



**NAKURU COUNTY**  
COUNTY OF UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

# CLIMATE CHANGE FRAMEWORK POLICY



## County Government of Nakuru

Department of Water, Environment, Energy and  
Natural Resources (WEENR)





## **Table of Contents**

|                                                                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Abbreviations & Acronyms .....                                                                        | iv |
| Executive Summary.....                                                                                | v  |
| Preamble .....                                                                                        | vi |
| Why Climate Change Policy Framework.....                                                              | vi |
| The Climate Change Governance Approach .....                                                          | vi |
| Introduction .....                                                                                    | 10 |
| 1.1 County Context .....                                                                              | 10 |
| 1.2. Background .....                                                                                 | 10 |
| Situation analysis .....                                                                              | 13 |
| 2.1 County Climate Risk Profile.....                                                                  | 13 |
| 2.2 Evidence of Climate Change Impacts in Nakuru County .....                                         | 14 |
| 2.3 Opportunities from Climate Change.....                                                            | 15 |
| 2.4 Climate Change Governance in the County.....                                                      | 16 |
| Goal, Objectives & Guiding Principles .....                                                           | 18 |
| 3.1 Goal .....                                                                                        | 18 |
| 3.2 Objectives.....                                                                                   | 18 |
| 3.3 Guiding Principles .....                                                                          | 18 |
| Integrated Climate Risk Management and Resilience Actions .....                                       | 21 |
| 4.1 Disaster Risk Reduction.....                                                                      | 21 |
| 4.2 Enhancing Climate Resilience and Adaptive Capacity .....                                          | 21 |
| 4.3 Towards Low Carbon Growth .....                                                                   | 23 |
| 4.4 Monitoring, Reporting & Verification .....                                                        | 25 |
| 4.5 Research, Education and public awareness.....                                                     | 26 |
| Climate Governance.....                                                                               | 27 |
| 5.1 Enabling Regulatory Framework.....                                                                | 27 |
| 5.2 Enabling Institutional Framework.....                                                             | 28 |
| 5.3. Public Participation .....                                                                       | 29 |
| 5.4 Mainstreaming Issues of Gender, Youth and Special Needs Groups in Climate Change<br>Actions ..... | 29 |
| 5.6 Climate Information Services.....                                                                 | 32 |

|                                                              |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 6. Climate Finance .....                                     | 33 |
| Implementation Framework.....                                | 35 |
| 7.1 Implementation Framework and Budget .....                | 35 |
| 7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of Policy Implementation ..... | 35 |
| 7.3 Resource Mobilization .....                              | 36 |
| 7.4 Collaboration and stakeholders' participation .....      | 37 |

## **Abbreviations & Acronyms**

|        |                                                       |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| ADPs   | Annual Development Plans                              |
| ASALS  | Arid and Semi-Arid Areas                              |
| CDC    | County Determined Contributions                       |
| CIDP   | County Integrated Development Plan                    |
| CSOs   | Civil Society Organizations                           |
| CSA    | Climate Smart Agriculture                             |
| DRSRS  | Directorate of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing    |
| EWS    | Early Warning Systems                                 |
| FLLOCA | Financing for Locally Led Climate Actions             |
| GDP    | Gross Domestic Product                                |
| GHGs   | Green House Gases                                     |
| KIHBS  | Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey              |
| KNBS   | Kenya National Bureau of Statistics                   |
| M&E    | Monitoring and Evaluation                             |
| MRV    | Monitoring, Reporting & Verification                  |
| PPP    | Public-Private Partnerships                           |
| R&D    | Research and Development                              |
| SGR    | Standard Gauge Railway                                |
| UNFCC  | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| USD    | United States Dollar                                  |

## **Executive Summary**

Climate change is a widely felt phenomenon across the globe. Rises in temperature, prolonged droughts, and floods are increasingly being experienced in Nakuru County. This has resulted in loss of biodiversity and stress on the natural resource base on which the county relies on for sustainability. The agricultural sector, which contributes to 60% of all economic activity in the County, has been one of the hardest-hit sectors. Further, other climate risks experienced in the county include; increased multi-dimensional poverty, gender inequality, environmental degradation, water scarcity, insecure land tenure, among others. In order to mitigate these climate change impacts, the county has seen the need for urgent action and developed a climate change policy framework that will foster a coordinated response to climate change across various society stakeholders. The foreseeable impact of the framework is improved climate resilience and adaptive capacity and, thus, sustainable development of all sectors in the county. Since the major contributor to climate change is emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs), especially carbon dioxide, the areas of focus by the county in climate action will be pollution control, integrated waste management, clean energy, climate-smart agriculture, increasing forest cover, and conservation of wetlands and riparian areas. To achieve this, the policy will require the county government of Nakuru to mainstream development plans, issue incentives to promote climate-resilient actions, implement off-farm services, promote public participation, among other actions geared towards a green and circular economy. Further, these efforts necessitate the involvement of multiple stakeholders, including local, national, private and public sectors. Funding will be attained from both internal and external sources, with all levels of the county government being required to integrate climate change response actions into budgetary processes. As a result, the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation system to track progress, results, and any shortcomings of the framework and ensure a participatory approach will be paramount. With these concrete intervention measures, the goals of low carbon climate-resilient development will be achieved by the county.

