Promote alternative dispute resolution approaches.
- k) Create a platform for communities to negotiate with one another, digging deeper to understand the real cause of the problem and then obtain a suitable approach (solution) to the conflict.
- l) Create realistic livelihoods to support sustainability in conflict management.
- m) Engage the youth in decision making, participation in governance, and participation in public discussions on policy making and implementation.
- n) County Governments should use their respective Regional Economic Blocs to achieve climate change commitments and enhance climate change action.



DAY 2: THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

## TOURISM | 4.6: Tourism Post-COVID-19: Building a Resilient Tourism Sector



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on financing opportunities and other re-engineering options towards growing the country's tourism potential in the wake of a disaster.

### Moderator:

Dr. Esther Munyiri, Director, Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre, Eastern Africa, Kenyatta University

### Panellists:

1. H.E. Gov. Samuel Ole Tunai, EGH, Governor, Narok County and Chairperson, COG Tourism Committee
2. Sen. Mwinyihaji Mohamed Faki, MP, Senator for Mombasa County and Chairperson, Sessional Committee on Delegated Legislation
3. Mr. Daudi Sumba, Wildlife Economy Consultant, School of Wildlife Conservation, African Leadership University
4. Ms. Edith Alusa, Chief Executive Officer, Ecotourism Kenya

### 4.6.1 Introduction

County Governments play a key role in promoting local tourism. The session therefore focused on discussing actions taken to encourage the growth and resilience of local tourism during the COVID-19 pandemic and plans for the sector.

### 4.6.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) County Governments have been encouraging a participatory approach to rangeland management in pastoralist communities.
- b) County Governments have created wildlife conservancies in Nakuru, Samburu and Laikipia.
- c) The National Government is levying a carbon tax on air transport in the tourism sector.
- d) County Governments have been collaborating with the National Government to allocate resources for recovery. With COVID-19, Maasai Mara was closed, causing loss of jobs and revenue to the County Government of Narok.



- e) Domestic tourism is important in sustaining the tourism sector, especially in times of disasters and pandemics that restrict international mobility.
- f) Senate through the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare works closely with the relevant ministries to address the gap in the National Museums and Heritage Act, 2006.
- g) Green financing options are needed to support the tourism sector.
- h) It is important for citizens to embrace biodiversity by conserving natural resources.
- i) It is important to invest and maintain cultural heritage as tourism attractions.
- j) The County Tourism Bill seeks to define what Counties can do in terms of tourism.
- k) Mama Ngina Waterfront Management is still possessed by the National Government, yet it is supposed to be owned by the County Government of Mombasa.
- l) The wildlife economy is key in supporting the tourism sector. Kenya lost KSh. 8 billion due to the COVID-19 shock.
- m) Tourism is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change; it changes the behaviour of wildlife and the relationship between human beings and wildlife. Some diseases emerge as a result of interactions between wildlife and human beings.
- n) COVID-19 has taught us that change can be swift, and it is therefore important to focus on creating

products that are resilient and adaptive.

- o) Counties need to identify their unique advantages and brand them as tourist attractions. Counties should have their own specific brand identities.

#### 4.6.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need to allocate more resources for investment and rehabilitation of the tourism sector.
- b) Both levels of government to construct modern theatres and gallery.
- c) There is a need for County Governments to have cultural and historical sites as tourism attractions.
- d) There is a need to review legislation on tourism that existed before the new constitution to ensure museums are under County Governments.
- e) There is a need to diversify Kenya's tourism model and tourism strategy to ensure the country has many touristic attraction sites.
- f) Insects are of high value and there are around 100 species of edible insects. Therefore, there is a need to commercialize insects for food in a bid to achieve food and nutrition security.
- g) Innovative financing mechanisms to unlock the full potential of the wildlife economy.
- h) There is a need to promote sustainable and responsible tourism practices.
- i) There is a need to promote an enabling environment in the tourism sector.



## BLUE ECONOMY | 4.7: Building A Sustainable Blue Economy Sector in the Wake of Climate Change and Pandemics



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on pathways for sustainable exploitation of the opportunities in the blue economy sector in Kenya amidst the impact of climate change and the pandemic.

### Moderator:

Mr. Hamisi William, Assistant Representative (Programmes), FAO

### Panellists:

1. Dr. Mathews Owili, Deputy Governor, Kisumu County
2. Gen. (Rtd) Samson Mwathethe, CBS, Chairperson, Blue Economy Implementation Committee
3. Mr. John Omingo, Head of Commercial Shipping, Kenya Maritime Authority
4. Mr. Daniel Mungai, Director General, Kenya Fisheries Services
5. Mr. Joseph Odhiambo, Production Manager, Kamuthanga Fish Farm

### 4.7.1 Introduction

The blue economy was defined as the use of all water bodies, including oceans, inland waters, lakes and rivers for economic growth while preserving the health of the ecosystem and creating jobs. It was noted that the global assets base from the blue economy stands at USD2.4 trillion annually. Additionally, SDG 14 is anchored on the blue economy on conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources. The session focused on deliberating pathways for sustainable exploitation of the opportunities in the blue economy sector in Kenya amidst the impact of climate change and the pandemic.

### 4.7.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) The County Government of Kisumu secured the Portland from the private investors and refurbished the port to fully achieve the benefits of the blue ocean economy.
- b) Strategies developed by Counties with access to the blue economy sector like Kisumu County in handling climate change in relation to the blue economy includes the following:





- i. Development of the local physical plan around the lake to identify the lake's ecosystem to boost the blue economy.
  - ii. Construction of glass boats, as a key innovation for the blue economy.
  - iii. Recycling of wastewater for aquaculture purposes.
  - iv. Development of a shipbuilding yard to create employment along the value chain of shipbuilding.
  - v. Extraction, storage, and pretreatment of water.
  - vi. The Counties also offer sponsorship to students from their Counties to study technical areas of the blue economy in marine schools as a way of boosting their capacity in exploiting the blue economy sector.
- c) The blue economy has fifteen (15) clusters, including fisheries, maritime transport, and ports and related services, among others and the clusters generate 87 skillsets within the blue economy space.
- d) The port as a cluster facilitates international transportation and requires more development and attention.
- e) LAPSSET creates an opportunity for a land bridge for Africa. The LAPSSET project can leverage an electric rail system to enhance transportation from the port, which can cut on the cost of trade.
- f) The Third Medium Term Plan (MTP III) identified specific targets and indicators in the implementation of the blue economy.
- g) Some of the challenges in the blue economy include flooding, illegal fishing and fishing in the breeding grounds.
- h) The government has put in place a Climate Risk Management Framework which outlines how the government intends to harmonize its climate change and disaster risk policies.
- i) The National Oceans and Fisheries Policy, 2008, is under review to include aspects of the devolved system of government.
- j) The potential of the fisheries sector in the Indian Ocean is still underutilized with a supply of 25,000 metric tonnes against a demand of 150,000 metric tonnes with the full potential at 300,000 metric tonnes.
- k) The National Government has set aside about KSh. 1.8 billion and an additional 1 billion to set up a fish processing facility which is expected to create 60,000 jobs within the next five years.
- l) The Kenya Maritime Shipping line is now operational for international maritime transport.
- m) Kenya is an exporter of octopus.
- n) The National Government supports joint partnerships in fishing development as provided for in the Fisheries Development and Management Act.
- a) Steps that have been taken by the government since the Blue Economy Conference held in Nairobi in 2018 include the following:
- i. Development of a marine spatial plan.
  - ii. Proposals have been submitted to the governments of Japan and Korea to facilitate the progression of various aspects of the blue economy in the country.
  - iii. A training programme of fisheries. Out of 1000 fishers expected to be trained, so far 450 fishers have been trained.
  - iv. Transshipment is key in ensuring the growth of the blue economy
  - v. The development of a new framework seeking for fishing in the Indian Ocean
  - vi. The blue economy also contributes to food security and job creation. Kenya has four (4) industries processing and exporting crabs to other countries located at the coast.
- b) The government is dealing with carbon emissions from marine vessels by employing the following strategies:



- i. Regular Inspection of vessels to ensure that the ships that come to Kenya have adhered to the set international standards.
- ii. The Maritime Authority is conducting a study on the impact of ship fuel to limit Sulphur oxide use for vessels.
- iii. Green ships need to be considered for the implementation of the blue economy.
- iv. Provision of the contingency response funds to Kenya Maritime Authority to curb any form of carbon emission in the sector.
- o) The marine school is key in equipping individuals with the technical skills required in the realization of the blue ocean economy.
- p) Synergy among the Regional Blocs is key in ensuring the full potential of the blue economy.

