



**Kenya Platform For
Climate Governance**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG'S)

**VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW REPORT(VLR) ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL
DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOALS FOR THE PERIOD
2020 -2024**



**Towards Kenya's Third
Voluntary National Report
(VNR)**



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FOREWORD

PACJA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - DR. MITHIKA MWENDA

Amidst the backdrop of ongoing challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and geopolitical conflicts economic recessions, political conflicts, and natural disasters, can exacerbate the difficulties associated with tackling climate change. Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda requires innovative and resilient strategies. The pandemic has reversed decades of progress in poverty eradication, highlighting the fragility of our global system.



In 2023, temperature records toppled, as, the world experienced devastating storms, floods, droughts, and heatwaves. The UNEP's Adaptation Gap Report 2023, titled "Underfinanced. Underprepared – Inadequate investment and planning on climate adaptation leaves world exposed," reveals that insufficient investment and planning in climate adaptation is leaving the world vulnerable. Only between 10% - 17% of global climate fund reach communities directly.

Climate change exacerbates existing inequalities, disproportionately affecting the world's poorest and most vulnerable, and threatening to push millions more into poverty. Local communities are at the forefront of bearing the brunt of this multiple crisis. These events seem to occur almost spontaneously, leaving world leaders and citizens trapped in an unending cycle of crisis. There is need to accelerate progress in climate adaptation to address the increasing impacts of climate change.

Agenda 2030, with its heart set on sustainability and resilience against the challenges posed by climate change, represents a beacon of hope and a roadmap for the future. This ambitious agenda, established by the United Nations, encompasses a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that aim to guide the world towards a more sustainable and equitable future.

In such times, cross-sectoral and integrated approaches become pivotal. This involves enhancing international cooperation, increasing financial investments in sustainable development, leveraging technology for good, and ensuring that no one is left behind. Strengthening social safety nets, promoting sustainable economic opportunities, and ensuring access to quality education and healthcare are crucial steps toward building resilient societies.

PACJA is a signatory of principles of locally led climate adaptation under the Global commission on Adaptation which is a global call for leadership on climate resilience for fostering greater ownership of local partners in adaptation programs, funding, and practices. To truly reinforce Agenda 2030, it is essential to foster partnerships (SDG 17) that leverage the strengths and resources of all sectors of society. Innovation, investment in sustainable technologies, and education for sustainable development are key drivers that can accelerate progress across all the SDGs. Global cooperation, as demonstrated by the Paris Agreement, is crucial for achieving climate objectives and ensuring sustainable development for the benefit of future generations. Through concerted efforts and unwavering commitment to the principles of sustainability and resilience, we can pave the way for a more sustainable and resilient future for all.

FOREWORD

KPCG CHAIRMAN - DR. NJOGU BARUA

Kenya's approach to climate change emphasizes a holistic and proactive strategy that integrates mitigation and adaptation efforts across sectors while placing a strong emphasis on sustainable development and resilience building. It is among countries that has developed robust policy and regulatory frameworks for climate change including the climate change act 2916, national climate change action plans, national adaptation plans and has mainstreamed climate change in both national and subnational development plans.



K Vision 2030, incorporates climate change considerations and promotes sustainable and low-carbon growth. To further support this, the country has also developed a Low Carbon Development Strategy upto the year 2050. The subnational governments have also enacted climate finance laws that allows them to dedicate a percentage of their funds to climate change. These policies and initiatives highlight Kenya's commitment to combatting climate change and promoting a green and sustainable future.

In 2023, Kenya hosted the Inaugural Africa Climate Summit in 2023, which was first of its kind African meeting that aimed to "Drive Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World". The Summit provided a platform to highlight the interconnection between climate change and development, and the crucial requirement for greater global investment in climate action. it also provided an opportunity to strengthen Africa's collective stance on climate change and sustainable development.

The ACS, provided a global focus on the climate agenda and sustainable development nexus and since has fostered policy dialogue and vision for engagement in climate action amongst the various stakeholders including civil society organizations.

Kenya emphasizes community participation and awareness-raising on climate change issues and has innovated a locally led climate action initiative known as FLLoCA through which communities are to participate in the design of climate change solutions as well as determine the financing priorities for adaptation interventions at the local level. By establishing county planning and ward climate change committees', local communities are involved in decision-making processes and encouraged to adopt sustainable practices.

Locally led climate action and sustainable development require partnerships between governments, NGOs, the private sector, and communities. Key components include financial and technical support, capacity building, and ensuring local voices are heard in decision-making processes. Communities play a crucial role in climate resilience, as they are the front lines of experiencing climate impacts. Empowering communities to take ownership of resilience initiatives ensures long-term sustainability for sustainable development.

FOREWORD

KPCG- NATIONAL COORDINATOR – FAITH NGIGE

Driving local climate action and sustainable development is crucial in the global fight against climate change and in achieving a sustainable future for all. This approach recognizes the importance of empowering local communities, understanding their unique vulnerabilities and strengths, and leveraging their indigenous knowledge and practices. It involves creating customized solutions that respect local cultures, economies, and ecosystems, ensuring that actions are not only effective but also equitable and inclusive.



Locally led initiatives include community-based renewable energy projects, sustainable agriculture practices, reforestation and conservation efforts, and education and awareness campaigns. These projects not only reduce carbon footprints and restore ecosystems but also enhance local economies by creating jobs and improving livelihoods.

The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) is a membership organization of community and civil society organizations' grassroots non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations', women, youth, marginalized, and indigenous people in environment and climate change. KPCG drives locally-led climate resilience and greening of livelihoods.