## **Preamble**

Nakuru County's economy is highly dependent on the natural resource base and thus is highly vulnerable to climate variability and change. Rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns, resulting in increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding, threaten the sustainability of the county's development. In order to safeguard sustainable development, the County Government of Nakuru has developed this Nakuru County Climate Change Framework Policy to provide a clear and concise articulation of overall response priorities to climate variability and change. The county has shown commitment to protecting the climate system for the benefit of the present and future generations by supporting the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process, ratifying the Kyoto Protocol in 2005, and contributing to continental and regional climate change initiatives. This Policy's focus is on the interlinkages between sustainable county development and climate change. Climate change adversely impacts key sectors that are important to the economy and society: Environment, Water, and Forestry; Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries; Trade; Extractive Industries; Energy; Physical Infrastructure; Tourism; and Health. This Policy, therefore, elaborates intervention measures that can help to achieve the goal of low carbon climate-resilient development.

## **Why Climate Change Policy Framework**

This Policy was developed to facilitate a coordinated, coherent, and effective response to the local, national and global challenges and opportunities presented by climate change. An overarching mainstreaming approach has been adopted to ensure the integration of climate change considerations into development planning, budgeting, and implementation in all sectors and at all levels of county government. This Policy, therefore, aims to enhance adaptive capacity and build resilience to climate variability and change while promoting a low carbon development pathway.

## **The Climate Change Governance Approach**

The response to climate change in Nakuru must adhere to the statutory governance framework and commitment to sustainable development while addressing the goal of attaining low carbon climate-resilient development. To attain the latter, this policy focuses on appropriate mechanisms to enhance climate resilience and adaptive capacity and the transition to low carbon growth.

### **Enhancing Climate Resilience and Adaptive Capacity**

Key economic sectors in Nakuru, such as Tourism, Energy, Agriculture, and Water, are particularly susceptible to climate change impacts, and this threatens to undermine the county's economy and development gains. It is therefore important that the county builds and enhances its climate resilience

and adaptive capacity. Adaptive capacity is key to improving socio-economic characteristics of communities, households, and industry as it includes adjustments in behaviour, resources and technologies and is a necessary condition for the design and implementation of effective adaptation strategies.

### **Low Carbon Growth**

While Nakuru County currently makes little contribution to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, a number of priority development initiatives outlined in the CIDP and the ADPs will impact on county's levels of GHG emissions. Actions that will positively impact GHG emissions include increased geothermal electricity generation in the energy sector, reforestation in the forestry sector, and agroforestry in the agricultural sector. To attain low carbon growth, the county government will take steps outlined in this Policy by implementing regulatory mechanisms that mainstream low carbon growth options into the planning processes and functions of the county governments.

### **Mainstreaming Climate Change into the Planning Process**

Climate change mainstreaming is necessary to equip various coordinating agencies of the national and county governments with the tools to effectively respond to the complex challenges of climate change. In this context, mainstreaming implies the integration of climate change policy responses and actions into the county and sectoral planning and management processes. This requires explicitly linking climate change actions to core planning processes through cross-sectoral policy integration. To attain this climate change mainstreaming, the county government will develop a framework and tools to integrate climate change responses into the county planning processes, including economic planning, development policies, performance contracting, and the budget making process.

### **Enabling Regulatory Framework**

The county government is mandated to make policy on climate change in line with the national government. Various sectoral laws and policies that will provide the legislative basis for specific actions will need to be analyzed for potential amendments to enhance their capability to tackle climate change challenges and exploit emerging opportunities. This complex undertaking forms a foundation for the attainment of low carbon climate-resilient development and sets the basis for climate change mainstreaming. It, therefore, requires the county government to undertake various core interventions, including the enactment of overarching climate change legislation to provide the framework for coordinated implementation of climate change responses and action plans. It is also necessary to have an institutional coordination mechanism with high-level convening power to enhance the inter-sectoral response to climate change and a technical institutional framework to



guide policy and functional implementation of climate change legal obligations of the county government.

Climate change is a global challenge, and Kenya has been a key participant in the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol processes and also regionally within the East African Community. The county governance approach to climate change should be consistent with county and national strategic interests while also linking with global and regional approaches.



## Introduction

### 1.1 County Context

Nakuru County's economy is highly dependent on the natural resource base, making it highly vulnerable to climate variability and change. The realisation of sustainable development in the county, despite significant progress to date, is threatened by climate change and its resultant impacts. The county has in the recent past seen increased evidence of climate change, such as rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns, and has experienced extensive climate related impacts through the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding. These manifestations of climate change constitute a serious threat to the county's natural, built economic and physical systems, on which the county's sustainable development and future prosperity depends.

The Climate crisis hits the most vulnerable the hardest. People already living in poverty are by far more vulnerable to climate shocks because of their unsafe living conditions, insecure livelihoods, and the lack of access to resources to adapt and build resilience. Nature and biodiversity are at great risk of worsening vulnerable people's situations even more due to their dependence on them. Seen through this lens, the climate crisis exacerbates inequalities, undermines democracy, and threatens development and our ecosystem at large.

Current data demonstrates that the climate in Kenya and globally is changing at an unprecedented rate and that unparalleled levels of human induced greenhouse gas (GHG), especially carbon dioxide, emissions are causing an increase in global temperatures that creates changes in the earth's weather. It is now clear that climate change has become an impediment to the sustainable development of Kenya, and urgent action is required.

### 1.2. Background

Nakuru County is undertaking interventions to enhance climate change adaptive capacity and resilience through pollution control, integrated waste management, clean energy, climate-smart agriculture, increasing forest cover, and conservation of wetlands and riparian areas.

**Economy.** The County's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2019 was estimated at Kshs. 613 billion (at the time of writing this report, this equated to approximately 5.7 billion USD), accounting for 6.9% of Kenya's GDP (KNBS, 2019, 2020c). About 29.1% of the population lives below the poverty line of US\$

2 a day, which is slightly below the national poverty level of 36.1%<sup>1</sup>. The main economic activities within Nakuru County are agribusiness, financial services, mining and manufacturing, geothermal power generation and tourism (CIDP 2018-2022). The County's economy is mostly built around agriculture, which accounts for approximately 60% of total economic activity (Nakuru County, 2020). The agricultural sector comprises the following sub-sectors: livestock keeping, fish farming and food and cash crops farming, including horticulture and floriculture. Both subsistence and large-scale commercial farming are practised, with flower farms being major employers in the County. The main food crops produced in the County include maize, Irish potato, wheat, and beans, and the main livestock types are dairy cattle, local poultry and wool sheep (Nakuru County Climate Risk Profile 2016).

