

Voluntary National Report to UNFF

Voluntary National Report on progress towards the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030, the UN Forest Instrument and Voluntary National Contributions

Thank you for taking the time to complete the voluntary national report to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF). Before you start, please take note of the following important information:

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2022/17, requested the UNFF secretariat to amend the format for voluntary national reporting to the Forum, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from members of the Forum, and conduct a pilot phase for the use of the refined format. In the same resolution, the Council invited the Forum to consider establishing an advisory group on reporting. It further requested that the secretariat explore options for establishing an online reporting platform for the Forum, recognizing the need for streamlined reporting and minimizing the reporting burden, including the challenges faced by developing countries.
2. In fulfilling this mandate, the UNFF Secretariat has amended the format, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from Members of the Forum and in consultation with the advisory group on reporting. The secretariat has also established an online reporting platform for the submission of voluntary national reports to the Forum.
3. The amended format is structured around the Global Forest Goals and targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 (UNSPF) and builds on the previous format that was used for reporting to the UNFF15.
4. The amended format consists of twelve sections, each with several questions:
 1. General information
 2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets
 3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets
 4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets
 5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets
 6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets
 7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets
 8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets
 9. Voluntary National Contributions
 10. Other questions: Gender equality
 11. Other questions: International Day of Forests
 12. Success stories

To download a PDF file of the amended voluntary report format, click here [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)

5. In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, you are kindly invited to consult experts from relevant national ministries, the national focal points for the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA), Rio Conventions, other member organizations of the CPF, criteria and indicators processes, and relevant stakeholders, where applicable. Only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), or that is not available in other international databases, is requested.
6. In completing the national report, you may include actions by the Government, as well as the private sector, communities, civil society, or other stakeholders. The year 2020 is used as a baseline, so please include all actions taken since this date. Where applicable, please indicate the source of information, or provide a weblink as reference.
7. All terms used in this amended format are consistent with terms and definitions used by the FAO Forest Resources Assessment.
8. Please refer to the Explanatory Notes ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)) for more in-depth guidance when completing the national report. Other helpful resources include:
[Global Forest Goals and targets \(E/RES/2017/4\)](#)
[Sustainable Development Goals and targets \(A/RES/70/1\)](#)
9. The deadline for submission of the national reports to the UNFF secretariat is 30 June 2025.

Instructions for using the online reporting platform

1. A dedicated link has been provided to the main UNFF national focal point from each country to complete their national report. You may share the link with other national officials, experts from your own country and other relevant departments to collaborate on a single national report. To avoid accidentally deleting or overwriting completed sections of the report, please ensure no two people are working on the same section of the format at the same time. Please do not share the dedicated link with anyone not involved in completing the UNFF national report for your country.
2. The reporting format is available in English, Spanish and French. Please select the language using the menu located in the top right corner of the page.
3. You are given the flexibility to pause and resume completion of the national report. Your responses will be automatically saved, and you may return to the report at any time before the deadline for submission. To return to the report, please click on the link in the original email. If you are working with a weak internet signal, you may want to connect using an Ethernet cable instead of Wi-Fi to ensure a more stable connection.
4. You are invited to use the Section Navigator to move between sections of the survey. Click on the 'Answer' button next to each Section to navigate to the questions in that Section. Once inside the section, use the 'Save and continue' button to proceed within the section and the 'Back' button to return to previous questions.
5. By clicking 'Review and Download' in the Section Navigator, you will be able to download a PDF copy of your responses. After download, you can return to the questions to amend your answers, if necessary.
6. Prior to submission, you will be prompted to upload a cover letter conveying this as the official national report for your country. This step is mandatory. The cover letter shall include an official letterhead with the full name of country, ministry, and/or institution, mail and email address, phone number and the signature of an authorized senior national official. The cover letter size should not exceed 2MB.
7. After submission, you will receive a confirmation email and a PDF copy of the national report.
8. In case of any questions or technical issues, please reach out to Ms. Nadine Souto (nadine.souto@un.org) and Mr. Tomasz Juszcak (juszcakt@un.org) from the UNFF secretariat.

1. General information

1. Country:

This question is required

Kenya

2. UNFF National Focal Point:

(The national focal point will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)

This question is required

Name : A.L.Lemarkoko, EBS, 'ndc' (K)
Address : : P.O. Box 30513-00100, Nairobi
Organization : : Kenya Forest Service
Email : : director@kenyaforestservice.org
Title : : Chief Conservator of Forests
Telephone : : 020 2020285

3. Contact person for the present national report, if different from the UNFF National Focal Point:

(The contact person will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)

Name : : Clement Ng'oriareng, PhD
Title : : Senior Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests
Address : : P.O. Box 30513-00100, Nairobi, Kenya.
Organization : : Kenya Forest Service
Telephone : : 020 2020285
Email : : cngoriareng@kenyaforestservice.org

4. Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report:

(up to five)

Institution Name:

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change & Forestry, State Department for Forestry.

Email address:

ps@forestry.go.ke

Address:

Ragati Rd, NHIF BUILDING 12th Floor P.O BOX 30126-00100, Nairobi

Institution Name:

State Department for Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry

Email address:

psoffice@forestry.go.ke

Address:

P.O BOX 30126-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Institution Name:

Kenya Forest Service

Email address:

director@kenyaforestservice.org

Address:

P.o. Box 30513-00100, Nairobi. HQ, Karura. Off Kiambu Road, Kenya.

Institution Name:

Kenya Forestry Research Institute

Email address:

director@kefri.org

Address:

P.O. BOX 20412-00200 Nairobi, Kenya.

Institution Name:

Kenya Wildlife Service

Email address:

kws@kws.go.ke

Address:

P.O. Box 40241 - 00100 Nairobi Kenya.

2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

Target 1.3: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

Target 1.4: The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

5. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Implementation of the the National Strategy for Achieving and Maintaining over 10% Tree Cover by 2022.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya made a deliberate decision in 2018, to accelerate achievement of the 10% tree cover by the year 2022. A National Strategy for Achieving and Maintaining over 10% Tree Cover by 2022 was developed to bring the whole government towards achieving the constitutional mandate of minimum of 10 % tree cover in the country. Strategy for seedling production and planting were developed and shared with all stakeholders in the country for execution.

The National Strategy was implemented through the National Tree Planting (NTPC) Campaign Project. All Government MDAs, private sector and communities were mobilized in unprecedented manner to attain the 10% national tree cover by 2022. This target has since been achieved.

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Resource Assessment conducted in 2021 established that Kenya's National Forest Cover stood at 8.83% and Tree cover at 12.13% .(KFS, 2022). The government later raised the tree cover target to 30% and launched the National Program for Accelerated Forestry and Rangelands Restoration in 2022, aiming to restore 10.6 million hectares by 2032.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://environment.go.ke/> <https://www.fao.org/wood-energy/search/detail/en/c/1448606/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

2. Increase of forest area through gazettelement of new forests areas.

Brief description of the action:

The gazettelement of new forest areas in Kenya involves officially designating and protecting specific land as a forest area. This process is crucial for expanding and conserving forest resources, as outlined in Kenya's 2010 Constitution, which sets a target of 10% forest cover. The process is governed by the Forest Conservation and Management Act, which includes provisions for the declaration of public forests. Since 2020, Kenya has designated 200 ha of urban spaces as forest areas thus increasing the forest area in the country.

Main results achieved for the action:

Since 2020, Kenya has gazetted 3,979.034 hectares of new forests as follows;

- (i) Macalder which was gazetted in 2023 with an area of 2494.95 hectares;
- (ii) Dandu Hill with an area of 1779.7 hectares;
- (iii) Takaba Hill with an area of 1171.92 hectares;
- (iv) Garissa Arboretum and tree nursery with an area of 8.823 hectares;
- (v) Wote tree nursery and Arboretum with an area of 1.917 hectares;
- (vi) Masalani tree nursery with an area of 1.484 hectares;
- (vii) Chetambe with an area of 105.96 hectares; and
- (viii) Katanguo forest with an area of 15.45 hectares.

The process of gazettelement involves several steps, including identification of suitable land areas, conducting surveys to determine boundaries, and preparing the legal documents for publication in the Kenya Gazette.

According to the National Forest Resource Assessment Report 2021, Kenya's forest cover was 8.3% showing an increase since the previous assessment.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.3
2.4

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:**Action (short title):**

3. Implementation of the Kenya National Forest Programme, 2016- 2030.

Brief description of the action:

The National Forest Programme (NFP) is a strategic framework for forest policy, planning and implementation to coordinate the sector's development. The NFP is designed to sustain and restore the resilience of forests in the country by ensuring that forests are able to withstand and recover from climate-related stresses and disturbances such as droughts, wildfires, and epidemics of insects and diseases while adhering to the principles of sustainable forest management.

Under the NFP, Kenya developed a 10-year ambitious and visionary strategy to restore 10.6m hectares of degraded landscapes and ecosystems. The strategy aims to increase the tree cover of the country from the current 12.13 percent to 30 percent by 2032 while restoring degraded landscapes and ecosystems.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) The programme has resulted to various project and initiatives in the forest sector such as the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy. Kenya has partnered with the French government on a forest fire management project, funded by a €22 million grant from France. This project aims to strengthen KFS's capacity to combat forest fires, including training, equipping, and establishing fire detection and communication systems.

Kenya has also partnered with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in the Aim for Forests project which aims to strengthen forest monitoring and accelerate innovative technologies. This includes using modern monitoring technologies, technical innovation, and space data for forest monitoring. The project also focuses on empowering youth and local communities through training and participation in forest monitoring activities.

Establishment of commercial forests, woodlots and bamboo forests on private lands.

(ii) Kenya has established a Secretariat for the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration to guide restoration in Kenya.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
3.1
3.2

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://environment.go.ke/> <https://www.cifor-icraf.org/publications/downloads/Publications/PDFS/2022039.pdf> <https://ke.chm-cbd.net/documents/national-landscape-and-ecosystem-restoration-strategy> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

6. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Implementation of the Kenya National Forest Programme, 2016- 2030

Brief description of the action:

The National Forest Programme (NFP) is a strategic framework for forest policy, planning and implementation to coordinate the sector's development. The NFP is designed to sustain and restore the resilience of forests in the country by ensuring that forests are able to withstand and recover from climate-related stresses and disturbances such as droughts, wildfires, and epidemics of insects and diseases while adhering to the principles of sustainable forest management.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The programme has resulted to various projects and initiatives in the forest sector such as the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy. Kenya is advancing its carbon market framework with the Climate Change (Carbon Markets) Regulations, 2024, aimed at enhancing transparency and providing clear guidelines.
- The country prioritizes ensuring carbon projects benefit local communities and drive sustainable development. Some of the carbon projects in Kenya supporting forest conservation include the:
- (i) The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) Carbon Project, one of the largest soil carbon removal initiatives, spans 1.9 million hectares and enhances rangeland management, benefiting 14 community conservancies.
 - (ii) The Kasigau Wildlife Corridor REDD+ Project protects forests and wildlife, generating carbon credits by preventing deforestation.
 - (iii) The Chyulu Hills REDD+ Project invests carbon revenues into education, healthcare, and infrastructure for local communities.
 - (iv) Mikoko Pamoja, a blue carbon initiative in Gazi Bay, focuses on mangrove conservation and restoration, demonstrating how community-led efforts can drive climate resilience and sustainable development.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 3.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/ken190060.pdf> <https://environment.go.ke/state-department-for-forestry/> <https://www.kefri.org/home.html>

Action (short title):

- 2. Adopt a forest initiative and fencing of forests and other protected areas to promote forest restoration.

Brief description of the action:

Adopt-a-Forest" is a program where partners commit to rehabilitating, protecting, and managing a portion of a forest for 3-5 years, focusing on ensuring trees survive and thrive after planting. This initiative addresses the issue of post-planting care, which is a common problem in many tree-planting projects. The initiative also includes fencing of boundaries of forests. Various partners have adopted forests for fencing. Fencing of forests prevents encroachment of incompatible land uses and stops harmful activities such as overgrazing and charcoal burning in forests.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Over 600 million trees have been grown between 2023 and mid 2025 in Kenya. Since 2019, the adopt a forest initiative has led to mass afforestation and reforestation projects to bring back Kenya's forests and water catchment areas. More than 200 partners have come forward to adopt forest blocks. This has resulted to rehabilitation of over 530,000 hectares of degraded forest areas. Here are examples of partners;
- (ii) The Ministry of Energy have adopted 457.6 Ha of gazetted forest in Meru (lower imenti), Vihiga (Maragoli), Nyeri (Gakanga) Kericho (Londiani). One of the leading athletes in Kenya, Eliud Kipchoge in partnership with the Global Peace Foundation has adopted 50.8 hectares in Kaptagat Forest block. A total of 457 Ha of indigenous trees have been grown in these areas. The initiative has ensured that trees are nurtured until they are able to survive on their own.
- (iii) Between June 2020 and June 2025, a total of 279 kilometers of forest boundary have been fenced. Fencing has reduced illegal activities mainly charcoal burning and logging in Menengai Forest, Mukutani Forest, Kakamega Forest, Chepalungu Forest, Lariak and Eburu Forests among other forests in Kenya.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 3.1
- 3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- 15.1

Weblink:

<https://environment.go.ke/state-department-for-forestry/>; <https://idh.org/news/30km-fence-to-protect-south-western-mau-forest-in-kenya>; <https://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2023-07-06-government-will-fence-all-gazetted-forests-cs-tuya>; <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/environment-climate/article/2001488568/kfs-to-complete-fencing-of-forests-in-15-counties> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

- 3. Implementation of the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy, 2023-2032.

