



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Annex 7

Stakeholder engagement plan

For the GCF-FAO Project “Transforming Livelihoods through Climate Resilient, Low Carbon, Sustainable Agricultural Value Chains in the Lake Region Economic Bloc, Kenya”

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1. Introduction

1.1 Summary of the project

This project “Transforming Livelihoods through Climate Resilient, Low Carbon, Sustainable Agricultural Value Chains in the Lake Region Economic Bloc, Kenya” seeks to implement a deep transformation of agricultural production, processing and marketing towards low-carbon, climate resilient pathways. The project builds on the private sector and the strength of the cooperative movement in Kenya and creates a mechanism for North-South and South-South technology transfer and upscale, leveraging the knowledge and expertise that exists in national and international farming networks. Focusing on six priority value chains (dairy, poultry, coffee, tea, fruit tree and indigenous vegetables), the project intends to transfer and upscale both adaptation and mitigation technology at each value chain’s production, harvesting, processing and marketing stages. The project’s objective is to foster the emergence of climate-resilient, low-carbon, environmentally sustainable, and financially viable agriculture value chains by accelerating the transfer of technology, knowledge, assets and services with a focus on agri-food cooperatives as key agents to leverage rural change.

Component	Activities
Component 1 – Enabling local government support for adaptation and mitigation.	1.1.1 Develop and deploy innovative and efficient extension methods for disseminating and demonstrating CRLCSA knowledge, technologies and practices in gender-responsive and socially inclusive ways
	1.1.2 Strengthen the dissemination of climate information services to last-mile users including women, youth and PwD through cooperatives and Farmer Organizations.
	1.1.3 Develop and test methodologies for decentralized carbon accounting
	1.1.4 Upgrade and update agricultural databases, crop and productivity datasets, cooperative census
	1.1.5 Assess eligible climate solutions for the agriculture sector in relation to climate impacts
	1.1.6 Share knowledge and lessons learned through existing platforms
Component 2 – Sustainable Resilient Agricultural Landscapes	2.1.1 Develop a county climate-resilient and low-carbon agricultural landscape management strategy and implementation plan, including improved watershed management, land use planning, reforestation and natural regeneration
	2.1.2 Implement and monitor climate-resilient and low-carbon landscape management plans.
Component 3 – Resilient livelihoods	3.1.1 Deploy CRLCSA production/ processing assets and training to smallholder farmers, farmer organizations and associations
	3.1.2 Disseminate CRLCSA technology, knowledge and assets to cooperative members through peer-to-peer networks and exchanges
	3.1.3 Support smallholder farmer aggregation into cooperatives and other business units as climate risk reduction and risk sharing mechanisms
	4.1.1 Work with buyers and aggregators to increase demand and market opportunities for CRLCSA commodities

Component 4 – Scaling through CRLCSA market and finance	4.1.2 Increase access to various certification and labeling schemes
	4.2.1 Develop gender-responsive and socially inclusive private finance tools, procedures and products to promote the upscale of CRLCSA value chains
	4.2.2 Support smallholders and their business units in the development of bankable business plans, with particular focus on social inclusion and gender-based access
	4.2.3 Facilitate smallholders access to financial incentives schemes for agroforestry

The project will be implemented in Kenya’s **agricultural region “Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB)”**, **in 14 counties³**:

- Northern counties: Trans Nzoia, Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega and Nandi
- Central/easternmost counties: Siaya, Vihiga, Kisumu and Kericho
- Southern/easternmost counties: Homa Bay, Migori, Kisii, Nyamira and Bomet

This project has adopted an active stakeholder engagement strategy since its inception and throughout development and design following a bottom-up approach that is aligned to the devolution process in Kenya. Particular attention has been paid to identifying key stakeholders and involving them meaningfully and at the right time, to ensure their advice, knowledge and inputs are duly considered in all aspects of this project. Stakeholder engagement is fully mainstreamed in all project activities.

1.2 Regulations and Requirements for consultation and engagement

The constitution of Kenya 2010 provides for public participation in matters of public interests. Article 69 encourages the state to ensure public participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment. Section 113 of the County Government Act, 2012 and section 10 (2) of the Public Finance management also provides for public participation in both planning and budgeting processes. Both the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and FAO regulations demand that relevant stakeholders are consulted, and that Free and Prior Informed Consent is sought before a project begins where Indigenous Peoples are involved and encouraged in the case of rural people, forest, farmers and local communities. In line with the national requirement and those set forth by FAO and the GCF, an elaborate stakeholder consultation process was carried out over a 18-month period to develop the project, targeting those who may be affected by the proposed project and those that may have a stake in, contribute to, facilitate or hinder implementation.

Stakeholder engagement forms integral part of the project and will continue throughout implementation, according to the terms set below.

2. Stakeholder identification and mapping

The identification of stakeholders was done using a collaborative approach, mobilizing Kenyan government authorities at national and county level as well as FAO-Kenya's experience and expertise. Analysis of each stakeholders' potential influence on, benefits from, and contribution to the project was done combining desk review and interviews or discussions.

The initial identification of stakeholders was done through exchanges between The National Treasury who is the NDA, and FAO on the basis of the project's proposed regional and thematic scope. Subsequent discussions expanded to include relevant government departments, agencies and development partners at national and sub-national levels who have helped with refining the concept note and ensured inclusivity of relevant actors. Stakeholders in this project fall in the following groups and categories, as detailed in Table 1.

Farmers: individual smallholder farmers involved in the six value chains namely coffee, tea, dairy, African leafy vegetables, fruit trees and poultry. Farmers are direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project.

The project also identified vulnerable groups whose participation in project activities will be the object of particular attention: women, youth, persons living with disabilities, other vulnerable population persons.

Farmer organizations & value chain actors: this includes informal self-help groups, business units, farming groups, community forest associations, Indigenous Peoples associations, farmer field schools and cooperatives in the six value chains, as well as value chain actors not involved in production, such as buyers, transporters, wholesalers, input and service providers. Farmer organizations are also direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project.

Indigenous Peoples: The project will target mainly smallholder farmers, it is not foreseen that Indigenous Peoples will be directly targeted, as Indigenous Peoples in the region mainly nomadic or semi-nomadic herders and hunter-gatherers, and are not engaged in the project target VCs. However, based on the screening assessment, there are indigenous communities who are resident upon the lands where project activities might take place as well as those who are nomadic or who seasonally migrate over relatively short distances, and whose attachment to ancestral territories may be periodic, seasonal, or cyclic in nature. Therefore, a Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process will be implemented following FAO and GCF guidelines will take place among the participants who are self-identified as Indigenous Peoples and non-participants who reside in the project targeted area, to mitigate any potential adverse impact over these communities (Refer to IPPF on Annex 06). As demographic information on IPs in Kenya's is rarely available, national census includes limited information of these groups, project baselines studies and surveys will be used also to identify Indigenous Peoples in the project target areas. During the registration of project participants, the project will identify participants who self-identify as Indigenous Peoples.. Additionally, consultation processes (FPIC/IPPs) that are to be conducted will identify and map Indigenous People (within project area of influence) who self-identify as indigenous.

The project will include Indigenous Peoples representatives in the Project Technical Coordinating Committee (PTCC), and they will engage in periodical updates on the implementation, progress and planning, so their voices and input will be captured throughout the project implementation.

County governments: This includes county Council Assemblies, Governors, and public administration in all the devolved sectors. This also includes ward-level decentralized administration and services. Counties are direct beneficiaries of the project, as well as executing entities and implementing partners.

Regional (LREB) institutions: including the LREB secretariat and relevant caucuses such as agriculture, water and environment; LREB Centre of excellence in Agriculture and Water; the Lake Region Development Authority; Lake Victoria North and South Water Service Boards, as well as knowledge sharing platforms on various sectors. Regional institutions play a key role in upscaling and knowledge sharing.

National Government Departments: The National Treasury (NT); State department of Agriculture; State Department of Cooperatives; Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry; Kenya Meteorological Department, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO); Department of Resource Survey and Resource Survey, among others.

Non-state actors: such as Non-Governmental Organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), Faith Based Organizations, community leadership, associations, the private sector, academic and research institutions, and media.

International organizations: This includes development partners working or implementing projects in the LREB (e.g. World Bank, IFAD, other UN agencies, The Government of Denmark, Netherlands, GEF, etc).

Financial institutions: This includes community based credit and savings cooperatives, savings groups, as well as formal lending and grantmaking institutions (e.g. Banks, micro-finance institutions).

The stakeholder analysis was undertaken based on an adaptation of the Serra methodology. The Serra methodology of 2014 considers the interest/willingness versus Power/influence of each stakeholder in the project to better understand the engagement approach to consider with each stakeholder and ensure adequate engagement for good appropriation of the project and ensure the implementation. Our adaptation of the methodology places interest in, degree of influence on, and ability to participate in project activities/results on an equal footing and evaluates each parameter according to a continuum (minimum to maximum). The evaluation of each parameter is internal to the project and based on expert judgement as well as documented evidence from consultations.

Table 1 below summarizes the key stakeholders and provides a suggested engagement strategy based on each group's interest, influence and ability to participate.

Table 1: Stakeholder group, influence and ability (RED indicates MINIMAL; GREEN indicates MAXIMAL; Yellow indicates MEDIUM LOW; Orange indicates MEDIUM HIGH)

Stakeholder Name	Potential Interest in project activities and results	Degree of influence on project results	Ability to participate in project activities	Recommended engagement strategy
Small-holder farmers	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	Capacity Building, Continuous support
Climate Change Multi-Sectoral Knowledge Platform (CCMKP)	ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN	Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
Climate-Smart Agriculture Multi-Stakeholder Platform (CSA-MSP)	ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN	Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
Cooperative Bank (CB)	GREEN	LIGHT GREEN	GREEN	Capacity Building, Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
Cooperatives and farmer groups	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	Capacity Building, Continuous Support
Council of Governors (CoG)	ORANGE	YELLOW	ORANGE	Capacity Building, Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
County governments	GREEN	LIGHT GREEN	GREEN	Capacity Building, Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
Civil Society Organizations	GREEN	LIGHT GREEN	ORANGE	Capacity Building, Continuous support
Department of Remote sensing (DSRS)	ORANGE	RED	GREEN	Keep Informed

Equity Bank (EB)				Capacity Building, Continuous engagement, Keep Informed
Government Financing of Locally Led Climate Action (G-FLLOCA)				Continuous Engagement, Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Indigenous Peoples Communities				Capacity Building, Continuous support
Industry, Trade and Co-operatives, State Department for Co-operatives				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)				Keep Informed, active Coordination
Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya Animal Genetics Resource Centre (KAGRC)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya Forestry Service (KFS)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya National Farmers' Federation (KENAFF)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Lake Victoria Basin Authorities (LVBA)				Keep Informed
Maarifa center (MC)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
Ministry of Cooperative and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
Nairobi Coffee Exchange (NCE)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
National Designated Authority (NDA)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
NGOs				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
The Coffee Directorate (TCD)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
The National Treasury				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building
Value Chain Actors (buyers, bulkers, transporters, processors)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination. Capacity Building

World Bank (WB)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB)				Keep Informed, Active Coordination, Capacity Building
Danish Embassy				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Indigenous people				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Delegation of the European Union to Kenya				Keep Informed
Dutch Embassy				Keep Informed, Active Coordination
Aceli Africa				Keep Informed
UNCDF				Keep Informed

3. Stakeholder engagement during project development

3.1 Participatory project design

A participatory process for the design of this project was conducted starting in late 2021, culminating in April 2023. This process involved gathering ideas, suggestions, inputs, and contributions from stakeholders identified above, including farmers, county governments, development partners and others. The first design mission was conducted on 9-15 December 2021 and included discussions with the following partners, who provided advice on design, lessons learned and contributed to the formulation of the Theory of Change. Key participants in early discussions included¹:

- Ministry of Industry, Trade and Co-operatives, State Department for Co-operatives (Principal Secretary)
- Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Director of Climate Change and Programme Officer)
- Ministry of Agriculture (Crops and Agricultural Research Department)
- European Union Delegation to Kenya
- Council of Governors (CoG)
- Ministry of Agriculture (Crops and Agricultural Research Department)
- Consultative meeting with development partners (Finland, Denmark, and Netherlands)
- Cooperative Bank
- Cooperatives
- Farmers

A LREB stakeholder workshop was held on 9th December 2021 in Kisumu bringing together over 90 participants from all counties. The Theory of Change and proposed activities and general orientations of the project were discussed. The workshop participants confirmed individual counties interest in pursuing the proposed work which present huge opportunities for LREB in terms of reducing vulnerability of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and improving sustainability of natural resources on which majority of the population depends. Participants were, over 100 women and men in all, county government officials including County Executive Committee (CEC) members; Chief Officers and Directors, representatives from Agriculture departments. Universities and research institutions from the region also participated in the meeting. The workshop also conducted a participatory Value Chain prioritization exercise in which each county was asked to rank the value chains present in their territory against various selection criteria. The criteria used in the prioritization were as follows:

Climate/Environment criteria:

- Sensitivity to changes in temperature and/or water availability and quantity
- Potential for reduced water use and/or improved water use efficiency (responding to the climate problem of aridification, increased temperature and drought).
- Potential for GHG reductions at production or processing stages
- Vulnerability to loss of ecological services
- Potential for improvements in environmental sustainability (including reduced land degradation and deforestation for flooding and erosion control, reductions in non-organic pesticides/herbicides/fertilizers).
- Potential for reduced exposure to climate hazards (droughts and floods, storms)
- Potential for improved resilience of the value chain.

