REPUBLIC
OF KENYA

Ministry of Environment,
Climate Change and Forestry

# Kenya's Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2031–2035)

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# Contents

# Kenya’s New NDCs (2031-2035) Context

Recognizing the urgent need to address climate change, which erodes 3–5% of (Gross Domestic Product (GDP) annually through extreme weather events, Kenya aims to catalyze economic resilience and sustainable economic growth through bold and ambitious climate action.

Approximately 90% of electricity supplied to Kenya's national grid is from renewable energy sources.

Geothermal energy is the leading renewable source of electricity in Kenya and accounts for nearly 45% of the supply, followed by Hydropower, Wind, Solar and Biomass energy. Despite the high percentage in renewable energy use and potential, the power sub-sector experiences technical and operational inefficiencies with high implications on cost of electricity.

Kenya is poised to redefine its development trajectory by leveraging transformative power sector reforms as the cornerstone of its new generation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) ( 2031-2035). Central to the vision of reforms in the power sub-sector is the reduction of electricity costs, a pivotal step toward universal access, enhanced affordability.

The reforms will not only improve operational and technical efficiency of power systems, but also unlock opportunities for private sector investment, drive industrial competitiveness, and expand electrification to underserved urban and rural areas in a low carbon and climate resilient manner.

To avoid fragmentation and silo approach, Kenya’ NDC (2031-2035) adopts a coherent strategy of whole- of- government, whole-of-society approach to climate action, by prioritizing and adopting implementation sequence which takes into account the order, ripple effects and investability of the prioritized actions across and within sectors. The strategic approach primarily adopts a focus on sectoral intra and inter-connectedness while taking into account national and sectoral development plans.

The sequenced ripple effect of affordable and reliable energy is poised to drive the NDC mitigation goal of decarbonising the transport by enabling transition to e-mobility, green manufacturing, climate smart agriculture, e-cooking, sustainable waste management, while building resilience of climate vulnerable sectors.

The strategic approach to the NDC facilitates interventions that not only achieve the stated ambition, but also take into consideration the macroeconomic environment in which this execution is expected to occur like Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, prices, and labour dynamics in the context of just transition. It additionally takes into account the national fiscal space, the domestic and international capital flows, the financing environment, and the institutional capacity for implementation.

Further, this bold strategy positions Kenya as a regional leader in green energy transition, ensuring that its economy thrives in harmony with environmental sustainability. Through these ambitious reforms, Kenya reaffirms its commitment to decarbonization and inclusive growth for a climate-resilient future

# Introduction

**Kenya is poised to redefine its development trajectory by leveraging transformative power sector reforms.**

Kenya's development efforts have over the years been seriously impeded by the accelerating frequency and intensity of climate extremes and detrimental climate change impacts, leading to socio-economic losses estimated (in 2009) to be over 5% of Kenya's GDP every year, hence retarding her annual GDP growth. This situation is exacerbated by the country's economy being dependent on climate sensitive sectors and natural resources. In 2023, Kenya suffered direct losses due to drought estimated at over USD 650 million, which was quickly succeeded by floods in 2024 that led to direct losses estimated at over USD 1.46 Billion, both amounting to about 2% of the GDP.

Kenya's per capita greenhouse gas emissions (2.09t$CO_2$e per person in 2022), is far below the global average (6.76t$CO_2$e per person). Despite the country's negligible contribution to global greenhouse gas GHG emissions (less than 0.1% in 2022), Kenya has put up a robust legal and institutional architecture as well as ambitious policies, plans and measures to pursue a low carbon climate resilient development pathway to realise her development goals while simultaneously contributing to the global good. In order to fairly contribute to the global climate change goals, Kenya has prioritized measures that seek to address the economic decline caused by climate change impacts, while triggering rapid development following a climate resilient development pathway.

This Second Nationally Determined Contribution which is to be implemented from 1st January 2031 to 31st December 2035, has been prepared in accordance with Article 4 of the Paris Agreement and pursuant to Decisions 6/CMA.1 and 6/CMA.3. Noting that Kenya's current development blueprint (The Kenya Vision2030) period ends in 2030 (prior to the implementation period of this NDC), and that a new national development blueprint process is underway, the priorities outlined in this NDC are aligned with the draft Long Term Low Emission Development Strategy and analyses of sectoral long-term strategies and plans in light of both national and global circumstances. This NDC will therefore be updated before its implementation period to ensure alignment with Kenya's long term development blueprint post 2030.



# 1.1 Background and Overview

Historical records reveal that due to her geographical location, Kenya, like other tropical countries, is experiencing a warming trend that is far above the average global temperature rise, especially since the 1960s. This trend up to 2023 has been characterized by increasing temperatures, with some areas showing larger increases in especially minimum temperatures compared to maximum temperatures. The annual mean temperature rose by approximately 1.2°C over this period, corresponding to an average rate of 0.21°C per decade, with some parts of Kenya experiencing far higher warming.

There has been observed increase in precipitation variability in Kenya in recent years, with prolonged dry spells leading to droughts and intense short-lived lived rainfall causing floods. The intensity and frequency of these events have increased, and sometimes occur in rapid succession, leaving no time for recovery.

The Kenyan economy is highly dependent on climate sensitive economic sectors, hence food security, agriculture, water supplies, infrastructure and all socioeconomic and livelihood activities are all significantly impacted by these catastrophic weather occurrences. In 2009, a study found that Kenya's socio-economic growth suffers from a setback of over 5% loss of her GDP annually due to climate change impacts and exacerbates inequalities. Since these losses are an existential problem to the country, addressing climate change remains central to Kenya's sustainable economic development strategy.

# 1.2 National Circumstances

## 1.2.1 Geography and Government Arrangement (National and Subnational)

Kenya is a lower-middle-income developing country with a multi-party democratic political system and a stable government, located in the Greater Horn of Africa. It borders Ethiopia to the North, South Sudan to the North-West, Uganda to the West, Tanzania to the South, and Somalia to the East. The total surface area is about 610,000 $km^2$, comprising a land area of approximately 580,609 $km^2$, a water area of approximately 11,362 $km^2$, and a terrestrial water area of approximately 18,029 $km^2$.

Kenya has a devolved, two-tier government consisting of a national government and 47 county governments, with defined spheres of power and functions. The National Government has the responsibility of formulating policies to ensure the country transforms into a low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathway and designing programs to deliver its obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). County Governments implement national policies at the subnational levels and mainstream climate action in their devolved functions, development plans, and programs to enhance resilience at the grassroots level.

Based on the 2019 population census, Kenya's population was estimated to be 52.6 million in 2024, with a median age of 19.8 years, comprising 54.4% females and 49.6% males. This population is projected to grow to 57.8 million in 2031 and 62.2 million in 2035. With an urbanization rate of 4.3% per year, the urban population, estimated at 29.8% in 2024, is projected to grow to about 34% in 2031 and about 40% in 2035. Kenya aspires to be "a newly industrializing, middle-income country providing a high quality of life to all

its citizens by 2030 in a clean and secure environment."

Over 84% of Kenya's land area is arid and semi-arid, with poor infrastructure and other developmental challenges, leaving less than 16% of the land area to support the food security needs of over 80% of the population. The Kenyan economy is dependent on climate-sensitive sectors, such as rain-fed agriculture, water, energy, tourism, wildlife, and health, whose vulnerability is increased by climate change. Increased frequencies and intensities of climate-related risks in Kenya aggravate conflicts, mostly over already scarce natural resources. This has frequently forced the country to reallocate development resources to address rapidly arising climate-related emergencies. These impacts are not gender-neutral, affecting different groups differently, with vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted.

### 1.2.2 Macro-Economics

The Kenya Vision 2030 aimed to achieve a 10% annual GDP growth rate by 2012 and sustain it up to the year 2030. However, between 2012 and 2022, annual GDP growth rate averaged 4.8%. This performance fell short of the target of 10 percent annual growth due to various factors, including the adverse effects of climate change, which has resulted in recurring drought and invasion of pests and diseases, rising oil prices, exchange rate volatility, the COVID-19 pandemic, geo-political conflicts, terrorist attacks and piracy incidents.

