

DISCUSSION PAPER ON

# Unlocking Climate Financing for Enhanced Climate Resilience in Turkana County



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It is my prayers that this paper will contribute to the visions and aspirations of Turkana County Government in creating a resilient community that can withstand the shocks of climate change.

*Best Regards,*

*Eithne Brennan  
Country Director  
Trócaire Kenya*

## Abbreviations

AF	UN Adaptation Fund
ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CADP	County Annual Development Plan
CBIT	Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
CCCF	County Climate Change Funds
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plans
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
DFID	Department for International Development
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GESIP	Kenya Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KCCWG	Kenya Climate Change Working Group
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
MDBs	Multilateral Development Banks
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
REACT	Renewable Energy and Adaptation to Climate Technologies
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WCCPCs	Ward County Climate Planning Committees

## Executive Summary

### ***Impacts of Climate Change in Turkana County:***

Climate change is one of the most devastating threats to development locally and even at the global scale. In Kenya, the adverse impacts of climate change on livelihoods, food security and ecosystems are felt across the country but more pronounced among rural communities and households that are more dependent on climate sensitive means of livelihoods such as pastoral and agro-pastoral systems. Projections indicate that the impacts of climate change will increase as a result of increasing extreme weather events such as droughts and floods.

Turkana is one of the counties in Kenya most affected by climate change, which has been marked a major challenge to socioeconomic development in the county. It has exacerbated degradation of land including pastures and water, which are major resources for livestock production as a major land use practice in the county. Drought as a major manifestation of climate change in Turkana County has become more frequent with devastating implications on social, economic and livelihood systems; causing further food insecurity and malnutrition as well as high poverty levels in the county. Some of the major implications of climate change in Turkana County include poor nutrition and high poverty levels, resource based conflicts, increased vulnerability to floods and loss of biodiversity.

### ***State of County level Climate Financing in Turkana County:***

Turkana County has progressively made efforts to address climate change especially on building climate resilience and adaptation. Climate actions are however expensive investments, limiting the scope and extent of efforts. The overall and cross review of previous and current county planning and budgeting tools clearly indicate that climate change has not been adequately prioritized in Turkana County planning and budgeting processes as reflected in the relatively low budgetary allocation for climate actions.

### ***Existing Mechanisms for Climate Financing:***

A wide scope of domestic and multilateral climate financing facilities exists for Turkana County to explore; including the Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund and Green Bond Markets in Kenya for Financing Environmental Solutions among others. However, Turkana County has not been able to tap and benefit from them especially the multilateral sources. This is attributable to lack of institutional and legal structures and guiding policies; inadequate data and evidence to inform prioritization for climate financing.

**Way Forward:**

To upscale access and effective utilization of climate financing from both local and international facilities, the Government of Turkana County should:

- i. Fast-track establishment of the county climate change fund act upon which other financial tools such as Country Climate Change Funds could be embedded and developed
- ii. Increase priorities and budgetary appropriation for climate actions
- iii. Strengthen institutional capacities and technical knowledge for enhanced financial mobilization
- iv. Establish partnerships and collaborations with local private sectors towards strengthening investments in climate innovations
- v. Establish mechanisms for tracking and reporting climate financing for enhanced transparency in climate finance in Turkana County

## 1. Introduction – Climate Change Context in Kenya

Climate change is one of the most devastating threats to development today and its adverse effects are expected to increase in future. The impacts of climate change on livelihoods, food and water security, ecosystems, infrastructure among others differ disproportionately at local, national and regional levels. Climate change creates increasing burden on government efforts on development and protecting vulnerable populations, especially among indigenous communities, poor and socially marginalized groups, women, and people with disabilities, who are more exposed to the effects of climate change.

Kenya is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, particularly under the current climate change and projections which have indicated that the country will experience up to 2.5°C temperature rise by 2050, with more intense and less predictable rainfall patterns. The situation will be exacerbated by drought which will become more frequent, causing far reaching adverse effects on food systems especially in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) in the country. A recent assessment by the IPCC confirms that current and projected climate change and variability are the key barriers to current and future development and sustainability of socioeconomic systems, particularly in the ASALs (IPCC, 2018).