Economic Criteria

¹ Details of these consultations including names, dates, and key points raised, are included in the Annex to this document.

- Level of activity (# of cooperatives, groups, beneficiaries, frequency of trade)
- Potential for financial viability in medium-term
- Anticipated growth in demand

Social Criteria

- Strength of the value chain organization
- Potential for social inclusion (women, youth, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples)

A follow up consultative meeting with the LREB leadership including the chair and governors was held on the 14th February 2022 at the Grand Royal Swiss Hotel in Kisumu. All the 14 Counties agreed to co-finance the project using their County Climate Change Fund (CCCCF) allocations. A joint communique between FAO and the LREB to this effect was issued at the end of the meeting.

The discussions continued with the Council of Governors, National Treasury and G-FLLOCA representatives to ensure convergence of methodologies, and cofinancing arrangements from counties in support of project objectives. These were confirmed in the cofinancing letter attached in Annex 9.

Consultations with NDA, co-financiers and development partners

Consultations have taken place throughout the development phase to build partnerships in support of this project. Bi-weekly task force meetings were organized with representatives of the Cooperative partnership and the EEs. Regular updates and briefings were given to the NDA through FAO-Kenya. Similar regular updates were given to the Government of Denmark through Cooperative partnership representatives to ensure continued engagement and agreement on co-financing.

Discussions with financial institutions were also pursued at regular intervals, with meetings every 2 months with Equity Bank, Cooperative Bank, Kenya Commercial Bank, Family Bank, ACELI Africa Trust. Key points raised during this discussion concerned the availability of financing, conditions for loans and barriers to accessing them, eligibility criteria for farmers and cooperatives and the possibility of leveraging risk reducing guarantees from ACELI and various other facilities. However, in late 2022, ACELI Africa Trust confirmed partnerships with Family Bank, Cooperative Bank and Equity Bank to assist them in mobilizing risk reduction guarantees of 2% of the loan value, which will be available to financial institutions during project execution.

These discussions allowed for the mobilization of data and co-financing for the project activities under outcome 4.

Follow up consultations

A number of meetings took place in March - July 2023 to validate the proposed project design and confirm final implementation arrangements. These include presentation during the LREB summit in Migori in the week commencing 13th March to update the governors on the progress; meeting with County Executive Committee members in charge of Agriculture and environment together with G-FLLoCA representative to harmonise proposed activities with those planned by the counties under G-FLLoCA program the week commencing 19th March; meeting with Equity and Coop Banks to confirm their co-funding the week commencing 27th March and; meeting with farmers and cooperatives to validate the proposal. The project design team also conducted another series of consultation in May 2023 and met stakeholders including the County and National Governments, Private sector including the financial institutions, and the smallholder producers organizations in the region.

Key feedback received at these consultations included:

- Detailed description of the process to be used by counties for implementing local actions under the G-FLLOCA program, including mechanisms for consultation of local communities and approval of local investment plans by council assemblies. Agreement with the proposed process for tying Landscape Management Strategies with the Investment planning process under G-FLLOCA.
- Governors' agreement on the proposal and proposed cofinancing arrangements.
- Confirmation of continued engagement by Equity and Coop banks, and precisions regarding the current service offerings to farmers in the region and in the 6 value chains. Banks request assistance in the development of Monitoring and tracking tools for beneficiaries.
- NDA agreement and no-objection to the project funding request.

Validation meetings were held after the finalization of the first draft of the proposal package in May 2023. Both national and county level stakeholders participated in these meetings, as well as donors and cofinanciers, who supported the design team in verifying the feasibility of the proposal in its final design and confirmed their commitment to implement.

Consultation Meeting with the Indigenous Peoples

A consultative meeting was convened in November 2023 with representatives from Indigenous Peoples' groups and communities (114 people including elders, women and youth) in the Lake Region Economic Bloc. Participants included the Ogiek Peoples' Development Program (OPDP) and Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization.

The project design team presented their proposal to the groups, followed by a lively question-and-answer session to gather feedback. Representatives shared their positive feedback on the project's design, and the team provided comprehensive answers to all questions raised such as the project implementation arrangement, target value chains and gender-responsive actions to be taken by the project.

The feedback from the Ogiek community included the following:

- The Ogiek community is fully supportive of the project.
- The Ogiek community requested for representation in the project governance mechanism.
- Timely consultation and feedback provision mechanism should be provided by the project.
- FAO and its partners to explore tailor-made project activities that will support the community and within the project scope and targets.

To facilitate continued engagement, the design team shared their presentation materials and contact information with the participants. This will allow for further collaboration and communication as the project progresses.

A virtual consultation was also held with seven representatives from Indigenous Peoples in November 2023. The project design team presented the proposal to the consultation participants, and the positive responses were obtained from them including the below feedback:

- The representatives from Indigenous Peoples fully welcome the implementation of the project
- The project should include activities that have both restoration and livelihood improvement effects such as apiculture when targeting farmers' groups that have Indigenous Peoples participation.
- The project should involve the indigenous women equally as the men.

The project design team confirmed with the representatives that tailored activities which will have both restoration and livelihood benefits will be introduced to the community, and farmers will be supported through the project by attending capacity building sessions and access to demonstration input.

The project set up project's overall targets on gender inclusions (16.5% are female headed households and 50% of the project beneficiaries are women). The indigenous women will be engaged equally like the men.

Based on feedback obtained from the meetings with IPs, the project has included representatives from IPs as a member of the Project Technical Coordinating Committee (PTCC) to enhance the involvement of IPs in decision-making process. The PMU and FAO will also ensure that Ogiek community along with others IPs have access to inclusive communication channels and redress mechanism (GCF, FAO and at project level) to share thoughts, issues arising during project implementation related activities throughout project cycle (as per IPPF).

As part of the engagement process, during the inception phase, the project will identify the Indigenous Peoples, out of the list provided in Annex 7, who will be the project participants or non-participants who reside in the project target areas. The project will conduct FPIC as per IPPF.

3.2 Analytical Consultations

A series of analytical consultations, designed to assess needs and gaps, understand barriers, and refine the technical components of the project were deployed. These included in-person and virtual surveys, interviews and workshops with all categories of stakeholders.

County Institutional Capacity Assessment

The county institutional capacity assessment was carried out between the 7th and 16th March 2022 to determine the policy and human resource capacities of the 14 LREB counties to address climate related challenges in the agriculture sector. It also assessed the availability of climate information to support proposed interventions under the project. The assessment involved group interviews mostly with directors from departments of Agriculture, Climate Change/Environment, Cooperatives and Water in each of the 14 counties. Questions during the exercise revolved around:

- i. Capacity of technical staff to deal with climate change
- ii. Policy and Legal Frameworks on climate change and extent of mainstreaming in county plans and processes
- iii. Access and use of Climate Information Services
- iv. Finance and Resource mobilization for implementation of climate change actions

Findings from the assessment have been instrumental in refining the project proposal, particularly for outcomes 1 and 2. Key findings included:

- The fact that many counties have some capacity to deal with climate change issues. However, the number of technical staff are generally inadequate partly due to slow rate of replacement of staff exiting employment through natural attrition/retirements.
- Capacity building on climate change is being implemented across most counties but on ad hoc basis as these depend on on-going programmes/projects and availability of funds. County technical staff attend climate relevant trainings based on opportunities presented.
- County governments are progressing well with mainstreaming climate change in planning and budgeting. For example, climate change is included in the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), sectoral policies and plans. Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) strategies are also being implemented based on the national strategy – Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy 2017-2026.
- Significant progress made in terms of enhancing availability and access to climate information through the development and operationalization of County Climate Information Services (CIS) plans by the Kenya Meteorological Department. Users appreciate the value of the downscaled CIS

in guiding largely tactical decision making at household and institutional levels. Challenge remains with getting long-term projections for making long-term and strategic decisions.

- Most counties are using the national CSA strategy to implement relevant activities. This seems to serve them well as many are not keen on developing county specific plans.
- Climate change units have been established and budgeted for through allocations to the County Climate Change Fund. The only challenge is that sometimes the money is re-allocated and never availed for climate change work due to weak capacity at the Climate Change Units (CCUs) who are unable to lobby and defend budgetary allocations.

Cooperative Census

A comprehensive cooperative census was carried out in August-November 2022 to identify potential beneficiaries in the value chains and assess their capacity needs regarding climate resilient, low-carbon agriculture. The census was conducted in two steps: first, a series of phone calls were made to identify and provide preliminary contact information for all cooperatives in the region. Second, enumerators were dispatched to visit each of the cooperatives to administer a comprehensive survey that included questions about baseline capacity including: finance, governance, and climate.

The enumerators identified 321 cooperatives in the region, all of which were surveyed and mapped. A cooperative census included in-depth interviews and assessments of cooperative functioning, including gender representativity in the various roles for 130 cooperative representatives (of which 51 women were interviewed). Key findings were summarized in the feasibility study, including:

- Current membership in the 6 value chains disaggregated by gender and age
- Key sources of climate information
- Main climate smart practices implemented
- Main sources of energy
- Level of assets, including area of land under production
- Annual volume of sales and revenue
- Governance structures

All findings were used to inform a capacity needs assessment for the project.

Climate Change Survey

This survey was developed by the project design team to collect further data on climate vulnerability, perception of climate change, and existing climate risk management practices. Questions focused on:

- The climate hazards that have the most impact on input supply, food production and harvest
- The major climate impacts to input supply, food production and harvest
- The practices farmers are implementing or benefiting from to adapt to climate hazards
- Sources and timescale of climate information received and needed
- Types of agricultural advisory received and needed
- Gender aspects related to access and use of climate information
- Capacities and decision making by different genders at the different nodes of the value chains.

The survey was administered to farmers within cooperatives and farmers outside of cooperatives. There were 149 respondents. Key findings were used in the climate risk assessment (Part A2 of this funding proposal) and to inform the proposed activities under outcome 3.

Community consultations

Consultations were carried out between the 16th -21st May 2022. The FAO team visited and held meetings across 8 of the 14 counties of LREB counties namely Bungoma, Kakamega, Kericho, Kisii, Kisumu, Migori,

Nyamira and Siaya. The consultation covered seven value chains - banana, dairy, coffee, tea, indigenous vegetables, indigenous chicken and forests and involved meetings with farmers groups, community forest associations and cooperative officials. A total of 95 women and men key informants representing individual farmers, community-based organizations, Indigenous Peoples (see section above) and cooperatives were interviewed. The survey team also visited three coffee factories owned by primary cooperatives in Kisii and Nyamira.

Key messages coming from the consultation include the need for diversification and value addition to guarantee production and household income in light of the changing climate; the need for enhanced access to climate information services for effective climate risk management; sensitization and capacity building for sustainable management of landscapes surrounding coffee production and processing areas and the need for business plans to help farmers in managing costs of production which were found to be quite high. In the case of dairy, animal feeds were found to constitute up to 70% of the total cost of production.

Value Chain Analysis and Market Study

Community consultations were carried out as part of the field data collection for value chain analysis explained below. It largely focused on participation, performance, benefits and empowerment of different genders especially women and youth in selected agricultural value chains.

This was carried out between 12th and 17th December 2022 with the objective of collecting primary data to validate secondary data review and fill gaps for the value chain reports already developed. Additional information on gender inclusion along the value chains was also collected during the mission. Data collection was achieved through facility visits, focus group discussions, and individual meetings with key informants, including producers, traders, processors, input suppliers, service providers, ministries, and other government institutions. The exercise used a sample of three counties namely Kisumu, Nandi and Trans Nzoia to collect data on the 6 value chains.

Consultations on gender-transformative approaches

Throughout all consultations, efforts were made to include women participants to ensure the concerns of women and young women in particular were taken on board in project design. Various tools and venues were used to gather the concerns of women during feasibility. This included:

- Field visits and farm visits, including women farmers in all counties which the farmers were women (14)
- A Climate Change and Value Chain Survey with specific gender related and women-specific questions (28 women respondents out of 114)
- A cooperative census that included in-depth interviews and assessments of cooperative functioning, including gender representativity in the various roles. Among the 130 cooperative representatives, 51 women were interviewed.
- Gender-related questions in the consultations with county governments and interviews with women government staff in each county (14 counties)
- A field-based gender assessment (December 2022) which was conducted as complementary to the value chain market analyses, the findings of which are included in this report.

Consultations with women occurred during the main consultations, in parallel to consultations (women only with women facilitators), in focus groups and through surveys administered in person or online. Views of women were fully taken on board during project design, leading to the formulation of recommended actions for achieving gender transformative action in the project.

In the Gender and Value Chain survey, 28 women were consulted (among 115 participants). In the Cooperative census, 130 cooperatives were met and assessed, including 51 women representatives. A further gender assessment was conducted as part of the value chain and market analysis, in which 6 women's cooperatives were consulted. A further 6 organizations representing women were interviewed

during various field visits, including one representing indigenous women. Information is added in Annex 1 of Part 1 of the GAP. Qualitative data collected from leaders of cooperatives in different value chains in the targeted counties yielded important information that triangulates with the research findings from existing studies. Leaders representing two dairy cooperatives, 1 coffee cooperative, 1 African leafy vegetable cooperative, and 1 poultry cooperative were interviewed.

