

UK PACT

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Ministry of Environment and Forestry

A TRENDS ANALYSIS ON FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN KENYA



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



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Note: The trends analysis has been informed by the County Engagement Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Workshop Reports (CIFOR-ICRAF Internal documentation).

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FOREWORD

In Kenya, about 22% of total land area is degraded, costing the economy an estimated USD 1.3 billion annually. There is therefore an urgent need for landscape restoration. Kenya has set out ambitious Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) goals to increase and maintain 10% tree cover by 2022. At international level, the nation has committed to restore 5.1 million ha of degraded land by 2030, and to reduce 50% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Consequently, through her agencies, particularly the Kenya Forest Service, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) is committed to the realization of the FLR Implementation Action Plan 2022-2026 (FOLAREP). The ministry recognizes the critical role that FLR plays in pursuit of Kenya's to meet other important goals on food and water security, sustainable energy for all, low-carbon resilient pathways and economic empowerment. MoEF is keen to support implementation of FOLAREP and development of a robust national restoration monitoring framework, which will support the country in tracking progress on FLR initiatives.

As FLR is a collaborative effort, county governments will play a pivotal role in achieving FLR aspirations in Kenya. Bearing this in mind, the Ministry is undertaking measures to support cooperation between national and county governments. Further, there is ongoing effort to build strong partnerships with other stakeholders, notably development partners, research institutions and grassroot networks.

The trends analysis on FLR provides useful insights for the Kenyan context. This analysis has examined Kenya's top barriers to restoration, drivers to degradation and interventions proposed by counties to overcome these challenges. Indeed, the interventions proposed, provide clear activities for stakeholders involved in FLR initiatives. It captures counties' feedback on FOLAREP's proposed objectives and organizational structure, demonstrating the consultative approach adopted by the ministry. The analysis also lays out key restoration monitoring indicators that will inform a national restoration monitoring framework.

Finally, I would like to thank all the stakeholders who contributed to this process. I therefore present the content of this document for public use in pursuit of our national and global restoration agenda.



Dr. Chris K. Kiptoo, CBS

Principal Secretary

Ministry of Environment and Forestry

FOREWORD

Kenya is at the forefront to restore and sustainably manage forests and other vital landscapes for ecological and socio-economic benefits and to fulfill local, national and global goals. This has been ably demonstrated by the various actions and initiatives to interdependently address climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, and land degradation.

The National Assessment conducted in 2016 provides guidance on priority landscapes that require urgent restoration interventions. Further, the Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan 2022-2026 (FOLAREP) seeks to accelerate actions to restore 2.55 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes and establish a robust national monitoring and reporting framework to enable tracking of restoration efforts in the country. Already, a restoration monitoring Technical Working Group comprising state and non-state agencies has been established to steer and coordinate the development of a national monitoring and framework with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry serving as the Secretariat and supported by CIFOR-ICRAF.

This trends analysis report which culminates from participatory engagement with 47 counties and other stakeholders provides an opportunity to understand what supports or hinders forest landscape restoration efforts including existing tools and structures as well as financing at the sub-national level. It also sheds light on gaps within structures for strengthening to support restoration efforts and measure progress against the proposed core indicators, investments, and interventions.

CIFOR-ICRAF remains committed over the long-term to supporting Kenya's restoration efforts including developing a solid and robust national restoration and monitoring framework grounded in evidence-based information that enables the country to fulfill its national and international commitments on restoration, climate change, and biodiversity.

Our sincere thanks to UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions (UK PACT) for their collaboration and financial support and to all other stakeholders that have contributed meaningfully to make this a collective and widely-owned synthesis.



Tony Simons

Executive Director
CIFOR-ICRAF

CONTENTS

	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	I
	FOREWORD	II
	CONTENTS	IV
	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	VI
	LIST OF ACRONYMS	VII
1	SETTING THE SCENE: KENYA'S FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION GOALS	1
	1.1. Overview	2
2	DIGGING DEEPER: BARRIERS TO RESTORATION AND DRIVERS TO DEGRADATION	3
	2.1. Kenya's top five barriers to restoration	4
	2.2. Kenya's top five drivers to degradation	10
3	TAKING ROOT: ANCHORING FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION AT THE COUNTY LEVEL	17
	3.1. FLR Implementation Action Plan 2022-2026 (FOLAREP)	18
	3.2. County structures which can complement the CECs' FLR functions	22
4	GAINS AND PAINS: TRACKING FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION EFFORTS IN KENYA	25
	4.1. Top five indicators for FLR monitoring in Kenya	26
	4.2. Overview of counties' FLR monitoring structures	32
5	LOOKING AHEAD: RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN KENYA	33

FIGURES

FIGURE 1. Top 5 Barriers to Land Restoration in Kenya	4
FIGURE 2. Top 5 Drivers to Land Degradation in Kenya	10
FIGURE 3. FOLAREP Organizational Structure	19

TABLE

TABLE 1. Top five indicators for FLR monitoring in Kenya	28
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kenya has set ambitious Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) goals to increase and maintain 10% tree cover by 2022, to restore 5.1 million ha of degraded land by 2030 and to reduce 50% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The FLR Implementation Action Plan 2022-2026 (FOLAREP) seeks to restore 2.55 million ha of degraded landscapes through integrated approaches and best practices. Additionally, a multi-stakeholder Technical Working Group on Restoration Monitoring has been convened to support sustainable FLR efforts in the country.

As part of the consultation process, seven engagement forums bringing together national government, all 47 counties, the Council of Governors and development partners were held between December 2021–March 2022. These engagements reveal that Kenya's top barriers to restoration are financial constraints; inadequate policy and legislative frameworks; low sensitization on FLR; land ownership; and limited human and technical capacity on FLR. The top drivers to degradation are population pressure, poverty, overstocking, encroachment, and overgrazing. County environment committees (CECs), which are crucial to mainstreaming FLR at the county level, are active in 18 of the 47 counties. In addition, 25 of 47 counties mention county climate change entities as critical to enhance the CECs' FLR functions. Top indicators selected by counties as important for a national restoration monitoring system include areas of restored forest and agricultural lands, biodiversity revived and access to safe water. Counties present unique FLR monitoring structures, with some entities and departments such as the CECs, the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee and Units featuring structures across several counties.

Recommendations for FLR stakeholders



Sensitize the executive and political leadership at national and county level on FLR matters because their mandates on oversight and budgetary approvals are needed to enhance FLR activities.



Develop harmonized baselines and standardized tools for recording forest and tree cover to support FLR monitoring activities in Kenya.



Strengthen the CECs through:

- capacity building on FLR, including supporting the county on enactment and enforcement of FLR-related laws and policies.
- adequate budgetary support.
- streamlining of governance and operations across all counties.
- leveraging on operational county structures such as climate change institutions to support their mandate.



Support inter-county collaboration on FLR, particularly where transboundary natural resources are present and to encourage peer learning among all counties to share good FLR practices.



Enhance inter-departmental collaboration on FLR in counties, especially between the departments of environment and economic planning, to enhance allocations to the environment sector and to encourage an integrated approach towards FLR interventions.



