



## ADAPTATION FUND

### REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email or fax.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project/programme must be fully prepared (i.e., fully appraised for feasibility) when the request is submitted. The final project/programme document resulting from the appraisal process should be attached to this request for funding.

Complete documentation should be sent to the email: [submissions@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:submissions@adaptation-fund.org)



ADAPTATION FUND

## LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

### PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

**Title of Project/Programme:** Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Turkana and West Pokot Counties, Kenya.

**Country:** Kenya

**Thematic Focal Area:** Eco-system Based Adaptation, Forests, and Disaster Risk and Early Warning Systems

**Type of Implementing Entity:** National Implementing Entity

**Implementing Entity:** National Environment Trust Fund (NETFUND)

**Executing Entities:** State Department for Forestry, Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Restoration Africa – Rift Valley Division, and the County Governments of Turkana and West Pokot.

**Amount of Financing Requested:** 4.943,510 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

**Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed:** Yes  No

*NOTE: The LOE should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities>*

**Stage of Submission:**

- This proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (pre-concept, concept, fully- developed proposal)
- This is the first submission ever of the proposal at any stage

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Please note that fully-developed proposal documents should not exceed 100 pages for the main document, and 100 pages for the annexes.

## Project / Programme Background and Context:

*Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate.*

### **National Context**

Kenya is recognized as highly vulnerable to climate change impacts and is ranked 150 out of 187 countries<sup>1</sup>. Besides, Kenya is a lower-middle-income country and a low emitter compared to high-emitting countries. In 2022, its per capita greenhouse gas emissions were just 2.09tCO<sub>2</sub>e, significantly below the global average of 6.76tCO<sub>2</sub>e<sup>2</sup>. Despite contributing less than 0.1% to global emissions, Kenya is grappling with an intensifying climate crisis that threatens its environmental sustainability and socio-economic development. Over the years, increased frequency and intensity of climate extremes and detrimental climate change impacts, has led socio-economic losses estimated to be over 5% of Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) every year, hence retarding her annual GDP growth. This situation is exacerbated by the country's economy being dependent on climate-sensitive sectors and natural resources. In 2023, Kenya suffered direct losses due to drought estimated at over USD 650 million, which was quickly succeeded by floods in 2024 that led to direct losses estimated at over USD 1.46 billion (Republic of Kenya, 2025).

The country is endowed with diverse landscapes and ecosystems such as forest, freshwater, agroecosystems, wetlands, rangelands and marine. These ecosystems and other natural resources provide critical ecological goods and services that support the country's economic development. Kenya depends on these ecosystem services as natural capital for driving economic growth. Forest ecosystems, for example, are a livelihood base of over 82% of Kenya's households and offer direct employment to over 4 million Kenyans besides contributing about USD 365 million (3.6%) to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)<sup>3</sup>. Moreover, forest ecosystems also contribute to more than USD 140 million worth of goods annually to other productive sector of the economy such as agriculture, fisheries, livestock, energy, wildlife, water, tourism, trade and industry.

However, Kenya's ecosystems and natural capital are rapidly depleting due to factors such as climate change that highly intensify land degradation, with an estimated over 24.3 million hectares of Kenya's land area degraded (UNCCD, 2022). This contributes to Kenya's forest loss, which continues at a worrying pace, with an 8.34 thousand ha of natural forest, equivalent to 3.43 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions<sup>4</sup>. Furthermore, degradation in dryland forests and rangelands often goes unmonitored despite its severity. Vegetative loss in these ecosystems is intensified by climate change-driven disasters, as shown in Figure 1 and human activities such as unsustainable charcoal production, encroachment, and harvesting wood fuel. The cumulative effect is a reduction in ground cover, severe soil erosion, biodiversity collapse, declining pasture quality, and water scarcity, all of which exacerbate food insecurity, poverty, and conflict over resources in already fragile zones.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the 2023 Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) Index <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/>

<sup>2</sup> Republic of Kenya, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry. (2025). *Kenya's Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2031–2035)*. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/2025-05/KENYAS%20SECOND%20NATIONALLY%20DETERMINED%20CONTRIBUTION%202031\\_2035.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/2025-05/KENYAS%20SECOND%20NATIONALLY%20DETERMINED%20CONTRIBUTION%202031_2035.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Refer to Government of Kenya (2023). National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy: A support towards 15 B by, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry.

<sup>4</sup> Documented in the Global Forest Watch dashboard: <https://www.globalforestwatch.org/dashboards/country/KEN/?category=land-cover&location=WyJjb3VudHJ5Iiw5S0VOI10%3D>



Figure 1: Drought and Flash floods' impact on the environment in Kenya

In response to the above challenges, Kenya has developed various policies, plans and strategies, including the National Environment Policy (2013), National Land Use Policy (2016), National Forest Policy (2016), National Water Policy (2021), National Agriculture Policy (2021) and the National Climate Change Framework Policy (2016); the Acts include Environmental Management and Coordination Act (1999), Climate Change Act (2023), and the Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016); the plans and strategies include Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP) 2018-2030, MTP IV (2023–2027): Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda for Inclusive Growth, the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (NLEERS) 2023-2032, National Strategy for Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), Kenya’s National Adaptation Plan (NAP 2015–2030), the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2023-2027) and updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 2020).

**Project Target Counties - West Pokot and Turkana Counties**

The arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) comprise over 80% of Kenya's terrestrial landscape, as shown in

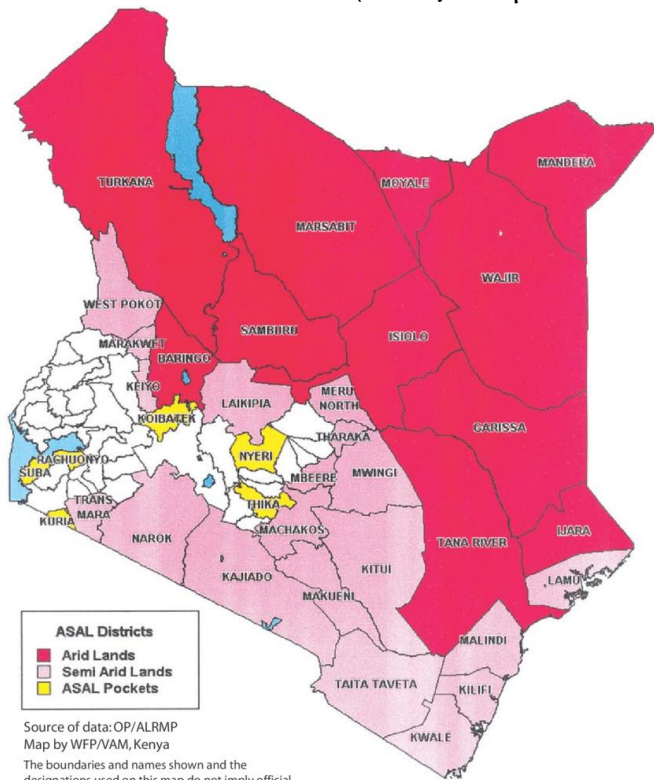


Figure 1. The ASALs are characterized by dryland forests and rangeland ecosystems. Dryland forests, composed mainly of acacia species, shrubs, and indigenous grasses, play a critical role in carbon sequestration, regulating water cycles, and supporting livelihoods through non-timber forest products such as gum arabic, honey, and medicinal plants. Similarly, rangelands serve as the primary resource base for over 70% of Kenya’s livestock, supporting approximately 16 million people (NDMA, 2021). These landscapes contribute an estimated 12–15% to Kenya’s GDP through livestock and associated value chains yet remain undervalued and under-resourced in terms of investment and conservation.

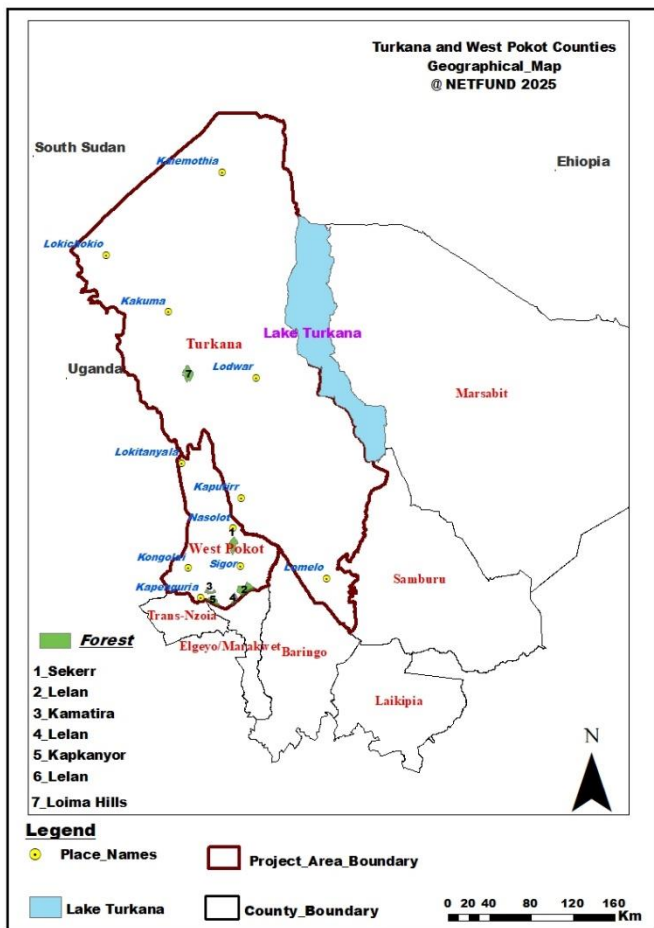
These ASALs are fragile and highly vulnerable to climate-related disasters such as flash floods, extreme temperatures and drought (MEF, 2021). Climatic records show that arid regions receive annual rainfall of less than 550mm,

while semi-arid regions receive annual rainfall of between 550mm to 850mm (USAID, 2023). Analysis of these climate trends in 21 ASAL counties between 1977 and 2014 shows an increase in temperature in all 21 counties, with five counties surpassing a 1.5°C increase, and a general decline in rainfall in 15 out of the 21 counties (Republic of Kenya, 2025). These results suggest that the normal variability in Kenya’s precipitation patterns will be the dominant influence on its climate over the coming decades.

The proposed project will target Turkana and West Pokot counties, which are among the most climate-vulnerable and underdeveloped ASAL counties in Kenya. The detailed geographical, economic, social development, environmental and climatic aspects as described below:

**a) Geographical Context**

West Pokot County covers 9,123.3 Km<sup>2</sup> and is situated in the North Rift, bordering Uganda to the East.



The county also borders Turkana County to the North and northeast, Trans Nzoia County to the South, Elgeyo Marakwet County and Baringo County to the southeast and East, respectively. While Turkana is the largest county in Kenya, that covers an area of 71,597.6 km<sup>2</sup> and is located in the Northwest of Kenya. It borders Uganda to the West, South Sudan and Ethiopia to the North and Northeast, respectively, as shown in the map. It also borders West Pokot and Baringo Counties to the South, Samburu County to the Southeast, and Marsabit County to the East.