Kenya transitioned from a low-income status to a lower middle-income status upon attaining a GDP per capita of US$ 1,430 in 2014. The GDP per capita improved to US$ 2,240 in 2022. However, Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita performance has been lower than the average for lower middle-income and upper middle-income categories between 2007 and 2022. Sectors with significant contribution to economic growth in Kenya include agriculture and livestock, manufacturing, tourism, trade, business process outsourcing, and financial services.

Agriculture and livestock sector's direct contribution to GDP was estimated at 21.2% in 2022, majorly contributing towards the attainment of food and nutrition security, income generation, employment creation, and enhancing export earnings. The share contribution of agriculture, forestry and fishing to GDP in Kenya compared to lower-middle-income and upper middle-income countries between 2007 and 2022 was higher, a testament that Kenya is still heavily dependent on agriculture. The country's agricultural sector relies on the vulnerable groups with 80% of the country's agricultural output produced by smallholder farmers.

Kenya aims to have a robust, diversified and competitive manufacturing sector to support its socio-economic development agenda through job creation, foreign exchange generation and foreign direct investment attraction. The contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP declined from 10.4% in 2007 to 7.8 per cent in 2022 against a target of 15%. The decline was due to high cost of production, competition from counterfeit goods, low technology adoption and recurring drought. Kenya's share contribution of manufacturing to GDP was far below the average of other lower middle-income and upper middle-income countries between 2007 and 2022.

### 1.2.3 Impacts of Climate Change

Kenya's economy is highly vulnerable to climate change, given its reliance on climate-sensitive sectors. Heat, droughts, and floods are the main climate hazards, negatively impacting lives, livelihoods, and national economic stability. Climate-related disasters cause significant losses and damages, with extreme events such as droughts, floods, and landslides posing a major threat to Kenya's security and economic progress.

During the 2017 drought, Kenya lost KES 20 billion (approximately USD 200 million) in the agricultural sector, while the 2018 floods resulted in damages of over KES 10 billion (approximately USD 100 million) to infrastructure and property. The 2022-2023 drought led to economic losses exceeding KES 70 billion (approximately USD 650 million), reducing the GDP growth rate from 5.8% in 2021 to 4.9% in 2022. This downturn increased poverty rates, with an estimated 300,000 additional people pushed into poverty.

Floods have caused widespread destruction, displacing hundreds of thousands of people. The 2018 floods led to the loss of human lives, displacement of over 230,000 people (including 150,000 children), and destruction of infrastructure, including 700 schools and 8,500 hectares of crops. The 2024 floods in March-April-May (MAM) resulted in estimated damages of KES 101,102 million (USD 783 million) and losses exceeding KES 86,719 million (USD 672 million). Approximately 412,763 people were affected, including 107,318 women of reproductive age, with over 9,300 expectant women facing heightened risks due to healthcare service disruptions.

Droughts cause large-scale disasters, destroying livelihoods, triggering local conflicts over scarce resources, and eroding community resilience. The 2011 drought caused over USD 11 billion in damages, and the 2014-2018 drought affected 23 counties, leaving 3.4 million Kenyans severely food insecure and 500,000 without access to water. During the periods of extreme drought, some of the Kenyan women and girls walk up to 30 kilometers in search of water and firewood, increasing their exposure to gender based violence. Additionally, children, particularly girls, face disruptions in education due to displacement and household financial constraints as a result of the extreme climate events.

Sea level rise threatens coastal communities, with projections indicating that up to 86,000 people may be affected annually by 2030, leading to coastal erosion and wetland loss at an annual cost of about KES 6 billion. Rising sea temperatures have triggered mass coral bleaching, impacting fish populations and coastal fisheries. Mount Kenya's glaciers have shrunk to only 17% of their original size and are projected to disappear within the next 15 years, threatening the Tana River, which supplies over 60% of Kenya's hydropower and supports agriculture.

### 1.2.4 Future Climate Scenarios

Kenya's mean surface temperature is projected to increase between 1°C and 1.7°C by 2035, with rising temperatures expected in all seasons. The rate of warming is anticipated to be higher in lowlands than in plateaus and highlands. In western and northern Kenya, temperatures could rise by 0.9°C to 1.3°C by 2035, while the southern coastal region is projected to experience a lower increase of 0.5°C. IPCC 2022 presents strong evidence that surface temperatures across the region have increased by 0.7–1°C between 1973 and 2013, altering the magnitude and frequency of extreme climate events.

Rainfall projections indicate that the October-December (OND) short rains will increase in many counties compared to the March-May (MAM) long rains, which will significantly decline under the RCP 2.6 and 8.5 scenarios. Most of northern Kenya is expected to experience rainfall deficits, while southern Kenya may see a slight increase in rainfall. The June-September (JJAS) dry season is projected to experience decreased rainfall under RCP 2.6 and 8.5 but an increase under RCP 4.5. Studies forecast that by 2035, precipitation levels in the MAM season will decline by more than 100 mm in large parts of Kenya's interior. Analysis of climate trends in 21 ASAL counties between 1977 and 2014 shows an increase in temperature in all 21 counties, with five counties surpassing a 1.5°C increase, and a general decline in rainfall in 15 out of the 21 counties. These results suggest that the normal variability in Kenya's precipitation patterns will be the dominant influence on its climate over the coming decades.

### 1.2.5 Emissions and Just Transition

In 2022, Kenya's total greenhouse gas emissions was estimated at 113.366 $MtCO_2eq$ including the LULUCF (66.52 $MtCO_2eq$ without LULUCF) sector and was projected to increase towards 143 $MtCO_2eq$ by 2030 as the country pursues its Vision 2030 development agenda. Trends in total emissions for the time series 1990 to 2022 show that the average annual growth in overall emissions was 4% percent per year including the LULUCF sector. Kenya's emission growth is primarily driven by Energy and AFOLU sectors, showing that deforestation and forest degradation have been exceeding the reforestation rates throughout the period. The other sources of emissions include increased consumption of fossil fuels, increased agricultural activities, and demand for fossil fuels in the energy sector.

Agriculture and LULUCF sectors dominate the share of the total greenhouse gas emissions, thus AFOLU (combined agriculture, land use change and forestry) contributes to 73% of the total greenhouse gas emissions in Kenya. The LULUCF sector emissions were estimated at 46.846 $MtCO_2eq$ (41% of the total) with an average annual growth of 20%. The agriculture emissions were estimated at approximately 36.102 $MtCO_2eq$ (32% of the total) with an annual growth of 4%. The energy sector emissions were estimated at 21.503 $MtCO_2eq$ (20% of the total), with an annual growth of 6% of the total GHG emissions. The waste sector emissions were estimated at 5.237 $MtCO_2eq$ (5% of the total) with an annual growth of 4%. The Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) emissions were estimated at 3.677 $MtCO_2eq$ (3% of the total) with an annual growth of 12%. Emissions from the AFOLU sector have been increasing steadily since 1990 to 2022 due to a rising demand


for agricultural land, deforestation activities, use of synthetic fertilizers, and increasing number of livestock. IPPU Emissions have continued to grow primarily due to increased $CO_2$ emissions from cement production (more factories became operational). Emissions from the energy sector had increased over the years largely due to increased importation of fossil consuming vehicles in the transport sector.