Reinforce county monitoring and evaluation structures on FLR, including establishing well-defined guidelines for use of the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System as a means of leveraging on existing systems.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFR100	The African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative
ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CBD	Convention on Biodiversity
CDCs	Counties Determined Contributions
CECs	County Environment Committees
CFAs	Community Forest Associations
CIFOR-ICRAF	The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry
CIDPs	County Integrated Development Plans
CIMES	County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System
COG	Council of Governors
DRSRS	Department of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FLLOCA	Financing Locally Led Climate Action Program
FLR	Forest Landscape Restoration
FOLAREP	Forest and Landscape Restoration Action Plan
GBM	The Green Belt Movement
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
IPBES	The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
KALRO	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization
KCEP-CRAL	Kenya Cereal Enhancement Programme, Climate Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KEMFRI	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
KEPSA	Kenya Private Sector Alliance
KFS	Kenya Forest Service
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KWTA	Kenya Water Towers Agency
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LSDF	Land Degradation Surveillance Framework
MoALFC	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MTP	Medium term Plan
MTWG	Monitoring Technical Working Group
NACOFA	National Alliance of Community Forests Association
NAGRIP	National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NEPAD	The New Partnership for Africa's Development
NIMES	National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System
NMK	National Museums of Kenya
UK PACT	UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

PART 1

SETTING THE SCENE: KENYA'S FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION GOALS



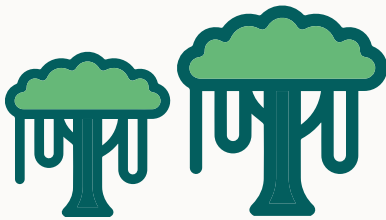


to restore

5.1

million ha

of degraded land by 2030



To increase and maintain

10%

tree cover by 2030



To reduce

50%

of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030

1.1. Overview

In Kenya, about 22% of land area is degraded, costing the economy about USD 1.3 billion annually. Landscape restoration is clearly urgent. Kenya has set ambitious forest and landscape restoration (FLR) goals to increase and maintain 10% tree cover by 2022, to restore 5.1 million ha of degraded land by 2030, and to reduce 50% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Consequently, the Kenya Forest Service is spearheading the realization of the FLR Implementation Action Plan 2022–2026 (FOLAREP) with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Global Environment Facility project) and the World Agroforestry (UK-PACT project). The five-year plan aims to strengthen policy implementation institutional coordination and enhance resource mobilization to accelerate restoration of 2.55 million ha of degraded landscapes for socioeconomic development and improved ecology. Additionally, a multi-stakeholder Technical Working Group on Restoration Monitoring has been convened to support the sustainability of FLR efforts in the country.

As part of the consultation process, seven engagement forums covering all 47 counties were held between December 2021–March 2022. The engagements adopted a highly participatory approach, appreciating that each county's efforts on FLR matters will collectively contribute to Kenya's overarching goals. Consequently, this trends analysis is informed by a synthesis of the wealth of information gathered from the engagement forums.

Specific objectives of the trends analysis

1. Identify priority barriers to restoration and drivers to degradation in Kenya.
2. Highlight counties' input on the draft FOLAREP.
3. Identify county-level FLR structures.
4. Identify priority indicators that will inform an FLR monitoring system in Kenya.
5. Provide recommendations to all relevant FLR stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions on FLR in Kenya.

PART 2

DIGGING DEEPER: BARRIERS TO RESTORATION AND DRIVERS TO DEGRADATION

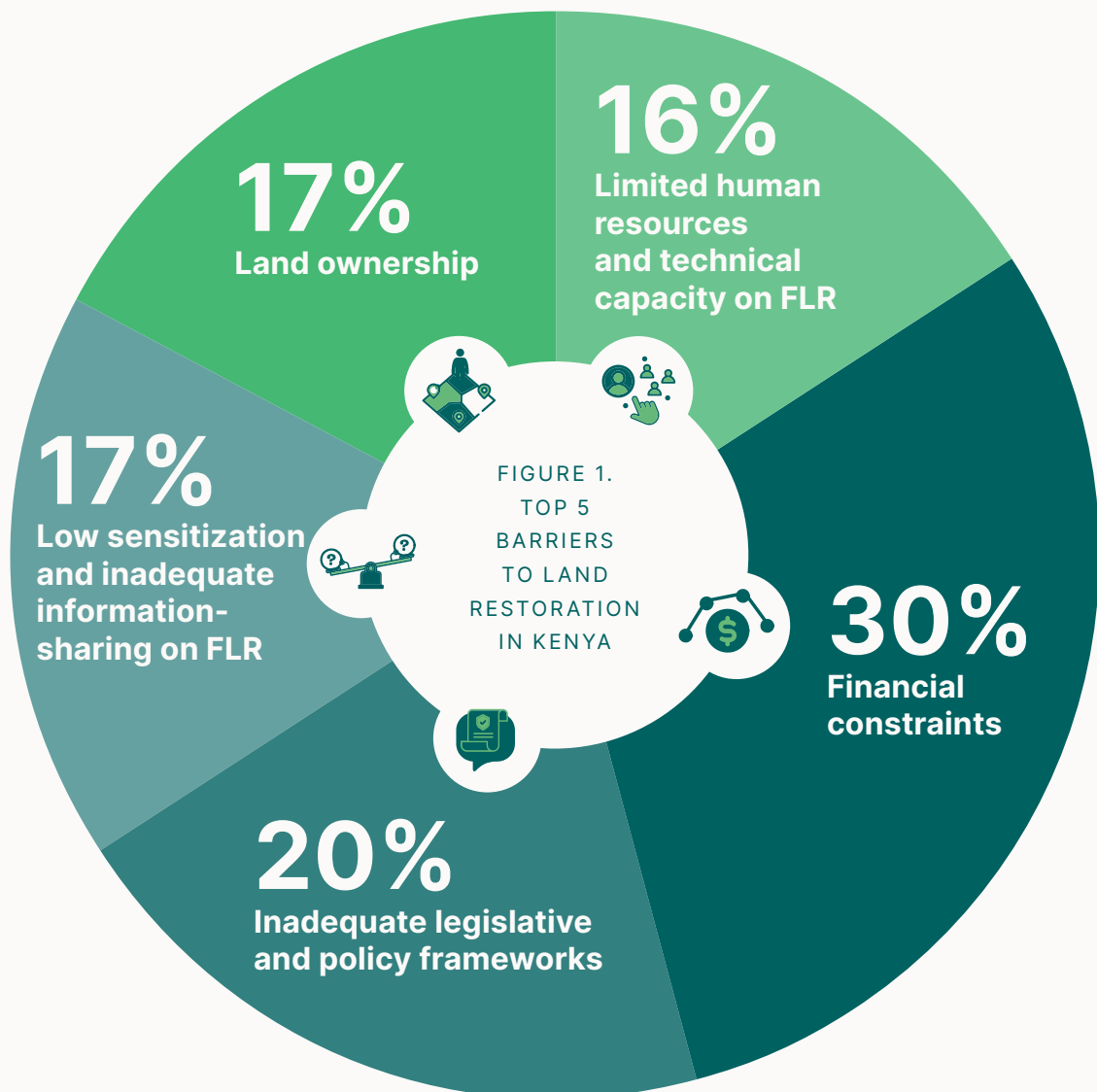


This section examines Kenya's top barriers to restoration and drivers to degradation, with the aim of identifying priorities for FLR stakeholders. While recognizing that FLR requires multi-level governance, it highlights the role of the national government in supporting counties to overcome these barriers to restoration and drivers to degradation.

