

# Youth Climate Action Strategy

**FOR KENYA 2021–2030**



**nema**  
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# FOREWORD

Kenya, like most countries, is experiencing the effects of climate change, which include droughts, floods, loss of biodiversity, disasters, emerging diseases, among others. The government has further developed a National climate change Action plan for 2018- 2022, which prioritizes Disaster Risk management, Water and Blue Economy, food security, Industry, Forestry wildlife and tourism, Health sanitation and Human settlement, Energy, and transport.

The youth 18- 35 years in Kenya form 29 % of the population, while those below 35 years form more than half of the country's population. The youth in formal education and out of school has been in the limelight in promoting climate change action and other environmental conservation issues through taking climate action and advocacy. However, it's noteworthy that 69% of the population is unemployed or underemployed, and these are mainly of the youth.

My Ministry has developed the youth climate change Action strategy to empower the youth in participating and engaging in climate change action in the county. It seeks to build the capacity of the youths by integration in decision making, capacity building in knowledge, skill and encouraging action to address the climate change issues. The strategy also promotes the reorientation of the current education towards sustainable development and, more so, addresses the issues of climate change and other sustainable development challenges in the county.

The strategy suggested three priority areas Priority Area 1: Integration of the youth in climate action, Priority Area 2: Capacity building of the youth to take climate action, and Priority Area 3 Inclusiveness of youth-led climate action. The strategy will be used by various stakeholders, including the State Corporation in my Ministry, Private Sector, Civil Society organization development partners, and youth in the country to address the climate change issues. The strategy will complement other documents that the Ministry has developed regarding climate change Action.



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Globally countries have become climate susceptible due to global warming that is human induced as well as being caused by natural reasons. However, there has been political commitment to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the climate change action agreements globally that are geared towards adaptation and mitigation. The annual average economic losses from climate related disasters are in hundreds of billions of dollars. The human impact which is climate related has led to 1.3 million killed and 4.4 billion injured.

The Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate Action aims at Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries, Further it seeks to integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning and improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning



Kenya's economy is very dependent on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water, energy, tourism, wildlife, and health, which increases vulnerability. The increasing intensity and magnitude of weather-related disasters in Kenya aggravates conflicts, mostly over natural resources, and contributes to security threats. Historically, extreme climatic events have caused significant loss of life and adversely affected the national economy. In the 1997-2016 period, the country experienced an average of 57.95 deaths per year and GDP losses of 0.362% per year due to extreme weather events.

The country has developed several policies, Laws, institutions and strategies to address climate Action and green jobs. Notably is the National Climate Change Action plan (2018 -2022) and Green Economy Strategy and implementation plan (2016-2030) and Nationally Determined Contributions for both the youth and other stakeholders.

The youth population will be most affected by climate change in the years to come given the size of the global youth population; 18 percent of the world's population is aged 15 to 24, (UN Survey 2019). The youth can play a part in building more equitable and climate-resilient societies and contribute to Climate action. They are aware that the climate challenge is too big for them to tackle alone, yet they not only lack avenues for active participation, but also the climate literacy, language and leadership skills to initiate







climate action amongst their peers and within their communities in a step to ensuring that the current and future generations do not suffer the effects of worsening climate. The youth across the world are ready to act.

It's on the above background that the Youth Climate Action Strategy (YCAS) in Kenya aims to continue that momentum through providing inspiration and direction for the youth in Kenya to take appropriate climate action. Specifically, it will address three priority areas namely; Integration of the youth in climate action, Capacity building and Empowerment of youth to take climate action.

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The development of Youth Climate Change Action Strategy would not have been possible without the immense contribution of a number of stakeholders in form of financial and technical support. Appreciation is extended to different institutions that devoted their time and Resources towards development of the strategy.

The National Environment Management Authority played a critical role in initiating the development of this strategy and provided financial and technical support towards the process. The development of the strategy has been necessitated by the interaction and engagement of the Authority with the youth groups and association all over the country.

Appreciation goes to various stakeholders who have worked over a short notice to come up with the strategy:



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We are also grateful to the young people who reviewed, edited and provided input.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mamo B Mamo', written in a cursive style.

**MAMO B MAMO**  
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	5
ACRONYMS	8
DEFINITION OF TERMS	9
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	11
1.1 BACKGROUND	11
1.2 RATIONALE	12
1.3 GOAL	13
1.4 OBJECTIVES	13
CHAPTER 2: SITUATION ANALYSIS	15
2.1 GLOBAL CONTEXT	15
2.2 REGIONAL CONTEXT	15
2.3 NATIONAL CONTEXT	16
2.4. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF STRATEGY	17
TABLE 2.1: SWOT ANALYSIS	18
CHAPTER 3: POLICY, LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK	19



3.1 POLICY FRAMEWORK	19
3.2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK	20
3.3 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK	21
CHAPTER 4: STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION	23
4.1 STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION	23
TABLE 3.1: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION	23
3.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION	25
CHAPTER 5: STRATEGIES FOR ENGAGING THE YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION	27
5.1 INTRODUCTION	27
5.2 PRIORITY AREA 1: INTEGRATION OF THE YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION;	27
5.3 PRIORITY AREA 2 CAPACITY BUILDING AND EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH TO TAKE CLIMATE ACTION	28
5.4 PRIORITY AREA 3: INCLUSIVENESS OF YOUTH LED CLIMATE ACTION.	29
TABLE 4.1: IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX	29
REFERENCES	32