The project will support traditionally female-centric value chains including African Leafy Vegetables, poultry and fruit trees which have a great potential to empower women and improve women's adaptive capacity for climate change. Women's specific concerns and challenges were assessed for six target value chains (as summarized in Table 11 of Annex 8) and were taken into consideration and reflected in the project design and the GAP. The findings of all consultations are reflected and quoted in the Annex 8.

The Gender Action Plan (GAP) for the proposed project tackles gender inequalities across several priority areas in agri-climate adaptation and mitigation. These include closing gender gaps and existing inequalities in participation (at intra-household level and within producer organizations/cooperatives), workloads (prioritizing agricultural technologies and practices for adaptation and mitigation that reduce workloads and negative impacts on women), access and use of productive resources (such as agri-climate information, technologies, livelihood incomes, credit), and collective action (working with women's groups as platforms for enhancing access, agency, and voice in climate-smart agriculture)

4. Stakeholder Engagement Plan during Implementation

The project will make every effort to provide relevant information to stakeholders in appropriate and timely manners. Such information may include but not limited to:

- CRLCSA technologies and practices, Climate Information Services, methodologies for carbon accounting, Landscape management strategy and implementation plans, CRLCSA production /processing assets
- Environmental and Social Safeguards and grievance redress mechanism
- Demand and market opportunities for CRLCSA products, Certification and labelling schemes
- Private finance tools, procedures and products to promote upscaling of CRLCSA value chains
- Interest rates on private finance and financial incentive schemes for agroforestry

Information will be availed in English and Swahili as they are widely spoken in the LREB just like other parts of Kenya. Dissemination of information will be done using a variety of media such as print (newspapers, posters), radios, public meetings and workshops to ensure maximum reach to stakeholders.

Each executing entity will take the lead in sharing and disseminating the information to relevant stakeholder for the activities they will implement.

Table 2: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Stakeholder engagement methodology	Expected timing	Purpose of engagement	Responsibility
The National Treasury	Partner	National Government Institution body	Project supervision, information sharing, information provision, Participation in PSC and PTCC	Ongoing	Participate in project supervision, chair PSC, participate in project MEL and supervision. participation in project technical coordination committee	Execute activities co-funded by the Government of Kenya. Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly. Monitor project results and risks.
Agriterra	Partner	NGO	Project supervision, information sharing, information provision, Participation in PSC and PTCC	Ongoing	Participate in project supervision, participate in project MEL and supervision. participation in project technical coordination committee	Execute activities. Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly. Monitor project results and risks.
Smallholder farmers	Direct beneficiary	Local community	Information Provision, Information Feedback, Formal and information Consultations, FPIC, Surveys (Resilience Survey)	Continuous	Ownership and active participation in the project, adoption of climate resilient, low-carbon agricultural technologies.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at household level; provide information and participate in consultations when required.
Cooperatives and farmer groups	Direct beneficiaries	Local community	Information Provision,	Continuous	Ownership and active participation in the	Participate in project activities; monitor

			Information Feedback, Formal and information Consultations, FPIC, Surveys (Resilience Survey)		project, Capacity building of members	results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required.
County governments	Direct beneficiaries	Local Government Institution/body	Information provision, information feedback, formal consultation, training, Workshops and Meetings	Continuous	Active participation in all project activities. Ministries and Departments involved will include the Meteorological, Environment, Forestry, Crop and Livestock, Marketing, Social Services and Employment, Youth and Gender, Energy, and IT, Extension departments.	Implement project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; provide cofinancing as per agreed plan.
Climate Change Multi-Sectoral Knowledge Platform (CCMKP)	Indirect beneficiaries	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, consultation and awareness raising, meetings and workshops	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required.
Climate-Smart Agriculture Multi-Stakeholder Platform (CSA-MSP)	Direct beneficiaries	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, consultation and awareness raising, meetings and workshops	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Cooperative Bank (CB)	Direct Beneficiaries	Resource Partner/Donor	Information sharing, training, technical assistance,	Continuous	To benefit from technical assistance towards the development of new financial products, share information on lending volumes,	provide information and participate in consultations when required; benefit from project technical assistance and report on results thereof.

Council of Governors (CoG)	Indirect beneficiaries	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, consultation and awareness raising, meetings and workshops	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Department of Remote sensing (DSRS)	Indirect beneficiaries	National Government Institution body	Information provision, research and data, consultation	Annually	Participate in landscape management strategy development and monitoring	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Equity Bank (EB)	Direct Beneficiaries	Resource Partner/Donor	Information sharing, training, technical assistance,	Continuous	To benefit from technical assistance towards the development of new financial products, share information on lending volumes,	provide information and participate in consultations when required; benefit from project technical assistance and report on results thereof.
Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB)	Direct Beneficiaries	Resource Partner/Donor	Information sharing, training, technical assistance,	Continuous	To benefit from technical assistance towards the development of new financial products, share information on lending volumes,	Provide information and participate in consultations when required; benefit from project technical assistance and report on results thereof.
Government Financing of Locally Led Climate Action (G-FLLOCA)	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Information sharing, participation in project technical coordination committee meetings (observer)	Continuous	Participate in PSC meetings, project workshops, exchanges of information on participatory climate risk assessments, support development of landscape management strategies including through provision of funding.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Information sharing, participation in project technical coordination committee meetings (observer),	Quarterly	Participate in PSC meetings, project workshops, exchanges of information rural finance, support development of financial products, share information on strategies and best practice.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Data and information sharing, joint planning, formal consultation, technical assistance	Annually	Share data on crop and livestock productivity, participate in data collection and monitoring, certification of seeds, feeds and inputs, participate in research and demonstration of CRLCSA technologies	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya Animal Genetics Resource Centre (KAGRC)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, participation in project technical coordination committee, provision of inputs and support to project beneficiaries and cooperatives under output 3.1	Quarterly	Provision of information on semen (origin, type, import). Provision of certified semen for the artificial insemination of dairy cows.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya Forestry Service (KFS)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Data and information sharing, joint planning, formal consultation, technical assistance	Annually	Participate in development and implementation of LMS, monitoring of carbon in AFOLU, certification of trees and other species.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Climate data and information sharing, joint planning, formal consultation, technical	Quarterly	Provide data for development of climate information services, benefit from technical	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and

			assistance, publications, media		assistance at national and decentralized level	participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya National Farmers Federation (KENAFF)	Indirect Beneficiary	Civil Society Organization	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Provide data and information on project beneficiaries, upon request; share information on methods, technologies and approaches for dissemination to other KENAFF members	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Benefit from information on CRLCSA tea, prices and sales; participate in trade fairs, participate in buyer outreach and certification of climate resilient, low-carbon tea	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB)	Indirect Beneficiary	Regional Government Institution/body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Lake Victoria Basin Authorities (LVBA)	Indirect Beneficiary	Regional Government Institution/body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices; participate in landscape management strategies	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Maarifa center (MC)	Indirect Beneficiary	Regional Government Institution/body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Capture and disseminate lessons learned, results, best practices; participate in	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level;

					landscape management strategies	provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives	Indirect Beneficiary	Regional Government Institution/body	Active participation in all project activities	Continuous	Oversight and implementation support through departments of crop, livestock, extension, agronomy	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Nairobi Coffee Exchange (NCE)	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Benefit from information on CRLCSA coffee, prices and sales; participate in trade fairs, participate in buyer outreach and certification of climate resilient, low-carbon coffee	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA)	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Information sharing, information provision, formal consultation	Ongoing	Participate in project supervision and PSC, participate in project MEL and supervision, monitor implementation of landscape management strategy and ensure adherence to environmental safeguards and standards.	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly. Monitor project environmental risks and benefits.
The Coffee Directorate (TCD)	Indirect Beneficiary	Regional Government Institution/body	Information sharing, formal consultation	Annually	Benefit from information on CRLCSA coffee, prices and sales; participate in trade fairs, participate in buyer outreach and certification of climate resilient, low-carbon coffee	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.

World Bank (WB)	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Information sharing, information provision, informal consultation	Annually	Participate in project workshops, exchanges of information on participatory climate risk assessments, support development of landscape management strategies, share information on approaches and technologies	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
NGOs	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Information sharing, information provision,	Ongoing	Participation in project consultation, FPIC, provision of service to farmers and project upon request, participate in information and knowledge sharing events	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
CSO	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Information sharing, information provision,	Ongoing	Participation in project consultation, FPIC, provision of service to farmers and project upon request, participate in information and knowledge sharing events	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Stakeholder engagement methodology	Expected timing	Purpose of engagement	Responsibility
Indigenous Peoples	Partner / potential project beneficiary	Other	<p>Consultation, Information sharing, information provision and reception? What else?</p> <p>A self-identified IP representative will participate in the Project Technical</p>	Ongoing	Participation in project consultation, implement FPIC, they may be project beneficiaries. participate in information and knowledge sharing events..	Meaningfully participate in relevant project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and; share information broadly.

			<p>Coordinating Committee and PSC</p> <p>After completing the above, you may also refer to the IPPF for further details on how engagement will be done</p>			
Other Value Chain Actors (Buyers, Processors, bulkers)	Partner	Local community	Information sharing, information provision,	Ongoing	Participation in project consultations, FPIC, provision of service to farmers and project upon request, participate in information and knowledge sharing events, receive training and project support	Participate in project activities; monitor results and impacts at organizational level; provide information and participate in consultations when required; share information broadly.
Women's right organizations	Partner	Local community	Information sharing, information provision,	ongoing	Participation in project consultations, provision of service to farmers and project upon request, participate in information and knowledge sharing events	provide information and participate in consultations when required

5. Inclusive and Social Approaches

5.1 Communication and information disclosure

The project will ensure communication and information disclosure according to national requirements and FAO standards. It will ensure regular communication at the different levels (local to national) through multiple channel (radio, media, internet, print, face to face) to reach all stakeholders and to support its broader adoption and upscaling strategy. A synthesis of the main communication and information disclosure mechanisms is presented here.

Table 3: main communication and information disclosure for project implementation

Type of communication and disclosure of information	Tools to be used	Responsibility
<i>Public consultation on official documents (EIA, technical studies, FPIC, etc.)</i>	Hard copies in area intervention	FAO, GoK
	Print media, TV and radio communication Website disclosure according to either GoK and FAO ESS standards	FAO, GoK
<i>Transparency on inclusion/exclusion criteria and targeting</i>	Council Government Assembly, FPIC meetings, Print and radio communication	FAO, Agritererra, GoK
<i>Project milestones</i>	Annual report Local Television Website Social media network	FAO, Agritererra
<i>Grievance and Redress Mechanism</i>	Presentation at early stage of implementation to local communities, project beneficiaries and local authorities	FAO, Agritererra, GoK
	Social media network Website	FAO

Particular attention will be paid to the adequate communication of project criteria, targeting approaches, activities and benefits to vulnerable and traditionally excluded groups, including women, elderly people, indigenous peoples, ethnic groups and persons living with disabilities. Provisions will be made for the translation in local language of key project documentary outputs, the Grievance Redress Mechanism and FPIC documents, and for the use of pictorial or image-based communication in order to ensure communication about the project is not limited by literacy rates.

Table 4: Information disclosure during the implementation

Activity	Type of information Shared	Sharing mechanism	Frequency
1.1.1 Develop and deploy innovative and efficient extension methods for disseminating and demonstrating CRLCSA knowledge, technologies and practices in gender-responsive and socially inclusive ways	Reports and studies	Project website, workshops and consultations, council governments, LREB	Once completed
1.1.2 Strengthen the dissemination of climate information services to last-mile users including women, youth and PwD through cooperatives and Farmer Organizations.	Reports and studies, Climate information, early warnings, projections, advisories, surveys and survey results	project website, workshops, farmers and general public, project website, radio/TV, print media, council government extension service	Ongoing during project
1.1.3 Develop and test methodologies for decentralized carbon accounting	Reports, studies, operating manuals and guidance documents	Workshops, project website, council governments	Upon completion
1.1.4 Upgrade and update agricultural databases, crop and productivity datasets, cooperative census	Studies, needs assessment reports, crop, productivity, market data, information products, leaflets, publications,	through council websites, council databases, project website, print and mass media	Continuous
1.1.5 Assess local climate change impacts and eligible climate solutions for the ag sector	Climate risk assessment reports, hotspot studies, GreenLists	Project website, county government websites, print and online media, TV, Radio	Annually
1.1.6 Share knowledge and lessons learned through existing platforms	Lessons learned, fact sheets, case studies, workshop reports,	Project website, county government websites, print and online media, TV, Radio	Quarterly
2.1.1 Develop a county climate-resilient and low-carbon agricultural landscape management strategy and implementation plan, including improved watershed management, land use planning, reforestation and natural regeneration	Workshops, consultation reports, landscape management strategies,	Project website, county government websites, print and online media, TV, Radio	In Year 2 and annually thereafter
3.1.1 Deploy CRLCSA production/ processing assets and training to smallholder farmers, farmer organizations and associations	Technology information, training, guidance documents, in-person training,	site visits, trainings, publications and printing	Ongoing during project

3.1.2 Disseminate CRLCSA technology, knowledge and assets to cooperative members through peer-to-peer networks and exchanges	Technology information, training, guidance documents, in-person training,	site visits, trainings, publications and printing	Ongoing during project
3.1.3 Support smallholder farmer aggregation into cooperatives and other business units as climate risk reduction and risk sharing mechanisms	Fact sheets, publications, reports	Site visits, workshops, print media, TV, radio	Starting year 3
3.1.4 Support improvements in social inclusion and women's meaningful participation in CRLC value chains	Fact sheets, publications, reports	Site visits, workshops, print media, TV, radio, project website	Ongoing during project
4.1.1 Work with buyers and aggregators to increase demand and market opportunities for CRLCSA commodities	Fact sheets, studies publications, reports	print media, project website, market fairs	Ongoing during project
4.1.2 Increase access to various certification and labeling schemes such as FairTrade or GlobalGAP	Fact sheets, studies publications, reports	print media, project website, market fairs	Ongoing during project
4.2.1 Develop gender-responsive and socially inclusive private finance tools, procedures and products to promote the upscale of CRLCSA value chains	Guidance documents, standard operating procedures, public information, fact sheets, studies	Bank websites, council websites, project website, print and radio/TV media	Ongoing during project
4.2.2 Support smallholders and their business units in the development of bankable business plans, with particular focus on social inclusion and gender-based access	Manuals, guidance documents, print visuals, business plans	Bank websites, council websites, project website, print and radio/TV media	Ongoing during project
4.2.3 Facilitate smallholders access to financial incentives schemes for agroforestry	Guidance documents, standard operating procedures, public information, fact sheets, studies	Bank websites, council websites, project website, print and radio/TV media, cooperative internal newsletters	Ongoing during project
Monitoring and Evaluation	Baseline survey findings, mid-term and terminal evaluations, ESMF Environmental Management plans, grievance redress mechanism, safeguards policies and reports	Fao and project websites, workshops (participatory evaluation)	Annually, and at inception/ mid-term and final year.

