

ADAPTATION FUND NGO NETWORK BASELINE MAPPING SERIES

Insights from Kenya

by Sam Owilly



Brief Summary

The Kenya Project is aimed towards building climate change resilience and strengthening the adaptive capacity of communities vulnerable to climate change in approximately 20 counties throughout Kenya, with the main focus areas being water management and agriculture/food security. Although it has not yet been funded, the project has an estimated cost USD 9,832,021. Implementation was expected to begin in 2014. However, due to a delayed approval process and lack of access to funds, the project has not yet begun. Once funding is received, the project will be implemented through the National Environmental Monument Agency of Kenya (NEMA) with the assistance of three executing agencies.

The overall political scene in Kenya has at least recognized that climate change is occurring and developed strategies and plans that attempt to address climate change. Many public forums, seminars and online discussions, regarding not only the AF project but climate change adaptation in general, have been held within the country to promote climate change education for all parties including community members, stakeholders, NGOs and governmental officials. The use of mass media, including radio broadcasts, has also been particularly effective at raising climate change awareness in Kenya. Unfortunately, measuring community feedback specific to the project cannot be done since the project has not yet been implemented. At this time, receiving funding for the project is the most immediate challenge and must be received to move forward with the AF project.

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1. The Adaptation Fund and the Adaptation Fund NGO Network

The Adaptation Fund (AF) was established by the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries that are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The AF is innovative in the way it is funded, managed and governed: Developing countries have a majority in the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB), the governing body who manages and supervises the AF. Moreover, the AF is financed with 2% of the Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) issued for projects of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Lastly, the AF offers the opportunity to access to its resources through direct access, which is a unique approach in the realm of international climate finance.

The Adaptation Fund NGO Network is a coalition of NGOs and interested stakeholders following the development of the Adaptation Fund and its funded projects. It strives to provide a sustainable and dynamic influence on politics and promote the engagement of civil society. It believes in the great chance to contribute to a successful implementation of projects funded by the Adaptation Fund (AF) in developing countries, especially for the benefit of people and communities particularly vulnerable to climate change. The Network directly supports NGOs in a number of developing countries, with a focus on AF direct access countries, by increasing their capacity to escort all relevant issues around the implementation of the project throughout the implementation period.

The Adaptation Fund NGO Network was established in 2010. The first phase lasted from 2010 to 2013, and the second phase is currently running until 2016. The Network is a supporting facility forum for NGOs in developing countries. Through this channel, developing countries can follow the development of the AF and specifically observe direct access and the implementation of the projects through National Implementing Entities. This approach aims to enable multi-stakeholder participation in the AF procedures. Through this open exchange and participation, the Network assists its NGO partners to contribute to a successful outcome of the funded projects in their own countries. Their participation during all stages of the project – from its design to its implementation – is in the interest of improving the conditions of those less privileged and most vulnerable to climate change.

Currently, the Adaptation Fund NGO Network is comprised of ten active partners in their respective countries: Fundación Vida in Honduras, Panos in Jamaica, ENDA in Senegal, Indigo in South Africa, Forum CC in Tanzania, Practical Action in Kenya, The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan, Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement in Benin, Association pour la Conservation de la Nature in Rwanda and NGO Forum in Cambodia. In addition to these active members, the number of Adaptation Fund NGO Network members is constantly growing. To date, there are more than 115 member organizations that associate themselves with the Adaptation Fund NGO Network.

This Baseline Mapping has been produced by Practical Action, our Adaptation Fund NGO Network partner in Kenya. It aims to inform the climate adaptation and climate finance community about the Adaptation Fund project in Kenya as well as to provide insight into the overall climate change policy landscape and civil society's perception on climate change issues in the country.

2. Overview of the Adaptation Fund Project in Kenya

The Kenya project is an integrated project aimed towards building climate change resilience and strengthening the adaptive capacity of communities vulnerable to climate change. Although the project has not yet been funded, Kenya has been working in collaboration with the Fund network since 2012. The project, which has an estimated cost US\$ 9,832,021, was expected to be underway by 2014; however, since the Fund has not yet finalized the approval process, the project is delayed.

The main focus areas of the project include water management and agriculture/food security. The project will be completed in approximately 20 counties located within Kenya, including those in the Eastern, Western, Central, North Eastern, and Coastal Regions. All beneficiaries are smallholder communities in arid, semiarid, and wetland ecosystems, all of which are suffering from the adverse impacts of climate change. Once the project's funding is received, it will be implemented through the National Environmental Management Agency of Kenya (NEMA), with the assistance of three executing agencies including the Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI), the Tana and Athi River Development Authority (TARDA), and the Coast Development Authority of Kenya (CDA).

NEMA utilized a cascading approach that started with preliminary project conceptualization and project analysis. This was followed by verification and understanding of community needs as well as stakeholder workshops at the national and grassroots levels. Additional information analysis was conducted, and an initial proposal was developed that was later submitted to the Fund.