# ACRONYMS

AYICC	African Youth Initiative on Climate Change
CCU	Climate Change Units
CCD	Climate Change Directorate
CEC	County Executive Committee Member
CUE	Commission of University Education
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
EMCA	Environment Management and Coordination Act
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
GESIP	Green Economy Strategy Plan and Implementation Plan
GHG	Green House Gas
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ILO	International Labour organization
KICD	Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development
KEMI-	Kenya Education Management Institute
KWTA	Kenya Water Towers Authority
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KFS	Kenya Forest Service
KYEOP	Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
MoICT	Ministry of Information Communication Technology
MoPYG	Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovations
NCCRS	National Climate Change Response Strategy
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NETFUND	National Environment Trust Fund
NITA	National Industrial Training Authority
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TVETA	Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organisation
UNEVOC	UNESCO Technical and Vocational. Education and Training



# DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Climate Action:** Climate action means stepped-up efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-induced impacts, including: climate-related hazards in all countries; integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning; and improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity with respect to climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

**Climate change** a change in climate system which is caused by significant changes in concentration of greenhouse gases as a consequence of human activities and which in addition to natural climate change that has been observed during a considerable period

**Education for Sustainable Development** A broad and evolving concept that can be broadly interpreted as holistic and transformational education that addresses learning content and outcomes, pedagogy and the learning environment to achieve societal transformation. It incorporates key sustainable development issues such as – climate change, disaster risk reduction, gender equality, biodiversity, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption – into teaching and learning

**Green Economy** Refers to a shift towards a development path that promotes resource efficiency and sustainable management of natural resources, social inclusion, resilience, and sustainable infrastructure development.

**Green jobs** Green jobs are decent jobs that contribute to preserve or restore the environment, be they in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and construction, or in new, emerging green sectors such as renewable energy and energy efficiency

**Youth** The Constitution of Kenya (2010) Article 260 defines youth as “individuals in the Republic who have attained the age of eighteen years; but have not attained the age of thirty-five years”.

**Youth Hood:** the specific stage between childhood and adulthood when people have to negotiate a complex interplay of both personal and socioeconomic and cultural changes to manoeuvre the transition from dependence to independence (15-17yrs)







# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

Climate change is a critical environmental issue in the 21st century, it threatens not only public health and food security, but also accelerates natural disasters such as floods, wildfires and erosion. In short, most countries in the world are climate vulnerable. However, there has been political commitment to the attainment of SDGs and the climate change agreements globally.

Given the size of the global youth population (eighteen (18) percent of the world's population is aged 15 to 24, which rises to 40 percent when including everyone under 24), it's clear that young people will be most affected by climate change in the years to come. They will also be our future leaders, policy makers and decisions-makers, so it's critical to engage them in climate action now, so that they can play a part in building more equitable and climate-resilient societies.


As the climate change impact intensifies over time, children and the youth of today being passive victims all over the world have begun to fight back on a scale never seen before. Take for example, Greta Thunberg, the 15-year-old from Sweden who sparked a global movement of school-age students demanding greater action from governments to fight climate change. Now millions are marching to demonstrate their support.

Whether through education, technology, science or law - the youth far and wide are tapping into their skills to speak up for climate action. They have come together as individuals or organized groups to chart ways of combating climate change. Young people are key actors in raising awareness, running educational programmes, promoting sustainable lifestyles, conserving nature, supporting renewable energy, adopting environmentally friendly practices and implementing adaptation and mitigation projects.

The Global youth action on global action (2021) observes that; young people consider climate change as one of the largest and most unprecedented threats to the world, there is a lot of talk and no action on climate issues, leaders and decision makers are not doing enough to address climate change, there is need for relevant education, training, public awareness and access to information as these are critical for building the skills for effective climate action.

The South African Youth Climate Action Plan(2021) provides a framework to inspire youth led action and further serve as a guide for youth decision makers, civil society, business, academia and other stakeholders to reshape South Africa into a climate just and resilient society. The action plan is divided into five pillars namely; inter-functionality, advocacy and activism for climate action, good governance, systemic change and environmental sustainability.





In Kenya, the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC), Kenya regularly hosts weekly Twitter chats where youth can engage on environment-related matters. In June 2020, they hosted an online youth debate titled 'Enhanced Climate Mitigation Ambition Relevance in the NDC Update Process: The case of Kenya'. The debate was focused on whether Kenya, as a developing nation, should increase its domestic action and international initiatives to cut global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The debaters argued whether Kenya needed to enhance its mitigation actions or rather focus on implementation of its current climate ambitions. The youth highlighted policy and implementation gaps in Kenya's climate change approach, including a lack of communication and coordination related to community group access to funding, a lack of sufficient inter-ministerial cooperation to support climate action and inadequate data and information sharing platforms to promote transparency and accountability (Youth Climate Advocacy: A special report, 2020).


