



**RE-GREENING AFRICA  
INCLUSIVE EVIDENCE BASED APPROACHES TO  
ACCELERATING LAND RESTORATION IN KENYA**

**Peter Waweru  
Senior Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests  
Kenya Forest Service**

**22 NOVEMBER 2022**

# Introduction

## Where do we want to go? Policy direction and vision for Scaling of Land Restoration in Kenya (FOLAREP)

- The Kenyan economy heavily depends on its ecosystems, including forests, rangelands, wetlands, and agroecosystems.

Degraded ecosystems have reduced the capacity of the land to provide goods and services supporting the national and local economies.

- Degradation is estimated to cost the Kenyan economy at least 3% of GDP annually (IMF, 2010).
- Several policies, strategies, and programmes to mitigate the pressures on the ecosystems exist in the country but have not yielded optimal outputs.

This is despite many State actors, Non-State actors, and development partners have been supporting or carrying out restoration activities in different parts of the country.



- Critical landscapes are facing degradation due to unsustainable utilization of resources, poor land use practices, biodiversity loss, invasive species and diseases, pollution, and climate change. These have resulted in 38.8 million hectares of the country being degraded.
- To mitigate and address this concerns it has necessitated the formulation of The Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) - 2022-2027.



- Informed of these gaps, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) established a technical working group (TWG) in 2019 to develop the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) - 2022-2027.
- The Plan aims to address drivers of the ecosystem and landscape degradation and restore degraded forests, rangelands, wetlands, and agricultural landscapes in a harmonized approach.

- The plan aims to restore deforested and degraded landscapes for resilient socio-economic development, improve ecological functioning and contribute to the realization of the national aspirations and international obligations in the forest and land-based sectors, mainly;
  - i) Achievement of the 30% national tree cover;
  - ii) Kenya's pledge to restore 5.1 million ha of the deforested and degraded landscape under the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) and the Bonn Challenge; and
  - iii) The vision of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration.
- In this action plan, the goal is to put **2.55 million hectares** of deforested and degraded landscapes under restoration through integrated forest and landscape restoration approaches to improve multiple ecological functions and increase resilience and socio-economic benefits by 2027.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Plan is a cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholders coordination framework to accelerate actions to restore deforested and degraded landscapes. It seeks to enhance resilient socio-economic development, improve ecological functioning and contribute to achieving national and international aspirations and obligations, respectively.
- Restoration is of high priority to the National and County Governments, as outlined in various national policies, legislation, and strategies. They include the Constitution 2010, Vision 2030, Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016), Climate Change Act (2016), the National Forest Programme (2016-2030), National Climate Change Action Plan (2018-2022), and Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (2020). Implementing FOLAREP will contribute to achieving 30% national tree cover by 2050, up from the current 12.38%.

- It will also contribute to the fulfilment of international obligations, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Bonn Challenge, and the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100). It will also be a critical instrument in supporting the aspirations of the UN Decade\_for Ecosystem restoration, 2021-2030.
- The aim of the plan will be to accelerate actions towards restoring 5.1 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes by 2030 and contribute to achieving national aspirations and international obligations.

## Overall Objective

- To restore 2.55 million hectares of degraded landscapes through integrated forest and landscape restoration approaches for improved ecological functionality and social-economic benefits by 2027.

*#TreesForBetterLives*



## Specific objectives

- To strengthen policy, regulatory frameworks, and institutional coordination for enhanced FLR implementation.
- To put 2.55 million ha. of degraded forests and landscapes under restoration for improved biodiversity and climate change reversal.
- To mobilize resources from public and private partnerships for FLR implementation-
- To promote inclusive nature-based value chains for improved livelihoods for communities.
- To strengthen FLR research, monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management.



## **County Government participation**

- The National Government will liaise with the County Governments to facilitate FLR action planning, performance, and monitoring. It is recommended that each county identifies restoration interventions that are relevant to their agro-climatic zones and conditions.
- The selected options will be mainstreamed in the county planning processes, including the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), County Environment Action Plans (CEAPs), Spatial Plans, Wetland Management Plans, and Catchment Management Plans, and Annual Development Plans and budgets

- The plan proposes strengthening the County Environment Committees (CECs) to take the lead in managing environmental issues, including FLR in the Counties. County Governments are urged to prioritize budgetary allocation to the environment sector to support the Committees' operations.
- The plan is an integrated implementation and monitoring and reporting framework to report all the restoration efforts in the country, and it is estimated to cost about **58.2** billion Kenya Shillings (approx. **USD 489 million**) over five years
- A detailed Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, and Learning (MERL) framework has been developed by the Kenya Landscape Restoration Monitoring Technical Working to track the impact, outcomes, and processes across FLR-related sectors systematically and in a participatory manner.



- Given the time lag in achieving some restoration impacts, the framework aims to capture both effort (process) and impacts (outcome) indicators, to understand changes in restoration investment and implementation and track the overall impacts on ecological function. Currently, the framework includes 30 indicators and 45 sub-indicators.
- FOLAREP requires commitments and our collective efforts as government, partners, land owners and experts and the deployment of appropriate tools, approaches and technologies for monitoring and reporting so that we can jointly deliver on the restoration targets;
- Kenya Forest Service remains committed and ready to provide leadership in supporting a monitoring framework that would track progress and report on conservation, protection, restoration, tree growing and sustainable management of forests and landscape resources

## Other Initiatives

- In order to address the adverse effects of climate change the Government has formulated the National REDD+ Strategy in which it has identified key drivers of deforestation as well as barriers that have impeded sustainable forest management.

The Strategy spells five options for achieving this;

1. Scaling up afforestation, reforestation and landscape restoration programmes
2. Enhancing governance and policy implementation to prevent the conversion of forests to other land uses
3. Increasing productivity of public plantation forests
4. Enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and skills throughout forest-related value chains
5. Mobilizing finance for implementing REDD+

# Summary of financial resources for FOLAREP

Objective	Amount (Kshs)	Amount (USD)
1. To strengthen policy, regulatory frameworks, and institutional coordination for enhanced FLR implementation	1,768,562,000	14,836,929.5
2. To put 2.55 million ha. of degraded forests and landscapes under restoration for improved biodiversity and climate change reversal	29,472,566,250	247,253,072.6
3. To mobilise resources from public and private partnerships for FLR implementation	712,864,600	5,980,407.7
4. To promote inclusive nature-based value chains for improved livelihoods for communities.	3,524,882,500	29,571,161.9
5. To strengthen research, monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management for FLR implementation	3,301,007,050	27,693,012.2
Sub-total	38,779,882,400	325,334,583.9
General Coordination and Administration Expenses (10 %)	3,877,988,240	32,533,458.4
Capital investments at (30%)	11,633,964,720	97,600,375.2
Communication and publicity (5 %)	1,938,994,120	16,266,729.2
Inflation (5%)	1,938,994,120	16,266,729.2
	58,169,823,600	488,001,875.8



# THANK YOU

Contacts:

P.O. Box 30513-00100

Nairobi-Kenya

Email: [info@kenyaforestservice.org](mailto:info@kenyaforestservice.org)

“Trees for Better Lives



Kenya Forest Service



KeForestService  
CCF\_Kenya