After its accreditation as the NIE, NEMA made a public call for proposals in the newspapers distributed throughout Kenya. NEMA went further and invited relevant climate change adaptation stakeholders to a capacity building meeting to familiarize them with the guidelines of developing proposals for submission to the Fund. Various institutions and community-based organizations (CBOs)/Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) participated in this forum, and a total of 102 proposals were submitted to NEMA for consideration. A suitable screening criterion was developed by NEMA that led to the selection of the most suitable adaptation initiatives for Kenya.

The Kenya project targets rural communities, many of which are home to natives whose ancestors have lived on that land since at least pre-colonial times. Each of these communities is unique and represents culture specific languages and traditions. The Kenya project therefore established the following measures to safeguard the indigenous communities:

- During the development of proposals, indigenous communities participated through a community-level consultative process where they identified their needs, discussed current and potential problems, and planned for the adaptation measures.
- The project adopted indigenous community proposed interventions towards enhanced resilience.
- The project design has also built in mechanisms to ensure that such communities will participate in the planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of all project activities.

3. Current Status of the Project

As mentioned above, there have been long delays regarding the approval of the Kenya project. 102 proposals were originally submitted to NEMA from various interested groups. NEMA narrowed the number of proposals to twelve. However, the Fund wanted only one complete and consolidated proposal. Therefore, NEMA spent additional time synthesizing the remaining twelve into one. Following the submission of the one finalized proposal, the Fund had several recommendations and questions regarding the NEMA budget as well as several other issues. These issues were eventually resolved, and a final proposal was submitted in January 2014.

There were also some problems surrounding negative publicity that NEMA received from local press in Kenya. The Fund requested clarification on this matter and wanted to ensure that both accountability and transparency were present. As a result, the Designated Authority in Kenya (PS Environment) has taken time to engage the Fund and publicly clarify questions and concerns about the project, NEMA, and other involved governmental organizations.



Picture 1: A consultative meeting which brought together representatives from Civil Society Organizations that are actively involved in climate change adaptation work

4. The Role of Civil Society

Although there are several CSOs working in conjunction with the Kenya project (see last page of Kenya report), Practical Action has one of the most prominent roles. As an organization, Practical Action is uniquely placed to influence policies both at the nation and local levels. Practical Action has the experience networking with high-level policy makers such as those in the Senate and Parliament as well as officials at the local level such as County Governors and County Assemblies. They also actively network with other civil society actors within Kenya and internationally. These relationships are vital to having Kenya's climate adaptation projects heard, understood, and addressed.

Practical Action is also an active participant in NGO coordination meetings in different countries, and they contribute to technical working groups as well as civil society forums. Examples include technical working groups focusing on water, livestock, food security, natural resources, and animal health. Practical Action also sits in on the ASAL Alliance of Civil Society Actors as well as in various disaster risk management forums. Specifically, for the Funds purposes, Practical Action is a member of Kenya's Climate Change Working Group.

Lastly, Practical Action enjoys cordial relations with NEMA, the proposed executing agencies, and the Designated Authority. Occasionally, joint meetings are held to discuss project-related matters or national level issues surround climate change adaptation. Regular online exchanges and the sharing of ideas also occur. NEMA, the executing agencies, and the Designated Authority are all open to free exchange of information. Practical Action has not encountered a situation where access to information was denied.

Unfortunately, evaluating the specific role of civil society and actual project implementation is difficult to do at this time since the project has not yet begun. The opinions of targeted communities regarding the project can also not be assessed at this point. What is missing is the opportunity to have a real project on the ground and fully operationalize these relationships.

5. Broader Climate Change Adaptation Landscape in Kenya

Kenya has various policies that directly or indirectly address climate change including but not limited to:

- National Climate Change Response Strategy
- Final Version of the Draft Climate Change Bill
- Draft National Adaptation Plan
- National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP)
- Vision 2030
- Integrated Water Resources Management Policy (IWRM) 2012
- Water Act of 2002
- Kenya Country Programme for Ending Drought Emergencies (CP-EDE)
- Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)
- Feed the Future (FTF)

These listed policies and strategies provide a coherent strategy to address climate adaptation issues in Kenya. Now these efforts must now be transformed from words into action. Funds and resources must be secured through a concerted effort, likely via a joint working group (ex. The Joint Assistance Programme/Strategy for Kenya). These groups should then be able to obtain monetary resources from the Exchequer, the Kenyan governmental body responsible for annual budgetary allocations.

The Ministry of Environment is Kenya's official entity responsible for climate change issues within the county. However, it does not work entirely independently. In practice, and in the spirit of integrating climate change adaptation into developmental activities in Kenya, the Ministry works collaboratively with the following Ministries, departments, and governmental agencies: Finance and Development Planning, Devolution, Gender, Water and Irrigation, Agriculture, Fisheries, Land, Tourism, Education, NEMA, National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Water Resources Management Authority (WRMA), Water Services Boards (WSBs), Water User Associations (WUAs), County Governments, the National Assembly via various House Committees, the Senate via various Senate Committees, and Donor Institutions.

