

CLIMATE ACTION IN KENYA

Country context

In 2010, the Government of Kenya prepared a National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS, 2010) to put in place robust measures to address the challenges posed by climate variability and climate change. By 2012, the government was in the process of developing the National Climate Change Action Plan 2013-2017 (NCCAP), as well as preparing the Kenya Climate Change Act and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). **These policy instruments laid the foundation for the strong policy environment** that aided the implementation of the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project over the period 2012-2017.

The NCCAP had already identified a number of gaps towards achieving low carbon development in Kenya, including: limited awareness and technical understanding of climate change; limited institutional capacity across sectors; limited access to finance; limited technological advancement for climate change initiatives; and lack of a systematic framework for monitoring, reporting and evaluating progress.

Specifically, at the time of the LECB inception in 2012, capacity among government stakeholders to develop greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and meet UNFCCC reporting requirements (i.e. National Communications) was lacking. There was also a need to develop viable financial mechanisms to attract funding, particularly for mitigation activities. The framing of LECB Kenya was informed by broad stakeholder engagement, as well as the NCCAP, which takes a sector-wide approach in identifying priority action areas and key implementation gaps.

LECB Kenya therefore focused on building capacity for the development of a national GHG inventory to enhance the process of national reporting, and on the preparation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) with associated NAMA monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems, to attract funding and monitor implementation of mitigation activities.



LECB KENYA at a glance



Total financing

US \$ 779,000

5

Timeframe

5 years (2012–2017)



Sectors

Energy, Transport and Waste



Counterparts

Ministry of Environment of Kenya



Thematic areas

- Institutional frameworks
- GHG inventory systems
- NAMAs
- LEDS
- INDC support
- MRV systems
- Private sector involvement
- Climate finance

LECB AFRICA

Capacity to manage the national GHG emissions registry

Through LECB a number of sectoral experts were trained on elements of climate change and the effects of greenhouse gases, and therefore the importance of mitigation in the country. The training covered the use of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) GHG inventory software for estimating emissions and removals; GHG institutional frameworks; GHG data reporting formats including quality control and quality assurance; and data exchange processes. A GHG inventory training manual was also developed for future training reference.

Development of three NAMA proposals and associated MRV systems

Through LECB, capacities were enhanced on the requirements for developing NAMA proposals, and ultimately three NAMA proposals were developed: the Sustainable Solid Waste Management (circular economy) NAMA; the Household Clean Energy NAMA; and the Transport (Bus Rapid Transit - BRT system) NAMA. All three applied UNFCCC-approved MRV approaches to ensure transparency and accountability in the tracking and reporting of GHG emissions. UNDP's NAMA Sustainable Development Evaluation Tool was applied to identify and quantify sustainable development impacts and generate indicators for future monitoring.

3

NAMAs developed

to help promote circular economy, a Bus Rapid Transport system and clean energy for household

RESULTS

Piloting of the Household Clean Energy NAMA in a rural, off-grid community

This NAMA pilot was carried out to test off-grid lighting using LED (light-emitting diode) solar lamps and improved cook stoves in an ASAL (arid and semi-arid lands) community. The aim was to create demand for the two green technologies; reduce household use of wood fuel and kerosene while decreasing GHG emissions and improving the quality of life of residents.

2000

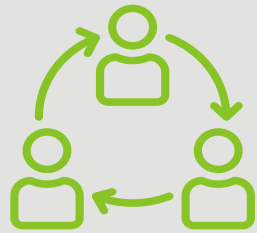
solar LED lanterns and improved cook stoves

were distributed to school children and their families

10%

additional resources leveraged by the Government of Kenya during the project

IMPACTS



Individual and institutional champions identified and trained to contribute to future iterations of the GHG inventory and national communications (NC)

Leadership of the GHG Inventory and NC reporting processes remains with the Climate Change Directorate through sector experts and Ministry representatives. Other ministries/sectors are mandated to contribute to the processes through data gathering and reporting.



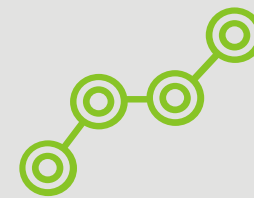
Sustainability of LECB project outcomes ensured

through their inclusion in the Low Emissions Climate Resilient Development (LECRD) project, another UNDP project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



Deepened knowledge on structured financing and costing was built during the NAMA preparation process.

This will be useful for future resource mobilisation efforts targeting international climate finance.



Strengthened competencies in climate change mitigation and adaptation

Achieved through the creation of a pool of sector-wide champions who continue to lead the country on the low emissions development pathway.



General overview of the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme

Since its inception, the UNDP LECB programme has paved the way for effective and lasting climate action by building capacities of government staff to develop policies, strategies and tools that help implement their climate change goals. Focusing specifically on essential building blocks such as strengthening GHG inventory data and systems; formalization of institutional arrangement for climate actions; development and alignment of low emission development strategies (LEDS); and the creation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), LECB provided much of the enabling environment necessary for countries to respond quickly to emerging needs, such as the submission of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and socialization of the Paris Agreement. Given its flexible nature and strong country ownership, often the originally-envisaged and measurable LECB outputs have been exceeded, leading to some unplanned but highly welcomed additional impacts.

CASE STUDY

SUCCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND INCLUSIVITY

Training on GHG monitoring and reporting identified and leveraged synergies with on-going work by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and the Mazingira Institute; these institutions had developed the livestock emissions factors for the GHG inventory system. The GHG inventory training also laid the foundation for the preparation of a comprehensive 2nd National Communication: the prototype inventory, training manual, and baseline data used were adopted in its preparation, seen as a key achievement. **The trained sector experts were also able to contribute to subsequent processes using the knowledge gained, including the preparation of Kenya's INDC.**

As second example of the success of the partnerships and inclusivity strategy can be found in the

preparation of the NAMAs, which entailed significant stakeholder engagement including three meetings with the thematic working groups and lead agencies on transport, waste and energy. Through the training offered, participants became conversant with the requirements for developing NAMA proposals, and **this enhanced the ability of local organizations to develop NAMA proposals.** The private sector was also consulted through organizations such as the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM), the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the respective sector representative bodies in clean energy, waste and transport. Embedding the private sector in the NAMA preparations ensured that it was able to contribute to the data collection process and to advise on the economic potential of the NAMA proposals.

Finally, based on the positive stakeholder feedback, the Solid Waste NAMA (circular economy) proposal was submitted to the NAMA Facility for funding, and a pilot project on sustainable waste management is currently underway in Nairobi County with the intention of upscaling to Nakuru County, building on the circular economy approach of the NAMA. In addition, the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the German Finance Corporation of Kenya (KfW) have shown interest in funding the NAMA to contribute to the country's sustainable development agenda.



One of the intangible benefits of the country-driven process supported by the LECB project in Kenya is that it created a pool of sensitised teams and sector experts trained on elements of GHGs, who appreciated the importance of mitigation in the country. The trained experts have gone on to become part of and play a key role in other similar processes based on the knowledge and capacity gained through this process



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LECB Kenya made possible by:

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. It is a global programme that helps countries build the public and private sector capacities needed to scale up country-driven mitigation actions.



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