While Kenya has abundant renewable energy resources such as geothermal, solar, wind and hydro for electricity generation, more than one half of Kenya's households use wood fuel for cooking. Hydro power, which has been a major source of electricity for a long time is impacted by increasingly highly variable rainfall. The country also has significant oil reserves and about 400 million tons of coal reserves which are yet to be exploited. Coal mining, in particular open pit mining as planned for Mui basin, could have strong environmental and social impacts in the future. Due to its production experience in many countries as well as relatively low costs, coal is also an important fuel option for electricity expansion planning for Kenya, but the negative environmental impacts must be factored in. There have been proposals to build two coal power plants in Kenya, one of which would be based on local coal while the other would use imported coal. However, the use of coal is accompanied by strong environmental impacts, such as high emissions of sulphur dioxide, heavy metals and harmful greenhouse gases. The country is therefore faced with choosing between the exploitation of her fossil fuel resources to realize her development objectives and foregoing their exploitation for environmental reasons. To forego all the benefits of exploiting the fossil fuel resources, and ensure a just energy transition that is socially inclusive, Kenya will not only need alignment of her ambitions against important just transition principles but also significant compensatory international support.

# 1.3 Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework

In order to address climate change and its impacts to Kenya's economy, Kenya has put in place elaborate legal, policy and institutional architecture to enable all actors – state and non-state, national and subnational – to effectively contribute to the national goal.

## 1.3.1 Legal Framework

The Constitution of Kenya (2010) provides the foundation for implementation of climate change actions through its Bill of Rights provisions, especially the right of all Kenyans to a clean and healthy environment. Pursuant to this right, the Climate Change Act, 2016 provides a legal and regulatory framework for addressing climate change and its impacts in order to achieve a low carbon climate resilient development.

The Act establishes governance structures for climate change management in the country with the National Climate Change Council (NCCC) being responsible for oversight and coordination. The NCCC is chaired by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Kenya. In addition, the Act defines the roles of both national and county governments as well as non-state actors in the mainstreaming, implementation and reporting of climate action in Kenya. The Act was amended in 2023 to provide a legal framework to guide the engagement in carbon markets in Kenya.

The Act obligates the Cabinet Secretary responsible for climate change affairs every five years to formulate an economy-wide National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) that prescribe measures and mechanisms, inter alia to guide the country toward the achievement of low carbon climate resilient sustainable development and mainstreaming climate change into national and sectoral development planning and the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). To ensure that the NCCAP is implemented across all sectors, the Act provides that the NCCAP shall be approved by the NCCC. Consequently, the implementation of the country's NDC is to be done through successive NCCAPs.



## 1.3.2 Policy Framework

The Kenya Vision 2030, the long-term national development blueprint encapsulates flagship programmes and projects with aspects of adaptation and mitigation. The National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS), which was developed in 2010, was the first national policy document on climate change. It aimed to advance the integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation into all government planning, budgeting and development objectives.

To operationalize the NCCRS, the First National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2013-2017) was prepared in 2013 for a period of five years. It established Kenya's baseline emissions projections up to 2030 and developed a low carbon climate resilient development pathway for the country outlining priority adaptation and mitigation actions. Similarly, the Second NCCAP (2018-2022) was developed in 2018 for the period 2018 to 2022; and the Third NCCAP (2023-2027), developed in 2023 for the period 2023 to 2027. The NCCAP II and III identified the country's priority climate change adaptation and mitigation actions. The actions were intended to contribute to the country's achievement of the low carbon climate resilient development pathway, poverty eradication and the NDC target. Financing of the NCCAP was achieved through mainstreaming and budgeting the actions in the successive medium-term plans (MTPs).

Kenya also developed its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2015-2030) which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017. The NAP provided a climate hazard and vulnerability assessment and set out priority adaptation actions.

In addition to the Kenya Vision 2030 and climate change-related policies, the country has put in place several sectoral policies to support implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions. Some of the key policies include: the National Policy on Climate Finance; Climate Risk Management framework; the National Livestock Policy 2015; National Oceans and Fisheries Policy 2008; the Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS) (2019 – 2029); the Kenya Climate-Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017-2028); the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+); the National Drought Management Authority Management Authority (NDMA) Act (2016); the Water Act, (2016); Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016) among others.

Noting that the Kenya Vision 2030 will cease in 2030, a new long term development blueprint will be developed before 2030. The actions and priorities outlined in this Nationally Determined Contribution will be updated before the commencement of the implementation period (1st January, 2031).

## 1.3.3 Institutional Framework

Kenya has clear coordination structures for climate change matters under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, with the overarching policy, coordination and oversight of climate change affairs being performed by the National Climate Change Council, chaired by the President. The Act establishes the Climate Change Directorate (CCD) as the lead government agency responsible for coordinating climate change plans and actions and related measurement, monitoring, and reporting. To ensure coherence, the Act designates the CCD as the Secretariat for the NCCC with the responsibility of coordinating the technical aspects of the implementation of climate change functions. Such functions, include: providing analytical support and technical assistance on climate change and coordinating the implementation of and reporting on the NCCAPs as well as capacity building support at the two levels of government – National and County Governments.

The Act obligates, at the sectoral level, state departments and agencies to establish Climate Change Units (CCUs) to integrate NCCAP actions into their strategies and implementation plans. The Directorate performs coordination work through the Climate Change Units established in all ministries, counties, departments and agencies. At the sub-national level, county governments are required to designate a County Executive Committee member to coordinate climate change in each county through the establishment of a Climate Change Unit (CCU).

The Act designates the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) as the body responsible for enforcing climate change duties for state and non-state actors. With the amendment of the Act in 2023, NEMA was also appointed as the Designated National Authority (DNA) for market mechanisms and other mechanisms stemming from Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

# The NDC Development Process

**This bold strategy positions Kenya as a regional leader in green energy transition.**

The process for preparing Kenya's New Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 2031-2035) was characterised by significant time constraints and the need to respond to new government priorities, including strengthening implementation of the NDC and boosting private sector interest. The New NDC has been developed in the context of the country's national circumstances and development agenda with a strong focus on gender equity. It builds on existing national policies and legal frameworks, including the Constitution of Kenya (2010), the Climate Change Act (2016), the First Nationally Determined Contribution (2021 – 2030), the Third National Climate Change Action Plan (2023 – 2027), the National Adaptation Plan (2015 – 2030) and the Draft Kenya's Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS).

The Climate Change Directorate of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, and in consultation with relevant departments and agencies across the government, conducted a detailed analysis to underpin the adaptation and mitigation targets upto 2035, reviewing a range of pathways for each sector of the economy that contributes significant greenhouse gas emissions in line with the national circumstances, the latest National Inventory Report and the IPCC guidelines. This was enriched by a comprehensive gender analysis. Technology availability, potential cost implications were considered, as well as the role of enabling infrastructure. Incentives, and support for innovation are to be considered at the detailed action design phase. Additionally, there were youth specific consultation meetings to ensure intergenerational equity and inclusion of youth in the development of the NDC.

In order to ensure alignment and coherence with Kenya's national circumstances, sustainable development agenda, government objectives and plans, the process started with a review of the relevant national plans, policies and legislation at both national and sector levels. Relevant data was collected from different sectors and analysed to understand and update both climate impacts and the extent of implementation of climate actions to date, and to identify potential NDC priority actions. Various adaptation and mitigation actions were proposed based on inputs from both government and other stakeholders. The actions were then analysed to determine potential impacts and to identify potential priority actions for further analysis and consultations. Comprehensive gender analysis informed the revision throughout the process.