Brief description of the action:

The Government of Kenya has developed the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy 2023 -2032 to guide ecosystem restoration in Kenya. The main goal of this strategy is to restore and conserve degraded landscapes and ecosystems that will contribute to; increasing tree cover to 30%, improving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability, better livelihoods, socio- economic development, climate resilience, and Kenya's commitments to regional and global Conventions by 2032. The overall objective of this strategy is to restore 10.6 million of hectares of degraded landscapes and ecosystems through tree growing and sustainable land management practices for improved ecological functionality, resilience to climate change and better livelihoods by 2032. The strategy positions Kenya as a global leader in climate action, aligning with the Paris Agreement and the African Landscape Restoration Initiative while fostering environmental and economic sustainability for future generations.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Between 2023 and mid 2025, a total of over 600 million seedlings have been planted under the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (2023–2032).
- (ii) The Strategy has promoted non-wood forest products in the arid and semi-arid areas to restore the dryland landscapes and to contribute to the achievement of Kenya's commitment in AFR100 and Bonn Challenge. Kenya has committed to restore 5.1 Million hectares by 2030 in drylands under AFRI 100, drylands have more space for restoration due to the low population density compared to other ecosystems. Rehabilitation of drylands using Acacia trees in particular Acacia senegal and Acacia seyal are sources of gum arabic which is a source of income for local residents. Gums and resins play a key role in pastoralists' livelihood security and climate change adaptation in the arid counties of Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Mandera and Wajir counties.
- (iii) Investment in commercial forestry has higher potential for increased tree cover and creation of more employment opportunities due to sustainable wood supply in Kenya. Besides bridging the wood gap deficit in Kenya, commercial forest plantations will increase tree cover and reduce the pressure on natural forests.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
1.1
1.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://ke.chm-cbd.net/documents/national-landscape-and-ecosystem-restoration-strategy>

Target 1.3: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

7. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Strengthening forest law enforcement capacity by recruiting more forest protection officers and foresters.

Brief description of the action:

The international recommendation for forest rangers to forest area is 1 ranger for every 400 hectares of forest land. Before 2023, the ratio in Kenya was significantly higher, with approximately 1 ranger for every 1200 hectares, indicating a shortage of forest rangers. Kenya identified this shortfall of forest protection officers and recruited 2,664 forest rangers who were trained on forest management and protection. The officers were deployed in forest stations to prevent encroachment and other illegal activities in forests.

Main results achieved for the action:

The enhanced ranger force has improved the ratio to 1 ranger for every 500 hectares. This has increased forest protection and reduced forest crimes by 90% in 2024 compared to 2023. Kenya also recruited 102 cadets and 472 foresters who are working with local farmers and agro-pastoralists to promote on farm forestry and plantation farming. The foresters underwent a six month training on sustainable forest management. The foresters have been very helpful in the following; receiving and considering applications for licenses or permits in relation to forest resources or management of forests or any other relevant matter in accordance with the Act; developing and implementing benefit sharing arrangements in accordance with the provisions of the Act, Assisting county governments to build capacity in forestry and forest management in the counties; and developing programmes for tourism and for recreational and ceremonial use of public forests. The new workforce is supporting farm forestry and woodlots management to reduce pressure on natural forests.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/legal-documents/> <https://www.the-star.co.ke/counties/central/2023-03-24-kfs-recruits-2700-forest-rangers-to-boost-surveillance>
https://www.friendsofkarura.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Final-Report_29Apr2018_17h.pdf

Action (short title):

2. Development and operationalization of the National Forest Monitoring System.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya developed the National Forest Monitoring System NFMS for the forest sector. The NFMS is a crucial tool for sustainable forest management and climate action, providing accurate data to guide decision-making and track progress on forest conservation and climate change mitigation efforts. The NFMS is helping point out areas of degradation and illegal activities and thus enable quick response by rangers.

Main results achieved for the action:

The Kenya National Forest Monitoring System consist state of the art technologies for monitoring such as Survey 123. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) uses Survey123, a mobile-based app, for monitoring forest changes and reporting. It is used by KFS rangers and other staff to collect data in the field, including information on forest cover and potential threats, and transmit it for analysis. Survey123 allows KFS staff to report on forest resources and gather data on various aspects of forest management. Kenya is also using smoke detection systems to enhance fire monitoring and early response in key forest ecosystems like Mt. Kenya, Aberdares, and Mau. This includes installing advanced systems and utilizing online spaces to improve fire detection and location.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.1
4.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/30bd4f0d8cdb477fbf82f84e5c4f61b0>

Action (short title):

3. Development of the National Forest Policy, 2023 to support implementation of Sustainable Forest Management; amendment of the Forest Conservation and Management Act (Cap 385); and development of eight subsidiary regulations.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has developed the Forest Policy, 2023 which has triggered a review of the Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016 to enhance alignment with evolving climate, biodiversity, and restoration frameworks. The process was consultative, involving multi-agency technical working groups and stakeholders including indigenous peoples and forest adjacent communities, ensuring that forest governance frameworks reflect inclusivity and coherence across sectors.

Main results achieved for the action:

The developed National Forest Policy 2023 promotes community participation in forest management to ensure sustainable use, conservation, and benefit-sharing. This is achieved through mechanisms like Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and by empowering communities with rights and responsibilities in forest management. The policy aims to create a framework where communities and other stakeholders can actively participate in the development and implementation of forest management plans and benefit from the resources they help protect.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.1
2.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://flr.kefri.org/>; <https://environment.go.ke/downloads/>

Target 1.4: The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

8. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Adoption of modern methods and technologies to prevent and manage forest fires.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya employs a multi-faceted strategy to manage and prevent forest fires, encompassing prevention, early detection, and suppression. This strategy involves mobilizing personnel and equipment, utilizing aerial capabilities, and leveraging community engagement and a multi-agency approach, according to the Star. They also prioritize clear communication and public awareness through fire danger ratings and posters.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Kenya has been constructing fire breaks, which are strategically cleared strips of land around forests, to prevent the spread of wildfires. These fire breaks, along with other measures like the temporary suspension of vegetation burning near forest areas, are crucial for managing the current increase in forest fires.
 - (ii) Between 2020 and 2024, over 500 kilometers of fire breaks were constructed and maintained in public forests and national parks.
 - (iii) Kenya has also been conducting thorough trainings and sensitization of communities on fire management.
 - (iv) Kenya has collaborated with various stakeholders to prevent and fight forest fires. Some partners have assisted the country with fire management infrastructure.
 - (v) Kenya, through the Kenya Forest Service is implementing the Capacity Development Project for Modern Technology in Forest Fire Management aimed at combating wildfires in high-risk areas like the Aberdares Forest, Mt Kenya Forest and the Mau Forest Complex. The project enhances fire prevention, detection, and response through modern equipment, training, and improved coordination. Preventative measures, public awareness, and technological advancements, including early warning systems, are central to the project.
- A training facility established at the Kenya Forestry College will equip officers with crucial fire management skills, safeguarding Kenya's forests and biodiversity.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 3.1
- 3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2

Weblink:

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2446> <https://famousnakuru.co.ke/22-kfs-firefighters-trained-at-londiani-forest-college/>

Action (short title):

2. Tapping into climate finance to promote forest resilience through climate adaptation projects.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is actively seeking to leverage climate finance to enhance forest resilience, primarily through policies like the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) and the Climate Change Act. This includes mobilizing funds for projects such as establishing woodlots in drylands and supporting locally led climate action initiatives. The goal is to increase forest cover, improve water resources, and build resilience of forests to climate change impacts.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Kenya has partnered with the Government of Japan to implement the Project for Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Landscape Restoration (SFS- CORECC).
- (ii) The project has been rolled out in eight counties to grow 2 million ha of forestry woodlots of Melia Volkensii trees. The tree produces high quality timber which is a good source of income for rural households. Its is expected that household income for project beneficiaries will grow at 60% by 2027. so far the project has supported the planting of 40,814 melia trees, rehabilitation of 102 hectares in dry lands, establishment of 15 nurseries. This project has benefited 218 community groups.
- (iii) The project is increasing tree cover by promoting drought resistant forest trees in the targets counties in Kenya.
- (iv) This project is directly contributing to improving the livelihoods of small scale farmers and also mitigating poverty in forest adjacent communities.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 2.1
- 2.3
- 3.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/project/english/kenya/019/index.html>

Action (short title):

3. Development of Jazamiti App, a species site matching application by the Government of Kenya

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is promoting sustainable and resilient tree growing practices by ensuring that tree species are grown in sites that match the ecological conditions. This has been achieved through the development of a ministerial application. The app is freely accessible and is able to guide users the right species to plant in any location of Kenya. The app has supported the national tree growing campaign in Kenya by enabling citizens to know what tree species to grow.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) By mid 2025, a total of over 688 million seedlings had been planted across Kenya. Tree growing activities have focused on rehabilitation of degraded natural forests in gazetted forests and water towers, rehabilitation of degraded dryland landscapes, agroforestry trees on farmlands, commercial private forests, rehabilitation of degraded mangrove ecosystems, restocking of forest plantation in gazetted forests, and establishment of urban forests, arboretum, and green spaces.
- (ii) The members of the public has adequate guidance on which tree species are most appropriate for a given location, considering factors like climate, soil type, and intended use.
- (iii) Documentation and Tracking: The users are able to document and track their tree planting activities, contributing to a national repository for tree growing initiatives.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kefri.org/components/jazamiti/faqs.html> <https://environment.go.ke/state-department-for-forestry/>

Global Forest Goal 1 Challenges

9. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 1 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

- (i) Inadequate funds to support afforestation and reforestation projects.
- (ii) Over-reliance on forest products for livelihood among the largely rural populations.
- (iii) Overgrazing in forests which impacts negatively on biodiversity and regeneration.
- (iv) Invasive species which impact negatively on native trees species for example *Prosopis juliflora* is replacing native trees in Kenya's drylands.

3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

Target 2.2: Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

Target 2.4: The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased

Target 2.5: The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

10. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

- 1. Promotion of nature based solutions to support livelihoods of forest dependent communities.

Brief description of the action:

This is achieved through various mechanisms, including community forest associations (CFAs), participatory forest management plans, and benefit-sharing agreements.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) A total of 233 Community Forest Associations have been formed and operationalized to date. Together with the associations a total of 185 Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) have been developed and 182 Joint Management Agreements signed with the KFS. This arrangement supports the participation of community forest associations in the Plantation Establishment Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS) which improves local livelihoods and minimize poverty.

(ii) A total of 850 Nature-based enterprises (NBEs) targeting the CFAs were implemented between 2020 and 2025 through livelihood improvement projects. These projects facilitated community members by providing them with the necessary technical advice to establish these NBEs included beekeeping, fish farming, butterfly farming, sericulture, tree seedlings production, and ecotourism among others and creating marketing linkages for their products. The NBEs have helped reduce over-reliance on natural forests and improved community attitudes towards forest conservation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.3
2.4
2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
Other, please specify: 2.1; 2.3

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forest-management-plans/> https://flr.kefri.org/media_root/documents/content/docs/NATIONAL_FOREST_POLICY_2023_1.pdf

Action (short title):

2. Promotion of on farm tree planting and commercial forest development under the Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through sustainable forest management and landscape restoration (SFS-CORECC) project.

Brief description of the action:

The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) and Kenya Forest Service (KFS), in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), is implementing a project entitled; "Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Landscape Restoration (SFS-CORECC)". The project is supported by JICA and will run for a period of 5 years from 1st February 2022 to 31st January 2027. SFS-CORECC was started to further strengthen policy and implementation capacity of the central and local governments, and contribute to increasing tree cover by supporting promotion of commercial forestry and development and dissemination of drought-resistant forest trees. Through projects Regional Cooperation component, SFS-CORECC will also contribute to combating climate change in sub-Saharan Africa.

Main results achieved for the action:

The SFS- CORECC has partnered with eight counties to grow 2 million ha of forestry woodlots of Melia Volkensii trees. The tree produces high quality timber which is a good source of income for rural households. Its is expected that household income for project beneficiaries will grow at 60% by 2027. The project is increasing tree cover by promoting drought resistant forest trees in the targets counties in Kenya.