## 1.2 RATIONALE

While young people are willing and able to act – and, in many cases, believe they have the skills to do so – there is still a need for relevant education, training, public awareness and access to information, as these are all critical for building the skills for effective climate action. They are aware that the climate challenge is too big for them to tackle alone, yet they not only lack avenues for active participation, but also the climate literacy, language and leadership skills to initiate climate action amongst their peers and within their communities.

There is need to involve the youth in developing climate action plans, with measurable outcomes, and realistic, meaningful targets – whether it's tackling deforestation, pollution or carbon emissions. We all have a responsibility to engage and value the young people of today, and to involve them in the planning and implementation of climate change solutions.

Impacts of Climate change are getting severe day by day. The youth have an important role in ensuring that the current and future generations do not suffer the effects of worsening climate. The youth across the world are ready to act. This strategy aims to continue that momentum through providing inspiration and direction for the youth in Kenya to take appropriate climate action. Specifically it will address three priority areas namely; **Integration of the youth in climate action, Capacity building of the youth to take climate action and Inclusiveness of youth led climate action**

This strategy is expected to play a central role in the evolving youth-climate change nexus in supporting meaningful alignment of youth and climate change agendas. In response to the interdisciplinary,



multifaceted nature of climate change and variability, it works at the intersection of science, policy and practice. The strategy is expected to tackle climate change in an integrated manner, working to engage diverse stakeholders. Encouraging collaboration across entities that typically work in disparate ways can be challenging. Yet, meaningful youth engagement, as proposed many policy documents, can be a strategic vehicle for transforming institutional cultures. By engaging youth across integrative agendas, in an inclusive, gender-sensitive manner at local, national and international levels, we invest early in opening mindsets, dialogues and platforms to reduce cross-sectoral barriers. Through awareness raising and inspiring youth-led action and advocacy today, we engage youth to collaboratively advance effective integrated action on climate change now and going forward as tomorrow's leaders.

Participatory and interactive approaches, sports, the 'curriculum and Researcher Programmes can promote meaningful youth engagement. Working closely with national and County Governments, Private partners and civil societies to develop, contextualize and utilize these tools and approaches, while strategically building upon past and current initiatives involving the Youth, provides a strong grounding to advance the youth climate action agenda.

### **1.3 GOAL**

The Goal is to Empower the youth in Kenya to take climate action

### **1.4 OBJECTIVES**

The broad objectives of the strategy is to

1. Promote strategic integration of the youth in climate action
2. Build capacity of the youth to take climate action
3. Support inclusive youth led action on climate

### **1.5 SCOPE OF THE STRATEGY**

The strategy targets both the youth in and out of schools. These include youth in Rural and in urban areas. Youth in schools include the primary school, secondary and tertiary institutions whereby we target the curriculum and co-curriculum activities targeting learners, teachers and learning institutions. It further targets the youth out of schools, individuals youth community based organizations, Non-governmental organization led by youth, youth movements, youth networks, clubs, and religious organizations among others.



**youth Climate**  
*Action Strategy*



# CHAPTER 2: SITUATION ANALYSIS

## 2.1 GLOBAL CONTEXT

Globally, the total population of youth ages 15 to 24 years is estimated to be 1.2 billion which is 16% of the total population thus forming the bulk of the population (UN Survey 2019). Youths are increasingly aware of the challenges and risks presented by the climate crisis and of the opportunities to achieve sustainable development.

Over 200 million students are currently enrolled in the higher education system and this number is predicted to double by 2030. Yet, 71 million unemployed youth are currently struggling to find a job, a situation only exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The good news, however, is that the transition to a green economy will add an estimated 60 million new jobs to the market by 2030. According to the International Labour organization (ILO), “The green transition can generate millions of jobs, but these are conditional on the availability of relevant skills and training.


## 2.2 REGIONAL CONTEXT

Africa’s youth population is growing rapidly and is expected to reach over 830 million by 2050. In parallel, youths account for 60% of all of Africa’s jobless, according to the World Bank. In most African countries, youth unemployment “occurs at a rate more than twice that for adults,” notes the African Development Bank. Africa has the largest demographic and therefore a significant resource to the world that cannot be ignored. With 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the largest population of young people in the world. The youth possess massive power to hold decision-makers accountable, with a clear message that the older generation has failed, and it is the youth who will pay with their very futures. Youth are not only victims of climate change, but are also valuable contributors to positive climate action. They are agents of change, entrepreneurs and innovators. The Youthful population has access to information on matters affecting them, and are more likely to share this information with their peers.

Youth are often side-lined in climate change policy making and implementation processes at the county, national, regional and international levels. Youth should be part of the climate solutions being conceptualized in rooms behind closed doors. Integrating African youth in the creation of climate policies, plans, projects and programs at all levels is imperative. This is because African youth have the much-needed skill sets and are already leading climate action in their home countries.

African youth work across a range of diverse industries which make them integral to the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement, the African Agenda





2063, the African Union Youth Charter and other national visions and plans which cut across multiple sectors. Four key barriers are sense of urgency, knowledge, tools and technology and voice barriers faced by youth to engage. Youth lack adequate education and training in climate change; furthermore, institutions of learning are not required to include climate change in their curricular. Youth lack a platform where they can share ideas and create partnerships into climate action. Once youth are incentivized and supported, they take action.

