



Consolidating the Kenyan restoration movement

Conference Summary Report



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Acronyms

AFR 100	African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative
ASALs	Arid and Semi-arid Lands
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community Based Organisations
CI	Conservation International
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CIFOR-ICRAF	Center for International Forestry Research – World Agroforestry
COG	Council of Governors
FLR	Forest and Landscape Restoration
FOLAREP	Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan 2022 - 2027
GLF	Global Landscapes Forum
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KFS	Kenya Forest Service
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
KWTA	Kenya Water Towers Agency
LA	Land Accelerator
MoLD	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
NACOFA	National Alliance of Community Forest Associations
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NMK	National Museums of Kenya
NRT	Northern Rangelands Trust
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, plus the sustainable management of forests, and the conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature

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The Background and Objectives



Landscape restoration is a priority for the Kenyan government. This is demonstrated by its multiple commitments to restore degraded landscapes. For example, the government has committed to restore 5.1 million hectares by 2030 under the African Forest and Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) and Bonn Challenge and is in the process of implementing a National Campaign for Achieving and Maintaining Over 30% Tree Cover by 2032, having surpassed the 10% tree cover mandated under the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. Other restoration-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) it has committed to include the UNCBD, UNFCCC, where Kenya has committed to reducing 11 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) from the forest sector as part of the National Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation, the UNCCD's Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030, and the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030. Kenya is also a member of the [High Ambition Coalition \(HAC\) for Nature and People](#) to protect at least 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030. Kenya is also party to the Glasgow Leaders Commitment at UNFCCC COP 26 to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation.

This has resulted in numerous cross-sectoral efforts being undertaken towards restoration, spearheaded by multiple stakeholders. But many of these efforts remain fragmented and could benefit greatly from pursuing greater synergies.

The [Kenya National Landscape Restoration Scaling Conference 2021](#) successfully catalyzed action for landscape restoration, supporting a restoration movement in the country. It was held in response to the critical need to forge synergies among the numerous, but fragmented restoration efforts (inspired by the government's restoration-related commitments). The conference provided a platform for stakeholders in the restoration space to come together and develop a common roadmap and agree on key actions. Central to the resulting restoration movement were the action groups formed around the various conference themes. These action groups bring

together over 100 organizations to work collectively to scale land restoration in Kenya.

The Kenya National Landscape Restoration Scaling Conference 2022 was therefore organized as a follow up to the conference in 2021. It aimed to showcase the restoration movement created, take stock of the progress made to achieve the agreed-upon action plans from the 2021 conference, and seek agreement and commitments from actors in the restoration space on the next steps to consolidate the movement. It was held on 24th and 25th November 2022 with the following specific objectives:

1. Showcase progress made since the 2021 conference in achieving agreed action plans and the creation of a restoration movement.
2. Bring together stakeholders working in the restoration space to agree on key actions to support the implementation of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) 2022-2027 and monitoring framework, including required policy adjustments.
3. Discuss incentives and avenues for resource mobilization to support and scale restoration projects, particularly efforts led by the community, youth, women, faith-based actors, and the private sector.
4. Explore the role of existing practices and approaches to support the scaling of restoration efforts in agricultural, forest, and rangelands.
5. Showcase approaches and models to enhance the inclusion of children, youth, and women in restoration efforts and launch a capacity strengthening program for youth, women and faith actors involved in restoration.

Day 1 and 2 of the conference focused on Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) Integration at County Level and the Next Steps with the Restoration Movement, respectively.

A total of **333** and **275** participants joined the conference on Days 1 and 2 respectively.

Conference Themes



The conference had three main themes:

1. Landscape restoration approaches, practices, planning, and monitoring
2. Youth and women inclusion in restoration
3. Faith-based restoration

1. LANDSCAPE RESTORATION APPROACHES, PRACTICES, PLANNING AND MONITORING

Objectives

- Showcase the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) along with the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Framework and discuss how actors (state and non-state) can support its implementation.
- Highlight and discuss practices and approaches that can be used to support and scale landscape restoration.
- Spotlight the capacity-building efforts undertaken, discuss the way forward, and the next steps in building partnerships for a capacity-building movement for landscape restoration in Kenya.
- Summarize the activities of the action groups, specifically the Kenya rangelands restoration and conservation action group, the Faith-based restoration action group, and the youth and women inclusion in restoration action group.

2. YOUTH AND WOMEN INCLUSION IN RESTORATION

Objectives

- Explore opportunities for supporting the inclusion of children in restoration starting from existing efforts like environmental clubs, wildlife clubs, etc. through influencing their curricula and capacity building.
- Showcase models or approaches for youth and women inclusion in restoration efforts
- Launch the youth restoration network.
- Launch the capacity strengthening program for youth, women, and faith actors in Kenya.

3. FAITH-BASED RESTORATION

Objectives

- Share the work of the faith-based restoration action group, particularly the strategy for faith-based greening in Kenya.
- Showcase the work of faith communities and institutions in restoration highlighting bottlenecks and discuss opportunities to solve them.
- Highlight how a blend of faith-based and traditional beliefs can be used to promote landscape restoration.
- Present the documentation of the various actions by a variety of faith actors in Kenya.
- Present the guide on how to promote landscape restoration with faith leaders.

Conference Format



PRE-CONFERENCE THEMATIC WEBINARS

A series of four pre-conference thematic webinars were held in the run-up to the main conference to provide a space to discuss the themes further and build momentum for the conference.

FINANCE OPTIONS FOR RESTORATION WEBINAR, 11TH OCTOBER 2022

The Finance Options for Restoration webinar focused on showcasing and exploring various finance options that youth, women, and faith actors can access to support their restoration initiatives. The options showcased include grants such as the Restoration Challenge Grant Platform for Smallholders and Communities, blockchain-enabled crowdfunding, the Land Accelerator Challenge, the Restoration Stewards Programme, GLFx Chapters Seed Grant. Sustainable and business models such as green value chains, the basics of entrepreneurship, and options to support green business development through Alternatives Africa. Participants were also introduced to sustainable finance options and learnt the difference between carbon and climate finance. The recording and presentations made during the webinar can be accessed [here](#).