6. Grievance Redress Mechanism

The grievance redress mechanism (GRM) is an integral project management element that intends to seek feedback from beneficiaries and resolve complaints on project activities and performance. Grievance mechanisms are an important part of both GCF and FAO project approach and a pillar for stakeholder engagement throughout project implementation. The GRM allows the organizations to address grievances or complaints by a person, group of persons or community who/which have been or may be adversely impacted by a GCF funded project or programme through problem solving and/or compliance review, as appropriate. FAO, as a GCF accredited entity, ensures compliance with the [GCF Procedures and Guidelines of the Independent Redress Mechanism](#); and has its own developed [Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards](#), to ensure that FAO programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization's environmental and social safeguards. This mechanism is based on FAO requirements and most importantly, it is based on existing, community-specific grievance redress mechanisms preferred by the local beneficiaries.

FAO's Approach to the GRM:

In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments which includes SEAH and GBV. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards², which applies to all FAO programs and projects.

Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e., at the project management/technical level, and if necessary, at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

The principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include impartiality, respect for human rights, including those pertaining to Indigenous Peoples, compliance of national norms, and coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

GCF Approach to the GRM

The GCF has created an Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) whose functions are, among others, to "Address grievances or complaints by a person, group of persons or community who/which have been or may be adversely impacted by a GCF funded project or programme through problem solving and/or compliance review, as appropriate;" or to Initiate proceedings on its own to investigate grievances of a person, group of persons or community who/which have been or may be adversely impacted by a GCF funded project or programme".

A request on behalf of a developing country can be filed by the National Designated Authority (NDA) or a Focal Point or any entity duly authorised by that developing country under the country's laws and regulations.

A grievance or complaint can be submitted to the IRM by a person or group of persons or community who has/have been or who may be affected by adverse impacts of a GCF funded project or programme. A grievance or complaint may be submitted on the complainant's behalf by the complainant's government or a representative, duly authorised by the complainant to act in that capacity. through any means such

² <https://www.fao.org/3/i4439e/i4439e.pdf>

as submission through an online complaints form, mail, email, voice or video recording, or by calling a toll-free hotline where one has been designated for that purpose by the IRM.

The Independent Redress Mechanism can be reached here:

IRM@GCFUND.ORG

OFFICE(+82) 32-458-6186 (KST)

MOBILE(+82) 10-4296-1337 (KST)

<https://irm.greenclimate.fund/about/team>

Project-Level GRM:

The project will establish one or more grievance mechanisms at the field level to file complaints, sensitive to the location wherein the project is being implemented. Both (i) contact information and (ii) information on the process one must follow to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. It is also expected that all awareness raising material to be distributed will include the necessary information regarding the process for filing grievances and key contacts. The project will be responsible for documenting and reporting, as part of the safeguard's performance monitoring, on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for addressing incoming grievances regarding environmental and social standards; as part of the safeguard's performance monitoring, the Project Coordinator of the PMU will be responsible for documenting and reporting on any grievances received and how they were addressed. FAO as well as other executing entities (EEs) will inform Indigenous Peoples about the GRM through culturally appropriate mechanisms, ensuring information on the mechanisms at different levels through preferred communication channels, and when it applies, the GRM especially dedicated to Indigenous Peoples described in the IPPF of this project as per the GCF IP Policy, which are to be agreed and discussed as part of the project FPIC.

SEAH, related grievance management and GBV referral pathways. FAO ensures that project personnel at the EEs will be trained on prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment to achieve maximum prevention of SEAH and GBV. Sensitization campaigns will be carried out to support and catalyze community-driven support measures against SEAH. The project Grievance Redress Mechanism will be reinforced to deal effectively with SEAH and GBV incidents (including the development of a procedure to accompany the GRM on SEAH to ensure survivor-centered mechanisms that are gender-responsive and ensure confidentiality, and sensitive and ethical complaint and grievance handling). Referral pathways for GBV will be established and professionals trained for their operationalization, FAO E&S and Gender specialist in monitoring the process. All SEAH and GBV activities will be inclusive, survivor-centred, and gender-responsive.

The GRM will include methods/process to (i) receive and register external communications from the public; (ii) screen and assess the issues raised and determine how to address them; (iii) provide, track, and document responses, if any; and (iv) adjust the management program, as appropriate. The Grievance Redress Mechanism will include the following stages:

- The established GRM will be conducted in line with the requests from community consultations and will be sensitive to the needs of vulnerable groups, especially widows, disadvantaged and disables. Main stakeholders (through consultation process that will be part of FPIC) will have to agree on which will be preferred method or instance to file minor claims or grievances (eg. directly through FAO or through existing local structures or traditional means of community discussion, respecting customary rights).
- In instances whereby the claimant would prefer to have the grievance addressed directly through FAO or a higher level of government but does not have the ability to file a claim personally, the concerned person(s) will express the grievance (either orally or in writing) to the local implementation unit/structure. The project staff at the local level who receives the complaint will be responsible for presenting/filing those complaints to the Lead Safeguards Specialist based in the central Project Management Unit (PMU) in Kenya. In instances where the claimant has the means to directly file a claim, he/she has the right to do so, presenting it directly to the Lead Safeguards Specialist within

the PMU in Kenya. The process of filing a complaint will duly consider anonymity as well as any existing traditional or ethnic dispute resolution mechanisms and it will not interfere with the community's self-governance system. Contact information will also be given for processing a grievance directly to the Lead Safeguards Specialist within the PMU by phone.

- After the complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism, this complaint will be registered by the Lead Safeguards Specialist and sent to the PMU Project Coordinator to confirm that the complaint is eligible. The confidentiality of the complaint must be preserved during the process.
- Eligible complaints will be addressed by the PMU or the applicable institution. The PMU Project Coordinator will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed.
- If the situation is too complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be sent to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached.
- For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.
- In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons.
- All complaints received, its response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Internal Process:

Lead Safeguards Specialist. The complaint could come in writing or orally (including over the phone) to the Lead Safeguards Specialist within the Project Management Unit (PMU). At this level, received complaints will be registered and screened by the Lead Safeguards Specialist for eligibility. Screened complaints will then be sent to the Project Coordinator in the PMU.

Project Management Unit (PMU). The complaint should come in writing from the Lead Safeguards Specialist within the PPIU to the Project Coordinator in the PMU directly. The Project Coordinator will provide final confirmation of eligibility and proceed to investigate and resolve the complaint.

Project Steering Committee (PSC). If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solved with the PMU, then the chair of the POC must address the complaint. If this still cannot be resolved, then the complaint is sent to the next level (FAO Representative).

FAO Representative. The assistance of the FAO Representative is requested if a resolution was not agreed in the first two levels (PMU and POC).

FAO Regional Office for Africa. The FAO Representative will request, if necessary, the advice of the Regional Office to resolve a grievance or will transfer the resolution of the grievance entirely to the regional office, if the problem is highly complex.

The FAO Regional Representative will request – only on very specific situations or complex problems – the assistance on the FAO Inspector General, who would then pursue procedures of the Office of the Inspector General (OiG) to solve the problem.

Resolution:

Upon acceptance of a resolution by the complainant, a document with the agreement should be signed, clearly indicating the terms of the resolution.

Grievance structure

Recipient of Grievance	Action required
Lead Safeguards Specialist	Must register the complaint and send eligible complaints to the PMU within 2 working days.
Project Management Unit (PMU)	Must respond within 5 working days of receipt.

Project Steering Committee (PSC)	Any organization may receive a complaint and must provide proof of receipt of said complaint. If the case is accepted, then the receiver must send all the information to all of the Project Steering Committee members and call for a meeting to find a resolution. The response must be sent within 5 working days after the meeting of the Project Steering Committee
FAO representative in Kenya	Must respond within 5 working days, in consultation with PSC. FAO Representative: FAO-KE@fao.org ; Tel. (+254) 2076 25920
FAO Regional Office for Africa	Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. FAO representative: Email: FAO-RAF@fao.org phone: +233 (0) 302 610930
Office of the Inspector-General (OIG)	To report potential fraud and misconduct by confidential fax: (+39) 06 570 55550 By email: Investigations-hotline@fao.org By Confidential Hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

Members of ethnic group communities, Indigenous Peoples, minorities or marginalized groups can make a complaint or appeal on all aspects of sub-activities' design and implementation. A complaint and grievance feedback form, as well as a pamphlet explaining the mechanism, will be developed under the project, and distributed to ethnic group communities for their use. Ethnic group community members will be clearly informed of the complaint and appeal channels (as described above) in community meetings and other forms of communication that are convenient to them. Information and communications technology and media tools should be used to disseminate information. Opinions and suggestions related to resettlement which are provided by concerned people and/or organizations should be well documented.

7. Monitoring and reporting

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is fully mainstreamed in the project's results frameworks and as such, contains many indicators and targets that are included in the Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning plan (MEL). Key indicators that will be monitored for project activities are described in the following table.

Table 5: Indicators for monitoring SEP implementation

Aspects	Indicators	Actors	Frequency
Stakeholder engagement	# of stakeholders involved in consultations of all types	FAO	Annual
Communication/ disclosure	Number and type of document produced, published by channel (e.g. print, radio, TV, internet, mobile phone), type (e.g. study, report, poster, guidelines) and language (English, Local)	FAO	Regular (prior, during and post activities)
	Number of people (Male/Female) reached by information produced by the project (e.g. # of documents distributed, # of clicks on project website)	FAO	Regular (prior, during and post activities)
Gender and youth consultation/ inclusion	% female attendance at consultations	FAO, Project gender expert	Annual
	Number of people trained (male/female/youth/PLWD) by the project	FAO, Project gender expert	Annual

Indigenous Peoples	Number of indigenous people are project participants	FAO, ESS expert, M&E specialist	Annual
	Number of FPIC conducted	FAO, ESS expert, M&E specialist	Annual
Grievances	Number of grievances raised using the project GRM	FAO	Annual

Reporting on the SEP implementation will be integrated in the project annual report including any recommendations for updating the SEP according to issues emerging from implementation.

8. Budget

All the Stakeholder Engagement Plan activities are included in the regular budget of the project either under specific activities or under the human resource of the project for more broader engagement with the different partners.

A budget of 550,000 USD is included in the project activities and dedicated ESMF budget to ensure FPIC from Indigenous Peoples when needed, monitoring of ESMF policies, guidelines and safeguards, and mass communication prior and during all the activities to present E&S documentation, activities, the grievance and redress mechanism and ensure awareness of community and actors even at national level.

Appendix – Summary of Consultations

Introduction

Task team members participated in the Green Climate Fund (GCF) design mission in Kenya from 7th to 10th December 2021. Main objective of the mission was to meet key stakeholders to share initial ideas on the concept note and agree next steps in the concept note development process. The mission started with high level meetings in Nairobi followed by stakeholder workshop in Kisumu and, field visit to Kipkelion District Cooperative Union and Kipkelion Dairy in Kericho County (see Annex 1 for meetings and key people met). We summarize below key points from the various meetings held.