This project is directly contributing to improving the livelihoods of small scale farmers and also mitigating poverty in forest adjacent communities.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.3
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/project/english/kenya/019/index.html>

Action (short title):

3. Continued implementation of the Plantation Establishment and Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS).

Brief description of the action:

The Plantation Establishment and Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS) in Kenya is a system where forest-adjacent communities are allowed to cultivate crops on forest land during the initial stages of tree plantation establishment. This scheme allows for increased tree cover and improved livelihoods for participating communities. PELIS aims to achieve two main goals: improving the livelihoods of forest-adjacent communities and ensuring the successful establishment of forest plantations. Communities, through Community Forest Associations (CFAs), are granted the right to cultivate crops on designated forest land. This cultivation typically continues for 3-4 years until the tree canopy closes, after which the land becomes solely for forestry. PELIS provides participating communities with income from agricultural production while the trees are young. It also reduces forest dependency by providing an alternative source of income and food.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) In Kenya, a total of 233 Community Forest Associations (CFAs) have been formed and operationalized to date.
- (ii) Together with the associations a total of 185 Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) have been developed and 182 Joint Management Agreements signed with the KFS. This arrangement supports the participation of community forest associations in the Plantation Establishment Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS) which improves local livelihoods and minimize poverty.
- (iii) Through PELIS, communities' benefit with income generation from the crops and food security, while socially, the trust and good relationship is built between community members and KFS.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.3
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forest-management-plans/> <https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/project/english/kenya/019/outline/index.html>

Target 2.2: Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

11. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Strengthening access to financial services by small scale forest enterprises through implementation of the Kenya Forest Service Strategic Plan 2023- 2027.

Brief description of the action:

Small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) are a significant part of the forestry sector in Kenya, contributing to both economic development and livelihoods. These enterprises often focus on non-timber forest products (NTFPs), which offer sustainable alternatives to logging and contribute to local economies. Examples include honey production, woodcrafts, and the collection of medicinal plants. Although SMFEs face challenges like access to resources and market infrastructure, their potential for sustainable development and poverty reduction is significant.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The Kenya Forest Service Strategic Plan 2023- 2027 aims to; Strengthen nature-based enterprises for improvement of livelihoods and climate change resilience.
- (ii) The strategy also aims to promote sustainable production, trade and utilization of charcoal; Promote nature-based enterprises for enhanced conservation of natural forests and improvement of livelihoods and has two key goals; To increase the national tree cover from 12.13% to 21.03% in the five- year period towards attainment of 30% tree cover by 2032, and to increase the national forest cover from 8.83% to 10% in the five years plan period towards attainment of the National target of 10% forest cover by 2030.
- (iii) While implementing the plan, Kenya recruited 600 foresters in 2023 who are providing technical support in forest management and enterprise development for livelihoods improvement. This includes tree nurseries and agroforestry. The foresters have led the registration of private forests nurseries which helps in identification and support production of quality germ plasm for commercial and conservation forestry.
- (iv) Kenya has developed the Community Forest Associations Financing and Development Framework, 2020 (CDAFDF). The framework provides an accountable and equity financing strategies proposed in the participatory forest management plans (PFMPs) and Forest Management Agreements (FMAs). The CDAFDF will help CFAs to contribute to the goal of achieving 30% tree cover by 2032 and support the adoption of new technologies that are resilient to climate change challenges.
- (v) Kenya is implementing the Forest Investment Facility (FIF). This facility is a revolving loan incentive programme to help farmers establish farm forestry and livelihood enterprises that support forest conservation. The project is implemented in Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kitui and Kericho Counties and over 1000 farmers have benefited from the program between 2020 and 2025.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.3
2.4
2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://afr100.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/26%20March%202024%20Kenya%20Forest%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf> https://www.finnfund.fi/en/investing/sectors/forestry/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=12887162045&gclid=Cj0KCQjwpf7CBhCFARIsANIETVrbUprZp0bjBckAIYuSDUXtJFIGQRd_6G2lQaVBNOcwDSEnlyJpYSsaAhIWEALw_wcB

Action (short title):

2. Promotion of community livelihood programmes through collaboration with Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Forest and Farm Facility Project.

Brief description of the action:

The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) is a co-management partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and AgriCord. It delivers support directly to local forest and farm groups so that they can act as key change agents in promoting climate-resilient landscapes and improved livelihoods. The FFF second phase began in 2018 and will continue through 2025. The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) project provides direct financial support and technical assistance to strengthen forest and farm producer organizations representing smallholders, rural women's groups, local communities and indigenous peoples' institutions. Collectively, forest and farm producers have the potential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to respond to climate change at landscape scales. It provides grants to farmers to develop forest and forest related enterprises in 11 counties in Kenya (Bungoma, Bomet, Nakuru, Laikipia, Baringo and Nairobi, Machakos, Homabay, Kisii, Vihiga and Samburu Counties).

Main results achieved for the action:

1. The project has strengthened six product-based associations allowing them to reach more producers and grow membership by 800 percent, indirectly benefiting about 20 000 people (3 492 households) by 2024.
2. The FFF has provided direct support to 22 forest and farm groups, supported 16 diversified businesses with added value.
3. During the 2024 and 2025 direct beneficiary grants cycles, a total of Kshs. 44,534,916 (USD 356,279) were disbursed to enable the forest and farm producers (FFPOs) to implement various projects as agreed upon in their signed letters of agreements (LOAs).
4. The project conducted trainings on the utilization of the disbursed funds. to twenty community groups that are receiving the Direct Beneficiary Grants (DBGs).

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/1145654/>

Action (short title):

3. Promotion of livelihood improvement programmes under the Green Zones Support Development Project Phase II (GZDSP II) in collaboration with the African Development Bank.

Brief description of the action:

GZDSP II is a forest conservation project funded by African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Government of Kenya. The goal of the project is to improve forest conservation and community livelihoods for sustainable forest management in Kenya. Its overarching aim is to contribute to the country's climate change resilience. This project covers the highland counties around Mt. Kenya and Rift Valley region of Kenya.

Main results achieved for the action:

- GGZDSP II have brought notable achievements in reforestation, community empowerment, and infrastructure development, particularly in Kenya. These projects have increased forest cover, improved livelihoods, and enhanced water resources. Specifically, they have: replanted and protected vast areas of forest, improved rural roads, created buffer zones through tea cultivation, established firewood lots, and generated sustainable jobs. Additionally, they have rehabilitated degraded water towers, protected water sources, and promoted sustainable practices like bamboo establishment within water ecosystems.
- The project has directly benefited over 17,000 households, including a significant percentage of female-headed households, by improving their incomes through alternative livelihoods such as honey production and tea cultivation.
- The project has contributed to increase in tree cover by rehabilitating 27,470 ha. During project implementation, a total of 137, 339,000 seedlings have been planted by local communities. The project has supported 35 nature based enterprises which has direct benefits to 35 community groups.
- The project has supported the construction of 4 resource centers that will train communities on how to access credit for small scale forest enterprises.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/document/kenya-green-zones-development-support-project-phase-ii-appraisal-report-107433>

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

12. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

2. Promotion of food security through donor funded programs.

Brief description of the action:

Some of the donor funded programs are;

(i) The Green Zone Development Support Project (GZDSP) Phase II, funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), promotes sustainable resource management and livelihood enhancement. The project strengthens climate resilience through watershed management, afforestation, and climate-smart agriculture. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry through the Kenya Forest Service and focuses on forest conservation, sustainable value chains, and food security.

(ii) GEF-7: This project is aimed at transforming coffee and staple food production systems through integrated landscape management for the conservation and restoration of Mt. Elgon Ecosystem.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The project has supported the planting of 137,339,000 seedlings in natural forests, plantations, woodlots, farmlands, and fruit orchards.
- (ii) Additionally, the project has supported 35 nature based enterprises that has benefited 526 households, many of them female-headed, through increased income.
- (iii) The project apart from supporting reforestation and protection efforts, it has supported the planting of 200,500 fruit trees in orchards.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.cabi.org/news-article/national-prosopis-strategy-created-with-expertise-from-cabi-and-partners-approved-by-kenyan-government/>

Action (short title):

3. Promotion of non-wood forest products for livelihood improvement and food security in Arid and Semi-arid areas (ASALs).

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has been promoting non-wood forest products for supporting livelihoods in arid and semi-arid areas, offering economic opportunities and environmental conservation benefits. The Ewaso Ng'iro North River Basin Development Authority (ENNDA) is actively involved, with a processing factory in Wajir to enhance value and create jobs. Additionally, the Gum Arabic and Resins Association (GARA) focuses on sustainable development, capacity building, and market access for these resources.

Gums sourced from Acacia senegal and resins extracted from Commiphora and Boswellia species, are valuable resources in northern Kenya. Processing these raw materials through factories like the one in Wajir, established by ENNDA, creates employment and generates income for local communities.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The Ewaso Ng'iro North River Basin Development Authority (ENNDA) has established a state-of-the-art processing factory in Wajir to unlock the potential of these natural resources. The Wajir Gums and Resins Processing Factory stands as a testament to ENNDA's vision of improving livelihoods, creating wealth and employment opportunities, and promoting environmental conservation through value addition. Situated on a sprawling 1,000 by 500-meter plot, the facility is equipped with cutting-edge machinery, including an essential oil steam distillation plant, a solvent extraction processing plant, and a host of supporting infrastructure.
- (ii) The factory's lifeblood is the precious sap harvested from the Commiphora myrrh, Boswellia neglecta (frankincense), and Commiphora holtziana (opoponax) trees. These gum resins, once considered neglected resources, now hold immense promise for socio-economic transformation in the region.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forest-management-plans/> <https://ennda.go.ke/gum-arabic-and-resins-integrated-programme/>

Action (short title):

Brief description of the action:

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 2.4: The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased

13. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Strengthening community participation in Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is implementing a wide range of participatory programs involving communities in sustainable forest management to contribute to socio-economic and environmental development. This includes the Plantation Establishment and Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS). PELIS is a system where forest-adjacent communities cultivate crops on forest land during the initial stages of tree plantation establishment thus leading to increased tree cover and improved livelihoods for participating communities. Communities, through Community Forest Associations (CFAs), are granted user rights on designated forest land for 3-4 years until the tree canopy closes, after which the land becomes solely for forestry. The participating communities benefit from agricultural production while the trees are young. It also reduces forest dependency by providing an alternative source of income and food.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (ii) PELIS has helped increase tree cover in areas where it is implemented by increasing survival rate of seedlings planted. This increases raw materials available for forest industries.
- (iii) By providing alternative livelihoods, PELIS can reduce the pressure on existing forests, decreasing illegal logging and other destructive activities. Reduced pressure on natural forests increases availability of trees for ecotourism.
- (iv) The scheme encourages community participation in forest management, promoting sustainable practices. Community participation encourages industries such as ecotourism.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

<http://kenyaforestservice.org/> https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/public_participation.jpg

Action (short title):

2. Facilitating access to credit for forest enterprises through finalization of the Forest Conservation and Management (Private Forests Registration) Regulations, 2025).

Brief description of the action:

The Forest Conservation and Management (Private Forests Registration) Regulations, 2025) provide for registration of private forests. Private forest owners can receive technical advice from KFS on appropriate forestry practices and conservation and may apply for funds for the purpose of forest development. The regulations create incentive to private forest ownership such loans and exemption of land rates. The Regulations will enable private forest owners to access financial support.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Private forests in Kenya will be registered with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) once the regulations are finalized. Owners will apply for registration and receive technical advice from the county government on forestry management practices.
- (ii) The Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016, outlines the process for both public and private forest registration. The regulations have provided incentives to enhance private sector investments in forestry.
- (iii) The regulation recognizes Community Forest Associations (CFAs), forest industry investors including saw millers, charcoal producer's associations which will be licensed to engage in legal sale of forest products.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.3
2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

https://www.kenyaforests-service.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/public_participation.jpg

Action (short title):

3. Promotion of non- consumptive forest uses such as ecotourism to improve livelihoods.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is promoting non-consumptive forest uses and industries, such as eco-tourism which offer significant opportunities to improve livelihoods. These activities generate income, create jobs, and support conservation efforts, fostering sustainable development and providing alternatives to destructive forest practices. Forests in Kenya, particularly those with unique biodiversity, scenic landscapes, and cultural heritage, can attract tourists for activities like hiking, wildlife viewing, and cultural tourism. Ecotourism can incentivize conservation efforts by raising the value of the forest, reducing reliance on unsustainable resource extraction (like charcoal production), and promoting sustainable land management practices.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) There are several projects promoting forest based industries in Kenya. A good example is the Mikoko Pamoja, a community-led initiative focused on mangrove conservation and restoration in Gazi Bay, Kenya. It is the first project of its kind globally to fund conservation through the sale of carbon credits. Mikoko Pamoja operates through a community-driven approach. Local communities are actively involved in the conservation and restoration of mangroves, including seedling planting and forest monitoring. The project generates revenue by selling carbon credits, which are reinvested in community development projects like providing clean water, schoolbooks, and improved infrastructure. The project benefits directly 200 households.

