KENYA NATIONAL LANDSCAPE RESTORATION SCALING CONFERENCE 2022

CONSOLIDATING THE KENYAN RESTORATION MOVEMENT

FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION INTEGRATION AT COUNTY LEVEL

Please note, this event is being recorded

Conference objectives

- Showcase **progress made since the 2021 conference** in achieving agreed action plans and the creation of a restoration movement
- **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.
- 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.
- Explore the **role of existing practices and approaches to support the scaling of restoration** efforts in agricultural, forest, and rangelands.
- **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.

Opening Remarks

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

H.E. Mutahi Kahiga holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Nairobi and a Master's degree in Education Leadership & Management from the Kenya Methodist University. He is currently serving as the Chairman, Central Region Economic Bloc and Vice chair Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives committee in the Council of Governors. He has previously served as the chairperson of the Education Committee in the Council of Governors (CoG). Under his stewardship, Nyeri County has experienced exponential growth in all sectors including environmental management and forestry having received awards as the Best County in Environmental Care during the County Gala Awards, 2022 and County with Highest Tree Cover with Nyeri at 45% as per the 2021 National Assessment by Kenya Forest Service.

H.E Mutahi Kahiga, (Nyeri County Governor)

Presidential programme/directive for restoration and County Government roles

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

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING OVER 30% TREE COVER BY 2032 –

A SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Alfred N. Gichu
Forest Conservation Directorate

Introduction

- Forests recognized for their contribution to climate and environmental stability, economic development, social and livelihood support systems;

- With a forest cover of 5.9%, Kenya is classified as a low-forest cover country (recommended global minimum is 10%);

- Presidential Directives require accelerated achievement and maintenance of 10% forest cover and over 30% tree cover by 2032; currently tree cover estimated at 12.3%.

- Program to be implemented as a whole of government and whole of society approach.

- A National Strategy under preparation to provide for broad collaboration and shared responsibility ;

- Implementation will require enhanced ambition, innovation and renewed commitment

Why the over 30% Tree cover

1. Economic Development

- Foundation for the success of other productive sectors such as agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, and energy.
  - The sectors heavily rely on exploitation of natural resources and the environment (Vision 2030).
- Enhance contribution of the forest sector to GDP currently estimated at USD 365 million (3.6%) annually.
  - This excludes environmental services, non-timber products, and contributions to other sectors and household wood energy (FAO, 2014)
- For example; the total economic value of Mau Forest Complex, Cherangany Hills, and Mt. Elgon ecosystems is estimated to be KES 339 billion

Why the over 30% Tree cover Cont'd

2. Priority Government Development Programs

➡ **Housing**: Provides timber, poles, pulp, veneer, parquets, and the furniture industry with an estimated annual production valued at KES 23 billion (Creapo Oy, 2014).

➡ **Health:** Raw materials for the pharmaceutical industry, absorption of pollutants, water purification, herbal medicine, and improved nutrition.

➡ **Manufacturing**: Provides raw materials, energy sources for the industries, power transmission, and water sources.

➡ **Food Security**: Source of food, fodder for Livestock, soil and water conservation (Water reservoirs), household incomes, and employment.

Why the over 30% Tree cover Cont'd

3. Ecological Functions

- Support to a wide variety of ecological niches with about 7,000 indigenous plant species

- Reservoirs for biodiversity and critical habitats for wildlife.
  - Mangrove forests for example are essential breeding grounds for fish and protect the coastal areas from degradation;

- Dryland forests are critical to human existence and drought resilience in the ASALs.

4. Climate Change mitigation and adaptation

- Due to their capacity to act as carbon sinks and by providing key environmental services, forests are globally recognized as critical in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Policy and Legal Requirements

- The Constitution requires us to achieve and maintain a tree cover of at least 10 per cent of the land area of Kenya.

- Vision 2030 commits the government to ensure:

  - 10% area of our land mass is under forest, and sustainably managed natural forest resources.

  - Protection of natural forests in the water towers and rehabilitation the landscapes to increase and sustain water flow and ecological integrity (MTP III 2018-2022).

- Various Presidential Directives towards ensuring attainment of 10% National tree cover by 2022

- Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016, requires "programmes for achievement and maintenance of tree cover of at least 10% of the land area of Kenya" implemented.