Climate change creates elevated levels of uncertainty about our future and amid this uncertainty, one thing is certain. The youth are increasingly aware of the challenges and opportunities that the necessary transition to low carbon growth entails, and many are joining the global dialogue on solutions, getting involved and taking action. As Youth work across the globe to determine their future by acting on climate change, their actions inspire us all. The threat of climate change continues to be a major reality that is set to add to the list of the many challenges facing youth across the globe. The big question that we ought to ask is if the youth are getting the right information as far as climate change is concerned. Despite the numerous challenges facing youth especially in developing countries, youth are forging a pathway to building a secure and resilient future and have been at the forefront of championing change right from the community level.

## **2.3 NATIONAL CONTEXT**

The Constitution created two tiers of government both at the National and County levels and devolved certain environmental functions to be undertaken by the counties.

Article 260 of the Constitution of Kenya, defines a youth as a person aged between 18 and 34 years. According to the 2019 Kenya population and housing census report, youth (18-34 years of age) were 13,618,462 or 29% of Kenya's population. The Department of youth in Kenya seeks to promote mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of natural resources and environment while engaging in Eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs, building capacity of the youth in green processes, technology and waste management and building capacity of the youth to fully integrate them into the Country's technological transformation and ensuring sustainable financing of youth programmes to addressing youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity.

Like most of these countries, Kenya is currently faced with the opportunity and challenge of a so called 'youth bulge'. Following the official UN definition, this phenomenon "occurs when more than 20 per cent of a country's population is composed of young people", which can be "a valuable asset for both present and future generations"

## 2.4. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF STRATEGY

This strategy aims to provide inspiration and direction for the youth to take concrete climate action. Youth are grappling with numerous challenges including high rates of unemployment, insecurity, and mental health that pose direct or immediate effects to their well-being and making them to lose attention to climate change issues. In regards to climate change, the challenges facing the youth include, low level of awareness of climate change and its impacts, insufficient public participation and sensitization; climate change issues not fully integrated into Kenya's formal education system; inadequate capacity for policy makers at national and sub-national levels on climate change mainstreaming; lack of adequate data and information to guide policy making among others.

There is also need for more outreach and public awareness programs to ensure that climate change information is freely available and in formats that are suitable for the youth at all levels including, those in schools and out of schools, training institutions, informal settlements, urban and rural youth and marginal areas and youth with disability . Additionally, there are no digital learning or online training programs that complement face to face learning and respond to the current global COVID 19 pandemic increase the reach and access of the programs for learners targeting the youth. Information sharing can be done through digital media platforms, arts and films, youth forums, and even community dialogues that bring matters on climate change to perspective to make them digestible. By merely telling a youth in rural Kenya for instance, that climate change is real, painting a picture of how this change can or is already affecting a key sector of the economy like agriculture would be more meaningful.

By building capacities, awareness and involving youth in local, national, and international processes, youth will be more empowered to participate in climate change adaptation and mitigation. In addition, equipping youth with information on how they can help address climate change and the platforms that they can use for advocacy will also go a long way in enhancing creation of awareness on climate change.

The proposed youth climate action strategy will operate optimally as envisioned while taking into consideration the SWOT analysis as shown on the table below;



**TABLE 2.1: SWOT ANALYSIS**

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Largest percentage of global/regional/national youth population</li> <li>2. Energetic youth</li> <li>3. Focused youth population</li> <li>4. Creative and innovative youth</li> <li>5. Risk takers</li> <li>6. Ambitious youth</li> <li>7. Resilient youth</li> <li>8. Enthusiastic on climate change</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of resources</li> <li>2. Limited knowledge on climate change science</li> <li>3. Lack of interest/less exposed</li> <li>4. Limited information on climate change</li> <li>5. Less motivated to work towards climate change</li> <li>6. Lack of a platform to share ideas and create partnerships in climate action</li> <li>7. Lack of sound guidance towards climate change</li> <li>8. Lack of policy guidelines to promote climate action</li> <li>9. Lack of adequate education and training in climate change</li> <li>10. Lack of inte</li> <li>11. insufficient public participation and sensitization in climate change issues</li> </ol>
Threats	Opportunities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unwillingness to get involved in climate action</li> <li>2. High rate of Youth unemployment</li> <li>3. lack of adequate data and information to guide policymaking Limited outreach and public awareness programs</li> <li>4. Limited access to digital learning or online training programs</li> <li>5. Corruption</li> <li>6. Retrogressive cultural practices</li> <li>7. Negative impacts of climate change</li> <li>8. Disregard of Indigenous knowledge and cultures</li> <li>9. Erosion of moral fabric among the youths</li> <li>10. Emerging issues (Insecurity, Covid-19)</li> <li>11. Climate change issues not fully integrated into Kenya's formal education system;</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Massive power to hold decision makers accountable</li> <li>2. Existence of Youth Fund</li> <li>3. Policy and Climate Change Act</li> <li>4. Incentives to support youth led climate action.</li> <li>5. Technological Advancement (ICT, KYEOP)</li> <li>6. Climate change</li> <li>7. Potential to be involved in Green economy</li> <li>8. Green and decent jobs</li> <li>9. Participate in Smart Economy; scientific research, superior technology and care for the environment</li> <li>10. Global policy momentum on climate change and sustainable development</li> <li>11. Access to various social media platforms</li> <li>12. Devolution of environmental functions to the devolved units of government (Counties)</li> <li>13. Including climate change as one of the crosscutting issues in all courses offered</li> </ol>

# CHAPTER 3:

## POLICY, LEGAL & INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### 3.1 POLICY FRAMEWORK

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) The ultimate objective of the Convention is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations “at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human induced) interference with the climate system. In 2015 the Convention adapted the Paris Agreement calls for countries to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to help societies and ecosystems adapt better to climate change.