2.1. Kenya's top five barriers to restoration

Unsurprisingly, financial constraints top the list, with 29.69% of counties stating they are a barrier to restoration. Financial constraints are closely related to limited human and technical resources dedicated to FLR, as identified by 20.31% of the counties. Low sensitization on FLR is a top three barrier for 17.19%

of counties. It is closely related to lack of political good will on FLR and political interference mentioned by 17.19% and 15.63% of counties, respectively. Although 20.31% of counties identify legislative and policy frameworks as critical for the FLR agenda, 19.1% consider weak enforcement of FLR-related regulations as a challenge. Hence, enactment of FLR-related laws and policies should be strengthened by effective enforcement mechanisms.





Financial constraints

29.69% representing **19 counties**

state that financial constraints are a barrier to restoration.

Proposed solutions



14 counties

recommend resource mobilization from various stakeholders.



8 counties

recommend securing minimum budgetary allocation for FLR activities.



4 counties

recommend sensitizing county government officials on FLR.

Proposed national government interventions



12 counties

recommend allocation of more financial resources to county governments.



7 counties

recommend resource mobilization on behalf of the counties through partnership with development partners.

Counties: Baringo, Busia, Garissa, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kericho, Kilifi, Kirinyaga, Kwale, Mandera, Migori, Muranga, Nyamira, Samburu, Turkana, Uasin Gishu, Vihiga, Wajir, West Pokot

Proposed solutions:

- I. Resource mobilization from various stakeholder
- II. Minimum budgetary allocation for FLR activities
- III. Sensitizing county government officials
- IV. Prioritizing forestry and landscape restoration to livelihoods in governance
- V. Proper cash management practices
- VI. Capacity building of county staff, which requires adequate funding
- VII. Increased training of key stakeholders in the county executive and county assembly on FLR

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Allocate more resources to the county governments
- II. Ensure sustainable foreign borrowing
- III. Network with development partners
- IV. Supervise and coordinate
- V. Support counties in sourcing for donor funds and grants
- VI. Increase donor partnerships





Inadequate legislative and policy frameworks

20.31% representing **13 counties**

stated that inadequate legislative and policy frameworks is a barrier to restoration.

Proposed solutions



All **13 counties**

recommend formulation or enactment of FLR-related policies, laws and regulations.



2 counties

recommend sensitization of policymakers at national and county level.

Proposed national government interventions



6 counties

recommend funding support.



5 counties

recommend guidance to develop FLR frameworks.



3 counties

recommend enforcement of laws and regulations through the relevant agencies.

Counties: Bungoma, Embu, Kajiado, Kakamega, Kitui, Mandera, Murang'a, Nandi, Nyamira, Nyandarua, Samburu, Vihiga, West Pokot

Proposed solutions:

- I. Development and operationalization of adequate policies and legislations
- II. Increase of budgetary allocation towards development of natural resource management policies and guidelines
- III. Sensitization and building of synergy from all stakeholders on the importance of landscape restoration
- IV. Sensitization of county assembly on the importance of relevant policies and legislation on land restoration

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Fund the process of enacting relevant policies
- II. Develop synergy within relevant line ministries in the county
- III. Build capacity of/sensitize county government stakeholders i.e., political, technical, and public on natural resource management/landscape restoration
- IV. Enforce national laws on natural resource management
- V. Mobilize resources





Low sensitization and inadequate information-sharing on FLR

17.19% representing 11 counties

stated that low sensitization on FLR is a barrier to restoration.

Proposed solutions



6 counties

recommend sensitization and community engagement on FLR.



1 county

recommends availing FLR information through avenues that are easily accessible such as churches/mosques, barazas and local radio stations.

Proposed national government interventions



5 counties

recommend dissemination of FLR knowledge.



4 counties

recommend technical FLR support.



4 counties

recommend financial assistance to deal with low sensitization on FLR.

Counties: Garissa, Homa Bay, Kisii, Machakos, Makueni, Meru, Narok, Siaya, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Tharaka-Nithi

Proposed solutions:

- I. General sensitization on FLR, Recruitment and capacity enhancement of technical staff on landscape restoration
- II. Sensitization of agropastoral livelihood sectors on mainstreaming landscape restoration in their plans
- III. Conducting county-specific restoration assessment
- IV. Development of policy frameworks and implementation of the same
- V. Seed bulking and seedling production

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Coordinate and share information on FLR
- II. Incorporate environmental education in curriculum development
- III. Use nationally established administrative units such as chiefs for lobbying and creating awareness
- IV. Strengthen inter-governmental relations at the county level
- V. Provide specific technical support to counties





Land ownership

17.19% representing **11 counties**

stated that communal land and poor land tenure systems is a barrier to restoration.

Proposed solutions



4 counties

recommend sensitization of citizens on the importance of natural resources management.



3 counties

recommend land adjudication exercises.



3 counties

recommend strengthening of community management structures.



2 counties

boundary setting and marking.



2 counties

recommend the registration of community land.

Proposed national government interventions



4 counties

recommend fast-tracking land adjudication in the counties.



4 counties

recommend developing legal and policy guidelines on land ownership.



2 counties

recommend operationalization of various laws such as the Community Land Act of 2016.

Counties: Elgeyo-Marakwet, Embu, Isiolo, Laikipia, Mandera, Marsabit, Migori, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, West Pokot

Proposed solutions:

- I. Land adjudication and issuance of title deeds
- II. Sensitize citizens on the importance of natural resource conservation
- III. Enforce existing laws and policies
- IV. Compulsory land repossessions
- V. Boundary setting and marking
- VI. Sustainable land-use management practices
- VII. Strengthening local governance structures for conservation
- VIII. Strengthening environmental school clubs such as "4K" for restoration, Public participation

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Enact appropriate laws to streamline land tenure systems and encourage women's participation, especially in communally owned land
- II. Develop and strengthen land-use governance structures and tools i.e., land-use planning, grazing plans
- III. Operationalize and implement the Community Land Act 2016. Fast-track land adjudication
- IV. Allocate more resources to counties, Build capacity of counties on FLR
- V. Provide legal aid on land adjudication matters





Limited human resource and technical capacity

15.63% representing **10 counties**

stated that inadequate human and technical resources for FLR activities are a barrier to restoration.

Proposed solutions



8 counties

mention recruitment, capacity building and training.



8 counties

mention mobilization of resources from stakeholders, including development partners.



3 counties

mention prioritizing, allocating and ring-fencing FLR budgets.

Proposed national government interventions



4 counties

counties state capacity building on FLR at the county, including training of county technical officers on FLR.



4 counties

state resource mobilization on behalf of the counties.