#### 4.7.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) Regulations should be developed to anchor the Fisheries Management and Development Act, 2013.
- b) There is a need to revive the Kenya National Shipping Line to boost blue economy.
- c) There is a need to establish a Blue Economy

Authority for implementation of the blue economy plans and strategies.

- d) There is a need to create livelihoods support for sustainable economic development by creating value for livelihoods through the blue economy.
- e) Both levels of governments need to revisit modalities of implementation of the blue economy by showcasing the extent and the level of implementation by use of the Action Points Framework.
- f) The National Oceans and Fisheries Policy, 2018, needs to be reviewed to conform to the devolved system of governance.
- g) The government should tap into the shipbuilding industry as it is key in steering forward the implementation of the blue economy.
- h) Coordination between the National Government, Counties, development partners, and community-based organizations should be encouraged, as it is critical in implementing blue economy strategies.
- i) There is a need to develop a new framework introducing fishing in the Indian Ocean to address the low supply of fish for local consumption and export.





## TRADE AND MANUFACTURING | 4.8: Recovery and Re-Engineering of Local Trade and Manufacturing in the Wake of Climate Change and Pandemics



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on actions that state and non-state actors can take to recover, cushion and build a sustainable and resilient local investment industry.

### Session Moderator:

Mr. Eric Latiff, Media Practitioner

### Panellists:

1. Dr. Gideon Nzau, Deputy Governor, Kitui County, representing Governor Charity Ngilu, EGH, Governor, Kitui County and Chair, CoG Trade, Investment and Manufacturing Committee
2. Mr. Olivier Lauvaux, Chair, Lower Eastern Region, Kenya Association of Manufacturers.
3. Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)
4. Mr. Joash Dache, Chief Executive Officer Kenya Law Reform Commission (KLRC)

### 4.8.1 Introduction

Value addition is a priority for Counties. In this session, the participants discussed the need for an enabling environment for manufacturing despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 and climate change in the Counties.

The session deliberated on the actions to be taken by both the state and non-state actors to recover, cushion and build a sustainable and resilient local investment industry.

### 4.8.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) The COVID-19 pandemic adversely affected the private sector, where curfews affected operations in the factories. There was also limited international travel, and some specialized machinery could not be obtained and specialized engineers could not travel due to COVID-19.
- b) It was highlighted that Kitui County focused on production, and has over 600 youth engaged in



the apparel industry. The County now has several industries that have come up since then.

- c) It was also noted that 15% of the budget received from Counties is meant to develop the manufacturing sector.
- d) COVID-19 pandemic also presented an opportunity that saw Kenya begin mask production locally.
- e) Climate change has financial implications. There is therefore a need to make model regulations under the Public Finance Management Act to actualize the Climate Change Act in the counties.
- f) The SMEs are not engaged in innovation because it is expensive, and research as well as experimenting, needs time, yet there is no tax holiday for them.
- g) The Jua Kali sector is engaged in the production of the same items over and over. There is a need for engineers to support innovation using technology.
- h) The activities in Kitui County need to be documented and shared with the other Counties.
- i) The Counties have a restricted tax base and thus should prioritise activities that will enable them to raise more revenue.
- j) The requirements for manufacturing in the Counties are very laborious and expensive; approvals should be reviewed to make it easy for new entrants to venture into the field of manufacturing.
- k) There is a need to allocate land for industrial parks in each County.
- l) The potential of each county needs to be explored fully to promote industrialization and support local economic activities.

#### 4.8.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) The East African Community needs to conduct internal analysis, to determine its comparative advantages and how to do away with the middlemen in local manufacturing.
- b) Each County needs to have a Science, Technology and Innovation Policy to enable them build

resilience in climate related disasters.

- c) Counties should consider lowering taxes and giving tax reliefs, due to the challenges posed by COVID-19.
- d) A manufacturing policy is key in building and enhancing inter-county export of locally manufactured materials.
- e) Due to the high rate of taxation, there is a need to give tax incentives to SMEs. The SMEs should also be supported to ensure that they have well-equipped infrastructure like water, electricity and other common manufacturing facilities.
- f) The youth can be trained on local manufacturing activities, such as the manufacturing of bricks using machines like the interlocking compressor and these can be sold locally, enhancing employment opportunities.
- g) There is need to unlock the potential of each County in the manufacturing arena. The Council of Governors should coordinate the implementation of the climate change legislation in the various Counties, based on each Counties' unique priorities and challenges.
- i) Environmental rehabilitation is key even as Counties venture into manufacturing.
- j) Counties should promote manufacturing and value addition of the various products. They should support elimination of middle men and ensure maximum benefits to the private sector.
- k) Accountability is key, even as Counties begin to generate their own wealth through value addition and manufacturing.
- l) Private sector should be the driver of manufacturing.
- m) The cooperative societies need to be strengthened to enhance public participation and take the lead in manufacturing and trade in the Counties.



## GENDER | 4.9: Mapping and amplifying women's voices in climate action



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups and recommend actions that can be adopted to strengthen their resilience

### Session Moderator:

Ms. Winfred Lichuma, Gender Expert and past Chairperson of the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC)

### Panellists:

1. Mr. Solomon Kubo, Deputy Governor, Marsabit County, representing H.E. Gov. Mohamud Mohamed Ali, Governor, Marsabit County.
2. Mr. John Wafula, UNFPA, representing Dr. Ademola Olajide, Country Representative – United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
3. Mr. Peter Odhengo, Senior Policy Advisor, Climate Finance/Green Climate Fund NDA, National Treasury.
4. Ms. Husna Mbarak, Team Lead, Land and Natural Resource Governance/ Gender Focal Point, FAO
5. Ms. Fridah Githuku, Executive Director, GROOTS Kenya,
6. Ms. Wairimu Kanyiri, Woman Farmer, Accelerating rural women to agriculture markets and trade project.

### 4.9.1 Introduction

Climate change is significantly impacting a large number of communities in the country, causing loss of lives and livelihoods and severe flooding. Notably, those who suffer the most tend to be the vulnerable groups that includes women, children, people living with disabilities, and the elderly. Kenya takes climate change seriously as demonstrated by the enactment of the Climate Change Act that requires the National Government to develop Climate Change Action Plan that guides the mainstreaming of adaptation and mitigation actions into sector functions of the National Government and County Governments. With this prospect it is imperative that while developing these policies and legislations to put into consideration the specific needs for the vulnerable groups and how severely they are affected by the impact of climate change. Also, to note is that the policies and legislations developed, while good on paper, are of no benefit to the society if not implemented, hence the need to come up with institutional frameworks that are committed and transparent in the implementation of these policies.



#### 4.9.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Lack of knowledge on climate change and its impact on the environment and a complacent society that condones bad practices that further accelerate climate change.
- b) Lack of funds in the Counties to implement climate change policies.
- c) While women try to be self-sufficient by coming up with income generating activities, they lack markets to sell their products, hence demoralizing their efforts.
- d) There is lack of proper data that clearly defines the needs of men and women who are affected by climate change.
- e) Women lack guidance and support on how to demand and access funds set aside by the National Government and County Governments to ease their economic burden.
- f) There is a need to have a gender specialist for the FLLoCA programme since — agriculture, environment and water are core to women.
- g) FLLoCA is working with CoG and will also work with other grassroots groups such as civil society to support climate action at the local level.
- h) Women are the ones who work more on the farms — there is a need to sensitize families equitably sharing proceeds from farms.
- i) There is a need to mainstream the ideas from this conference into the next cycle of CIDPs - County Assemblies and Executives – expanding.
- j) The journey to self-reliance to sustain the programmes beyond donor funding should equally be canvassed.
- k) The CoG and CAF should ensure gender mainstreaming policies in the Counties.
- l) Women's issues are generalized yet they vary from one part of Kenya to another.
- m) Failure to meet the two-thirds gender rule as aspired by the Constitution needs serious follow-up.

