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Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Resilient Investment Projects: Strengthening Capacities under the FLLoCA Program

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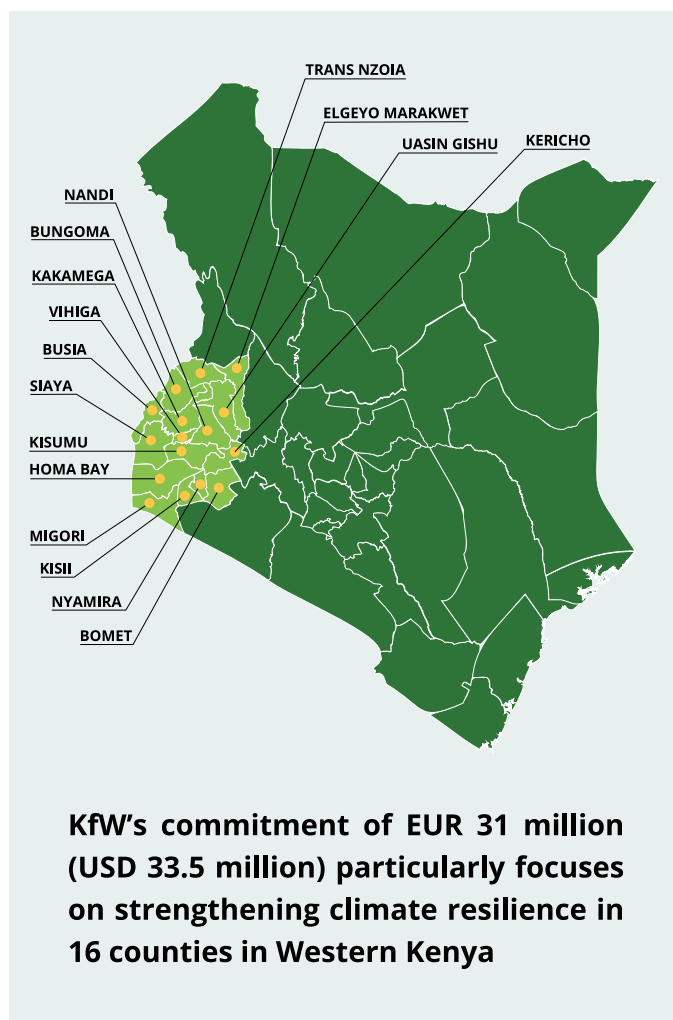
The Climate Change Financing Model under FLLoCA

The Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) Program represents Kenya's first comprehensive effort to decentralize climate financing, empowering local communities to shape investments that address climate

risks at their source. Under the program, resources are channeled through two main grants—the County Climate Institutional Support (CCIS) Grant, which bolsters counties' institutional capacity for climate governance, and the County Climate Resilience Investment (CCRI) Grant, designed to fund and incentivize county-level climate action. Each county is eligible for up to an average of USD 1.25 million annually, although counties supported by Germany's KfW receive a higher annual allocation of approximately USD 2 million.

KfW's commitment of EUR 31 million (USD 33.5 million) particularly focuses on strengthening climate resilience in 16 counties in Western Kenya: Bungoma, Busia, Homa Bay, Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Migori, Nyamira, Siaya, Trans Nzoia, Kericho, Bomet, Nandi, Vihiga, Uasin Gishu and Elgeyo Marakwet. These counties also benefit from an additional top-up under the CCRI mechanism, also referred to as CCRI-Agriculture (CCRI-A). Close to 88% of KfW's funding supports direct climate-smart interventions at the county level, such as seed production for local crop varieties, tree nurseries, nature-based enterprises, irrigation and drainage infrastructure, agroforestry and natural regeneration and sustainable pasture management, among others. The remaining 12% is dedicated to strengthening national-level capacities to coordinate, monitor, and manage climate investments. Through this dual-level approach—county and national—the FLLoCA program leverages public-private collaboration, ensures performance-based disbursements, and fosters robust community participation in shaping and implementing climate solutions.