The priority of the agreement is to protect food security and to put an end to hunger, it also takes cognizance of protecting all ecosystems and biodiversity. It also calls for reduction of a country and individuals carbon footprints. UNFCCC established YOUNGO which is a body for Young and the Non-Governmental organization to empower children and youth to enhance their skills and capacity to drive the necessary and ambitious climate action and policies.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for 2030 aims to build a more and just sustainable world through strengthening ESD and contributing to the achievements of the seventeen (17) SDGs. One of the priority areas is to empower and mobilize the youth to take action on climate action.

Kenya through the various policies have domesticated Multilateral Environmental Agreements which includes the Paris Agreement of 2015, ESD for 2030 among others. The Agenda 2063, Africa’s blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into global powerhouse. It is the continent’s strategic framework that aims to deliver on its goal for inclusive and sustainable development.

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

The National Youth Policy 2021, recognizes youth as an essential component of our nation’s development and a key driver in the realization of Kenya’s Big Four Agenda, Vision 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This Policy, which has been informed by the current realities in the country, places the youth in the broader context of national development and envisages that all will have productive opportunities to reach their full potential, both as individuals and as active participants in society. The Policy also places an obligation on the youth to be patriotic and value driven, agile protagonists of their own development and not merely recipients of government and/or other stakeholders’ support

To operationalize NCCRS, the first National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2013-2017) was prepared in 2013 for a period of five years. The second NCCAP 2018-2022 identifies the country’s priority climate change adoption and mitigation actions. The actions are intended to contribute to the country’s achievement of the low carbon resilient development pathway and poverty eradication. Kenya has also developed



its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2015-2030. The NAP provides that climate hazard and vulnerability assessment and set out priority adaptation actions.

Additionally, Kenya has developed sectoral policies to support implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions. They include among others The Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (2019-2029) and the Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017-2028).

Green Economy Strategy Plan and Implementation Plan GESIP (2016 – 2030) indicates 42% of Kenya gross domestic product and 70 % of overall employment is derived from natural resource related sector. These sectors are highly sensitive to climate change and variability. The GESIP indicates that transitioning to green economy requires significant resources in term of finances, investment, technology and capacity building. The main drivers of green economy include demographic changes, sustainable jobs and sustainable consumption.

### **3.2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 provides the foundation of implementation of climate change actions through its bill of rights provisions especially the right to a clean and healthy environment. In addition, section 2 (5) and (6) states that international treaties and general rules that are ratified by Kenya form part of Kenya's law. Kenya is a signatory to a number of international environmental treaties such as Convention on Biological Diversity; African Convention on the Conservation of Natural Resources; Convention for the Protection Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Regions among others that are very fundamental for climate change adaptation and mitigation

To, The Climate Change Act was enacted in 2016 to provide a legal framework for climate change. The Act provides for a regulatory framework for enhanced response to climate change and mechanism and measures to achieve low carbon climate development. The Act obligates the cabinet secretary responsible for climate change affairs to formulate economy wide national climate change action plan NCCAP after every five years.

Climate Change Act, 2016 mandates National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) to Monitor Investigate and report on whether public and private entities are in compliance with the assigned climate change duties and regulate, enforce and Monitor compliance on levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

The County Government Act No. 17 of 2012 mandates the counties to equitably deliver in a manner that is consistent with prudent, economic, efficient, effective and sustainable use of available resources. They shall further ensure judicious financial utilization and environmental sustainability.

EMCA 1999, mandates National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) to supervise and co-ordinate all matters relating to the environment and to be the principal instrument of Government in the implementation of all policies relating to the environment. NEMA undertake, in co-operation with relevant lead agencies, programmes intended to enhance environmental

Education and public awareness on the need for sound environmental management as well as for enlisting public support and encouraging the effort made by other entities in that regard.

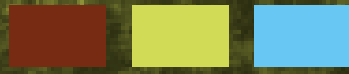
### **3.3 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry is the climate change focal point with its several state corporation and departments promoting Climate change agenda these include National Environment Management Authority, Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI, Kenya Water Towers Authority (KWTa), National Environment Trust Fund (NETFUND), Climate Change Directorate and Kenya Meteorological Department. Climate Change Act, 2016 establishes the Climate Change Directorate (CCD) as the lead government agency responsible for coordinating climate change plans and actions related to measurements, monitoring and reporting. The Act designates the (CCD) as the secretariat of National Climate Change Council (NCCC) with the responsibility of coordinating the technical aspect of the implementation of climate change functions. Such as providing analytical support and technical assistant on climate change and coordinating the implementation of and reporting on the NCCAP and capacity building support at County and National Government levels.