#### 4.9.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) Gender should be mainstreamed in all sectors of the government including Climate Change to ensure that all the needs of women and girls in terms of action and response are well addressed since in most cases they are usually the first responders in cases of disaster.
- b) Climate change management initiatives should be aligned with the County Integrated development fund to allow for quick implementation.
- c) Women must be included in decision making committees at the grassroots level to ensure effective planning of solutions during disaster management since they are the first respondents in case of a disaster.
- d) All Counties must enact and implement the Climate Change Act 2016.
- e) Timely disbursement of funds to the Counties is imperative to allow for prompt climate change responses.
- f) It must be noted that women from different regions have different needs and generalizing these needs and equally allocating funds should cease. Each case should be addressed according to the pressing needs.
- g) Capacity building on climate change matters is important at the grassroots level, to allow for better and informed choices regarding environmental issues to minimize greenhouse gas emissions.
- h) Development partners should be involved in assisting in resource mobilization and funding to aid climate change disasters.
- i) Counties must develop revenue collection initiatives at the County level to avoid overdependence of donor funding during pandemics and or disasters.
- j) Women need to be empowered and capacity built to make choices that uphold their rights and recognize the uniqueness of women needs during



pandemics and flooding.

k) It is important to collect accurate data that is well segregated indicating the number of vulnerable groups affected by climate change and avoid

generalization of data, noting that Counties are affected differently by climate change.







## HEALTH | 4.10: Building Resilience and Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19



### Session Objective:

To reflect on the gains, challenges and lessons learned to inform the country's preparedness to handle future pandemics and emergencies as well as deliberate on innovative ways of dealing with COVID-19.

### Session Moderator:

Ms. Carol Nderi, Director of Communications, Nyeri County & Communication Practitioner and a Journalist

### Session Chairperson:

H.E. Gov. Dr. Alfred Mutua- Governor, Machakos County

### Session Co-Chairperson:

Mr. Francis Maliti, Deputy Governor, Machakos County and CEC Health, Machakos County

### Panellists:

1. Sen. Prof. Samson K. Onger, EGH, MP, Senator for Kisii County and Member of the Senate Standing Committee on Health
2. Hon. Njuguna Mwaura, Chair, County Assembly Health Committee, Nakuru County
3. Dr. Mercy Mwangangi, Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health
4. Dr. Medhin Tsehaiu, County Director, UNAIDS
5. Dr. Alice Lakati, Director, Research, and Dean, Graduate School, AMREF International University
6. Prof Mohamed Karama, Chair, Muslim COVID-19 Response Committee
7. Ms. Susan Kaloki, Community Health Volunteer, Makueni County

### 4.10.1 Introduction

The discussions focused on building resilience and mitigating the impact of COVID-19, and the strides made so far, the good, the bad, what has been done and what has not been done. The session also focused on the impact of COVID-19 on special groups such as young people, women, people living with HIV, and people living with disability.

### 4.10.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) The pandemic has exposed vulnerability in terms of the country's preparedness to deal with emergencies, revealing weak economic resilience as well as health systems.
- b) There are positive benefits that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about including the following:
  - i. Improvement in hygiene as people embraced handwashing as a routine.
  - ii. Reduction of infectious diseases as a result of improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).



- iii. Upgrading and revamping health centres as a mitigation measure towards COVID-19. This included increasing the health workforce, upgrading health infrastructure, increasing the number of beds for ICU (over 500) and 225 HDU beds; ventilators, and oxygen generating plants. Moreover, the majority (30) of counties with certified PCR testing.
  - iv. Isolation bed capacity increased.
  - v. Improved and strengthened synergies between counties and the national government as well as other stakeholders in the fight against COVID-19.
- c) In the beginning, the Ministry of Health was rigid with vaccinations only being administered at the health facility. However, the Ministry realized that the vaccine needs to be taken to the grassroots. The Ministry has partnered with the Interfaith Council for outreach services; AMREF is targeting areas where there is a lot of traffic such as bus stations to ensure Kenyans are vaccinated.
- d) A joint monitoring programme, which came up with a report in July 2021, measured hand hygiene at household level and found improvement from 23 to 26% by 2020 and 86% in 2021.
- e) Every Kenyan will be mandated to have the NHIF card in the NHIF Bill. The government will also provide subsidies for poor households to be able to afford the NHIF cards.
- f) Community health volunteers supported the Ministry of Health to attain the vaccine target through community mobilization. In the same vein, the Interfaith Council has made sure that worship continues while observing the WHO COVID-19 protocols as well as mobilization of the population to get vaccinated.
- g) Three hospitals in Kenya (KNH and 2 faith-based hospitals) are implementing climate action strategies. County Governments should ensure hospitals reduce their emissions.
- h) There is a plan to establish a multi-stakeholder WASH task force which requires the collaboration of CoG as well as nominations from County Governments to be part of the task force.
- i) AMREF has been at the forefront to fill in the gaps such as; capacity building; community mobilization and resource mobilization.
- j) The HIV and GBV cases have really risen, and teen pregnancy has also increased on average by 15% during the pandemic, which is quite high and it exacerbated HIV situation. Mother to child transmission has also been very high.
- k) What was achieved before COVID-19 is now compromised and there are calls to give attention to address HIV.
- l) The investment made towards responding to the pandemic has been an opportunity for the health system, that is, improvement of the health infrastructure and increase in the health workforce, among others.
- m) The Health Act, 2017, is conclusive, particularly Section 7(1) of the Act, which guarantees every person the right to emergency medical treatment with no discrimination. Further, Section 15 of the Health Act, 2017, assigns critical functions to the national government for the realization of the right to emergency medical treatment.
- n) The Senate passed the Pandemic Response and Management Bill 2020 on 17th April 2020, which sought to provide a legal framework for coordinated response and management of activities during a pandemic. Part V of the Bill seeks to establish a Pandemic Response Fund whose objective is to mobilize resources necessary to contain the spread and impact of a pandemic such as COVID-19. County Governments are anticipated to be direct beneficiaries of the Fund.
- o) Consider the passing of the Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2021, which seeks to establish the National Disaster Risk Management Authority and County Disaster Risk Management Committees and to provide a legal framework for the coordination of disaster risk management activities.



### 4.10.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need to put in place a comprehensive disease surveillance alert system.
- b) There is a need to set aside financial resources specifically to combat future pandemics and other emergencies.
- c) There is a need to create mental health and well-being awareness with cases of mental instability having risen as a result of COVID-19 effects such as lack of jobs and lockdowns.
- d) There is a need to have proper structures in place to deal with pandemics.
- e) Innovation and research are needed; what innovative ways can we adopt to deal with COVID-19 challenges, for example, leveraging technology such as the Zoom App that enables people to work from home.
- f) Both levels of government to ensure that 10 million Kenyans get vaccinated by December 2021 and an additional 30 million by December 2022.
- g) Doctors and health practitioners to be encouraged to offer the vaccine at the point of care, particularly the vulnerable groups and those with non-communicable diseases, among others.
- h) There is a need to introduce a cleanliness index in the country that will rank County Governments. essentially to determine the cleanest County in the country.
- i) Both levels of government must build resilience and fight COVID-19 despite the challenges.
- j) There is a need to build strong institutions that can fight the pandemic.
- k) There is a need to build a strong partnership with relevant institutions in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.
- l) In line with Section 15(x) of the Health Act, 2017, the government established the COVID-19 emergency fund. However, there is a need to develop the rules, regulations and policies to implement the fund.



DAY 3: FRIDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

## ENERGY | 4.11: Embracing Renewable Energy as a Driver of Climate Change Action in the Wake of COVID-19 and Other Pandemics



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on opportunities and challenges of renewable and sustainable energy at the county level.