**b) Economic Development Context**

Turkana and West Pokot counties exhibit unique yet complementary economic development trajectories shaped by their geography of ASAL counties that predominantly support pastoral and agro-pastoral practices. In Turkana County, the economy is largely pastoralist with 60 per cent of household income and food security dependent on livestock rearing (Turkana CIDP, 2023 -2027). However, the county is transitioning toward a more diversified economic base. The discovery of oil reserves has catalyzed interest in extractives,

while irrigated agriculture along Turkwel and Kerio rivers is being scaled up to mitigate drought-related vulnerabilities. Fisheries from Lake Turkana, solar energy initiatives, and tourism linked to national parks and unique cultural heritage are emerging as vital growth areas. Turkana county is also a major source of energy, such as hydroelectric power generation from Turkwel dam, oil exploration and other sources of clean energy, such as 300MW wind, solar and geothermal<sup>5</sup>.

In contrast, West Pokot County anchors its economy in mixed farming, combining crop production

<sup>5</sup> County Government of Turkana. (2024). Turkana County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2023–2027.

with livestock keeping supporting the livelihoods of more than 80<sup>6</sup> per cent of the county population. The county's fertile highlands support the cultivation of maize, beans, potatoes, and horticultural crops, while the lowlands are more suited for livestock. Small-scale sand harvesting and mining are gaining attention as alternative livelihoods. Farming practices in this county rely heavily on rainfall, thus limiting their agricultural productivity potential. In response to this, West Pokot has established 8 irrigation schemes, including Weiwei, River Muruny, and Suam, among others, that are contributing to the economic development of Kes 46.8 billion (USD 336 million) according to West Pokot CIDP – 2023 - 2027.

### ***c) Social development Context***

Turkana and West Pokot counties are among the underdeveloped ASAL counties in Kenya, with poverty incidences of 82.7% and 60.1% respectively (KNBS, 2022), as shown in Annex 5. Similarly, West Pokot County, in 2015, recorded a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.45, and Turkana recorded an HDI of 0.37 compared to the national average of 0.52.

Traditionally, pastoralist communities manage land collectively based on customary norms, especially for grazing and water access. This form of tenure supports mobility and resource sharing, which are vital in arid and semi-arid ecosystems of Turkana County and lowland areas of West Pokot County. However, in the more fertile highlands of West Pokot County, private and individual land holdings are more common, including freehold and leasehold ownership.

Turkana County is predominantly inhabited by the Turkana people. According to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census report, the Turkana County population was 926,976 (478,087 males, 448,868 females and 21 intersex). It is projected that the population will increase to 1,130,667 in 2027. The county youth accounted for 31.25 per cent, and persons with disabilities represented 3.2 per cent of the total population.

West Pokot County is mainly inhabited by the Pokot community, with a minority community of Sengwer. The population of the county in the 2019 census was 621,241, with 307,013 males, 314,213 females and 15 intersex. The county population is projected to grow to 740,661 by 2027, at an annual population growth rate of 2.2%. Youth in this county account for 26.3 per cent of the total county population, while persons with disabilities are only 1.49 per cent of the population.

### ***d) Environmental and Climate Change Context***

Turkana and West Pokot counties are endowed with a diverse array of natural resources that are central to the livelihoods, culture, and economic well-being of their populations.

Turkana County's most prominent natural resources include vast tracts of rangelands, Kerio and Turkwel rivers, Lake Turkana - the largest desert lake in the world, and a significant endowment of underground aquifers. Lake Turkana, Central Highland National Park and two islands on Lake are critical habitats, used as a stopping ground for migratory birds. The parks are also habitats of Nile crocodiles, hippopotamus and snakes.

Turkana County faces acute climate hazards, with droughts affecting an estimated 728,000 people as of July 2022 and floods displacing over 5,000 individuals along the River Turkwel in 2018 (TCG, 2023).

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<sup>6</sup> County Government of West Pokot. (2023). *West Pokot County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2023–2027*.

Historically, the region has received highly erratic rainfall ranging between 52 mm and 480 mm annually, with a mean of 200 mm, and temperatures ranging between 20°C and 41°C, averaging 30.5°C (TCG, 2023). Climate modelling reveals an overall increasing rainfall trend from 1983 to 2022, punctuated by periods of decline, while temperature has shown a steady rise over the same period (TCG, 2023). Future projections indicate that both rainfall and temperature patterns will remain highly variable, with temperatures expected to rise by 1.0°C to 1.5°C nationally by 2030 and more intensely in lowland arid regions like Turkana (TCG, 2023). Spatial trends suggest increased rainfall in the northern and lakeside areas during the March–May season, while central and northern regions may experience rainfall decline, as shown in Figure 2 (TCG, 2023). These changes are likely to exacerbate water scarcity, reduce food security, and heighten natural resource-based conflicts, underscoring the need for robust community-driven adaptation and climate-resilient investments.

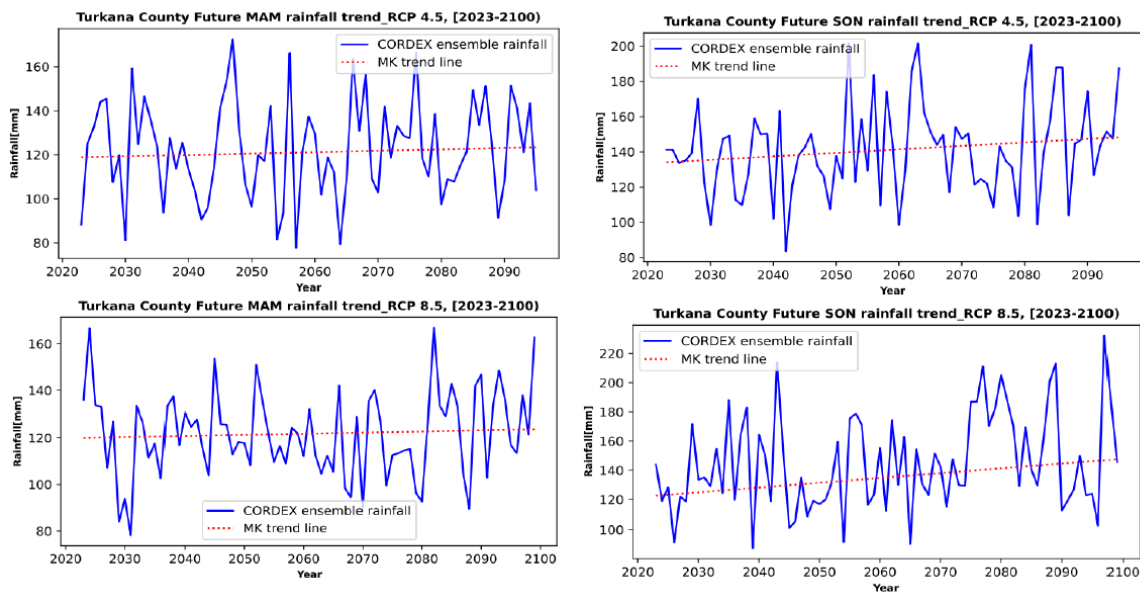
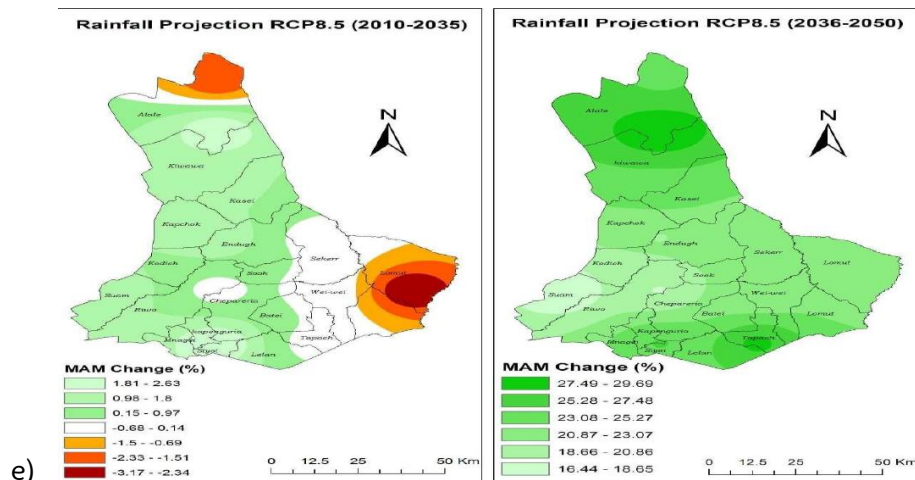


Figure 2: Future seasonal rainfall temporal trends over Turkana County (2023-2100)

West Pokot County’s natural landscape is more varied, comprising fertile highlands, dry valleys, forested escarpments such as the Cherangani Hills, and dryland ecosystems extending toward the Kenya-Uganda border. West Pokot’s dryland forests, especially those in the Cherangani Hills and Kapenguria region, are among Kenya’s most important water towers, feeding into major rivers such as the Wei Wei and Suam. In Turkana, dryland forests are mostly found along riverine areas and seasonal watercourses. These forests serve as biodiversity reservoirs and buffer zones against soil erosion. Rangelands, although arid, are adapted for pastoralist livestock keeping, which is key to food security and cultural identity. These forests are under threat from charcoal burning, overharvesting of timber, and agricultural encroachment. Furthermore, West Pokot County is dominantly a fragile dry forest and dryland ecosystem of 74.5% ASAL and with a forest cover of only 3.9% while Turkana County has 117 thousand hectares of natural forest, which represents 1.8% of its land area.

West Pokot County faces escalating climate hazards, with projections indicating more intense and frequent events due to climate change. Historical trends show a tri-modal rainfall pattern with increasing anomalies, leading to more severe droughts, floods, and heatwaves. About 90% of wards have reported serious impacts from prolonged dry spells and drought, which threaten agriculture-based

livelihoods. Under climate projections for 2010–2035, wards such as Lelan, Sekerr, and Tapach are expected to experience increased rainfall, raising risks of floods and landslides, as shown in Figure 4. Conversely, during 2036–2050, areas in Suam, Kapenguria, and Mnagei will face severe droughts and heat stress. Projections suggest worsening short rains and increased flooding by 2050 in highland zones (West Pokot Participatory Climate Risk Assessment Report, 2023).



e) Figure 1: West Pokot Rainfall Projection

#### f) Turkana and West Pokot Ongoing Interventions

Turkana and West Pokot counties have identified climate-related risks through their published Participatory Climate Risk Assessments (PCRA) reports and articulated their intervention priorities to enhance climate resilience in each county’s Climate Change Action Plans (CCAPs) 2023–2027. These county-led initiatives aim to integrate climate change into development planning at the ward level by identifying localized climate risks, prioritizing community-driven adaptation actions, and enhancing institutional capacity. In Turkana, interventions include operationalizing the County Climate Change Fund, establishing ward climate planning committees, and promoting early warning systems and rangeland restoration. Similarly, West Pokot is strengthening its climate governance structures, financing community resilience projects, and advancing afforestation, soil conservation, and water resource management, especially in high-risk areas like the Cherangani Hills and dryland lowlands. Both counties are aligning these actions with Kenya’s national climate commitments under the NDC and NCCAP, while promoting inclusive participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in climate decision-making.