**Water.** Nakuru County has large natural water resources, including four major lakes (Nakuru, Naivasha, Solai, and Elementaita), shallow wells, springs, dams, pans, and boreholes. However, most of these water resources, particularly from the lakes, are not available for domestic, industrial or irrigation purposes. Boreholes have been sunk to boost water supply, but the county is still water deficient. During the implementation of the first County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2013-2017), water coverage within the County increased from 58% to 63%. In terms of water quality, Nakuru County regularly experiences contamination of water sources due to open defecation and overflowing of sewage into open water. For example, an outbreak of cholera was reported in the Kapchawea area in 2017.

**Energy.** Nakuru County holds some of the most significant power generation in the country, with one of the largest single geothermal plant in Africa. Electricity is the main source of energy for lighting in the County at 55%, according to the 2015-2016 Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS). However, most of the Nakuru County residents, especially those in rural areas and informal settlements of the rapidly expanding urban centres, rely mainly on biomass energy for cooking (firewood and charcoal).

**Transport.** The entire road network in Nakuru County is approximately 12,491km, out of which paved roads are 993.7 Km, gravel roads are 4,500 Km, and earth roads are 6998Km. The road infrastructure can be described as 20% good, 35% fair, and 45% poor (CIDP 2018-

2022). Some roads, especially in agriculturally rich areas, including Kuresoi North and South, Molo, Njoro Subukia, Naivasha and Gilgil, are in poor condition leading to delays in transporting agricultural produce to the market, making farmers incur losses for perishable goods. A railway line traverses through the County to Uganda, which transports cargo mainly from the port of Mombasa to the Malaba border. The proposed Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) will pass through Mai Mahiu (Naivasha) as it joins Narok County all the way to the Malaba border.

**Communication.** An estimated 82.5% of households in Nakuru County own a mobile phone. Access to internet is approximately 16%, access to television at 57%, and access to radio is 91% (KIHBS 2015-2016).

**Housing.** The majority of households in the County have durable roofing materials, with corrugated iron sheets being the major roofing material used at 93% as indicated in the KIHBS 2015-2016. 12% of the rural population uses non-durable roofing materials for their houses. The main wall material is stone at 40%, whereas the main floor material is cement and earth/sand, which is at 52% and 33%. The housing tenure is majorly rent/lease, which is at 46%. However, 45% of the houses are occupied by owners. Furthermore, informal settlements are increasing in the county due to rapid urbanisation and the failure of the formal sector to supply adequate houses, especially for the low-income segment of the society (KIHBS 2015-2016).

## Situation analysis

### 2.1 County Climate Risk Profile

Climate change is a major factor affecting the different sectors within the county. Drought, intense rains, floods, and high temperatures already challenge productivity, incomes, and food security in the County and are expected to pose even greater challenges in the future. Looking to the future in the years 2021-2065, prolonged moisture stress is projected to occur across both seasons of the year analysed and consecutive days of moisture stress are projected to more than double in the first wet season from approximately 35 days to over 70 days on average.

| Key sources of Vulnerabilities                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Climate Risks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rising temperatures</li><li>• Uncertain changes in rainfall</li><li>• Rising lake levels and stronger storm surges</li><li>• Extreme climate events (drought, floods, hailstorms, and landslides)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High levels of multi-dimensional poverty, particularly in ASALS within the county</li><li>• Gender inequality</li><li>• Environmental degradation, including loss of forest and tree cover, biodiversity and habitat loss</li><li>• High reliance of the county economy and local livelihoods on rain-fed agriculture</li><li>• High level of water scarcity and mismanagement of water resources</li><li>• Insecure land tenure and land fragmentation</li><li>• Population growth and migration to urban areas</li><li>• Heavy disease burden, and limited access to quality health care, particularly in rural and remote within the county</li><li>• Climate blind planning, especially physical and land use plan</li></ul> |

## 2.2 Evidence of Climate Change Impacts in Nakuru County

| Evidence of Climate Change Impacts in Nakuru County |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Risk<br>Key Sector                                  | Rising temperatures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Extreme weather patterns                                                                                                                                                    | Uncertain changes in rainfall (poor)                                                                         | Rising Lake levels                                                                                                              |
| Agriculture                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some crops (including pyrethrum) have not been doing well, crop productivity and crop invasion.</li> <li>Improved maize productivity in Kuresoi south due to warm weather.</li> <li>Climate change has occasioned the spread of new pests and diseases in several parts of Kenya, and specifically, in Nakuru, the emergence of agricultural pests and pathogens like armyworms and Tuta absoluta in Subukia area and (Maize Lethal Necrotic Disease)MLND in Njoro area has escalated economic costs of their management</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landslides affected farmlands in Ndabibi, Maiella</li> <li>Extreme droughts have affected tea production in Kuresoi south</li> </ul> | Food crops, including wheat and beans, have been negatively affected by changes in weather patterns in Njoro | Flooding of agricultural land in Mwariki and Mbaruk due to the saltwater intrusion into farmlands affects groundwater and soil. |
| Water                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Contamination of water bodies caused by flooding, storm water-polluting and destruction to aquatic life. Example                                                            | Affects water planning for farmers (water harvesting)                                                        | Rising water tables                                                                                                             |
| Energy                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It speeds the drying process (dewatering) of faecal matter used to make briquettes (NAWASCOAL Makaa. Project)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                 |