International Conventions and Obligations

- Commitment to global initiatives and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as:

  - Restoration of 5.1 million Ha by 2030 of degraded landscapes as its contribution to the Africa Forest Restoration Initiative (AFR100);

  - Reduction of 11 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions from the forest sector as part of NDC implementation;

  - High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for nature to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030;

  - Glasgow Leaders Commitment at UNFCCC COP 26 to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation;

  - Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030 as its contribution to the United Nations Conference to combat desertification (UNCCD);

Drivers of Forest Cover Loss

- Conversion of forests to other land uses; agriculture, settlements and infrastructure developments;

- Inadequate governance, coordination and collaboration in the management of public and community forests;

- Increasing population and overreliance on forests for production of wood energy especially for charcoal;

- Inadequate institutional capacity to enforce national polices and laws;

- Inadequate land and forest tenure security to support conservation and forest investments especially in community forests; and

- Climate change and associated impacts amongst other causes.

Proposed Strategic Interventions

1. **Plant and Protect 15.6 Billion tree Seedlings by 2032**

- Improved seed production: collect and distribute 300 tons of high quality seeds;

- Production of 15.6 Billion high quality seedlings; and resrore 10 million ha of degraded landscapes;

- Availing information on degraded landscapes and site species matching.

- Provide technical support;

2. Protection of natural forests, Water Towers and rehabilitation of degraded forest areas

- Enhance protection of the 5.2 million ha of available forests;

- Rehabilitate degraded public and community forests;

- Identify and fence off sensitive natural forests;

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

3. Rehabilitation and conservation of Mangrove

➡ Implementation of the Mangrove Management Plan (2017-2027);

➡ Rehabilitation 17,036ha of degraded mangrove through partnerships;

4. Commercial forest plantation development on public, private and community lands

➡ Improve productivity and management of public forest plantations by Restocking of planting backlogs; Maintain 5,240 Km fire breaks and 8,236 Km of forest roads.

➡ Establishment of commercial forests on private land by encouraging the private sector and farmers to establish plantations

➡ Promote bamboo growing. This strategy seeks to establish bamboo largely through private sector investments.

5. Implementation of the Agriculture (Farm Forestry) Rules, 2009

- Support establishment of trees on farms;

- Promote adoption of high value agro forestry tree species;

- Encourage the County Governments to revitalize forest and agricultural extension services.

6. Restoration of degraded landscapes in the Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs)

- Implementation of appropriate livestock grazing systems that promote tree growing;

- Rehabilitation of degraded national parks, game reserves and wildlife sanctuaries;

- Promote natural regeneration of degraded forested landscapes;

- Pilot use of aerial seeding of grass and appropriate tree species.

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

7. Implementation of forest policies and legislations

- County Governments (CGs) to integrate spatial development plans into CIDPs to identify areas for forestry and tree development;

- CGs to implement the devolved forestry functions;

- Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and CGs to implement the Forest (Charcoal) Rules, 2009; and

- Ministry of Agriculture, KFS, and CGs to implement Agriculture (Farm Forestry) Rules, 2009 amongst others;

- Implementation of the National Policy on Rangelands management;

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

9. Implementation of the Greening Kenya Initiative

- Production of tree seedlings and establishment of commercial woodlots within Prison Services land and other public Institutions;

- Establishment of boundary planting within the Prison Services land;

10.Greening of infrastructure, institutions Urban areas in all Counties

- These include; railway lines, road network, large settlements, large mining sites and dams, as well as MDAs;

- Establishment of woodlots and boundary planting in schools and health facilities;

- Establishment of green parks, arboreta, botanical gardens in all Counties; securing and rehabilitation of riparian areas and wetlands.

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

11. Strengthen the capacity of Kenya forest Service , Kenya Wildlife Service and County Governments;

- Recruitment of additional staff and forest rangers
- Acquisition of equipment for surveillance and fire fighting.
- Training of forest rangers and community forest associations.

12. Adoption of forests and strengthening of Environmental Soldier Progam (ESP)

- MDAs, NGOs, corporate and the private sector will be encouraged to adopt forest blocks within public and community forests for rehabilitation and conservation as part of their CSR.