The Climate Change Act obligates at the sectoral level state departments to establish Climate Change Units (CCU) to integrate actions into their strategies and implementation plans at the county levels the governments are required to designate a County Executive Committee Member (CEC) to coordinate climate change initiatives at county level. Ministry of Public Service Youth and Gender Affairs seeks to empower the youth through youth employment, trainings and facilitates funds for the youth programs. In the last ... years they have been able to support several youths in the Green Procurement, (LPO) funding, Kazi Mtaani among others. However, this engagement has remained at low level.

Ministry of Education has endeavored to address climate change through Education for Sustainable development Policy and through development of curriculum and offer trainings that incorporates environmental aspects targeting all levels. In basic education the Ministry has developed education for sustainable development policy. Similarly, higher learning institutions have developed education for sustainable development policies aimed at addressing environmental sustainability and climate change. UNEVOC, the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) arm of United Nation Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has made significant progress in Kenya in advocating for the greening of TVET. UNEVOC has 9 centres in Kenya through which it advances the greening agenda. The centres advocate for greening of campus, greening the curriculum and training, greening research, greening the community and workplace as well as greening institutional culture. However, a lot needs to be done to have many training institutions joining the UNEVOC movement.





# CHAPTER 4:

## STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION

### 4.1 STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION

Climate Action is multi-sectoral process that calls for the participation from the Youth, government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Private sector, the media and development partners. The success youth Climate action strategy implementation will require for collaboration and synergy among stakeholders. This strategy categorizes stakeholders as (TABLE 2.1)

TABLE 3.1: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

STAKEHOLDERS	CATEGORY
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Parliament</li><li>Ministries and departments</li><li>State Corporations and Agencies</li><li>Local authorities</li><li>Learning and research institutions</li><li>County Government</li></ul>
Civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Non-Governmental Organizations</li><li>Faith Based Organizations and institutions</li><li>Professionals’ associations and trade unions</li><li>Community Based Organizations CBO</li></ul>
Private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Companies</li><li>SMES</li><li>Business associations(KAM, KEPSA)</li><li>Cooperative societies</li></ul>
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Media enterprises</li><li>Media Guild</li><li>Media Council</li></ul>
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Youth in schools</li><li>Youth out of schools (employed and Unemployed )</li></ul>
Development partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bilateral partners</li><li>Multilateral partners</li><li>Intergovernmental organizations</li><li>Foundations</li></ul>



4.2 PROPOSED COORDINATION

The Climate Action strategy will be coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Figure 3.1). A National Steering Committee drawn from representation from government sector, civil society and private sector will spearhead the process of implementation. A secretariat will be formed to coordinate the activities. County steering committees will be formed to coordinate activities at the grassroots level.