Additionally, Turkana and West Pokot counties, the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLOCCA) programme has contributed to enhancing climate resilience by empowering communities to identify and implement local adaptation priorities through PCRA. The programme has established and strengthened County and Ward Climate Change Planning Committees, enabling transparent governance and inclusive decision-making. In Turkana, FLOCCA supports rangeland restoration, solar-powered water systems, and drought-resilient agriculture, while in West Pokot, it funds afforestation in the Cherangani Hills, flood control, and climate-smart farming. Both counties have set up and utilize County Climate Change Funds (CCCFs) to finance these actions, with a strong focus on gender and social inclusion, marking a shift toward bottom-up, community-led climate governance.

### ***Key Barriers***

Turkana and West Pokot counties are grappling with escalating ecosystem degradation in their dryland forests and rangelands, driven by a complex interplay of socio-economic and environmental factors. High poverty levels push local communities to rely heavily on unsustainable practices such as charcoal burning, overgrazing, and cultivation of marginal lands. These practices, compounded by inadequate enforcement of environmental regulations, have led to widespread vegetation loss, soil erosion, and declining productivity of natural ecosystems. The degradation is further exacerbated by the limited technical capacity and organizational infrastructure among community-based institutions to plan and implement effective restoration initiatives. Despite community willingness, there is a lack of support mechanisms to promote sustainable land management, particularly in the context of climate-smart reforestation, rangeland rehabilitation, and sustainable livelihoods.

Climate change further intensifies these challenges, with recurrent droughts in Turkana and erratic rainfall, floods, and landslides in West Pokot disrupting ecological balance and livelihoods. Although both counties have developed climate action plans through participatory processes, significant barriers persist. These include limited access to timely and localized climate information, underdeveloped early warning systems, and minimal adoption of drought-tolerant species in restoration efforts. Access to climate finance remains constrained, with many planned interventions underfunded or dependent on donor support. Additionally, policy and institutional gaps hinder coordinated action and the mainstreaming of ecosystem resilience into broader development agendas. Without addressing these systemic barriers, such as poverty, inadequate capacity, unfavourable climatic conditions, inadequate finance, and governance gaps, efforts to restore degraded ecosystems and build community resilience will remain fragmented and insufficient.

The proposed project, Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Project for Sustainable Management of Dryland and Rangeland Ecosystems in Turkana and West Pokot Counties, directly responds to these challenges and national adaptation priorities. It aims to rehabilitate degraded dryland and rangeland ecosystems, modernize climate information and early warning systems, promote climate-resilient nature-based value chains, and strengthen the institutional and governance capacity of both county governments and local communities. By aligning with Kenya's NDC and NCCAP, the project will contribute to enhanced adaptive capacity, ecosystem regeneration, and sustainable livelihoods, supporting long-term resilience and inclusive green development in the country's most vulnerable regions.

### **Project / Programme Objectives:**

- a) Restore degraded dryland and rangelands ecosystems for enhanced socio-ecological functions.
- b) Promote dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains for agro-pastoralists and pastoralist communities.
- c) Strengthen early warning systems at the county and ward level for local communities to undertake early action on climate related risk and disasters.
- d) Strengthen county capacity to access climate finance for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems.

**Project / Programme Components and Financing:**

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US\$)
<b>Component 1:</b> Restoration of degraded Dryland forestry ecosystem	Ecosystem restoration and management plans, regulations and guidelines developed	Degraded Dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems restored	131,307.69
	5,000 Ha of Degraded dryland forestry and rangelands rehabilitated.		2,107,692.31
<b>Subtotal for Component 1</b>			<b>2,239,000.00</b>
<b>Component 2:</b> Nature-based and climate-resilient livelihoods enhancement	Nature-based enterprises such as gum and resins, beekeeping, fodder and pasture production, efficient charcoal production from Prosopis promoted.	Improved livelihoods of communities through dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains	1,615,384.62
	Nature-based enterprises linked to financial, investment and market opportunities.		115,384.62
<b>Subtotal for Component 2</b>			<b>1,730,769.23</b>
<b>Component 3:</b> Establish county-level early warning and action systems for disaster risk management	Meteorological network stations modernized and upgraded	Improved early warning systems for climate related risks and disaster management	419,692.31
	County climate information centers established/strengthened and operationalized.		112,923.08
<b>Subtotal for Component 3</b>			<b>532,615.38</b>
<b>Component 4:</b> Strengthen the local community and county capacity to access climate finance	Capacity of county climate change units and ward climate change planning committees to access climate finance enhanced	Enhanced access to climate finance for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangelands ecosystems	53,846.15
<b>Subtotal Component 3</b>			<b>53,846.15</b>
			<b>4,556,230.77</b>
<b>Project/Programme Execution cost</b>			<b>36,791.00</b>
<b>Total Project/Programme Cost</b>			<b>4,556,230.77</b>
<b>Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)</b>			<b>387,279.00</b>
<b>Amount of Financing Requested</b>			<b>4,943,509.77</b>

## Projected Calendar:

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	July 2026
Mid-term Review (if planned)	December 2027
Project/Programme Closing	June 2029
Terminal Evaluation	December 2029

## PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

### A. Describe the project /programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience.

The project is structured into four integrated components, each with specific outputs and activities as described below

**Component 1: Restoration of degraded dryland and rangeland ecosystems:** This component seeks to restore the ecological integrity and socio-economic value of degraded Dryland and rangeland ecosystems through integrated and participatory rehabilitation measures. By targeting both gazetted and community lands, the component provides concrete adaptation actions that directly address climate-induced land degradation, loss of biodiversity, water scarcity, and declining livelihoods.

Key outputs under this component will include:

**Output 1.1.1: County Integrated ecosystem management plans developed:** To ensure a coordinated and evidence-based approach to ecosystem restoration and climate resilience, the project will begin by training local communities on integrated landscape planning and ecosystem-based adaptation. This will be followed by the development of ecosystem-specific integrated restoration and management plans tailored to local ecological contexts. Additionally, the project will support the formulation of county-level regulations and guidelines on key environmental issues, including invasive species management, charcoal production, sand harvesting, sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products, and sustainable rangeland management.

**Output 1.1.2: 5,000 Ha of Degraded dryland forestry and rangelands rehabilitated:** To restore degraded dryland ecosystems, the project will establish community-level tree nurseries for the propagation of drought-tolerant seedlings. Rehabilitation efforts will focus on restoring dryland forest ecosystems and rangelands using resilient native tree species such as *Acacia* and *Melia volkensii*. Invasive species like *Prosopis juliflora* and *Lantana camara* will be removed and controlled to create space for native biodiversity to recover. Degraded rangelands will be reseeded with indigenous grasses such as *Cenchrus ciliaris* and *Chloris roxburghiana* to improve soil cover and forage availability. Grazing enclosures will be established in selected sites to support natural regeneration. Additionally, soil and water conservation structures including semi-circular bunds, contour trenches, sand dams, gabions, and check dams will be constructed to improve water retention, reduce erosion, and support vegetation recovery.

**Component 2: Nature-based and climate-resilient livelihoods enhancement:** This objective aims to enhance the resilience and economic wellbeing of communities by promoting climate-resilient, nature-based value chains that are sustainable, inclusive, and adapted to the realities of dryland and rangeland ecosystems. The focus is on strengthening community livelihoods through the diversification and scaling of value chains that are environmentally friendly and economically viable.

Key outputs under this component will include:

**Output 2.1.1 Nature-based enterprises such as gum and resins, beekeeping, fodder and pasture production, efficient charcoal production from Prosopis promoted:** To enhance community livelihoods and support sustainable resource use, the project will promote viable nature-based enterprises such as gum and resin harvesting, beekeeping, fodder and pasture production, and efficient charcoal production from *Prosopis juliflora*. An assessment will be conducted to identify and assess the most promising nature-based enterprises for the target areas. Based on this analysis, tailored technical assistance and business development support will be provided for each selected value chain. To further catalyze enterprise development, the project will offer seed grants to support the establishment and scaling of these nature-based enterprises.

**Output 2.1.2: Nature-based enterprises linked to financial, investment and market opportunities:** To ensure the sustainability and scalability of nature-based enterprises, the project will facilitate strategic linkages to financial, investment, and market opportunities. This will involve supporting negotiation and engagement processes to enable enterprises to access additional investment financing. In parallel, the project will identify and connect selected nature-based enterprises to relevant market opportunities, enhancing their profitability and long-term viability.

**Component 3: Climate related disaster management:** this component aims to strengthen the capacity of counties and communities to anticipate, prepare for, and effectively respond to climate-related disasters through robust early warning systems and timely early action. By improving forecasting accuracy, access to climate information, and coordination among stakeholders, the project will reduce climate-induced losses and enhance the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Key outputs under this component will include:

**Output 3.1.1: Meteorological network stations modernized and upgraded:** To enhance climate monitoring and early warning systems, the project will upgrade and install new Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in identified climate risk hotspot areas. These stations will improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather data critical for climate adaptation planning. In addition, targeted training will be provided to relevant staff on the operation and maintenance of the AWS to ensure sustainability and optimal functionality of the network.

**Output 3.1.2: County climate information centers established/strengthened and operationalized:** To improve access to timely and actionable climate information, the project will establish and equip County and ward-level Climate Information Centers. These centers will serve as hubs for collecting, interpreting, and disseminating localized climate data. Co-creation workshops will be conducted to integrate scientific climate data with indigenous knowledge, enabling the development and dissemination of seasonal advisories. Additionally, community health promoters will be trained as Trainers of Trainers (TOTs) to support the grassroots dissemination of early warning information. The project will also build the

capacity of last-mile users and local climate actors to interpret and apply climate information in responding to climate-related risks and disasters, thereby enhancing community preparedness and resilience.

**Component 4: Institutional strengthening of county governments and community groups:** This component aims to enhance the institutional capacity of county governments and community groups to effectively manage dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems. It will focus on building technical and operational capacities to access and manage climate finance, ensuring that counties are better equipped to design, implement, and sustain climate-resilient interventions.

Key outputs under this component will include:

**Output 4.1.1: Capacity of county climate change units and ward climate change planning committees to access climate finance enhanced:** This output focuses on strengthening the ability of county climate change units and ward-level planning committees to mobilize and manage climate finance. The project will provide targeted training to enhance their knowledge and skills in identifying, applying for, and utilizing climate finance opportunities. In addition, the committees will be trained on how to effectively mainstream priority ecosystem restoration and climate adaptation actions into County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and annual county development plans, ensuring alignment with broader development goals and sustainability of interventions.

**B. Describe how the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations.**

The proposed project is expected to generate significant economic, social, and environmental gains, particularly benefiting vulnerable communities in West Pokot and Turkana counties, located within Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). These benefits are designed to address the disproportionate risks faced by marginalized populations, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities and pastoralist communities who depend directly or indirectly on natural resources for their livelihoods.

**Environmental Benefits**

The initiative aims to address environmental degradation through the restoration of over 5,000 hectares of rangeland and dryland forest ecosystems. These interventions will improve vegetation cover, conserve biodiversity, and restore ecological balance in areas affected by climate variability and unsustainable land use practices. Restoration activities such as enrichment planting, dryland agro-forestry, and establishment of drought-resilient woodlots and fruit trees will enhance carbon sequestration, contributing to global climate mitigation objectives. Additionally, restoration activities are expected to contribute to improved soil structure, reduced erosion, and enhanced groundwater recharge, all contributing to better soil and water management. Construction of water harvesting infrastructure will stabilize water supply for both domestic and productive use. Furthermore, targeted management of invasive species, particularly *Prosopis juliflora* will support the recovery of native biodiversity, improve land productivity, and reduce ecological and economic losses associated with invasive plants.