ACCELERATING RESTORATION ACTION THROUGH YOUTH AND WOMEN, 26TH OCTOBER 2022

This webinar showcased lessons learned from youth, children, and women's engagement. This involved showcasing models or approaches for youth, children, and women's inclusion in restoration efforts. Examples of models and/or approaches used for the inclusion of children and youth included sports, art, clubs, competitions, and capacity building. On the other hand, women were involved using approaches such as group savings models, participatory consultation methods, and capacity building using gender and age-appropriate materials. Developing green value chains such as tree nurseries, honey, and aloe vera were identified as a great opportunity to promote the inclusion of women and



youth in restoration as it will improve their livelihoods through income generation. Women's participation can also be increased by mobilizing them through chamas, churches, and local leaders such as chiefs. The expansion of clubs, and the use of competitions such as talent shows and essay writing competitions, along with introducing story telling for restoration in schools, were highlighted as opportunities to promote the participation of children in restoration. The youth restoration network and the capacity strengthening programme for youth, women, and faith actors involved in restoration were also launched. The recording and the presentations made during the webinar can be accessed [here](#).

THE POWER OF FAITH-BASED APPROACHES TO LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN KENYA, 9TH NOVEMBER 2022

The Power of Faith-Based Approaches to Landscape Restoration in Kenya provided a platform for several faith actors to showcase their restoration initiatives, their motivation to engage in restoration, challenges experienced, lessons learned, opportunities, and support required. Some of the key outcomes of the webinar were:

- The main motivation for faith communities' engagement in restoration is divine obligation based on their various holy texts thus environmental stewardship as a divine given mandate.
- Faith actors engage in a variety of restoration activities including capacity building of faith leaders and members on landscape restoration, events to create awareness on the importance of environmental restoration and their role



as according to their faiths/religion, tree planting/growing, forest restoration/rehabilitation, mangrove restoration, clean-ups, kitchen gardening, and advocacy for several issues such as land reforms supporting land rights for women and the importance of restoration.

- The kind of support provided by faith actors to scale up land restoration; partnerships in financing capacity building in workshops for religious leaders, the design and implementation of restoration projects, seed grants to women/youth groups to grow tree nurseries for distribution, training on tree nursery operations, best farming practices, climate change adaptation, and mitigation, etc.

The presentations and recordings for the webinar can be accessed [here](#).

RESTORING KENYA'S RANGELANDS: THE WAY FORWARD, 17TH NOVEMBER 2022

This webinar presented the outcomes of discussions on eight key issues and challenges identified to influence the restoration and conservation of rangelands in Kenya. The eight issues were: (1) Documentation and sharing of experiences/knowledge on good rangeland management practices and their impacts. (2) Assessing and monitoring rangeland health for multiple targets and commitments, e.g., the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. (3) How to enhance resilience to changing climate, markets, and interests. (4) Identifying and addressing the drivers of rangeland degradation. (5) How to achieve large-scale change (with respect to restoration) at the landscape level? (6) Exploring the role of youth and women and how to strengthen their involvement and capacity. (7) The current and future threat of invasive species and how to address it. (8) Supporting national and county policies/ commitments/targets/plans for advancing rangeland restoration.

More information about the webinar, the presentation made during the webinar, and its recording can be found [here](#).

THE KENYA NATIONAL LANDSCAPE RESTORATION SCALING CONFERENCE 2022

The main conference took place over two days, focusing on different topics:

- Day 1, 24th November 2022: Forest and Landscape Restoration Integration at County Level
- Day 2, 25th November 2022: Next steps for the Kenyan restoration movement

The recordings and presentations made during Days 1 and 2 of the conference can be found [here](#).





DAY ONE

FOREST AND LANDSCAPES RESTORATION INTEGRATION AT COUNTY LEVEL

FOREST AND LANDSCAPES RESTORATION INTEGRATION AT COUNTY LEVEL

This section presents a summary of the official opening remarks made during the conference. It also highlights initiatives by the Kenyan government to integrate Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) at the county level specifically the National Campaign for Achieving and Maintaining Over 30% Tree Cover by 2032 – a Special Presidential Program presented by Mr Alfred Gichu, Ministry of Environment and Forestry) and the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP), presented by Ms. Charity Munyasya, the Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests-Natural Forest Conservation.

Several examples from six counties are also presented on how they are making efforts to integrate FLR that were discussed in a panel discussion with directors in charge of environment in those counties. The panel session was moderated by Mr. Brian Muthoka, Senior programme Officer, Water, Forestry and Natural Resource Management Committee-Council of Governors. The panel session consisted of various directors from counties who outlined landscape restoration ambitions, integration in CIDPs, and the challenges and opportunities that exist for further scaling and impact. The Panelists were: Ms. Jennifer Kipkazi, Director Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (Baringo County); Mr. Joseph Munyao, Director Environment and Climate Change (Makueni County); Mr. John Mlamba, Director Environment and Natural Resources (Taita Taveta County); Mr. Kevin Musiega, Director Environment and Natural Resources (Vihiga County); Ms. Yvonne Mathenge, Director Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (Nyeri County); Ms. Grace Karanja, Director Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (Nakuru County).

Finally, conference participants made recommendations on how to promote such FLR integration at the county level through break-out group discussions.

Official opening remarks for the conference were made by H. E Mutahi Kahiga, Nyeri County Governor.

In his remarks, H.E Kahiga stressed the need for Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) to help the country mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change given the significant contribution of land use change and forest loss and degradation to the country's Greenhouse Gases Emissions (GHGs). He also urged all stakeholders, especially county governments, to urgently implement restoration efforts towards the achievement of the presidential directive and FOLAREP on tree planting in collaboration with schools, community organizations like Community Forest Associations (CFAs), Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs), youth and women groups, cooperatives, etc. Collaborative efforts are required for impact.

How can Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) be implemented at a County Level?

The Kenyan government, through the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), has developed two main initiatives to implement landscape restoration across the country.

These are:

- The National Campaign for Achieving and Maintaining Over 30% tree cover by 2032
- The Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan 2022 – 2027 (FOLAREP)

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING OVER 30% TREE COVER BY 2032 – A SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Mr. Alfred Gichu, Head: Directorate of Forest Conservation; National REDD+ Coordinator and Focal Point, Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Mr. Gichu gave an overview of the Presidential directive for restoration and County Government roles. He stated that the program aims for the accelerated

achievement and maintenance of 10% forest cover and 30% tree cover by 2032. It will be implemented as a whole-government and whole-society approach. As a result, a national strategy is under preparation to provide for broad collaboration and shared responsibility. Under this strategy, the national government, county governments, private sector, and communities will be expected to identify entry points, enhance their ambition, support innovative approaches, and renew their commitment.