### Session Chair:

Sen. Abshiro Halake, MP, Vice-Chairperson, Standing Committee on Information and Technology

### Moderator:

Ms. Husna Mbarak, Programme Manager, FAO

### Panellists:

1. H.E. Gov Dr. Wilber Ottichilo – Governor, Vihiga County
2. Ms. Anne Agwenyi, FCDO's Climate Change Advisor
3. Mr. Daniel Kiptoo Bargori, Director General, Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA)
4. Mr. Nirav Shah, Nal Africa Minigrid Developers Association (AMDA)
5. Mr. Jechoniah Kitale, Chairperson Clean Cooking Association of Kenya
6. Mr. Geoffrey Omedo, Portfolio Analyst, Environment and Resilience Unit, UNDP, Kenya
7. Eng. Mary Wangai, Chairperson, Engineers Board of Kenya

### 4.11.1 Introduction

County Governments, under the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, have been assigned the function called 'electricity and gas reticulation and energy regulation'. Indeed, County Governments are central players in the energy sector. As the country continues to embrace renewable energy in the wake of climate change, County Governments are critical in the design and implementation of policies and laws that steer all communities towards use of clean energy.

### 4.11.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) There is a need for a paradigm shift in the sources of biomass cooking solutions to renewable energy.
- b) Funds are not accessible in the energy sector because the energy sector policy is not connected with market systems.
- c) Most rural areas use biomass energy, contributing to deforestation.



- d) Most Counties are adopting projects supporting renewable energy like solar-powered lighting.
- e) There are opportunities to improve lighting through solar Paigo (pay-as-you-go) systems that have worked.
- f) The FLLoCA project is an opportunity that will aid the Counties in solving the challenges in the energy sector.
- g) The small solar mini-grids are working in the counties, but there is a need to create awareness.
- h) Some Counties like Wajir and Garissa have established small solar mini-grids.
- i) Counties are optimistic that the FLLoCA project will be a game-changer in the access to renewable energy funds.
- j) Most Counties have not prioritised energy, even though there are several energy projects at the County level.

#### 4.11.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need to increase resource allocation to the energy sector.

- b) Nation Government and County Governments need to prioritize clean cooking technology.
- c) Both levels of government need to create and promote innovations and create awareness in the sector.
- d) There is a need to have regulations and standards in place for the energy sector.
- e) There is a need to build the capacity of the locals, to support mainstreaming solar energy as a major source of energy.
- f) There is a need for a paradigm shift in the sources of biomass cooking solutions to renewable energy.
- g) There is a need for projects on renewable energy to receive support.
- h) There is a need to have proper standards for solar products to ensure the quality of solar products.
- i) There is a need for capacity building on energy issues.



## INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE | 4.12: Enlivening and integrating indigenous knowledge in climate action at the sub-national level in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic



### Session Objective:

To deliberate on sustainable solutions that can be drawn from indigenous knowledge to address climate change in the wake of COVID-19.

### Session Moderator:

Mr. Mwaniki Mageria, Host, Foods of Kenya

### Session Chair:

H.E. Gov. (Capt.) Ali Roba, Governor, Mandera County

### Panellists:

1. Sen. Dr. Alice Milgo, MP, Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Education
2. Mr. Kimaren Riमित, Executive Director, Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners (ILEPA)
3. Dr. Evans Taracha, Coordinator, Natural Products Industry Initiative Program at the National Museums of Kenya (NMK)
4. Dr. Esther Matu, Ag. Deputy Director, Centre for Community-Driven Research (CCDR) Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)
5. Dr. Lydia Matoke, President, Herbalists Society of Kenya

### 4.12.1 Introduction

Indigenous knowledge systems permeate all aspects of human life; health, food systems, and governance systems, including climate adaptations and resilience actions. The Indigenous Knowledge breakaway session was therefore important because it is only through the full involvement of the stakeholders that we will simultaneously be able to satisfy demand for local goods (e.g. food, fuel, clean water, construction materials, medicinal and cosmetic products) alongside demand for global public goods (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives, biodiversity conservation, water and nutrient cycles). It is important for modern technologies to infuse and integrate indigenous knowledge into climate action projects and programmes. Further, not all countries have the capacity to deal with the impacts of climate change using sophisticated technology. In this regard, governments and non-state actors have to remain cognizant of the local/traditional resources, ideas, goals and aspirations



within communities while designing programmes and projects. Some projects have failed because of non-recognition of local knowledge.

There is therefore need for sustainable solutions to draw on indigenous knowledge that fits local culture. There is need to design culturally sensitive programmes and databases to preserve indigenous knowledge. Incorporating indigenous knowledge into climate change policies and law can lead to the development of effective mitigation and adaptation strategies that are cost-effective, participatory and sustainable.

The session focused on the strategies the government and non-government actors should put in place to guarantee the inter-generational transfer of indigenous knowledge.

#### 4.12.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Indigenous knowledge is part of intangible cultural heritage which refers to practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills as well as instruments, objects, artefacts, and cultural spaces associated therewith, that community groups and individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.
- b) Kenya is a signatory to the international conventions relating to indigenous knowledge such as the Convention on Biological Biodiversity (Article 8J), UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
- c) Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions Act, 2016 was amended in 2018 to facilitate documentation, protection and mainstreaming of indigenous knowledge into the knowledge economy for socio-economic development.
- d) The government is committed to supporting capacity building through training in indigenous knowledge documentation, preservation and application. Target beneficiaries include county government officers (culture, environment,

natural resources, agriculture & health), local community leaders, and indigenous knowledge holders. So far, 22 Counties have benefited.

- e) The government is committed to supporting the rolling out of IK documentation and digitization in thirteen (13) pilot Counties where IK digital registers and a national digital repository will be established as provided for in the TK & CE Act, 2016.
- f) Government's commitment to support young-champions-for-culture agenda where young Kenyans (35 years and below) are empowered to be ardent advocates of culture, in general, and indigenous knowledge, in particular, at community, county and national level. By taking a front-line position and working closely with IK-holders/custodians, this will guarantee an inter-generational transfer of indigenous knowledge and technical know-how.
- g) Government's commitment to support programmes such as the natural products industry (NPI) which is premised on allowing indigenous knowledge systems to drive market-oriented innovations.
- h) Scientific validation and development of a natural birth control based on indigenous knowledge of local communities at the Kenyan Coast.
- i) There is an enormous gap in the linkage between the IK holders, academia/researchers and the policymakers.

#### 4.12.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need to include indigenous knowledge in the formal education system so that it is taught in schools as part of the core curriculum. This is feasible under the competency-based curriculum (CBC).
- b) Both levels of government should commit to providing an enabling policy and legal framework on Indigenous Knowledge.
- c) Both levels of government should support commercialization of African indigenous



vegetables.

- d) Scientific evaluation of the utility of natural health products should be encouraged as immune boosters drawing on local and indigenous knowledge systems in the integrated management of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- e) County Governments should institutionalize

traditional knowledge systems and integrate them into development planning, e.g. county resource management committee.

- f) There is need to develop strategies for enriching the indigenous knowledge to sieve out that which is viewed backward.







## YOUTH | 4.13: Elevating Youth Voices and Harnessing Innovations in Climate Change



### Session Objective:

To build momentum of the Kenyan youth in decision making and innovation in climate change

### Session Moderator:

Mr. Kevin Osido, Executive Director, County Governance Watch

### Session Chairperson:

Sen. Isaac Ngugi Githua, Nominated Senator representing Special Interests - Youth

### Panellists:

1. Ms. Elizabeth Kimulu, Director, Social Sector Policy and Strategy Unit, Executive Office of the President
2. Ms. Josephine Etenyi, Director, Youth Development, State Department for Youth Affairs
3. Mr. Joshua Wambua, CECM Devolution, Public Service, County Administration and Youth, Makueni County
4. Ms. Elizabeth Wathuti, Founder, Green Generation Initiative.
5. Mr. Reuben Muhindi, Africa Regional Coordinator, UNEP Finance
6. Mr. Justin Abuga, Chief Executive Officer, Ecobora Company
7. Andrew Nyamu, Makueni County Climate Change Ward Committee

### 4.13.1 Introduction

Climate change is a reality and possesses significant threats to the youth. This is largely due to greenhouse gases emissions that have significantly contributed to climate change. Although Kenya has been experiencing climate-related changes since the 1960s, there have been significant increases in the number of droughts, floods and other related climate calamities that affect all populations, among them the youth.