13. Public education, awareness and sensitization Educate, sensitize and create awareness to the public for the uptake of tree growing

- Undertake National Tree planting Campaigns

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

14. Efficiency in wood conversion, utilization and alternatives energy sources

- ➤ investments in efficient wood conversion machinery;

- ➤ Efficient cook stoves technologies in schools, prisons, hospitals and households;

- ➤ efficient boiler technologies for industries;

- ➤ Promote use of alternative energy sources such as; solar, wind, Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG), biogas, briquettes

15. Provision of incentives and awards

- ➤ Incentives will be provided to support sustainable management of forests as identified in the Environment Management and Coordination Act, 2015, Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016, Climate Change Act, 2016 amongst others.

Proposed Strategic Interventions Cont'd

16. Research, technology and innovations for forest restoration

- We will deploy the latest technologies in forest regeneration, protection, and planting through;

17. Mobilization of Resources

- Additional funding from exchequer and County Governments;

- Climate Finance and carbon markets;

- Public Private Partnerships: example in Seedlings production and infrastructure development

- Revolving loans for farm forest enterprises, and tapping into International Climate Finance opportunities

- Issuance of Green Bonds by the Government for forest management and protection amongst others initiatives.

Governance, Monitoring & Evaluation

- The Strategy will be implemented through a multi-stakeholder approach comprising of the following governance structures;
  - Establishment of a national inter-ministerial steering committee
  - Establish inter-ministerial technical committee
  - Establish Multi-institutional technical committee
  - County implementation coordination committee
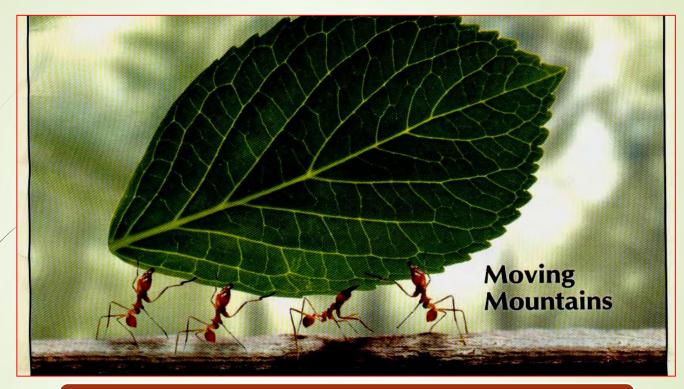 - Sub-county implementation committee
- Monitoring and evaluation will be carried out at various levels and the ME&F will establish a secretariat to support members in implementing their plans as well as receive and consolidate progress reports

Expectations from County Governments

- Coordination of County, Sub-County and Ward activities in collaboration with the National Government Institutions;

- Seedlings production and rehabilitation of degraded community forests;

- Mobilization of resources- County allocation, CDF, Ward development levy etc;

- Strengthened partnerships and collaboration in the protection and rehabilitation of degraded landscapes;

- Enactment of policies and enforcement ;

- Support to private sector engagement and investments in tree growing;;

- Establishment and restoration of green spaces, parks and arboreta;

Cost - Benefit Analysis

- The cost of implementation of this strategy is estimated to be **KES 500 Billion**.

- Implementation of this strategy is expected to yield numerous economic benefits as elaborated in the previous slides.

- In the event that the proposed interventions are not implemented, the consequences will manifest in form of:
  - reduced supply of important products,
  - droughts and
  - Loss ecological services emanating from forested landscapes.

- The estimated annual cost of inaction is **KES 168 Billion** over the strategy implementation period .

The End

Thank You

Panel Discussion

Moderator

Mr. Brian Muthoka ,Senior programme Officer, Water, Forestry and Natural Resource Management Committee (Council of Governors)

Panelist

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)

Break out groups

Ms. Mieke Bourne Ochieng (CIFOR-ICRAF)
moderating

Four Breakout groups

- ASALs
- Mid-elevation croplands
- Highlands/water towers
- Coastal zones

Questions for discussion

- What practices and approaches are used or could be used for restoration?
- What is needed to support counties to achieve land restoration? (resources, collaboration, structures)

ZOOM ETIQUETTE

Always join the meeting using your full name. For security purposes, unknown participants or those who join using numbers, initials or nicknames will henceforward be removed.

Mute your microphone every time you are not contributing.

For better bandwidth utilization, you may put off your video when not contributing.

Raise your hand when you want to speak

Ask questions or comment in the chatbox

VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Brian Muthoka, Senior Programme Officer - Water, Forestry and Natural Resources Management Committee (Council of Governors)

Regreening Africa