**Economic Benefits**

The project seeks to strengthen community resilience by promoting nature-based enterprises tailored to arid conditions. These include production and value addition of myrrh, gums, resins, aloe vera,

tamarind, herbal medicine, and honey. These enterprises will provide diversified income streams and reduce reliance on rain-fed agriculture and livestock systems, which are increasingly threatened by climate change.

Women and youth, who often face limited access to productive assets, markets, and credit, will be prioritized in enterprise development, training, and access to finance. The project will support them through gender-responsive and youth-inclusive business development services, ensuring their participation across the value chain.

Agroforestry interventions and fodder production will improve agricultural productivity, food and animal feed security, and resilience to climate variability. By strengthening market access for non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and linking producers to microfinance institutions and climate finance mechanisms, the project will facilitate sustainable economic empowerment for vulnerable households. Additionally, ecosystem restoration and enterprise activities will create both short-term and long-term livelihood opportunities particularly targeting women and youth.

### **Social Benefits**

The project adopts a participatory, locally led adaptation (LLA) approach, which empowers communities, particularly vulnerable groups to lead in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of restoration interventions. This will strengthen social cohesion, foster inclusive governance, and support conflict prevention in resource-scarce and conflict-prone environment.

To address gender inequities, the project is fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund's Gender Policy and will implement gender action plans to ensure equitable access to resources, benefits, and decision-making platforms. Tailored leadership and skills development programs will enable women and youth to take on active roles in climate adaptation and community governance structures.

The project will also generate health benefits through the introduction of clean cooking technologies such as energy-efficient stoves. These will reduce exposure to indoor air pollution, which disproportionately affects women and children, while also lowering fuel wood dependence and deforestation pressures.

The project will also enhance anticipatory capacity through strengthened early warning systems and disaster risk reduction mechanisms, equipping vulnerable communities to better prepare and respond to climate-induced hazards such as droughts and flash floods.

### **Avoidance and Mitigation of Potential Negative Impacts**

To ensure the project does not generate unintended negative impacts, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be developed and implemented in compliance with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. The ESMP will include a robust screening of all project activities, stakeholder engagement processes, and grievance redress mechanisms.

Risks such as exclusion of vulnerable groups, environmental degradation, or overharvesting of natural products will be identified and addressed through safeguards integrated into project design and execution. Monitoring and evaluation will include gender-sensitive indicators and participatory tools to track impacts and ensure adaptive management.

**C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme, focusing on the implementation and execution arrangements, in particular the mechanism which will provide more direct access to finance.**

The proposed project has been designed to ensure high cost-effectiveness through its implementation and execution arrangements, with particular emphasis on direct access to finance by the local community. By adopting a locally led, community-driven, and ecosystem-based approach, the project ensures that adaptation actions are context-specific, low-cost, and sustainable delivering maximum impact per unit of investment.

A central feature of the project's cost-effective design is the use of proven, low-cost nature-based solutions such as assisted natural regeneration, grass reseeding, enrichment planting through drought tolerant tree species, and the control of invasive species. These techniques are affordable, scalable, and rely primarily on local knowledge and community participation. This minimizes the need for expensive external expertise, heavy machinery, or imported technologies, thus reducing overall implementation costs.

The project will be executed through a decentralized structure that leverages existing institutional and community mechanisms to reduce transaction costs. Specifically, County Climate Change Units (CCCU), Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPC), Water Resource Users Association (WRUAs), Community Conservancies, Community Forest Associations (CFAs), and local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) will serve as key delivery partners at the local level. These entities are already embedded within target landscapes and have existing mandates and community trust. Their involvement avoids the need to establish parallel delivery systems, ensuring continuity and implementation efficiency.

To enhance cost-effectiveness, the project will adopt a direct access financing mechanism that channels resources to community-level actors through sub-grants. This approach aligns with the Adaptation Fund's Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) priorities by empowering local institutions and community groups to manage and implement adaptation actions. It reduces the number of intermediaries, lowers administrative costs, and ensures that a larger proportion of funds directly support on-the-ground activities. This model not only accelerates delivery but also builds long-term financial management capacity at the local level.

Community contributions through labor, local knowledge, and in-kind resources significantly reduce operational expenditures. Community-led planning, implementation, and monitoring also reduce oversight costs while improving accountability and project relevance. This participatory model ensures that resources are used where they are most needed and where they will have the greatest impact.

In terms of sustainability and return on investment, the project promotes interventions with cross-cutting benefits. For example, water harvesting structures will serve both ecosystem restoration interventions and support livelihood interventions, while dryland agroforestry will support food security, climate resilience, and economic development. These integrated solutions provide multiple co-benefits from a single investment stream.

Furthermore, the project will support scalable nature-based enterprises including gum and resin harvesting, beekeeping, sustainable charcoal production, and herbal medicine production that require small capital but have high income potential and low ecological footprints. Furthermore, through linking these enterprises to market platforms and financial services, the project will reduce future dependence on external support and enhance local economic resilience.

Lastly, investments in governance training, early warning systems, and institutional strengthening are expected to yield long-term cost savings by improving disaster preparedness, reducing response costs, and enabling more effective resource allocation.

**D. Describe how the project/ programme is consistent with national, sub-national and local sustainable development strategies.**

The proposed project, “Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in West Pokot and Turkana Counties,” is firmly anchored and aligned with Kenya’s national and county strategies on sustainable development, climate change adaptation, environmental conservation, and poverty reduction.

At the national level, the project supports Kenya's long-term development goals outlined in Vision 2030 and its implementation through the Third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III). This development plan focuses on restoring degraded ecosystems, creating climate-resilient livelihoods, and improving access to climate finance. The project helps achieve these goals by promoting value chains for dryland products, such as gums, resins, and honey. It also creates jobs for women and youth in climate-resilient businesses and builds the capacity of counties and local communities to access climate finance. By backing community-led restoration, inclusive green jobs, and strengthening local institutions, the project advances these goals while fostering inclusive growth. The proposed initiative aligns well with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which seeks to empower communities at the grassroots level. It does this by investing in sectors that enhance the lives of ordinary citizens, particularly in rural and underserved areas. The project focuses on climate-resilient livelihoods, developing micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), restoring rangelands, governing natural resources, and encouraging inclusive economic participation as key areas for BETA. Therefore, the project plays a role in supporting the government unlock the economic potential of underserved counties such as West Pokot and Turkana by investing in the productivity of people and ecosystems from the ground up.

In terms of alignment with national climate change strategies and plans, the project contributes directly to priorities identified in Kenya’s National Adaptation Plan (NAP 2015–2030), particularly those related to climate-proofing ecosystems, supporting climate-smart livelihoods, and enhancing institutional capacity at local levels. The project’s focus on restoring degraded rangelands and dryland forests, promoting climate resilient nature-based enterprises and enhancing local capacity to access climate finance strongly aligns with these NAP priorities. It also supports the cross-cutting objective of integrating climate information into local development planning.

The project is aligned with Kenya's 2020 Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), reflecting the nation's strong commitment to climate action under the Paris Agreement. This project directly supports the NDC's adaptation priorities in several critical ways. Firstly, the project significantly enhances resilience within Kenya's forestry and wildlife sectors. By undertaking the ambitious restoration of 5,000 hectares of degraded dryland forests and rangelands in Turkana and West Pokot, it directly contributes to the sustainable management of vital natural ecosystems. Secondly, the project aligns with the NDC's agriculture and land use adaptation priorities. It prioritizes the development of climate-resilient, nature-based livelihoods, including practices such as beekeeping, the harvesting of gums and resins, pasture production, and improved grazing management. These interventions are designed to

support agro-pastoralist communities build resilience to increasing climate variability. The project also directly addresses the NDC's emphasis on climate information and early warning systems. It achieves this by establishing and operationalizing county- and ward-level climate information centers, upgrading essential weather monitoring infrastructure, and building the capacity of local actors to interpret and effectively utilize climate data. In terms of enabling actions, a key pillar of Kenya's updated NDC, the project promotes locally led adaptation and improves access to climate finance. It plays an important role in strengthening the institutional capacity of county governments and local planning committees, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to access, implement, and manage climate finance effectively. Finally, the projects enhance equity and social inclusion by deliberately targeting vulnerable populations, including women, youth, and pastoralist communities.

The project directly contributes to the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2023–2027) strategic objectives, particularly on: Enhancing resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods through restoration of degraded dryland ecosystems and support to climate-resilient nature-based livelihoods; Improving access to and use of climate information by establishing localized early warning systems and community climate information centers; Strengthening capacity and climate finance mechanisms at the local levels; and, Promoting gender equality and social inclusion through targeted support to women, youth, and marginalized groups. In addition, it complements Kenya's Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017–2026) by supporting sustainable and diversified agro-pastoral livelihoods that reduce climate-related risks while promoting environmental sustainability.

The proposed project is also strongly aligned with Kenya's National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (NLERS) 2021–2030, which provides a national framework for restoring 10.6 million hectares of degraded land by the year 2030. The NLERS identifies arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) as critical priority landscapes for restoration, given their acute vulnerability to degradation, climate variability, and unsustainable land use. Turkana and West Pokot counties where this project will be implemented are among the regions highlighted due to their high levels of ecosystem degradation and their strategic ecological and socio-economic importance. This project contributes directly to the restoration goals of the NLERS by targeting the rehabilitation of at least 5,000 hectares of degraded dryland forests and rangelands. Restoration interventions such as the establishment of drought-tolerant tree nurseries, reseedling of indigenous grasses, creation of grazing enclosures, control of invasive species like *Prosopis juliflora* and *Lantana camara*, and construction of soil and water conservation structures (e.g., Zai pits, semi-circular bunds, check dams, and sand dams) are consistent with NLERS' recommended approaches. These interventions aim to restore ecological function, improve vegetation cover, enhance water retention, and support biodiversity. Furthermore, the project aligns with the NLERS pillar on economic incentives for restoration by supporting nature-based enterprises such as gum and resin harvesting, beekeeping, pasture production, and sustainable utilization of *Prosopis* biomass. These enterprises provide direct livelihood benefits to communities and serve as incentives to maintain and protect restored landscapes. The project will also facilitate access to markets and finance for these enterprises, thereby ensuring their viability and sustainability.

The project is well aligned with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2019–2030) by contributing to the conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of biodiversity in dryland ecosystems. It supports Target 7 of the NBSAP by restoring 5,000 hectares of degraded dryland forests and rangelands in Turkana and West Pokot areas rich in biodiversity but increasingly degraded due to

invasive species, overgrazing, and climate change. Through interventions such as reseeded with indigenous grasses, removal of invasive alien species (*Prosopis juliflora*, *Lantana camara*), and planting of native tree species, the project restores critical habitats and enhances ecosystem connectivity. It further aligns with Target 2, by integrating biodiversity and ecosystem-based adaptation into county development planning, including County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). Additionally, the project promotes community-based biodiversity stewardship in line with Target 10, by supporting nature-based enterprises such as beekeeping, gum and resin harvesting, and pasture production that create incentives for biodiversity conservation while strengthening local livelihoods. It also contributes to Target 16 by supporting knowledge generation, biodiversity monitoring, and the documentation of traditional ecological knowledge. By engaging women, youth, and indigenous institutions in restoration and governance, the project reflects NBSAP's emphasis on inclusive, locally led biodiversity conservation. In sum, the project operationalizes key elements of the NBSAP within priority dryland landscapes, supporting national efforts to meet biodiversity targets while enhancing climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods.