Achieving 30% tree cover will contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation and enhance the forest's sector contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which is currently estimated at USD 365 million (3.6%) annually. Increased tree cover also aligns with priority government programs. Kenya is obligated to maintain at least 10% forest and tree cover under various national policies and legal frameworks such as the 2010 Constitution, Vision 2030, and the Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016. In addition to these national requirements, the country is party to various international commitments and obligations linked to land restoration. These include:

- Commitment to restore 5.1 million hectares of degraded landscape by 2030
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in support of our National Determined Contributions
- Kenya is a member of the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for nature to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030
- Glasgow Leaders Commitment that seeks to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation
- Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030 as a contribution to UNCCD

However, this target of 15.6 billion trees will also be achieved through both planting trees and natural regeneration where opportunities arise. For example, there will be enhanced protection and conservation of major landscapes, especially the public and community forests, to support natural regeneration. Furthermore, other approaches apart from tree planting are also included in Forest and Landscape Restoration in general,

such as the restoration of degraded grasslands, which doesn't involve tree planting.

The Proposed Strategic Interventions under this Directive/Programme:

- Planting and protecting 15.6 billion tree seedlings by 2032
- Protection of natural forests, Water Towers and rehabilitation of degraded forest areas
- Rehabilitation and conservation of mangrove. It has been established that 17,036 ha are available for restoration
- Commercial forest plantation development on public, private and community lands
- Implementation of the Agriculture (Farm Forestry) Rules 2009
- Restoration of degraded landscapes in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs)
- Implementation of forest policies and legislations
- Implementation of the greening Kenya initiative
- Greening of infrastructure, institutions urban areas in all counties
- Strengthening the capacity of Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Wildlife Service and County Governments.
- Adoption of forests and Strengthening of Environmental Soldier Program
- Public education, awareness and sensitization
- Efficiency in wood conversion, utilization, and alternative energy sources
- Provision of incentives and awards
- Research, technology and innovation for forest restoration
- Mobilization of resources

The implementation of the strategy will cost an estimated KES 500 billion and will be led by the following proposed committees that will be established:

- A national inter-ministerial steering committee that will have membership from ministries, the county government, the private sector and the civil society organizations
- An inter-ministerial technical committee
- A multi-institutional technical committee
- County implementation coordination committee that will be shared jointly by the county commissioners and

the governors. These committees will coordinate actions at the sub-county and the ward level and Invest in the monitoring and evaluation to track the actions and report upwards on performance. It will also bring on board other actors working within specific landscapes who can inform investments in landscape restoration.

County governments are expected to support the implementation of the strategy in the following ways:

- Support in terms of coordination of county, sub-county and ward activities in collaboration with the National Government Institutions including Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) and National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).
- Support in seedling production and rehabilitation of degraded forests.
- Mobilization of resources through county allocations, Constituency Development Fund (CDF), Ward development levy.
- Strengthened partnerships and collaboration in the protection and rehabilitation of degraded landscapes.
- Enactment of policies and enforcement.
- Support for private sector engagement and investment in tree growing.
- Establishment and restoration of green spaces, parks and arboreta especially in the urban centers.

FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (FOLAREP) 2023-2027

Ms. Charity Munyasya,
Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests-
Natural Forest Conservation

The Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan 2022-2027 (FOLAREP) is a five-year plan aimed at accelerating actions to restore 5.1 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes by 2030 and contributing to the achievement of national aspirations and international obligations, such as the 30% tree cover by FOLAREP under the National Campaign for Achieving and

Maintaining over 30% tree cover. Its overall objective is to restore 2.55 million hectares of degraded landscapes through integrated forest and landscape restoration approaches for improved ecological functionality and social and economic benefits by 2027.

The specific objectives of FOLAREP are: to strengthen policy, regulatory frameworks and institutional coordination for enhanced FLR implementation; to put 3.5 million hectare of degraded forests and landscapes under restoration for improved biodiversity and climate change resilience; to mobilize resources from public and private partnerships for FLR implementation; to promote inclusive nature-based value chains for improved livelihoods for communities and to strengthen FLR research, monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management

FOLAREP needs a total budget of 150.3 billion Kenyan shillings, which will be drawn from the government (both national and county), the private sector, INGOs, as well as other development partners.

The coordination framework for FOLAREP will consist of four committees and a secretariat. These committees are the National Forest and Landscape (FLR) Advisory Committee, the National Forest and Landscape (FLR) Steering Committee, the National FLR Technical Committees, and the County Environment Committees (CECs). The secretariat will be hosted by the Kenya Forest Service (KFS).

FOLAREP has a monitoring and evaluation framework specifically named the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Framework. This framework consists of both process and outcome indicators.

- Process indicator categories: Area of land under restoration, restoration project data, investment, policy and advocacy, value chains, and communication and knowledge.
- Outcome indicator categories: Land health, tree cover, and type, socio-economic, capacity, biodiversity, and climate change.

COUNTY FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION INTEGRATION EFFORTS

Counties are integrating forest and landscape restoration in the following ways:

- **Putting in place the legal and policy frameworks that support restoration. For example:**
 - Vihiga County: put in place climate change governance structures down to ward level.
 - Baringo County: Baringo County Climate Change Policy 2021, the Baringo County Climate Change Act 2022, Baringo County Sustainable Charcoal Act 2016 and a draft Forest Act.
 - Nakuru County: Finalizing the sustainable Forest Management Tree Growing Bill, Climate Change Act, Sustainable Energy Access, and Climate Action Plan that stipulates how stakeholders' involvement in this sector can be very important.
 - Nyeri County: Nyeri Forest Management and Conservation Act Policy, Environmental Management Act, and Climate Change Fund Regulations.
- **Integration into Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) programs into the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). For example:**
 - Nakuru County: Mainstreaming all the landscape restoration programmes in all sectors within the CIDPs.
 - Taita Taveta County: Developing the third generation CIDP currently. That will push to integrate and mainstream climate actions and interventions throughout the sectors and across the sectors.
 - Taita Taveta has been able to ensure that forest restoration is one of the key items that has been given prominence, especially following the presidential directive of planting around 15 billion trees by 2032.
 - The county has set aside restoration programs that are targeting particularly the catchment areas i.e., the Taita hills which have undergone a lot of

degradation.