Counties: Bomet, Bungoma, Garissa, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Lamu, Nakuru, Siaya, Trans-Nzoia

Proposed solutions:

- I. Resource mobilization
- II. Capacity building
- III. Building partnerships
- IV. Mainstreaming landscape restoration in County Integrated Development Planning
- V. Strengthening the role of county environmental committees
- VI. Incorporating livelihood component in restoration process
- VII. Lobbying from stakeholders
- VIII. Staff skills analysis
- IX. Sensitization of county executive members and county assembly on importance of sector priorities
- X. Integrated planning and budgeting

Proposed national government interventions:

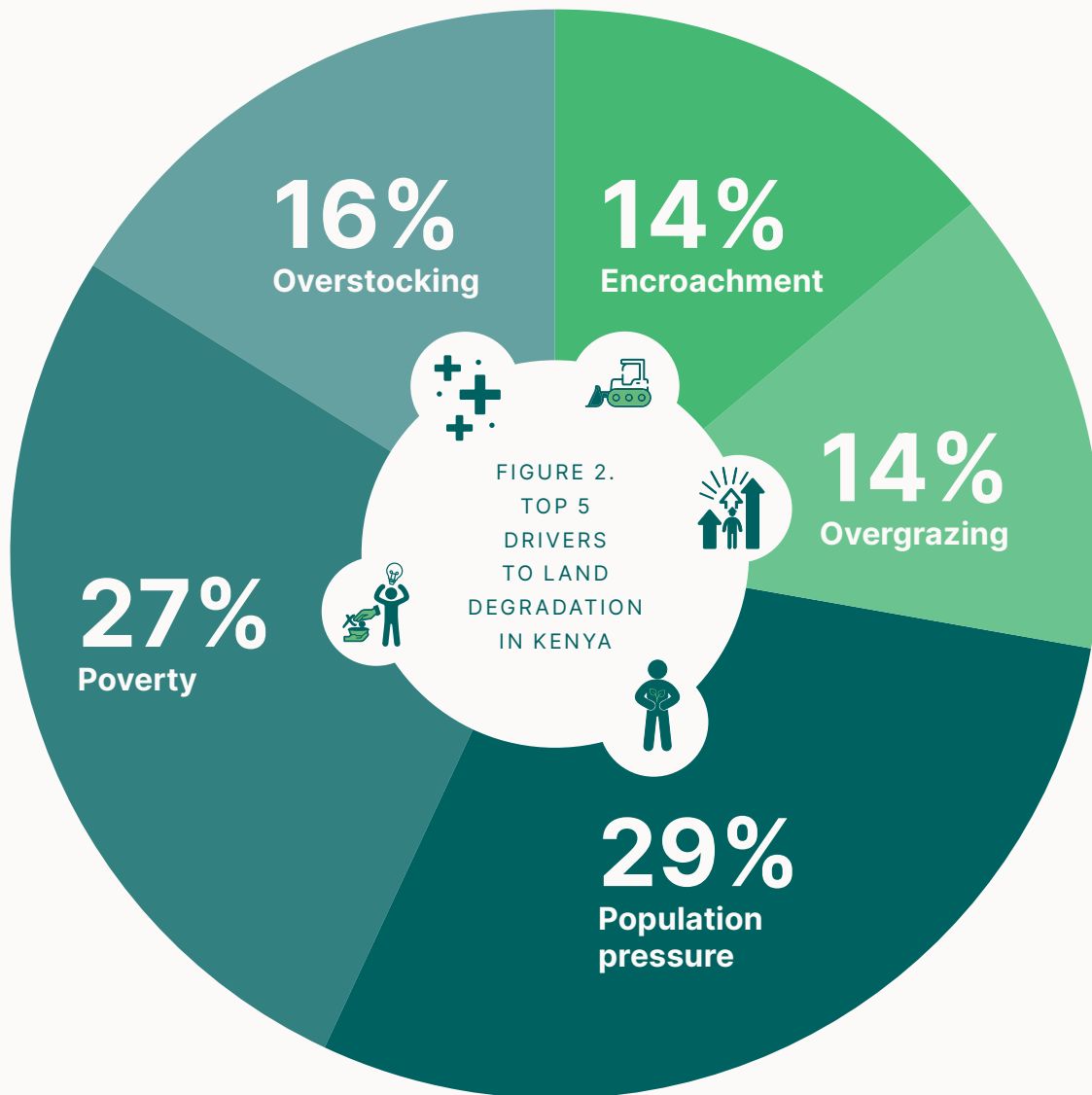
- I. Provide technical support to the officers engaged in landscape restorations
- II. Develop/provide policy on mainstreaming of landscape restoration activities
- III. Sensitize, build capacity and incentivize counties in identifying budget priorities
- IV. Train technical officers
- V. Research and share outcomes



2.2. Kenya's top five drivers to degradation

A root cause analysis reveals that Kenya's top driver to land degradation is population increase, as highlighted by 29.45% of counties. Poverty, mentioned by 27.45% of counties, is equally pushing communities to degrade

their environment (e.g., cutting down trees for wood fuel). Poor livestock management practices, such as overstocking and overgrazing, also contribute to degradation according to 15.69% and 13.73% of counties, respectively. In addition, 13.73% of counties identified encroachment in the form of flouting land-use regulations as a driver to degradation; this is deeply intertwined with population pressure and poverty.





Population pressure

29.41% representing **15 counties**

stated that population pressure is a driver to degradation.

Proposed solutions



5 counties

recommend sensitization of the public on FLR.



4 counties

recommend enforcement of relevant FLR laws.



3 counties

recommend promotion of agroforestry.



3 counties

recommend family planning.



2 counties

recommend promotion of spatial planning.

Proposed national government interventions



5 counties

recommended enforcement of existing FLR laws and policies.



4 counties

recommended policy formulation on sustainable land management practices.



3 counties

recommend promotion of family planning methods.

Counties: Bungoma, Busia, Homa Bay, Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Machakos, Makueni, Meru, Migori, Mombasa, Murang'a, Nandi, Siaya, West Pokot

Proposed solutions:

- I. Sensitization of the public on diversification of economic activities to ease pressure on agricultural land
- II. Land-use planning and spatial planning and enforcement of the plans
- III. Capacity building related to agroforestry and farm forestry practices
- IV. Encouraging and supporting bio-enterprises in public/county forest landscapes
- V. Gazettement of public lands to avoid encroachment (illegal settlement and cultivation)
- VI. Partnership with other sectors, such as health to increase awareness on the importance of family planning
- VII. Devolution of services and improved employment opportunities in counties

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Enforce relevant laws that promote FLR
- II. Mobilize resources to support capacity building
- III. Sensitize/build capacity of public on diversification and agroforestry
- IV. Enhance management of national parks such as Mt. Elgon
- V. Develop guidelines on sustainable land management and formulate policy on land-use management
- VI. Promote family planning initiatives
- VII. Protect gazetted forest
- VIII. Enact appropriate legislation to control encroachment
- IX. Create employment to reduce dependency on agriculture





Poverty

27.45% representing **14 counties**

stated that poverty is a driver to degradation.

Proposed solutions



9 counties

recommend promoting alternative sources of livelihoods.



4 counties

recommend provision of alternative sources of energy.



3 counties

recommend promotion of smart agricultural practices.



3 counties

recommend education and awareness on poverty eradication.

Proposed national government interventions



5 counties

recommend allocation of more resources to counties.



3 counties

recommend development of poverty eradication programmes or approaches.



2 counties

recommend promoting and stimulating alternative sources of energy and water harvesting and storage facilities.

Counties: Bungoma, Homa Bay, Isiolo, Kisumu, Kwale, Machakos, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Migori, Nyandarua, Tana River, Vihiga, West Pokot

Proposed solutions:

- I. Provision of alternative energy sources (green energy)
- II. Promotion of smart agriculture and conservation agriculture
- III. Livelihood diversification/alternative sources of income to increase income levels
- IV. Promotion of awareness on ways of eradicating poverty
- V. Improvement of entrepreneurial skills in the community especially for the youth
- VI. Investment in irrigation systems and climate smart agriculture practices
- VII. Appropriate production technologies to boost production
- VIII. Production inputs (fertilizer, seeds) to enhance production
- IX. Sustainable land management
- X. Subsidized farm inputs for farmers
- XI. Regulations on water harvesting and abstraction

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Increase socioeconomic development funds (e.g., youth and women funds)
- II. Coordinate formulation of legislations on transboundary issues
- III. Provide affordable energy sources
- IV. Promote nature-based enterprises targeting youths and special groups
- V. Provide social support for poor and vulnerable households
- VI. Promote inter-county and regional economic blocks in conservation and natural resource management
- VII. Allocate adequate resources for alternative sources of livelihood and awareness of these options
- VIII. Promote food and nutrition security initiatives
- IX. Venture into modern farming technologies
- X. Formulate legislation to support food security





Overstocking

15.69% representing **8 counties**

stated that overstocking is a driver of degradation.