The trend in temperature and rainfall patterns will be accompanied by increase in extreme weather events such as droughts and floods. Major droughts currently occur every ten years, while moderate droughts or floods every three to four years, with far reaching adverse effects. Droughts which are largely nation-wide affect more people and have the greatest socioeconomic impacts; it exacerbates poverty levels and low adaptive capacities.

## 2. Status, Trends and Drivers of Climate Change in Turkana County

Turkana is the second largest county in Kenya; it covers about 13.5% (77,000 km<sup>2</sup>) of the country's total land space, and located in the arid and semi-arid regions of the country. Turkana County has been marked as the poorest among the 47 counties in the country with a poverty index of 94.3%.<sup>1</sup> The county has fragile ecosystems which are prone to climate shocks including loose soils that are easily washed away by flash rains and heavy winds. The Turkana County Integrated Development Plan II (2018 – 2022) identifies climate change as a major challenge, exacerbating degradation of natural resources, mainly pastures and water which are key for

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<sup>1</sup> Turkana County Investment Plan 2016 – 2020:

<https://www.undp.org/content/dam/kenya/docs/Democratic%20Governance/TURKANA%20COUNTY%20INVESTMENT%20PLAN%20-%2027TH%20NOVEMBER%202015.pdf>

livestock production in the county. Increased cases of livestock diseases have also been attributed to climate change in the county.<sup>2</sup>

The droughts and floods have become more frequent with devastating implications on social, economic and livelihood systems; causing further food insecurity and malnutrition as well as high poverty levels in the county (Opiyo, 2014). Important factors that compound drought effects in Turkana County include population growth; degradation and violent conflicts over access and utilization of natural resources; lack of sustainable grazing planning; lack of policy implementation and; overall drop in adaptive capacity among the communities in the county, which contribute to livestock mortality, water scarcity and land degradation. Land use and land use change have also affected pastoral and agro-pastoral production systems which are the most appropriate land use practice and the main source of livelihood for most households in the county. This is reflected in privatization of communal lands and the associated sedenterisation effects, thus limited access to grazing resources. Increasing vulnerability to drought and other shocks are a driving factor that pushes pastoralists towards other sources of livelihoods which may not prove sustainable.

The projected increase in temperature and rainfall patterns in northern Kenya will certainly have further impacts on local livelihoods, particularly among households that derive most of their livelihoods from weather dependent production systems such as pastoralism and agro-pastoral systems as is the case in Turkana County (Muhati *et al.*, 2018). For instance, the projected 10% decline in rainfall amounts in the regions that receive below 500 mm annually, including Kenya, will lead to a 50% dramatic drop in surface drainage. This will directly result into unavailability and inaccessibility of water and pasture resources for livestock thus increasing the risk of resource based conflicts within and across pastoral communities. The effects of the projected rainfall variations will be compounded by expected temperature rise resulting to more compromising effects on water and pasture resources which are the most important resources for livestock production and other forage resources and pastoral practices.

The ultimate socioeconomic implications of climate change in Turkana County include high infant mortality rates due to poor nutrition and low sanitation, increased resource based conflicts, increased morbidity, increased government expenditure on healthcare, increased school drop-out rates, shifts of investments to emergency relief hence compromises development, increased vulnerability to floods and loss of biodiversity.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Turkana County popular version County Integrated Development Plan CIDP II (2018-2022):  
[https://www.turkana.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Turkana\\_CIDP\\_Book\\_POPULAR\\_V3.pdf](https://www.turkana.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Turkana_CIDP_Book_POPULAR_V3.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Turkana County Integrated Development Plan, 2013/14- 2017/18