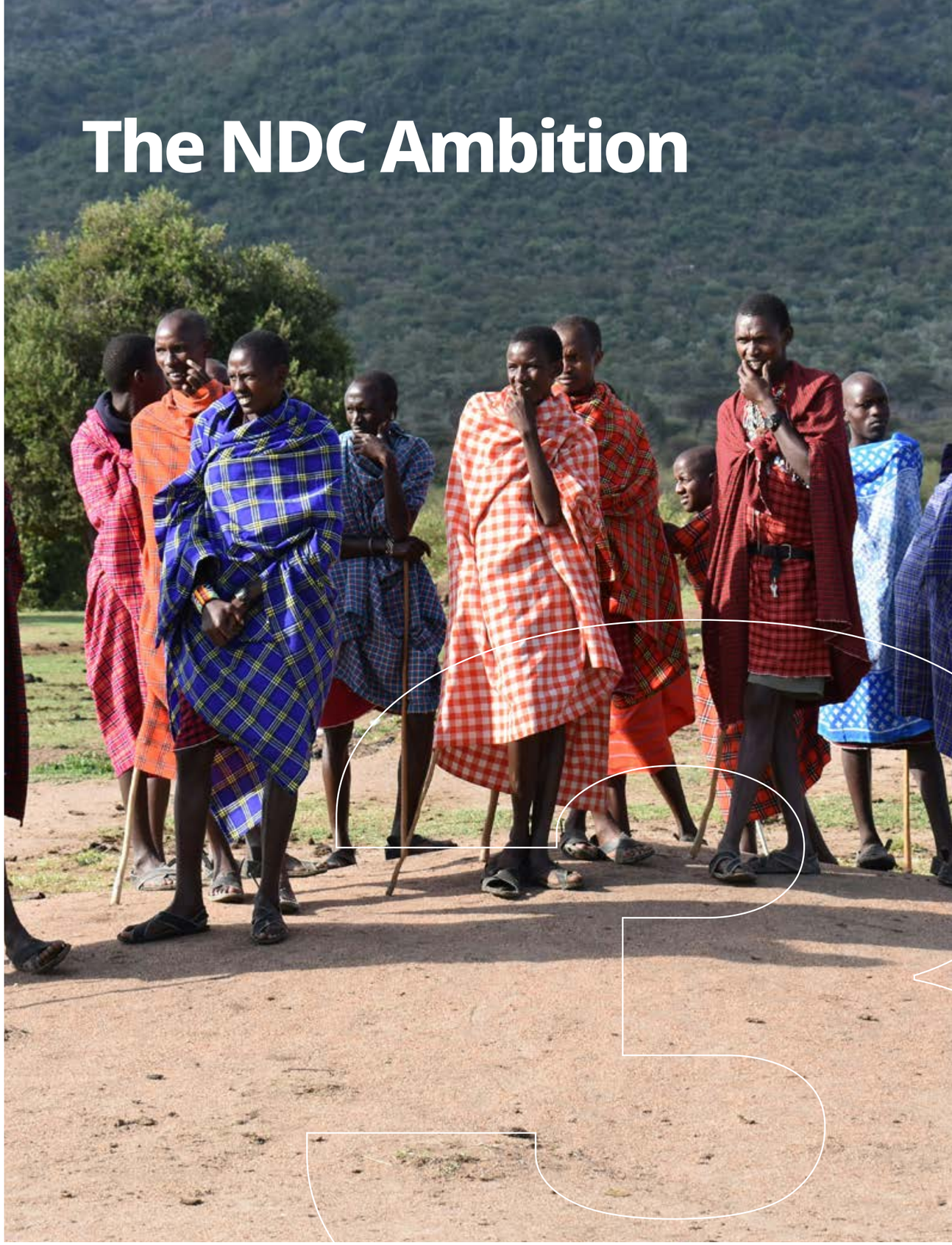
The NDC development process was government-led through the Climate Change Directorate of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry. The process, which entailed planning, review of official government documents, public consultations and engagements, together with approvals at different stages, was not only consultative and inclusive, but was also based on clear communication using the best available national data. A key objective of the process applied was to facilitate stakeholder ownership and effective implementation using both top-down and bottom-up approaches.

During the NDC 2031-2035 development process, the consultants worked closely with the stakeholders in an inclusive and consultative manner to update and enhance Kenya's contributions. Stakeholders were identified from various national and county government sectors, civil society, academia and private sector. To ensure inputs went beyond technical analysis and considered other aspects of Kenyan life, a range of other stakeholders representing the distinctive perspectives of the Kenyan people were consulted, including the private sector, the labour movement, environmental justice organisations, youth organisations, sub-national (county) governments, and others. Using both individual and group approaches, consultations were conducted at different stages of the process as physical or virtual workshops.

In line with paragraph 22-35 of decision 1/CP.21 and Decision 4/CMA .1 and its annex, the process was structured to support enhancement of mitigation, adaptation and transparent communication, together with the alignment of the NDC with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The data and information collected from the document review and various consultations were used for the simultaneous determination and design of the New NDC, including mitigation and adaptation enhancements. The enhancements have not only targeted mitigation ambitions of the NDC, but also the strengthening of the NDC's implementation. The adaptation component of the NDC draws from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).



# The NDC Ambition



Kenya's New NDC includes both mitigation and adaptation components based on her national circumstances, noting that climate action must lead to socio-economic development. Kenya aims to achieve her long-term development objectives through a low carbon, climate resilient pathway in inclusive and equitable ways that foster just transition for sustainability. The mitigation and adaptation interventions outlined in this NDC are designed to maximize co-benefits (between mitigation and adaptation), enhancing resilience in Kenya's climate-vulnerable socio-economic sectors while contributing to emission reductions. These measures address projected climate impacts for 2031–2035 and integrate gender-responsive approaches to account for differing vulnerabilities across population groups. Kenya will implement its NDC through the National Climate Change Action Plans (NCCAPs) which will be periodically reviewed.

Cognisant that there exists gender differentiated vulnerabilities due to climate change impacts, and that men and women contribute differently to the same due to their respective gender roles, Kenya will implement the outlined adaptation and mitigation priorities in a gender responsive manner in order to promote inclusivity in climate action. To do this, Kenya will advance meaningful participation and representation of vulnerable populations in climate action through capacity building and skills development, technology and innovations as well as targeted inclusive access to climate finance, among other initiatives.

> **Kenya aims to catalyze economic resilience and sustainable economic growth through bold and ambitious climate action.**

# 3.1 Mitigation

Kenya's ambitious mitigation target is economy-wide, designed to lead to emission reductions across all sectors without compromising socio-economic development. Priority mitigation actions will be achieved through policies, programs and measures, with additional emission reductions being realized through carbon markets, while promoting sustainable development and environmental integrity. Kenya will develop and periodically review her whitelist for 2031 to 2035 to support her participation in carbon markets and other mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Additionally, Kenya will set annual targets for the NDC implementation period to guide her participation in these mechanisms.

As part of the mitigation approach, Kenya will leverage carbon markets to attract investment and enhance its mitigation ambition. Pursuant to the provisions for a whitelist of eligible technologies and projects in the Climate Change Act (Cap. 387A), carbon market activities will set aside a portion of its mitigation outcomes for domestic use towards achievement of her NDC. This strategic approach strengthens the country's climate ambitions while fostering sustainable development.



> **Kenya reaffirms its commitment to decarbonization and inclusive growth for a climate-resilient future.**

## Mitigation Goal:

**In pursuit of her long-term development agenda, Kenya continues to undertake an ambitious mitigation contribution towards the Paris Agreement. Kenya therefore endeavors to abate her GHG emissions by 35% by 2035 relative to the BAU scenario of 215 $MtCO_2eq$ in 2035, leading to the abatement of 75.25 $MtCO_2eq$. Subject to national circumstances, Kenya will mobilize domestic resources to realize 15.05 $MtCO_2eq$ (20% of the 75.25 $MtCO_2eq$ ) of the emission reductions. The remaining 60.20 $MtCO_2eq$ (80% of the 75.25 $MtCO_2eq$) of the emission reduction will be achieved through a combination of international support, including finance, investments, technology development and transfer, and capacity building, and participation in carbon markets.**

The mitigation goal will be achieved through the promotion and implementation of key priority mitigation initiatives, including but not limited to the following:

- Undertake energy sector reforms aimed at universal access to, adequate, reliable, and affordable energy services, to enable the achievement of, inter alia:
  - Increased renewable electricity generation in the national grid towards 100% by 2035;
  - Adoption of clean and efficient energy use for the transport, industry, agriculture and domestic sectors including clean cooking.
- Promotion of low carbon, climate resilient and efficient transportation systems that are gender-responsive and accessible to all, through electrification, modal shifts, urban mass rapid transport systems and overall greening of the transport sector.
- Promotion of green industrialization and extractive sectors through adoption of innovative, inclusive, clean and low carbon technologies in the exploitation and utilization of resources
- Making progress towards increasing tree cover of the land area through afforestation, reforestation and agroforestry.
- Reduced deforestation and forest degradation by rehabilitation and protection of natural forests (REDD+ approach), in both land and water-based ecosystems.
- Promotion of climate smart agriculture (CSA) with emphasis on crop and animal husbandry, including efficient livestock management systems while empowering smallholder farmers and pastoralists through enhancement of their capacities.
- Enhance implementation of sustainable waste management systems to ensure provision of a clean and healthy environment.
- Implement the National Green Skills and Green jobs Strategy to ensure just transition across sectors.
- Develop and implement comprehensive plans and programmes that address negative impacts of response measures across sectors to ensure a just transition of the workforce, sectors and livelihoods.