1 High level meetings

1.1 Ministry of Industry, Trade and Co-operatives, State Department for Co-operatives (Principal Secretary)

- Welcomed the team and project idea that is focusing on using cooperatives to strengthen various agricultural value chains. Suggested inclusion of cotton value chain as there is existing infrastructure in some of the LREB counties (e.g., Busia) and ready buyers (e.g., Rivatex East Africa Limited). The state department is already supporting the cotton value especially cotton seeds that is used in making a number of products including animal feed.
- There is need to expand the value chain selection as there are not many cooperatives in the tea VC (only in Bomet) and have different model of working through Kenya Tea development Authority. Sugarcane is organised into cooperatives but have had a lot of challenges while fruit trees are new to the region.
- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) is a new theme in the cooperative field but has a great potential. Urged the team to check on on-going/past projects in the region such as world bank supported Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project) and the upcoming Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) through the National Treasury. The Lake Basin Development Authority is also a potential co-financer and source of data for the project. Cooperative ministry happy to help with capacity building cooperatives.
- He noted that the cooperative policy is already developed, and the department is working on the cooperative bill which will facilitate implementation of the policy. Cooperative is a devolved function hence the need to produce a working arrangement between the two levels of government.
- Urged the team to request for co-financing from the national government and ensure that this is captured in the 2022/23 budget.

1.2 Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Director of Climate Change and Programme Officer)

- Welcomed the idea of involving key agencies (like the climate change directorate) and stakeholders in the GCF concept note development. Was however concerned by the absence of fish from the list of value chains since fishing is one of the biggest economic activities in the region. The value chain also has potential for GHG mitigation as a lot of firewood is used in drying fish. Moreover, decentralized renewable energy sources like solar can be used in cooling and drying of fish. Other value chains mentioned include groundnuts, soya beans and fruit trees. Reminded the team that the region is a flooding hotspot in Kenya (particularly Budalangi in Busia and Kano Plains in Kisumu counties).
- Underscored the need to engage more closely with Lake Basin Development Authority which has worked in agricultural development and environmental management among other areas for decades and could be useful source of baseline data and the recently prepared programme funded

1.3 European Union Delegation to Kenya

- Credit guarantee - EU is increasingly putting emphasis on guarantee e.g., through European Fund for Sustainable Development which has several guarantees for Kenya managed by European Development Bank.
- Timing for EU grants are as follows: 2022 - for approval in 2023 and implementation from 2024. Worth noting that Drought resilience financing is not available until 2027.
 - Link with ongoing programs such as **AgriFi** and **AgriBase**: Danida big partner, Agribase business incubator and acceleration, with a big hub in Western Kenya. GIZ are very active in western Kenya, all investments are in that area. Youth and jobs: lots of work on agricultural value chains. Also, lots of work with ICRAF on regreening agriculture programme. Danida working on food safety value chain.
 - There are lots of cooperatives in the blue economy/fisheries sector (or value chains). There is an FAO regional program working on fisheries in Western Kenya. But governance within cooperatives remains a challenge and need to be addressed.
 - Have had negative experience working on forestry in Kenya. For example, the Kenya Water Towers Program closed due to allegation of human rights violations that included violent actions on groups of Indigenous Peoples. Gazetted forest areas are very risky to work in such a project.
 - The EU has a credit line for cooperative bank for Covid-19. Ensure that Muslim communities particularly in Busia and Mt. Elgon are not marginalised as far as financial products such as loans are concerned. Consider including sharia compliant institutions like *Takaful*.
 - Counties have a free hand in constituting their Executive Committees. There could be challenges with getting budgetary support where do not prioritise cooperatives.
 - The Regional Economic Blocs like LREB are yet to be anchored in law so not having their own budget which presents a risk working at that level.
 - Need for counties to invest in digital platforms e.g., payment and data systems.

1.4 Council of Governors (CoG)

- The CoG welcomed the timely development of this proposal which is coming immediately after the 7th devolution conference whose theme was on multi-level governance on climate change. The project therefore needs to consider the conference's resolutions specifically around afforestation e.g., devolution forests).
- As the proposal involves both levels of government, CoG would like to receive updated information on the structure and roles of implementing agencies for effective coordination and smooth implementation.
- COG requests inclusion of digitisation and capacity building of the secretariat to support upscaling and sharing of good practices among the counties the project is not going to support directly. Consider beefing up the role Maarifa centre. It may be helpful if the following information comes out clearly:
 - What are the expected outcomes beyond the number of beneficiaries?
 - How is the project going to contribute/build on what counties are doing?
 - How can the project be scaled up to all Kenyan Counties?

1.5 Ministry of Agriculture (Crops and Agricultural Research Department)

- Welcomed the idea of using cooperatives to address some of the challenges facing the agriculture sector. Keen to know if there have been studies evaluating the performance of the cooperatives?
- As far as loans are concerned, may be good to clarify how they will make their way to farmers? Some farmers may not be good managers of loans hence training on financial management and good governance is needed. Also, important to look at ability of farmers to pay the loans – how will they be incentivised?
- Interest rates for the Loan - It is known that banks charge interests even if money come from the GCF. Need to be alert about this.
- Cooperatives can only take debt loans and all members of the cooperative will vote on it. Loans taken by cooperatives reduces risks.

- Good to look at market aspects e.g., supporting commodities.

1.6 Consultative meeting with development partners (Finland, Denmark, and Netherlands)

- FAO co-financing will focus on youth engagement and climate action.
- There is need to include the fisheries value chain and consider both upstream-downstream linkages. There are a lot of cooperatives (in form of Beach Management Units) active in the fisheries sector in the region.
- Cooperative Bank remains just a name as far as cooperative movement is concerned. There could be other banks that are doing more for cooperatives than Coop Bank. Is there opportunity for opening up to other banks e.g., KCB, Equity which are doing a lot for cooperatives and farmers?
- Legal and regulatory frameworks at the national and county levels. Worth noting that County assemblies have the responsibility of passing laws that are conducive and policy papers too.
- Jobs created – this could be more than 5000. Need to consider direct and in-direct jobs that will be created.
- IFAD planning a large financial inclusion program to Rural Kenya which will start in 2022. It has five commercial banks, sacco and rural finance institutions. Important the project speaks IFAD.
- Coffee and tea are quite controlled in Kenya - how realistic is it to affect those value chains considering the big money and big power involved?
- Finnish country program - climate change is not a priority in the current country program which focuses on gender and skills development and youth. The embassy is in planning phase with identification mission expected in Kenya in January 2022. Consider including climate change proposal in their next programme.
- The proposal resonates well with Netherlands' programming. Full scoping will need to include a robust mapping of activities that are going on in the LREB region to identify synergies. Examples of such programmes include sustainable Trade Initiative co-funded by Denmark which touches on tea value chain through working with large tea growers to conserve Mau forest around the tea plantations.
- The pull effect is easier said than done - how will we pull in subsistence farmers? Need to be clear on the assumptions underpinning the targets.
- Need to look at institutions involved in water management in Kenya which are generally devolved. The water resources agencies need to be engaged. There is lack of clarity on water management at devolved levels where Water User Associations and water basin committees are not functioning well.
- Worth noting that the Program will be implemented in a context of political transition due to the August 2022 elections in Kenya. Need to ensure that county level co-financing is secured before elections and prepare to re-explain everything after the election, as many offices will have new office bearers.
- Value chains: fisheries will keep coming as it is a major source of livelihood in the LREB. Lots of opportunities for technology transfer exists in the tea value chain due to high volume of firewood used in the industry. Most factories do not have dedicated forests, so they have to purchase firewood from elsewhere.
- Look at how particular value chain crosses multiple value chains? (e.g., dairy will include feed crops). Most smallholders practice mixed farming/integrated systems.

1.7 Cooperative Bank (virtual)

- Even though Coop Bank does focus on agricultural cooperatives, it could benefit from relooking at their ongoing products. A technical assistance could assist the bank to relook at those products with a view to embed climate resilience agenda. Eventually, that would trickle down to policies, operational processes, and manuals.
- There is need for technical support to the bank through capacity building and training of staff to understand climate changes issues. This is especially needed for the credit teams.

- There is interest for the coop consultancy division to be capacity built and included as part of the service providers.
- On annual basis, the bank engages with about 200 cooperatives and can support/provide loans to agricultural cooperatives. In summary, Coop Bank :
 - Currently works with 170 deposits taking sacco nationwide.
 - Lends KSh 7 billion on an annual basis through agricultural cooperatives. These are short term loans covering production to harvest.
 - Partnership with Agriterro may help in driving down the cost of funding. They are open to it with a guarantee or something to support de-risking.
 - Not struggling with non-performing loans currently. The risk of cooperatives is not high hence does not drive up the cost of lending.
 - The lending volume is responding to the demand and not limited by appetite. They have a growth agenda of at least 30% annually.
 - Have funding for SMEs from the IFC. Current lending rate is 13%. To access money to lend, one pays 7%, then factor in admin costs, loss ratio, central bank guidelines etc. The law requires at least 7% interest on savings.

2. December 2021 LREB COUNTY consultation

2.1 Presentation of draft concept note

This was graced by the National Designated Authority (NDA), CEO LREB and AFAOR and brought together county executive committee members, county directors of Agriculture, Cooperatives and Climate change focal points and Universities from the region. Key issues following concept note presentation include:

- The region presents great opportunities: with a population of over 12 million which is a big market in itself together with linkages to foreign markets in east Africa.
- Do not create cooperatives for this project but produce serious criteria for their selection. There is need for credible, scientific criteria for selection of beneficiaries (years of existence, charter, book of accounts, youth/women quota, bank statements for last 5 years) to ensure sustainability beyond the project.
- Counties are willing to participate and co-finance. The question is how to structure the co-financing (e.g., through government budgeting process). Need to provide guidance on how to cost counties co-financing and other contributions.
- Need to identify linkages with the proposed Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) under the National Treasury.
- Need to be aware of political crops (e.g., sugar, tea, coffee) where prices are likely to be controlled by government at national or regional levels.

2.2 Identification and prioritization of value Chains

Participants were thereafter grouped by counties and tasked with identifying and prioritizing 5 value chains for consideration. Value chain prioritization was conducted using three criteria: Economic, Technical, and Climate/Environmental.

Table 6 Prioritized Value Chains per county

County	Prioritized Value Chains
Busia	Fisheries (aquaculture) Bamboo Vegetable Sorghum
Siaya	Fisheries (Aquaculture + capture) Soybean

	Fruit tree (avocado) Sorghum
Kericho	Fruit tree (avocado, Banana) Dairy Sugarcane Tea Coffee
Kisumu	Rice Poultry Fruit Tree Dairy
Bomet	Fruit Tree (avocado, banana) Tea Apiculture Beans/Pulses Coffee
Homa Bay	Sugarcane Dairy Fisheries Rice Maize
Kisii	Fruit Tree Dairy Coffee Pyrethrum Vegetables
Niamyra	Tea Coffee Dairy Maize Apiculture Vegetables
Kakamega	Poultry Vegetables Cereals Aquaculture Dairy
Trans-Zoia	Poultry Coffee Dairy Vegetables Fruit Tree
Bungoma	Coffee Tea Sugar Poultry Vegetables
Vihiga	Poultry Apiculture Fruit tree Dairy
Nandi	Maize Coffee Vegetables Fruit Tree

	Poultry
Migori	Fisheries Dairy Soybean Coffee Vegetables

Table 7 Stakeholder Consultation with NDA, CECs, CDAs, and Focal Points from LREB

No.	Title	County
1	CECM	Kisii
2	CGV	Vihiga
3	Director of Cooperatives	Bomet
4	Director of Cooperatives	Busia
5	CGK	Kisumu
6	DIRECTOR ICT	Busia
7	CLIMATE CHANGE DIRECTOR	Migori
8	CECM	Homabay
9	CGS	Siaya
10	DIRECTOR ADMIN	Vihiga
11	CEC ALF	Nyamira
12	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Kisumu
13	CG	Homabay
14	CG	Nyamira
15	CGK	Kisumu
16	DIRECTORE	Bomet
17	ICT OFFICER	Homa Bay
18	CECM	Bungoma
19	LIASON OFFICER	Nyamira
20	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Nyamira
21	CECM	Bomet
22	DIRECTOR	Homa Bay
23	CECM	Kisii
24	CECM	Nandi
25	DIRECTOR TOURISM	Kisumu
26	DIRECTOR FINANCE AND ADMIN	Kisumu
27	CHIEF OFFICER	Busia
28	PROFESSOR	Migori
29	Director of Cooperatives	Siaya
30	ENVIROMENT OFFICER	Kericho
31	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Vihiga
32	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Nandi
33	CDC	Migori
34	E.O	Siaya
35	CDC	Homa Bay
36	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Busia
37	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Nyamira

38	FINANCE OFFICER	Kisii
39	DIRECTOR HEALTH	Siaya
40	DIRECTOR COOPERSATIVES	Kisumu
41	DIRECTOR COOPERSATIVES	Kisii
42	CECM	Kericho
43	CCC	Kericho
44	CECM	Siaya
45	DIRECTOR ENVIROMENT	Trans Nzoia
46	DIRECTOR COOPERATIVES	Trans Nzoia
47	DIRECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Kisii
48	EDUCATION	Siaya
49	CCC	Nyamira
50	DIRECTOR HEALTH	Kisumu
51	CLIMATE CHANGE DIRECTOR	Bomet
52	DIRECTOR ENVIROMENT	Bungoma
53	DIRECTOR COOPERATIVES	Bungoma
54	DIRECTOR COOPERATIVES	Kakamega
55	INTERN	Kisumu
56	INTERN	Kisumu
57	SENIOR ADMIN	Siaya
58	CECM	Siaya
59	CECM	Trans Nzoia

Stakeholder Consultation – April 2022

Overview

This section summarises the discussions from community consultative meetings held across eight Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB) counties namely Bungoma, Kakamega, Kericho, Kisii, Kisumu, Migori, Nyamira and Siaya between the 16th and 21st May 2022. The consultation covered seven value chains namely banana, dairy, coffee, tea, indigenous vegetables, indigenous chicken and forests.