Forums occur regularly to enhance dialogue, engagement, and synergy among different actors involved. These efforts include roundtable discussions, workshops, seminars, and other exchange platforms. There are also online discussion forums that the different players participate in, usually crafted alongside the technical working groups that pursue specific thematic areas in relation

to climate change. Exposition forums also play a role in bringing donors and other actors together, as do donor visits to the field locations so that they can actually see the work on the ground.

With improved funding, Practical Action would be capable of organizing forums similar to those mentioned above, including facilitating immersion visits to field sites. Regular stakeholder round-table discussions also require many resources and time, especially if held in cities, and would therefore also require greater funding.

Overall, the level climate change awareness in Kenya is relatively high because of the Government's concerted efforts to tackle climate change-induced droughts every few years. Kenya's resource base, which is dwindling due to climate change, is also an automatic wake up call to most Kenyans. Mass media has also effectively been utilized to raise awareness, and stations occasionally air content on climate change. Introducing more deliberate radio messaging to target specific groups, establishing a radio call-in program, promoting social media, and creating a user-friendly information leaflet could all be used as pathways to further discuss climate change in Kenya.



Picture 2: Some of the participants engaging in a discussion during the group work session

Current Adaptation Projects/ Programmes in Kenya

Name of the project/ programme	Objective	Implementing Entity	Donor
National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Programme II (NALEP – SIDA II)	To promote agricultural and livestock production that will foster socio-economic development through poverty alleviation, improved food security, increased household incomes, and improved environmental conditions	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (MoALF)	SIDA/GOK
Njaa Marufuku Kenya (NMK)	To reduce poverty, hunger, and food insecurity among poor and vulnerable communities	MoALF	GOK
National Accelerated Agriculture Input Access Programme (NAAIAP)	To increase agricultural productivity and outputs at the farm level for 2.5 million smallholder farmers (1 hectare or less of land) in 70 districts	MoALF and collaborators	WB/FAO/EU /ADB/GOK
Enhanced Food Security through Water Harvesting (EFStWH) Water Harvesting for Crop Production	To enhance food security by harvesting rain water/ developing water storage infrastructure for agricultural production in ASAL and medium-potential areas	MoALF	GOK
Private Sector Development in Kenya (PSDA)	To enable small and medium agricultural production/ processing entrepreneurs in medium and high potential areas to fully utilize their production, marketing, and employment potential	MoALF	GIZ/GOK
Smallholder Horticulture Development Project (SHDP)	To support and improve the livelihood of smallholder horticultural farmers within the project's districts	MoALF, Ministry of Environment, Water, and Natural Resources	ADB/GOK
Smallholder Horticulture Marketing Project (SHoMAP)	To support and improve the livelihood of smallholder horticultural famers within the project's districts	MoALF and collaborators	Smallholder Horticulture Marketing Project (SHoMAP)
Kenya Agricultural Production and Sustainable Land Management (KAPSLM)	To assist agriculture producers in targeted operational areas adopt environmentally-sound land management practices without sacrificing their economic welfare	MoALF	WB/GOK
Green Zones Development Support Project (GZDSP)	To reduce poverty and increase forest cover for water and biodiversity conservation	MoALF	ADB/GOK
FAO/SIDA	To strengthen capacity for climate change adaptation through sustainable land and water management (Multi-partner collaborative project)	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI)	FAO/SIDA

<p>Agricultural Productivity Program/ ASAL Agricultural Productivity Research Project</p>	<p>To support crop and livestock value chains (Multi-partner collaborative project)</p>	<p>KARI</p>	<p>EU/GOK</p>
<p>General Capacity Building</p>	<p>To provide training at the postgraduate/PhD levels on topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Climate modeling and downscaling of climatic data in Tana Delta b) Climate policies and support to vulnerability in Ijara c) Costs and benefits of adaptation options in Ijara and Trans Mara d) Trade-off analysis of adaptation and gaseous sequestration in Trans Mara; GIS applications in climate change in central Kenya e) Modeling gaseous emissions for climate change mitigation in the coastal region f) Economics of climate change 	<p>KARI</p>	<p>Various donors</p>
<p>Climate Analogue Sites and Eastern and Southern Africa Programme (CALESA)/ GIZ-ICRISAT</p>	<p>Adapting Agriculture To Climate Change: Developing Promising Strategies Using Analogue Locations In Eastern And Southern Africa (Multi-Partner Collaborative Project)</p>	<p>KARI</p>	<p>GIZ-ICRISAT</p>
<p>Rockefeller Foundation (KARI)</p>	<p>Participatory Assessment of Farmers Adaptive Capacity to Negative Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources</p>	<p>KARI</p>	<p>Rockefeller Foundation</p>
<p>Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Program</p>	<p>Assessment and documentation of current agricultural production practices in selected areas of Taita Taveta and Kitui districts and their perceived vulnerability to impacts of climate change and variability</p>	<p>KARI</p>	<p>World Bank</p>



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