



**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY
Climate Change Directorate**

National Climate Change Action Plan (2018-2022)

Consultation with County Government Climate Change Representatives

09:00 – 13:00, 11th May 2018; Hilton Hotel, Nairobi

MEETING REPORT

The objectives of the consultation:

- To advise County Government representatives on the updating of the NCCAP for 2018-2022
- To discuss draft priority adaptation and mitigation actions

Welcome remarks and introduction

Dr Pacifica A. Ogola, Director of Climate Change Programme Coordination, Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MEF) welcomed representatives from 23 Counties. The process to develop the NCCAP includes consultations with Counties. MEF has met with Governors, held consultations with six County Economic Bloc and plans to meet with County Assembly. She noted that we are on the journey together to create and implement the NCCAP. As we develop county-specific actions – we need to prioritize actions that will have a positive impact on the ground, and these climate change project need to be mainstreamed in CIDPs. Dr. Pacifica noted that her door is always open; and encouraged participation in National Tree Planting Day on 12th May.

Discussion and Comments

- County officials requested MEF assistance with accreditation for upcoming UNFCCC meetings. Many counties have funding but required official accreditation in order to attend the meetings. Dr Pacifica noted that an official letter of request must be sent to Principal Secretary, MEF, noting that you have support. Requests will be made through the CoG and should be made by September for the December 2018 meeting.
- County officials requested funding for devolved functions, such as climate change. They requested that donor money be accessible by Counties.
- MEF is examining the Ward Development Fund to ensure it includes climate change.
- Some Counties are allocating a certain percentage of budgets to climate change (e.g., Makueni - 1% of development budget, Wajir – 2% of development budget)
- Recommendation – Hold a meeting on climate finance that includes National Treasury and development partners.

Mr. Thomas Lerenten Lelekoitien, Climate Change Directorate, MEF, welcomed participants to the meeting. He thanked the StARCK+ programme for their support for the meeting. He also thanked the Council of Governors (CoG) for their support of the NCCAP process, from their organization of consultations to being members of the Task Force and Thematic Working Groups (TWGs). He noted that climate change impacts are felt in the Counties; and Counties will be implementing the actions.

Meeting participants observed a minute of silence for the victims of climate change, including the 46 lives lost with the bursting of a dam due to heavy rain.

The key role of the CCD is coordination and policy. At the national level, we have the Climate Change Act, Climate Change Policy, Climate Finance Policy, National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The policy framework is in place, what is needed now is action. A lot of action is occurring in the Counties, and 42 Governors have designated CECs for climate change.

Climate Change Actions in Priorities in the Counties

As participants introduced themselves, they noted climate change actions and priorities in their Counties, which are summarised below.

Nyamira County – Faces problems of land and forest cover. A priority action is to increase tree cover

Kisii County – A current is the conversion of 120 acres of forest to a sugar factory. The County has identified 140 acres to reforest and will plant trees on 840 acres of hilltops. A campaign is underway to remove eucalyptus trees from riparian lands and replace with other trees, such as bamboo and fruit trees.

Wajir County – A priority is planting trees because the County has the lowest forest cover at 1.99%. The County Adaptation Fund (CAF) has supported six sub-counties to create nurseries. The CAP provides each ward with KES 25 million; and two wards are undertaking afforestation. The County also prioritizes actions in the energy sector. Challenges in dealing with climate change include high water stress, low water table, and high illiteracy levels.

Elegyo Marakwet Country – Has created a climate change department. Climate change has been mainstreamed in all departments (e.g., agriculture, road construction, service departments). To create awareness on climate change, each department had to address climate change in the CIDP, including mitigation and mitigation actions and indicators. Funds have been allocated for climate change from next year to 2022. The County's natural forests are under a lot of stress. Because of the expansion of Eldoret and its increasing demand for charcoal and timber. Alternatives to forest products are required.