Consultations were largely in form of group discussions guided by a set of questions and were held either on farm, at a community facility or offices especially for cooperatives. This was aimed at causing the least interruption to respondents' activities. In total, we talked to ninety-five (95) respondents consisting of individual farmers; representatives of community-based organizations (CBOs) and cooperatives. In terms of gender, fifty-five (57) were males while thirty-eight (38) were females. Majority of the respondents were on dairy, coffee, tea and bananas. The survey team also visited three coffee factories owned by primary cooperatives in Kisii and Nyamira.

Key production challenges identified include:

- Changing climate in terms of increasing temperatures, changing rainfall patterns and extreme events like hailstones are a major challenge to farmers and cooperatives across the bloc. Extreme climate events like hailstones in tea, banana and avocado growing zones has been

found to cause a lot of damage to the leaves or fruits resulting into huge economic losses to the farmers.

- Pest and diseases together with poor diagnosis and late response is placing additional stress on crops and livestock. Most of the diseases and pests tend to be more widespread and damaging during the dry spells or drought periods.
- Extension services remain generally weak or non-existent limiting the adoption of improved or climate smart agricultural practices.
- Limited access to climate information services (CIS). Only a few farmers and institutions receive CIS to help in planning their farm operations.
- Cost of farming inputs and equipment remain largely expensive and unaffordable to small holder farmers. Dairy and chicken feeds, fertilisers are not being used as recommended due to the high costs.
- High energy costs for those involved in processing and value addition.
- Market flux and associated low commodity prices is limiting profitability of agricultural enterprises.
- Poor waste management practices were also observed in factories and farms alike. This has the effect of degrading the ecosystem further and spreading pests and diseases.

Suggestions for improvement

- Adopt/promote value addition along the value chains to increase returns on agricultural investments and minimize losses or wastages.
- Strengthen extension services for improved awareness and adoption of improved farming methods and technologies including climate smart practices; use of certified seeds.
- Promote use of access and use of CIS including indigenous forecasts for better climate risk management.
- Improve access to affordable loans to enable farmers access the necessary farming inputs and tools.

Meeting Transcripts

Small scale dairy farmers

Subcounty: Suna West **Date:** 16th May 2022

Both farmers practice mixed farming that includes livestock (dairy), crops and chicken. They grow livestock feeds such as Napier grass, Bracharia etc.

Major production challenges

The major production challenges faced by small scale dairy farmers in the area include:

- Unreliable rainfall where farmers cut fodder in anticipation of rainfall so that they may sprout but this never actualizes due to failed rains.
- Maintaining animals during the dry season when fodder and water are scarce. Feeding constitute close to 70% of the cost of production and this puts a lot of strain on the farmers.
- Poor quality seeds of fodder translate to low germination rates.
- Poor milk prices as they compete with milk coming from extensive livestock keepers such as the Maasai.
- Artificial Insemination (AI) providers not prompt hence do not serve farmers in time.
- Livestock diseases such as East Coast Fever that contribute to loss of animals. Vaccines remain quite expensive for individual farmers (circa KES 20K) hence majority don't vaccinate in time.
- There is not organized cooperative that can support value addition at the moment.
- Low number of extension staff to support farmers on modern production methods.

Addressing the challenges

- Need for capital/finance to make business sustainable. This will enable farmers access some of the needed inputs.
- Training of farmers on the feed type and formulation of silage.
- Extension services – they need to walk around every month to observe what is happening and advise farmers accordingly.
- Addressing low productivity and profitability calls for improving fodder production and value addition. Farmers need to grow and store fodder for the dry seasons which are becoming more common.

Kalagwena Banana Group

Subcounty: Suna East **Ward:** Kwa **Date:** 16th May 2022

The group mainly focus on growing bananas for both domestic consumption and market. Sales of bananas has enabled many group members to meet their household needs and pay for children's school fee.

Major challenges

- Market flux – prices often go down when there is oversupply of bananas in the surrounding markets. They have tried accessing other markets but transport costs remain prohibitive. Being dependent on agents means they can only get so much from their produce.
- Pests and diseases some of which they are not familiar with kills banana plants. The diseases are more common during the season. Some varieties are disappearing from the area partly due to the diseases and pests that attacks them.
- The climate has become very unreliable- beginning and end of seasons keep on changing.
- Falling bananas from big rains. This is partly contributed by the deep soils and affect many farmers making getting propping trees a problem.
- Extension is generally weak in the area. Farmers are therefore not clear on the type of fertilisers and quantities to use. Some are using manure which promotes nematodes.
- Limited access to improved varieties that can tolerate the common diseases and nematodes.
- Some farmers have small land sizes meaning that they can only grow so much.

Improving banana production

Some of the suggestions to improve banana production include:

- Promotion of sustainable agricultural practices with support of government officials/extension staff.
- Promote the use of clean seeds and not diseased/infected ones from the farm.
- Improving access to markets – they need to find ways of reaching non-traditional markets.
- Access to affordable loans and services. This would enable farmers for example to access and use the right type and quantity of fertilizers.

Makiti Self-help group

Sub-county: Suna East **Date:** 16th May 2022

The group is involved in a number of activities including indigenous chicken farming, agroforestry and seed collection. They plant fruit trees and also bamboo along the rivers and roads. As far as indigenous chicken is concerned, the group of about 30 households came together for marketing purposes. Even though indigenous chicken is in high demand, they are faced with numerous challenges:

- Diseases especially during the dry season that see farmers loose most of their chicken. Very cold weather also affects the birds negatively.
- Chicken feed remains expensive and unaffordable to most farmers.
- Wild animals and birds of prey – as this is a free system, farmers often lose their birds to wild animals and birds of prey.
- Limited extension services to enable farmers deal with diseases in good time.

Addressing the challenges

- There is need for capacity building on modern ways of managing indigenous chicken.
- Need for improved access to extension and veterinary services for timely diagnosis and treatment of birds.
- Access to affordable loans for purchase of the necessary input.

Gusii Cooperative society

Value Chain: Coffee **Date:** 17.5.22

Formed in 1950 and formerly known as Kisii Cooperative Society until 2010 when it was renamed Gusii Cooperative to align with the new constitutional dispensation that created both Kisii and Nyamira counties. It has 28 primary cooperative societies and bring in economies of scale in terms marketing, provision of inputs and extension services.

Registered members are approximately 100,000 farmers with over 500,000 dependants. Active members are approximately 60,000 from 24 active primary cooperatives. These are served by 9 extension officers though ideally should be 1 extension officer per primary cooperative. Government extension services covers banana, maize and avocado value chains.

Major activities

- Coffee milling for primary cooperatives. Production was at its peak at 145 Metric Tons/Yr. This has significantly reduced to 45Metric tons a year
- Centralized book keeping system for all primary cooperatives
- Transport from primary cooperatives/factories for milling and then marketing
- Extension services to members in collaboration with Tropical Farm Management, Agrittera and Wi- effect (Swiss Cooperative Development Centre on areas of nursery management and supply of seedlings.
- Income generating activities to cushion the cooperative include tea farm of around 140Ha and real estate.

Challenges

May be looked at 3 levels namely farm, factory and milling/secondary levels.

Farm level

- Most farmers are not doing coffee as a business hence it is planted along the hedges. This makes it difficult for them to adopt sustainable standards in coffee growing eg avoiding chemicals. Average coffee tree can produce 2Kg cherries per season though the maximum potential is 20Kg. Farmers adopting improved crop husbandry can increase their production from the current 1-3 kg to cushion them against price fluctuations.
 - Use of fertilizers can help improve on the production but it remains expensive for most farmers at the moment.
- Canopy management practices remains poor. It needs to be done in such a way that it ensures a crop in the next season
- Procurement of farm inputs (e.g. certified seedlings, fertilizers and farm tools for pruning) remain expensive.
- Coffee hawking where farmers sell to other buyers hence not delivering the cherries to their primary cooperative. This is partly caused by inefficiency on the part of factories. The infrastructure at factory level is quite old and often not in good working condition.
- Delayed payments makes farmers shift to other crops like tea where they receive payments regularly.
- Lack of extension services where farmers are not fully equipped with modern farming methods. Production therefore remains sub-optimal. Mobility of extension officers is also limited.
- There is lack of succession plans as far as land and coffee in the catchment area is concerned. This explains why very few youths are active in coffee farming. Sensitization of the youth on the benefits of growing coffee has seen youth starting to adopt coffee farming.

Factory level

- Poor infrastructure such as outdated pulping machines affect the quality of coffee beans. Additionally, most storage facilities are not to the required standards. There is need to train factory workers on handling of coffee as it is sensitive during fermentation and drying.
- Most factories still use diesel as source of energy for processing. This leads to pollution and also remains costly with the high oil prices.
- Waste management as most factories do not have proper system for handling wastes such as coffee pulps. Effluents are channeled to rivers flowing within the factories hence polluting such waters especially where seepage tanks are not working properly.
- Efforts are being made towards certification with the Rainforest Alliance to help in addressing some of these challenges and promote sustainable production practices. Many customers are interested in certification by RA with 16 factories having started the process. Certification remains quite expensive though (KES 10M).
- Huge loans mostly to cater for farm inputs, spraying programmes and Sacco infrastructure

Milling/Secondary level

- Waste management is one of the biggest challenges with a lot of husks produced during milling. There is potential to recycle these in terms of doing briquettes, using husks to heat boilers and as manure in farms. We-effect supported the cooperative to install a briquette making machine but the drying component was not purchased hence not producing quality briquettes that can be sold.
- Quality of coffee when not good fetch poor prices in the international market. Farmers are being trained to get quality coffee as a way of addressing this. This is done through sensitizing them on the need to plant certified seeds to avoid pests and diseases, how to prune the trees and only pick the ripe berries. Unripe berries usually have the smell of an onion.
- Coffee consumption remains quite low in Kenya. The cooperative is working to improve demand locally.
- Competition from other millers. Four out of the 28 factories are taking their coffee to other millers. Coffee hawking also reduces the volume of coffee delivered to the miller.
- Power bills remain quite high. The cooperative is looking at alternative ways of reducing power bills.

Market level

- Less than 10% of Kenyans consume coffee. The cooperative is currently doing value addition in form of roasting and packaging for the local market at affordable price of 1KES/gm. They are looking for machine to produce sachets that can be readily sold in the local market.
- Policy reforms in marketing has not been favourable in the recent past with limited support provided to coffee farmers.

Climate Change/environmental related issues

Changing rainfall patterns which affecting the crops including critical stages like flowering. In 2019/2020, they only received a third of the yields they normally receive as the trees didn't flower.

Through extensions services, the cooperative is supporting farmers to adopt climate smart agriculture approaches e.g. selection of trees and varieties to grow.

Nyamira North Women SACCO

County: Nyamira **Date:** 17.5.22 **Time:** 2PM; **Value Chain:** Indigenous vegetables

Started in 2014 with 30 members who were largely growing vegetables coming together to participate in table banking for economic empowerment. This has since grown to 1604 members currently. As at 2019, a few of the members got involved in a livelihood project supported by FAO focused on growing a number of indigenous vegetables including Spider plant (saga); Amaranth. There is interest in mushrooms which a few have started on a pilot basis.

Approach adopted entails 3 elements:

- Development and transfer of business and technical skills
- Enhancing resources for production
- Increasing access to markets

In order to achieve these, extension services target peer advisors which are mostly group leaders who once trained also provide weekly training at group level. Items covered during such meetings include:

Challenges experienced by members

- Improved agronomic practices e.g. on mushrooms
- Support to farmers to access inputs from/through reliable input suppliers
- Contract with Mace Foods which help with aggregation and marketing.

Benefits of being a member

- Improved food and nutritional security for households. Peak harvests occurs in the months of February, July and November.
- Diversifying into indigenous vegetable growing has resulted into steady income every three months as opposed to other crops like coffee with which it takes longer (circa 6 months) to get paid.
- Commercialization of growing of indigenous vegetables with farmers now doing it as a business. Being organized in a group means there is a larger market to tap into that also limits what goes to waste.
- Capacity building on improved/sustainable agricultural practices for example use of manures rather than inorganic fertilizers

Challenges experienced

- Availability/access to inputs such as quality seeds remains a big challenge. Sometimes seeds planted doesn't germinate. The group is trying to aggregate and seed bulking as a way of addressing this. Quality of inputs is also a challenge- technology involved remains expensive and the high soil acidity is also a problem as vegetables such as saga need fertile soils.
- Limited access to land especially by women. Much of the land is owned by men who have put these under cash crops like tea and coffee. Women are only being given very small portions to try out indigenous vegetables. The good returns from the pilot is however allowing some members to increase area under vegetables.
- Agronomic practices as in the case of Spider plant that requires farmers to follow technical specifications in order to get better harvests. Poor agronomic practices may partly explain the low yields and subsequently low rate of adoption.
- There is an increased case of pests due to poor application of pesticides. Plant diseases are also a problem which has seen plants dry up.
- Rainfall patterns are changing- it used to start in February with peak in April but this is no longer the case. Sometimes it starts and peaks late thereby affecting planning and farm operations.
- Hailstones which are becoming common damages the vegetables. Other environmental related challenges include crops being washed away in sloppy areas and yellowing whenever it rains heavily. Less rain also means that plants flower while still very small. Cold spells often translate to less weight.