|                                        |                                                                        |                                                                                                     |                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Health                                 | Urban heat island surface temperatures study (Kimuku et al., 2017)     | High levels of Malnutrition (Cost of Hunger in Africa, 2019) are caused by affected food production | Increase in waterborne diseases, in 2020, over 4,000HHs were affected (cholera outbreak) |                                                                                                                                    |
| Infrastructure (transport and housing) | Increase in Energy consumption (High electricity bills for households) | Poor visibility for motorists driving along Nakuru - Nairobi highway Kinungi between 6 am- 1 pm     | Destruction of infrastructure, especially when there is an unexpected heavy downpour     | Displacement of people and destruction of property in Kihoto and Karagita around Lake Naivasha and Mwariki area around lake Nakuru |

## 2.3 Opportunities from Climate Change

Despite the many and varied negative impacts, climate change also presents opportunities to government, businesses and the public at large, which this Policy aims to fully exploit.

- Above all, climate change presents an opportunity to catalyse the realignment of Kenya's development model to one that is climate resilient, based on lower GHG emissions, and takes full advantage of the green economy. A more people-centred approach to development can be achieved by focusing on vulnerable groups and addressing climate change concurrently with poverty, food insecurity and unemployment measures.
- Climate finance flows and carbon asset mechanisms present an opportunity to access new and additional levels of funding. For the government, this means accessing international financing for ambitious climate-resilient and low emission development programmes. For the private sector, this can entail developing financial and insurance services, engaging in projects to generate carbon credits for sale in international markets, exploiting new green economy opportunities, and creating green jobs.



- The introduction of a devolved system of government provides a new opportunity to reorganise climate change governance by ensuring that climate change responses are mainstreamed into the functions of the Nakuru County Government and by facilitating the effective participation of citizens, including vulnerable and the marginalised groups, and CSOs in climate change governance.
- Flexible and collaborative institutional arrangements
- Enhance participatory role for CSOs, Citizens and the general public
- Focused and long-term scientific efforts and indigenous knowledge (weather predictions, hydrological data)
- Well balanced mix of technologies and innovation across the county's key sectors in Energy, CSA

## **2.4 Climate Change Governance in the County**

- Climate change is a sustainable national development issue in Kenya. A coherent and coordinated regulatory framework must therefore guide the national, county and local level responses to the impacts of climate change. The absence of internal coherence in laws and policies has resulted in duplicity and overlap in the execution of institutional mandates, with a suboptimal outcome for Kenya.
- The various sectoral laws, policies and institutional mandates that define roles and functions required for climate change response should therefore be harmonised in order to enhance coordination and mainstream climate change into their functions.
- The changes to the national governance framework in 2010, which introduced National and County levels of government, indicate a need to promptly ensure internal coherence and proper coordination of functions. This should be done in a manner that is complementary and respects the philosophy that specific sectoral functions should be undertaken by the most suitable sector or level of government.
- Devolution is central to inclusive governance mechanisms, including public participation through awareness, consultation and access to information. Climate change governance should internalise progressive approaches, such as mainstreaming gender equity and accounting for the role of youth and persons with special needs. Governance approaches should avail opportunities for all Kenyan people to

participate in decision making and become agents for the design and implementation of climate change responses.

## **Goal, Objectives & Guiding Principles**

### **3.1 Goal**

To enhance adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change and promote low carbon emissions or sustainable development.

### **3.2 Objectives**

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- (i) Establish and maintain an effective and efficient institutional framework to mainstream climate change responses across relevant sectors and into integrated planning, budgeting, decision-making and implementation.
- (ii) Reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity, enhancing climate change resilience and strengthening capacities for disaster risk reduction.
- (iii) Support transition to cleaner, lower emission and less carbon-intensive development in Nakuru County.
- (iv) Incentivise private sector involvement in building climate change resilience and engaging in low carbon development opportunities.
- (v) Facilitate widespread public awareness, participation, ownership and oversight of the Nakuru County climate change response efforts and Action Plans.
- (vi) Provide a framework to mobilise resources for Nakuru County's climate change response and ensure effective and transparent utilisation of the resources.
- (vii) Adopt intergenerational, special needs and gender mainstreaming approaches across all aspects of Nakuru County's climate change response.
- (viii) Provide the policy framework to facilitate effective implementation of regularly updated and scientifically informed Climate Change Action Plans.
- (ix) Enhance research and use of science, technology and innovations in policy decisions and sustainable management of resources.

### **3.3 Guiding Principles**

The implementation of this Policy will be guided by the following principles:

- (i) **Right to a clean and healthy environment:** under the 2010 Constitution, every person in Kenya has a right to a clean and healthy environment and a duty to safeguard and enhance the environment.
- (ii) **Right to sustainable development:** the right to development will be respected, taking into account economic, social and environmental needs. Kenya seeks to achieve people-centred development that builds human capabilities, improves people's well-being and enhances the quality of life.
- (iii) **Partnership:** building partnerships, collaboration and synergies among various stakeholders from the public, government, non-governmental organisations, civil society and private sector, as well as vulnerable communities and populations, including women and youth, will be prioritised to achieve effective implementation of this Policy.
- (iv) **Cooperative government:** embracing a system of consultation synergy, negotiation and consensus building in the county government administration
- (v) **Equity and social inclusion:** ensuring a fair and equitable allocation of effort and cost, as well as ploughing back of benefits in the context of the need to address disproportionate vulnerabilities, responsibilities, capabilities, disparities, and inter- and intra-generational equity.
- (vi) **Special needs and circumstances:** the special needs and circumstances of people and geographic areas that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change will be prioritised. This includes, but is not limited to, vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly and persons with disability.
- (vii) **Avoiding maladaptation:** the climate change response will be conducted in such a way so as to avoid maladaptation, defined by the UNFCCC as any changes in natural or human systems that inadvertently increase vulnerability to climatic stimuli.
- (viii) **Integrity and transparency:** the mobilisation and utilisation of financial resources shall be undertaken with integrity and transparency in order to eliminate corruption and achieve optimal results in climate change responses.