Murang'a County – A priority issue is solid waste management. An impact of climate change is deforestation and landslides; with 5 deaths and 300 relocated in 2018. Another issue is riparian encroachment. Trying to convince citizens of value of tree planting – perhaps high value trees (e.g., avocado). The County has a target to plant 1 million trees this season. Planning for 500 tree nurseries, but a problem is polythene for nurseries with the banning of plastics.

Uasin Gishu County – Mainstreaming climate change in budgets, with each department allocating 2% to climate change. The County is gazetting a water tower; and 30,000 tree seedlings will be planted in this gazetted forest. Priorities are tree planting, waste to energy recycling plant (likely to start in September 2018), non-motorised pathways for pedestrians, working with youth to improve livelihoods, and tree planting around River Sosiani along with promotion of beekeeping.

Bungoma County – Hosts Mt. Elgon, which is highly challenged in terms of forest degradation and lack of tree planting actions over the years. The County has allocated KES 2.8 million as its contribution to the EU water towers programme. The government will plant half a million trees this year, with other actors planting half million this year. The County has mainstreamed climate change in its CIDP and is at an advanced stage of drafting climate change policy documents.

West Pokot County – The government will gazette the water tower, which has been encroached by 50%. A priority action is afforestation, with a program to establish tree nurseries in each ward and plans to plant 300,000 trees. Challenges include charcoal production leading to deforestation, livestock issues and the planting of drought-resistant grass.

Kiambu Country – Established a department with a mandate for climate change and appointed a director; and drafting a policy on climate change and environment. Have tree planting initiatives, and

are promoting fruit tree planting to increase success. Working in sensitive areas for flooding to harvest water and construct dams. Establishing model schools that include biogas plants. A challenge is that climate finance has to flow through the National Treasury.

Turkana County – Appointed a CEC for climate change matters, appointing climate change advisor to the Governor, and working on a climate change policy and action plan. Established 32 nurseries and built capacity of Community Forestry Associations to grow indigenous trees. Installed over 150 solar PV systems in public institutions. Gazetted one of three forests and trying to gazette a wetland. Undertaking resilience programs – water pans, tree planting, drought resistant crops (sorghum) and drought-resistant livestock. Building cultural ties to deal with issues of conflict that are exacerbated by climate change through resource depletion.

Kakamega County – Challenges are how to preserve the Guineo-Congolian rainforest (only remaining tropical rainforest in Kenya), and lightning in the rainy season. Priority actions are conservation of catchments and springs, planting high-value trees, domestication of biodiversity at farm and household levels, and consideration of climate change impacts on infrastructure.

Kajiado County – The CIDP includes climate change actions, and climate change is to be mainstreamed in all departments. The County is creating a climate change policy. Achievements in forestry include fencing and restoration of forests – including planting 10,000 seedlings, launching an “adopt a tree seedling” in schools, development of a sustainable forest management policy. Afforestation plans include planting of over 60,000 seedlings, establishing tree nurseries in each ward., gazettement of forests, and creation of sand dams. Support is needed to acquire fruit tree seedlings.

Baringo County – Climate change had been mainstreamed in its CIDP. The County plans to establish a climate change fund and develop a climate change policy.

Meru County – Has a forest cover of 18.25%. The County government has promoted afforestation for hilltops working with communities and Meru Youth Service, school greening, and bamboo along riparian areas. The County is developing a participatory forestry plan, charcoal regulations, and promoting agroforestry.

Nakuru County – Finalising the county climate change action plan; and the CIDP is enriched with mainstreamed climate change actions. Tree planting efforts are focused on strengthening County Tree Nursery Associations because it is difficult to get seedlings and county nurseries where the government purchases seedlings will create jobs. Undertaking actions to ensure that seedlings survive by planting in area where the trees can be protected. Established an ECD partnership with environment programme officers to change the narrative of tree growing, and ensure children have culture of tree planting. Plans are to rehabilitate and restore riparian areas, and strengthen lake ecosystem. The target is to grow at least 1 million trees per year (have already planted 200,000 in 2018. Priority actions are water harvesting, climate proofing infrastructure, such as dams, support and capacity building for youth, and use of organic fertilizer for tree planting.