- Set out to promote tree growing especially around the hilltop areas where most farming takes place.
 - Roll-out farm tree planting initiative by promoting tree crops like macadamia and avocado trees in the highlands.
 - Focusing on fruit tree growing particularly mango and citrus fruits in the lowlands.
- **Developing and implementing restoration plans and programs. For example:**
 - Vihiga County: The restoration of the Maragoli Hills Forest led by the Vihiga County Government with support from partners like the Kenya Forest Service and Ministry of Energy. Expanding the school greening program. Thus, 100,000 tree seedlings have been set aside for this program.
 - Nakuru County: Vigorous awareness education on conservation, protection and restoration of forest landscapes.
 - Nyeri County:
 - Undertaking restoration, conservation, and agroforestry activities and programs. For example, the county greening programme in conjunction with other stakeholders, particularly the Agriculture Department.
 - Distribution of fruit seedlings, including indigenous seedlings
 - Encourage farmers and community groups to use boundary planting and also setting up woodlots in a few areas especially in the semi-arid area of Kyeni, Nyeri.
 - Another program being implemented is the Wangari Maathai Program. It was launched in February 2021 and aims to plant 10 million trees in 5 years.
 - The program involves raising tree nurseries from secondary schools, churches, chief camps, which is done in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Nyeri and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.
 - So far, they have engaged 90

schools under phase 1 of the project. These nurseries are expected to produce not less than 500,000 tree seedlings by January 2023 for distribution to institutions for planting.

- Other programs include: energy saving Jiko program; biogas installation at household level using ward funds; water harvesting programs to encourage storing of water. The county government is providing dam liners to support this programs.
- Reforestation of the 12 county forests. The county government has partnered with KEFRI to rehabilitate Karima Forest and is looking to get partners for Tomotomo forest as well.
- Nakuru County:
 - Engaging in resource mobilization for restoration through key partners like the Green Belt Movement.
 - Mapping out over 500 tree seedling propagators that are drawn from the county and the private sector.
- Baringo County:
 - Environmental sensitization and awareness programs through barazas and training of community groups. Such community groups include Community Forest Associations (CFAs), Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs) and Charcoal Producer Associations.
 - Promotion of tree planting programs.
- **Setting restoration targets. For example:**
 - Vihiga County restoration target: 51% tree cover by 2027.
 - Nakuru County: 75 000 Ha of the forest landscapes.
 - Nyeri County: 42% forest cover and 50% for tree cover by 2032.

CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED IN FLR INTEGRATION IN THE COUNTIES

- Population pressure which is contributing to land degradation.

- Limited youth participation in forest and landscape restoration.
- Limited funding to the environment sector aggravated by the slow transfer of funds from the exchequer to various county governments. This delays the implementation of programs aligned to landscape restoration.
- Gaps in some existing legal and policy frameworks for the environment sector that lack provisions on forest and landscape restoration.
- Limited community/public knowledge on environmental protection/conservation.
- The spread of invasive species such as *Prosopis juliflora*.
- Inadequate staffing in county government departments including departments incharge of the environment.
- Inadequate monitoring and evaluation systems for restoration initiatives at county level.
- Communal land tenure systems may be problematic as county governments cannot initiate restoration initiatives or restrict activities on them.
- Limited value addition and product diversification for forest products resulting in more forest destruction.
- Other challenges include: insecurity such as cattle rustling and the rise in water levels in Lakes Baringo and Bogoria in Baringo County.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FLR INTEGRATION IN THE COUNTIES

- The development of a strategy for the management of invasive species such as *Prosopis juliflora* with KEFRI and other stakeholders.
- The restructuring of County Environment Committees (CECs) to include both governors and county commissioners which will help streamline the approaches to restoration by the county and national government.
- The high level of commitment to restoration by most county governments in spite of insufficient funds hence seeking other funding arrangements. For example, Equity Bank has given Vihiga County seedlings worth over two million shillings to support landscape restoration. In addition, other departments within

county governments such as agriculture and water also partner with environment department in landscape restoration.

- Linking governance structures proposed in the presidential directive and those under FOLAREP as there is a lot of linkage between the two.
- The Involvement youth and women in tree planting and other restoration initiatives by the county government.
- Private sector involvement/integration in restoration at both county and national government levels given that private land is the most common tenure system in the country.
- Using technologies to monitor restoration efforts e.g. high resolution mapping, drones and applications such as the Regreening App.
- Tapping into indigenous/local knowledge systems on land restoration.
- Incentive programmes to support and encourage landscape restoration such as giving beehives or apiary programmes and nature based enterprises with economic benefits.

THE WAY FORWARD – RECOMMENDATIONS ON PRIORITIES FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS FOR FLR INTEGRATION

- County governments should create a conducive policy and legal environment to support the restoration targets and ambitious targets.
- Developing a strategy for the management of invasive species such as *Prosopis juliflora*.
- County Governments should bring together stakeholders including local communities for harmonized/collective efforts in restoration under their jurisdiction particularly implementing the national program for achieving 30% tree cover by 2032 and the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP)
- County governments should domesticate FOLAREP by developing specific action plans and embedding FOLAREP activities into their CIDPs.
- Ensuring community involvement in restoration initiatives and programs given that most land to be restored are on private

lands. This can be achieved in the following ways:

- Sensitization and capacity building of communities on the importance of restoration so that they can take up ownership. Farmers in particular need to understand how to engage in sustainable agriculture and understand the drivers of soil degradation. This can be done through the revival of extension services at the county level and leveraging on extension services offered by private sector actors.
- Integrating local knowledge into restoration initiatives.
- Working with local community groups or organizations such as Community Forest Associations (CFAs), Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs), youth and women groups, cooperatives and schools and encouraging them to embrace restoration approaches like tree planting and agroforestry.
- The provision of high quality planting materials such as:
 - High value tree seedlings to promote agroforestry while sensitizing communities on the importance of indigenous species.
 - Certified tree seeds sold through agro vets to improve farmers' accessibility to them produced by Kenya Forest Service (KFS) or Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI). This could also be done through establishing tree seed banks at county level.
- Ensuring that restoration creates livelihood opportunities.
- Involving communities in the development of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) from the initial stages.
- Strengthening intergovernmental consultation and coordination between counties and both levels of government.
- Strengthening restoration governance and structures at the county level by aligning functional assignment between the two levels of government based on stipulations

of the 2010 Constitution of Kenya so that they complement each other. For example, the National government's role is to build the capacity of county governments and drive the policy agenda while the county governments domesticate the legislation resources and forestry. Capacity-building sessions with various counties to ensure they are able to take on devolved functions such as the management of forests are important because Transition implementation plans (TIPs) have not had the desired impact.