### 3. Climate Change Governance in the Context of Climate Finance

Climate governance determines success of climate actions, and a key component of climate financing mechanisms (Odhengo *et al.*, 2019). The effectiveness of climate finance mechanisms is dependent on the capacity of institutional structures to prioritise and coordinate effectively climate actions (Worker, 2017). While climate finance governance is inherently an international affair, the institutional capacities and arrangements as well as willingness to track and disclose financial flows, are fundamentally local governance issues. Enabling conditions are crucial in access and utilization of climate finance. Such conditions include availability of public information on adaptation finance flows and decisions; sufficient training of Civil Society Organizations; adequate public engagement; working relationships between governments and non-governmental actors; citizen collective action and willingness and ability of public officials to respond to civil society and citizens and transparency in the utilization of climate finance (Worker, 2017). The analysis of Turkana County climate financing gives deeper insights into county budget and expenditure, strategies and development plans, sectoral plans and action plans within the context of climate change.

#### 3.1 Principal Climate Finance Policy Frameworks in Kenya

Kenya has sophisticated policies and legal frameworks on climate change; these include:

- i. Climate Change Act 2016,
- ii. National Climate Finance Policy 2018,
- iii. National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2018–2022
- iv. National Adaptation Plan 2015–2030.

These legal tools provide strongly overarching baseline and guidance for addressing climate change in the country. The NAP, for instance, establishes the country's adaptation objectives and provides guidance on priority actions in planning sectors for the national and county governments. The county governments have a key delivery role of domesticating and implementing national government policy on climate change. These policies and legal frameworks provide strong basis for climate financing both at the national and county levels.

### 3.2 Key Dimensions of Climate Change Governance for Effective Climate Financing:

**i. Building strategic capacity:** Climate change governance requires strategic capacities especially in:

- a) *Leadership:* Political leadership is a key determinant of success of climate change governance. Effective leadership in the context of climate change governance therefore need properly constituted institutional structures, together with intra and inter departmental coordination to synchronize and harmonize efforts by different government units working on climate change.
- b) *Knowledge and expert advice:* Climate change governance requires understanding of technical and scientific evidence considering both broader and local contexts. This implies need for technical advisory unit that is legally constituted to provide evidence based and authoritative advice to the government and policy makers; support need-based research and technical knowledge development and sharing on climate change systems: current status, trends and future impacts; supporting monitoring of climate and ecosystems within the county; enhancing economic, policy and social sciences capacity in relate to climate change, because such knowledge is a crucial support for policy (Meadowcroft, 2009).
- c) *Conceptualization of the interest of the county and elaborating strategic policy framework:* Good climate change governance needs rigorous assessment and reconceptualization of common interests guided by understanding of risks, benefits and costs of potential climate adaptation and mitigation actions. Addressing climate change needs long term response options based on strategic policy frameworks that can create stability needed for long term investments in climate actions. Adequate and effective policy frameworks should specify county overall perspective on climate change; adaptation and mitigation objectives; institutional responsibilities for implementation of the climate change policy, policy approaches, instruments and funding mechanism.

**ii. Policy Coherence and Climate Change Integration**

Success of climate change policies including financing are based on how they have been linked to socioeconomic realities and goals. Within the context of climate change, policy coherence and integration focus on effective planning, coordination, prioritization, responsiveness, information collection and management and implementation of programmes and policies across sectoral development plans (Worker, 2017). While institutional capacity is mainly used

to refer to the means and ability for government bodies to conduct their roles, there is growing emphasis in the importance of informal institutions in policy making and implementation. The Climate Change Act 2016, for instance, provide the basis and guide for effective integration of climate change in county budgeting, planning and finance processes. This is expected to bolster the efforts towards achieving low carbon climate resilient development.

### ***iii. Information sharing, public engagement and societal mobilization***

Availability and access to information, as well as effective institutional capacity to manage and mandate to make information public and involve outside stakeholders are important in climate governance. The information should be provided to the public and stakeholders so that it is sufficiently accurate, adequate and within the scope and needs to be user-driven. Societal mobilization is critical to developing an effective response to climate change. A central dimension of climate change governance involves finding approaches to activate dynamic forces in society to engage with the climate challenge through: developing public education about climate change mitigation and adaptation; encouraging participation of stakeholders in key socio-economic sectors; encouraging informed public discussion.