Year 2020-2024 saw increased momentum of civil society organizations' CSOs in climate action with the establishment of KPCG movements in the 5 regions within the country. This in turn has resulted in increased membership, expansion of economic blocs and the formation of new networks in the specific counties.

Both localization and mainstreaming of environment and climate action are crucial for developing resilience and promoting sustainable and inclusive development. Furthermore, locally led climate action is essential for sustainable development as it acknowledges the significance of community engagement from the bottom up, customizing solutions to fit local contexts, and empowering communities to tackle the repercussions of climate change. By investing in and supporting locally led initiatives, we can strengthen the resilience of communities and contribute to a more sustainable future.

While locally led climate, action start at the grassroots level, its collective impact can contribute to global efforts to combat climate change, demonstrating the power of community-driven action in achieving sustainable development goals.

BACKGROUND ON CIVIL SOCIETY AND SDG REPORTING

CIVIL SOCIETY AND SDGS REPORTING IN KENYA

Kenya is a signatory to the Sustainable Development objectives (SDGs), also known as the global development agenda or agenda 2030, which is based on the United Nations Framework and consists of 17 objectives, 169 targets, and 231 indicators to direct development between 2015 and 2030. The national blueprint for Kenya, Vision 2030, the third and fourth Medium Term Plans (2018–2022), and 2023–2027 plans that mainstreamed the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into government policies, projects, programs, and strategies.

Kenya is among the 44 countries that will present their VNR at the HLPF in July 2024 under the theme *“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions”*. The HLPF in 2024 will place special in-depth review of : Goal 1- End poverty in all its forms everywhere; Goal 2- Zero hunger Goal 13- Climate Action ;Goal 16-Peace, Justice, and strong institutions Goal 17-Partnership for the Goals. The theme of the 2024 HPLF will be “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

Kenya presented her first VNR in 2016 and the second in year 2020. During year 2020, Kenya ranked position 123/166 with an average SDG index dash board score of 60.9.a slight improvement for the SDG dash-board score of 58.91 in 2016 and the transformation score is rated at 52%. Kenya has shown progressive improvements albeit very marginal but there is improvement in the realization of sustainable development goals.

Kenya's third voluntary national report was prepared with input from a variety of stakeholders, including the county and national governments, private sector, academia, and civil society organizations. The SDG Kenya Forum, which organizes the reporting of civil society progress in implementation of SDGS in Kenya, coordinated the civil society reporting process and report. Civil Society is a member and Co-Chair of the Interagency Working Group on Non-State Actors of SDGs through the SDG Kenya Forum.

THE KENYA PLATFORM FOR CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) is a membership organization of civil society organization's in environment and climate change , grass roots organizations, community based organizations', faith based organizations', women, youth, the marginalized and indigenous people that drives locally led climate resilience and green growth actions, dialogue on low carbon and resilient livelihoods, mobilization and engagement of civil society voices in national , regional and global forums and driving governance and accountability to the Paris Agreement for CSOS and duty bearers in Kenya. It is the designated national platform for the Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance- PACJA.

KPCG as a national entity executes its mandate throughout the country through regional

chapters in North Eastern, Lower Eastern, North Rift (NOREB), Coastal Region, Mt Kenya Region, Nyanza, Western and Nairobi. As representatives of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) engaged in the imperative task of addressing climate change at the community and local level.

As the national Civil society umbrella organization civil society organization's in the environment and climate change, space, we play a crucial role in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by raising awareness about SDGs, advocating for their implementation, engaging communities at the grassroots level to ensure inclusivity in the SDG implementation process as well as empowering individuals and ensuring their voices are heard in the implementation process.

Civil society, also contribute innovative ideas and solutions to address complex challenges related to sustainable development. Civil society also monitor progress towards the SDGs, by collecting data, and providing feedback on the effectiveness of policies and programs and hold governments and other duty bearers accountable for their commitments.

Citizens need to be mobilized to act and demand action in fighting the climate change crisis through positive local action and through advocacy. Through locally led climate solutions and interventions, CSOS provide evidence on effective and tangible solutions.

Partnerships and networks that support SDG initiatives are significant in SDG implementation and reporting as they enhance leveraging of resources and expertise for greater impact.

WHAT WAS THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THIS VLR

KPCG delivers her mandate through eight regional chapters, of Nairobi, North Rift – Western, Lower Eastern, North Eastern, Mt Kenya Region, Coastal and Nyanza. with the CSO guidelines provided by SDG Kenya Forum, the regional chapters' coordinators submitted their progress report using the template provided. This was then consolidated into one report which was ratified by the regions before finalization of the final version of the KPCG SDG VNR report. We also received information from the leads of the various interventions and the impact the interventions have contributed to sustainable development, this include Small Grants, National Lead Locally led climate actions.

STRATEGIC PLANS FOR THE REALIZATION OF SDGS ASPIRATIONS

Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance, is currently implementing her 2021 - 2030 Strategy that whose overall goal is aligned to SDG 13 on ensuring environmental and climate justice is a primary driver of sustainable growth and wellbeing for al people in Africa through mobilizing and empowering the civil society. The five strategic objectives fall under broad thematic themes that include: resilience and green growth, public engagement and mobilization; research knowledge development and communication; policy and investment influence and holding of duty bearers accountable.

The Kenya Platform on Climate Governance-KPCG is participating in the development of the 2024 Kenya CSO's SDG VNR report. The mandate of PACJA falls under SDG 13 but has cross sectorial linkages with primary SDGs 2, SDG4, SDG5, SDG 16 and SDG 17. Others environmental SDGs include SDG 14 and SDG15.