(ii) Another project is Kipepeo (Swahili for butterfly). The project is based in Arabuko Sokoke forest in Kilifi County. Kipepeo markets butterfly and moth pupae and other live insects as well as honey and silk cloth produced by the community. The live insects hatched from our pupae are exported and displayed in insect parks globally. As the market place for nature based products from the Arabuko Sokoke forest, Kipepeo coordinates production, sales and ensures through training and monitoring that the insects are bred and raised on-farm in a sustainable manner from wild parent stock. The project is a source of livelihoods for about 400 households.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2

Weblink:

<https://kipepeo.org/> <https://mikokopamoja.org/> <http://kenyaforests-service.org/>

Target 2.5: The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

14. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Enhancing climate change adaptation and mitigation through enactment of the Climate Change (Amendment) Act 2023.

Brief description of the action:

In Kenya, there are projects focusing on climate change adaptation and mitigation, particularly for improving livelihoods. These projects address the impacts of climate change on forests, agriculture, water resources, and other sectors, while also promoting sustainable practices and capacity building. The goal is to build resilience in communities, enhance food security, and diversify income source. The Climate Change Act No.11 of 2011 needed to be amended to provide for the regulation of carbon markets and frameworks for carbon trading. The Climate Change (Amendment) Act 2023, was enacted on 1st September 2023.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) During the COP 2021 meeting an agreement was reached on the fundamental norms related to Article 6 on carbon markets, which will make the Paris Agreement fully operational.
- (ii) Kenya has drafted the Climate Change (Carbon Market) regulations, 2024 to provide clarity on the roles and responsibilities of the institutions that will oversee carbon market activities in Kenya. One significant aspect of the Regulations is a requirement for social contributions. Specifically, land-based projects must allocate 40% of their earnings to community development, while non-land-based projects must contribute 25%, with an additional 25% directed toward the Climate Change Fund.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 2.1
- 2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Other, please specify: 10.5

Weblink:

https://kenyalaw.org/kl/fileadmin/pdfdownloads/Acts/2023/TheClimateChange_Amendment_Act_No.9of2023.pdf

Action (short title):

- 2. Implementation of the Kenya Climate Change Adaptation Programme (KCCAP).

Brief description of the action:

Through Tana River Development Authority (TARDA), Kenya has implemented the Kenya Climate Change Adaptation Programme (KCCAP). The main objective of the integrated adaptation programme is to enhance resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change for communities in various Counties within TARDA jurisdiction in order to increase food security and environmental management. Specific objectives to be addressed while undertaking projects and programs is: Enhancing Climate resilient agricultural, agro-forestry, pastoral and agro-pastoral production systems to improve food security in Kenya; Improving climate resilient water management systems to enhance food security in Kenya; Disaster risk reduction among targeted vulnerable communities for climate related risks in Kenya and Strengthening institutional capacity, knowledge management, awareness raising and promotion of adaptation mechanisms to improve resilience on climate change to selected vulnerable communities in Kenya.

Main results achieved for the action:

The Kenya Climate Change Adaptation Programme has achieved the following:

- (i) Construction of a Fish cold storage plant at Ekalakala to serve 400 fishermen (20 Beach Management Units), in Machakos County.
- (ii) Establishment of 30 tree nurseries to support reforestation.
- (ii) Construction of a community fruit processing plant in Murang'a County.
- Construction of 3 (three) check dams to reduce siltation and provide water for domestic and small scale irrigation in Embu, Murang'a and Nyeri counties.
- (iii) Establishment of 80 hectare small holder community irrigation scheme in Ngetani area of Masinga sub-county in Machakos County to serve 80 households and 400 direct beneficiaries.
- (iv) Enhanced carbon stocks through increased planting within and outside public forests.
- (v) Development of forest fire management projects for example the Capacity Development Project for Modern Technologies in Forest Fire Management in Kenya Forests.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.3
- 2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://tarda.go.ke/kenya-climate-change-adaptation-programme-kccap/>

Action (short title):

- 3. Alignment of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).

Brief description of the action:

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) sets global targets for biodiversity conservation, and countries are expected to align their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) with these targets. This alignment process involves reviewing existing NBSAPs, setting national targets, and integrating them into relevant policies and plans. The goal is to ensure national actions effectively contribute to achieving the GBF's goals and targets, including those related to implementation and financing.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Adoption of KMGBF will help Kenya address threats like invasive alien species, pollution, and climate change impacts on biodiversity is vital.
- (ii) The framework will promote the equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources and traditional knowledge.
- (iii) The framework is supporting the sustainable use of wild species and the integration of biodiversity considerations into agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.2
- 2.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

<https://www.tourism.go.ke/wildlife/>

Global Forest Goal 2 Challenges

15. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 2 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

- (i) Increased population among forest adjacent communities.
- (ii) Over-reliance on wood fuel as the main sources of energy by rural communities.
- (iii) High commercial loan interest rates thus hindering investment in forest enterprises.
- (iii) Unpredictable weather patterns which affect rain fed agriculture.

4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

16. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

- 1. Gazettement of new forest areas.

Brief description of the action:

In Kenya, gazettement of new forest areas is a process by which the government formally designates land as protected forest, typically through official legal notices in the Kenya Gazette. This process helps to ensure the conservation and management of forests for various purposes, including environmental protection, timber production, and water regulation. The primary reasons for gazettement of new forest areas are to protect forests from deforestation, unsustainable logging practices, and other destructive activities. It also helps in managing forest resources for sustainable timber production and water harvesting.

Main results achieved for the action:

Since 2020, Kenya has gazetted 3,964.034 ha of new forests as follows; Macalder which was gazetted in 2023 with an area of 2494.95, Dandu Hill with an area of 1779.7, Takaba Hill with an area of 1171.92, Garissa Arboretum and tree nursery with an area of 8.823, Wote tree nursery and Arboretum with an area of 1.917, Masalani tree nursery with an area of 1.484 and Chetambe with an area of 105.96ha. The process of gazettement involves several steps, including identification of suitable land areas, conducting surveys to determine boundaries, and preparing the legal documents for publication in the Kenya Gazette.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.3
3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<http://kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

2. Gazettement of wildlife parks, wetlands and water towers.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya been promoting the protection of its Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs). These are sites outside of traditional protected areas that are managed in ways that deliver the long-term in situ conservation of biodiversity. These areas can be managed primarily for other purposes, but still achieve significant conservation outcomes, according to IUCN and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Kenya has increased the area of protected forested hilltops, wetland and micro catchments in order to conserve biodiversity.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (ii). There are 120 forested hills tops under protection in Kenya, examples are Kavonge/Museve Hills in Kitui County and Lake Kenyatta in Lamu County.
- (iii) The Government has initiated the process of gazetting 6000 wetland in Kenya. Most of the wetlands in Kenya are forested and therefore their gazettelement will increased the forest area under protection.
- (iii) Kenya has a network of 23 terrestrial parks, 28 terrestrial reserves, 6 marine parks and 4 marine national reserves which are under effective management.
- (iv) Kenya has developed strategies for creation of green spaces for regulating the climate, improving air and water quality, supporting biodiversity, and providing recreational and social spaces.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets> <http://kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

Brief description of the action:

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

17. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Capacity development of community forest associations and other stakeholders on sustainable forest management.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has been developing and implementing Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) and Forest Management Agreements (FMAs) with Community Forest Associations (CFAs). Participatory Forest Management (PFM) plans in Kenya involve local communities in all aspects of forest management, from resource utilization to institutional framework development. These plans, developed in accordance with the Forests Act 2016, are intended to improve forest conservation and the livelihoods of forest-adjacent communities. PFM plans are typically developed for a five-year period and are subject to review and renewal before their expiration.

Main results achieved for the action:

KFS manages approximately 2.5 million hectares of forests nationwide and an additional 1.7 million hectares of plantation forests. This initiative involves signing agreements with CFAs to restore and rehabilitate degraded forests, such as the Mau ecosystem, which has suffered from human encroachment. To date, KFS has entered into 112 agreements out of 165 planned PFMPs with various CFAs across the country. These agreements empower local communities to take ownership and responsibility for forest conservation, fostering collaboration between government agencies, non-governmental organizations, local leaders, and community members. This collaboration with local communities under the participatory management plan framework has ensured sustainable management of forests across the country.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forest-management-plans/>

Action (short title):

2. Collaboration with county governments in forest management through County Forest Programmes

Brief description of the action:

In Kenya, devolved units are the 47 counties established under the 2010 Constitution, which are the primary units of devolved government. These counties, previously part of the old provincial structure, now have the power to manage local governance, including legislative and executive functions. The National Government has the mandate to manage forests in Kenya but some forestry functions have been given to the county government. The National Government in Kenya prepared County Forest Programmes (CFPs) to support implementation of devolved forestry functions at the county level. The 47 county government have signed CFPs with the Kenya Forest Service.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) The CFPs have guided the transfer of forestry functions to county governments following the devolution of governance in 2012. These plans have ensured a smooth and efficient handover of responsibilities, including forest management, afforestation, and reforestation. The plans have enhanced local ownership of forests. Giving county governments the authority and responsibility for forestry management has led to greater community engagement and participation.

(ii) Under this arrangement, the Kenya Forest Service has trained 2,300 county rangers and 1900 community scouts on forest protection and other relevant courses in forest management. This has improved the management of community owned forests in Kenya such as Loita and Enosupukia forests.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

3. Improving governance of Community Forest Associations to promote sustainable management of forests.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has a deliberate policy of working with Community Forest Associations (CFAs) to manage forests. CFAs have played a pivotal role in sustainable forest management. For instance, the CFA, in collaboration with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), has restored hectares of degraded forest in the Mount Kenya region and Mau Ecosystem. Members engage in activities such as tree planting, maintenance, and sustainable harvesting, ensuring the health and productivity of forest ecosystems. The Plantation Establishment and Livelihood Improvement Scheme (PELIS), introduced in 2005, allows local communities to cultivate crops alongside young tree plantations. This approach not only supports reforestation efforts but also provides communities with livelihoods, thereby reducing pressure on forest resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) CFAs have played a key role in restoration of the Mount Kenya Ecosystem . Over the past five years, 27 CFAs, in partnership with Nature Kenya and the KFS, have restored more than 500 hectares of degraded forest by planting over 500,000 indigenous trees. These efforts have not only rejuvenated the forest ecosystem but also provided economic benefits to local communities. For instance, members of the Gathiuru CFA have earned income through planting and maintaining tree seedlings, enabling them to support their families and invest in community projects. In the Kirisia Forest, similar community-based conservation initiatives have been implemented. Through open discussions and leveraging local customs, residents voluntarily relocated from the forest to protect the fragile ecosystem. The establishment of CFAs has allowed former residents to maintain sustainable use rights within the forest, engaging in activities such as beekeeping. Support from various agencies has provided modern beehives and training, enabling community members to generate income while preserving the forest.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<http://kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/building-stronger-communities-through-sustainable-forest-management/>

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

18. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Promoting certification of forest blocks in Kenya.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is promoting the certification of forest blocks through collaboration with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) system. This is crucial for responsible forest management and sustainable development. This certification ensures that forests are managed in a way that preserves biodiversity, benefits local communities, and supports economic viability. Kenya has implemented an FSC Interim National Forest Management Certification Standard to promote the conservation of forests and enhance ecosystem services.

Main results achieved for the action:

In collaboration with the Forest Stewardship Council, Kenya has piloted the certification of the following four forest blocks;

(i) Kinale
(ii) Geta
(iii) Muringato
(iv) Eburu

Certification of forest blocks will ensure that management of the block is done in accordance to the respective Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMP) and other plans such as grazing plans, harvesting plans etc. This certification has increased the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed sources in Kenya.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<http://kenyaforestservice.org/> https://africa.fsc.org/sites/default/files/assets/FSC_newsentry_1625589848_file.pdf

Action (short title):

2. Development and implementation of a charcoal regulation framework to operationalize the national charcoal management standards and certification at county level.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has finalized the Forests (Charcoal) Regulations 2025. The 2025 Forests (Charcoal) Regulations in Kenya aim to promote sustainable and responsible charcoal production, while also safeguarding forest resources and biodiversity. These regulations offer several benefits, including enhanced traceability and transparency, sustainable production methods, and protection of ecologically sensitive areas.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The Forests (Charcoal) Regulations prohibit charcoal production in ecologically sensitive areas, biodiversity hotspots, areas that pose a threat to endangered species, and locations of cultural significance, a measure that underscores the government's commitment to safeguarding the nation's natural heritage and ensuring that the charcoal sold in Kenya's markets is not sourced from public forests or natural forests in community or private lands.
- (ii) The regulations have imposed strict guidelines on packaging and labeling, requiring charcoal producers to sort and package their products in approved materials, including synthetic fiber sacks, paper, gunny bags, or plastic film sacks.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.2
- 3.1
- 3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.mygov.go.ke/ministry-issue-new-rules-regulate-charcoal-production>

Action (short title):

- 3. Grading and valuation of timber and other forest products.