## **3.3 Integration of Climate Financing in Turkana County Planning Processes**

Devolution of climate finance is critical to ensure that financial resources reach the grassroots to support vulnerable communities. County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) alongside other county planning tools present an opportunity to the counties to identify, integrate and prioritize climate change actions, as well as budgeting and financial allocations. The Turkana County CIDP II (2018 – 2022) identifies climate change as a major challenge to the socioeconomic development in the county. Over the years, the county government of Turkana has identified and made efforts to invest in a number of climate change priority actions through county budgetary allocations.

The current Turkana County Annual Development Plan (CADP) 2020/2021 has distinctly outlined important areas for enhancing climate change adaptation including establishing county climate advisory services, public sensitization on climate change adaptation and mitigation, identifying and supporting actions for climate proofing and building climate resilience among households across the county, training staff on proposal development and fund raising, mainstreaming and widening stakeholder engaging in climate actions, and establishing early warning committees and formulating legal frameworks on climate change. While the CADP identifies these needed actions to build climate resilience in the county, it also comes out

clearly that they are not prioritized in the overall county budgeting considering the relatively low budgetary allocations to for their implementation.<sup>4</sup>

With understanding of the implications of climate change in the county, the CADP has also emphasized the need to set up a county climate change advisory unit that will collate and provided evidence based advisory services on climate change for proper and effective decisions. While this noble idea has also been in the previous county plans, its realization remains in limbo since no recruitment of such experts has been done so far. The overall and cross review of previous and current county planning and budgeting tools clearly indicate that climate change has not been adequately prioritized in Turkana County planning and budgeting processes, as reflected in the relatively low budgetary allocation for climate actions.<sup>5</sup>

### 3.4 County Climate Change Funds (CCCFs) as Climate Financing Mechanism

Devolution of climate funds remains a major priority for climate financing for counties as it enables effective utilization of climate finances on climate action at grassroots. The CCCF mechanism offers a consolidated approach to mobilizing climate financing from various sources to finance local climate actions (Odhengo *et al.*, 2019). It does not only facilitate the flow of climate finance to county governments but also empower locals through strengthening public participation in the management and use of those funds and build their resilience to a changing climate.

The CCCF mechanism aims to help identify, prioritise and facilitate finance investments that seek to reduce climate risks while achieving adaptation priorities. These funds have adopted institutional structures that connect local communities to the fund through ward-level planning committees charged with responsibility of identifying adaptation needs. Figure 1 demonstrates the overall structure of the CCCF mechanism. The functioning of a CCCF is grounded on three key elements:

- i. The funds priority areas and operations are closely linked to the county development priorities through the CIDPs, thus the funds are expected to serve the purpose of integrated climate-compatible development.
- ii. The funds are aligned to local priorities, and embrace strong participatory planning and locally driven actions through the use of community resource mapping and participatory vulnerability resilience assessments, as well as community monitoring systems,

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<sup>4</sup> Turkana County Annual Development Plan 2020/2021:

<sup>5</sup> Turkana county supplementary budget estimate FY 2019/2020: [https://turkana.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FY-2019\\_20-Supplementary-1-Budget.pdf](https://turkana.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FY-2019_20-Supplementary-1-Budget.pdf)

- iii. The CCCF embraces social inclusion and public accountability, and its implementation is driven by ward-level adaptation committees (Ward County Climate Planning Committees - WCCPCs).

While the CCCFs mechanism has proven effective in other counties like Isiolo and Makueni, the county government of Turkana is yet to establish it. This limits county efforts to prioritise and allocate finances to support climate actions.

