LOW-EMISSION RURAL DEVELOPMENT (LED-R) AT A GLANCE

- Forests cover 24% of land area; Nandi contains 27% of Mau Forest/Watershed Complex (Kenya’s largest watershed)
- Land use activities include subsistence agriculture & livestock rearing (mainly for dairy)
- 90% (urban & rural) depend on wood fuel as main energy source; high demand for land & wood products due to increasing population
- Cash crop farming (mostly tea & wheat) is a growing form of supplementary income
- Hosts 12 of Kenya’s 66 tea factories (Kenya is the world’s leading tea exporter)
- Community Forest Associations (CFAs) engage local communities (LC) in forest protection initiatives in partnership with government agencies & NGOs

SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

The County Government of Nandi facilitates the creation and development of agricultural cooperatives through its Department of Agriculture and Cooperatives Development, as part of its approach to improving environmental sustainability in the country’s agricultural sector, a main economic activity and driver of deforestation. Cooperatives are active within the dairy, coffee, sugarcane, and tea industries, with plans to engage the maize industry next. Through the cooperatives, farmers have access to technical training and opportunities to improve business, including improving processing infrastructure and access to markets and credit. The county maintains a specific budget for the expansion of cooperatives to activities that promote climate change adaptation and mitigation, such as planting programs for sustainably-certified seeds. The county’s partnership with the World Bank also provides loans and grants to cooperatives. For capacity training, the county government has agreements with two innovative tech-based initiatives: DigiCow and DigiFarm. DigiCow is a mobile-based platform for dairy farmers to independently collect and manage data related to relevant indicators (e.g., milk production), to promote data-driven decision-making, which has over 4,000 users, and is also functional to farmers with inconsistent or without internet access. DigiFarm is another mobile-based platform, through which smallholder farmers can access markets and financial services, as well as video-based learning content; over 80,000 farmers have been registered across Nandi and two other Kenyan counties as pilot regions. By formalizing agreements with these platforms, the Nandi County Government plays an active role in bringing their benefits to smallholder farmers, and institutionalizing sustainable agriculture initiatives.

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Traditional land governance system ended; Nandi absorbed into East Africa Protectorate (aka British East Africa)
- North & South Nandi Forests declared Trust Lands (titled to the County)
- Kenya declared independence from Britain & most British settlers left
- Participatory Forest Management (PFM) introduced in Kenya
- National Forest Programme published as forest-focused complementary strategy to Vision 2030
- 2018-2020 - Kenya Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Project active, through which Kenya will develop a National REDD+ Strategy
- Logging moratorium further extended, through Nov 2020

PLEDGES & COMMITMENTS

- Part of international agreement or forum

1 Increase percent forest cover & wetland areas from 21 to 45% (among other targets); 2 Reduce GHG emissions 30% below BAU, conditional on international support. 3 End deforestation. 4 Increase forest cover to 10% through afforestation, reforestation, & restoration. 5 Restore 5.1 million ha of deforested & degraded landscapes, to contribute to 100 million+ ha restoration goal across Africa (4.5% of total AFR100 commitments). 6 1 million trees planted per county per year (total 100,000 ha of re- or afforested land in the country); farm area under conservation agriculture increased to 250,000 acres; restore 200,000 ha of forests on degraded lands.

County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018-2022
Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to UNFCCC
New York Declaration on Forests
African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) / Bonn Challenge
National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2018-2022

JURISDICTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY PROFILE

Drivers of Deforestation
- Agriculture
- Commercial logging
- Illegal logging
- Fire

Average Annual Emissions from Deforestation
- Area: 2,884 km²
- Population: 1,022,380
- GDP: USD 1.15 million
- Gini: 0.343

Main Economic Activities
- Agriculture
- Public services
- Services

Rural/Urban Population
- 96%/4%

Spotlight on Innovation

Community Forest Associations (CFAs) engage local communities in forest protection initiatives in partnership with government agencies & NGOs.

DigiCow
- A mobile-based platform for dairy farmers to independently collect and manage data related to relevant indicators (milk production).

DigiFarm
- A mobile-based platform for smallholder farmers to access markets and financial services, as well as video-based learning content.

Participatory Forest Management (PFM)
- Introduced in Kenya.

National Forest Programme
- Published as forest-focused complementary strategy to Vision 2030.

Logging moratorium further extended, through November 2020.