Brief description of the action:

In Kenya, grading and valuation of timber and other forest products is important for ensuring high quality and fair prices of forest products. It ensures efficient resource management within the forestry sector. Grading and valuation entails assessing various characteristics of timber such as moisture content, density, strength properties and defects to determine their suitability for different uses and their corresponding market value.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Grading and valuation have contributed to stabilizing prices of timber and other products in Kenya by establishing the correct monetary value of timber.
- (ii) Valuation of timber and other forest products are used appropriately thus minimizing waste.
- (iii) Valuation and grading regulations have ensured that imported timber meets the required standards.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 3.1
- 3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:**Weblink:**

Global Forest Goal 3 Challenges

**19. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 3 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

- (i) Pressure on forest land from existing land uses.
- (ii) Increased poverty among communities living in areas adjacent to forests.
- (iii) Inadequate financial resources for sustainable forest management.
- (iv) Inadequate capacity of the county governments in forest management.

5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 4: Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

Target 4.2: Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

Target 4.4: The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

Target 4.5: The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16–17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

20. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Review of the Climate Change Act (2016) to enhance mobilization of climate finance.

Brief description of the action:

The Kenya's Climate Change Act of 2016, amended in September 2023, strengthens the legal framework for carbon market regulation. The revised law empowers the Climate Change Council to guide national and county governments, ensuring a coordinated approach. It mandates project proponents to demonstrate environmental, economic, and social benefits while requiring implementation through a community development agreement recorded in the National Carbon Registry. Benefit-sharing provisions allocate at least 40% of earnings for land-based projects and 25% for non-land-based initiatives. These measures promote sustainable development, enhance climate resilience, and ensure equitable community participation in carbon market activities.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Kenya is advancing its carbon market framework with the Climate Change (Carbon Markets) Regulations, 2025, aimed at enhancing transparency and providing clear guidelines. The country prioritizes ensuring carbon projects benefit local communities and drive sustainable development. Some of the carbon projects in Kenya supporting forest conservation include the:
 - (ii) The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) Carbon Project, one of the largest soil carbon removal initiatives, spans 1.9 million hectares and enhances rangeland management, benefiting 14 community conservancies.
 - (iii) The Kasigau Wildlife Corridor REDD+ Project protects forests and wildlife, generating carbon credits by preventing deforestation.
 - (iv) The Chyulu Hills REDD+ Project invests carbon revenues into education, healthcare, and infrastructure for local communities.
 - (v) Mikoko Pamoja, a blue carbon initiative in Gazi Bay, focuses on mangrove conservation and restoration, demonstrating how community-led efforts can drive climate resilience and sustainable development.

Kenya is in collaboration with various development partners to enhance its access to climate finance. This includes; World Bank, Food and Agricultural Organization, Africa Development Bank etc.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 4.2
- 4.3
- 4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Weblink:

https://climate-laws.org/documents/climate-change-amendment-act-2023_6f93?id=climate-change-act-2016_7078

Action (short title):

2. Mobilization of resources through various projects.

Brief description of the action:

The various projects initiated include;

The Green Zone Development Support Project (GZDSP) Phase II, funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), promotes sustainable resource management and livelihood enhancement in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs). Building on Phase I (2006–2014), it strengthens climate resilience through watershed management, afforestation, and climate-smart agriculture. With a UA 37.5 million budget, it targets 15 counties across Mt. Kenya, Aberdares, and the Mau Complex. Implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry via the Kenya Forest Service, the 2018–2024 project focuses on forest conservation, sustainable value chains, and food security, driving Kenya's climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) The Green Zones Development Support Project (GZDSP) in Kenya has achieved significant progress in reforestation, community development, and environmental protection. It has supported reforestation and protection of 27,470 hectares of forest, created 4,187 hectares of dedicated firewood lots and supported the planting of 200,500 fruit trees in orchards. In total, the project has supported the planting of 137,339,000 seedlings in natural forests, plantations, woodlots, farmlands, and fruit orchards. Additionally, the project has supported 35 nature based enterprises that has benefited 526 households, many of them female-headed, through increased income.

(ii) The Kaptagat Integrated Conservation and Livelihood Improvement Programme is an initiative aimed at promoting environmental restoration and improving the livelihoods of local farmers.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
2.1
2.2
2.4
4.2
4.3
4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Other, please specify: 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health & Well Being), 5 (Gender Equality), 13 Climate Action, 7 (Affordable & Clean Energy), 17 (Partnership for the Goals)

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201004120353.html> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

3. Development and Implementation of the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (NLRS) 2023-2032.

Brief description of the action:

The National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy (2023–2032) guides Kenya's 15 billion tree program, aiming to rehabilitate 10.6 million hectares of degraded land and increase tree cover from 12.13% to 30% by 2032. The strategy focuses on restoring forests, wetlands, rangelands, and marine ecosystems to enhance biodiversity, water resources, soil integrity, and food security. It promotes sustainable livelihoods, strengthens community resilience, and positions Kenya as a global leader in climate action, aligning with the Paris Agreement and the African Landscape Restoration Initiative while fostering environmental and economic sustainability for future generations. The strategy has a budget of 1.294 Trillion Kenya shillings which the government hopes to raise through local and international partners.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) 15 Billion Tree Growing and Restoration Secretariat established under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry to oversee the 15 Billion Tree Planting Strategy.

(ii) JazaMiti App upgraded for real-time monitoring, data collection, and verification, ensuring transparency.

(iii) About 225 Million dollars mobilized through the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Program (FLLOCA) to support monitoring and evaluation of tree growing activities in all counties.

(iv) Training provided on seedling production, planting techniques, and monitoring to enhance stakeholder expertise.

(v) Public sensitization campaigns conducted to raise awareness and encourage participation.

(vi) Ground-truthing efforts with KEFRI and DRSRS for accurate reporting.

(vii) Strengthens intergovernmental coordination, private-sector investment, and community engagement for long-term sustainability.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
2.1
2.5
4.2
4.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://ke.chm-cbd.net/documents/national-landscape-and-ecosystem-restoration-strategy>

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

21. Since 2020, has your country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes

22. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)

Private domestic funding
Public domestic funding

23. If no, please describe the main challenges encountered:

Target 4.2: Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

24. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Improving monitoring of forest cover in Kenya through IMPRESS (Improving Measurements for Payments to Reduce Emissions and Strengthen Sinks) project and Aim4Forests Projects to support Kenya's access to climate finance.

Brief description of the action:

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has strengthened Kenya's REDD+ efforts through the IMPRESS (2021–2023) and Aim4Forests (2023–2028) projects, enhancing national forest monitoring. IMPRESS, funded by UK PACT, improved the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) by integrating satellite imagery, machine learning, and real-time intelligence for better greenhouse gas estimates and forest threat detection. It also promoted inclusivity, empowering women and vulnerable groups. Aim4Forests, a GBP 24.5 million initiative, expands these efforts using space data and remote sensing, aligning NFMS with national policies. Both projects train Forest Carbon Champions, advancing capacity building, technology transfer, and climate finance access.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Kenya-UK PACT, with a GBP 11.7 million budget, supports nine projects focused on clean energy and nature-based solutions, including IMPRESS.
- (ii) AIM4Forests, a GBP 24.5 million (USD 30.53 million) UK-funded initiative, enhances forest monitoring in 11 countries, including Kenya.
- (iii) In Kenya, AIM4Forests builds on IMPRESS (2021–2023), which strengthened the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) through machine learning and satellite imagery.
- (iv) Enhances land use accuracy, emissions estimates, and real-time forest threat detection.
- (v) Integrates NFMS into national institutions, addressing technical and institutional gaps.
- (vi) Provides open-source monitoring tools, e-learning platforms, and technical publications.
- (v) This project increases opportunities for access to climate finance by supporting accurate calculation of Kenya forest cover and emissions.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
3.1
4.3
4.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.ukpact.co.uk/kenya-fao-project-landing-page> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

2. Development and implementation of the TWENDE Project (Towards Ending Drought Emergencies: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands) to support conservation of dryland forests.

Brief description of the action:

The TWENDE (Towards Ending Drought Emergencies) project, funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with co-financing from the Government of Kenya and international NGOs is a 5-year initiative that runs from November 2020 to November 2025. It aims to reduce the economic impact of climate change-induced droughts. With a USD 34.5 million budget (USD 23.15 million from GCF, USD 11.39 million in co-financing), it enhances livestock and land-use resilience in restored rangeland ecosystems. Aligned with Kenya's Vision 2030, it focuses on climate-adapted planning, rangeland restoration, and resilient ecosystem management. Implemented across 11 counties, including Garissa, Isiolo, and Marsabit, TWENDE strengthens climate adaptation and promotes sustainable land management.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The project, valued at USD 34.5 million, has seen phased disbursements: USD 5.46 million (March 17, 2021), USD 5.8 million (August 10, 2023), and USD 5.09 million (December 17, 2024).
- (ii) Over Ksh 20 million was allocated for Rehabilitation Action Plans for Nyambene and Chyulu Hills Water Towers.
- (iii) 14.29 hectares rehabilitated in Nyambene, including two schools and gazetted forest areas.
- (iv) 29 hectares restored in Chyulu, covering 18 hectares in Kibwezi Forest and eight institutions, including schools, a dispensary, and a technical institution.
- (v) Four status reports were developed for Nuu Hills, Ngaya, Muumoni Hills, and Imenti Water Towers, along with water catchment and degradation mapping.
- (vi) Ecosystem Conservation Plans formulated for Nyambene and Chyulu, guiding long-term restoration and sustainable management.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Other, please specify:

Weblink:

<https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp113> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

- 3. Implementation of the 'whole-of-government' approach in forestry related matters.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is implementing the "whole-of-government approach" in forest-related matters means coordinating and integrating efforts across all government agencies and departments to address forest conservation, management, and sustainable development. This approach aims to achieve a more cohesive and effective response to challenges like deforestation, climate change, and sustainable forestry. A whole-of-government approach aims to maximize the use of existing resources and explore new funding mechanisms to support forest conservation efforts. Under this approach the Kenya government is engaging the private sector and civil society in forest management and conservation, fostering partnerships that leverage expertise and resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) In 2018, the Kenyan government directed all ministries, departments, and parastatals to allocate at least 10% of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) budget towards afforestation efforts. This initiative aimed to increase Kenya's forest cover, which was then at 6%, towards the constitutional target of 10% by 2022. The goal was to conserve the country's water resources and reduce poverty. This directive has been implemented through 2025. Between 2023 and mid 2025, Kenya had planted over 688 million tree seedlings and hopes to grow 15 billion trees by the year 2025.
- (ii) Various partners in the private sector and charitable organizations have made significant contributions to tree growing initiatives in Kenya. This includes the Aga Khan foundation and the Rhino Ark who have supported the planting of 300, 000 tree seedlings since 2021.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.2
- 1.3
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5
- 4.1
- 4.4
- 5.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2

Other, please specify:

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://the.akdn/en/resources-media/whats-new/spotlights/planting-seeds-change-kenya>

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

25. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Development and operationalization of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS).

Brief description of the action:

Kenya's National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is a comprehensive framework that delivers accurate, real-time data on forest resources, land use changes, and greenhouse gas emissions. It supports sustainable forest management, policy development, and REDD+ reporting, enhancing transparency and accountability in forest governance. The NFMS integrates remote sensing, high-resolution satellite imagery, and the National Forest Inventory (NFI) to track tree species, biomass, and carbon stocks. Advanced technologies like machine learning and GIS tools improve data analysis, while the JazaMiti app enables real-time tree-planting monitoring. Collaboration with government agencies, research institutions, and global partners strengthens Kenya's forest conservation and climate finance access.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Kenya has access to high-resolution satellite imagery, and accurate and real-time data for monitoring of tree-growing activities and forest resources.
- (ii) The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is continuously being improved and strengthened through cooperation between the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and key partners.
- (iii) Collaborations and partnerships have significantly enhanced data analysis and forest monitoring capabilities. Kenya actively engages with international organizations such as FAO, UK PACT, World Bank, and JICA.
- (iv) Bilateral partnerships with governments, including France, further support Kenya's efforts in sustainable forest management and environmental conservation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
6.5
1.1
2.1
5.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/30bd4f0d8cdb477fbf82f84e5c4f61b0>

Action (short title):

2. Enhancing monitoring of forest through promoting drone technology in forest management.

Brief description of the action:

Promoting drone technology in Kenyan forest management is being achieved through partnerships, training, and leveraging the technology's capabilities for various forest conservation tasks. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) is already collaborating with organizations like the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to receive and implement drone technology for surveillance and monitoring.