Proposed solutions



5 counties

recommend destocking and proper stock management.



2 counties

recommend breed improvement.



2 counties

recommend community sensitization and empowerment on proper stocking rates.



2 counties

recommend promotion of planned and rotational grazing.

Proposed national government interventions



5 counties

recommend livestock offtake programmes.



1 county

recommends enactment and implementation of livestock herd management legislation.



1 county

recommends subsidizing and incentivizing agricultural inputs such as fodder seeds and fertilizers.

Counties: Baringo, Isiolo, Kajiado, Mandera, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Tana River

Proposed solutions:

- I. Destocking
- II. Good and current agricultural practices for livestock keepers (e.g., breed improvement and reseeded and silviculture livestock management skills)
- III. Pasture management such as grazing plans
- IV. Pasture storage facilities such as hay barns
- V. Promotion of planned and rotational grazing
- VI. Advocacy for land tenure change i.e., individual land ownership
- VII. Rangeland rehabilitation such as grass reseeded

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Provide financial resources for specific livestock management programmes (e.g., feedlots)
- II. Support livestock offtake programmes
- III. Subsidize and incentivize agricultural inputs such as fodder seeds and fertilizers
- IV. Initiate and implement livestock herd management legislation
- V. Improve breeds (e.g., drought-tolerant breeds)
- VI. Support rangeland management (e.g., reseeded)
- VII. Facilitate land demarcation and issuance of title deeds
- VIII. Provide competitive market prices for livestock and livestock products
- IX. Invest in infrastructure development
- X. Produce and harvest pasture (preservation) and distribute to the stressed area





Encroachment

13.73% representing 7 counties

stated that change of land use through encroachment of protected forest areas is a driver of degradation.

Proposed solutions



3 counties

recommend enforcement of various laws and regulations related to land use.



2 counties

recommend sensitization of the public on the importance of natural resources.



2 counties

recommend boundary setting and fencing-off of protected areas.

Proposed national government interventions



3 counties

recommend enforcement support on land-use regulations.



2 counties

recommend technical assistance on sustainable agricultural practices.

Counties: Kericho, Laikipia, Meru, Murang'a, Nakuru, Narok, Nyandarua

Proposed solutions

- I. Fencing of protected areas
- II. Sensitization of public on the importance of natural resources
- III. Compulsory acquisition of grabbed land
- IV. Development and implementation of county Spatial Plan
- V. Survey and mapping of all public land and community land
- VI. Control, use and management of riparian land
- VII. Capacity building on bio-enterprises for communities bordering fragile ecosystems
- VIII. Strengthening security and personnel in charge of enforcement i.e., by training Rangers in Place
- IX. Encouragement of adaptive and sustainable livelihoods, agriculture, income generating activities.

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Provide technical support on sustainable agriculture
- II. Mobilize resources
- III. Enforce law
- IV. Play advisory role
- V. Build capacity and enforce implementation
- VI. Increase/improve delivery of roles by lead agencies in tackling encroachment (National Environment Management Authority, Kenya Wildlife Service)
- VII. Survey and map all public and community land
- VIII. Take lead in resettlement of communities issued with irregular title deed
- IX. Provide financial, technical expertise and enforcement services
- X. Strengthening court systems on land and environment issues i.e.
- XI. Environment and Land Court
- XII. National Environmental Tribunal
- XIII. Provide for alternative land dispute resolution mechanisms
- XIV. Collaborate in forest fencing drives





Overgrazing

13.73% representing **7 counties**

stated that overgrazing is a driver of degradation.

Proposed solutions



4 counties

recommend development of proper pasture and grazing plans.



3 counties

recommend improvement of livestock breeds.



3 counties

recommend sustainable management of stock levels.

Proposed national government interventions



2 counties

recommend livestock offtake programmes.



2 counties

recommend investment in infrastructure development.

Counties: Elgeyo-Marakwet, Mandera, Narok, Nyeri, Samburu, Tana River, Uasin Gishu

Proposed solutions:

- I. Improvement of livestock breeds, Reseeding pastures
- II. Sustainable management of stock levels
- III. Capacity building of farmers on pasture production
- IV. Income generating activities for communities as alternative to keeping livestock
- V. Pasture management such as growing grass/fodder
- VI. Construction of pasture storage facilities such as hay barns
- VII. Community sensitization and empowerment on proper stocking rates
- VIII. Livestock offtake
- IX. Proper land-use planning
- X. Advocacy for land tenure change i.e., individual land ownership

Proposed national government interventions:

- I. Set aside adequate fund for sensitization
- II. Support livestock offtake programmes
- III. Subsidize and incentivize agricultural inputs such as fodder seeds and fertilizers
- IV. Facilitate land demarcation and issuance of title deeds
- V. Provide competitive market prices for livestock and livestock product
- VI. Invest in infrastructure development
- VII. Produce pasture and harvest (preservation) and distribute to the stressed area
- VIII. Support programmes on capacity building





PART 3

TAKING ROOT: ANCHORING FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION AT THE COUNTY LEVEL



3.1. FLR Implementation Action Plan 2022-2026 (FOLAREP)

FOLAREP is an ambitious five-year plan to strengthen policy implementation; institutional coordination and enhance resource mobilization to accelerate restoration of deforested and degraded landscapes. The overall objective is to restore 2.55 million ha through an integrated approach for improved ecological functionality and social economic benefits by 2026.

Objectives

1. To strengthen policy, regulatory frameworks and institutional coordination for enhanced implementation of FLR.
2. To restore 2.55 million ha of degraded forests and landscapes by 2026.
3. To promote green value chains for improved livelihoods.
4. To develop an integrated monitoring, evaluation and learning framework for improved reporting on FLR.
5. To mobilize resources to support of implementation FLR programmes.

Coordination framework

Figure 1 represents FOLAREP's proposed coordination framework. The CEC has been proposed as the institution to buttress the FLR agenda within the counties. CECs are mandated under Section 36 of the Environment Management and Coordination Act with overall responsibility for management of the environment within the county.



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Counties' feedback on objectives



53.2%

representing 25 counties, highlight that sufficient fund are essential to achieve the objectives of the FOLAREP on land-use regulations.



21.3%

representing 10 counties, express general satisfaction and entirely endorse the objectives as presented.



19.1%

representing 9 counties, state that objectives 2, 3 and 5 will require the most collaboration and support between county and national governments.



14.9%

representing 7 counties, cite involvement and active participation of local communities as an important inclusion.



14.9%

representing 7 counties, highlight that objective 1 requires clarification on the need for harmonization of the framework used, as well as emphasis on support for its implementation.