As the Designated National Platform for PACJA Kenya, KPCG leads in localizing the PACJAs, programming and campaigning actions of the 2012 – 2030 strategy through consolidation & organizing of the voice of core blocks including the Indigenous Peoples groups, pastoralists,

women, farmers among others. In addition, lead in engaging the governments in their respective countries in influencing adoption of positions of African CSOs on various climate change thematic issues such as Global Goal on Adaptation, the New Collective Quantified Goal of Finance, Loss and Damage, just transition among other and ensuring the Alliance position is well grounded in countries' submissions to UNFCCC.

PARTNERS IN THE DELIVERY OF SDG 13

PACJA through the Designated National Platform for Kenya- KPCG, worked with various partners in delivery of resilience and greening of livelihoods agenda under SDG 13. This include the development partners such as Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Netherlands, National Treasury and Economic Planning in implementation of Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) Program, German-Watch, United States Agency International Development (USAID), Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Help Age Kenya, SDG Kenya Forum, Africa Development Bank, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and World Bank.

During the period, KPCG also worked with partners in the delivery of the goal 13. This include Africa Activists for Climate Justice (AACJ implementing partners) i.e OXFAM, Natural Justice, FEMNET, ACT Alliance, East Africa Farmers Federation, (EAFF), Voluntary Service Overseas Kenya (VSO), Development Initiatives, CARE international, CARE Denmark, AFIDEP, Christian Aid, Moinyoto Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO) among other active members of KPCG. KPCG Members spanning across the country, have also been instrumental in implementation of SDG13.

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- ▶ The PACJA Executive Director of PACJA Dr Mithika Mwenda, for his exemplary leadership and vision.
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- ▶ The SDG Directorate of the Kenyan Government for their exemplary inclusivity in line with leaving no one behind and leadership in preparation of Kenyas Third VNR.

This report has been compiled by the National Coordinator KPCG Ms Faith Ngige, HSC who has demonstrated dedication and unwavering commitment to greening economies and livelihoods for sustainable development4j

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation	In Full
ACS	Africa Climate Summit
AU	Africa Union
CCAP	Climate Change Adaptation Policy
COP	Conference of Parties
CSO's	Civil Society Organizations'
COVID	Corona Virus
DNP's	Designated National Platform
FLLoCA	Financing Locally Led Climate Action
KES	Kenya Shillings
KPCG	Kenya Platform on Climate Governance
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NOREB	North Rift Economic Bloc
NSSCJ	Nairobi Summer School for Climate Justice
Mt.	Mount
PACJA	Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance
PACJA Kenya	Pan African Climate Justice Alliance – Kenya
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
USD	US Dollars
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
L-VNR	Local Voluntary National Review

Definition of terms used in this VNR

Climate Change- refers to a long-term shift in global weather patterns and average temperatures, which can result in alterations in precipitation, sea levels, and ecosystems. It is caused by human activities, such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation, that release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and trap heat from the sun.

Climate action refers to the efforts and initiatives taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change.

Climate resilience refers to the ability of communities, ecosystems, and economies to withstand and recover from the impacts of climate change. It involves building capacity and implementing measures to adapt to changing climate conditions, as well as reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptive capacity to minimize risks.

Climate policy refers to the set of regulations, laws, and measures implemented by governments to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. These policies may include targets for reducing emissions, promoting renewable energy sources, implementing carbon pricing mechanisms, and supporting sustainable practices. Climate policies are crucial for setting the framework and creating incentives for climate action.

Locally led adaptation (LLA) is an approach that supports local people, communities' institutions, and networks to lead decisions and actions over how, when, and where to adapt and have equitable access to power and resources to supplement local knowledge and expertise. (adapted from WRI)

Tutegrated- Tujiinue Tena Integrated Project – an innovative post-COVID green recovery initiative tailor-made to help smallholder producers diversify their livelihood options, and utilize their nature-based resources through a diverse collaborative effort.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play a pivotal role in advocating for environmental sustainability and in the monitoring of progress towards achieving the SDGs. The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) has grown into an indisputable convergence for all civil society working in the area of climate change in Kenya.

The preparation of a voluntary SDGs report allows civil society organizations to showcase their dedication to sustainable development, enhance accountability and transparency, effectively engage stakeholders, measure impact, and contribute to wider advocacy initiatives aimed at achieving the SDGs.

SDGs reporting facilitates meaningful engagement with stakeholders such, government agencies, local communities, and beneficiaries and development partners, providing a platform for dialogue and collaboration on sustainable development initiatives, potentially attracting more support and partnerships.

SDG 13, is an urgent call to action to combat climate change and its impacts. This goal calls for mitigation efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation measures to address climate impacts, and enhancing climate resilience at local and global levels.

Attaining environmental sustainability is essential for tackling global issues such as climate change, biodiversity decline, water scarcity, pollution, and resource exhaustion. Kenya is an active participant in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes and is keen on fostering partnerships for climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building. Since 2010, Kenya has put in place a strong policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming climate change in development planning

Addressing data gaps and challenges necessitates the implementation of innovative methodologies to optimize resources and prioritize data requirements. By promoting partnerships between governments, international organizations, and civil society organizations (CSOs) can improve the exchange and reporting of SDG data.

Locally led climate action for sustainable development acknowledges the significance of involving local communities, governments, and organizations in the efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, while also advancing broader sustainable development goals. To effectively tackle the challenges posed by climate change on vulnerable communities and address development obstacles, it is imperative to adopt integrated approaches.