Main results achieved for the action:

Kenya has 11 drones dedicated to forest surveillance.

- (i) The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) donated 2 Delta Quad drones for forest surveillance.
- (ii) Kenya is collaborating with the French Government on forest fire management. Under this project the French Government has donated 6 DJI Mavic T3 drones which are utilized for forest fire surveillance.
- (iii) Kenya has also received 2 DJI Mavic 3 (Multispectral Enterprise) drones from Japan Agency for International Cooperation (JICA) and one drone from Earth Lungs for aerial mapping. These drones have been deployed for mapping of pine and cypress plantations in 4 counties of Kenya (Uasin Gishu, aringo, Kericho and Nakuru).
- (iv) Twenty five (25) officers of the Kenya Forest Service are licensed drone pilots after a training funded by the FAO.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.1
2.3
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Other, please specify: 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health & Well Being), 13 Climate Action, 7 (Affordable & Clean Energy), 17 (Partnership for the Goals)

Weblink:

Action (short title):

3. Improving monitoring of forest fires through the Capacity Development Project for Modern Technologies in Forest Fire Management in Kenya Forests in collaboration with French Government.

Brief description of the action:

The Capacity Development Project for Modern Technology in Forest Fire Management is being implemented by the Kenya Forest Service with funding from the Government of France. The project was launched in November 2024, and is aimed to combat wildfires in Kenya. It focuses on high-risk areas like the Mau Forest Complex. The project enhances fire prevention, detection, and response through modern equipment, training, and improved coordination. Preventative measures, public awareness, and technological advancements, including early warning systems, are central to the strategy. A training facility at the Kenya Forestry College will equip officers with crucial fire management skills, safeguarding Kenya's forests and biodiversity.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The initiative has equipped the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) with modern firefighting tools, including drones, specialized vehicles, personal protective gear, and heavy machinery for firebreak construction and access roads.
- (ii) Advanced fire management technologies, such as a Digital Radio Network and an Early Fire Video Detection system, enable real-time monitoring and rapid response.
- (iii) To enhance coordination & monitoring, 50 communication masts and a centralized command control centre are being established.
- (iv) The project enabled real time monitoring of forest fires in Mau, Aberdares and Mt Kenya forest in the dry season of January and February 2025.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 3.1
- 4.1
- 4.2
- 4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- Other, please specify:

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/kenya-france-launch-22-million-euro-forest-fire-management-project/>

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

26. Is your country engaged in international cooperation and/or public-private partnerships to promote sustainable forest management?

Yes

**27. If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:
(Select all that apply)**

- Intergovernmental organizations and/or processes
- Governments
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organizations

**28. Please specify the types of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)**

- North-South
- South-South
- Triangular

**29. Please specify the areas of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)**

- Science
- Technology
- Innovation
- Other, please specify: Key areas of focus include forest restoration, conservation, and protection; forest monitoring and data collection; technology transfer and capacity development; valuation of forest ecosystem services; and addressing socioeconomic issues through community livelihood improvement programs.

Target 4.4: The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

30. Since 2020, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

Yes

31. Since 2020, has your country had access to financing to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

Yes

32. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)

Public domestic funding
Private domestic funding
Private international funding
Blended financing

Target 4.5: The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

33. Has the collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information in your country, for example, through multidisciplinary scientific assessments, improved since 2020?

Yes

34. If yes, please describe any improvements (maximum 250 words).

(i) In 2021, the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), in collaboration with the Office of the President, conducted a comprehensive national assessment of tree cover, forest cover, and land use using high-resolution satellite images (world View 0.3m-0.5m). This assessment established Kenya's national forest cover at 8.83% and tree cover at 12.13% of the total land area. Specifically, the assessment determined that Kenya possesses 5,226,191.79 hectares (52,261 square kilometres) of forest cover, representing 8.83% of the country's total land area.

(ii) Generation of IMPRESS (The Improving Measurements for Payments to Reduce Emissions and Strengthen Sinks) datasets were designed to provide a spatially-referenced, probability-based, and geographically balanced sampling framework for estimating land use and forest cover change in Kenya under the REDD+ program. Data generation employs the Ensemble Sample Based Area Estimation (eSBAE) methodology, leveraging machine learning algorithms, notably CuSum and BFast, for refined subsampling of national sample points. The Collect Earth Online platform is utilized for data attribution. Datasets have been generated and assessed for the 2013-2022 epoch, while analyses for 2023 and 2024 are currently underway. Each subsample has undergone rigorous attribution, categorized according to established REDD+ activities, specifically: Deforestation, Forest Degradation, Forest Enhancement, Sustainable Forest Management (Public Plantations), and No Change/Non-Forest Change.

(iii) Establishment of Kenya's National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) utilizes a National Forest Inventory (NFI) to collect data on forest resources, which is crucial for sustainable forest management, policy development, and international reporting, including REDD+ initiatives. (<https://openjicareport.jica.go.jp/pdf/12364022.pdf>)

35. Does your country carry out a National Forest Inventory?

Yes

36. If yes, what year was the most recent inventory completed?

2021

Global Forest Goal 4 Challenges

37. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 4 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.

(i) Low government budget allocations to forestry compared to other national priorities like infrastructure and health.

(ii) Complex international funding mechanisms, such as those related to climate finance.

(iii) Limited private sector investment due to the perception that forestry has long return periods and high risks.

(iv) Northern donor support is increasingly directed towards trade and private sector initiatives, resulting in a reduced allocation of resources for forestry, natural resource, and environmental conservation efforts.

6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 5: Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

38. In your country, have forests been integrated into national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies?

Yes

39. If yes, please specify which:
(Select both, if applicable)

National sustainable development plans
Poverty reduction strategies

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

40. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Strengthening law enforcement in Kenya's forests by recruiting 2664 forest rangers, 102 forest cadets and community forest scouts.

Brief description of the action:

The international recommendation for forest rangers to forest area is 1 ranger for every 400 hectares of forest land. Before 2023, the ratio in Kenya was significantly higher, with approximately 1 ranger for every 1200 hectares, indicating a shortage of forest rangers. Kenya identified this shortfall of forest protection officers and recruited 2,664 forest rangers who were trained on forest management and protection. The officers were deployed in forest stations to prevent encroachment and other illegal activities in forests.

Main results achieved for the action:

(i) The enhanced ranger force has improved the ratio to 1 ranger for every 500 hectares. This has increased forest protection and reduced illegal activities in forests by 60% in 2024 compared to 2023. Kenya also recruited 600 foresters who are working with local farmers and agro-pastoralists to promote on farm forestry and plantation farming. The foresters have been very helpful in the following; Receiving and considering applications for licenses or permits in relation to forest resources or management of forests or any other relevant matter in accordance with the Act; developing and implementing benefit sharing arrangements in accordance with the provisions of the Act, Assisting county governments to build capacity in forestry and forest management in the counties; and developing programmes for tourism and for recreational and ceremonial use of public forests.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.5
5.3
5.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforests.service.org/legal-documents/>

Action (short title):

2. Improving forest governance in Kenya counties through development and implementation of County Forest Programmes (CFPs).

Brief description of the action:

The National Government in Kenya has developed County Forest Programmes (CFPs) to facilitate the transfer of devolved forestry functions to county governments. These plans, developed under KFS statutes, aim to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities related to community and private forest management. While the Constitution of Kenya 2010 assigned forestry functions to county governments.

Main results achieved for the action:

The national government through the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) manages 2.6 million hectares of gazetted forests and co-manages 1.6 million hectares of community forests with county governments and communities. The KFS has signed 47 CFPs with county governments. These agreements formalize the roles and responsibilities of both national and county governments in forestry functions, as mandated by the Constitution and the Transition to Devolved Government Act 2012. The CFPs aim to ensure a smooth transition of devolved forestry functions, particularly in areas like forest conservation, management, and resource tracking. The KFS has been training county rangers in forest management. Between 2020 and 2025 a total of 347 county rangers from the following counties have received training at the Forest law Enforcement Academy which is under the KFS.

- (i) Kwale Community Forests Scouts (39).
- (ii) Homa Bay County Law Enforcement Personnel (250).
- (iii) Mukutani (Baringo) Community Forest Scouts (10).
- (iv) Laikipia Community Forest Scouts (8).
- (v) Olpejeta/ Segera Conservancy personnel (20).
- (vi) Olpejeta Conservancy NCOs course (20).

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
 - 15.1
 - 15.2
 - 15.b
- Other, please specify: b. SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/legal-documents/> <https://www.fao.org/kenya>; <https://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/kenya/019/index.html>

Action (short title):

- 3. Development of the Kenya Watershed Services Improvement Program (KEWASIP) which will improve forestry governance in counties.

Brief description of the action:

The Kenya Watershed Services Improvement Program (KEWASIP), a partnership between the Government of Kenya and the World Bank, aims to restore degraded landscapes, enhance watershed services, and strengthen climate resilience while improving community livelihoods. With a USD 200 million budget, the five-year program aligns with Kenya's climate and environmental goals, focusing on sustainable land management, afforestation, and community-based conservation. It is structured around two key components: integrated watershed management and resilience-building and revitalization of sustainable landscapes. Supported by institutional reforms and sustainable financing, KEWASIP enhances conservation efforts across Kenya's diverse ecosystems for long-term environmental sustainability.

Main results achieved for the action:

This project will be implemented at the county level. One of the focus of this project is strengthening the capacity of county government and local communities in management of natural resources. Funding for this project is expected to flow in the year 2026.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 2.1
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 1.3
- 5.3
- 5.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.netfund.go.ke/the-kenya-watershed-services-improvement-programme-kewasip-inside-the-countrys-ambitious-landscape-restoration-initiative/>

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

41. Since 2020, has your government taken steps to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes

42. If yes, please specify the type of action:

New legislation

Improved enforcement of existing legislation

Export controls

Import controls

Bilateral agreements between exporting and importing countries

Other, please specify: Kenya has enhanced its forest law enforcement and governance through institutional reforms and capacity-building efforts. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) has improved monitoring and enforcement, leveraging satellite technology, remote sensing, and community-based forest patrols to combat illegal logging and encroachment. Strengthened Forest Protection Units have been deployed in high-risk areas, and multi-agency collaborations involving law enforcement agencies have led to increased seizures and prosecutions related to illegal logging and trade. Additionally, Kenya has aligned its forest governance framework with international agreements such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to curb illegal timber trade

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

43. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Development and implementation of the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) 2023-2027.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya finalized the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) to provide a coordinated and multisectoral framework for forest and landscape restoration. FOLAREP aligns with national policies across sectors including environment, agriculture, water, and land use planning, while engaging county governments, local communities, and indigenous peoples. The Plan complements the national development blueprint- The Vision 2030. The plan guides investments and stakeholder participation in restoration.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Improved policy coherence, alignment of restoration activities at national and county levels, and enhanced engagement of stakeholders in restoration planning and implementation.
- (ii) Development of the National Restoration Strategy which aims to achieve a 30% tree cover by the year 2032.
- (iii) Fostering a 'whole-of- government' approach in tree growing initiatives.
- (iv) Between 2023 and mid 2025, Kenya had planted 800 million trees towards the 15 billion trees initiative.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.4
5.4
6.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/legal-documents/> <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/ken223534.pdf>

Action (short title):

2. Development of the National Forest Policy to support coordination mechanisms and wider stakeholder involvement in forest management.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has developed the Forest Policy, 2023 which has triggered a review of the Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016 to enhance alignment with evolving climate, biodiversity, and restoration frameworks. The process is consultative, involving multi-agency technical working groups and stakeholders including indigenous peoples and forest-adjacent communities, ensuring that forest governance frameworks reflect inclusivity and coherence across sectors.

Main results achieved for the action:

The reviewed National Forest Policy 2023 promotes community participation in forest management to ensure sustainable use, conservation, and benefit-sharing. This is achieved through mechanisms like Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and by empowering communities with rights and responsibilities in forest management. The policy aims to create a framework where communities can actively participate in the development and implementation of forest management plans and benefit from the resources they help protect.

A total of 850 Nature-based enterprises (NBEs) targeting the CFAs were implemented between 2020 and 2025 through projects. These projects facilitated community members by providing them with the necessary technical advice to establish these NBEs included beekeeping, fish farming, butterfly farming, sericulture, tree seedlings production, and ecotourism among others and creating marketing linkages for their products.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.3
2.4
5.4
2.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
Other, please specify: c. SDG 15, SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/legal-documents/> <https://www.environment.go.ke>

Action (short title):

3. Strengthening Devolution of Forest Management through County Forest Policies and Bills.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has supported counties in developing county-level forest policies and forest management bills, in line with the Constitution and national forest laws. These efforts have enhanced coordination between national and county governments, while ensuring that local communities and indigenous peoples participate in planning and benefit-sharing.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Several counties including Lamu, Makueni, Kakamega, and Elgeyo Marakwet have developed and enacted forest policies with community participation.
- (ii) Enhanced legislative frameworks at county level, improved community engagement in forest management, and increased coherence between national and subnational forestry programmes.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
5.1
5.2
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.3
6.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.b
Other, please specify: c. SDG 15, SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/legal-documents/>

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

44. Please describe what types of mechanisms are in place to involve stakeholders in the formulation, planning and/or implementation of forest-related policies and programmes (maximum 250 words).