- County governments should conduct spatial planning which delineates different zones for various land uses such as croplands, forests, conservation and restoration. These plans should also be enforced.
- The formation of inter-county committees among counties sharing natural resources to collaborate for their management and restoration.
- Using a variety of restoration approaches based on the ecosystem and/or landscape type. For example, conference participants recommended the following approaches for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), Mid-level croplands, highlands/water towers and coastal zones.
 - **ASALs:** planting drought resistant and high value tree varieties such as Moringa coupled with support to ensure species site matching, soil erosion measures, clearing and reseedling with indigenous grass seeds, participatory rangeland management with planned grazing and policies to guide livestock movement, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), assisted natural regeneration and natural regeneration, Pastoralist Managed Natural Regeneration (PMNR), invasive species management including technologies for their utilization, restoration of water ecosystems and water springs, agroforestry, low tech water harvesting techniques and others such as sand dams, soil restoration using biochar and other approaches to promote soil health.
 - **Mid-level croplands:** agroforestry using high value tree species such

as Grevillea and Casuarina (and indigenous species) guided by species site matching and soil health assessments then promoted through farmers' groups; soil restoration through the integrated management of soils incorporating soil health assessments, the use of microbes, proper use of fertilizers, organic manure, soil erosion control, etc., integrating silvicultural management practices into tree planting on farms; integration of traditional/indigenous cropland management practices and their documentation, etc.

- **Highlands/water towers:** tree crop farming e.g. macadamia around hilltops, participatory forest management guided by participatory forest management plans developed with communities and other stakeholders in a given landscape that includes nature-based income generating activities/enterprises e.g. apiary programmes to promote restoration, controlled livestock grazing in forests to promote natural regeneration e.g. through practicing zero grazing, (nature based enterprises with economic benefits)
- **Coastal zones:** upscaling mangrove ecosystems restoration including establishing woodlots under mangroves, blue economy enterprises for livelihood diversification, integration of agro ecology principles in farming/agrosystems etc.
- Strengthening monitoring of restoration efforts to ensure progress can be tracked. County governments should bring all stakeholders together for harmonized monitoring efforts.
- Research should be at the center of restoration actions to promote the production of tree species varieties that can withstand harsh conditions and diversify livelihood options.
- Counties should map stakeholders within the County to consolidate efforts and resources.

- Counties should explore collaborations with private sector actors by looking for common interests/challenges then jointly developing or harmonizing restoration strategies.

SUPPORT REQUIRED BY COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO ACHIEVE LAND RESTORATION

- The provision of financial and technical resources:
 - Technical backstopping e.g., Guidelines on how to restore various degraded areas from researchers and national government agencies.
 - Putting in place legal frameworks to promote restoration.
 - Find extra funding sources beyond the exchequer due to competing needs at the county level for that funding such as leveraging on Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for resource mobilization.
 - Institutional strengthening through ensuring that departments in charge of the management of the environment are adequately staffed.
- Support in conducting specific Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) assessments to identify priority areas for restoration. Coordination and collaboration is also required to address these restoration priorities.
- Strengthening public participation from the initial stages in the development of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs)
- Conducting adequate community awareness and sensitization on environmental conservation and restoration including supporting Income Generating Activities (IGAs) as alternatives to land degrading activities.
- Strengthening county level monitoring and evaluation of restoration efforts through: support in setting necessary legal frameworks and developing monitoring tools to monitor the growth and survival of trees.
- Help in mapping the baseline of tree cover per ward level.
- Support the creation of a platform for

knowledge sharing, experience and learning between stakeholders and county governments.

- Developing and enforcing spatial plans to delineate zones for different land uses.
- Harmonization of stakeholder activities in line with the CIDPs.
- Strengthened intergovernmental relations between National Government and County Government as to devolve more partners and resources up to the ward level for restoration.
- Enhance research and knowledge management of identified specific restoration gaps and needs in counties.

DAY TWO

THE NEXT STEPS FOR THE RESTORATION MOVEMENT IN KENYA



THE NEXT STEPS FOR THE RESTORATION MOVEMENT IN KENYA

This section highlights the commitments, opportunities, and contributions to moving the Kenyan restoration movement forward. It is broken down into three main segments.

The first segment showcases the commitments and future plans of the action groups that are at the core of the restoration movement along with other organizations that presented their work during the conference.

The second segment presents lessons and opportunities from two regional Initiatives for the restoration movement specifically the Regreening Africa Programme and the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR 100).

The last segment summarizes some opportunities identified to move the restoration movement forward. These opportunities were identified during a panel discussion with various organizations engaging in restoration in the country such as World Resources Institute (WRI), Center for International Forestry Research & World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), Kenya Water Towers Agency (KWTa), Conservation International (CI), World Vision Kenya (WVK), British High Commission in Kenya, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the African Agency for Arid Resources (AGAR) Ltd.

Opening remarks for day two of the conference were made by Mr. Alfred Gichu on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuyu.

Mr. Gichu acknowledged the importance of forest and landscape restoration, noting that increasing tree cover and addressing land degradation is the foundation for the success of other productive sectors such as agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and energy and the achievement of restoration targets. The achievement of these restoration targets will require a government and whole society approach. He concluded by noting that the conference presented an excellent

opportunity for stakeholders to engage and propose possible incentives for mobilizing additional finance for landscape restoration efforts, particularly efforts led by communities, women, youth and the private sector.

The closing remarks were made by Dr. Christopher Wanga, on behalf of the Principal Secretary, State Department of Livestock, Hon. Harry Kimutai who urged participants to recognize the significant restoration opportunities offered by agricultural landscapes or croplands and rangelands to achieve Kenya's restoration targets. For example, an assessment of restoration opportunities in the country showed that croplands and rangelands had a restoration potential of 7.6 million hectares and 25.7 million hectares, respectively. Dr. Wanga also stated that the Ministry of Agriculture and Development is delighted to be associated with the restoration moving and committed to supporting it through active participation.

COMMITMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLANS FOR THE ACTION GROUPS

One of the main objectives of the Kenya National Landscape Restoration Scaling Conference 2022 was to showcase progress made since the 2021 conference in achieving agreed-upon action plans and the creation of a restoration movement. These agreed action plans include:

- Forming networks or action groups around rangeland restoration, agricultural landscape restoration and forest landscape restoration.
- Creating a youth and women network for restoration.
- Capture and highlight success and learning stories on restoration initiatives by women and youth to provide greater exposure.
- Organizing a training on fundraising strategies, grant management and proposal writing.
- Organizing a networking session for faith communities to explore synergies and opportunities for collaboration.
- The Council of Governors (COG) and its partners to raise awareness of landscape

restoration and promote cross-learning between counties.

- Establish and strengthen a national landscape restoration monitoring working group.

Following the conference, six action groups were formed based on the conference themes to carry out the action plans and progress the various recommendations:

- Youth and women inclusion in restoration action group
- Agricultural landscape restoration action group
- Kenya rangelands restoration and conservation action group
- Faith based restoration action group
- Kenya Working Group on Training and capacity building for Landscape Restoration
- Forest and landscape restoration action group
- Landscape Restoration Monitoring Technical Working Group.



The table below summarizes the background, achievements and future plans of the four most active action groups.

Action group	Purpose	Achievements	Future plans
Kenya Rangeland Restoration and Conservation Action Group	<p>To identify and prioritize key issues to support action the restoration & conservation of Kenyan rangelands</p> <p>To share experiences, opportunities and solutions to overcoming these issues/bottlenecks</p>	<p>Identified 11 key issues influencing rangelands restoration and conservation then addressed the first eight:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation and sharing of experiences/ knowledge on good rangeland management practices and their impacts 2. Assessing and monitoring rangeland health for multiple targets and commitments e.g. the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 3. How to enhance resilience to changing climate, markets, and interests 4. Identifying and addressing the drivers of rangeland degradation 5. How to achieve large-scale change (with respect to restoration) at landscape level? 6. Exploring the role of the youth and women and how to strengthen their involvement and capacity. 7. The current and future threat by invasive species and how to address it 8. Supporting national and county policies/ commitments/targets/plans in for advancing rangeland restoration 9. The viability of carbon credit schemes, renewable energy options, tourism, biodiversity conservation as alternative livelihood sources to livestock production 10. Identifying and exploring financing mechanisms for Rangelands Restoration 11. Private sector engagement in rangeland restoration and conservation <p>Organized the - "Restoring Kenya's Rangelands: the way forward" webinar 17th November 2022 with over 200 participants</p>	<p>Creating briefs/ summaries around the key issues addressed</p> <p>Addressing the remaining key issues</p>
Agricultural landscape restoration Action Group	Document the work that actors in agricultural landscapes restoration that actors are doing including where they are working, type and scale of intervention	<p>Agricultural Landscapes Restoration Action Group Workshop 28/04/2022. Workshop output roadmap to develop a proposal for a workshop to develop protocols for agricultural landscapes restoration.</p> <p>Agricultural Landscapes Restoration Protocols Development Workshop 24th -28th October 2022. Workshop outputs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outlines developed for various agricultural restoration practices. 	Transitioning into the Kenya Landscapes Restoration Action Group (KeLRAG) an open platform domiciled in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development where stakeholders can

Action group	Purpose	Achievements	Future plans
Agricultural landscape restoration Action Group	<p>Coordinate different actors engaging in agricultural landscapes restoration.</p> <p>Conduct a stakeholder mapping of actors engaging restoration of agricultural landscapes.</p> <p>Identify and map agricultural lands degradation hotspots for joint action.</p> <p>Conduct a needs assessment for identified degradation hotspots to determine the restoration approaches/ techniques (e.g., agroforestry, climate smart agriculture, permaculture, regenerative ecological systems, etc.) required based on the drivers of degradation and requirements for their implementation.</p> <p>Developing protocols for agricultural restoration approaches/ techniques.</p>	<p>2. Four proposals for joint restoration projects.</p> <p>3. A governance structure for the action group: steering committee to lead the operations of the group.</p> <p>Rangelands: the way forward” webinar 17th November 2022 with over 200 participants</p>	<p>interact, share knowledge, raise resources and implement joint Agriculture Landscape Restoration programmes in Kenya</p> <p>Joint resource mobilization for projects</p>

Action group	Purpose	Achievements	Future plans
	Engage in capacity building for actors including farmers and extension staff in agricultural landscapes restoration approaches/ techniques.		
Faith based restoration Action Group	<p>To explore how faith-based institutions and communities can contribute to scaling up landscape restoration in Kenya</p> <p>To build capacity for faith communities to advocate for and implement land restoration through workshops and webinars</p>	<p>Forging partnerships and developing a strategy for faith based regreening in Kenya Workshop from 6th to 8th April 2022</p> <p>Empowered World View training workshops in Elgeyo Marakwet and Nairobi</p> <p>Developed a guide on how to promote landscape restoration with faith leaders</p> <p>The Power of Faith Based Approaches to Landscape Restoration webinar -9th November 2022.</p>	<p>Action Plan 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy <p>Documentation of success stories and testimonials of faith-led landscape restoration initiatives</p> <p>Create visibility of existing success stories and testimonials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building <p>Training of faith-leaders in land restoration techniques & methodologies</p> <p>Develop faith-backed key messages and toolkits on land restoration (part of the call to action)</p> <p>Partnership building</p>
Youth and women inclusion in restoration Action Group	To implement the actions agreed upon during the Youth and Women Inclusion in Restoration session	Showcased women's leadership in restoration such as the 'Celebrating women in restoration webinar and networking session' (22nd March 2022), and the 'social media campaign' (March 2022).	Transitioning into the Youth Restoration Network (Recruitment ongoing) & continuous

Action group	Purpose	Achievements	Future plans
Youth and women inclusion in restoration Action Group	<p>e.g. creating a network to coordinate the youth and women working on restoration, training and capacity building (e.g. training on fundraising),</p> <p>To upscale the participation of youth and women in restoration for economic empowerment</p> <p>Sharing opportunities through the network and mobilize resources for joint action</p> <p>Coordination of different actors to facilitate the participation of youth and women in restoration</p> <p>Provide members a platform to present their ideas/projects for input on how to expand them and make them more sustainable</p> <p>To act as a platform for women/youth in restoration to enhance Co-creation with other players – once we become a credible network, we can co create projects with actors such as private sector actors or donors to enhance landscape restoration Where they are partners not only as beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Organizing capacity-building events for youth and, women, involved in landscape restoration in Kenya:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training on Fundraising and Resource mobilization with an average of 100 participants over 3 days (6th, 7th, and 14th April 2022) representing 120 organizations. The participants were trained on: principles and techniques of fundraising, proposing writing and grant management and digital fundraising. <p>Organizing and executing social media campaign to mark plastic-free July titled – “My Waste, My Responsibility” Social Media Campaign held during the week of 27th July 2022</p> <p>Organized two pre- conference thematic webinars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance Options for Restoration Webinar 11th October 2022 Accelerating restoration action through youth and women 26th October 2022 	<p>mobilization</p> <p>Capacity building programme starting in January 2022</p>