It behooves the governments to institute locally-adaptable, pragmatic strategies to address acute constraints on the struggling smallholder producer-based SMEs and households to revive diminished production and ensure citizens access to sufficient food and nutrition. This means that the stimulus (in some instances called green recovery) packages proposed by Government Agencies or devolved units of governments as well as non-state actors should be as diverse as possible, taking into consideration geographical, cultural, political and social orientation.

Effective climate policies provide the necessary framework and incentives for climate action to take place, while climate action demonstrates the commitment and progress towards the goals set by climate policy. Together, they form a comprehensive approach to tackling climate change for sustainable development. Top of Form

Overall, a holistic approach for environmental sustainability goals involving collaboration across sectors is needed to combat climate change, collectively address various environmental challenges and provide a framework for promoting sustainable development while safeguarding the planet's natural resources and ecosystems. SDG goals for environmental sustainability are essential for ensuring the well-being of current and future generations.

1. CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

The chapter presents the environmental dimension of SDGs, the linkages to AU agenda and Agenda 2030, the objectives and benefits of undertaking a VNR linking it with the role of the Kenya Platform for Climate Governance.

1.1. Background

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play a pivotal role in advocating for environmental sustainability and in the monitoring of progress towards achieving the SDGs. The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) has grown into an indisputable convergence for all civil society working in the area of climate change in Kenya. The platform was established as one of the strategic Platforms for the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) for fostering substantive partnerships with major agencies, organizations and movements that work for complementary goals especially at national level and regional levels. KPCG has evolved into a major actor in Kenya's climate policy and intervention processes.

As the Designated National Platform (DNP) of PACJA in Kenya, KPCG has the responsibility of advancing the advocacy agenda of the Alliance through robust outreach and engagement with other stakeholders, including State and Non-State Actors, aimed at contributing to pro-poor policy processes in Kenya. This includes operationalization of PACJA's strategic interventions in the country context, notably the Alliance 2021 – 2030 Strategic Framework, together with the 2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan.

KPCG as a membership platform brings together Civil Society Organizations', Community based organizations' (CBO's) and other non-state actors to dialogue on climate change, advocate for low emission, green development pathway and hold government and state accountable to the Paris Agreement commitment and other regional and global climate change interventions.

As a national entity, KPCG operates in Kenya through subnational regional chapters as follows: The North Rift KPCG also known as NOREB, covers counties as follows (Uasin Gishu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Trans Nzoia, Turkana, West Pokot, Baringo, Samburu, Bomet, Kericho and Narok); Central/Mt Kenya KPCG covers the following counties (Meru, Laikipia, Nyeri, Kiambu, Muranga, Embu, Tharaka Nithi, Chuka and Nyandarua), Western KPCG covers (Kakamega, Vihiga, Busia, Bungoma) Lower Eastern KPCG covers, (Makueni, Kitui, Kajiado and Machakos), North Eastern KPCG covers (Isiolo, Mandera, Garissa, Wajir, Marsabit), Coastal Region KPCG covers (Kwale, Kilifi, Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Lamu) and KPCG Nyanza Region covers (Kisii, Nyamira, Homabay, Siaya, Kisumu, Migori) Nairobi and Metropolis KPCG covers Nairobi, Kiambu and Nakuru County.

KPCG drives the strengthening of resilience and greening of livelihoods of communities through implementation of locally led climate actions and advocacy on climate justice. Locally led climate action plays a crucial role in complementing global efforts to address climate change by mobilizing grassroots support, fostering innovation, and building resilient communities. Successful local climate action projects can serve as models for other communities, inspiring

replication and scaling up of similar initiatives further creating a ripple effect, leading to broader adoption of climate-friendly practices and policies at regional, national, and even global levels.

Kenya developed her third national climate change action plan 2023- 2027 with one of the key objectives providing for civil society as key actors in the implementation of climate action in Kenya. The Civil Society role and actions and advocacy in climate change to compliment the country's progress need to be informed by updated climate actions as well as pragmatic experiences of the communities and actors on the frontline of climate change.

1.2. The Environmental Dimension of SDGs

- ▶ The environmental dimension of the SDGs acknowledges the interdependencies among



environmental health, economic well-being, and social welfare. Attaining environmental sustainability is essential for tackling global issues such as climate change, biodiversity decline, water scarcity, pollution, and resource exhaustion. Through the integration of environmental considerations into development strategies and policies, the SDGs strive to secure a more resilient and sustainable future for everyone. Key aspects of the environmental dimension within the SDGs include:

- ▶ Climate Action (Goal 13): Mitigating climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting resilience and adaptive strategies.
- ▶ Life on Land (Goal 15): Protecting, restoring, and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, combating desertification, halting biodiversity loss, and preventing the extinction of threatened species. Conserving and sustainably using marine resources, preventing marine pollution, and addressing the impacts of ocean acidification.
- ▶ Ecosystem Conservation and Restoration: Emphasizing the protection, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, and mountains, which are vital for biodiversity and human well-being.
- ▶ Clean Water and Sanitation (Goal 6): Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, addressing water scarcity, water quality, and wastewater treatment.

- ▶ Affordable and Clean Energy (Goal 7): Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, while promoting renewable energy sources and energy efficiency.
- ▶ Sustainable Cities and Communities (Goal 11): Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable, including through sustainable resource use, waste management, and air quality improvements.
- ▶ Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12): Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through resource efficiency, reduction of waste generation, and the sustainable management of natural resources.
- ▶ Quality Education: (Goal 4), Agenda 2063 recognizes the role of youth and innovation in addressing climate change. It promotes investments in education, research, and technology to empower African youth to contribute to climate solutions.
- ▶ Strong Institutions' Goal (16): Environmental Governance: Strengthening institutions and policies for effective environmental management, pollution prevention, and the sustainable use of natural resources. Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies.