At the **county level**, the proposed project is fully aligned with the development priorities and climate change actions outlined in the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and County Climate Change Action Plans (CCAPs) of Turkana and West Pokot Counties respectively. The CIDPs and CCAPs recognize the urgent need to build climate resilience, restore degraded ecosystems, and promote inclusive, sustainable livelihoods, particularly in vulnerable arid and semi-arid areas. Both counties identify climate change and land degradation as major challenges affecting ecosystem productivity, biodiversity conservation, and community well-being. The project directly contributes to addressing these challenges by targeting the restoration of 5,000 hectares of degraded dryland forests and rangelands. Restoration interventions such as reforestation using indigenous species, reseeded with native grasses, establishing grazing enclosures, and constructing soil and water conservation structures support CIDP goals of reversing environmental degradation and enhancing ecosystem services. The project is also contributing to building climate resilience which is a cross-cutting objective in both the CIDPs and CCAPs, especially in light of recurring droughts and floods. The project supports this objective by strengthening early warning systems and enhancing access to localized climate information. Additionally, the project will promote climate-resilient, nature-based livelihoods such as beekeeping, gum and resin harvesting, and pasture production. These enterprises are not only environmentally sustainable but also provide alternative income sources, particularly for women and youth. This aligns with CIDP priorities on poverty reduction, employment creation, and inclusive economic development. Institutional capacity-building is another key component that the project is addressing by strengthening capacity of climate change planning committees and county climate units to access and manage climate finance and to integrate ecosystem restoration into county planning and budgeting processes. This enhances the institutional foundation for sustainable development as envisioned in the CIDPs.

Lastly, the proposed project aligns strongly with the counties' ongoing local-level initiatives that promote climate resilience, ecosystem restoration and livelihood improvement through community-based approaches. By working through legally established grassroots institutions such as Climate Change Planning Committees (CCPC), County Climate Units (CCU), Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs), the project will leverage existing local governance structures that are already engaged in managing forests, water catchments, and communal rangelands. These institutions will be key partners in implementing restoration activities and ensuring sustainability. In addition, the project is well-positioned to complement and scale up Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) initiatives, including those under the Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLoCCA) programme, by enabling communities to plan, implement, and monitor restoration and livelihood interventions with technical and financial support. Furthermore, by integrating Participatory Rangeland Management

(PRM) and holistic grazing plans, especially in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) of Turkana and West Pokot, the project will strengthen local land governance, enhance the productivity of degraded rangelands, and support climate-resilient pastoralist livelihoods. These synergies ensure that the project is not only grounded in local realities but also reinforces national and devolved efforts toward sustainable land management and inclusive economic transformation.

**E. Describe how the project / programme meets relevant national technical standards.**

The proposed project in Turkana and West Pokot counties is designed and will be implemented in alignment with the relevant national technical standards and policy frameworks across the environment, forestry, water, and climate change sectors. The project also adheres to the NETFUND Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Policy, which operationalizes the mitigation of risks and the promotion of sustainable development outcomes through all project implementation stages. It also adheres fully to the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund, ensuring that all activities are environmentally sustainable, socially inclusive, and legally compliant with the following requirements:

**Environmental Assessment:** The project complies with the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) Cap 387, Kenya’s overarching environmental legislation. A comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines and approval processes of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). The ESIA will include stakeholder consultations, risk analysis, and the development of project-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) which will be used in monitoring of identified risks. The ESMPs will be developed to mitigate adverse environmental and social impacts while enhancing project benefits, in full alignment with both EMCA ESIA regulations and NETFUND ESS Policy requirements.

**Forestry Standards:** Forestry activities, including restoration of degraded drylands and rangelands, promotion of agroforestry, are implemented in compliance with the Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016, which mandates sustainable forest use, protection of indigenous species, and community participation through Community Forest Associations (CFAs). The project further aligns with Kenya’s National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (2023–2032) and the National Campaign for Achieving and Maintaining Over 10% Forest Cover by 2032, supporting ecosystem-based approaches that increase tree cover and improve local microclimates.

**Water Resource Management:** Water-related interventions such as catchment rehabilitation, rainwater harvesting, spring protection, and sustainable rangeland water use are guided by the Water Act, 2016 and implemented in partnership with Water Resources User Associations (WRUAs). The project aligns with the policies and regulatory requirements of the Water Resources Authority (WRA) and promotes Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles. These activities help enhance water availability, reduce land degradation, and improve water governance in vulnerable arid and semi-arid lands.

**Climate Change Compliance:** The project aligns with the enhanced framework provided under the Climate Change Act, 2023, which mandates the mainstreaming of climate resilience across all sectors and governance levels. The Act strengthens mechanisms for adaptive planning and calls for intergovernmental coordination, transparency, and inclusion in climate responses. In this context, the project supports the implementation of County Climate Change Action Plans (CCCAPs) for Turkana and West Pokot, ensuring that community-based adaptation measures are informed by local climate vulnerabilities and priorities.

Furthermore, the project contributes directly to Kenya’s National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP

2023–2027) and supports the achievement of national Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. By implementing ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) measures, such as rangeland restoration, rehabilitation of water catchments, and promotion of climate-resilient livelihoods, the project enhances community resilience to climate shocks. These efforts are consistent with the Climate Change Act’s emphasis on locally led adaptation, gender and social inclusion, and evidence-based decision-making.

**Compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy:** The project fully adheres to the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund, addressing all 15 safeguard principles, including biodiversity conservation, protection of indigenous peoples, gender equity, public health, and land/resource rights. Environmental and social risk screening is conducted during the project design phase using both the NETFUND ESS screening checklist and the Adaptation Fund’s risk classification system. Potential risks are proactively managed through targeted mitigation measures embedded in project plans.

The project ensures free, prior, and informed consent, especially when working with indigenous and pastoralist communities. It promotes gender equity and meaningful participation of women, youth, and other marginalized groups through inclusive consultation processes and capacity-building initiatives. These measures reflect the principles of both the Adaptation Fund ESP and the NETFUND ESS Policy. To enhance accountability and stakeholder confidence, a Grievance Redress Mechanism is embedded in the project governance framework, accessible at the community, county and executing agency levels. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting processes are designed to be transparent, participatory, and adaptive, in line with NETFUND’s ESS Policy and the Adaptation Fund’s results-based management system.

Open and transparent engagements with all the relevant stakeholders and local communities directly affected by the project will be undertaken in targeted areas. Relevant national and technical standards will be made available and discussed during public disclosure and consultation forums to create awareness. In addition, local communities will be capacity built to actively participate in monitoring and evaluation process of this project.

**F. Describe if there is duplication of project / programme with other funding sources, if any.**

The proposed project components have been designed to avoid duplication with the existing or past projects and programmes. The project strategically builds on and scales up national initiatives, leverages lessons from past interventions, and fills critical gaps in institutional capacity, policy coherence, and cross-sectoral coordination. Each proposed action enhances synergies with the following ongoing projects as well as national efforts to strengthen the country’s resilience to climate change:

The project will complement the **Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA)** Programme which aims to implement locally driven climate resilience initiatives by prioritizing infrastructure investments at the community level. This project will deepen ecosystem restoration and community resilience efforts in West Pokot and Turkana Counties that are not prioritized under FLLoCA. Furthermore, FLLoCA has established structures such as the County Climate Change Funds (CCCFs), County Climate Change Units (CCCUs), and community-level Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPCs); therefore, the proposed will leverage these existing arrangements, thereby reinforcing rather than duplicating existing institutional mechanisms.

The **Restoration and Sustainable Management of Cherangany Forest Ecosystem** project particularly targets West Pokot and Elgeyo Marakwet counties. It primarily concentrates on the upper catchment

and forested highland zones of the Cherangany landscape. These interventions focused on forest rehabilitation, sustainable land management, and livelihoods for forest-adjacent communities within the high-altitude ecosystem belt. In contrast, the proposed project is specifically targeting **lowland areas of West Pokot and scale up to Turkana County**, ecological zones that have historically received limited investment in restoration and resilience-building efforts. These dryland and rangeland ecosystems, located downstream of the Cherangany water tower, play a crucial role in the integrity of the broader watershed and in sustaining the livelihoods of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities.

**West Pokot and Turkana County Climate Change Action Plans (CCCAPs):** the proposed project has been deliberately designed, thereby ensuring that every shilling spent and every intervention undertaken builds upon, rather than replicates, existing efforts. By embedding its activities within the existing County Climate Change Units, Ward Climate Change Planning Committees, and multi-sectoral planning forums already in place, the project strengthens local ownership and avoids the creation of parallel structures. This approach focuses the project's restoration and resilience-building work toward the lowland and arid zones of West Pokot and Turkana, areas that have historically been underserved by both public and donor-funded projects yet face some of the greatest climate-induced risks, from chronic drought to land degradation. By focusing on these marginal wards, the project fills a clear spatial and thematic gap left by earlier highland-oriented initiatives, while strengthening downstream–upstream linkages within the broader Cherangany watershed.

**G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned and how this contributes to building and institutionalizing local capabilities.**

The proposed project incorporates a strong learning and knowledge management component that leverages and strengthens existing local climate change structures such as Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPCs) and County Climate Change Units (CCCUs) to facilitate the systematic generation, documentation, and dissemination of lessons learned from locally led adaptation actions. These structures will serve as the primary platforms for coordinating community-based monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) processes. A committee at the national level comprised of representatives from national agencies and technical institutions, will serve not only as advisory bodies but also as hubs for knowledge dissemination across sectors. The project will build their capacity to collect and analyze data on ecosystem restoration, climate-resilient livelihoods, and the use of early warning systems. Ward committees, supported by county units, will lead participatory learning forums, organize reflection sessions with community members, and ensure continuous feedback is integrated into project implementation.

To institutionalize learning, the CCCUs will act as county-level climate knowledge hubs. These hubs will compile best practices, adaptation case studies, traditional knowledge, and technical guidance generated through the project. The hubs will also be used to package and disseminate climate advisories, ecosystem restoration models, and nature-based enterprise development manuals in accessible formats for both the practitioners and local communities. Additionally, the project will facilitate the documentation and integration of indigenous knowledge systems into Ecosystem Based Adaptation and local adaptation planning. Community elders, women's groups, pastoral and agropastoral community members will be engaged to capture traditional indicators of drought, customary rangeland management practices, and local coping mechanisms. This knowledge will be co-produced and validated through multi-stakeholder workshops and integrated into seasonal forecasting and planning processes led by the ward committees and CCCUs.