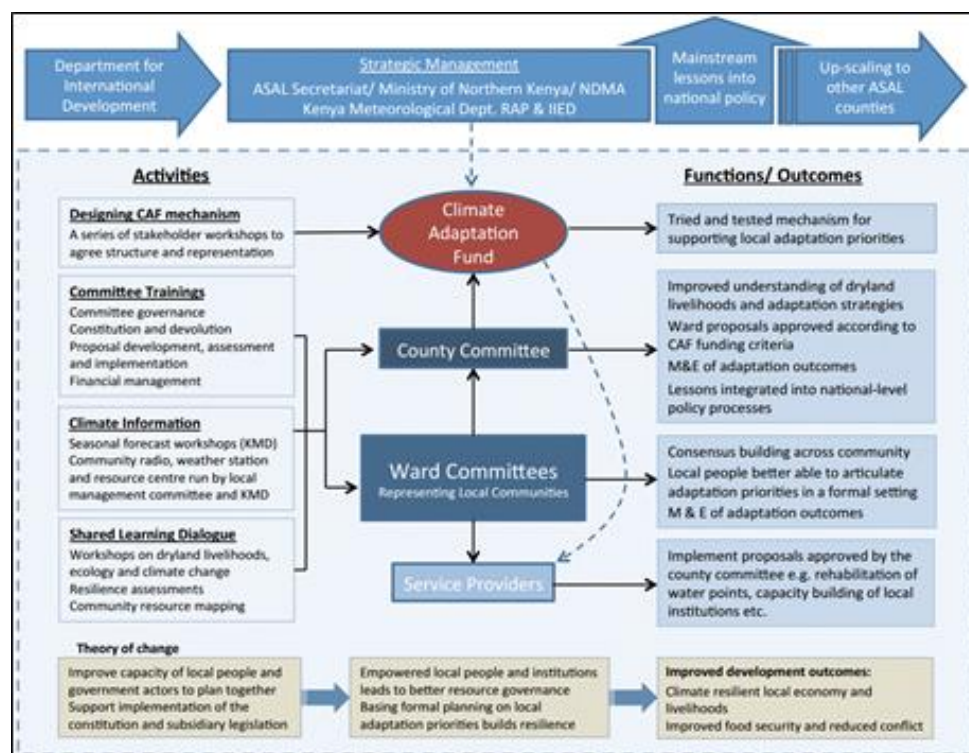


Figure 1: The County Climate Change Fund Approach. Source: Orindi, et al. 2017

## 4. Climate Financing Mechanisms

Effective and sustainable climate change response calls for robust financial mechanisms that include systems, initiatives and programmes that support mitigation and adaptation efforts. Climate financing comprises local, national or multilateral financial resource and investments that support climate-proofing programs and projects (UNDP, 2016). It includes both public and private financing mechanisms for climate adaptation and mitigation activities, capacity building or costs for creating the framework for climate change enabling environment such as the development of strategy, policy and international negotiations on climate change. The United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) broadly defines climate finance as: “finance that aims at reducing emissions, and enhancing sinks of greenhouse gases and aims at reducing vulnerability of, and maintaining and increasing the resilience of human and ecological systems to negative climate change impacts.”<sup>6</sup> Climate financing is critical in supporting transition to low carbon climate resilient economies, which demand large-scale investments.<sup>7</sup>

The importance of climate financing has been distinctly captured in the Paris Agreement goal of ‘making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development’, clearly indicating the need to align all financial resources with the adaptation and mitigation actions. It binds member countries to commit to addressing climate change through the five-year Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with both local and international financing mechanisms, especially in developing countries.