1.3. Linkage between the AU Agenda 2063 and localization of the 2030 Agenda (SDG)

- ▶ Climate change has significant impacts on ecosystems, human societies, and the economy, including more frequent and severe weather events, changes to growing seasons for crops, reduced access to clean water, and increased health risks.
- ▶ Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of Africa over the next 50 years, adopted by the African Union. Climate change is a critical issue impacting Africa's development and sustainability. Within the context of Agenda 2063, addressing climate change is fundamental for achieving its goals.
- ▶ Africa is particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as droughts, floods, and heatwaves. Agenda 2063 emphasizes adaptation strategies and building resilience to climate risks, especially for vulnerable communities. Agenda 2063 emphasizes environmental sustainability as a key pillar for Africa's development. This includes efforts to mitigate climate change impacts, promote renewable energy, protect ecosystems, and build resilience to climate-related risks.
- ▶ Agenda 2063 promotes green growth and sustainable industrialization. This involves transitioning towards low-carbon economies, promoting renewable energy sources, and integrating climate-friendly practices into industrial development.
- ▶ The integration of climate change considerations into national and regional policies is crucial under Agenda 2063. This includes policies related to agriculture, energy, water resources, infrastructure development, and urban planning.

- ▶ Agenda 2063 underscores the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to address climate change. This includes advocating for global climate action, technology transfer, capacity building, and financial support for African countries.

1.4. Localization of the SDG agenda by KPCG

A voluntary local review (VLR) aims to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by sharing experiences, such as successes, challenges, and lessons learned. With VNRs, local delivery capacity of the SDGs is strengthened, thus accelerating SDG implementation and ownership.

On the environmental front, locally, we have witnessed the worst weather patterns, with currently an ongoing severe drought in the Sub Saharan Africa, and drought alerts in the counties, has resulted in crop failures and animal deaths making the communities suffer greatly and for most part of the region due to conflict related to natural resources such as pasture, water and food.

KPCG mandate focuses on driving the realization of resilience to climate change and greening of livelihoods (SDG13) through locally led climate action and SDGs implementation in agriculture (SDG2), Access to clean water (SDG6); equity and just access to energy (SDG7), health (SDG3), just transition for waste service providers (SDG 12) afforestation (SDG15) climate justice (SDG 16) while fostering partnerships (SDG17) and advocating for climate finance flows to adaptation. Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12): Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through resource efficiency, reduction of waste generation, and the sustainable management of natural resources.

Climate change poses significant threats to agriculture, which is a primary economic activity in the North Rift Region. Erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and extreme weather events have led to crop failures, loss of livestock, and food insecurity. Sustainable agricultural practices, including climate-smart agriculture techniques and water management strategies, are crucial for building resilience to climate change and achieving food security (SDG 2) while mitigating greenhouse gas emissions (SDG 13).

Access to clean water and sanitation services is essential for human health, livelihoods, and ecosystem sustainability. In the North Rift Region, communities often face challenges related to water scarcity, pollution, and inadequate sanitation facilities. Improving water resource management, promoting water conservation practices, and enhancing sanitation infrastructure are key priorities for achieving SDG 6 targets in the region.

Energy access and renewable energy: In the North Rift Region, many rural communities lack access to electricity and rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating, which contributes to indoor air pollution and deforestation. Expanding access to modern energy services, promoting renewable energy technologies (such as solar and wind power), and enhancing energy efficiency measures are essential for achieving SDG 7 targets and reducing the region's dependence on fossil fuels. There is a slow uptake of renewable energy in the region despite the huge potential hence the need to empower the community with knowledge and skills to sustainably harvest renewable energy

Waste management SDG 12: Inadequate waste management infrastructure and practices contribute to environmental pollution and public health risks in the North Rift Region. Promoting waste reduction, recycling, and proper disposal methods, as well as implementing policies to minimize

plastic pollution and hazardous waste, are important for achieving SDG 12 targets and fostering a circular economy that reduces resource consumption and environmental impacts.

1.5. Objectives of the VNR

1.1.1. OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the Kenya Platform on Climate Governance in conducting this Local Voluntary SDG Review (L-VNR), is to assess the progress, milestones, challenges, and opportunities related to climate change and environmental sustainability related SDGs. Through this L-VNR, KCPG aims to generate information on achievements, gaps, and actionable insights that inform locally led climate actions, policy interventions, identify collaborative actions, and foster inclusive sustainable development.

1.6. Specific Objectives'

- i. Evaluate the progress and status of implementation of climate change and environmental sustainability related SDGs.
- ii. Identify key challenges, barriers, and gaps hindering the realization of climate change and environmental sustainability related SDGs.
- iii. Document and highlight best practices, innovations, and successful interventions' that have contributed to advancing climate change and environmental sustainability related SDGs.
- iv. Foster meaningful engagement with stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, community leaders, and marginalized groups, to ensure diverse perspectives are included in the report.
- v. Develop evidence-based recommendations and actionable strategies to address identified challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and accelerate progress towards achieving climate change and environmental sustainability related SDGs.