(ix) **Cost-effectiveness:** the selection of climate change interventions will take into account available alternatives in order to identify appropriate choices that provide the most benefit to society at the least cost

## **Integrated Climate Risk Management and Resilience Actions**

### **4.1 Disaster Risk Reduction**

- To enhance the level of awareness creation, preparedness, safety, surveillance, inspection, and response to disaster activities within Nakuru county.

#### **Policy statement**

1. Nakuru County will collaborate with National and County Disaster Risk Management Response to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction plans into County Development Plans and the Climate Change Action Plan.

### **4.2 Enhancing Climate Resilience and Adaptive Capacity**

- Nakuru's social, economic and environmental architecture significantly relies on the environment and natural resources. Key economic sectors, including Agriculture, Forestry, Water and Energy, are particularly susceptible to climate change impacts that threaten to undermine the county's recent and impressive development gains. It is important for the county to build and enhance her climate resilience and adaptive capacity. Building climate resilience requires governance systems, ecosystems and society to have the capability to maintain competent function in the face of climate change and to return to some normal range of function even when faced with adverse impacts of climate change. The adaptive capacity of the county depends on its capability to enhance the resilience of its systems.
- Adaptive capacity is key to improving socio-economic characteristics of communities, households and industry as it includes adjustments in both behaviour and in resources and technologies. It is a necessary condition for the design and implementation of effective adaptation strategies so as to reduce the likelihood and magnitude of harmful outcomes resulting from climate change. The ability of the Nakuru County to enhance adaptive capacity is therefore imperative to enable sectors and institutions to take advantage of opportunities or benefits from climate change. An enhanced understanding of the adaptive capacity of Nakuru County can be derived from vulnerability assessments. Reducing the vulnerability to climate change of people, ecosystems, and the economy is a positive approach to enhancing adaptive capacity,

but further research is required to identify specific parameters and indicators of enhanced capacity.

- A drastic increase in climate-induced disasters such as droughts, famine, and floods, has resulted in significant socio-economic damage and environmental degradation. These climate change impacts have the potential to undermine the realisation of Nakuru County's sustainable development objectives. Enhancing climate resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change is, therefore, a key policy priority.
- Integrating climate change considerations into existing environmental assessment mechanisms, such as strategic environmental assessments, environment and social impact assessments and environmental audits, can help to ensure that plans and programmes take full account of climate issues within a clear systematic process.
- The prevalence of poverty is a major county challenge. The resilience and adaptive capacity of poor communities must be strengthened to protect against projected climate change impacts and vulnerability arising from increased food insecurity and escalating public health threats, including post-COVID 19 recovery.
- County Government of Nakuru presents an opportunity to diversify and implement appropriate climate change responses to build resilience, as each sector performs distinct functions while pursuing cooperation, collaboration and ensuring clear policy guidelines, sound coordination and effective oversight to overcome the challenge of fragmented policy responses.

### **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Put in place mechanisms for sustainable utilisation of natural resources to enhance climate resilience and adaptive capacity to protect the natural capital.
2. Mainstream climate resilience into county government development plans, processes and implementation.
3. **Ensure integration** of climate change risk and vulnerability assessment in county climate change action planning
4. Develop incentives to promote climate-resilient actions among public, private, and other actors.

5. Identify and implement priority adaptation actions across key social, environmental and economic sectors under the framework of a Nakuru County Climate Change Action Plan.
6. Promote public participation and stakeholder consultation in line with the National Climate Change Public Participation Regulations
7. Develop mechanisms to build capacity to mainstream climate change into disaster risk reduction and management programmes.
8. Promote critical short-term and long-term adaptation measures that target production systems and value chains key to the population's food security and livelihoods, including livestock and crop systems and fisheries.
9. Upscale off-farm services such as early warning systems (EWS), insurance schemes, agricultural extension and training, credit, storage facilities, and market information are offered to farmers to increase their climate-adaptive capacity and their ability to respond to climate threats in an effective manner.

### 4.3 Towards Low Carbon Growth

Nakuru County currently contributes very little to global GHG emissions. However, a significant number of priority development initiatives outlined in the CIDP and the ADPs will impact the county's levels of GHG emissions.

- **The energy sector** is a crucial driver of economic growth. Nakuru County is a major contributor to the production and exploration of geothermal energy, which contributes to our national climate mitigation targets. Energy use in the form of fuelwood and charcoal by the majority of the citizens within the county increases emissions and contributes to ongoing deforestation and forest degradation. Nakuru County has significant renewable energy potential, including geothermal, wind, biomass, solar and hydro.
- **The agricultural sector** is the largest contributor to GHGs emissions in the county, mainly from livestock methane emissions and land-use change. In Nakuru County, GHG emissions for the livestock subsector are expected to increase. The agricultural sector has the potential to reduce GHG emissions through sequestration of carbon in trees and soils through agroforestry, improved pasture and rangeland management,



conservation agriculture, natural regeneration, efficient dairy production systems, and improved manure management.