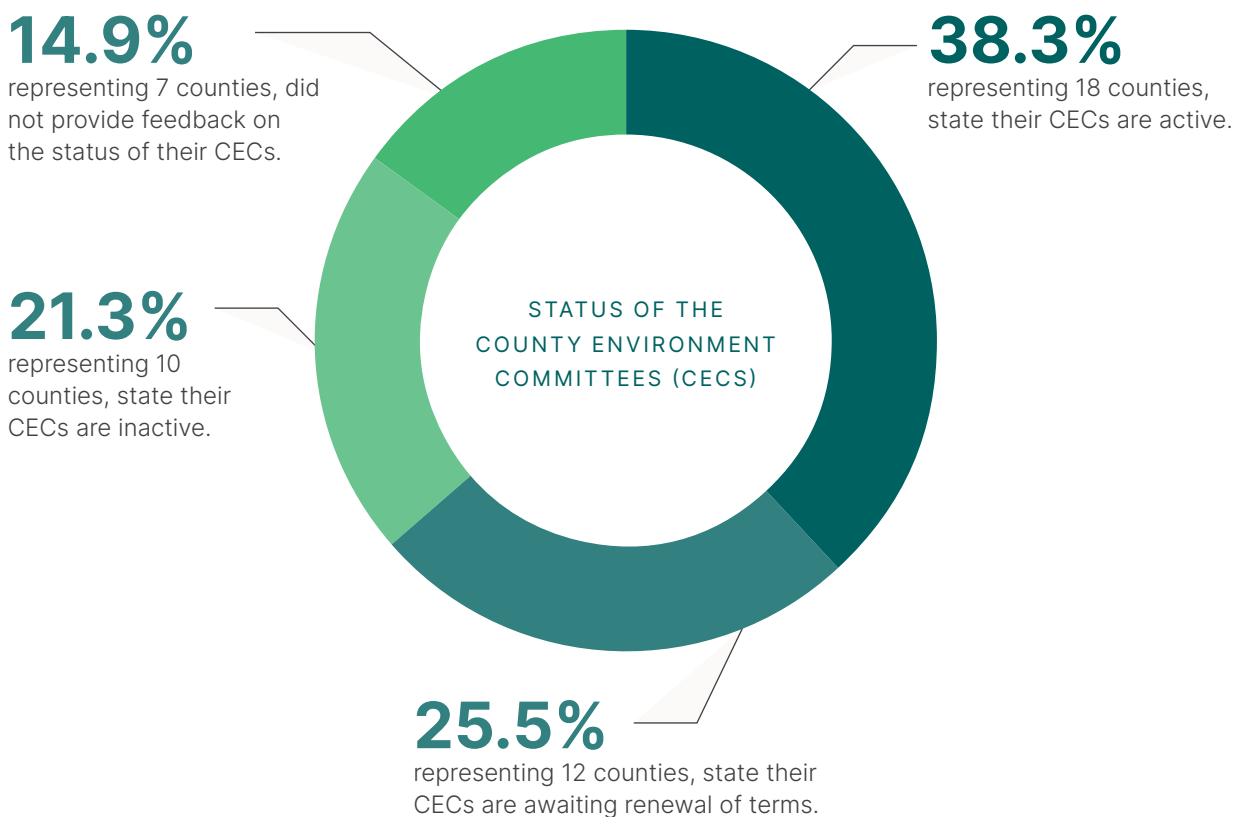
14.9%

representing 7 counties, question how objective 4 will be approached and how the dissemination of information will take place.

FIGURE 3. FOLAREP ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



This section seeks to understand how the CECs function, highlighting what is working well and shedding light on areas for improvement to ensure that FLR is well-anchored within the county system. It also highlights the importance of synergies between the CECs and the County Integrated Development Planning (CIDP) process. These synergies will ensure FLR is entrenched in the planning and budgetary mechanism of the county.



Status of the County Environment Committees (CECs)



51%

representing 24 counties, cite that budgetary support is critical for CECs to undertake their mandates.



25.5%

representing 12 counties, indicate that collaborating with different stakeholders, being inclusive and emphasizing public participation have contributed to better performance of their CECs.



34%

representing 16 counties, call for the need to formulate and implement laws and policies to achieve FOLAREP goals.



19.1%

representing 9 counties, cite the need to improve and strengthen the structure of the CEC through capacity building to facilitate implementation of the CIDP.



Overview of active CECs



38.3%

representing 18 counties, state their CECs are active.

Counties	CEC participation in the CIDP process
----------	---------------------------------------

Baringo	▲ High
Bungoma	▲ High
Busia	▲ High
Isiolo	▲ High
Kajiado	▼ Low
Kakamega	▲ High
Kiambu	▼ Low
Kirinyaga	▲ High
Machakos	▲ High
Makueni	▲ High
Mandera	▼ Low
Migori	▲ High
Murang'a	▲ High
Nakuru	▲ High
Nyandarua	▲ High
Nyeri	▼ Low
Turkana	▲ High
Vihiga	▼ Low

What is working well?

- 5 counties mention participation and implementation of various work plans, policies and projects of the CEC (Marsabit, Homa Bay, Meru, Bomet, Uasin Gishu).
- 3 counties mention convening of regular meetings has been working well (West Pokot, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Laikipia).
- 5 counties mention the involvement of various stakeholders, government agencies and departments (Meru, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Trans-Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Kericho).
- 4 counties mention highlighting and influencing environmental matters and decisions within the counties (Marsabit, Homa Bay, Narok, Kericho).

What can be improved?

- 7 counties mention budgetary allocation can be improved (Homa Bay, Marsabit, Meru, Narok, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Uasin Gishu, West Pokot).
- 6 counties mention the involvement of the CEC in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental programmes (Samburu, Laikipia, Bomet, Kericho, Trans-Nzoia, West Pokot).



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Overview of active CECs



21.3%

representing 10 counties, state their CECs were inactive and terms have now expired.

Counties	CEC participation in the CIDP process
Garissa	Low
Kisii	Low
Kisumu	Low
Kitui	Low
Nairobi	N/A (does not have a CEC)
Nandi	Low
Nyamira	High
Siaya	Low
Tharaka-Nthi	Low
Wajir	Low

What is working well?

- 2 counties mention the formulation of work plans (Wajir, Nyamira).

What can be improved?

- 4 counties mention adequate resource allocation (Garissa, Siaya, Kisii, Nandi).
- 3 counties mention involvement of the CEC in implementation of environmental matters (Wajir, Nyamira, Tharaka-Nthi).
- 2 counties mention re-gazettement and reconstitution of the committee (Tharaka-Nthi, Kisii).

3.2. County structures which can complement the CECs' FLR functions

Each county has its own context and complexities. The visual highlights other structures that can complement the CEC in entrenching the FLR agenda in counties. Climate change entities top the list, as mentioned by 53.2% representing 20 counties. Owing to the prominence of the climate crisis, more financial flows are being channeled towards county climate change structures. This emphasizes the importance of budgetary support in strengthening institutions. Most importantly, FLR is not distinct from climate action. Indeed, FLR is a natural climate- or nature-based solution. Therefore, synergies should be cultivated between the CECs and the county climate change structures.

Overview of the counties with CECs status missing



14.9%

representing 7 counties, did not provide feedback on the status of their CECs despite having co constituted in the past. These are Embu, Kwale, Kilifi, Mombasa, Lamu, Taita Taveta, and Tana River Counties.