Knowledge products developed by these structures including community learning briefs, policy notes, and audiovisual materials will be shared across the two counties and with national platforms such as the National Climate Change Resource Centre and the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Knowledge Portal. The project will also facilitate inter-county peer learning and contribute to regional and international adaptation learning networks, such as the Adaptation Fund Community of Practice. Through this approach, the project will ensure that learning is not only captured but also owned, applied, and institutionalized by local climate governance structures, thereby strengthening the long-term capacity of counties to scale and sustain locally led, ecosystem-based adaptation.

- H. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.** NETFUND conducted a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise to identify relevant institutions and actors essential to the successful development and implementation of the proposed project. This process informed the formation of a Technical Working Group (TWG), with memberships drawn from the State Department of Forestry (SDF), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), and the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). The TWG provided strategic guidance and played a central role in conceptualizing and designing the proposal.

Following its formation, on 19th to 23rd May, 2025, the TWG conducted field missions to Turkana and West Pokot Counties, where it held extensive consultations with local communities to identify key climate-related challenges and explore context-specific adaptation interventions. These engagements ensured that the voices of community members, including vulnerable and marginalized groups were meaningfully incorporated into the project design. Importantly, this process helped ensure that the proposed interventions are locally led, reflect community priorities, and foster a strong sense of local ownership and sustainability. During the field missions, the TWG also held consultative meetings with the County Governments of Turkana and West Pokot to align the proposed interventions with county-level climate and development priorities, ensuring coherence with County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and County Climate Change Action Plans (CCCAPs).

At the national level, the TWG conducted further engagements with key stakeholders, including the SDF, KFS, KMD, KEFRI and NDMA to secure alignment with national climate change and environmental policies. In addition, NETFUND held a high-level consultation with the Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Kenya, the Principal Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, to confirm that the proposal aligns with the country's adaptation priorities and strategic direction under the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP).

To conclude the consultative process, a virtual validation workshop was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025, bringing together all stakeholders involved to review, refine, and validate the proposed project components, ensuring ownership, relevance, and broad-based support for successful implementation. All these consultations have been summarized in Annex 4.

- I. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.** The proposed project seeks **USD 4.943,510 million** from the Adaptation Fund to implement targeted ecosystem-based and community-driven climate adaptation interventions in Turkana and West Pokot Counties two of Kenya's most vulnerable and underserved arid and semi-arid counties. These regions face persistent climate-related threats including prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, land degradation,

invasive species, and food and water insecurity, all of which severely compromise the livelihoods and resilience of agro-pastoralist communities.

The funding request is based on the full cost of adaptation reasoning, recognizing that climate change is compounding existing land degradation challenges in Turkana and West Pokot. These counties are already characterized by poverty, food insecurity, and fragile ecosystems, but climate change is intensifying degradation, threatening pastoral and agro-pastoralist livelihoods, and undermining local adaptive systems. Without targeted adaptation interventions, communities face escalating drought impacts, declining rangeland productivity, and increased conflict over natural resources.

In a business-as-usual scenario, local and county systems would remain ill-equipped to respond to climate risks. Ecosystem degradation will worsen, communities will lack access to usable climate information, and vulnerable group particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities would be further excluded from decision-making and adaptive livelihood opportunities.

The proposed funding will cover the incremental costs of climate adaptation, including:

- a) Restoration of degraded dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems to enhance their capacity to buffer climate shocks. The AF funding of USD 2.2 Million will enable rehabilitation of at least 5,000 hectares of degraded rangelands and dry forests using drought tolerant tree species, enclosures for natural regeneration, control of invasive species like *Prosopis juliflora*, and the construction of water-harvesting and soil conservation infrastructure. These interventions will enhance carbon sequestration, reduce surface runoff, regenerate native vegetation, and buffer communities against drought and extreme weather.
- b) Support for adaptive, nature-based livelihoods that reduce pressure on ecosystems. The livelihoods of many households in the target counties are at risk due to climate shocks affecting livestock and subsistence farming. The project proposes to introduce and scale up nature-based enterprises such as sustainable gum and resin harvesting, beekeeping, fodder and pasture production and storage, and value chains for sustainable charcoal and non-timber forest products. The AF funding of USD 1.7 Million will enable provision of seed capital, technical training, and market linkages to promote these activities.
- c) Strengthening of local early warning systems and climate information services; AF financing of USD 0.5 Million will support the modernization of automatic weather stations, operationalization of climate information centers at ward and county levels, and training of community-based actors (especially women and youth) to interpret and apply forecasts. These systems will be linked to national meteorological services and adapted for use in local decision-making, especially among last-mile users.
- d) Institutional capacity-building to access and manage climate finance and mainstream adaptation into local plans; and. The project funding of USD 0.05 Million enable strengthening of Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPCs) and County Climate Change Units (CCCU) to access, manage, and mainstream climate finance. It will support the integration of ecosystem restoration priorities into County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) enhancing governance on landscape and ecosystem management.

The indicative budget reflects the scale and nature of interventions needed to achieve climate resilience outcomes that go beyond regular development investments. These actions are specifically designed to address additional climate-related vulnerabilities and would not be undertaken without dedicated adaptation finance. The detailed costing will be refined and established during full proposal development stage.

Ultimately, the AF funding will enable the project to build on and complement ongoing government and donor-supported initiatives (such as the World Bank's FLoCCA program) by addressing key ecosystem-based and locally led adaptation gaps that are not currently funded. The funding will enable the delivery of tailored, community-led adaptation measures that address climate-specific risks, fill

critical resource and capacity gaps, and build lasting resilience among the most affected populations particularly women, youth, and pastoralist communities. It will also contribute to Kenya's climate commitments under its National Adaptation Plan, updated NDC, and National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy.

**J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project / programme.**

Sustainability has been a core consideration in the design of this project to ensure that it not only delivers immediate adaptation benefits but also lays a solid institutional and community foundation for long-term, self-sustained climate resilience, beyond the project's implementation period as outlined below.

**Strengthening Local Governance for Long-Term Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Action:** The project prioritizes strengthening locally led governance mechanisms for ecosystem-based adaptation and climate resilience. This will be through strengthening existing structures such as the Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPCs) and County Climate Change Units (CCCU) which are embedded in Kenya's devolved climate change framework. These bodies will be capacitated to identify, plan, prioritize, and monitor ecosystem-based adaptation and climate resilience livelihood actions enabling local community participation. with full community participation. By using the existing local climate governance structures,

**Mainstreaming Adaptation into County Development Processes:** A key sustainability strategy the project has proposed is the mainstreaming of project-supported interventions into County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), and annual development budgeting cycles. Ecosystem restoration priorities and nature-based enterprises promoted by the project will be mainstreamed in the county plans and budgets, ensuring long-term political and financial support. The project also promotes cross-departmental collaboration at county level (e.g., between environment, agriculture, water, finance, and social services departments), thereby institutionalizing integrated approaches to climate adaptation within the government's own structures

**Enhancing Environmental Sustainability:** The Project will adopt integrated approaches to natural resources management while adhering to the provisions of Environmental Management and Coordination Act, 2016. Environmental and social impact assessment will be undertaken before implementation of activities perceived to have adverse impacts to environment and the affected communities. Negative impacts will be identified and mitigation measures put in place to ensure that the integrity of the environment is sustained.

**Financial sustainability:** To address financial sustainability, the project will support counties and ward-level structures to develop bankable adaptation proposals as means to unlock access to domestic and global climate finance. To ensure sustainability and scalability of the livelihoods and nature-based enterprises, viable climate resilience nature enterprises such as myrrh, gums, resins, fodder, beekeeping, aloe vera, ecotourism, tamarind, and herbal medicines will be linked to markets and financing opportunities. By facilitating these connections, communities will be better positioned to grow their nature-based enterprises, strengthen local value chains, and improve livelihoods while promoting environmental conservation.

**K. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.**

The proposed project has been developed in line with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. An initial environmental and social screening has been conducted to assess potential risks and impacts associated with the project as summarized in the table

below, in accordance with the safeguard areas outlined in the ESP. Based on this assessment and consistent with the Fund’s accreditation requirements, the project has been classified as Category C, indicating minimal or no adverse environmental and social impacts.

During the full proposal stage, the project will undertake detailed assessments of Environmental and Social risks identified and develop an Environmental and Social Management Plan. This will be done through public participation and meaningful consultations across the targeted counties. Furthermore, during implementation complaints related to environmental, social and gender risks or impacts caused by this project will be addressed in accordance to NETFUND’s Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). Communities to be affected or likely to be affected by projects will be informed of the existence of GRM at the earliest opportunity of the stakeholder engagement process and in an understandable format in all relevant languages. The details for sending complaints containing contact information and the appropriate modes by which these will be submitted, received, time taken to respond, and person responsible will be provided and disseminated with other involved institutions.

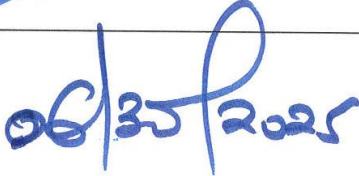
Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> All project activities will comply with relevant national and sub-national laws and regulations during the implementation phase.
<i>Access and Equity</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The proposed project activities are aimed at generating environmental, social and economic benefits to the communities, such as harvesting non-timber forest products without compromising access and equity to all.
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project activities will not have any negative impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups. Additionally, the project interventions, especially the component on Nature-based and climate-resilient livelihoods, have been designed to benefit marginalized pastoralist communities, youth and women-led groups.
<i>Human Rights</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project will adhere to both national and international human rights standards.
<i>Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project has made deliberate efforts to ensure gender equality in all activities while ensuring women’s empowerment, such as activities designed to target women and youth.
<i>Core Labor Rights</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> All partners in this project will adhere to fair labour standards, and there will be no child labour in any activities of the project.
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b>

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
		The project has been designed with input from local communities, including indigenous people, and they will be supported through livelihood activities such as beekeeping and herbal medicine.
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>	x	No identified risk
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>	x	No risk identified since the project is aimed at restoring degraded ecosystems such as gazetted forests.
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project will ensure no loss of biodiversity by developing management plans for invasive species that incorporate input from relevant stakeholders.
<i>Climate Change</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project is designed to promote climate change adaptation by enhancing adaptive capacity, supporting ecosystem regeneration, and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to climate-related shocks and stresses
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The project will provide clean cooking stoves to local communities, contributing to pollution prevention and resource efficiency by significantly reducing indoor air pollution
<i>Public Health</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The proposed project contributes significantly to improved public health by enhancing access to safe and reliable water through the installation of water structures and rainwater harvesting facilities, thereby reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases and improving hygiene and sanitation. Additionally, the introduction of clean cooking stoves will reduce indoor air pollution, which is a major cause of respiratory illnesses, especially among women and children.
<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The proposed project does not present any risk to the physical or cultural heritage of the targeted communities.
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>	x	<b>Low/No Risk</b> The proposed project intends to restore degraded dryland and rangelands ecosystems

## PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

### A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government<sup>1</sup>

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

<p><b>Signature</b>.....  <i>Dr. Eng. Festus K. Ngeno, MIEK, CBS</i>  <b>Principal Secretary</b>          State Department for Environment and Climate Change          Ministry of Environment, Climate Change &amp; Forestry,          Kenya</p>	 Date: (Month, day, year)
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### B. Implementing Entity certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (National Adaptation Plan (NAP 2015–2030), the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2023-2027) and updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 2020) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.