The estimated budget required for the implementation of the mitigation activities for the period 2031 to 2035 is USD 22.5 Billion. Subject to national circumstances, Kenya intends to bear 19% (USD 4.28 Billion) of the mitigation cost from domestic resources, while the balance of USD 18.34 Billion (81%) is subject to international support. However, these estimated resource requirements may change with changing circumstances.

### 3.1.1 Information To Facilitate Clarity, Transparency And Understanding

| PARA | GUIDANCE IN DECISION 4/CMA.1 | ICTU GUIDANCE AS APPLICABLE TO KENYA'S NDC |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | **Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year)** | |
| (a) | Reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting. | Base for emission projections: 2022.<br>Reference year for business-as-usual emissions target: 2035. |
| (b) | Quantifiable information on the reference indicators, Their values in the reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s), and, as applicable, in the target year. | The projected emission level in 2035 is **215** Million tonnes of $CO_2$-equivalent ($MtCO_2eq$). The 2022 base year of **113**$MtCO_2eq$ were estimated in the 2024 GHG Inventory. Kenya may recalculate the projected GHG emissions in 2030 to respond to policy changes and improved data availability. |
| (c) | For strategies, plans, and actions referred to in Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Paris Agreement, or policies and measures as components of nationally determined contributions where paragraph 1(b) above is not. Applicable,. Parties to provide other relevant information. | Not applicable |
| (d) | Target relative to the reference indicator, expressed numerically, for example in percentage or amount of reduction. | Kenya aims to implement mitigation measures to achieve absolute emission reductions of **75**$MtCO_2eq$ by 2035. Out of the **75**$MtCO_2eq$, unconditional measures are expected to lead to a **15**$MtCO_2eq$ emission reduction amount.<br>An additional **60**$MtCO_2eq$ emission reduction is achievable if support is made available from international sources to cover the full cost for implementation. |
| (e) | Information on sources of data used in quantifying the reference point(s) | Data sources for the quantifying information on the base year was based on 2022 GHG inventory results. |
| (f) | Information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the values of the reference indicators | The base year (2022) value would be subjected to recalculations and technical corrections in response to policy changes, the best available science and availability of improved data per UNFCCC decision 18/CMA.1 in 2030. Accordingly, information on the base year value updates would be documented and reported in the Biennial Transparency Reports and National inventory documents. |
| **2** | **Time frames and stroke or periods for implementation.** | |
| (a) | Time frame and/or period for implementation, including start and end date, consistent with any further relevant decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA). | The time frame for the implementation of the NDC is **1st January 2031 to 31st December 2035.** |
| (b) | Whether it is a single year or multi-year target, as applicable. | An absolute single-year target in 2035 with 2022 as the base year. |
| **3** | **Scope and coverage** | |
| (a) | General description of the target. | The NDC is informed by the outcomes of the COP28 Global Stocktake (GST) -it is a 1.5°C aligned, economy-wide target, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories, informed by the latest science.<br>In the event that Kenya's NDC target is exceeded, Kenya intends to use both market and non-market mechanisms provisions of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, based on domestic legislation developed. |
| (b) | Sectors, gases, categories and pools covered by the Nationally Determined Contribution, including, as applicable, consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines. | Information will be provided in Kenya's NIR that will be consistent with the IPCC guidelines.<br>**Sectors:**<br>Energy, industrial processes and products use. agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry and waste.<br>**Gases:**<br>Carbon dioxide ($CO_2$). Methane ($CH_4$) and Nitrous Oxide ($N_2O$).<br>The following gases, which are currently negligible, may be included in this NDC: Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), sulphur hexafluoride ($SF_6$) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF3).<br>For the land use, land use change and forestry sector, emissions and removals, the following reporting categories are included: forest land, cropland, grassland and wetland, including land use changes between the categories, and between these categories and settlements and other land. The five carbon pools, above ground biomass, below ground biomass, litter, deadwood and soil organic matters are included. In addition, the carbon pool harvested wood products is included. |
| (c) | How the Party has taken into consideration paragraph 31(c) and (d) of decision 1/CP.21. | Kenya's NIR describes the sources considered significant and reported as not estimated. The NIR provides justifications for exclusion in terms of the likely level of emissions and how these are in line with the thresholds specified in decision 24/CP.19. A similar approach, consistent with decision 18/CMA.1 will be used for reporting under the Paris Agreement. |
| (d) | Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including description of specific projects, measures and initiatives of Parties' adaptation actions and or economic diversification plans. | The mitigation co-benefit of the adaptation actions will be included in the mitigation contribution of this NDC |
| **4** | **Planning processes** | |
| (a) | Information on the planning processes that the party undertook to prepare its nationally determined contribution and, if available, on the parties implementation plans, including as appropriate: | Covered in section 2 |
| (i) | Domestic institutional arrangements. public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender responsive manner. | Covered in section 2 |
| (ii) | Contextual matters, including inter alia, as appropriate: | |
| a. | National circumstances such as geography, climate, economy, sustainable development and poverty eradication. | Covered in section 1.2 |
| b. | Best practise and experience related to the preparation of the nationally determined contribution. | Covered in section 2 |

| PARA | GUIDANCE IN DECISION 4/CMA.1 | ICTU GUIDANCE AS APPLICABLE TO KENYA'S NDC |
|---|---|---|
| c. | Other contextual aspirations and priorities I could acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement. | **Just transition:** Kenya is committed to achieving its long-term development objectives through a low-carbon, climate-resilient pathway that is both gender-inclusive and equitable, fostering a just transition for sustainable development. Kenya will prioritize the just transition of Kenya's workforce, sectors, and livelihoods, ensuring no one is left behind in the journey toward a sustainable future.<br><br>A comprehensive cross sectoral analysis of response measures and their impacts will be carried out in order to develop and implement plans and programmes that address negative impacts of response measures across sectors and ensure a just transition of its workforce, sectors and livelihoods.<br><br>**Human rights.** Citizen rights are enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya.<br><br>**Food security.** Kenya prioritises food security of the citizens, hence response to climate change should safeguard the citizens basic rights to food. All of society approach. Kenya's approach in tackling climate change and its impacts involves engagement of also actors-government and non-government players that include civil society actors, private sector, academia, media, development partners and the citizens.<br><br>**Gender equality**. Kenya acknowledges the varying contributions to emissions by different population groups and is committed to implementing climate actions that are inclusive and gender-responsive, that ensure equal opportunities in transitioning to a low-carbon economy. |
| (b) | Specific information applicable to Parties, including regional economic integration organisations and their Member States that have reached an agreement to act jointly under Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement, including the Parties that agreed to act jointly and the terms of the agreement, in accordance with Article 4, paragraphs 16-18, of the Paris Agreement. | Not applicable. |
| (c) | How the Party's preparation of its national determined contribution has been informed by the outcomes of the global stock take, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement. | Kenya's climate targets and policies are developed in the context of best available science, and hence the IPCC Special reports on 1.5° C has been central to the assessment of the nationally determined contribution. |
| (d) | Each party with a nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement that consists of adaptation, action and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits consistent with Article 4, paragraph 7 of the Paris Agreement to submit information on: | |
| (i) | How the economic and social consequences of response measures have been considered in developing the nationally determined contribution. | This NDC consists of adaptation actions. The economic and social consequences of the adaptation measures were analysed in the NAP and also the adaptation section of the NDC. The consequences of response measures towards a low carbon climate development economy formed the basing of prioritization of the NDC actions. |
| (ii) | Specific projects, measures and activities to be implemented to contribute to mitigation co-benefits, including information and adaptation plans that also yielded mitigation co-benefits, which may cover, but are not limited to, key sectors such as energy, resources, water resources, coastal resources, human settlements and urban planning, agriculture and forestry, and economic diversification, actions, which may cover, but are not limited to, sectors such as manufacturing and industry, energy and mining, transport and communication, construction, tourism, real estate, agriculture and fisheries. | Such projects, measures and activities have been identified in various technical documents, but their contributions have not been included in the NDC. Each such project, measure or activities will be considered for inclusion in the NDC mitigation contribution on a case by case basis. |