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Structures that can complement CECs' FLR functions

Counties



Baringo, Bomet, Bungoma, Garissa, Homabay, Kajiado, Kisumu, Kitui, Laikipia, Marsabit, Migori, Murang'a, Nairobi, Nakuru, Nandi, Narok, Nayandarua, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Vihiga

Structures



County Climate Change Council/Committee



Ward Climate Change Planning Committee



Climate Change Unit



Climate Change Steering and Planning Committees



Directorate of Climate Change



Structures established in the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Programme

Counties



Busia, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Kajiado, Kiambu, Machakos, Makueni, Mombasa, Nairobi, Tana River

Structure



County Assembly Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Counties



Bungoma, Lamu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Tharaka-Nithi, Turkana

Structure



Community Forest Associations (CFAs)

Counties



Isiolo, Laikipia, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Wajir

Structure



County Steering Group mainly for coordination forum

Counties



Homa Bay, Kajiado,
Kirinyaga, Murang'a, Siaya

Structure



County Budget
Economic Forum

Counties



Kajiado, Murang'a, Nyamira,
Samburu

Structure



Sector Working Groups

Counties



Kwale, Lamu, Mombasa

Structure



County Executive Committee
(County Assembly)

Counties



Isiolo, Nyeri, Tharaka-Nithi

Structure



Water Resources User
Associations (WRUAs)

Counties



Kajiado, Wajir

Structure



County Agriculture
Steering Committee

Counties



Elgeyo-Marakwet, Isiolo

Structure



Ward Development Committee

Counties



Nakuru, Narok

Structure



Sub-County and Ward
Administrators

Counties



Nairobi, Tharaka-Nithi

Structure



County Departments of
Environment and Natural
Resources, Agriculture and
Water

PART 4

GAINS AND PAINS: TRACKING FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION EFFORTS IN KENYA



4.1. Top five indicators for FLR monitoring in Kenya

Restoration monitoring is vital to ensure Kenya is on track to meet FLR goals, guided by an evidence base. As part of an ongoing process to establish a National Restoration Monitoring System, counties have selected top indicators that will support FLR tracking efforts. Counties are using varied baselines and tools to record forest and tree cover, which poses a challenge in accurately capturing national forest and tree cover. Establishing harmonized baselines and standardized

tools for recording forest and tree cover statistics is an important aspect of tracking FLR efforts in the country.

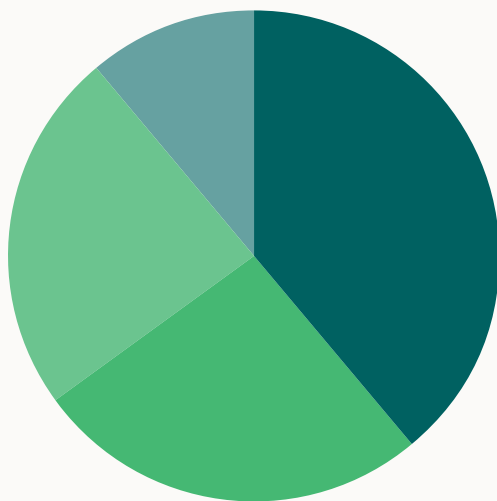
This section provides an overview of the trends observed in FLR-related data collection, including the quality of data and the institutions collecting the data. Although data collectors vary from county to county, they are collecting some form of medium quality data on these indicators. The main sources of resource mobilization for data collection are national and county funds, complemented by development partners' support.



AREA OF FOREST AND FOREST LAND RESTORED

- **72.3%** representing 34 counties state it as a priority.
- **41.2%** representing 14 counties state data quality is medium.
- **26.5%** representing 9 counties state data quality is high.
- **20.6%** representing 7 counties that have not clearly outlined the data quality
- **11.8%** representing 4 counties state data quality is low.

100% representing all 34 counties are collecting data



NUMBER OF EXISTING PLANS, POLICIES, STRATEGIES, REGULATIONS REVIEWED, AND DEVELOPED

- **63.8%** representing 30 counties state it as a priority.
- **42.9%** representing 12 counties state data quality is medium
- **39.3%** representing 11 counties state data quality is high.
- **17.9%** representing 5 counties state data quality is low

93.3% representing 28 counties are collecting data.



AREA OF DEGRADED AGRICULTURAL LANDS RESTORED

- **66%** representing 31 counties state it as a priority.
- **35.5%** representing 11 counties state data quality is medium.
- **25.8%** representing 8 counties state data quality is high
- **22.6%** representing 7 counties state data quality is low.
- **16.1%** representing 5 counties that have not clearly outlined the data quality

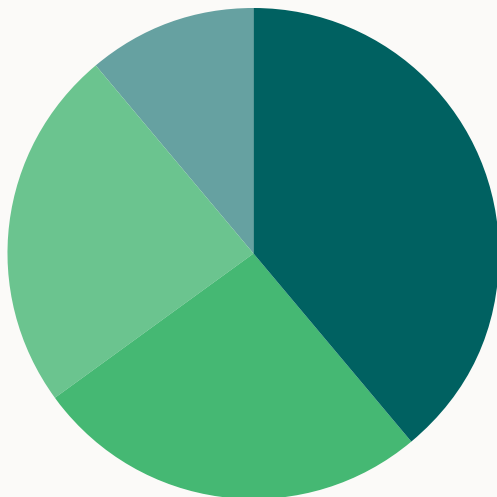
100% representing all 31 counties are collecting data.



AREA OF LANDSCAPES UNDER IMPROVED MANAGEMENT TO BENEFIT BIODIVERSITY

- **38.3%** representing 18 counties state it as a priority.
- **22.2%** representing 4 counties state data quality is low.
- **33.3%** representing 6 counties state data quality is medium
- **44.4%** representing 8 counties state data quality is high.

100% representing all 18 counties are collecting data.



TRENDS IN POPULATION ACCESSING ADEQUATE QUANTITIES OF SAFE WATER IN URBAN/PERI-URBAN AREAS

- **53.2%** representing 25 counties state it as a priority.
- **29.2%** representing 7 counties state data quality is low.
- **45.8%** representing 11 counties state data quality is medium.
- **16.7%** representing 4 counties state data quality is high.
- **8.3%** representing 2 counties have not clearly outlined the data quality.

96% representing 24 counties are collecting data.

TABLE 1. TOP FIVE INDICATORS FOR FLR MONITORING IN KENYA

Indicator	Counties prioritizing	Counties collecting data	Data Quality	Data Collector	Resource Mobilization
Area of forest and forest land restored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Kajiado Kiambu Baringo Bomet Elgeyo Marakwet Nandi Turkana Homa Bay Busia Bungoma Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Wajir Mandera Garissa Murang'a Machakos Makueni Kiambu Kajiado Mombasa Meru Nyandarua Kirinyaga Tharaka Nithi Trans Nzoia Kisii Kakamega Uasin Gishu Marsabit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Kajiado Kiambu Baringo Bomet Elgeyo Marakwet Nandi Turkana Homa Bay Busia Bungoma Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Wajir Mandera Garissa Murang'a Machakos Makueni Kiambu Kajiado Mombasa Meru Nyandarua Kirinyaga Tharaka Nithi Trans Nzoia Kisii Kakamega Uasin Gishu Marsabit 	<p>Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turkana Mombasa Kisii Marsabit <p>Medium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Murang'a Makueni Kajiado Kiambu Baringo Bomet Elgeyo Marakwet Nandi Homa Bay Siaya Busia Tharaka Nithi Trans Nzoia <p>High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machakos Bungoma Vihiga Meru Nyandarua Kirinyaga Wajir Uasin Gishu Kakamega 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant Sector Environmental Department County Director Ecosystem Conservator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Government Development partners