It is therefore important to take care of Kenya's future generations by taking corrective actions against the effects of climate change. If action is not taken against the effects of climate change, the same is likely to affect the actualization of Vision 2030. Acknowledging that the youth are amongst the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, and noting that they are contributors to climate change adaptation and mitigation, the youth are therefore called upon to relentlessly engage in matters of climate change across the board and continuously hold their leaders to account on the same.

#### 4.13.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Kenya, like other countries in the world, has experienced gradual warming trends since the 1960s to date, which has led to, among others, change in rainfall patterns, intensified drought, and sea levels rising beyond the global average, etc. These changes have subsequently led to the loss of biodiversity affecting tourism negatively, loss of livelihoods due to climate-related disasters, destruction of infrastructure, etc.
- b) Further repercussions of climate change include:
  - i. High levels of poverty
  - ii. Increased gender inequalities
  - iii. Water scarcity
  - iv. Population growth
  - v. Diseases
- c) The country must take care of future generations by taking corrective actions against the effects of climate change. If not, this will likely affect the actualization of Vision 2030.
- d) Climate goals will not be achieved without the young people due to their energy and innovative minds.
- e) Through the national budget, each ministry ought to interrogate how they implement climate mitigation and adaptation programmes. It will, therefore, be multi-sectoral and intergenerational.
- f) Mind-set change is not necessarily a problem of the young people, but the older people. They need to address this to increasingly embrace the youth in climate interventions, including governance.
- g) It is important that as the young people engage in climate actions, they are aware of the following:
  - i. Solvable problems — identify climate-related problems that can be solved and design appropriate solutions.
  - ii. Money goes where there is capacity — the youth need to be empowered to be able to attract resources as appropriate.
  - iii. Money flows through relationships — the government needs to come through and bridge the gap since the majority of the youth still have challenges in building financial relationships.
- iv. The government has been proactive in funding the youth through various affirmative action programmes.
- v. There have been efforts towards engaging the youth in climate actions. However, just like in the recently concluded COP26 in Glasgow, the youth feel like they are still on the side lines and not at the centre of the conversations and decisions. A lot, therefore, needs to be done to engage them meaningfully.
- h) UNEP, through the UNEP Finance Initiative, is working with banks to finance climate change-related innovations, some of which are by the youth.
- i) The National government has supported youth through affirmative action funds such as:
  - i. The Youth Enterprise Fund that has so far disbursed KES 12.9 billion to 10.8 million youth for starting or advancing businesses.
  - ii. The Women Enterprise Fund for women, youth and PWDs. These funds have supported the growth of and profits by the targeted populations.
  - iii. Climate actions, e.g., tree planting and climate-smart agriculture.
  - iv. Uwezo Fund through which young people venture into various climate actions like recycling to produce charcoal from waste, among others.
  - v. Vuka Loan Youth Fund which provides loans to the youth.
  - vi. Bid bond deals with financing LPOs from the youth. So far, KES 64 billion has been released to fund their businesses.
  - vii. The 10 billion tree-planting campaign has been funded by the government and many youths are involved in it.



- viii. The Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project (KYEOP) is funded by the World Bank and supports the development of life skills.
- ix. A business plan competition by the government awarded KES3.6 million to 700 youth to venture into various enterprises.
- x. Kazi mtaani programme has helped to positively engage young people to earn some money. So far 280,000 youth have benefited from the programme.
- xi. Some banks are already having targeted funding for climate projects. For instance, the Kenya Commercial Bank received funds from the Global Climate Fund (GCF) and on-lends to organisations working on climate initiatives.

#### 4.13.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) It is paramount for counties that have not yet operationalized climate funds to do so and involve young people by building their capacities, and supporting their innovations through financing to ensure commercialization, incubation, capacity building, and increased participation.
- b) There is a need for both levels of government to increase the acreage under irrigation to improve crop productivity.
- c) There is a need for both levels of government to put in place flood control mechanisms, including harvesting of surface run-off water.
- d) The National Government and County Governments as well as the private sector and other stakeholders to initiate climate innovation hubs and accelerator programmes for youth to facilitate designing and building of innovations with transformative capacity.
- e) There is a need to promote water efficiency to discourage wastage and access to safe water is improved.
- f) There is a need to promote afforestation and reforestation programmes that involve children and youth in tree planting and nurturing of the same.
- g) There is a need to implement and enact climate-related laws at national and county levels.
- h) There is a need to conserve wildlife areas to preserve natural ecosystems.
- i) Both levels of government to promote recycling.
- j) There should be regulations in place that promote green buildings.
- k) There is a need to promote energy efficiency across board, including in government buildings/institutions.
- l) There is a need to involve youth more in decision making both at national and county government levels.
- m) Both levels of government to come up with an innovation day to enable the youth to showcase their innovations.
- n) Patenting of youth innovations needs to be fast-tracked to secure them.
- o) There is a need to provide opportunities for the youth with different levels of education.
- p) There is a need to promote multi-sectoral approaches in mitigating the effects of climate change.
- q) Technical and financial support for the youth is key if the fight against the effects of climate change is be actualized.
- r) Research-based funding needs to be introduced and done at different stages of climate action innovations.
- s) The mind-set of the youth about sectors like agriculture needs a paradigm shift for them to venture into the sector. This is possible through support from state and non-state actors.
- t) In the FLOCCA project, a dedicated percentage of funds should be set aside to support the commercialisation of youth climate-related innovations.
- u) The National Government should provide subsidies and incentives to youth-driven green innovations



and businesses, including the creation of relevant market linkages such as Youth Innovation days and patenting of their innovations.

v) Locally-led solutions need support to scale up and impact on a large scale. Appropriate education

and capacity building will ensure sustainability and expansion of their green innovations.

w) There is a need to change the traditional funding systems from beneficiaries to partners/ collaborators.





## ASALs | 4.14: Sustainable Development of ASAL Areas in the Wake of Climate Change



### Session Objective:

To identify strategies for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction in the ASALs in Kenya.

### Session Moderator:

Mr. Abdi Wario Bonaya, Head of Programmes, CEO, Kenya Market Trust

### Session Chairperson:

H.E. Gov. Muhamud Ali, Governor, Marsabit County

### Panellists:

1. H.E. Prof. John Lonyangapuo, Governor, West Pokot County
2. Hon. Abdul Bahari Ali, Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Public Service and Special Programmes
3. Dr. Christopher Wanga, Director, Livestock, Research and Regulations, State Department for Livestock
4. Sen. Judith Pareno, MP, Member of the Speaker's Panel
5. Ms. Elba Dakane Hassan, Youth Garissa County

### 4.14.1 Introduction

Over 80% of Kenya is Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). These lands have 70% of Kenya's livestock, with Kenya having the 3rd largest herd of livestock in Africa. Dry seasons and unpredictable rains are among the key ASAL challenges. These challenges have led to the loss of the annual GDP. Food supply has been affected, with food insecurity affecting 3.5 million Kenyans in 2017. This session sought strategies for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction in the ASALs in Kenya.

### 4.14.2 Emerging Issues/Key Discussion Points

- a) Counties have built resilience through a series of County policies and interventions at various levels. County Disaster Risk Management Policy, County disaster risk management legislation and climate adaptation legislation are examples of such established in some counties.



- b) Counties have also introduced technical interventions like capacity building. Before these, there were additional measures already in place, like Vision 2030, the State Department for Devolution ASAL Strategic Plan 2018–2020 and the Water Act.
- c) Poor implementation of the policies in place, lack of funding and support and inadequate technical skills required form major stumbling blocks for county governments.
- d) ASALs cover 80% of Kenya's land. Therefore, prioritization of investments in ASALS is crucial for the nation's development.
- e) Countries in the horn of Africa are implementing the Ending Drought Emergencies programme.
- f) The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) is the lead agency in implementing the Ending Drought Emergencies programme in Kenya. Continuous monitoring of environmental conditions in the ASALs and provision of information to various levels are among the activities being done.
- g) There is the National Drought Emergency Fund and regulations that operationalize it are at the national level. The Ministry has the coordination framework for ASALs and is developing a resilience framework (2022–2030).
- h) The Ministry engages with all the stakeholders, including counties, the private sector and NGOs.
- i) Data being provided from early warning systems triggers early action.
- j) The livestock master plan being developed, looks at Kenya as an entity and focuses on creating database plans on livestock to better inform investments and interventions. Once complete and implemented, it will save the country from duplicated efforts and investments in the livestock sector.
- k) The national government works closely with county governments, since livestock production is a devolved function. Therefore, the national

government relies on county governments in implementing policies and providing an enabling environment for farmers.