| PARA | GUIDANCE IN DECISION 4/CMA.1 | ICTU GUIDANCE AS APPLICABLE TO KENYA'S NDC |
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| **5** | **Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and for accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate ,removals:** | |
| (a) | Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals corresponding to the Party's nationally determined contribution, consistent with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 31, and accounting guidance adopted by the CMA. | Kenya has reported a GHG Inventory covering up to 2022 in December 2024 in accordance with 18/CMA 1. For accounting relevant information Kenya will use the accounting guidance 4/CMA.1. For IPCC methodologies and metrics, see 5(d).<br><br>Final accounting towards the target that will take place in **2037** will depend on whether arrangements with Kenya's participation in Article 6 programmes. Any use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes within that framework will be included in Kenya's accounting, consistent with the approach that will have been negotiated under the UNFCCC process. |
| (b) | Assumptions and methodological approaches useful accounting for the implementation of policies and measures or strategies in their nationally determined contribution. | Not applicable |
| (c) | If applicable, information on how the party will take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention to account for anthropogenic emissions and removals in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement as appropriate. | Kenya's current greenhouse gas inventory is in accordance with the decision 24/CP.19 and hence the revised 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC 2006). The Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC 2000), Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (IPCC 2003). The concepts contained in Good Practice Guidance are being implemented in stages, according to sector priorities and nation circumstances. |
| (d) | IPCC methodology and metrics used for estimating anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals. | IPCC 2006 guidelines, global warming potentials (GWP) for a 100-year time horizon from the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report will be used to calculate $CO_2$ equivalents.<br><br>IPCC 5th Assessment Report, or 100-year time-horizon GWP values from a subsequent IPCC assessment report as agreed upon by the CMA. |
| (e) | Sector-, category- or activity-specific assumptions, methodologies and approaches consistent with IPCC guideline, as appropriate, including as applicable: | |
| (i) | Approach to addressing emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances on managed lands. | This is treated as part of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (IPCC, 2003). |
| (ii) | Approach used to account for emissions and removals from harvested wood products. | Harvested wood products are not included in the emission calculations. |
| (iii) | Approach is used to address the effect of age-class structure in forest. | Not applicable. |
| (f) | Other assumptions and methodological approaches used for understanding the nationally determined contribution and, if applicable, estimating corresponding emissions and removals, including: | |
| (i) | How the reference indicators, baseline(s) and/or reference level(s), including, where applicable, sector-, category- or activity-specific reference levels are constructed, including, for example, key parameters, assumptions, definitions, methodologies, data sources and models used. | Removals from the land sector will be accounted for based on specific accounting rules for their different land categories as per the Good Practise Guidance for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (IPCC, 2003). |
| (ii) | For Parties with the nationally determined contributions that contain non greenhouse gas components, information on assumptions and methodological approaches used in relation to those components, as applicable. | Not applicable. |
| (iii) | For climate forces included in nationally determined contributions not covered by IPCC guidelines, information on how the climate forces I estimated. | Not applicable. |
| (iv) | Further technical information, as necessary. | Not applicable. |

| PARA | GUIDANCE IN DECISION 4/CMA.1 | ICTU GUIDANCE AS APPLICABLE TO KENYA'S NDC |
|---|---|---|
| (g) | The intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, if applicable | Kenya will engage in voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement as part of her efforts to implement the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). This approach aims to enhance ambition and promote sustainable development while ensuring environmental integrity.<br><br>Currently, Kenya is developing a comprehensive carbon market framework and establishing the necessary arrangements, including institutional structures, authorization processes, a carbon registry, and a project pipeline, to facilitate her participation in Article 6. Additionally, the country is exploring opportunities for international cooperation by leveraging bilateral agreements, ensuring that its efforts align with global climate goals while maximizing local benefits. |
| **6** | **How the party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances:** | |
| (a) | How the party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances. | Kenya is a developing country, with diverse economic development challenges compounded by climate change impacts.<br><br>Kenya's contribution to total global emissions is less than 0.1% in 2022, while the per-capita emissions are less than 2.09t$CO_2$eq compared to the global average of 6.76t$CO_2$eq (2022).<br><br>This NDC builds on the Updated First NDC in which Kenya undertook to make a contribution that targeted a high proportion of its mitigation potential and was dependent on the level of international support available.<br><br>The contributions set through this New NDC therefore reflect an enhancement of ambition in the following two areas:<br><br>An increase in emission reduction targets by 2035 from 32% in the Updated First NDC to **35%** in the New NDC.<br><br>Enhanced domestic contribution from **13%** to **19%** of the NDC cost. |
| (b) | Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity. | Kenya, being a developing country, prioritises increasing the per capita GDP growth above the 2024 levels of 5.4% so as to address poverty alleviation and sustain sustainable economic development in a low carbon climate resilient development pathway. This has informed New NDC development process, and represents a high level of fairness and ambition in light of Kenya's national circumstances. Kenya regards its nationally determined contribution to present its fair share of the efforts to achieve the global long term goal of the Paris Agreement. |
| (c) | How the party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement. | Kenya's New NDC represents a progression beyond its previously communicated NDC, as the emission reductions are enhanced from at least **32% to 35%** under extremely difficult national circumstances.<br><br>It is an ambitious target for Kenya to achieve by 2035. The achievement of the target is dependent on the broad set of mitigation measures. The implementation of the NDC for 2035 will be an important part of Kenya's process of transforming towards a low emission society by 2050. |
| (d) | How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 4 of the Paris Agreement. | Kenyan's in NDC covers all sectors of the economy. |
| (e) | How the party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 6 of the Paris Agreement. | Not applicable. |



| PARA | GUIDANCE IN DECISION 4/CMA.1 | ICTU GUIDANCE AS APPLICABLE TO KENYA'S NDC |
|---|---|---|
| **7** | **How the National Determined Contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set in its article 2.** | |
| (a) | How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objectives of the Convention as set out in its Article 2. | Kenya regards the long-term target of the Paris Agreement to be in line with Article 2 of the Convention, as explained under 6a. (above) |
| (b) | How the NDC contributes towards Article 2, paragraph 1(a), and Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement. | Addressed in 6a and 7a |

# 3.2
## Adaptation and Loss & Damage

Kenya's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) reflects the country's commitment to addressing the urgent challenges posed by climate change and underscores its dedication to achieving a sustainable, climate-resilient future. As one of the most climate-vulnerable nations, Kenya is already experiencing severe impacts, including rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, droughts, floods, and increased erratic weather events. These climate-related challenges are not only threatening the livelihoods of millions, but are also exacerbating food insecurity, water scarcity, and undermining economic growth.