Indicator	Counties prioritizing	Counties collecting data	Data Quality	Data Collector	Resource Mobilization
Number of existing policies, legislations/ regulatory frameworks, strategies, and plans reviewed, and new ones developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Samburu Isiolo Makueni Kajiado Baringo Elgeyo Marakwet Kericho Nandi Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu West Pokot Busia Kisii Nyamira Vihiga Siaya Kisumu Kakamega Homa Bay Bungoma Garissa Mandera Wajir Mombasa Meru Nyandarua Nakuru Bomet Kirinyaga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Samburu Isiolo Makueni Kajiado Baringo Kericho Nandi Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu West Pokot Busia Kisii Nyamira Vihiga Siaya Kisumu Kakamega Homa Bay Bungoma Garissa Mandera Wajir Mombasa Meru Nyandarua Nakuru Bomet 	<p>Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Pokot Nandi Mombasa Garissa Kisii <p>Medium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Samburu Isiolo Makueni Kajiado Baringo Kericho Trans Nzoia West Pokot Bungoma Nyandarua Bomet <p>High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uasin Gishu Nandi Homa Bay Kakamega Siaya Mandera Wajir Meru Nakuru Vihiga Busia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant Sector Environmental Department County Director Director Public Participation and Civic Education Sub County Education Coordinators Economics Department Sub County Forest Officers Surveyors and Physical Planners Director Environment and Natural Resources. Economic Planner/M&E Focal Person Sector Monitoring and Evaluation Committees (SMEC) Sub-County Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (SCoMEC) - Sub County Administrator, HODs and Sub County M&E Officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Governments funds National Government Donors

Indicator	Counties prioritizing	Counties collecting data	Data Quality	Data Collector	Resource Mobilization
Area of degraded agricultural lands restored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MaMarsabit Samburu Machakos Makueni Kiambu Turkana Isiolo Kajiado West Pokot Murang'a Bungoma Homa Bay Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Kiambu Mombasa Garissa Kwale Taita Taveta Nakuru Narok Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu Wajir Mandera Kakamega Kisii Elgeyo Marakwet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Samburu Machakos Makueni Kiambu Turkana Isiolo Kajiado West Pokot Murang'a Bungoma Homa Bay Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Kiambu Mombasa Garissa Kwale Taita Taveta Nakuru Narok Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu Wajir Mandera Kakamega Kisii Elgeyo Marakwet 	<p>Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Mombasa Homa Bay Garissa Taita Taveta Nakuru Kisii <p>Medium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Isiolo Murang'a Makueni Kajiado Kiambu Turkana West Pokot Kwale Trans Nzoia Elgeyo Marakwet <p>High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machakos Bungoma Siaya Narok Uasin Gishu Wajir Mandera Kakamega 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KFS Environment/forest/agriculture Officers KEMFRI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Government. Development partners

Indicator	Counties prioritizing	Counties collecting data	Data Quality	Data Collector	Resource Mobilization
Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (qualitative assessment, non- certified)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Kiambu Garissa Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Busia Mandera Turkana Bungoma Lamu Taita Taveta Kwale Isiolo Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Kiambu Garissa Kisumu Migori Siaya Vihiga Nyamira Busia Mandera Turkana Bungoma Lamu Taita Taveta Kwale Isiolo Trans Nzoia Uasin Gishu 	<p>Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kisumu Lamu Taita Taveta Nyamira <p>Medium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samburu Kiambu Turkana Migori Isiolo Trans Nzoia <p>High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bungoma Siaya Vihiga Busia Mandera Kwale Uasin Gishu Garissa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant Sector Environmental Department Environment/forest/agriculture Officers NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Government Development partners
Trends in population accessing adequate quantities of safe water in urban/sub urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandera Bungoma Homa Bay Marsabit Muranga Elgeyo Marakwet Kericho Nandi Nyamira Lamu Taita Taveta Mombasa Kirinyaga Tharaka Nithi Nakuru Uasin Gishu Vihiga Wajir West Pokot Machakos Migori Isiolo Bomet Kwale Kisii 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandera Bungoma Homa Bay Marsabit Muranga Elgeyo Marakwet Kericho Nandi Nyamira Lamu Taita Taveta Mombasa Kirinyaga Tharaka Nithi Nakuru Uasin Gishu Vihiga West Pokot Machakos Migori Isiolo Bomet Wajir Kisii 	<p>Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsabit Elgeyo Marakwet Nandi Homa Bay Lamu Kisii <p>Medium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muranga Kericho Nyamira Mombasa Tharaka Nithi Nakuru West Pokot Migori Isiolo Bomet Bungoma <p>High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uasin Gishu Vihiga Wajir Machakos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Department Director water and sanitation County respective Water and Sewerage Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Government Development partners

4.2. Overview of counties' FLR monitoring structures

Across several counties, some entities, and departments such as the CECs, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee and Units, are used for FLR monitoring. However, all counties have distinct FLR monitoring structures because clustering and nomenclature of

departments is unique. This highlights the importance of harmonized departments across all counties to allow for easier implementation of national efforts, beyond FLR. The County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluations System is severely underused for FLR tracking activities: only 8.5% representing four counties mention it in their structure. Below is an overview of the trends in counties' FLR monitoring structures

Trends in counties' FLR monitoring structures



48.9%

County Monitoring and Evaluation Committee/Units



Counties: Baringo, Bomet, Bungoma, Garissa, Isiolo, Kakamega, Kiambu, Kilifi, Kirinyaga, Kwale, Laikipia, Machakos, Makueni, Mandera, Murang'a, Nandi, Nyandarua, Tana River, Wajir, West Pokot



36.2%

County Environment Committees



Counties: Kajiado, Kilifi, Kisumu, Kwale, Mandera, Marsabit, Meru, Mombasa, Nakuru, Nyandarua, Nyeri, Samburu, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Trans-Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Wajir



10.6%

Climate Change Planning Committee



Counties: Kisumu, Marsabit, Meru, Samburu, Trans-Nzoia



8.5%

County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System



Counties: Kisumu, Marsabit, Meru, Samburu, Trans-Nzoia

PART 5

LOOKING AHEAD: RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN KENYA



Based on Kenya's FLR goals, barriers to restoration and drivers to degradation, monitoring structures and priority indicators for establishing an FLR monitoring system, the trends analysis proposes the following recommendations to FLR stakeholders to support the realization of sustainable ecosystems:



Sensitize the executive and political leadership at national and county level on FLR

matters, because of their mandates on oversight and budgetary approvals, needed to enhance FLR activities.



Strengthen the CECs through:

- capacity building on FLR, including supporting the county on enactment and enforcement of FLR-related laws and policies.
- adequate budgetary support.
- streamlining of governance and operations across all counties.
- leveraging on operational county structures such as climate change institutions to support their mandate.



Build capacity of monitoring and evaluation structures on FLR, including establishing well-defined guidelines for use of the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System, as a means of leveraging on monitoring structures.



Develop harmonized baselines and standardized tools for recording forest and tree cover to support FLR monitoring activities in Kenya.



Support inter-county collaboration on FLR, particularly where transboundary natural resources are present and to encourage peer learning among counties sharing good practices on FLR.



Enhance inter-departmental collaboration on FLR in counties, especially the departments of finance and economic planning, to enhance allocations to the environment sector and to encourage an integrated approach towards FLR.



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