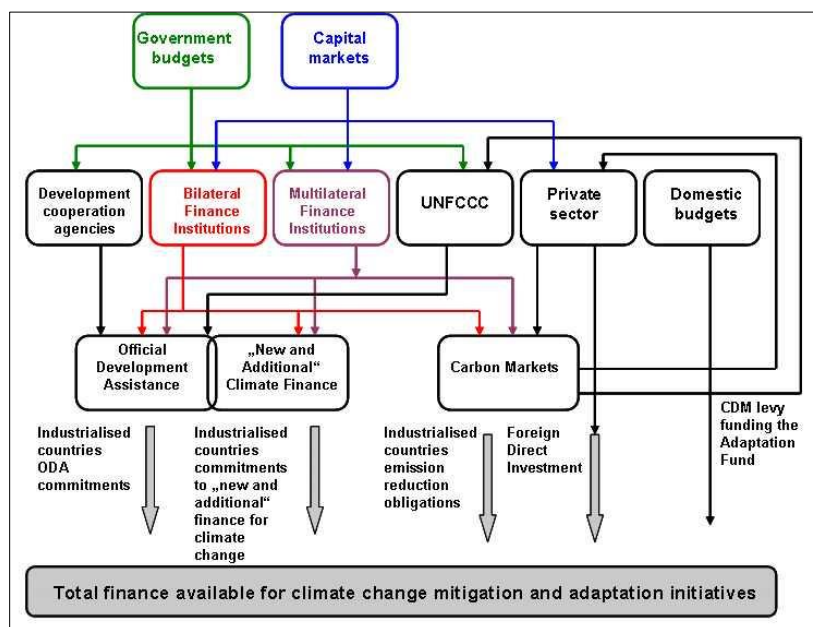


Figure 2: Financial flows for climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. S Source: WOCAT, 2014.

## 4.1 Multilateral Climate Financing

Various multilateral climate financing mechanisms and window are available that Turkana County can explore. These windows include those under the UNFCCC framework and those outside the UNFCCC framework including a host of bilateral funds (Odhengo *et al.*, 2019). The

<sup>6</sup> UNFCCC website [http://unfccc.int/focus/climate\\_finance/items/7001.php](http://unfccc.int/focus/climate_finance/items/7001.php)

<sup>7</sup> Finance for Climate Action:

[https://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Climate/FinanceClimateAction\\_Web.pdf](https://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Climate/FinanceClimateAction_Web.pdf)

funds serve different needs and operate at different scales of financing – however, they have overlaps in their mandates within the scope of climate change. Table 1 provides a summary of some of the main multilateral climate facilities. Further details about these climate facilities can be accessed [here](#). Effective access and utilization of these funds however, are influenced by various factors including capacity and appropriateness of national budgetary processes for climate, lack of guidance on integrating climate finance into budgets, lack of long-term climate budgeting. These facilities are accessible in various forms including grants, concessional loans and technical assistance. Their access however requires establishment of legal structures and policies. Makueni County, for instance, has accessed KSh50 million for climate adaptation and resilience from United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) as a result of establishment of CCCF.

**Table 1: Accessible multilateral climate facilities summary<sup>8</sup>**

Fund	Summary description	Focal sector	Financial instruments
Green Climate Fund ( <a href="#">GCF</a> )	It’s a global fund that was adopted by the UNFCCC to make funding available to developing and vulnerable countries in order to enable climate action.	Adaptation & mitigation	Grants & Concessional loans
UN Adaptation Fund ( <a href="#">AF</a> )	Finances adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries that are parties to the Kyoto Protocol and are vulnerable to climate change.	Adaptation	Grants
Global Environment Facility ( <a href="#">GEF</a> )	Funds available to developing countries or those with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.	Adaptation & mitigation	Grants & co-financing
Least Developed Countries Fund ( <a href="#">LDCF</a> )	Destined for least developed countries to adapt to climate change. It has financed the creation of National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs).	Adaptation	Grants
Special Climate Change Fund ( <a href="#">SCCF</a> )	This fund supports adaptation projects, technology transfer and capacity building activities.	Adaptation	Grants
Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency ( <a href="#">CBIT</a> )	This initiative aims to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities, and provide tools, training, and assistance for meeting Article 13.	Adaptation & mitigation	Grants, co-financing, technical assistance
Global Climate Change Alliance	An initiative by the European Union to help climate vulnerable countries to increase their resilience.	Adaptation & mitigation	Grants, Aid and Technical Assistance
Climate Technology Centre and Network ( <a href="#">CTCN</a> )	The centre promotes the accelerated transfer of green technologies for low carbon and climate resilient development.	Adaptation & mitigation	Technical assistance

<sup>8</sup> ParIAmericas: [http://www.parlAmericas.org/uploads/documents/Primer\\_on\\_Climate\\_Financing\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.parlAmericas.org/uploads/documents/Primer_on_Climate_Financing_ENG.pdf)



Additional climate financing opportunities are available from non-UNFCCC facilities that are accessible. They are largely, for instance, provided by international development agencies including the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Development Bank. These facilities are also available for private sectors working on climate change, especially in developing countries. In this regard, the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) are key climate financing facilities and they have strongly mainstreaming climate financing in their lending and business operations.