Kenya is committed to achieving a steady economic development despite the anticipated frequency and intensity of climate change impacts. The adaptation interventions outlined in this NDC also include those with mitigation co-benefits, and are designed to build the resilience of Kenya's climate vulnerable socio-economic sectors due to the projected impacts in the period 2031 – 2035 while taking into consideration the impacts of the vulnerabilities to the different gender groups. The interventions are designed to enhance climate resilience and protect livelihoods, ecosystems, infrastructure and the fragile economic sectors so as to ensure a strong transition toward a climate-resilient economy.

Beyond her adaptation ambition, Kenya recognizes the need to put in place mechanisms to avert, minimize and address Loss and Damage associated with climate change, with special attention to the vulnerable groups. Kenya will periodically update its assessment on the socio-economic impacts of climate change.

### Adaptation Goal:

**Kenya envisions a climate resilient society where livelihoods, communities, socio-economic sectors, infrastructure and ecosystems, are able to thrive despite current and projected impacts of climate change. Subject to national circumstances, Kenya intends to mobilize domestic resources to cater for 19% of the adaptation cost, while 81% of the adaptation cost will require international support in form of finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building support.**

> **Climate change erodes 3–5% of (Gross Domestic Product (GDP) annually through extreme weather events**

Kenya commits to achieving the adaptation goal and addressing loss and damage through the implementation of the following key initiatives, inter alia:

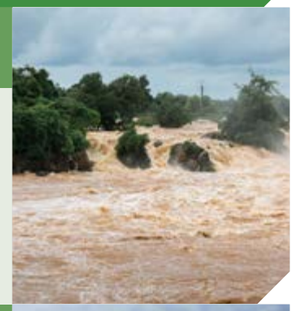
- Enhance the adaptive capacity and climate resilience across sectors of the economy at the National and County levels of government.
- Support innovative livelihood strategies for enhancing climate resilience of the local communities and vulnerable groups through financing of locally led climate action and climate response initiatives.
- Enhance Climate Resilience in agriculture and agri-food systems for the attainment of food security through the promotion of inclusive climate-smart agricultural practices including but not limited to effective irrigation systems, sustainable land management, drought-tolerant crops and sustainable livestock production with special focus on smallholder farmers.
- Strengthen resilience in water resource management for increased access to adequate and affordable water for diverse purposes through investments in water harvesting, water storage, efficient utilization, water conservation and catchment management.
- Strengthen climate induced Disaster Risk Management through enhanced early warning systems, preparedness and response with inclusive community participation.
- Improve environmental and ecosystem management through nature-based solutions including, but not limited to the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and restoration of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems with the integration of indigenous, traditional and local knowledge.
- Strengthen infrastructure resilience across all sectors such as transport, energy, education, human settlement among others to withstand extreme weather and climate events, while ensuring their accessibility to all.
- Enhance Climate Resilient Health Systems by decreasing climate change induced health threats through improved accessible and strengthened disease surveillance, prevention, response and management as well as providing timely and affordable health services for all.
- Strengthen investment in vulnerable ecosystems such as mountains, wetlands, ocean and the blue economy (including sea grass and mangroves) to foster adaptation to climate change.
- Enhance meaningful participation, engagement and skills development of children and youth in climate action, including in decision-making processes, development and implementation of Kenya's climate policies and initiatives and enhance support/scale up youth-led climate initiatives, for entrepreneurship, innovation, and community-based projects, to promote climate resilience and mitigation.
- Strengthen mechanisms to avert, minimize and address Loss and Damage associated with climate change through enhancing institutional coordination, capacity building and strengthening timely responses towards current and emerging climate induced economic and non-economic losses and damages including slow onset events, climate mobility, displacement and climate induced insecurity. This will entail the development of robust loss and damage needs assessment supported by robust loss and damage data collection, curation, storage and dissemination to facilitate technical assistance and support to address to loss and damage.

The estimated budget required for the implementation of the adaptation initiatives, as well as put in place mechanisms to avert and minimize Loss and Damage associated with climate change for the period 2031 to 2035 is **USD 17.7 Billion.** Subject to national circumstances, Kenya intends to bear **19% (USD 3.36 Billion)** of the adaptation cost from domestic resources, while the balance of **USD 14.34 Billion (81%)** is subject to international support. About **USD 15.8 Billion** (28% of the NDC cost) will be achieved through investments in projects designed to dually deliver mitigation and adaptation benefits. However, these estimated resource requirements may change with changing circumstances.



### 3.2.1 Prioritised Adaptation And Loss And Damage Interventions

#### Programs And Interventions Prioritized For 2031 - 2035

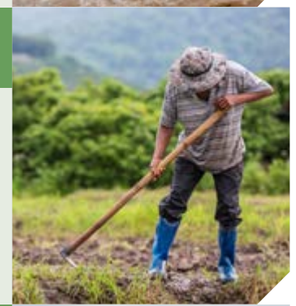


**Disaster risk reduction**

**P1**: Drought risk management including drought early warning, preparedness, implementation of Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) and response for enhanced drought resilience.

**P2**: Flood risk management incorporating early warning, preparedness, and response.

**P3**: Strengthen early-warning and tailor-made climate information services through institutional strengthening of Kenya Meteorological Department and other information user institutions.

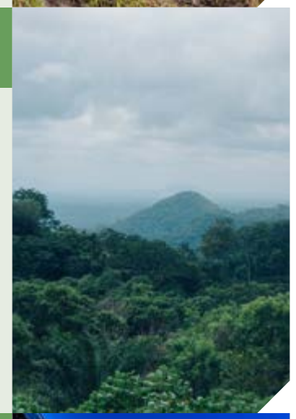


**Agriculture (crops and livestock)**

**P4**: Implement Climate Smart Agricultural practices for increased productivity through value chain approach to support the (crop, livestock and fisheries) transformation of agriculture (crops, livestock and fisheries) into a resilient, innovative, commercially oriented, competitive and modern sector.

**P5**: Increase sustainable access of adequate nutritional food for all

**P6**: Strengthen communication systems on agricultural extension and agro-weather services while tapping essential local traditional and indigenous knowledge



**Ecosystems**

**P7**: Rehabilitation and conservation of degraded public and private land through afforestation, reafforestation, and protection measures like agroforestry, commercial forestry, community forestry to enhance nature/ecosystem-based adaptation.

**P8**: Enhance/strengthen governance of community structures in participatory resource management.

**P9**: Conduct blue carbon assessment for full integration of blue carbon/ocean climate actions

**P10**: Develop and update marine spatial planning and outline sustainable management approaches

**P11**: Promote and expand opportunities for nature-based enterprises including seaweed farming, bamboo value addition and mangrove eco-tourism.

**Infrastructure**

**P12**: Develop and adopt guidelines and standards to guide the design and construction of climate proof infrastructure across all sectors.

**P13**: Adoption of appropriate building/construction materials to enhance resilience (water harvesting, heat resistance, water permeable material among others).

## Water and sanitation

**P14**: Enhance access to adequate water for all for socio-economic development through investment in climate resilient water infrastructure, including water harvesting, storage, supply, sanitation and irrigation.

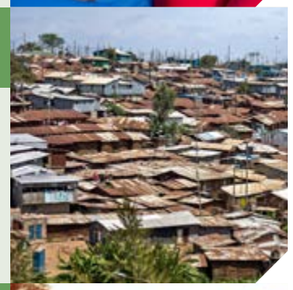
**P15**: Mainstream climate change into water catchment management plans.

## Health

**P16**: Enhance vulnerability and risk assessment of different climate risks on human health, and establish county-level systems with gender disaggregated data to track and manage diseases.

**P17**: Continuous improvement of health programmes, protocols and guidance to manage new climate change related diseases and risk.

## Population, urbanization and housing



**P18**: Enhance flood control especially around informal settlements and flood prone urban areas.

**P19**: Strengthen the enforcement of green building codes by national and county governments.

**P20**: Conduct climate risk and vulnerability assessment of building/housing infrastructure specially to flooding, and sea level rise and initiate appropriate actions.