- **Forests** in the county are important for economic development and for environmental services. They play a vital role in the conservation of biological diversity, regulation of water supplies, and sequestration of carbon and are a major habitat for wildlife. Nakuru County shows a steady decline in forest cover from 1990 to 2019. The forest cover decreased from 15.2% in 1990 to 8% in 2000, representing a significant decline of 7.2 %. The forest cover continued to decrease from about 7.2% in 2010 to 6.9% in 2019. This could have been occasioned by encroachment into forests for farming and human settlement, fuelwood and charcoal production. (DRSRS, 2021)
- **The transport sector** in Nakuru County is dominated by road transport for the movement of both people and freight. Public transport is dominated by minibuses (matatus), which have a low passenger capacity. Traffic congestion, especially during peak hours, contributes to GHG emissions through the use of more fossil fuels and increases local air pollution, which has serious health implications.
- **Industrial processing in Nakuru County**, though a relatively small contributor to GHG emissions, offers mitigation potential. A main source of emissions in this sector is the release of emissions from the manufacturing industries. Solid and liquid wastes from domestic and commercial sources further contribute to the emission of GHGs through the release of methane gas from waste disposal sites, and sewerage treatment works. The mitigation potential of industries is important because the economic growth targets set by CIDP and the ADPs aim to convert Nakuru County into a middle-income economy, with industry as a major contributor.
- Climate change, therefore, affords opportunities as well as challenges. Actions to address climate change can help to catalyse the county's transition to a green economy and generate employment in new areas. A priority action will be the development of an enabling policy framework for green job creation, which will identify emerging green economy opportunities that promote private sector investment and engagement to maximise employment creation.

## Policy Statements

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Mainstream low carbon growth options into the planning processes and functions of the County Government of Nakuru.
2. Put in place mechanisms to establish a GHG emissions inventory to achieve efficient and effective collection, recording, sharing and utilisation of GHG emissions data.
3. Promote capacity building in cleaner production technologies and encourage voluntary emission programmes and waste reduction action plans.
4. Put in place mechanisms to develop and promote clean technologies in all sectors of economic development.
5. Promote the creation of green jobs by establishing an enabling policy framework for investment and creating business friendly regulatory environments in key areas such as renewable energy, efficient transport, clean manufacturing, and sustainable agriculture.
6. Put in place plans for mass transport and non-motorised transportation systems
7. **Enhance** Green Economy and Circular Economy

#### **4.4 Monitoring, Reporting & Verification**

- Nakuru County shall establish a functional MRV system for tracking mitigation for County Determined Contributions (CDC) reporting and contribute to the National GHG inventory.

#### **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Establish a system to track and report on land-based emissions, and develop a monitoring and reporting system for a transparent accounting of emissions and removals in the forestry and land-use sectors.
2. Establish a Climate Business Platform to support reporting requirements of private entities.

#### **4.5 Research, Education and public awareness**

- Nakuru County will invest in Research and Development (R&D) through; linkages between government and private sector R&D with the goal of attaining low carbon climate-resilient development.
- Universities and other tertiary educational institutions provide the ideal context for scholarly research aligned to support climate change interventions beneficial to the public and private sectors. Civil society provides a voice for advocacy on policy direction and implementation and engages in research that generates evidence. R&D requires financial support that could be drawn from the public and private sectors.
- Technological innovation, which involves expanding and adapting existing technologies to the national or local context, is an imperative component of Nakuru's climate change interventions. It requires not only strong capabilities of the various actors but a strategy to build, enhance and maintain the requisite human resource capacity. The youth, as the bridge between the present and future generations, can be tapped to provide this human resource capacity. Support for technological innovation requires an architecture that provides incentives and capacity to institutions and actors that contribute to the technology, including enforcement of intellectual property rights, financing and other facilitation.

#### **The Policy Statement**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Identify research and technology needs; and promote strategic and systematic climate change-related research, impact and vulnerability assessments, and technology development and diffusion.
2. Put in place mechanisms to encourage and facilitate locally appropriate climate change technological development, including strategies to enhance and maintain human capacity.
3. Enhance the capacity of the public and private sectors, community, civil society and research institutions to develop and utilise technological innovations.

4. Identify and implement incentives for the private sector and institutions of higher learning to undertake R&D to develop affordable and locally appropriate adaptation and mitigation technologies.
5. **Enhance** linkages between government, academia, private sector, civil society, and global climate change innovation institutions.
6. Put in place mechanisms to facilitate the integration of indigenous, traditional and local knowledge into R&D and technology development.
7. Put in place mechanisms to enhance resource mobilisation for climate change R&D and technology development.

## **Climate Governance**

### **5.1 Enabling Regulatory Framework**

- The effective implementation of climate change responses requires a review of the overall legislative arrangements that govern climate change actions. Laws and policies have to be formulated and designed to accord with powers and functions of the county government of Nakuru; and uphold distinctiveness, mutual cooperation and consultation across the national and other county governments.
- Similarly, various sectoral laws and policies that will provide the legislative basis for specific actions will need to be analysed for potential amendments that enhance their capability to tackle climate change challenges and exploit emerging opportunities. Legislative and regulatory review will be an ongoing iterative process to ensure that barriers to action are removed and enabling frameworks for implementation are in place based on evolving circumstances.
- Climate change is a complex policy issue that impacts national development. The responses and actions to address climate change require horizontal and vertical integration. The achievement of horizontal integration requires a legislative mechanism that provides high-level guidance. The legislative mechanism is necessary to provide overall content and direction on how climate change responses are structured through mainstreaming. This legislative mechanism is an important step to minimise or eliminate instances of regulatory incoherence where no coordination or linkage exists between sectoral climate change mandates.

## **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Put in place implementation mechanisms for coordinated implementation of climate change responses, legislative framework and action plans.
2. Put in place and regularly review subsidiary legislation as may be necessary to support the implementation of various interventions through the national climate change legislation.
3. Regularly review and amend relevant sectoral laws and policies in order to integrate climate change policy considerations and implement priority actions in respective sectors.