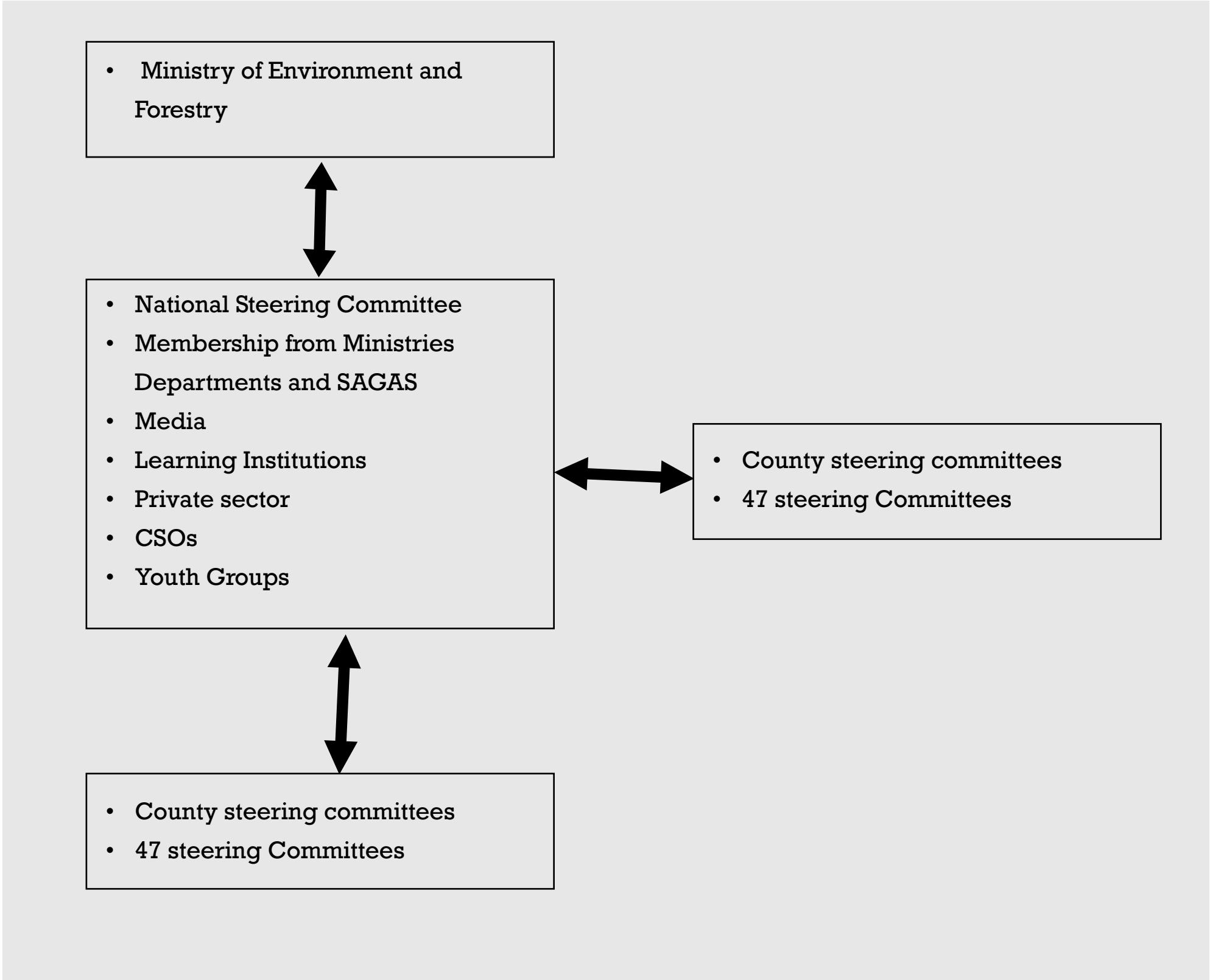


Figure 3.1: Diagrammatic representation of Coordination



### 4.3 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The Strategy requires financial and Human resource for its implementation. There is need for all implementing institutions to fund raise through national budgetary, development partners and private sector. Further, learning institutions, Private sector and research bodies are urged to undertake transformative research and Innovation to shape the climate Action.

### 4.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

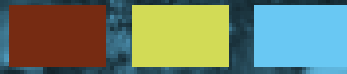
Outputs and outcome from the proposed strategies and activities will be used alongside other tools and approaches to effectively track progress of implementation and provide the necessary information for decision making on a timely basis.

An Elaborate Monitoring and Evaluation Tool will be developed to assist in tracking the progress. An online forum for reporting progress will also be developed





**youth Climate**  
*Action Strategy*



## CHAPTER 5 :

# STRATEGIES FOR ENGAGING THE YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

Kenya has prepared a “Climate Change Strategy” covering the period between the years 2010 and 2030 and this strategy has set as a goal of making contribution to combating climate change within the framework of “common but differentiated responsibilities” as much as its capacities allow, which is one of the main principles of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and has defined the national mitigation, adaptation, technology, financing and capacity generation policies.

It has also developed different action plans and strategies in climate and related fields.

Principle ones are as follows:

- Constitution of Kenya 2010
- Big Four Agenda
- Kenya Vision 2030 -Third Medium Term Plan
- Climate Change Act (No. 11 of 2016)
- Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020
- National Adaptation Plan (2015 – 2030)
- National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2018 – 2022
- County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs)

The strategy proposes the priority areas of engaging and influencing the youth, how the objectives will be realized and how the activities will be implemented to effectively support advancing youth to take climate action. It presents a strategic focus on areas where we have, or are prepared to build, added value. There are three priority areas that have been identified which include:

### 5.2 PRIORITY AREA 1: INTEGRATION OF THE YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION;

The main objective of this priority area is to promote strategic integration of the youth in climate action. The important roles the youth can play in accelerating climate action are increasingly acknowledged. Initial discourse was protectionist, framing young people as passive victims of climate change. More recently it has evolved to argue that young people have a right to be meaningfully engaged and have their voices heard on climate change. Educated, empowered and enabled youth, can be effective agents of change in their communities to advance Climate Change mitigation and Adaptation strategies. Protecting and enabling intersect: evidence shows empowering youth to act, through meaningful roles against harmful situations, creates psychological protection by feeling more in control, hopeful and resilient.

However, progress on youth engagement, transfer of experience and leadership renewal requires adequate investment. The specific needs, rights, and potential of youth are often overlooked, in particular at the decision-making tables where their communities are being shaped. Climate change agendas at the



international, national and local level better promote youth engagement, in direct alignment to and in cooperation with youth agendas and partners at all levels. Inclusivity and gender sensitivity is core to all youth engagement activity. Kenya has a real opportunity for leadership in promoting effective, inclusive practice to integrate climate change action with youth engagement to reduce climate change impacts on the most vulnerable. The youth engagement strategy is grounded in these core functions that enable us to achieve our vision for 2030.

The strategies include;

1. Influence policy for Integration of youth in climate action agenda
2. Advocacy
3. Mainstreaming climate Action, youth and gender in county planning

### **5.3 PRIORITY AREA 2 CAPACITY BUILDING AND EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH TO TAKE CLIMATE ACTION**

The main objective of this priority area is to build transformative capacity of the youth to take climate action. The Strategies include

1. Enhance Training Knowledge, and Skills development in climate issues
2. Strengthening institution to address youth and Climate Action and funding
3. Communication and Awareness Raising
4. Using interactive and participatory approaches
5. Develop and diversify capacity building opportunities for students at all levels of learning
6. Leverage the application of emerging digital technologies in climate and Promote Climate technology transfer and innovation for youth

### **5.4 PRIORITY AREA 3: INCLUSIVENESS OF YOUTH LED CLIMATE ACTION.**

The main objective of this priority area is to support inclusive youth led action on climate using interactive and participatory approaches support peer to peer learning on climate change action & advocacy societies.