1.7. Benefits of the VNR to the organization

The preparation of a voluntary SDGs report allows civil society organizations to showcase their dedication to sustainable development, enhance accountability and transparency, effectively engage stakeholders, measure impact, and contribute to wider advocacy initiatives aimed at achieving the SDGs. This process not only benefits the organization itself, but also contributes to collaborative endeavors in addressing global challenges and promoting sustainable development. In particular, this reporting will benefit KPCG as follows:

- ▶ **Measurement of Impact:** By reporting on SDGs, KPCG is able to track progress, aggregate, contribution of various interventions, measure and communicate impact of climate change and environmental sustainability interventions effect. This includes tracking progress towards environment related SDG goals and targets, identifying challenges, and sharing lessons learned thus demonstrating commitment to social responsibility and sustainability

- ▶ **Strategic Alignment:** The process of preparing this SDGs report has entailed the various chapters sharing their contribution, evaluation of strategies, activities, and projects in relation to the SDGs. This in turn enables in identifying areas of alignment and opportunities for improvement in advancing sustainable development goals both at the national and global level.
- ▶ **Stakeholder Engagement:** SDGs reporting facilitates meaningful engagement with stakeholders such, government agencies, local communities, and beneficiaries and development partners, providing a platform for dialogue and collaboration on sustainable development initiatives, potentially attracting more support and partnerships.
- ▶ **Policy Coherence and Advocacy:** SDGs reporting is part of KPCGS evidence building for strengthening advocacy efforts by providing evidence of the communities and organization's contributions to sustainable development. This provides an opportunity to empower civil society organizations to advocate for policy changes and resource allocation aligned with the SDGs. It helps align national policies with the global SDGs, ensuring coherence and integration of sustainable development principles into national frameworks
- ▶ **Continuous improvement and Capacity Building:** The process of preparing this SDGs reports can contribute to organizational learning and capacity building. It encourages continuous improvement in monitoring and evaluation practices, data management, and impact assessment. Reporting encourages improvement of data collection and monitoring systems, leading to better-informed policy decisions.
- ▶ **Enhanced Transparency:** By publishing voluntary SDGs report, KPCG is promoting transparency by sharing progress, challenges, and strategies openly with the national, international community and citizens through disclosing information activities, performance, and impact related to sustainable development which in turn transparency builds trust and solidarity for a sustainable future.
- ▶ **Learning and Knowledge Sharing-** SDGs reporting encourages knowledge sharing within the organization, within the civil society organizations', government and with external partners, by facilitating the exchange of best practices, innovative approaches, and successful strategies for achieving sustainable development thus fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing.
- ▶ **Data Partnerships:** Collaborations between governments, international organizations, academia, and the private sector on SDGs can enhance data availability and quality. Initiatives such as data-sharing agreements and open data platforms can facilitate this.

2. CHAPTER TWO: POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IN KENYA

Kenya is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change such as prolonged droughts, floods, frost, due to its heavy reliance on agriculture, limited infrastructure, and exposure to extreme weather events. Between 2-2.8 % of the gross domestic product is lost annually as result of climate change. Inaction to implement robust measures to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change, could translate to a decline in real GDP ranging from 3.61% to 7.25% by 2050, as stated in the Kenya Country Climate and Development Report by the World Bank (2023).

Kenya is an active participant in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes and is keen on fostering partnerships for climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building.

Since 2010, Kenya has put in place a strong policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming climate change in development planning such as the National Climate Change Response Strategy (2010), National Climate Change Policy framework, National Climate Change Action plan I (2013-2017) and II (2018-2022), and III (2023-2027), National Climate Change Act (2016). The National Adaptation Plan (2015-2030) lays Kenya cross-sectorial priorities in adapting to climate change.

The NCCAP aims to mainstream climate change actions into all sectors of the economy, promoting low carbon and resilient development. It highlights key areas such as increasing tree cover, promoting renewable energy, improving water and agricultural resilience, and enhancing disaster risk management.

During the period 2020 – 2024, Kenya submitted the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2020, which increased her commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 32% by 2030 compared to business as usual scenarios. The updated NDC also outlines plans for increasing renewable energy use, enhancing energy efficiency, promoting sustainable agriculture practices, and improving waste management strategies. Kenya's updated NDC emphasizes the country's dedication to combating climate change and transitioning towards a more sustainable future.

During this period, in 2020, Kenya led by the National Treasury and Planning, undertook a study on the landscape of climate finance flows in relation to NDC's (2018-2022). The study highlighted that, in 2018, Kenya's revised her National Climate Change Action plan (NCCAP) upwards; climate finance estimation from KES 4,040 billion (USD 40 billion), to KES 1,848 billion (USD 18.3 billion) for the 2018-2022 period, equivalent to nearly KES 465 billion a year (USD 4.6 billion).

The climate finance landscape flows, of 2020, found out that only a third of the finance needed annually (i.e. KES 243.3 billion (USD 2.4 billion)) flowed to climate-related investments in 2018. Almost 80 percent of climate finance in Kenya was directed to the implementation of climate mitigation measures, which was in stark contrast to the adaptation priorities of Kenya's climate action plan.

Climate finance disproportionately targeted mitigation interventions significant efforts would

be required in order to align all sectors relevant to achieving Kenya's adaptation priorities. The estimated cost of implementing Kenya's mitigation and adaptation actions stands at KES 6,775 billion (USD 65 billion) by 2030, with respect to the updated NDC. If finance continued to flow at this same rate, Kenya would fall short of what is needed to achieve her climate goals.

In 2023, Kenya also developed and launched the 2022 2050 Long term low emission development strategy, which articulates Kenya's commitment to net zero. The long-term strategy that sets out the vision and priorities for delivering while transitioning Kenya, towards a carbon neutral economy.