## **5.2 Enabling Institutional Framework**

- The principles of cooperative government underpin the performance of climate change mandates, respecting that functions can be concurrent and that the principle of subsidiarity may favour implementation through the lowest level of the county government when doing so is the most effective approach.
- The institutional mechanism is equally critical to provide high-level coordination and political authority to guide mainstreaming of climate change functions in sectoral mandates at all levels of government. Vertical integration is instrumental in determining the roles of various multi-level sector institutions in performing climate change mandates.

## **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Put in place an appropriate institutional coordination mechanism with high-level convening power to enhance inter-sectoral and inter-governmental responses to climate change.
2. Put in place a technical, institutional framework to guide policy and functional implementation of climate change legal obligations of the national and county governments

### **5.3. Public Participation**

- Enhance participatory roles of citizens, the public and CSOs on climate change governance

#### **Policy statement**

1. Put in place mechanisms for public consultation and participation in climate change governance in line with the National Government Public Participation Regulations on Climate Change

### **5.4 Mainstreaming Issues of Gender, Youth and Special Needs Groups in Climate Change Actions**

- The constitutional foundations of governance in Kenya aim for an equal society and clearly assert that women and men are equal. This equality is the goal that Kenya aims to achieve in all aspects of societal interaction, whether economic, social or environmental. Steps must be taken to ensure that existing disparities between women and men are addressed in order to reduce or eliminate vulnerability and poverty that are exacerbated by climate change. The Constitution provides for socio-economic rights, such as the right to water, food, housing, emergency medical services and sanitation. These rights are mechanisms for addressing vulnerability arising from gender inequity, but also for supporting the youth and persons with special needs to reinforce intra- and inter-generational equity.
- Given gender disparities in social and economic roles, women and men experience the effects of climate change differently. Women suffer more because of vulnerability arising from the gender division of labour and allocation of power at the household, work and other levels. Climate change exacerbates these inequalities, and it is, therefore, necessary to understand the risks and impacts of climate change on women and men. This disaggregation should be applied not just across genders but also amongst the members of each gender, as the factors that exacerbate vulnerability to climate change vary.
- Women, because of their roles in society, can be active agents to address climate change challenges. Mechanisms are needed to enhance this role and improve coping

capacity. Women's coping capacity is low and adversely affected by the gender division of labour and power at household, work and other levels.

- Gender equality, as mandated by the 2010 Constitution, will be achieved in relation to the county government's climate change response by the adoption of a gender mainstreaming approach. This involves assessing the implications of any planned climate change action on women and men, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels to achieve gender equality.
- The youth represent a crossover between the present and future generations and therefore play a critical role in socio-economic development, including addressing climate change. It is necessary to carve out specific roles and opportunities for youth participation in decision making in climate change governance and to pursue opportunities that arise through climate change actions.
- The equitable basis of governance in Kenya, as set out by the Constitution, requires that social and economic justice be upheld, especially to extend protection and opportunities to persons with special needs who could be vulnerable. Equally, the governance system must integrate the participation of persons with special needs in decision making as well as mainstream specific considerations that ensure government policies are responsive and extend opportunities. The challenges posed by climate change represent an area of governance where this inclusive governance is very critical.

### **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Ensure that its climate change response is equally beneficial to both women and men and enhances gender equality and equity.
2. Undertake systematic gender analysis of its climate change response, through the collection and utilisation of gender-disaggregated data, including in relation to budgetary processes.
3. Ensure that marginalisation and vulnerability arising from gender disparities are addressed at all stages of climate change response.

4. Adopt a gender mainstreaming approach at all stages of the climate change policy cycle, from research to analysis, design and implementation of actions.
5. Put in place mechanisms to ensure and enhance the participation of the youth in climate change governance and position them to take advantage of opportunities.
6. Undertake a systemic analysis of the various special needs and ensure that planning and climate change responses mainstream participation and protection of persons with special needs
7. Improve institutional capacity and accountability for gender mainstreaming and social inclusion on climate change governance in line with National Policy on Gender and Development, 2019.



## **5.6 Climate Information Services**

- Develop Nakuru County Climate Information Services

### **Policy statement**

1. Work with the County office responsible for Meteorology and other relevant agencies to develop climate information services plan.

## **6. Climate Finance**

- Adequate and predictable financial resources are a crucial component for achieving Kenya's ambitious climate change response objectives. Given the extent of projected climate change adaptation and mitigation needs in Nakuru, it is important to ensure that all sources of finances can be mobilised – international, domestic, public and private – including through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). The County Government of Nakuru, therefore, requires a suitable framework to attract and efficiently utilise climate finance.
- A functional climate finance mechanism can help to diversify financial reserves, safeguard the interests of Kenyan citizens and preserve wealth for future generations. Adequate financial resources are integral to the identification, design and implementation of interventions required to achieve climate resilience, adaptive capacity, and low carbon growth. The resources mobilised through such a mechanism will therefore play an instrumental role in developing and maintaining required human capacity, supporting governance arrangements and enhancing collaboration amongst the various actors.
- PPPs have emerged as viable mechanisms for leveraging private sector financing to support public policy goals. An enabling regulatory framework has been put in place by the government to support PPPs. Investments that support low carbon climate-resilient development can therefore be identified, prepared and implemented through the PPP framework.
- Achieving the desired goal of an improved climate change response requires strengthening the capacity of actors to disburse, absorb and manage funds in a transparent and accountable manner. This will ensure that all mobilised climate finance achieves gains in securing climate resilience, building adaptive capacity and implementing low carbon development.
- The county government of Nakuru recognises the urgency of strengthening transparency and accountability and will therefore take necessary steps to prevent corrupt practices in climate finance resource allocations for low carbon climate resilience actions.