The strategies include;

1. Harnessing partnerships and collaboration
2. Supporting Youth to access climate finance
3. Promote Climate Technology Transfer and innovation for youth in colleges and universities and out of school
4. Use of digital innovation
5. Establish participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL),
6. Youth-driven climate action initiatives

**TABLE 4.1: IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX**

OBJECTIVE	STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	ACTORS	BUDGET
To promote strategic integration of the youth in climate action	Influence policy for Integration of youth in climate action agendas	Conducting seminars and workshops to advocate for integration of youth in climate action agendas	MoY NEMA ASAL MoEF MoE CSOs County Governments	70 M
		Draw upon expertise linking science, policy and practice to action	MoE MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	20 M
		Strengthen linkages between academia and industry to address appropriate response to climate change		
		Strive for gender and diversity in engaging all youth, inclusive of out-of-school and marginalized groups		
		Include youth at all stages of policy development and within decision-making spaces to foster a relationship with youth that encourages continuous and meaningful participation;		
		Educate and support youth on how to engage with policy processes meaningfully and actively;		
		Hold conferences to make their voices heard at global to local platforms		
	Mainstreaming climate change youth and gender in county planning	Hold sensitization meetings to support the integrating climate change youth and gender in county planning and implementation processes	County Governments NEMA Ministry of youth and gender	
To build capacity of the youth to take climate action	Enhance Training Knowledge, and Skills development in climate issues	Reorient Curricula in Training to include Learning Outcomes that actualize green work force (Green Graduates	KICD NITA TVETA University MoE CCD NEMA	50 M USD
		Equip educators with ability to train competencies for green Jobs Include green skills in the youth training programmes Trainings for youth in accessing the climate funds	Min of Youth Affairs	1M USD
		Create platforms including digital platforms of interactions between employers and youth Creating access to the green Jobs	MoEF NEMA Civil Society Organizations Private Sector Development Partners	40 M
		Conduct training programmes of finance access modalities		



OBJECTIVE	STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	ACTORS	BUDGET
	Enhance Training Knowledge, and Skills development in climate issues	Support the Mainstream climate issues in the curriculum at all learning levels	MoEF NEMA Civil Society Organizations Private Sector Development Partners	50 M
		Strengthen extra curriculum non formal programs for climate action Support the establishment of Environmental clubs and societies, art, music, drama and science journalism including Eco Schools Programs		
		Develop and diversify training programmes opportunities for students at all levels of learning	MoE NEMA Learning Institution	30 M
		Establishing informal climate education programmes that utilise various formats, including workshops, storytelling, arts and culture, pamphlets and infographics, and relevant courses		
	Communication and Awareness Raising	Climate change communication and awareness to be easily accessible, user-friendly and translated into all local languages		
		Develop an accessible national climate change toolkit to support formal and informal education.		
		Promote participation in CBOs to build the capacity of youth to contribute to policy		
		Collaborate with the scientific community to ensure accurate and understandable information is shared surrounding climate change;		
	Using interactive and participatory approaches	Support peer to peer learning on climate change action & advocacy societies (i) between youth and (ii) between national	MoEF NEMA Civil Society Organizations Private Sector Development Partners	20 M
		Development of community outreach youth-driven programmes to foster youth collaboration with communities		
	leverage the application of emerging digital technologies in climate	Establish participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL), knowledge management and sharing	MoEF NEMA MoY MoE	10 M
		Provides online classes on climate action for the youth Establish knowledge sharing hub for data and lessons learnt sharing experience and knowledge management		

OBJECTIVE	STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	ACTORS	BUDGET
To support inclusive youth led action on climate	Networking and partnerships Harnessing partnerships and collaboration	Identify and develop Partnerships with Climate Finance Funding Entities, Eg, Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund, GEF	MoEF CCD Funding Mechanism entities NEMA Civil Society organizations NEMA Civil Society Organizations Private Sector Development Partners	20 M
		Influence the Review funding mechanisms to create quotas for youth (Ring fence funding for youth)		
		Use Climate Centre expertise linking science, policy and practice to action entry points for youth engagement	MoE MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	10 M
	Promote Climate technology transfer and innovation for youth	Facilitate access to climate technology and innovations by the youth	MoEF MoTI NEMA	10 M
		Creation of innovation hubs within the existing technology hubs exclusive economic zones in the country		
		Support through mentoring, peer-to-peer learning, training and academic engagement	MoE MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	20 M
		Innovation and interactivity to promote youth engagement and inspire youth-led innovation	Ministry in Charge of Education MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	15 M
	Advocacy/ Lobbying	Engage youth to create spaces to make their voices heard at global, national and local level climate change platforms (may include COPs, NAPs, planning local action plans, etc.)	MoE MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	50 M
		Engage with faith-based organizations Youth to develop strategy to integrate climate action into their activities		
		Creation of climate action youth fund		
	Use of digital innovation	Develop existing and new analogue and digital innovation for youth engagement, action & advocacy on climate change in collaboration with partners (movement and external).	MoE MoEF CCD KIRDI NEMA	50 M



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