Kenya has established several inclusive mechanisms to ensure effective stakeholder engagement in the formulation, planning, and implementation of forest-related policies and programmes. These mechanisms operate at both national and subnational levels and are designed to ensure coherence, transparency, and alignment with national laws and international obligations, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Key mechanisms include multi-stakeholder technical working groups (TWGs), which bring together government institutions, development partners, civil society, indigenous peoples, community forest associations (CFAs), private sector actors, and academia. These TWGs play a pivotal role in reviewing policy drafts, guiding programme design, and advising on implementation strategies.

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010 mandates the Kenya state to ensure public participation in the management of natural resources. The Participatory Forest Management (PFM) framework, anchored in the Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016), provides a legal basis for engaging local communities and indigenous peoples in forest governance through Community Forest Associations. These associations participate in co-management, benefit-sharing arrangements, and restoration activities. At the county level, devolved forest functions are supported through consultative processes during the development of County Forest Policies and Bills. Counties organize public participation forums and stakeholder validation meetings to incorporate local voices, traditional knowledge, and community priorities in forestry planning. Additionally, national strategies such as the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) and the 15 Billion Tree Growing Programme have integrated stakeholder engagement frameworks, ensuring coordinated implementation across ministries and sectors while enhancing accountability and ownership at all levels.

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

45. In your country, have forests been integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development?

Yes

Global Forest Goal 5 Challenges

**46. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 5 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

- (i) Inadequate funding of counties thus limiting management of community forests.
- (ii) Poor implementation of forest laws thus hindering the effective prosecution of offenders of forest related offences.
- (iii) Conflicting legislation- Overlapping or contradictory laws and regulations can create confusion and hinder the implementation of effective forest policies.
- (iv) Undervaluation of forest resources and products does not adequately reflect the full range of costs and benefits, hindering rational resource allocation and planning.

7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 6: Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified
Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

47. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

2. Accelerating landscape restoration through collaboration with various stakeholders.

Brief description of the action:

In Kenya, landscape restoration is being advanced through collaborative efforts between various organizations, researchers, and community groups. These initiatives aim to address issues like land degradation, climate change, and food security by restoring degraded ecosystems and promoting sustainable livelihoods.

Main results achieved for the action:

Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI) is using drone technology to restore 5.1 million hectares of degraded lands. In partnership with the Kenya Flying Labs and Seedball Kenya, KEFRI is using the drones for aerial seeding – a process where seeds are dropped from the air in degraded areas. The seeds are procured from KEFRI and then processed into balls by Seedball Kenya. They are then loaded into drones. The seed rates depend of tree species and expected ground cover. One drone has a capacity of 7 kgs with one flight taking 15 minutes and covering 0.8 hectares. In an hour, the drone can seed 3.2 hectares of land. The drones that belong to the Kenya Flying Labs are specialised and fully fitted with seed dispensers that easily, precisely and efficiently drop seed balls with precision. This will increase the rate of reseeded in Kenya.

(ii) The National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy is being implemented through a 'whole of government, whole of society approach'.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.2
5.3
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Other, please specify: SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth 8.4: Improve global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities 11.4: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage. SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production 12.2: Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/news-events/> <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/farmkenya/article/2001442067/kefri-uses-drones-for-forest-restoration>

Action (short title):

3. Promoting forest conservation in Kenya through Integrating Biodiversity into Development (BIODEV2030) Initiative.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has advanced cross-sectoral collaboration through the BIODEV2030 project, which seeks to address the country's biodiversity crisis by engaging various sectors beyond traditional conservation efforts. The initiative aims to capture voluntary commitments from priority sectors to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. This approach enhances sustainable forest management by integrating biodiversity considerations into agriculture and other land-use sectors, thereby supporting SDG 15.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Increased Multi-Sectoral Engagement: Strengthened collaboration between government agencies, private sector actors, and local communities in integrating biodiversity conservation into land-use planning and decision-making.
- (ii) Voluntary Commitments for Biodiversity Conservation: Secured sectoral commitments to adopt biodiversity-friendly practices, particularly in agriculture, forestry, and infrastructure development.
- (iii) Policy Integration: Influenced national policies by mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into cross-sectoral strategies, contributing to sustainable forest management.
- (iv) Enhanced Awareness and Capacity Building: Increased knowledge and technical capacity among stakeholders on the importance of biodiversity in economic sectors beyond conservation.
- (v) Support for SDG 15: Contributed to the sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems, promoting responsible land management to curb deforestation and degradation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
2.1
3.1
5.4
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

<https://www.biodev2030.org/en/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forester/>

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

48. Are mechanisms in place for cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation?

Yes

49. If yes, please specify the sectors involved:

Climate change
Biodiversity
Energy
Rural development
Land use
Other, please specify: Wildlife, Tourism, Agriculture, Education

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

50. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Creating awareness on forest conservation through the National Tree Growing Day Initiative.

Brief description of the action:

In November 2023, Kenya inaugurated the National Tree Growing Day as a public holiday dedicated to nationwide tree planting efforts. This initiative is part of a government plan to plant 15 billion trees by 2032, aiming to increase the country's forest cover from 8.8% to 12% and tree cover from 12.13 % to 30% by 2032. On the first National Tree Growing Day, approximately 150 million tree seedlings were planted, with subsequent events planned to maintain momentum.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The National Tree Growing Day Initiative has made significant progress in advancing Kenya's forest restoration goals. Since its launch in November 2023, the initiative has mobilized millions of Kenyans to actively participate in tree planting efforts. On the inaugural day, approximately 150 million tree seedlings were planted across the country, marking a major milestone in Kenya's ambitious plan to plant 15 billion trees by 2032.
- (ii) This initiative has enhanced public awareness and engagement in environmental conservation, fostering a culture of sustainability. Additionally, it has led to increased collaboration between government agencies, private organizations, and local communities to support reforestation efforts. The planted trees are contributing to improved carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience.
- (iii) By maintaining this momentum, Kenya is on track to significantly increase forest cover from 8.8% to 30% by 2050, reinforcing its commitment to global climate action and sustainable forest management.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 2.1
- 3.1
- 6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
 - 15.2
- Other, please specify: 13.1 – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forester/>

Action (short title):

2. Integration of the the concepts of sustainable forest management in the Kenya school curriculum.

Brief description of the action:

Sustainable forest management is integrated into the Kenyan school curriculum through Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), aiming to raise awareness, provide skills, and empower students to create more sustainable futures. Kenyan schools are incorporating ESD into their curriculum, focusing on key sustainable development issues like climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable consumption. Kenyan students learn about the vital role forests play in providing clean water, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity conservation.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Through the "Greening of Schools" initiative in Kenya, a total of 107 million seedlings have been planted in schools.
- (ii) These seedlings have a high survival rate since students are assigned one tree to nurture.
- (iii) The involvement of school children have led to some initiatives like the "Schools Fruit Orchard" project, which aim to create food forests in schools, providing students with access to nutritious fruits and potential economic opportunities for the communities.
- (iv) This action has enhanced Kenya's tree cover.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
2.5
3.1
6.1
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Other, please specify: 13.1 – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters (By reducing illegal logging and enhancing forest monitoring, the project helps improve the resilience of forests to climate change impacts, such as droughts and floods)

Weblink:

<https://www.globalforestwatch.org/>

Action (short title):

3. Enhancing sustainable forest management through adoption of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Standard.

Brief description of the action:

In May 2021, Kenya became the fourth country in East Africa to adopt the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standard for responsible forest management. This standard emphasizes ethical, ecological, and profitable management of forest resources, strengthening Kenya's efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainable forestry practices.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) The adoption of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standard in Kenya has led to significant advancements in sustainable forest management. By aligning with the FSC's principles, Kenya has enhanced its efforts to combat climate change and promote responsible forestry practices. The standard has contributed to the protection of biodiversity, ensuring that forest management is carried out in a way that conserves natural resources while supporting local communities.
- (ii) The FSC certification has also boosted the economic viability of forest products by ensuring that they are sustainably sourced, providing access to international markets that prioritize environmentally responsible goods. This has fostered both ecological sustainability and economic growth in the forestry sector.
- (iii) The adoption of the FSC standard has increased awareness and accountability in forest management, reducing illegal logging and encouraging responsible business practices, positioning Kenya as a leader in sustainable forestry in East Africa.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
2.1
2.3
3.1
5.3
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Other, please specify: 13.3 – Improve education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation and adaptation (By promoting sustainable forest management practices, the FSC standard raises awareness about the role of forests in climate change mitigation and helps build institutional capacity for climate adaptation).

Weblink:

<https://www.fsc.org/>

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

51. Are criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used in your country?

Yes

**52. If yes, please specify which sets of criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)**

National or subnational

Regional or international (for instance, those used by the International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, the Montreal Process and the Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests)

Other, please specify: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Kenya Forest Policy (2014), The Kenya Forest Act (2005) and REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation)

**53. If yes, please specify for which of the following purposes the criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)**

To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify): International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Montreal Process (for sustainable forest management indicators) REDD+ initiative

To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management

To monitor and assess forest conditions and management

To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management

To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders

Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

54. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

1. Convening National Forest Management Stakeholder Consultations (2021-2022).

Brief description of the action:

Kenya conducted a series of stakeholder consultations as part of the development of the National Forest Management Strategy. These consultations brought together government agencies, local communities, indigenous groups, NGOs, private sector players, and environmental organizations to review forest policies and strategies. Stakeholders discussed the integration of sustainable forest management practices and the need for greater community involvement in forest governance.

Results: The consultations led to the development of policies that emphasize community-driven forest management, ensuring that local populations are directly involved in forest conservation efforts.

GFG and SDG Targets Supported:

SDG 15.2: Sustainable forest management

GFG Target 6.5: Strengthened input from major groups and stakeholders

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Management Stakeholder Consultations conducted between 2021 and 2022 played a crucial role in strengthening the involvement of various groups in forest governance. The consultations facilitated collaboration between government agencies, local communities, NGOs, private sector entities, and environmental organizations, ensuring that all voices were heard in shaping forest management policies.

Key results include:

(i) The development of inclusive forest management policies that prioritize community-based approaches to forest conservation.

(ii) Enhanced awareness among local communities about their role in forest protection and the sustainable use of forest resources.

(iii) The creation of feedback loops that allowed communities to contribute their insights, helping to refine national strategies.

(iv) The promotion of legal recognition for Community Forest Associations (CFAs), ensuring a more collaborative approach to forest management at the local level.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1

2.4

6.1

6.3

6.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1

15.2

15.b

Other, please specify: 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels. This target is directly supported by the consultations, as they aimed to enhance the participation of diverse stakeholders, ensuring that forest management decisions are inclusive and represent the needs and perspectives of various groups.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forester/>

Action (short title):

2. Strengthening of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) to enhance sustainable forest management.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya has been strengthening Community Forest Associations (CFAs) by supporting them with training, governance, and financial management. This includes encouraging sustainable practices like farm forestry and botanical gardens to provide economic benefits. Kenya is also strengthening the umbrella body for CFAs; NACOFA, to enable harmonizing CFA activities and facilitating communication among different associations.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) A total of 233 CFAs have been registered to date, 177 of these CFAs have signed Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) with the Kenya Forest Service.
- (ii) Improved governance: The initiative supported CFAs in establishing clear governance structures, improving their transparency and accountability, and ensuring more efficient forest management at the community level.
- (iii) Resource mobilization: CFAs gained access to funding and technical support, enabling them to implement forest restoration and protection projects.
- (iv) Strengthened partnerships: The initiative fostered stronger collaborations between CFAs, government agencies, and NGOs, ensuring a more coordinated approach to forest conservation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
2.3
3.1
6.1
6.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

Other, please specify: 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels. This is directly related as CFAs foster participatory decision-making processes within communities, ensuring that local stakeholders are included in forest governance and management.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/>

Action (short title):

3. Resource mobilization through conservation projects that have tangible benefits to local communities.

Brief description of the action:

Kenya is mobilizing resources to support various forest conservation programmes. One such major project is the Green Zones II Project, launched by the Kenya Forest Service in collaboration with the African Development Bank, focuses on community-driven reforestation efforts. Local communities, including farmers and women's groups, have been involved in planting trees, managing forest regeneration, and protecting forest boundaries.
Results: The project has led to the restoration of over 27,470 hectares of degraded land, providing local communities with new income opportunities from sustainable forestry.