- Transport to markets is a big challenge especially where volumes are lower. The aggregators/marketers only come for it if it is more 500 kgs.

What can be done to address these challenges

- Enhance water harvesting to ensure they continue producing even during the dry seasons/spells.
- Improve access to good quality seeds. They will be working with KALRO to train farmers on seed bulking so that they are to produce seeds locally
- Encourage adoption/use of modern technologies e.g. nets to guard against hailstones; double digging to break hard pans and enhance water infiltration.
- More extension services are needed to train farmers on improved agronomic practices; CSA among others. Capacity building on improved agronomic practices e.g. management of compost manure; water harvesting, regenerative agriculture (compost, mulching) as buyers do not tolerate pesticide residues and other modern technologies; harvesting and post-harvest handling and storage which affects aggregation. An aggregation center has been developed but cold storage facility still needed though.
- Have collection centres and cold storage facility nearby to ease the burden on farmers. Need to establish aggregation centres at ward level as opposed to the current situation where it is only present at the sub-county level.
- Mushroom project uses firewood for drying at the moment. Future plan is to use solar drier.
- Addressing soil fertility challenge may entail moving towards use of biomass which is abundant in the area. However, the technology remains expensive. Technologies like vermiposting would work.
- Increase access to land and areas under indigenous vegetables to address the issue of small volumes that are not attractive to aggregators.
- In conclusion, it is worth noting that indigenous vegetables are largely grown by women and come with a number of benefits including increased food and nutritional security; diversification of income sources and conservation of biodiversity. There is a huge market in urban areas and some vegetables like Spiderplant are unique to Kenya hence no competition in market.

Individual avocado and coffee farmers

County: Nyamira **Date:** 17.5.2022

Have approximately 450 avocado trees and growing for the export market which she accesses through other aggregators largely from Nairobi. The area generally receives good rainfall and has a cool climate hence suitable for growing avocados. The farmer practice mulching with banana leaves and drip irrigation for your avocado trees to deal with water stress which is not very common.

Major challenges include:

- Marketing as many small-scale farmers around have fewer trees hence not attractive to buyers from distant places like Nairobi.
- Hailstones often destroy avocado fruits.
- The farmer is keen on pulling neighbours together to be part of a group through which they can access extension services and any other support to improve on production.

Coffee farmer. Nyamira County: Date: 18.5.2022

He is a member of local cooperative society and benefits from training offered. Recent developments in coffee in terms of improved prices has re-awakened their interest in coffee farming. Farmers are able to meet their needs from coffee farming and women are increasingly getting involved in the coffee value chain. However, they are still faced with some challenges including:

- High cost of fertilizers
- Diseases
- Delays in payment which impact on their ability to pay workers
- Changing climate due to the fact that too much or too little rainfall negatively affects coffee crops.

Chemorir Vision Youth Group

County: Kericho **Subcounty:** Ainamoi **Value Chain:** Dairy **Date** 18.5.2022

Group was formed in 2014 to empower members. It started as a merry go round and later registered as a cooperative. It has 20 active members as at today but with a vision to recruit more members from the neighborhood. Majority are dairy farmers with members also involved in selling dairy feeds; leasing of tents and seats to raise income which is later paid to members in form of dividends.

Benefits to members

- Income generating activities including leasing of tents and chairs,
- Formulation and selling of dairy feeds. Currently they can do up to 200Kg/day using a mixture they got from KCSAP project. Members often buy these at subsidized rate of KES 35/Kg compared to normal price of KES 40/kg.

Challenges

- Increased cost of feeds impacting the farmers negatively. These are largely ingredients that they cant source locally hence have to import from Uganda. Examples include sunflower, cotton seedcake etc.
- Prices of milk have generally stayed low at approximately KES 40/L. At times, farmers who practice zero grazing who milk 3 times a day have nowhere to take the milk.
- Cost of transport remains a challenge. The group only have a collection point with a capacity of 1200 litres and not cooling plant. Many used to hawk milk before this intervention support through KCSAP.
- Diseases especially mastitis is common during certain seasons. Army worms also seem to attach crops during the extended dry periods. Other climate related challenge includes increasingly unpredictable rainfall.

Suggestions for improvements

- Possibility of locally producing raw materials for making feeds could help reducing their cost of production.
- There is need for technical support on modern production methods and technologies (including breeds) to improve productivity considering most households have small land sizes.
- Need to consider investing in value addition. This can help the farms package and produce other products like yoghurt, ghee etc.
- Extension services currently support famers in the areas of artificial insemination, trainings on livestock husbandry and animal health.

Fintea Cooperative society

Date: 18.5.2022

The union was originally formed in 2012 to serve a number of objectives:

- Marketing of farmers produce
- Certification of primary cooperatives
- To pursue key strategic partnerships including with county government and development partners in areas such as establishment of nurseries and tree planting.

The union consists of 5 primary cooperatives in Kericho and Bomet counties with a membership of 14,900 members. The formation of the union was facilitated by a consortium of six partners. It focusses on marketing farmers produce and improving livelihoods. It has a fully operational sacco founded in 2014 with over 5000 members and turn over of KES 5-10M/Yr. Interest rates charged on loans is 12% on a reducing balance.

Climate Change issues

- This is being experienced in form of changing rainfall patterns for example rains peaking in May this year and not April as usual.
- Experienced dry spells in the recent past and dry conditions seems to be extending in coverage. Normally, the wetter zone extends to a 50KM radius around Kericho town but this seems to be shrinking with time. Additionally, they experience very dry conditions every five years. Dry conditions translate to dry tea bushes and low quality of tea leaves.
- Temperature increase affects tea production more so if it surpasses the 25°C which is the long-term maximum for the area.
- Very windy conditions are also being experienced. This makes trees not to shoot properly hence poor-quality tea with low level of caffeine.
- Hailstones is also a frequent occurrence destroying tea leaves. Farmers are often advised to pick their tea if ready to avoid incurring losses.
- Fluctuation in farm gate prices calls for diversification of income sources but the zone is highly population with limited area for expansion. Farmers are being encouraged to grow avocado trees, local vegetables and keep poultry that can co-exists with tea bushes. The union is considering registering Finfresh to market these alternative products.

To address this, the union partnered with Kenya Meteorological Department to train farmers on climate alerts. Lead farmers are sent alerts from KMD which they share with the rest of group members/farmers. The types of Climate information or alerts received include those on hailstones, frosts, flooding and dry-spells.

Measures to address challenges

- Promotion of water harvesting for use during the dry spells
- Promoting sustainable tea production (i.e. use of organic manure, agroforestry, controlling soil erosion, increasing forest cover and reducing use of pesticides).
- The union is working towards doing processing in the near future. James Finlay K Ltd currently process and market their tea which ranges between 20-25 M Kg of tea/yr down from 35M Kg/yr previously. The drop-in production may be attributed to climate change and changes in membership.
- They are promoting the switch to recent clones which have been certified and found suitable for the current climate. Certification can also contribute to getting premium prices in the market. The Rainforest Alliance is currently doing a new standard for certifying all farmers. Also trying to harmonize with Fairtrade as they deal with the same constituency.

- It is worth noting that smallholder farmers control over 60% of the tea market with the remaining 40% controlled by privately owned companies and multinationals.
- Tree planting- The cooperative supports 2 to 3 thousand farmers in agroforestry annually.

Priority Issues for Fintea

- System for provision of Climate Information Services (CIS) exists but remains very weak. Currently they mostly receive seasonal and weekly alerts.
- Diversification of farming practices/income sources which is largely done by women.
- Insurance companies have been trying to sell agricultural insurance products but this is not yet taken up due to lack of clarity on a number of areas.

Onenonam Development Initiative (ONDI)

County: Kisumu **subcounty:** Muhoroni **Date:** 18.5.2022

Onenonam Development Initiative (ONDI) is a community based organization that draws its membership from Tamu Location of Muhoroni subcounty, Kisumu County. It was registered in 2021 and currently has a membership of 50. Average land holding is 2.5 to 3 Ha/households. Many farmers previously grew sugarcane but which they have since dropped due to the many problems including poor pay associated with the value chain. Alternative value chains being promoted by the group include avocado and dairy.

Focus of the group is to improve income and food security for households through agroforestry, participation in carbon sequestration projects including planting of bamboos along water ways and investing in diverse value chains such as avocado and dairy. Consumption of milk remains low due to scarcity and expensive in puts in the dairy value chain.

Environmental degradation and Climate change

- They used to plant maize three-times a year which is no longer possible due to the changing rainfall patterns. In 1960, they used to produce 40bags of 90Kg/Ha
- The area is getting warmer and streams drying up.
- There is high rate of soil erosion and declining soil fertility partly due to clearing of forests and unsustainable farming practices.
- No useful climate information currently reach the farmers.

What can be done to address the challenges

- Rehabilitation of degraded areas using the right seedlings (e.g. planting bamboo along waterways)
- Diversification of agricultural activities e.g. from sugarcane and maize into dairy and fruit trees such as avocado, mangoes etc. Main source of fodder is expected to be sugarcane tops. This will be supplemented by Bracharia (grown by a few farmers at the moment) and molasses which is abundant in the nearby sugar factories.
- As far as dairy is concerned, the area already has a cooling plant which is underutilized at the moment. Another cooling plant is also planned for Chemelil market which is a few kilometres away.
- Training and capacity building: needed in areas such as overall animal husbandry, using sugar tops, making of hay and value addition.
- Extension services is currently not reaching farmers. Strengthening this will benefit the farmers through improved farm management practices including soil and water conservation; disease and pest surveillance etc.
- Improve access and use of climate information in planning farming activities. This can be achieved through provision of localized (downscaled) forecasts and advisories.

Kwishero Dairy Farmers Cooperative Society

County: Kakamega; **sub-county:** Kwishero Ward: Khisa Centre Date: **20.5.2022**

Founded in 2005 by 31 members. Current membership is 1321 members including inactive members. There are 100 active suppliers bringing an average of 4litres/day from average production of 6litres per cow. The difference is either consumed at home or sold elsewhere. They had a peak of 150 members in 2017. The asset base is 15M while share capital stands at 1M shillings. Turn over in 2017(KES 10M); 2018(KES7M); and in 2020 during covid KES 3M). Kwishero is a milk deficit area.

Key activities of the cooperative is to receive milk, bulk, pasteurize, cool and sell on behalf of the farmers.

It also provides minimal support services including agrovet services through check off system; link to artificial insemination and animal health; capacity building through linkage to partners and NGOs.

Current capacity of the dairy in 2 coolers (2500 and 300 litres) totaling to 2800litres. Its however only operating at 10% capacity yet within Kwishero sub-county, it is the only coolant. The coop has satellite coolers in other areas within their catchment.

Most farmers have 2 animals with approximately 70% being improved breeds. Average land holding is between 0.5 -1 ha/HH. Women constitute 45% of the membership while men account for 55%. Overall, youth account for 3% of the membership. Dairy support framing through provision of manure used in Kitchen gardens and farms growing maize, bananas and vegetables.

Most of their buyers/consumers are schools and government institutions

Challenges

- Loss of milk due to spoilage which has worked to dampen farmers interests in milk production.
- Transportation costs remains high for farmers as the coop only has one collection route.
- Low volume of production means that they cant link up with big processors like KCC which requires a minimum of 1000 litres/day. Additionally, KCC prices are generally low (KES23/L compared to KES45/L that they are currently paying farmers). This is because KCC prices are fixed with the Dairy board. Farmers need to be supported to produce a minimum of 8 litres per cow/day to allow them break even.
- Low yields of milk can be attributed to a number of factors for example the breeds kept which are not the most productive; AI not the best quality; feeding of animals where fodder is not sufficient in most cases during the year.
- Changing rainfall patterns is affecting farming activities in the area. The rains have become highly variable hence difficult to tell beginning of a season etc. Last year and this year have been particularly dry.
- They experience very hot and cold weather nowadays which affect fodder and milk production. This is why there is need to train farmers on fodder production and storage for future use. During severe drought, farmers depend on sugarcane tops from Mumias and hay from Bukura for example as these are the only alternatives to survive.
- Power bills remain very high at 250-300K/yr.

Addressing the challenges

- There is need to promote new technologies to produce and store for use during the dry seasons of the year. It is worth noting that uptake of new technologies takes time hence need for sustained sensitization and awareness creation. This will enable farmers to produce optimally.
- Need for value addition to bring in more money to farmers. The cooperative is looking forward to start value addition which will allow them to package, market and sell elsewhere. Currently they

have cooling but not packaging. But they will need double the amounts say 2000liters/day to do this. Currently they are doing 500-600litres/day during peak.

- They currently work with the county extension e.g. to support training and other capacity building activities including during the general meetings, special and any other meetings on average 3 times a year. This is normally based on request as there very few extension officers.
- They also work with other development partners eg GFA through GIZ funding on good husbandry practices (2018-2022) running in Kakamega, Bungoma and Siaya.
- Capacity development need to be accompanied with financial resources to implement some of the proposed interventions along the value chain eg fodder production to storage.
- One- acre fund has been providing climate information services to farmers especially around beginning of seasons, when to plant etc through phone. They are interested in the major crop maize on whom they train and give inputs on credit.
- Adoption of renewable energy for cooling and heating.