The 2023, Climate Change Act Amendment integrated carbon market in Kenya's regulatory framework for climate change while making provision for benefit sharing with communities while providing for mechanisms for environmental social safeguards.

through these frameworks and commitments, Kenya is not only addressing the immediate impacts of climate change but is also setting a sustainable development path for future generations.

2.1. Africa Climate Summit and the Nairobi Leaders' Commitment – 2023

The Inaugural Africa Climate Summit (ACS) took place 4th – 6th September 2023 that was themed "Driving Green Growth and Climate Finance for Africa and the World". The Summit brought together heads of states and governments, private sector, civil society, youth, women indigenous people among others to deliberate on a common position for Africa ahead of COP28. The Nairobi Leaders Declaration and Call to Action in Driving on Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and World declared on 6th September 2023, which was later adopted as Africa Countries position to COP 28 at UNGA in New York. Some of the key achievement of CSOs through PACJA leadership realized during the Africa Climate Summit include:

- ▶ Mobilizing a unified civil society voice in key African climate change conversations; through Africa Climate Summit Non-State Actors Steering Committee (ACS-NSA) for the first Africa summit hosted by Kenya.
- ▶ Ensuring adaptation, gender and health was captured in the Nairobi leader's declaration.

2.2. COP 28 Resolutions and implications for Kenya's Regulatory Framework

The 28th session of UNFCCC Conference of parties took place in Dubai from November 30 to December 12. With a projection that 90% of the world's poor will be living in Africa by 2030, achieving SDG 1 (eradication of poverty) will be daunting task if urgent action is not taken to address the issue. The following are some of the key COP 28 resolutions impacting national regulatory frameworks:

- ▶ The agreement between countries on transitioning away from fossil fuels marked a historic moment in the explicit mention of fossil fuel in the global fight against climate change, signaling the beginning of the end of the fossil fuel era.
- ▶ The Global Stock Take (GST) was adopted which put forward a plan to close the gaps

to 2030. It called parties to transition away from fossil fuel to reach net zero by 2050, and encouraged economy wide nationally determined contribution/national climate plans. GST in 2023 assessed global climate action, revealing a lack of progress and acknowledging the urgency of emission reductions.

- ▶ The UAE consensus also included target to triple renewables and double energy efficiency by 2030 and builds momentum towards new architecture for climate finance.
- ▶ The COP 28 UAE declaration on Agriculture Food and Climate, endorsed by 158 countries, embedded sustainable agriculture and food systems in the response to climate change.
- ▶ The UAE Just Transition Work Programme aimed for a fair transition for all countries, particularly developing ones, by addressing energy, socioeconomic, and workforce dimensions. This shift in focus towards climate justice and incorporating African continent's potential for transition technologies, such as solar panels and electric cars, is significant.

2.3. Implications for Policy and Regulatory Framework in Kenya

Kenya must put in place, frameworks for tripling renewable energy capacity which is crucial for combating climate change. This approach, involving solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal power, can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, significantly reducing global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius, as per the Paris Agreement's target.

In addition to the environmental advantages, tripling renewable energy capacity has significant socio-economic implications. It has the potential to generate employment opportunities in the green economy, alleviate energy poverty by improving accessibility to affordable and dependable energy sources, and enhance energy security by decreasing reliance on imported fuels.

3. CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

This chapter outlines the systematic approach applied by KPCG in data gathering, analyzing, and reporting as related to the indicators and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals set by Kenya and the global indicator frameworks. The following approach has been employed in this report:

3.1. Systematic Approach

Participatory approach: The preparation of this local VNR review involved a collaborative, participatory, and evidence-based approach, guided by principles of transparency, accountability, and inclusivity.

Regional chapters engagement: KPCG works through eight regional chapters across the country i.e North Rift, Western, Mt Kenya, Nyanza, Coastal, Lower Eastern and North Easter and Nairobi. The regional coordinators were engaged in providing input to this report by highlighting the various interventions and solutions in the region.

Data collection: Through rigorous data collection, analysis, and stakeholder engagement, KPCG aimed to produce a review that serves as a valuable resource for informing policy interventions, driving collective action, and fostering inclusive development for environmental sustainability and climate change.

Stakeholder Engagement: to confirm and verify data submitted, the draft report was shared with the regional coordinators and intervention leads to validate before final submission to the SDG Kenya Forum and SDG Directorate.

3.2. Data Types

Administrative Data. The report has mostly utilized administrative data by using data from KPCG records, government records, and other administrative sources.

Big Data: Harnessing of data from mobile phones, social media, and other digital sources for insights and analytics.

Guiding Principles: The following were considered as guiding principles of the KPCG L-VNR:

- ▶ **Sharing of lessons:** Through this VNR process, governments, CSO's and private sector, are encouraged to openly share their experience, progress, successes, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing the 2030 Agenda.
- ▶ **Transparency and accountability:** Through VLRs, policies and institutions can be strengthened by promoting transparency and accountability. Additionally, VLRs can facilitate the identification of areas where policy reforms and institutional capacity-building are needed, enabling stakeholders to develop targeted strategies for improvement.
- ▶ **Leaving no one behind:** The principle of leaving no one behind is a foundational aspect of the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that promotes inclusive, equitable, and sustainable development. It reflects a commitment to ensuring that all individuals and groups benefit from development efforts, regardless of their circumstances or characteristics. It requires concerted efforts to identify and address disparities, empower marginalized populations, and ensure that development outcomes benefit everyone, leaving no one behind.