*Name & Signature:*

***Samson Toniok, Chief Executive Officer, National Environment Trust Fund (NETFUND)***



Implementing Entity Coordinator

Date: *June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

Tel. and email: +254721514869  
[samson.toniok@netfund.go.ke](mailto:samson.toniok@netfund.go.ke)

Project Contact Person: **Andrew Machora**

Tel. And Email: +254729553304 [andrew.machora@netfund.go.ke](mailto:andrew.machora@netfund.go.ke)



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FORESTRY  
State Department for Environment & Climate Change  
Office of the Principal Secretary**

Telegrams: "NATURE", Nairobi  
Telephone: 254-20- 2730808/9  
Fax: 254-20- 2734722  
Email : [psoffice@environment.go.ke](mailto:psoffice@environment.go.ke)

SHA BUILDING  
RAGATI ROAD  
P. O. BOX 30126-00100  
NAIROBI

When replying, please quote:

**Ref. No. MEF/EMC/1/5**

**30<sup>th</sup> June, 2025**

**The Adaptation Fund Board**

c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: [Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org](mailto:Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org)  
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

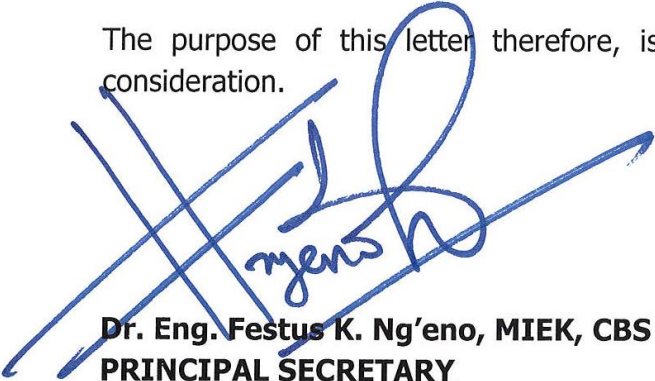
**RE: ENDORSEMENT OF THE ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION FOR  
CLIMATE-RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS IN TURKANA AND WEST POKOT  
COUNTIES, KENYA**

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In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Kenya, I confirm that the above National Project proposal is in accordance with the Government's National Priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above Project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the Project budgeted **USD.4.943,509**, will be implemented by National Environment Trust Fund (NETFUND) and executed by State Department for Forestry, Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA), National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), and The County Governments of Turkana and West Pokot.

The purpose of this letter therefore, is to endorse the Project for funding consideration.



**Dr. Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, MIEK, CBS**  
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

**Annex 2: Project Formulation Grant  
Revised PFG Submission Form<sup>7</sup>**

**Project Formulation Grant (PFG)**

**Submission Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Adaptation Fund Project ID:**

**Country/ies:** Kenya

**Title of Project/Programme:** Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Turkana and West Pokot Counties, Kenya.

**Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE):** National Implementing Entity

**Implementing Entity:** National Environment Trust Fund

**Executing Entity/ies:**

- State Department for Forestry (SDF)
- Kenya Forest Service (KFS)
- Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)
- Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD)
- National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)
- The County Governments of Turkana and West Pokot.
- Restoration Africa – Rift Valley Division

**A. Project Preparation Timeframe**

<b>Start date of PFG</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2025
<b>Completion date of PFG</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026

**B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)**

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	<a href="#">Budget note[1]</a>
Hold workshops to design and develop the full project proposal	Full project proposal designed and developed	12,153.85	Hold 3 workshop at: conference facility for 20 pax @ kes 4000 for 3 days DSA facilitation for 20 pax for 3 days @ kes 14,000 Fuel of 20,000 per workshop
Onboard a consultant to support design and development of the project	Consultant onboarded	23,076.92	Procure a consultant at kes. 3M
Undertake feasibility Study	Feasibility study report developed	23,076.92	Consultant onboarded 3,000,000

<sup>7</sup> As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	<a href="#">Budget note[1]</a>
Undertake Stakeholder consultations to inform the design of the project	Stakeholder consultations undertaken	5,369.23	DSA facilitation for 20 for 3 days at kes 14000 transport @ 150,000 for both counties transport reimbursement for 100 at 2000 each conference facility at kes 3000 for 20 pax for 2 counties
Undertake Gender and Environmental and Social risk assessment	Environmental and Social Management Plan and Gender Action Plan developed	19,230.77	Procure a consultant at kes 2500000
Management Fee		2487.23	3% of the total budget
<b>Total Project Formulation Grant</b>		<b>85,394.92</b>	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

To effectively design and develop the full project concept note, the National Implementing Entity (NIE) will require preparatory grant funding to undertake the following key activities:

**Stakeholder Workshops for Project Design and Validation:** three workshops involving key stakeholders from the executing entities and local communities' representatives. The **first workshop** will focus on co-designing the project concept, ensuring alignment with national priorities and local needs. The **second workshop** will be held after the feasibility study and stakeholder consultations, with the aim of integrating findings into the draft proposal. Finally, the **third workshop** will serve as a validation forum to bring together all relevant stakeholders to review and endorse the final proposal. These workshops are critical for ensuring the project is participatory, inclusive, and rooted in locally led adaptation approaches. A total budget of USD 12,153.85 will be required to procure conference facilities, cover for travel expense as well as accommodation for participants to undertake this activity.

**Engagement of a Consultant for Proposal Development:** a qualified consultant will be engaged at a cost of USD 23,076.92 to support the technical development of the full project proposal. The consultant will ensure that the proposal meets Adaptation Fund requirements and reflects inputs from feasibility studies, stakeholder consultations, and gender and environmental assessments. Hence a consultant will be onboarded at a cost of USD 23,076.92 to support this activity.

**Feasibility Study:** a feasibility study will be conducted to assess the technical, environmental, and social viability of the proposed interventions. This will inform project design by identifying potential risks,


opportunities, and implementation strategies. Hence a consultant will be onboarded at a cost of USD 23,076.92 to support this activity.

**Stakeholder Consultations:** an inclusive stakeholder consultation will be undertaken at national, county, and community levels to ensure the project design is participatory and that proposed interventions respond to locally identified priorities and needs. This will help ensure local ownership and sustainability of project outcomes. A total budget of USD 5,369.23 will be required to cater for travel cost and accommodations for participants as well as lunches for the local communities.

**Gender Analysis and Environmental and Social Risk Assessment:** a comprehensive gender analysis and Environmental and Social Risk Assessment (ESRA) will be conducted to ensure the project is inclusive, equitable, and compliant with the Adaptation Fund’s Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. These assessments will guide the integration of safeguards and gender-responsive strategies into the project design. A consultant will be onboarded at a cost of USD 19,230.77 to support undertake this activity.

### Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board’s procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund’s criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
National Environment Trust Fund		June 28, 2025	Mr. Samson Toniok	020 2369563	<a href="mailto:info@netfund.go.ke">info@netfund.go.ke</a>

### Annex 3: Results Framework

Project Objective(s) <sup>8</sup>	Project Objective Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Objective 1: Restore degraded dryland and rangelands ecosystems for enhanced socio-ecological functions.	Hectares of degraded drylands and rangelands ecosystems restored	Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress	5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	2,239,000.00
Objective 2: Promote dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains for agro-pastoralists and pastoralist communities.	Number of agro-pastoralist and pastoralist households sustainably participating in dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains	Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods	1,730,769.23
Objective 3: Strengthen early warning systems at the county and ward level for local communities to undertake early action on climate related risk and disasters.	Number of local communities covered by early warning system and weather information	Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to climate-related hazards and threats	1. Relevant threat and hazard information generated and disseminated to stakeholders on a timely basis	532,615.38
Objective 4: Strengthen county capacity to access climate finance for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of county staff trained on how to access climate finance</li> <li>Amount of climate finance accessed by the targeted counties for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangelands ecosystems</li> </ul>	Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses	2.1. Capacity of staff to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events from targeted institutions increased	53,846.15

<sup>8</sup> The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

Project Outcome(s)	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Outcome 1: Degraded Dryland forestry and rangeland ecosystems restored	Hectares of degraded dry land forestry and rangeland ecosystems restored	Output 5: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	2,239,000.00
Outcome 2: Livelihoods of communities improved through dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains	Percentage increase in household income among target community members engaged in dryland forestry and rangeland nature-based value chains.	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	6.1.1. No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies	1,730,769.23
Outcome 3: Improved early warning systems for climate related risks and disaster management	Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses/actions	Output 1.2: Targeted population groups covered by adequate risk reduction systems	1.2.1. Percentage of target population covered by adequate risk-reduction systems	532,615.38
Outcome 4: Enhanced access to climate finance for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangelands ecosystems	Amount of climate finance accessed for sustainable management of dryland forestry and rangelands ecosystems	Output 2.2: Increased readiness and capacity of national and sub-national entities to directly access and program adaptation finance	2.2.1 No. of people benefitting from the direct access and enhanced direct access modality	53,846.15

## **Annex 4: Stakeholder Consultation Summary Report**

### **Introduction**

The project's concept was carefully crafted through extensive engagement with relevant stakeholders and partners. The National Implementing Entity (NIE), NETFUND collaborated with the State Department of Forestry to form a project development team to spearhead concept development. To ensure that the project incorporated priority issues from the community and enhanced inclusivity, collaboration among key partners and knowledge sharing in the project design, stakeholder mapping exercises, consultation processes with various stakeholders including the community and county governments, and site visits were undertaken. These were then followed by the project design workshops and validation meetings with key stakeholders to review, verify and confirm the accuracy of information, needs assessments and the proposed project solutions.

### **A) Stakeholder Mapping**

Stakeholder identification was critical in this process to ensure the project addresses real needs by incorporating diverse stakeholder perspectives, especially from affected communities and understand the influence, needs, expectations, and potential impact of each stakeholder throughout the project lifecycle. This process was conducted at the national, county and community levels. The stakeholders identified at the national level included the State Department for Environment and Climate Change (SDECC), State Department for Forestry (SDF), National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI). At the county level, County Governments of Turkana and West Pokot were identified together with county climate structures including the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, County Climate Change Units (CCCUs) and Ward Climate Change Planning Committees, (WCCPC). Community groups including agro-pastoralist households, indigenous community youth and women groups, Community Forest Associations (CFAs), Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAS) and community-based organizations (CBOs) involved in environmental conservation and natural resource management.

### **B) Consultation Processes**

The preparation of this project was grounded in a participatory and inclusive stakeholder consultative process, consistent with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. The process was designed to ensure that the priorities, knowledge, and experiences of communities, especially vulnerable and marginalized groups, shaped the project design and implementation approach.

Consultation processes were conducted beginning with courtesy visits (19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025) to the county governments to obtain support from key county leadership, including the Governors and position the project within the counties' development agendas, such as CIDPs (County Integrated Development Plans), County Climate Change Action Plans (CCCAPs), and Land Use Plans. Further consultations were conducted with the Directors of Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, County Climate Change Units (CCCUs) and Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPC) to gather insights from the county structures based on their understanding of ecosystem challenges, traditional land use practices, and ongoing restoration efforts

*Courtesy call to West Pokot and Turkana Counties' governor offices*



Community meetings involving participatory engagement sessions were conducted with local community members and local stakeholders to gather their views, identify priority areas for intervention (e.g., degraded rangelands, water catchments, forest patches) and co-design solutions for restoring and managing degraded ecosystems through nature-based approaches. These meetings enhanced understanding of local perceptions of barriers to land degradation and sustainable climate change adaptation.