Vihiga County – Developing a draft climate change bill that will create a climate change fund informed by public participation; and hiring a director of environment. The EU Water Towers project to restore 15,000 acres of degraded land; 10% of the KES 75 million is provided through the County budget. A challenge is how to deal with 600 streams and damage to riparian areas, and the need to stabilize riverbanks. The County is establishing a waste management programme. The County plans to generate organic fertilizer from municipal waste and septic tanks, and to streamline tree planting in schools.

Embu County - Finalizing bills on environment, water and natural resources; working on a climate change bill, and the CIDP is still at draft stage. Climate change actions include afforestation in dry areas; school greening project, and promotion of solar energy. A waste to energy programme is at the initial stage and including energy saving stoves will be a priority action in the CIDP. There is a need to map wetlands, build awareness and change attitudes. A question was can the GHG inventory be cascaded to counties

Nairobi County – Established tree nurseries at city park and planted over 200,000 seedlings at a dam site, recognizing that Nairobi is dependent on other Counties. Tree planting in public areas including parks, schools, churches, and mosques. Challenges include illegal logging and have increased fines. Developing a composting/recycling waste management system; and planning a waste to energy facility including a call for EOIs to manage 25,000 tons of waste per day. Working to improve drainage and to ensure that buildings and factories are in compliance with the solar water heater regulations. Drafting climate change strategy for county possibly to be followed by Act.

Nandi County – Has a programme of afforestation and planted over 6,500 trees in schools through a community challenge to “Adopt a tree” in schools. Assistance is required to understand forest cover.

Tana River County – Challenges include charcoal production, leading to deforestation and degradation. They have banned charcoal production and trying to promote alternative livelihoods. The County plans to promote biogas in schools to be added to on-going green schooling programme; developing a policy for planting trees along rivers; and develop a climate change fund, building on experience of other counties.

Trans Nzoia County – The Mt. Elgon and Cherangany water towers are highly degraded because of encroachment of farming and firewood gathering. Other challenges are declining land productivity and encroachment on riparian areas. Priority climate change actions are reforestation and afforestation with plans to plant 1 million trees this fiscal year, school training and river bank rehabilitation with bamboo. Other actions include promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture including conservation agriculture. Rain water harvesting and rehabilitation of water dams will help to reduce reliance on rain-fed production. Another priority action is the promotion of renewable energy, including solar, biogas and improved jikos.

Makueni County – Established the County Climate Change Fund, that includes 1% of development budget. Created a department of environment, natural resources and climate change with a director and chief officer. Challenges include charcoal production (which has been banned by the County government), low funding for climate change actions, and no culture of tree planting. The County is evolving from tree planting to tree growing by emphasising the planting of trees that can be cared for (for example in public areas such as schools) and undertaking public awareness campaigns to promote tree planting.

Narok County – Developing a climate change action plan, drafted a forest products bill and will create a climate fund. The County has lost much of its forest cover, and priority activities are rehabilitation of forests, and gazettelement of forests most of which are on trust or community land. Priority actions are waste to energy systems, or systems to properly manage waste to reduce emissions. The banning of logging requires monitoring.

Role of the CoG: Development and implementation of the NCCAP

Mr. Stephen Osingo, CoG, noted that the second generation of county governments have started, and this coincides with the development of the second NCCAP, 2018-2022. He noted that Counties have powers to enact legislation and to implement actions to address climate change as set out in the national Climate Change Act, 2016.

The CoG is a platform for consultation and cooperation among the 47 County Governments. It also facilitates consultation between the County Governments and National Government. It considers matters of common interest, including climate change. He noted the difference between national and National Government; and provided examples of national-level projects.