## Tourism

**P21**: Integrate climate change and implement climate resilience actions across the tourism sector value chain.

## Gender

**P22**: Promote mainstreaming of gender responsive initiatives across all sectors through inclusion of all categories of the population in climate action.

## Private Sector

**P23**: Strengthen the engagement of the private sector to leverage on the private sector among other finance sources to finance adaptation actions.

## Waste management

**P24**: Climate-proof waste management infrastructure for waste management facilities, effluent treatment plants and enhance the implementation of sustainable waste management (SWM) policies, strategies and regulations.



## Education and training

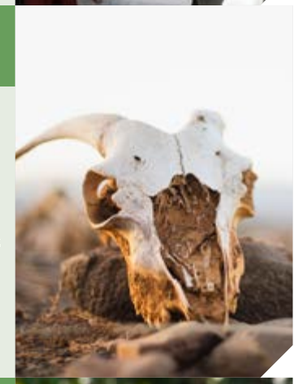
**P25**: Enhanced mainstreaming of climate adaptation in the education system.

## Devolution

**P26**: Continuous strengthening of mainstreaming of climate change at subnational level and enhance continuous climate change technical capacity building for County Climate Change Units for locally led climate initiatives.

**P27**: Continuous Development and implementation of County Climate Change Action plans.

## Climate Change Loss and Damage



**P28**: Develop a robust loss and damage needs assessment to inform the technical assistance request from Santiago Network on Loss and Damage and support from Funds to Respond to Loss and Damage (FRLD).

**P29**: Develop a robust loss and damage data collection, curation, storage and dissemination system.

**P30**: Capacity building for all stakeholders on loss and damage, and support sectors to plan for targeted interventions.

**P31**: Enhance institutional coordination and strengthening responses towards current and emerging climate induced economic/non-economic losses and damages including slow onset events, climate mobility, displacement and insecurity, among others.

## Children and Youth

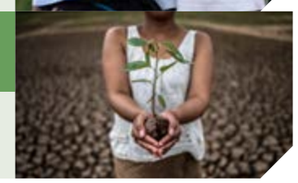
**P32**: Enhance Climate Education and Awareness by integrating climate change education into the national curriculum, to ensure that youth and children are equipped with climate literacy and skills to drive climate action.

**P33**: Enhance capacity building and training of youth on bankable climate action proposals to enhance climate finance flow towards youth and children led climate action initiatives.

**P34**: Increase Youth-led climate initiatives by enhancing support and scale up youth-led climate initiatives, including entrepreneurship, innovation, and community-based projects, to promote climate resilience and mitigation.

**P35**: Enhance Youth skills development by providing training and employment opportunities in climate-resilient sectors, such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and eco-tourism, to equip youth with the skills and knowledge to drive a climate-resilient economy.

## Adaptation M&E system



**P36**: Strengthen adaptation M&E system at national and county levels through periodic development of the NCCAP implementation status reports automate by linking to the MRV+ system.

# Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification of Adaptation and Mitigation Actions and Support

> **The sequenced ripple effect of affordable and reliable energy is poised to drive the NDC mitigation goal.**

Monitoring and evaluation is key for assessing the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of policies, projects and programmes to ensure accountability, and inform decision-making. Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system is crucial for tracking Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as it ensures transparency, accountability, and credibility in climate commitments.

Kenya continues to strengthen its MRV system, including an integrated MRV tool for monitoring and reporting both mitigation and adaptation actions, together with their results. To facilitate tracking of climate change actions and reporting, Kenya will review and develop M&E Framework to align with this NDC. The MRV system is designed to be interoperable with existing systems that includes National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES) and County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (CIMES).

In line with the Climate Change Act, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification of the NDC will be coordinated by the Climate Change Directorate. During the NDC implementation period (2031-2035) Climate Change Directorate will coordinate State and Non-State actors in developing annual, mid-term and end-term reports. The reports generated through the Integrated MRV System will provide input for both national and international reporting obligations and help to foster global progress towards the shared goal of combating climate change and securing a sustainable future.

# Fairness in the Ambition

Kenya's 2031 – 2035 NDC represents a level of sacrifice which is far beyond Kenya's fair share of ambition towards the achievement of global climate goals. Kenya's contribution to both current and historical global emissions is negligible (less than 0.1%). By October 2021, it was estimated that cumulative global anthropogenic emissions since 1850 was around **2,500Gt $CO_2$,** specifically from developed countries, **leaving less than 500Gt $CO_2$ of remaining carbon budget to stay below 1.5°C of warming.** Like most of Africa, Kenya has historically been a net sink, till late 1980s when negligible emissions could be estimated, mainly due to population growth and pursuit of basic development. Kenya's per-capita emissions were less than 2.09t$CO_2$eq compared to the global average of 6.76t$CO_2$eq in 2022.

Kenya's emission sources are mainly from the "hard to abate" sectors, creating the dilemma of choosing between the vital climate action and the needed socio-economic development. Kenya is also endowed with fossil fuel natural resources while still faced with developmental challenges such as high poverty rates which disproportionately affect the vulnerable gender groups, high rates of unemployment especially among the youthful population, and a huge debt burden. Kenya has demonstrated leadership in climate action, by sacrificing (for global good) the exploitation of brown natural resources that could quickly jumpstart the GDP, address the debt burden and trigger economic growth, create jobs and trigger rapid development, just like other peers whose economies have been transformed due to their exploitation of fossil fuels.

This NDC builds on the Updated First NDC (2020) in which Kenya undertook to make a contribution that targeted a high proportion of its mitigation potential and was dependent on the level of international support available. The contributions set through this New NDC reflects an enhancement of ambition in the following areas:

- An increase in emission reduction targets from 32% in the Updated First NDC to 35% in this New NDC.
- Enhanced domestic contribution from **13%** to **19%** of the NDC cost.

This represents a high level of fairness and ambition in light of Kenya's national circumstances.



# Planning Process

**Kenya's NDC (2031–2035) adopts a coherent strategy of whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach to climate action.**

Kenya's planning process on mitigation and adaptation is based on her development planning processes. It is worth noting that by 1st January, 2031, the Kenya Vision 2030 implementation period will have ended, and a New Long Term Development Vision will be commencing. This NDC will be updated before the implementation period to comply with the Medium Term Plans (MTPs) of the new national long term vision, which will also be in sync with NCCAP IV and V as well as the new version of the National Adaptation Plan. The NCCAPs are reviewed every five years to inform the Medium Term Planning of the National Long Term Vision.

Mitigation and adaptation actions are implemented across the various sectors and at national and county government levels. The Ministry of Environment, Clim)ate Change and Forestry coordinates the country's climate change affairs through the National Climate Change Council and the Climate Change Directorate.

# Means of Implementation

> **It is estimated that USD 56 Billion is required for mitigation and adaptation actions across sectors**

Kenya's contribution will be implemented through both domestic and international support. It is estimated that **USD 56 Billion** is required for mitigation and adaptation actions across sectors from 1st January 2031 till 31st December 2035. Of the estimated total budget, 40% (**USD 22.5 Billion**) is required for mitigation efforts that will also catalyse Kenya's rapid socio-economic development in a low carbon climate resilient development pathway. Approximately 32% (**USD 17.7 Billion**) of the budget will support adaptation activities designed to make Kenya resilient to the increasing magnitude and frequency of the climate change impacts. The remaining 28% (**USD 15.8 Billion**) comprises of projects designed to dually deliver mitigation and adaptation benefits. Subject to national circumstances, Kenya will endeavour to mobilize domestic resources to meet approximately 19% (**USD 10.5 Billion**, at **USD 2.1 Billion per year**) of this budget. Approximately **USD 45.36 Billion** (81%) will require international support. Since all loans have a repayment consequence to the Kenyan taxpayer, Kenya will consider climate finance support received in **loan instruments as part of her domestic contribution**. Kenya will develop an elaborate investment plan for the actions outlined in this NDC.

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry

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