The following challenges and proposed interventions were presented;

Challenges Proposed	Proposed interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invasive species eg Prosopis Juliflora</li> <li>• Inadequate water</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Overgrazing</li> <li>• Human wildlife conflict</li> <li>• Deep Gulley erosion</li> <li>• Poverty</li> <li>• Human wildlife conflict</li> <li>• Pasture depletion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invasive spp management</li> <li>• Pasture Reseeding</li> <li>• Water harvesting and storage</li> <li>• Gulley filling, Terraces and gabions construction</li> <li>• Drought tolerant crops</li> <li>• Linkages to finance institutions</li> </ul>

*Meetings with WRUAs, IPs, CFAs and community conservation groups*



Site visits were also conducted to observe firsthand the signs of land degradation such as bare or crusted soils, deforested areas, gully formation and loss of pasture and map out critical hotspots and potential pilot sites such as degraded grazing lands, riverbanks, hilltops and forest patches that require urgent restoration.

*Pictures showing site degradation*



## C) PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP

**Title:** Workshop for the development of the Locally Led Adaptation Fund Concept Note

**Venue:** Seo Hotel, Machakos

**Dates:** 3rd -5th June 2025

### **Purpose of the Workshop**

The main purpose of the workshop was to collaboratively develop the concept note for Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Turkana and West Pokot Counties, Kenya. The project under the Locally Led Adaptation Window of the Adaptation Fund aims to sustainably restore degraded dryland forestry and rangelands ecosystems for increased climate resilience and improved livelihoods in Turkana and W. Pokot Counties. Key objectives were to gather expert input to strengthen project design and implementation strategies and review existing policies, programs, and data relevant to dryland and rangeland restoration and climate resilience.

### **Participants**

The workshop brought together teams from NETFUND and the State Department of Forestry, who worked jointly to contribute their technical expertise, align priorities and co-develop the full concept note for the project.

### **Key activities**

- Review of the Adaptation Fund requirements and guidelines
- Situational analysis of land degradation challenges in Turkana and West Pokot Counties
- Identification of priority intervention areas and adaptation strategies
- Drafting the concept note including the problem statement, objectives, components, budget framework, and institutional arrangements.
- Post review and refinement of the draft to ensure clarity, coherence, and alignment with donor expectations

### **Next Steps**

- Final editing and validation of the project concept note
- Internal review and approval by relevant institutions
- Submission to the Adaptation Fund
- Continued stakeholder engagement especially with county governments and local communities

## D) VALIDATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

**Title:** Stakeholder Validation Meeting for Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Turkana and West Pokot Counties, Kenya

**Venue:** Virtual

**Dates:** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Stakeholder validation was conducted virtually with key stakeholders to review and validate the project's design, approach, and proposed activities. These validation sessions were essential in ensuring that the project reflects local priorities, addresses stakeholder concerns, and secures broad-based support before final submission.

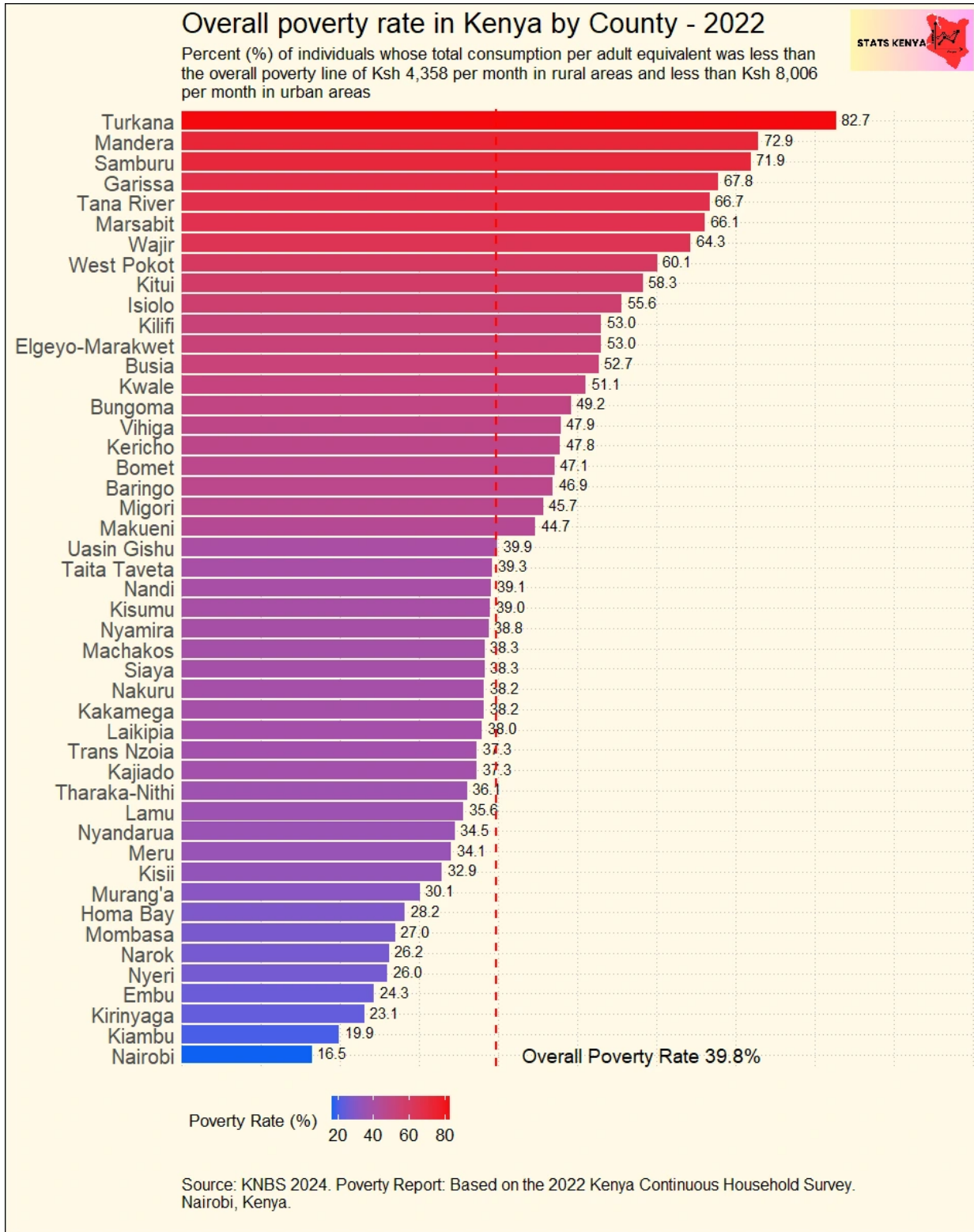
### **Purpose of the stakeholder validation meetings**

- Ensure that the EbA project design is responsive to the environmental and socio-economic conditions of the target counties.
- Gather inputs and refinements from county governments, community leaders, NGOs, technical experts, and other stakeholders involved in natural resource management.
- Strengthen stakeholder commitment and collaboration during implementation.
- Uncover potential issues, overlooked groups, or areas needing further clarification or technical support.
- Explore opportunities to align with other ongoing programs or leverage local initiatives.

### **Participants**

The participants were drawn from state department for environment and climate change, state department for forestry (SDF), Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI). The validation also involved county government representatives, including directors responsible for Environment and Natural Resources as well local community representatives from the Restoration Africa Rift Valley Division.

## Annex 5: Poverty Ranking of Counties in Kenya



## Annex 6: Initial Gender Analysis Report for West Pokot and Turkana Counties

### West Pokot County

West Pokot County, located in Kenya's Rift Valley region, had a total population of 621,241 in the 2019 census. The gender distribution was relatively balanced, with 50.3% female and 49.7% male, reflecting near national parity. This balance suggests that gender-based planning and interventions can assume an even distribution in basic services unless sector-specific data suggests otherwise.

The table below presents the gender breakdown by sub-county:

Sub-County	Total Population	Male	Female
Central Pokot	119,016 (incl 3 intersex)	59,682	59,331
North Pokot	134,485 (incl 3 intersex)	64,780	69,702
Pokot South	80,661 (incl 2 intersex)	39,808	40,851
West Pokot	184,446	91,820	92,626
Kipkomo	102,633 (incl 7 intersex)	50,923	51,703
<b>Total</b>	<b>621,241 (including 15 intersex)</b>	<b>307,013</b>	<b>314,213</b>

Source: KNBS, 2019 Population Census – Volume I

The slight female predominance in all sub-counties points to a stable gender demographic structure. This creates a favorable environment for equitable service delivery in health, education, and economic empowerment programs. The gender balance also implies that interventions targeting women and girls will not face numeric disadvantages and can be scaled countywide.

### Turkana County

Turkana County, located in the northwestern region of Kenya, had a total population of 926,976 according to the 2019 census. Turkana presents a more noticeable gender imbalance, with 478,087 males and 448,868 females, representing a sex ratio of 107 males for every 100 females. Additionally, the census recorded 21 intersex persons, which, while statistically negligible, underscores the importance of inclusive gender reporting.

The sub-county gender breakdown is detailed below:

Sub-County	Total Population	Male	Female
Turkana Central	185,305	93,145	92,160
Turkana North	65,218	32,810	32,408
Turkana South	153,736 (incl 5 intersex)	78,402	75,329

Turkana East	138,526 (incl 12 intersex)	76,871	61,643
Turkana West	239,627 (incl 2 intersex)	123,867	115,758
Loima	107,795 (incl 1 intersex)	54,531	53,453
Kibish	36,769 (incl 1 intersex)	18,651	18,117
<b>Total</b>	<b>926,976 (including 21 intersex)</b>	<b>478,087</b>	<b>448,868</b>

*Source: KNBS, 2019 Population Census – Volume I*

The skew toward a male-majority population is especially pronounced in Turkana East, where males account for over 55% of the population. This may reflect patterns of male-dominated migration, livestock herding dynamics, or differential access to services that affect gender reporting and survival.

The male predominance has implications for:

- Resource allocation in education, employment, and economic development, especially for youth and male-headed households.
- Gender-based programming, where women and girls may need targeted support to close access gaps.
- Peace and security, considering pastoralist-related conflicts often involve young men.

Additionally, programs addressing maternal health, girl education, and women’s economic empowerment should be grounded in this demographic context, recognizing that although fewer in number, women may face greater systemic barriers.

### **Conclusion and Next Steps**

The gender analysis reveals that:

- West Pokot County has a relatively balanced population between males and females, suggesting opportunities for equitable service design.
- Turkana County exhibits a male-skewed gender distribution, which may have implications for service delivery, migration dynamics, and socio-economic planning.

Further analysis should include:

- Age-disaggregated gender data, especially for school-going, reproductive-age, and elderly populations.
- Socio-economic roles by gender, especially in relation to livelihoods such as pastoralism, small enterprise, and household labor.

This initial analysis provides a foundation for integrating gender considerations into planning, programming, and monitoring of county development interventions.