*Green Bonds:* Kenya has established systems to tap into the global green bond market for financing environmental solutions for sustainable development in the country. Green bonds are regular bonds which generate proceeds that are earmarked exclusively for projects with environmental benefits, including climate change mitigation or adaptation, but also natural resources depletion, loss of biodiversity, and air, water or soil pollution. The Green Bond initiative was launched in Kenya in March 2017 and builds on the policy framework under the Kenya Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP) 2016–2030 which committed to invest USD23.5 billion in Kenya’s green growth path.

## **4.2 Status of Financing Climate Actions in Turkana County**

It is widely understood that climate actions are significantly expensive investments that demand strong capacity development and financing. This financing is expected to come from a mix of sources, including public and private at local and international scales. Domestic public finance can be a relatively predictable and consistent source of financing for the implementation of prioritized adaptation actions in the county. The county climate funds are an example of a domestic public finance mechanism that helps to ensure greater predictability in resources available for implementation of adaptation priorities. Effective and sustainable climate interventions require that climate change is adequately and clearly integrated in development planning processes so that policies and actions across multiple sectors and scales target are targeted to abate greenhouse gas emissions, reduce vulnerability to climate shocks while delivering poverty reduction gains.

Turkana County has made efforts in addressing climate effects in the county. However, the level of climate financing in the county remains relatively low, when compared to other budget lines in the overall county budgets. This situation is attributable to the fact that the Turkana County Government does not have a robust climate policy instruments and governance frameworks for assessing and managing the risks posed by climate change. While the CIDP II (2018-2022) outlines climate change in the in the draft CIDP II 2018-2022, no policy, legal or institutional framework is yet to be put in place to address the negative impacts of climate change including



unsustainable exploitation of natural resources in the county and supporting vulnerable communities to build their climate resilience. This greatly limit climate financing in the county.

Improving access to financial facilities for enhanced climate actions in Turkana County therefore requires robust and efficient legal and institutional frameworks. Each component of the county finance system, such as budgeting, institutions and policy, has a role to play in the creation of an enabling environment for climate finance. Turkana County further needs to develop and strengthen technical capacities and expertise that will not only help them identify financial facility to target but also increase their chances based on quality applications.

### **4.3 Civil Society Organizations Financing of Climate Actions on Turkana County**

As an important component of climate financing, various non-state actors have invested and financed climate actions, particularly at project and program levels. These have made significant contributions to addressing climate risks and vulnerabilities in Turkana County. Among such institutions include Trócaire, ChildFund Kenya, Kenya Climate Change Working Group (KCCWG), Inter-Religious Council of Kenya, World Vision among others. Such project based financing of climate actions play important complementary roles in supporting the efforts and investment by the county and national government in Turkana County. Community participation is recognized as an important component of climate governance. Typical climate change governance projects for instance the project: *Promoting Eco-system Based Adaptation Approaches to Climate Change and Governance in Turkana County* by Trócaire is an eye-opener that helps the county to identify gaps and opportunities that the county need to focus on towards upscaling effectiveness in their climate actions. It is worth noting that communities in Turkana county have participated in climate change governance through various ways including traditional foretellers, clan leaders, community based environment groups; Water Users Associations; tree of men; Peace Committees; community based Women and Youth groups; Natural Resource Management Committees and Paralegals Environmental Groups. However, this still needs to be strengthened for increased effectiveness.