The table below showcases some contributions and plans by some organizations towards landscape restoration in the Kenya

Organization	Contributions and plans
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FDCO), British High Commission Kenya	Over the next three years, the UK, through the UK PACT, Nature Based Solutions (NBS) project portfolio, will support the strengthening of regulation and coordination of financing of forest conservation and restoration activities. FDCO has identified three project partners who will support emission reduction Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation activities, enhance Kenya's NDC ambition over time and promote a green recovery in Kenya. This project will focus on supporting the REDD+ activities and strategy and the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP). This support will address key policy gaps in conservation management and restoration of forests in Kenya and the continued development and implementation of the National REDD+.
World Vision Kenya	Implementing various landscape restoration programs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape restoration program funded by KIOKA in Kajiado and Narok counties that will integrate farm restoration but also rangelands restoration and the restoration of some of the forests around the hills bordering these counties. • RESTORE Africa which focuses on carbon financing. It will be implemented across five counties in Kenya.
Conservation International	CI aims to restore 4.5 million hectares of restoration in Kenya in the next five years mainly through community-centered restoration and land and livestock management. CI is therefore working with the Ministry of Environment to develop mechanisms and policies for restoring degraded rangelands and grasslands. CI is currently targeting Kajiado, Narok, Makueni, Taita Taveta, Kilifi and Isiolo counties.
Kenya Water Towers Agency (KwTA)	Research and monitoring the status of 23 water towers in Kenya. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping the degraded areas, biodiversity hotspots, and critical catchment areas within water towers for restoration. • Securing and protecting water towers. • Developing 10-year ecosystem conservation and restoration plans that shows what interventions need to be undertaken to reverse the degraded areas within the water towers.
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO has several restoration projects supported by GEF: GEF 5 in Kirisia Forest, GEF 6 in Mt.Kulal and Mukogodo landscapes, GEF 7 and GEF 8 which are under development. • FAO is involved in developing various policies (sustainable cash and food crops development in Mt. Elgon) and action plans like FOLAREP, a non-timber forest strategy, equitable benefit-sharing regulation (Includes the sustainable use and management of coastal forest and Mangrove ecosystems, linking blue and green economies) that will help the forest sector, and supporting participatory forest management plan development and renewal. • They are involved in the capacity building of community groups, county governments and national agencies in various areas. • FAO is developing County Program Framework 2023-2027 where its promoting synergies and complementarities amongst partners for effective restoration efforts in the country. • FAO is the lead agency for the implementation of the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration along with UN environment.

Organization	Contributions and plans
Center for International Forestry Research - World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF)	<p>The centre will continue to engage in research around the various aspects of restoration. Research can contribute to restoration in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicating the science for movement building and speeding up restoration - what do we already know, what are the best practices, and how do we put them into practice? By providing information on the best practices for restoration, how to implement restoration on the ground. Incorporating traditional knowledge into the dialogue. Consider the trade-offs, that is, how we balance what trees contribute to people, livelihoods, and environments as well as how people access scientific knowledge for decision making.• Problem solving and advocacy are critical in finding gaps. Research can be used to answer specific business cases in order to attract more investors and convince the Ministry of Finance that restoration is a good financial investment. For example, making a case for employment creation through restoration, industrialization, and a paradigm shift to connect restoration to the economy.• Research and science provide the evidence basis for restoration, both in terms of impact and lessons learned. Research can also provide information on what works and what does not in landscape restoration implementation.
World Resources Institute (WRI)	<p>Supporting the implementation of the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR 100 Phase II)</p>



LESSONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FROM REGIONAL INITIATIVES FOR THE KENYA RESTORATION MOVEMENT

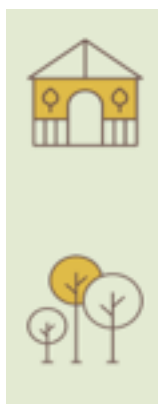
Key Lessons

Case Study: Regreening Africa Programme

The Regreening Africa Programme has been working from 2017–2023 in eight African countries: Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia,

Senegal, Mali, Niger, and Ghana, through different partners in all these countries, coordinated by the Center for International Forestry Research–World Agroforestry (CIFOR –ICRAF). It aims to restore 1 million hectares of degraded lands and improve the resilience and livelihoods of 500,000 households across the 8 countries by incorporating trees into croplands, communal lands, and pastoral areas (where appropriate) with complimentary soil and water conservation practices, value chains, and policy.

The programme's achievements by September 2022 are shown below.



Achievements on targets by September 2022

- Target Households: **500,000**
 - Households reached to date: **500,351**
 - Verified households to date (process ongoing): **105,768**
-
- Target Hectares: **1,000,000**
 - Hectares reached to date: **853,918**
 - Verified hectares to date (process ongoing): **108,894**

The key ingredients and actions for successful restoration based on the learnings from the Regreening Africa programme are summarized as follows:

- Practices are varied and must match the present and future local context. This means that there is no one answer covering every single landscape. Examples of practices include:
 - Tree growing which requires quality nurseries, incorporating grafting to improve the quality of tree seedlings, and exploring opportunities for direct seedling.
 - Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)/Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) especially in communal areas is

one of the low cost easy to scale options and particularly in drier areas where seedlings survival rates are very low.

- Soil and water conservation.
- Livelihood and value chains need to be at the center of restoration. Value chains have the potential to intensify greening practices. There are many different types of livelihoods and value chains that have been identified beyond agricultural productivity that are critical to ensure restoration is incentivized and provides livelihoods to the community. Promising value chains in Kenya include fruit trees such as mango and avocado, gums and resins and honey. Integrating science and evidence to magnify impact.