## **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Adopt a climate finance strategy and establish an appropriate fund mechanism that enables the implementation of priority actions for climate resilience and adaptive capacity, and low carbon growth. Explore possible avenues to attract internal and external climate finance, including through foreign direct investment.
2. Put in place a mechanism and criteria for balance in the allocation of mobilised climate finance to adaptation and mitigation actions.
3. Promote private sector involvement in climate finance opportunities through the introduction of incentives, removal of investment barriers, and creation of a conducive investment climate and facilitation of access to finance.
4. Adopt and implement sector specific anti-corruption, transparency, accountability and integrity mechanisms to safeguard prudent management of climate finance.
5. Promote Public-Private Partnerships in the climate change response.

## **Implementation Framework**

### **7.1 Implementation Framework and Budget**

- Implementation of climate change policy priorities and other actions will require significant planning, including detailing the full cost to determine budgetary and other economic implications. This Policy will be implemented through specifically developed and fully costed Climate Change Action Plans commencing with the Nakuru Climate Change Action Plan 2023 - 2028 and continuing through new and amended action plans developed in at least five-year intervals.
- To facilitate climate change mainstreaming and realisation of the overall policy objective of climate-resilient and low carbon development, current and future Climate Change Action Plans will be fully aligned with and integrated into the CIDP and the ADPs – Annual Development Plans.

#### **Policy Statements**

The County Government of Nakuru will:

1. Prepare and implement comprehensive, fully costed and periodically reviewed Climate Change Action Plans under the framework of this Policy.
2. Ensure that Climate Change Action Plans for implementation of this Policy is aligned with the CIDP and the ADPs – Annual Development Plans.
3. Facilitate continuous consultations and public awareness across all sectors, interest groups and the public.

### **7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of Policy Implementation**

- The County Government recognises the importance of tracking the implementation of this climate change Policy and evaluating related outcomes. This important task can signal potential weaknesses in design, identify implementation challenges and facilitate policy adjustments. In this context, it is crucial to prioritise rigorous and continuous Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of this Policy.
- In order to track the implementation of this Policy, it will be essential to record and measure progress and changes, as well as the overall performance of climate change actions. M&E will provide reliable and timely data on the progress, results, and shortcomings of the Policy implementation to inform decision-makers, stakeholders

and the public. A highly consultative and participatory M&E system will be adopted to facilitate periodic reviews of this Policy. Efforts will be made to link this system to the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System.

- The M&E system will monitor implementation by tracking inputs and actions to mainstream climate change by the county government sectors. Performance contracts provide a useful tool through which targets, inputs and the resultant outputs can be determined and evaluated.
- An appropriate climate change M&E system will coordinate inputs from different sources, including various stakeholders, to provide reliable and timely information and data for planning purposes and as inputs to the county level reports.
- M&E of this Policy will be synchronised to the ADPs and the five-year CIDP and will adopt a participatory approach that facilitates active engagement of stakeholders.

### **Policy Statements**

The County Government will:

1. Put in place mechanisms to utilise actions plans and performance contracts as tools for review and evaluation of inputs and results under this Policy.
2. Ensure collaboration within the county sectors in setting up M&E procedures for this climate change policy.
3. Incorporate climate change indicators into the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System.
4. Set up a coordination mechanism involving relevant stakeholders to undertake M&E of this Policy over five-year intervals in line with the Climate Change Action Plans and the ADPs, and the CIDP.
5. Disseminate the outcomes of reviews and evaluations for public and stakeholder discussion and for county assembly debate and oversight.

### **7.3 Resource Mobilization**

- Funding required for financing climate change responses under this policy will be mobilised from both internal and external sources. In this context, resource mobilisation will be closely linked to FLLOCA- Financing for Locally Led Climate Actions,

Kenya's and Nakuru county climate finance strategy, particularly in regard to mobilising external financing.

- The County Government at all levels will be required to integrate climate change response actions into budgetary processes. This will complement and be in addition to any external climate finance resources. In particular, sufficient budgetary allocation for all institutions performing climate change functions will be prioritised to ensure that the necessary human, technical and financial resources are available.
- This Policy underscores the County Government's commitment to increase PPP initiatives for actions that help to achieve low carbon climate-resilient development.

### **Policy Statements**

The County Government will:

1. Allocate resources for climate change actions in county budgetary processes.
2. Build capacity to mobilise and enhance absorption of resources for climate change interventions.
3. Mobilise substantial levels of climate finance to fund implementation of this Policy, and the associated Climate Change Action Plans from internal and external sources.
4. Put in place mechanisms to attract and leverage PPPs as a vehicle to mobilise resources and enhance private sector participation in low carbon climate-resilient development activities.

### **7.4 Collaboration and stakeholders' participation**

- Article 10 of the Constitution identifies public participation as a binding national value during the implementation of any public policy or decision or in the making or implementation of any law. The County Government, therefore, recognises the importance of building and sustaining partnerships with the public at all levels of society to ensure collective ownership of climate change responses.
- The County Government will continue to play the lead role in the strategic planning and management of climate change responses. The county government will foster participatory partnerships between itself and the national government, other public entities, the private sector, civil society, development partners, academia, media, and

international agencies. Steps will be taken to consolidate and strengthen the working relations with development partners. Improved sectoral and donor coordination will be formalised through periodic meetings and fora.

### **Policy Statements**

The County Government will:

1. Put in place and operationalise a climate change public participation strategy.
2. Ensure that public participation enhances consultation and awareness of citizens, including facilitating equitable roles for women and men, persons with special needs and the youth.
3. Establish and sustain partnerships with various categories of climate change stakeholders, including development partners and sectoral department