- l) Kenya Climate-Smart Agriculture project and the TWENDE project are examples of mitigation programmes by National Government and County Governments, with support from the private development partners.
- m) Routine vaccinations, surveillance and disease management are actions within disease control. Breeding is important in matching livestock to market needs. A livestock export zone in Lamu has been proposed by the government.
- n) Diversification helps to spread risk and cope with the effects of climate change in the agri-business sector.

#### 4.14.3 Way Forward/Action Points

- a) There is a need for presence, collaboration and cooperation by everyone in the activities that promote adaptation and build resilience in ASAL areas.
- b) There is a need to enhance investments in ASALS.
- c) Early action still needs improvement to be more effective.
- d) The National Assembly and the Senate to clear the pending Bills in the ASALS space like the Livestock Bill.
- e) Budget allocations should be timely and implemented to allow staff and counties to deliver, especially in ASALS.
- f) Issues on water sources, water harvesting and storage and education in ASAL areas should be addressed to help in disaster management.
- g) There should be clear policies and laws in harnessing and harvesting running water to build resilience during droughts.
- h) There should be clear policies and laws on education in ASALS to empower the residents.
- i) The youth should be involved in the process of policies and decision making.



## CHAPTER 5 CLOSING CEREMONY

DAY 3: FRIDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### 5.1: AWARD OF EXHIBITORS



Exhibition booth and the winner was Nakuru County



Runner Up was Kakamega County



Second Runner Up was Kitui County

#### 5.1.1 Award of Exhibitors

Council of Governors urged the delegates to continue in the same spirit in supporting the devolution conference even in the upcoming bi-annual conferences. Governor Wambora highlighted those exhibitors included both local levels at the counties and organization who all exhibited their work in the exhibition booths. The criteria used included the following:

- i. Branding of the booths
- ii. Responsiveness of officers manning the booth
- iii. Innovation in the display of information
- iv. Availability of IEC materials

He further indicated that a total of 696 forms were received to ensure delegates participate in the voting exercise and the system was transparent. The Chief Guest gave awards to the top 3 exhibitors. They were as follows:

- i. The second Runner Up was Kitui County
- ii. First Runner Up was Kakamega County
- iii. The best exhibition booth and the winner was Nakuru County

The governor reiterated that several resolutions were passed and hoped that by the next conference, National Government and County Governments, as well as the stakeholders in Climate Change, will have implemented the resolutions.





## 5.2: VOTE OF THANKS



*Vote of thanks by Governor Alex Tolgos, EGH, the Whip, Council of Governors*

In his vote of thanks, Governor Tolgos thanked the President, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, for his participation and contribution in the official opening. He also thanked the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga for gracing the conference. He appreciated the support accorded to the conference by the National Government for the past 8 years. He also appreciated the active participation of the delegates during the three-day conference. He further thanked the conference facilitators and moderators for leading the discussions seamlessly, the panellists for their significant deliberations, and the rapporteurs for capturing the deliberations held in the main plenum and breakaway sessions.

The governor further appreciated the media for keeping Kenyans informed on the goings-on of the conference as well as the Inspector General of Police for 24-hour security during the conference, with no incidence reported. He also appreciated Makueni Boys High School for the grounds and all service providers

for a job well done.

Governor Tolgos also thanked the key partners and sponsors from the National Government, private sector, CSOs and development partners for their financial and in-kind support. He further appreciated the steering and planning committees for spearheading the Devolution Conference and stated that these remained steadfast and committed to planning the conference and hence congratulated the team and recognised the good work they did. He also appreciated the Makueni County governor, Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, for his warm reception.

He reiterated that the Council of Governors will take a lead in spearheading the implementation of the resolutions emanating from the conference and noted that it can only be achieved through the support of stakeholders present. He, therefore, urged all partners to join in implementing resolutions and wished God's blessings to all.



## 5.3: CLOSING REMARKS



Chief Guest Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary of Defence and immediate former Cabinet Secretary of Devolution

### 5.3.1 Chief Guest: Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary of Defence and immediate former Cabinet Secretary of Devolution

The Defence Cabinet Secretary thanked all the stakeholders for participating in the conference and the leadership of Makueni County for hosting it. He mentioned that they had started the planning for the devolution conference last year, but it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked the Chair of the Council of Governors, the CEO and the various teams they worked with for their many hours of hard work to ensure that the conference was a success.

On devolution, he highlighted what the President spoke about tracing the journey and opportunities, achievements and challenges of devolution. He appreciated the chance to officially close the conference and thanked the convenors for choosing climate change and the need for climate action to counter the threat of climate Change.

He mentioned that the conference is timely because of what the country has gone through. The eastern part is stressed because of the drought, yet in the western part, there is lots of food. He also noted the locust invasion and the COVID-19 pandemic as having adversely affected the country. He however noted the resilience of Kenya in dealing with all these as it has never been tested to this end.

He expressed the commitment of the National Government to ensuring that the resolutions are implemented. He urged the other players and both houses of parliament and the county assemblies to do their part. He reiterated that some recommendations needed legislative actions hence the need to fast-track pending legislation such as the Disaster Risk Reduction Bill.

The Cabinet Secretary appreciated the following:

- *President Uhuru Kenyatta.* He mentioned that when history is written, it will be hard to pinpoint the greatest legacy of the President among the many achievements, for example, the SGR, with the many kilometres of rail, the new ports in Lamu and Kisumu, the 100% transition in education and the greatest legacy of them all, devolution, which was borne and nurtured during his time. The president has since earned the title of the father of devolution.
- *Former President Mwai Kibaki and Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.* This is because Kenya was faced with a choice of whether to have devolution or not and the two agreed to devolution in the 2010 Constitution.
- *The founding governors, who were the pioneers.* He noted that as a former Cabinet Secretary of Devolution, he had been to all counties and had seen what the governors had done. They laid the foundation of devolution for the next governors. And they did a great job. He further wished the governors well.
- *The current and previous chairs of the Council of Governors.* He noted that when this journey started with Hon. Isaac Ruto as the first Chair and then Hon. Peter Munya, there was a tough relationship between them and the National Government. Thereafter, Hon. Joshat Nanok laid the foundation for improved inter-governmental relations. He also appreciated Hon. Oparanya and the current Chair Hon Wambora who both



have further improved on the collaboration between both levels of government.

- He saluted the *Counties that had passed the Climate Action plans and those who had set up the Climate Change funds and taken advantage of FLLoCA.*

He mentioned that Kenya led Africa in passing the first climate change law and later the Climate Action Plan, and wished that the next leadership should see how to mainstream climate change matters. He further reiterated that devolution holds the key to a more equitable, inclusive and prosperous Kenya, saying that, if devolution is strengthened, every Kenyan will be a winner. He further stated that there is need to hold the politicians accountable on matters of devolution while considering our choice of the next president as one who believes in devolution to move from county allocations

from the current 370 billion to 570 billion in the next term. There is therefore a need for more resources in the counties.

On COVID-19 pandemic, he hoped that the economies will not be closed due to curfews, even though in Europe, some countries have gone into total lockdown. He challenged the governors to champion the fight against the COVID-19 challenge by expanding vaccination campaigns so that by the end of this year (2021), there will be 10 million more people vaccinated, and in 2022, have 30 million more people vaccinated.

He urged the governors to be champions of peace as the country heads to the next election. He called upon leaders to go into each county and preach peace to ensure that post-election violence does not happen again.



Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Chairperson, Council of Governors

### 5.3.2 Governor Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH, Chairperson, Council of Governors

In his closing remarks, Governor Wambora recognized the urgency with which the sub-national climate financing should be given priority. He also urged national climate change actors and both levels of government to concentrate on mobilizing funds to implement the recommendations. He noted that the conference has had a rich discussion on how the two levels of governments can mainstream climate change. The governor further stated that it is critical to reduce disasters and expressed the need to give priority to climate financing and revenue resourcing.

He called upon the national climate change actors, for example, the Africa Union, European Union, UN and national actors to mobilize funds and draw necessary legal frameworks. The responsibility of County Governments is to focus on the implementation of climate change action.

The governor further noted that multinationals and climate actors did their bit in COP26 and County Governments should follow what was agreed in Glasgow and the devolution conference. He suggested the following practical actions which the County Governments can take:

- i. To enact the Climate Change Act. He congratulated the 33 Counties which had since enacted Climate Change Acts and called upon the remaining counties to follow suit.
- ii. Development of the Climate Change Policy. He noted that so far, 24 Counties had developed climate change policies and called upon the CoG to ensure that the remaining Counties develop their respective policies.
- iii. Since 23 Counties have implemented their climate action plans, the rest should follow suit.



- iv. 39 Counties have established County climate change funds and contribute a percentage of their development budget to the funds. He called upon the remaining 8 Counties to set aside Climate Change kitties to enable the implementation of Climate Change Acts.
- v. Devolution climate information systems need to be developed. So far, five (5) Counties have developed Climate Information Systems and the remaining Counties should follow suit.

In conclusion, he gave special thanks to the delegates for their endurance and sense of duty. He also appreciated the partners who supported the conference, the steering and planning committee, as well as the Council of Governors' staff led by the CEO for continuously being dedicated tirelessly to the successful execution of this function. He also thanked the host governor for the warm welcome and the chief guest for accepting to grace the occasion.



*Governor (Prof.) Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor*

### 5.3.3 Governor (Prof.) Kivutha Kibwana, EGH, Host Governor

In his closing remarks, Governor Kibwana appreciated the delegates who graced the annual and final devolution conference. He expressed his gratitude to the Deputy Governor and all the staff and people of Makueni for ably hosting the devolution conference in Makueni County. He also acknowledged the first lady, Makueni County, for the support and was glad that the conference took place despite a range of challenges, and no incidences had been reported.

He further noted that county governments can drive the climate change agenda as the quality of discussions was high and engaging. The focus was on how climate change action can be cascaded to the grassroots/local communities.

The governor encouraged the delegates to commit to realizing the resolutions arrived at in the joint communiqué of the 2021 Devolution Conference and urged the CoG to develop a report from the presentations made at the conference. He also expressed his excitement about the FLLoCA programme. Governor Kibwana also acknowledged that there were no incidences reported and thanked all the people of Makueni for the good work and support.

The governor stated that the conference was a success and the discussions were top-notch. Having attended several discussions, and as a former minister of environment and teacher of law, he was confident that Kenyans can use their knowledge and capacity to drive the climate change agenda.

He noted that the discussions focused on how climate change action can be cascaded to the grassroots and reiterated the sentiments of the Minister for Environment that we should focus on real action and less talk. He further highlighted that there is a need for youth-specific resolutions aimed at involving the youth in afforestation as an economic exercise countrywide.

The governor proposed that the CoG publishes a comprehensive book on this conference. All the papers as being the first sub-national endeavour to look at Climate Change and produce a report that can be a reference point for future work.

He was pleased about FLLoCA through which funds would go to the grassroots and divulged that the Counties were ready and prepared for that.



*Senator Dr. Alice Milko, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Education in the Senate on behalf of the Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, EGH, MP*

#### 5.3.4 Senator Dr. Alice Milko, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Education in the Senate on behalf of the Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, EGH, MP

Senator Milko expressed her pleasure at joining all at the end of the event which brought together all stakeholders in the devolution sector and noted that the deliberations had been useful and a learning experience for all.

Noting that climate change was the main focus of the conference, she pointed out the following issues:

- a) Climate change is here with us and though Kenya contributes 3% of global emissions it is ranked as one of the most vulnerable countries experiencing the effects.
- b) Political will is required for the climate change policies to be implemented.
- c) To mitigate the effects of climate change, better coordination, strategies and harmonious implementation mechanisms among stakeholders in agriculture, security, environment, health and finance is required.
- d) Parliament should fast-track the Disaster Risk Reduction Bill to provide a framework for

climate change and allocation of revenues to the government.

- e) Kenya should champion renewable energy sources.
- f) There is a need for funds to enable counties to respond to emergencies relating to climate change and to integrate health interventions.
- g) County assemblies should exercise better monitoring of funds set aside for climate action. We need partners with better responses for Climate Change and disaster management.

She also noted that devolution has had a positive impact on the lives of Kenyans since 2013 and recommended the following actions:

- Government actors should respect institutions and cooperate.
- Each level of government should adhere to its mandate.
- The Judiciary has a role to play in the interpretation of the Constitution when disputes arise.

She further emphasized that the Senate remains at their disposal for any actions and legislative measures on what was agreed on and reiterated that the devolution conference remains key. She also committed to continuing to support the devolution conference.





*Ms. Judy Oduma Wangalwa, Chief Executive Officer, County Assemblies Forum (CAF)*

### 5.3.5 Ms. Judy Oduma Wangalwa, Chief executive Officer, County Assemblies Forum (CAF)

On behalf of the Chair of the County Assemblies Forum, Mr. Ndegwa Wahome, Ms. Judy Oduma mentioned that the County Assemblies Forum has been fully involved in the planning of the devolution conference since 2019 when the planning began at the steering committee levels to ensure its success. The 2021 theme of the conference was timely, given the grim realities of climate change locally and globally.

She further reiterated that the Counties were the champions of ensuring full implementation of climate actions and interventions. The County Assemblies Forum plays a critical role in approving budgets, passing legislations, approving and strengthening the committees, and expressed the commitment of the County Assemblies to follow up on the full implementation of the resolutions of the devolution conference. She also thanked the Minister in charge of devolution as well as partners for their support.



# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1: THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

To access the Program follow the link below:

<https://maarifa.cog.go.ke/resource/the-seventh-and-final-annual-devolution-conference-2021-program>

## APPENDIX 2: PHOTO GALLERY









## APPENDIX 3: SIGNED COMMUNIQUE

# *and Final* The Seventh Annual DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE | 2021



### COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE SEVENTH AND FINAL ANNUAL DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021 AT MAKUENI BOYS, MAKUENI COUNTY

The Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference was convened jointly by the Council of Governors, the Senate, the Ministry of Devolution, and the County Assemblies Forum and held between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Makueni Boys High School, Makueni County.

The Conference made the following resolutions in line with the conference theme, “*Multi-level Governance for Climate Action, Sub-National Mobilization in Unlocking the Full Potential of Climate Action During and After the Pandemic,*” to guide the National Governments and County Governments in combating climate change:

#### THAT

1. The National Government and County Governments (hereinafter referred to as ‘*both levels of government*’) strongly affirm the need to conserve our environment and natural resources for the current and future generations.
2. Both levels of government shall enhance the spirit of cooperation, coordination, consultation, and collaboration, design and implement practical policies, strategies, laws, regulations, and actions to address climate change.

**ACTION: National Government, County Governments, Parliament, Development Partners, County Assemblies Forum.**



3. In the next budgeting cycle, both levels of government shall increase resource allocation towards mitigation and adaptation strategies to enhance County Governments' preparedness and response towards impacts of climate change and pandemics.

Both levels of government shall build on the robust public finance management legal framework to ring-fence public funds for climate action, ensure more equitable distribution of resources for climate action, and timely availability of the funds to County Governments and other institutions involved in climate change action.

***ACTION: County Governments, National Treasury, Parliament, Commission for Revenue Allocation, Office of the Controller of Budget, Development Partners***

4. All County Governments shall, in the next one year, enact Climate Change related Acts/Policies/Regulations to provide legal frameworks for rolling out climate change-related programs and participate in public-private partnerships for climate change-related projects.

***ACTION: County Governments***

5. The National Government shall, in the next six (6) months, redesign the national security strategies to enable national and subnational coordination in handling climate-change instigated conflicts.