- Robust monitoring to understand the uptake of restoration practices, the livelihood benefits, and who in the household are benefiting from restoration. In Regreening Africa, this has been done through the [Land Degradation Surveillance Framework](#) (LDSF) and the [Regreening Africa App](#) and surveys. LDSF provides land health data at high accuracy while the App allows for monitoring of restoration efforts.
- Structured processes that bring evidence and data and information from local perspectives, research, government, and NGOs together and integrate it within the development, planning, and policy processes. Regreening Africa has done this through [the Stakeholder Approach to Risk Informed and Evidence-Based Decision Making \(SHARED\) framework](#).
- Partnership and inclusion. Strong partnerships between government, community, development actors, research, and donors are critical and must be nurtured. In addition, the youth make up a majority of our population and we need to make sure they are part of the discussion. Also a focus on women's integration and on other groups and communities.

INCENTIVES, DISINCENTIVES AND KEY ACTIONS FOR LAND RESTORATION IN KENYA IDENTIFIED THROUGH A NATIONAL WORKSHOP IN NOVEMBER 2022

Disincentives for land restoration in Kenya

- Inadequate resources, that is, both financial and technical resources.
- Drought
- Ignoring local knowledge
- The low adoption of some practices
- The long time needed to see returns from restoration
- Socio cultural norms/beliefs and land tenure that limit the participation of women and youth in restoration.
- Tree planting as a PR exercise
- Pests and diseases

Incentives for land restoration in Kenya

- Livelihoods, market, economic empowerment
- Political support and international commitments
- Enabling policy framework
- Capacity and availability of inputs
- Need to address climate change
- Holistic benefits such as increased productivity Participation and social cohesion
- Funding

Key ingredients and actions for restoration success in Kenya

- Build the capacity of CBOs and community
- Increase awareness at local levels - combine tree planting with community sensitization
- Work with local leaders
- Focus on livelihoods
- Integrate science and research
- Policy at national and county levels
- Resources to match devolved functions
- Aligning to county planning processes
- Coordination and access to information
- Green letters of commitment by politicians and NGO ranking
- Adapting practices and species to local contexts



OPPORTUNITIES TO TAP INTO AFRICAN FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION INITIATIVE (AFR100)

The [African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative](#) (AFR100) is a commitment by African countries to restore 100 million ha of degraded land by 2030. The first phase of AFR 100 specifically focused on laying the foundation for rapid restoration work. The three main focus areas are: cultivating political will, building an enabling environment, and catalyzing implementation. It achieved the following:

- **Cultivated political will:** 32 AFR100 countries committed to restore 128M hectares of degraded land by 2030.
- **Built the enabling conditions**
 - 15 AFR100 countries have mapped and designated priority areas to restore
 - 10 AFR100 countries have national restoration strategies and/or budgets
 - 6 AFR100 countries have set baselines and monitoring for priority landscapes.
- **Catalyzed implementation:**
 - Countries report 5M+ hectares under restoration
 - Vetted 3,200 applicants to select top 100 locally led restoration enterprises and community projects that demonstrate the potential of locally led models of restoration. There are amazing projects on the ground but they need to be empowered to address the technical gaps and provide them with resources so that they can scale those amazing projects and work on the ground.

AFR100 preliminary restoration implementation assessment results:

- Madagascar: 38% restored=1,520,000 Hectares
- Rwanda: 35% restored=700,000 Hectares
- Tanzania: 7% restored=364,000 Hectares
- Kenya: 4% restored=204,000 Hectares
- Zambia: 4% restored=80,000 Hectares
- Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC): 2% restored=160,000 Hectares
- Ethiopia=150,000 Hectares

Phase II of AFR 100 (November 2022–October 2026) will focus on investing in locally led restoration, accelerating agroforestry, mangroves, and smallholder timber markets. It will also focus on mobilization of finance through alignment with funds seeking adaptation and mitigation (implementation of the three conventions, UNCCD, CBD, and UNFCCC). It will deepen national ownership and engagement of stakeholders at the national level, continue to support the Land Accelerator and the Terra Match, focus on monitoring progress (for example, using Restoration Watch), streamline coordination, compile best practices from different countries, promote south-south exchange, support private sector engagement, and accelerate agroforestry, mangroves, smallholder markets, etc. The intention of the second phase is to deliver the missing pieces seen in phase 1. Phase 2 is also focused on accelerating implementation on the ground and building on lessons learnt from the first phase.

Phase II has four main pillars which are:

- Deepening national ownership through AFR 100 registries and the policy accelerator;
- Brokering technical assistance for restoration through creating coalitions of technical assistance providers and matchmaking
- Financing restoration implementation through the AFR 100 Financing facility through is comprised of a grant facility, risk mitigation facility and investing facility.
- Monitoring restoration progress through the restoration watch and the monitoring accelerator.

The AFR100 Secretariat will support the implementation of Phase II through private sector engagement, streamlining coordination and knowledge management and reporting:

● **Private Sector Engagement**

- Mapping of private sector and financial institutions, roundtable discussions to mobilize private sector funding, design of a sustainable funding strategy to mobilize resources for local landscape actors, support the Land Accelerator and TerraMatch.

- **Streamline Coordination**
 - Support and/or establish national platform, developing a user-friendly data collection platform to facilitate the comparability of FLR data collection between countries
- **Knowledge Management and Reporting**
 - Compilation of successful FLR case studies and their dissemination at local/ national /regional levels, dissemination of results of FLR activities to local landscape actors, communication and outreach activities: announcements/ blogs/articles,

Lastly, Phase III of AFR100 will follow Phase II and will start and end in 2027 and 2030 respectively. Phase II will focus on improved policies and market infrastructure for the products delivered by restoration (e.g., timber, non-timber forest products) and the services delivered by restoration (e.g., carbon, biodiversity, water) etc.

THE WAY FORWARD: OPPORTUNITIES TO LEVERAGE

- Integrating research into restoration efforts to support the movement
- Creating more investment cases for restoration by showing why it is attractive and supporting emerging investment opportunities. For example, the African Agency for Arid Resources uses aloe plants as a livelihood and a restoration tool. Aloe restores the soil and creates livelihood opportunities for communities through income generation. This will promote private sector engagement in restoration which is significant and critical for its financing and sustainability. FAO also focuses on developing and promoting bio enterprises linked to restoration, which generate income for the communities involved.
- Leveraging on the restoration of rangelands and croplands to achieve Kenya's restoration targets. For example, 25.7 million hectares are committed to restoration in Kenya in rangelands while croplands have a restoration potential of 7.6 million hectares.



Consolidating the Kenyan restoration movement Conference Summary Report

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