Forest/Watershed Complex (Kenya's largest watershed)
**KEY INTERVENTIONS**

**FUNDING**
- BILATERAL PUBLIC
- MULTILATERAL OTHER
- COUNTY PUBLIC
- NATIONAL PUBLIC

**ORGANIZATION(S) IMPLEMENTING**
- BENEFICIARIES
- GENERAL POPULATION, LC
- LC, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
- LANDOWNERS
- AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

**INTERVENTION & FOCUS**
- LED-R pathway, policy coordination, climate change adaptation & mitigation

- North & South Nandi Forests Strategic Ecosystems Management Plan (NF SEMP) 2015-2040
- Management plan of Nandi Forest ecosystem; enhance biodiversity conservation; PFM

- Title Deeds Program 2018-2020
- Increase land tenure security county-wide

- Nandi Agricultural Value Chain Incubator (NAVCI)
- Agri-tech innovation & mentorship for commercialization

**DISINCENTIVES**

**ENABLING MEASURES**

**INCENTIVES**

**CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

**CHALLENGES**
- The average farm size has been decreasing & is expected to shrink further due to rapid population increase → likely adverse effects on overall food production & land productivity
- Agricultural output (especially tea) highly dependent on rainfall; drought seasons create immense challenges for farmers & economic position of the county
- Co-operative buy-in is weak due to constraints including weak regulatory framework & inadequate extension services, which serve as disincentives to membership
- Significant tourism potential of South Nandi forest hindered by inadequate investment & maintenance
- Lack of valuation of potential ecosystem services for Payment for Ecosystem Services mechanisms

**OPPORTUNITIES**
- Plans to upgrade Bonjoge National Reserve to a National Park could attract funds for conservation & restoration from mining
- Capitalizing on tourism potential could create employment, promote environmental conservation & preservation of local culture
- NCCCAP will bolster conservation efforts & lead the way for other counties to develop plans
- National MRV system, to be developed through FCPF R-PP, will have subnational & local-level monitoring capacities

**PROGRESS TO JURISDICTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**EARLY**
  - Development of County Spatial Plan included as an activity in CIDP
- CIDP outlines 5-year quantitative targets related to agriculture & cooperative development, land & natural resources, & a range of socio-economic indicators

**INTERMEDIATE**
- Comprehensive, online climate change MRV system for the county-level under development with support from GBM
- County Integrated Monitoring & Evaluation System (CIMES) tracks implementation of CIDP programs & projects & provides publicly available reports
- National-level forest monitoring through Ecometrica Forests 2020 project (UK-funded)
- National System for Land-Based Emissions Estimation in Kenya (SLEEK) informs national decision-making & fulfills UNFCCC (NDC) reporting requirements
- CIDP outlines linkages with National Medium Term Development Plan (MTP III 2018-23), which is the 5-year implementation plan of Kenya Vision 2030 as required by law; CIDP facilitates implementation of flagship projects
- CIDP outlines linkages with national & county sectoral plans, international commitments (e.g., SDGs)
- Key stakeholders were not involved in CIDP planning process, even though their engagement is a legal requirement
- Nandi County Environmental Committee, composed of national & county government members & community representatives from various sectors, meets regularly to discuss topical issues; however, it is unclear how these meetings influence policy-making
- Sustainable agriculture initiatives exist mainly at the project, rather than jurisdictional, level
- FAO Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture (MCCIA) program pilot project in Kaptumo, Nandi County: focused on smallholder dairy farmers – cooperated with East African Dairy Development (EADD) project to promote climate-smart agriculture practices
- Indigenous peoples & local communities
  - Custodial land usually used for agriculture has freehold tenure, meaning the government has a right to control its use & management
  - 80% of land parcels have been issued titles through Title Deeds Program
  - NF SEMP engages LC in co-management of forests with Kenya Forest Service (KFS) through 3 CFAs
  - Indigenous Peoples National Steering Committee on Climate Change (IPNSCCC) coordinates & mobilizes pastoralist & hunter-gatherer communities to address local climate change realities

**ADVANCED**
- NCCCAP emphasizes collective stakeholder action toward ecosystem-based management; once implemented, will guide jurisdictional adaptation & mitigation strategies
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**CIDP OUTLINES 5-YEAR QUANTITATIVE TARGETS RELATED TO AGRICULTURE & COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES, & A RANGE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

**CHALLENGES**
- Capitalizing on tourism potential of South Nandi forest hindered by inadequate investment & maintenance
- Lack of valuation of potential ecosystem services for Payment for Ecosystem Services mechanisms

**OPPORTUNITIES**
- Plans to upgrade Bonjoge National Reserve to a National Park could attract funds for conservation & restoration from mining
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**CITATION**

**COMPLETE REFERENCES & DATA SOURCES PROVIDED AT**
- www.earthinnovation.org/state-of-jurisdictional-sustainability

**2020/10/29**

**TECHNICAL TEAM**

**SUPPORTED BY**

**1** International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) of Germany, facilitated by Green Belt Movement (GBM, national non-profit).
**2** Department of Lands, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change.
**3** Global Environmental Facility (GEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP).
**4** Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Wildlife Institute, National Environmental Management Authority.
**5** Community Forest Associations (CFAs).
**6** Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Nature Kenya.
**7** County Government of Nandi; (8) Ministry of Lands, National Land Commission.
**9** National Treasury.
**10** Moi University, University of Eldoret, University of Eastern Africa – Baraton.
**11** Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO).
**12** Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP), supported by the Governments of Kenya and Sweden.