***ACTION: Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, County Governments, Parliament, National Police Service***

6. County Governments shall, in consultation with the National Government, progressively operationalize the County Policing Authorities and strengthen community policing to facilitate community-led conflict resolution.

***ACTION: Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, County Governments, Parliament***





7. Both levels of government shall strengthen agricultural extension services, including expanding public extension funding, encouraging adoption of farmer and private sector-led extension services, and ensuring access to climate and market information for informed farmer decision-making and adoption of localized climate-smart technologies, paying attention to the vulnerabilities of women, persons with disabilities and marginalized communities.

County Governments shall design and implement public-private partnerships in a manner that can create conducive ecosystems for digital opportunities to enhance farmer access to information, market opportunities and innovate for solutions of future anticipated challenges in the agriculture sector that are gender-responsive and inclusive.

***ACTION: County Governments, National Treasury, Ministry of Agriculture, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, Development Partners***

8. County Regional Economic Blocs (CREBs) shall mainstream climate action in their socio-economic development blueprints.

***ACTION: CREBs, County Governments***

9. Both levels of government shall take measures to reduce the cost of agricultural input, promote efficient land use tenure, and strengthen food security monitoring and reporting systems to respond to the barriers and gaps that prevent women from effectively participating in sustainable agriculture.

***ACTION: County Governments, National Treasury, Ministry of Agriculture, Development Partners.***

10. County Governments shall work with development partners, the private sector, and civil society organizations to strengthen and create multi-hazard early warning systems and enhance joint participatory planning on disaster management.

***ACTION: County Governments, Development Partners, Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations***



11. Both levels of government shall promote and increase transparency and accountability at all levels and ensure that there is fair participation of all stakeholders, including the marginalized groups, persons with disabilities, women, youth, and minorities - in the development, implementation, and evaluation of climate-change-related programs and projects so that their needs, experiences, and aspirations are captured.

***ACTION: County Governments, Parliament, County Assemblies Forum***

12. There is need to encourage and nurture honest dialogue on climate change in the political discourse in the country.

The Conference urges political parties to include adaptation and mitigation issues and climate change in their party and election manifestos.

***ACTION: Political Parties, Elected leaders***

13. County Governments are encouraged to partner with the Maarifa Centre for information sharing, capacity building, documentation, and peer learning on transformative and innovative County models addressing climate change that have worked to accelerate their adoption by other Counties.

***ACTION: Council of Governors, County Governments, Ministry of Devolution***

14. In the next one (1) year, County Governments shall fast-track the passage of the County Tourism laws that enable County Governments to take charge of museums, historical and cultural tourist attraction sites.

***ACTION: County Governments, County Assemblies Forum, Parliament, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife***





15. County Governments shall diversify tourist attractions, promote and encourage domestic tourism, build unique tourism brand identities that incentivize County tourism, and integrate local communities into tourism and wildlife conservation efforts.

***ACTION: County Governments, County Assemblies Forum, County Regional Economic Blocs.***

16. While adopting green technologies, both levels of government shall work together to build Kenya's manufacturing agenda to eliminate unemployment and place the country as the region's manufacturing hub.

***ACTION: County Governments, Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development, Development Partners, Private sector***

17. Both levels of government shall work with the private sector to ease the cost of doing business to stimulate economic growth.

***ACTION: National Government, County Governments, Development Partners, Private sector***

18. Both levels of government shall ensure that 10 million Kenyans are vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus by December 2021 and an additional 30 million by December 2022.

***ACTION: National and County Governments, Community Leaders, The Inter-Religious Council of Kenya***

19. Both levels of government shall invest in innovation and research in preparedness, response, and recovery to climate change and future pandemics.

***ACTION: National Government, County Governments, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations***



20. The National Government, in collaboration with County Governments and other stakeholders, shall review the National Oceans and Fisheries Policy of 2008 to align it to the Constitution and devolved system of governance.

***ACTION: National Government, County Governments, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Blue Economy***

21. Both levels of Government shall establish structures, systems, and processes for inclusive urban resilience in the cities, municipalities, and towns through strengthening urban entities to better respond to climate change and other disasters.

***Action: National Government, County Governments, Development Partners, Private Sector***

22. In the next budget cycle, both levels of government shall increase investments in health disaster management through stepping up preventive health, planning, and risk reduction in an innovative and integrated approach.

***Action: National Government, County Governments, The National Treasury, Development Partners, Private Sector***

23. Both levels of government shall integrate and mainstream gender-responsive and inclusive climate action policies, legislation, strategies, and initiatives.

***ACTION: County Governments, County Assemblies Forum, National Gender and Equality Commission***

24. Both levels of government shall develop and review regulations and standards to provide an enabling environment for investment in renewable energy, including clean cooking and E- Mobility for sustainable and affordable utilization of energy.

***ACTION: National Government, County Governments, Parliament***





25. The Senate shall set up a Climate Action Committee in charge of climate change affairs.

***ACTION: Senate***

26. County Governments, in consultation with the National Government, shall develop a framework for shared water resources management to ensure coordinated water infrastructure development for universal water access and affordability.

***ACTION: County Governments, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Community Leaders, County Regional Economic Blocs***

27. In the next one (1) year, both levels of government shall collaborate to ensure seamless transfer of the devolved forestry functions to the Counties as provided under the Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016.

***ACTION: Council of Governors, County Governments, National Government***

28. The National Government shall implement Part 10 – Traditional and Alternative Medicine – of the Health Act 2017 by formulating action plans and establishing a regulatory body to guide the practice of traditional and alternative medicine at the County level.

***ACTION: Ministry of Health, County Governments, Parliament***

29. Both levels of government shall work collaboratively in identifying, protecting, and storing existing Indigenous Knowledge in the National Digital Repository to ensure inter-generational transfer of this knowledge.

***ACTION: National Government, County Governments***

30. Both levels of government shall support increased investment in the ASAL areas to unlock the economic potential by providing an enabling environment for targeted investment by the public and private sectors in the ASAL areas.





The National Government shall fast-track the Livestock Masterplan (LMP) development, which will provide accurate data and information on livestock resources, the available investment options, and climate change adaptation measures for the calamities frequently experienced in the sector.

**ACTION: County Governments, National Government, Development Partners, and the Private Sector.**

31. Both levels of government, the private sector, and other stakeholders shall initiate climate innovation hubs and accelerator programs for youth and provide subsidies and incentives to youth-driven green innovations and businesses to facilitate the designing and building of innovations around climate action.

**ACTION: County Governments, National Government, Private Sector, Development Partners**

32. Both levels of government shall promote communication and awareness creation among Kenyan communities to embrace the need to conserve environment and natural resources for the current and future generations.

**ACTION: County Governments, National Government, Civil Society Organizations, Media**

33. All sector resolutions shall form part of this Communique. Implementation of the sector resolutions shall be monitored periodically by devolution stakeholders.





**SIGNED BY:**

**H. E James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and the Vice-Chair of the Council of Governors

**Hon. Charles Keter, EGH**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution

.....

**Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Chair of the Senate Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations

**Hon. Kipkurui Chepkwony**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Secretary-General, County Assemblies Forum



**SIGNED BY:**

**H. E. James Ongwae, EGH, CBS, EBS**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and the Vice-Chair of the Council of Governors

.....

For

**Hon. Charles Keter, EGH**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution

.....

**Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Chair of the Senate Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations

.....

**Hon. Kipkurui Chepkwony**

Co-Chair of the Seventh and Final Annual Devolution Conference and Secretary-General, County Assemblies Forum

.....





# APPENDIX 4: LIST OF PARTNERS



COG/MOD/SENATE/NATIONAL TREASURY



“

*Climate change is the greatest threat to our existence in our short history on this planet. Nobody's going to buy their way out of its effects.*

*- Mark Ruffalo*

”









## **COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**

Delta Corner, 2nd Floor, Opp. PWC Chiromo Road  
Off Waiyaki Way, Westlands, Nairobi County

P. O. Box 40401 - 00100 Kenya

Phone: +254 (020) 240 3313/4 | Mobile: +254 718 242 203

<http://www.cog.co.ke>

ISBN 978-9914-9872-7-0



9 789914 987270