Main results achieved for the action:

- (i) Over 27,470 hectares of degraded land have been restored through community-driven efforts, significantly improving local forest ecosystems. Key outcomes include:
- (ii) Community Engagement: Farmers, women's groups, and local stakeholders were actively involved in tree planting, forest regeneration, and the protection of forest boundaries, fostering a sense of ownership and stewardship over the land.
- (iii) Sustainable Livelihoods: The project created new income-generating opportunities for local communities by supporting 35 nature based enterprises such as eco-tourism. The project has supported the construction of 4 resource centers to train communities on sustainable forest management.
- (iv) Climate Resilience: The project has mobilized the planting of 137,339,000 seedlings in natural forests, plantations, woodlots and orchards. The reforestation efforts have contributed to climate change mitigation, enhancing the resilience of local communities to climate-related hazards such as droughts and floods.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
2.3
3.2
6.1
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.b

Other, please specify: 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters. This target is linked to the project as it enhances community resilience to climate change through reforestation, improving local ecosystems and providing adaptive solutions to climate-related challenges.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/forest-management-plans/>

Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

55. Since 2020, have major groups and other relevant stakeholders been involved in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

Yes

56. If yes, please describe their involvement in a maximum of 250 words:

Since 2020, major groups and other relevant stakeholders in Kenya have been actively involved in the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030. Their involvement has been integral in fostering sustainable forest management and addressing deforestation challenges.

Stakeholder Consultations: Extensive consultations have been held with local communities, indigenous groups, and forest-dependent populations, ensuring their inclusion in the decision-making process. This has been crucial in aligning forest policies with community needs and ensuring their active participation in forest conservation and management efforts.

Community-Based Projects: Through initiatives like the Green Zones II Project, local communities, including farmers and women's groups, have been directly engaged in reforestation activities, forest regeneration, and boundary protection. These efforts have contributed to restoring over 10,000 hectares of degraded land, providing income opportunities and enhancing local resilience to climate change.

Collaborative Partnerships: The government has partnered with various non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sector actors, and international partners. These collaborations have focused on strengthening sustainable forestry practices, capacity building, and implementing forest management policies. For example, the adoption of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Standard has been a key action supported by stakeholders to promote responsible forest management.

Awareness and Advocacy: Stakeholders, including environmental NGOs, have played a pivotal role in raising awareness on forest issues and advocating for policy changes to protect Kenya's forests. These efforts have included the promotion of tree planting campaigns and the National Tree Growing Day initiative.

Global Forest Goal 6 Challenges

57. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 6 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.

- (i) Inadequate stakeholder coordination and duplication of interventions.
- (ii) High expectation by local communities for support with projects.
- (iii) Fragmented efforts hinder the development of comprehensive, cohesive forest management strategies.
- (iv) Funding and Resources: Adequate funding for large-scale reforestation and forest management projects remains a significant barrier. Many initiatives depend on international support, and there is a need for more sustainable, long-term financial mechanisms to support forest conservation.

8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets

58. In your opinion, what is the progress of your country towards the targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, since its adoption in 2017?

	Achieved	On track	Some progress	No change	Negative change	Not applicable
1.1 Forest area		X				
1.2 Carbon stock		X				
1.3 Implementation of SFM		X				
1.4 Resilience and adaptation		X				
2.1 Extreme poverty of forest dependent people		X				
2.2 Access to finance of small forest enterprises			X			
2.3 Food security			X			
2.4 Contribution to social economic and environmental development			X			
2.5 Contribution to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation		X				
3.1 Protected areas		X				
3.2 Long-term forest management plans		X				
3.3 Products from sustainably managed forests		X				
4.1 Mobilization of resources for SFM			X			
4.2 Increased forest related financing			X			
4.3 Enhanced cooperation and partnerships	X					
4.4 Forest financing strategies and access to financing			X			
4.5 Forest-related information			X			
5.1 Integration of forests in national plans and strategies	X					
5.2 Enhancement of forest law enforcement and governance	X					
5.3 Coherence and coordination of policies and programmes		X				
5.4 Integration of forest related issues into land-use planning		X				
6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation		X				
6.4 Common understanding of concept of SFM indicator sets		X				
6.5 Strengthened involvement of stakeholders			X			

9. Voluntary National Contributions

59. Has your government announced any Voluntary National Contributions (VNCs) related to the Global Forest Goals?

Yes

60. If yes, please provide a brief description, including information on timeframes and the progress made thus far. If your government has announced more than one Voluntary National Contribution, please click "Add another contribution" (can add up to ten).

Brief description:

1. To grow 15 billion trees by the year 2032.

The Government of Kenya has committed to grow 15 billion trees by the year 2032. This commitment is contained in the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy launched in 2023. The main goal of this strategy is to restore and conserve degraded landscapes and ecosystems that will contribute to; increasing tree cover to 30%, improving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability, better livelihoods, socio- economic development, climate resilience, and Kenya's commitments to regional and global Conventions by 2032.

Progress to date:

By mid 2025, a total of over 688 million seedlings had been planted across Kenya. Tree growing activities have focused on rehabilitation of degraded natural forests in gazetted forests and water towers, rehabilitation of degraded dryland landscapes, agroforestry trees on farmlands, commercial private forests, rehabilitation of degraded mangrove ecosystems, restocking of forest plantation in gazetted forests, and establishment of urban forests, arboretum, and green spaces.

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Brief description:

2. To restore 10.6 million of hectares of degraded landscapes and ecosystems by 2023.
The Government of Kenya has committed to restore 10.6 million of hectares of degraded landscapes and ecosystems through tree growing and sustainable land management practices for improved ecological functionality, resilience to climate change and better livelihoods by 2032.

Progress to date:

By mid 2025, Kenya had began the process of restoring 0.9 million hectares of degraded landscapes in forests, farmlands, grasslands and other ecosystems. Most of the restoration area is targeted in the arid and semi-arid areas using species such as *Melia volkensii*.

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

10. Other questions: Gender equality

61. Since 2020, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?

Yes

**62. If yes, please indicate the purpose of the action taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector:
(Select all that apply)**

Women's effective access to the control and use of forest resources
Women's effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
Women's effective participation and representation in forest management institutions

63. Please provide a brief description of the actions taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector:

- (i) Since 2022, the President of Kenya has appointed two women Cabinet Secretaries responsible for forestry related matters. The CS is responsible for all policy matters related to forestry.
- (ii) Kenya has a policy on affirmative action and access to business opportunities in all sectors of the economy including forestry. At least a third of government business opportunities goes to women.
Women have taken advantage of forest enterprise opportunities.
- (iii) There is increased participation of women in Community Forest Associations in Kenya.
- (iv) Women hold senior positions in the Kenya Forest Service and other institutions that deal with forest related matters.

11. Other questions: International Day of Forests

**64. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country in observance of the International Day of Forests?
(Select all that apply)**

Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)
Social media activities
Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)
Media activities (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
Other, please specify: Tree growing activities

65. Please provide up to three examples of actions taken in observance of International Day of Forests since 2020. If possible, include a weblink to relevant documentation.

International Forest Day Action:

During the IDF, official celebrations are held Nationally to mark the importance of forests. This function is celebrated mainly with tree planting activities in all counties of Kenya. In the 2024 IDF celebrations, a total of 3.75 million tree seedlings were planted across the country. In the 2025 IDF celebrations, over 4 million tree seedlings were planted across the country.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestsservice.org/forest-management-plans/> <https://laikipia.ac.ke/article/laikipia-univeristy-participates-international-day-forests>

International Forest Day Action:

(i) Kenya uses the International Day of Forests to launch and show case technological innovations being employed to monitor, safeguard and manage forests. In 2024, Kenya showcased the use of ArcGIS Survey 123 and drones to map forest cover. The IDF are also marked by launching nature based enterprises that help to improve community livelihoods.

Weblink:

<https://scienceafrica.co.ke/2023/02/20/kenya-drones-to-boost-forest-surveillance/>

International Forest Day Action:

(ii) The IDF are used to launch infrastructure projects such electric fences that prevent encroachment in forests. The launch of these fencing projects aligns with the goals of the International Day of Forests, which emphasizes the need to protect forests and their biodiversity. In 2024, IDF celebrations, Kenya launched a ground breaking Mangrove Monitoring portal for conservation of mangrove ecosystems.

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestsservice.org/forest-management-plans/> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CemlCmRg9kw>

12. Success stories

66. Since 2020, does your country have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

Yes

67. If yes, provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and/or articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets. Please specify the relevant GFG targets.

You may provide up to three success stories by clicking on "Add another success story".

Title:

1. Implementation of Strategy to increase the country's Tree cover to 10 % by the year 2022

Brief description:

The strategy was developed to bring the whole government approach towards achieving the constitutional mandate of minimum of 10 % tree cover in the country. Strategy for seedling production and planting were developed and shared with all stakeholders in the country for execution.

Kenya made a deliberate decision in 2018, to accelerate achievement of the 10% tree cover by the year 2022. The National Strategy for achieving and maintaining over 10% Tree Cover by 2022, was subsequently developed and implemented through the National Tree Planting (NTPC) Campaign Project. All Government MDAs, private sector and communities were mobilized in unprecedented manner to attain the 10% national tree cover by 2022. This target has since been achieved .

Main results achieved:

The National Forest Resource Assessment conducted in 2021 established Kenya's National Forest Cover to have increased to 8.83% and Tree cover mapped at 12.13% .(KFS, 2022).

GFG targets addressed:

2.3
2.4

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestsservice.org/news-events/>

Title:

2. Development of National Landscape Restoration Strategy (NLRS) 2023- 2032 and the National Agroforestry Strategy 2024-2032

Brief description:

NLRS serves as guiding framework for the implementation of the 15Billion tree growing initiative. This initiative aims to rehabilitate 10.6Million hectares of degraded land throughout Kenya, which will achieve National tree cover of 30% by 2032.

Main results achieved:

Through the implementation of the strategy, an estimated 800 million trees have been planted and are continuously being monitored through an elaborate monitoring system to achieve full potential restoration. Other achievements towards full roll out of the strategy include;

- (i) 15 Billion Tree Growing and Restoration Secretariat established under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry to oversee the 15 Billion Tree Planting Strategy.
- (ii) JazaMiti App upgraded for real-time monitoring, data collection, and verification, ensuring transparency.
- (iii) About 225 Million dollars mobilized through the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Program (FLLOCA) to support capacity-building workshops in all 47 counties.
- (iv) Training provided on seedling production, planting techniques, and monitoring to enhance stakeholder expertise.
- (v) Public sensitization campaigns conducted to raise awareness and encourage participation.
- (vi) Ground-truthing efforts with KEFRI and DRSRS for accurate reporting.
- (vii) Strengthens intergovernmental coordination, private-sector investment, and community engagement for long-term sustainability.

GFG targets addressed:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 3.1
- 3.2

Weblink:

<https://environment.go.ke/> <https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/news-events/>

Title:

3. Rehabilitation of 456,000 hectares of degraded landscapes through various interventions.

Brief description:

Kenya has secured significant funding to support the implementation of programmes that contribute to the protection and restoration of Kenya's forest ecosystems. Some of these projects are;

- (a) Green Zone Support Development Project Phase II (GZDSP II).
- b) Capacity Development Project for Modern Technologies in Forest Fire Management in Kenya
- c) Integrated Landscape Management for Conservation and Restoration of Mt. Elgon Forest Ecosystem
- d) Strengthening Forest Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through Landscape Restoration Project – SFC -CORREC project
- e) Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) Project
- g) Forest Irrigation Climate and Green Energy Project

Main results achieved:

- (i) Between 2020 and mid 2025, these projects have contributed to the rehabilitation of 65,000 hectares of degraded natural forest land, establishment of 56,324 hectares of plantation forests and establishment of over 1250 nature based enterprises.
- (ii) According to Kenya Economic Survey 2024 report, the contribution of the forestry sector to Kenya's GDP grew to 3.6 % in 2024 compared to 2.7 in 2023.
- (iii) Kenya has partnered with the Government of Japan to implement the Project for Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Landscape Restoration (SFS- CORECC).
 - (a) The project has been rolled out in eight counties to grow 2 million ha of forestry woodlots of Melia Volkensii trees. The tree produces high quality timber which is a good source of income for rural households. Its is expected that household income for project beneficiaries will grow at 60% by 2027.
 - (b) The project is increasing tree cover by promoting drought resistant forest trees in the targets counties in Kenya.
 - (c) This project is directly contributing to improving the livelihoods of small scale farmers and also mitigating poverty in forest adjacent communities.

GFG targets addressed:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2.2
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 5.1
- 5.3
- 5.4
- 6.1

Weblink:

<https://www.kenyaforestservice.org/news-events/> <https://www.knbs.or.ke/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-Economic-Survey.pdf>

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