### **4.4 Private sector investment in climate action in Turkana County**

Leveraging private sector investment in climate actions is necessary in building green development in the county. This however, requires improvement of the enabling environment through policy interventions and reforms to attract climate-friendly investments in key sectors of the county economy; secure mechanisms for financing and support climate innovation. The enabling environment should target to overcome barriers while reducing risks thus incentivizing

private sector investment. County efforts to improve the enabling environment for private sector investment in climate actions may focus to:

- i. Establish a platform for effective engagement and dialogue with local and international private sectors that facilitate partnerships for climate action
- ii. Formulate and implement climate change-related policies, strategies and regulations that encourage innovations and private sector investment in climate actions
- iii. Build technical capacities of county level businesses to develop feasibility studies, understand and develop financing models, and manage and account for finances

Through strong collaboration and partnerships with private sectors, the county government of Turkana may explore locally existing climate change initiatives to ramp up innovation and move into new markets for climate-friendly goods and services.

Several private sector initiative within the scope of climate change exist in Kenya that Turkana County may explore: Centre for Energy Efficiency and Conservation at the Kenya Association of Manufacturers; Grassroots Business Fund; International Finance Corporation, Housing Finance Partnership; Kenya Climate Innovation Centre; Kenya Green Energy Foundation; Regional Technical Assistance Programme, Kenya Association of Manufacturers; Renewable Energy and Adaptation to Climate Technologies (REACT), Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund. These private sector initiatives provide wider opportunities for investment and financing wider scope of climate change actions, and therefore opportunities for Turkana County to partner for innovative climate actions. The important role of the county government in enabling scaling up climate innovations is creating an enabling environment through policy reforms that will create incentives for private sector investments while supporting climate resilience development in the county. This also requires technical capacity development among the county staff to support incubation of local innovations and business ideas within the scope of climate change.

#### **4.5 Challenges in Climate Financing in Turkana County**

While the county government of Turkana continues to make efforts to invest in climate actions towards climate resilient development, a series of challenges still exist particularly within the scope of effective access and utilization of financial resources. Some of the challenges to which this can be attributed include:

- i. Lack of climate specific policies and legal frameworks to strengthen climate financing and effective utilization of such funds in building climate resilience in the county
- ii. Inadequate data and evidence to inform prioritization and substantiate submission on for climate financing

- iii. Inadequate knowledge and institutional capacities to access multilateral climate financing mechanisms
- iv. High poverty levels in the county. Larger proportions of county government resource are used to meet basic needs and address poverty related challenges
- v. Power dynamics and political interferences within and across institutions both formal and informal regarding decision making on are made on climate change adaptation and mitigation programs in Turkana County is a key barrier to climate financing.
- vi. Lack of synergies and harmonization of efforts across various civil society organizations working on climate actions due to lack of a coordination mechanism.

## 5. Conclusion

Climate change has direct and significant implications on key livelihoods, particularly pastoral and agro-pastoral systems in Turkana County. While climate financing remains relatively low, Turkana County is progressively recognizing the need to increase budget allocations for climate actions given the far reaching adverse effects of climate change on livelihoods and development fronts. However, the county efforts are still hindered by lack of county level climate change policies, action plans and implantation frameworks. This implies non-guided climate actions. There is a wide scope of climate financing mechanisms; however, Turkana County has not been able to tap into them, particularly the non-domestic climate financing mechanisms. The county government has great opportunities to upscale its climate financing through establishing climate change policies and action plans, partnerships with private sectors, as well as institutional strengthening.

## 6. Recommendations

To upscale access and effective utilization of climate financing from both local and international facilities, the Turkana County government should:

- i. Fast-track establishment of the CCCF and other climate specific legal tools for effective and enhanced mobilization and utilization of climate financing
- ii. Increase priorities and budgetary appropriation for climate actions
- iii. Strengthen institutional capacities and technical knowledge for enhanced financial mobilization
- iv. Establish partnerships and collaborations with local private sectors towards strengthening investments in climate innovations
- v. Establish mechanisms for tracking and reporting climate financing for enhanced transparency in climate finance in Turkana County

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