The Importance of a Robust MEL Framework in Tracking Investments

As climate investments trickle down to the county level, the need for robust Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) systems becomes increasingly urgent. Beyond serving as a means of tracking the flow of funds, well-structured M&E frameworks also provide critical insights into the effectiveness and sustainability of investments, ensuring that disbursement is used transparently, and maximum impact is achieved. These frameworks support the assessment of implementation progress at the project level and the aggregation of results at the national or portfolio level¹. This however requires harmonization of M&E frameworks across scales and seamless data flow across space and time, enabling project implementors and managers to make swift, evidence-based adjustments, respond effectively to emerging challenges, and maintain high levels of accountability.

The FLLOCA, MEL framework captures short-term outputs such as the successful execution of county-level projects, and long-term outcomes like increased agricultural productivity and enhanced community resilience to climate shocks. While some of the indicators are specific to projects, others are more relevant to the national level, enabling the assessments of the different projects being implemented across the country. Furthermore, KfW has identified two indicators to assess FLLOCA's contribution to two key result areas: job creation and sustainable land management. This focus on diverse result types underscores the imperative for well articulated indicators and reliable data-collection tools that can guide decision-making and drive continuous improvements in the face of evolving climate challenges. Yet, the technical capacities and coordination required to design effective M&E frameworks remain limited.

A Collaborative Approach in developing FLLOCA's MEL framework

In December 2024, a workshop was convened with various county stakeholders to familiarize technical officers with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) suggested by KfW, and to explore how these might be adapted to the project MEL framework, a Task Force was formed bringing together the FLLOCA Program Implementation Unit (PIU), the World Bank, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD), and the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT. This task force convened in February 2025 in Machakos County, Kenya to harmonize the diverse county stakeholder inputs, refine data-collection methodologies, finalize a streamlined monitoring and reporting tool, and strengthen the broader Results Framework.

Under the KfW component, two KPIs were identified as critical for the process. The first focuses on sustainable land use, capturing efforts in agroforestry, integrated landscape management, and other practices that promote long-term ecological health, economic viability, and social equity. The second KPI addresses job creation and employment security, paying special attention to opportunities for women and youth. By integrating these KPIs into FLLOCA's overarching MEL framework, participating counties gain a more holistic set of metrics to track climate resilience efforts, and environmental and socioeconomic benefits arising from climate investments.

¹Njuguna, L.; Rosenstock, T. (2024) Measuring the effectiveness of adaptation investments across a project portfolio. 16 p.

Technical Contributions from the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT provided technical inputs, drawing on its extensive experience with developing MEL frameworks and tools, particularly the M&E framework developed for the [Climate-Smart Agriculture \(CSA\) Investment Plan](#) and the [Adaptation Tracking Tool](#). The CSAIP M&E framework was developed to systematically capture evidence on how individual investments perform, how they drive transformative changes, and when implementation requires adjustments to meet intended outcomes and impacts. While monitoring focusses on collecting and analyzing data to track immediate progress, evaluation measures

overall effectiveness by comparing performance against established objectives and targets.

The Alliance emphasized the importance of linking county-level investment proposals to the robust Results Framework that can be systematically monitored over time. Equally critical is the early integration of capacity building on M&E into the proposal development and investment design phases, enabling counties to identify key indicators, gather significant data and track progress effectively. The adaptation tracking tool on the other hand plays an essential role for tracking climate action across Africa by centralizing data on adaptation actions, identifying key actors, and mapping activities across the continent. The tool also provides resources critical to developing robust M&E strategies, including impact pathways and a repository of indicators.

Next Steps

- **Finalize, refine, and digitize the standardized M&E tool.**

Building on the draft tool developed during the Machakos retreat, MoALD and CGIAR (CIAT, ILRI, and WorldFish) will provide technical inputs to strengthen the protocol and ensure alignment with county needs. In parallel, the FLLOCA PIU-M&E unit, together with MoALD, the World Bank, and CGIAR centers, will consolidate partner contributions to make the tool user-friendly for county officials.

- **Test the tool in selected counties to assess its effectiveness and usability before expanding its implementation.**

Pilot testing will be conducted between in selected counties. The FLLOCA PIU-M&E unit, MoALD, and the World Bank will oversee the testing, focusing on ease of data entry, reporting accuracy, and consistency with key performance indicators.

- **Provide training for county officials to enhance their understanding of the new indicators and improve their data collection skills.**

Following successful pre-testing, training workshops will be organized to build the capacity of county officials. The rollout will be led by MoALD with support from the FLLOCA PIU.





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