Mr. Osingo emphasized the need for information, including climate finance. He noted that much information is available through the Climate Change Knowledge Portal that can be accessed at:

The NCCAP Task Force, with support of CCD, CoG and various Development Partners, held consultations in six County Economic Blocs. Climate change impacts noted by the Counties were

drought, flooding, deforestation and forest degradation. The Counties and CoG insist that the County must see their issues in the NCCAP, including food security and increased forest cover. The importance of climate change was reflected in the Resolutions of the Fifth Annual Devaluation Conference held in April 2018 in Kakamega. The second resolution stated that “both levels of government should invest in programmes that support communities to adapt to the effects of climate change, and address climate change-related emergencies and disaster”(Action: County Governments, MEF, CoG).

Mr. Osingo summarized the issues that arose in the morning discussion:

1. Inter-governmental nature of climate change issues and actions – County and National governments should work together to address climate change. Another level of inter-governmental coordination is county to county and regional blocs
2. Importance of innovation – waste to energy
3. Importance of public participation and citizen engagement in climate change – e.g., youth, children in schools, building the culture of tree planting
4. Importance of joint and inter-county projects and collaboration – cross-border conservation for water towers, Meru-Isiolo border
5. Standards and guidelines – e.g., planting of trees on river banks, riparian encroachment
6. Importance of learning and sharing
7. Importance of climate finance – adequate climate finance needed; need to adopt the resolution/recommendation to hold a climate finance meeting
8. Importance of the County Assembly – for planning and budget cycle (second round of consultations will be with County Assemblies)
9. Issue of waste management – waste to energy; organic
10. Importance of having correct data – e.g., forest data
11. Need to transform the culture – tree planting
12. Climate change policies and acts – Counties are at different levels.

He noted that the CoG is developing a platform of best practices., and County Governments are welcome to provide best practices.

Discussion

- The issue of conflict needs to come out in the list of common areas. County Governments have issues with the responsiveness of national agencies, such as WARMA and NEMA. The national agencies provide approvals; but if something goes wrong, the Counties are blamed. \Turkana
- Common issues across the Counties should be cross-cutting; but we also need to think of unique issues in areas and regions.
- Need to include cross-border issues. Cross border conflict results from competition for natural resources, including with Sudan and Ethiopia. Issues of water include Kilimanjaro run-off feeding Kenyan watersheds. Turkana County has a good example of conflict resolution. Examples of cross-border cooperation include conservation of the Mara River ecosystem, and regional management of Lake Victoria as a shared resource.
- The cascading of GHG inventory development to the Counties is not recommended. The MRV expert group recommended that the third GHG inventory be developed at the national level, because of a reliance on national data sources. It would not be cost-effective to establish GHG inventory units in the County Governments, and the action would not generate meaningful data.

Process of Updating the NCCAP

Thomas Lerenten, CCD-MEF provided a brief overview of the process of updating the NCCAP. The Climate Change Act (section 13) requires that the NCCAP be updated every five years. The process to update the plan for 2018-2022 is led by CCD-MEF in a consultative manner. The aim is to identify priority actions to address mitigation and adaptation to guide the country in mainstreaming climate change over the next five years. He noted that the Task Force is supported by adaptation and mitigation Thematic Working Groups (TWGs). The updating of the NCCAP includes consultations with counties, civil society, women, marginalized groups and the private sector. He reviewed the outline of the NCCAP. He noted that the Task Force will complete its work by 10th July, with the penultimate draft to be completed by end June. The draft NCCAP will be available for public input by the end of May.

Next Steps / Way Forward

- Official communication from County Governments to MEF on the NCCAP is to come through CoG; but County officers are encouraged to approach the CCD if they have a technical issue that requires input.
- The meeting report to be sent to all participants.
- County Governments are invited to submit comments on the draft NCCAP to:
- Information can be retrieved from:
 - Kenya Climate Change Knowledge Portal: <http://lecrd.co.ke>
 - Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan, 2013-2017: <http://www.kccap.info>

Contact Information:

Dr. Pacifica A. Ogola, Director, Climate Change Programmes Coordination, MEF
pacie04@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. Stephen Osingo, Council of Governors, Manager of Marifa Centres
Stephen.osingo@cog.go.ke

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