Areas the project can support

- Updating the business plan and see what options to carry forward
- Capacity building and investment in fodder production and storage
- Value addition by the cooperative

Cheptais Community Forest Association

County: Bungoma **Subcounty:** Cheptais **Date** 21st May 2022

Started in 2008 and later registered with the Attorney general in 2009. It is composed of 50 Forest User Groups with over 3000 members (with approximately 1700 females many of them widows -circa 700 following the 2007 skirmishes) spread over Cheptais and Kopsiro sub-counties. The youth constitute close to 50% of the membership. It has a participatory forest management plan which was done in 2018 with support of CIFOR.

Forests User rights

- Tree nursery establishment including seedling production and management
- Tree planting and management
- Bee keeping
- Grazing -livestock rearing/fodder extraction
- Fuelwood/firewood collection
- Eco-tourism
- Nature based enterprises
- Herbal medicine
- Water abstraction
- Scientific/education research
- Agri-business/agro-forestry

Currently working with IBER -Africa, an energy company under their CSR. The CFA will benefit from 50,000 seedlings (40,000 Indigenous and 10,000 bamboo to be planted along water ways). These will be planted on 50Ha. Under FFS programme, they were trained on leadership management, register update, record keeping and financial management.

Mt Elgon Forest covers 25, 740Ha distributed as follows: 15550 Ha under indigenous Forests: Bushland 980; Grassland 510. Total degraded area is 4000Ha through illegal cultivation etc.

On-going initiatives and challenges

- Several tree nurseries (24). This is however faced with challenges for example most farmers don't have enough skills, some have no land, inadequate water due to lack of storage tanks; seeds collected locally with good proportion failing to germinate.
- Bee keeping. Still small scale as only 12 groups are involved and using local beehives. They lack quality skills to produce optimally.
- Ecotourism. Even though they have beautiful caves, big trees, view points etc., they lack funds to exploit the same.

Climate related challenges

- It used to rain a lot but now changed to being unreliable. Heavy rainfall often leads to flooding and other natural disasters.
- Pests and diseases destroying crops
- Volume and quality of water from the forest is also going down due to a lot erosion upstream especially in farmlands neighbouring the forests.
- Limited access to climate information.
- The Kopsiro side of the forest have Indigenous Peoples -the Ogiek

Addressing the challenges

- There is room to improve efficiency of cookstoves. Opportunity exists to improve efficiency of cookstoves as a way of controlling demand of wood products

- Restoration of degraded areas through nursery establishment for adequate seedlings and tree planting in farms. The CFA sells seedlings primary to farmers, county government and other institutions. Some of the indigenous trees raised include Elgon teak, Croton etc.
- There is interest in Fruit trees such as avocado and macadamia being pursued but seeds are inadequate. Banana is also grown in small scale.
- There are 7 dairy groups with consisting of between 70 and 270 members each. Majority have local breeds producing 2Lts/day. They sell individually and no AI services are provided/modern technology lacking.
- Vegetables – cabbages, Sukuma wiki, managu. They mostly sell in the local market.
- Most farmers don't have marketing skills/exposure
- Extension information is only available from the Forest department

Partners

FAO- FFS park

CIFOR- ended 2019

IBER -Africa

VI – only conducted user group training then exited

List of participants

CountyBUNGOMA..... Subcounty...CHEPTAIS..... Ward
.....

Group NameCHEPTAIS CFA.....Value
chain.....FOREST..... Date21ST May 2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
F	>	CHAIRPERSON
M	>	COORDINATOR
F	>	VICE SECRETARY
M	>	SUBCOUNTY FOREST DIRECTOR

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

CountyKERICHO..... Subcounty.....AINAMOI..... Ward
.....AINAMOI.....

Group NameCHEMORIR VISION..... Value
chain.....DAIRY..... Date18th May 2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
M	35	
M	63	
M	36	
F	29	
M	40	
M		
F	64	
F	44	
M	38	
M	42	

CountyKERICHO..... Subcounty..... Ward
.....

Group NameFINTEA COOPERATIVE UNION.....Value
chain.....TEA..... Date19th May 2022.....

Gen der (M/F)	Age <35 >	Designation
M	>	Finance and Administration Manager
M	>	Field Officer

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

CountyKISII..... Subcounty..... Ward
.....

Group NameGusii Cooperative Union.....Value
chain.....COFFEE..... Date17th May 2022....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
M	<	HR
M		Production Manager
M	<	Senior Field Officer Tropical
M	>	Field Extension Manager
M	<	Project Manager
F	<	Finance
M	>	D/Finance Manager
F	<	
M	>	

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

CountyKISUMU..... Sub
county.....MUHORONI..... WardTAMU/CHEMELIL.....

Group NameONENO-NAM DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVEValue
chain..... Date19/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
M	Adult	CHAIRMAN ONDI CBO
M	>	MEMBER
M	>	MEMBER
M	>	MEMBER
M	<	MEMEBER
M	>35	Technical advisor
M	>35	Treasurer
F	>35	MEMBER
M	<35>	MEMBER
M		MEMBER
M		MEMBER
M	50	MEMBER
M	28<	MEMBER
M	80	MEMEBR
F	46	MEMBER
F	36	MEMBER
F	39	MEMBER
F	65	MEMBER
F	45	MEMBER
F	38	MEMBER
M	59	MEMEBER
F	47	MEMEBER
F	67	MEMBER
F	23	MEMBER
F	34	MEMBER
F	60	MEMBER
M	33	MEMEBER
M	31	MEMBER
M	32	MEMBER
M	34	MEMEBER
M	35	MEMBER
M	53	MEMBER
M	50	MEMBER
M	22	MEMBER

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

County**MIGORI**..... Subcounty.....**SUNA EAST**..... Ward**GOD JOPE**.....

Group Name ...**MAKITI SELF HELP GROUP** Value chain... **INDIGENOUS CHICKEN**..... Date16/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
M	>	
F	>	
M	>	
M	<	
M	<	
M	<	
F	<	
F		

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

County**MIGORI**..... Subcounty.....**SUNAEAST**..... Ward**KWA**.....

Group Name ...**KALAGWENA BANANA GROUP** Value chain.....**BANANA**..... Date16/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
M	49	FARMER
M	67	FARMER
F	54	FARMER
F		FARMER
F		FARMER
		FARMER
F		FARMER

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

County**MIGORI**..... Subcounty.....SUNA WEST..... Ward
.....**WASWETA II**.....

Group Name ...INDIVIDUAL DAIRY FARMERS.....Value chain.....**DAIRY**.....
Date16/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
F		FARMER
M		FARMER

Community consultation on climate change and agricultural value chains

County**NYAMIRA**..... Sub county.....**NYAMIRA NORTH** Ward
.....**EKERENYO**.....

Group Name**Nyamira North Women Sacco Group**.....Value chain.....**African
Indigenous Vegetable** Date17/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
F	<35	Finance officer NNWS
M	>35	Project officer NNWS
M	>50	Bokerara
F	>59	Ngong
F	34	Omony
F	36	Riambocho W.G
F	52	Geticha W.G
F	46	Nyabichuki W.G
F	36	Tumaini's W.G
F	50	Kanyekea W.G
F	58	Nyabigena
F	50	Mwancha
F	<35	Executive Director NNWS
F	28	KENYEKEA
M	25	NNWS
F	22	NNWS
M	>	FAO-K

County**NYAMIRA**..... Sub county..... Ward

Group Name**Individual farmers** Value chain.....**Avocado & Coffee** Date
.....17/05/2022.....

Gender (M/F)	Age <35>	Designation
F	>	Large scale avocado grower
M	<	Farm manager - avocado
M	>	Coffee farmer

List of people met during feasibility assessment

Ministry of Industry, Trade and Co-operatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Secretary, State Department for Co-operatives; Ministry of Industry, Trade and Co-operatives.
Ministry of Environment and Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director Climate Change Directorate. Climate Change Officer, Climate Change Directorate.
European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Council of Governors secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director Legal Services Programme officer, Agriculture Programme Officer, Tourism and Natural Resources Management
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Coordinator, State Department for Crops and Agricultural Research. Programme officer, State Department for Crops and Agricultural Research.
FAO consultative meeting with development partners at the UN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO Embassy of Denmark Embassy of Finland Netherlands Embassy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO Representative to Kenya Ass. FAO Representative in charge of Programmes Programme manager, Climate Change
Cooperative Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead- Agribusiness Department
CoG Committee on Environment and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor of Vihiga and CoG Chair on Environment and Climate Change
Stakeholder consultation with NDA, County Executive Committee Members, County Directors of Agriculture, Cooperatives and Climate change focal points and Universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDA, The National Treasury CEO, LREB See full list of participants annexed below
Kipkelion District Cooperative Union(KDCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance manager SDGP project Coordinator
KCB Bank (Virtual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SME/Agribusiness Lead GCF Contact person Agribusiness development] Agribusiness Relationship Manager

Consultation May 2023

Purpose

1. Participate in stakeholder consultations at the national and county levels to finalize the Funding Proposal of the FAO-led GCF project for Kenya.
2. Support in discussion with potential co-financiers
3. Provide guidance on the implementation and co-financing arrangements in alignment with the GCF requirements

List of Major Meetings/Events:

15 May 2023

1. Meeting with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
2. Meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Crops Development, Climate Change Focal Point
3. Meeting with the Ministry of Cooperative and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development

16 May 2023

1. Meeting with the National Treasury and Planning (the National Designated Authority to the GCF)
2. Meeting with the Royal Danish Embassy
3. Meeting with the Equity Bank
4. Meeting with the Co-operative Bank

17 May 2023

1. Meeting with the Lake Region Economic Bloc and county governments
2. Meeting with the Vihiga County

18 May 2023

1. Field visit

Persons met:

15 May 2023

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

1. Deputy Head of Trade and Department
2. First Secretary Food Security and Water

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

1. Climate Change Focal Point

Ministry of Cooperative and MSME Development

1. (Principal Secretary

16 May 2023

National Treasury and Planning (the National Designated Authority to the GCF)

1. NDA/ inancing Locally-Led Climate Action Program Program Implementation Unit, Program Coordinator

Royal Danish Embassy

1. Deputy Head of Mission, Kenya
2. Sector Advisor
3. (Programme Officer

Equity Bank

1. Associate Director
2. Relationship Manager – SACCO Banking
3. GM, Food and Agriculture
4. Officer

Co-operative Bank

1. Business Development Manager, Agricultural Co-operatives Department
2. Agriculture Value Chain Manager, Agricultural Co-operatives Department
3. Relationship Manager, Agricultural Co-operatives Department

17 May 2023

Meeting with the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB) and county governments

1. CEO, LREB
2. Pillar lead – Water, Environment & Climate Change, LREB
3. CEC Member, County Government of Bomet
4. The representative from the County Government of Busia
5. The representative from the County Government of Siaya
6. Protocol Department, LREB
7. Secretariats of LREB

Meeting with the Vihiga County

1. Deputy Governor
2. Economic Advisor
3. Director, Environment and Climate Change
4. Chief Officer, Planning Department
5. Director, GIS Department

17 May 2023

Field visit

1. Cooperative Advisor, Agriterria
2. 10 members of the cooperative
3. Mau tea cooperative

Concrete Deliverables/ results:

1. Key national stakeholders (national & county governments, bilateral donors, the financial institutions) were consulted through interactive bilateral discussions. Overall, it was confirmed that there are strong interests and supports from different stakeholders on the proposed project and willingness to collaborate.
2. The private banks (Equity Bank and Co-operative bank) have expressed their continuous interest to collaborate with the project by potentially providing loan financing (USD 10 million in total).

Consultative Meeting with the Indigenous Peoples

Purpose:

To provide opportunities to share the project design with the indigenous peoples and get their feedback and insights into their culture, values and traditional knowledge, which can enhance project relevance and sensitivity

To allow indigenous communities to express their concerns, needs and expectations regarding the project

To identify potential conflicts and facilitate solutions before they escalate

List of major meetings (November 2023)

- 1) A consultative meeting with Ogiek Peoples' Development Program (OPDP) and Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization,
- 2) A virtual consultation was held with seven representatives from Indigenous Peoples

Persons met

- 1) 114 people from communities in the LREB and representatives from the Ogiek Peoples' Development Program (OPDP) and Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization including elders, women and youth.
- 2) 7 virtual participants of the second consultative meeting which include women and youth participants. Please see the below list of participants.

Samburu Women Trust
CLAN KENYA
Nyanza LSNSA
Rift Valley LSNSA
Ogiek Peoples' Development Program (OPDP)
ILEPA
MPIDO

Concrete Deliverables/results

- The representatives from Indigenous Peoples fully welcome the implementation of the project.
- The project will include activities that have both restoration and livelihood improvement effects such as apiculture when targeting farmers' groups that have Indigenous Peoples participation.
- The project will include the indigenous women equally as men.
- The Ogiek community requested for representation in the project governance mechanism.
- Timely consultation and feedback provision mechanism should be provided by the project.
- FAO and its partners to explore tailor-made project activities that will support the community and within the project scope and targets.