

CSOs Outcome Statement on Influencing Sectoral Climate Change Mainstreaming at National and County level in Kenya

Kenyan Civil Society under the auspices of PACJA conducted a National Multi-stakeholders Workshop on Climate Change Mainstreaming on the 29th and 30th January 2018. The national consultation brought together participants from national and county civil society organisations, private sector and academia. While drawing key lessons from implementation of the Improving Civil Society Engagements in Mainstreaming Climate Change at National and county level sectoral policies and programmes project that facilitated insightful policy dialogues with line ministries of the energy, water, agriculture and environment sectors, private sector and civil society organisations at county and national level, participants interrogated the various climate change governance processes in Kenya as within the Climate Change Act 2016 and provided important insights on climate change mainstreaming into sectors at national and county levels.

Participants agreed on the following commitments to uphold climate change mainstreaming at national and county levels;

On CSO Coordination;

In cognizant of the need to leverage on civil society technical capacity within various work streams, participants committed to undertake work within specific sectors. In view of the different sectors, the consultation established ***climate change mainstreaming thematic working groups*** for the Agriculture, Water, Energy and Environment (as a cross-cutting) respectively to support mainstreaming processes at both the national and county level.

On Energy sector;

The task to move towards renewable energy access for all will not be easy and no single institution has the capacity to drive the process. We fully recognize that in this fight we will have to work with a diverse range of stakeholders in various ways, including: Policy makers, Parliament, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, Key sector ministries, Donors and the Private sector. In view of the current energy policies and bills in place such as the Energy Bill 2015, CSOs will influence the entire energy policy implementation and inclusion of renewable energy in curriculum as part of climate change mainstreaming.

As civil society in Kenya, we recognize that achievement of universal energy access will require more supportive policies, increased financing, and greater participation of CSOs at national, and local levels. We are committed to translating these national objectives to widen access to modern energy services to tangible action on the ground, in partnership with all stakeholders, locally, nationally, regionally and internationally.

Effectively support the development and effective implementation of energy policies and provide financing for pro-poor sustainable energy, and commit to implementation plans that include the climate change funds through direct government commitment.

Conduct capacity development to CSOs to strengthen their involvement in energy policy influence, plans and policies, as well as involve the council of governors in coming up with renewable energy policies

On Environment sector;

In accordance with the Climate Change Act, the CSOs pledged to support the government in seeking to achieve low carbon climate resilient development through mainstreaming climate change responses into development planning, decision making, budgeting and implementation of programs

A plan for capacity building and information sharing and creating networks with government representatives, local communities, civil society organisations and business community that will support the achievement of national goals to fundraise and best operational practices to safeguard the environment in addressing climate change.

On water sector;

In accordance with the 2016 Kenya Water act, promote water and waste water management as water is expected to be increasingly scarce in the near future. CSOs have agreed to create more linkages on water and climate change by advocating for a climate change desk at county and national level focusing on water issues. Water to be integrated as a key component of climate change to other sectors of environment, agriculture and energy through influencing water mainstreaming policies and plans at the national and county level governments.

On Agriculture sector;

The CSOs agreed to support the development of legal frameworks at counties to mirror national legal frameworks. This to be done through capacity building of technical personnel and communities to represent CSOs at national and local to influence plans and policies. CSOs agreed to form consortiums to be represented at national level.

On engagement with the Private sector;on climate change

Link all the projects/plans with private sector involvement to have a business case for sustainability .The CSOs agreed to have half-day training on Green climate Finance (GCF) process to jointly be able to develop a bankable project. Working through consortiums was taken as a best strategy to attracting more resources.