- ▶ **Progression-** KPCG review builds on the principle of progressive achievements in the SDGs which acknowledged that sustainable development is dynamic and ongoing, calling for coordinated efforts across sectors to achieve transformative change towards a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable world. The review builds on existing platforms and processes, while seeking to avoid duplication in responding to national circumstances, capacities, needs and priorities.
- ▶ **Action Orientation:** The principle emphasizes practical and measurable implementation of sustainable development initiatives and policies that translate goals into actionable interventions and solutions at subnational and national level. The action orientation principle emphasizes the importance of setting and tracking measurable targets to assess whether actions are leading to desired results. VNR should be supported by reliable data and statistics for action and evidence-based reporting.
- ▶ **Principle of Partnership and collaboration:** Multi-stakeholder support and partnerships play a crucial role in achieving the sustainable development goals. By bringing together diverse actors from governments, civil society, private sector, academia, and international organizations, these collaborations harness collective expertise, resources, and perspectives to address complex challenges. This collaborative approach ensures a more comprehensive and inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda, fostering innovation, sharing of best practices, and maximizing the impact of sustainable development efforts.

3.3. Indicator Framework and Data Sources

The State Department for Planning's SDGs Directorate serves as the hub for coordinating national SDGs reporting in Kenya. Kenya has adopted the 17 goals and each SDG is accompanied by specific targets and indicators, making it possible to track progress and measure outcomes. Through the Directorate, Kenya identified a total of 162 SDGs to report as informed by the KNBS based on national priorities, relevance, data availability, and needs to the achievement of the Goals. The environmental sustainability and climate change primary indicators are seventeen in total covering the interconnected SDGs.

During the period under review, Kenya after Zambia developed the Green Growth Index which gives a summarized overview of her performance in the green agenda. The Green Growth Index, a tool used to measure a country's progress towards sustainability targets, includes four dimensions: resource use, natural capital protection, green economic opportunities, and social inclusion. The highest score indicates achievement of sustainability targets. Kenya scored a moderate index score of 47.95, with the highest score in natural capital protection at 58.16, and lowest in score of exploitation of Green Economic Opportunities at 26.62.

3.4. Data Aggregation and Analysis

This involved Compiling and aggregating the collected data at various levels (regional chapters and national level) to assess progress towards the SDG targets.

3.5. Reporting and Dissemination

The comprehensive report has been prepared using the information, dashboards, and visualizations shared in order to communicate the findings and progress on SDG indicators to stakeholders, policymakers, and the public.

Finally, the VLR will be disseminated and related advocacy and outreach activities will be carried out. Additionally, experiences and lessons learned will be shared to begin implementing the action-oriented recommendations and monitor the progress on proposed actions.

3.6. Data Gaps and Challenges for SDG's

- ▶ **Data collection challenges:** Gathering disaggregated data can be technically and logistically challenging, particularly in regions with limited statistical capacity. This includes issues such as inadequate survey sampling, data privacy concerns, and underdeveloped data infrastructure affect CSO data generation.
- ▶ **Lack of disaggregated data:** Disaggregated data is essential for monitoring progress towards specific SDG targets. It enables countries to track improvements in living standards across diverse population segments and adjust strategies accordingly. Without disaggregated data, SDG progress reports may provide an incomplete or incomplete picture of development outcomes. Disaggregated data allows for a nuanced understanding of how different population groups are faring, including by gender, age, income level, location, ethnicity, and disability status. This granularity is crucial for identifying disparities and targeting interventions where they are most needed.
- ▶ **Budget limitations to collect and analyze SDG data:** Limited budgets often mean there are not enough resources to conduct comprehensive data collection which results in incomplete or sporadic data sets, reducing the reliability and accuracy of the information gathered.
- ▶ **Limited Capacity Building:** Developing the skills and capacity of personnel involved in data collection and analysis is crucial. Gaps in capacity (training, sharing of knowledge, govern data, meet user need, use data) may impact the quality and depth of analysis. Sophisticated data analysis techniques, such as predictive modeling or spatial analysis, require specialized software or expertise
- ▶ **Lack of infrastructure,** framework and tools to aggregate SDG progress over the years. Adequate infrastructure and technology is essential for efficient data collection and analysis. lack on constraints to such a framework may prevent investment in the necessary hardware, software, and communication infrastructure needed to gather, store, and process data effectively.
- ▶ **Difficulty in Sustaining Longitudinal Studies:** Many SDG indicators require longitudinal data to track progress over time. Sustaining long-term data collection efforts can be challenging without continuous funding and support.
- ▶ **Inability to Implement Advanced Analytical Techniques:** Limited resources prevent CSO and

other organizations from leveraging on advanced methods to derive deeper insights from collected data.

- ▶ **Low reporting by CSOS in progress of climate action:** Addressing data gaps for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in the context of climate action, is a critical issue that demands immediate attention. However, one of the pressing challenges is the low rate of reporting by CSOs on progress for climate action. This shortfall not only hampers the global efforts to combat climate change but also undermines the accountability and transparency that are fundamental to the SDGs.
- ▶ **Participatory approaches:** Participatory approaches to SDG reporting face challenges like coordination, increased costs, and data inconsistency. However, benefits like inclusivity, quality, and stakeholder engagement outweigh these obstacles, promoting sustainable and equitable development outcomes.

3.7. Addressing Data Gaps

Addressing data gaps and challenges necessitates the implementation of innovative methodologies to optimize resources and prioritize data requirements. By engaging in collaborations with diverse stakeholders, harnessing open data initiatives, and exploring economic data collection methods, can aid in mitigating the impact of budget constraints on SDG data collection and analysis.

Promoting partnerships between governments, international organizations, and civil society organizations (CSOs) can improve the exchange and reporting of data. By addressing these gaps in data and strengthening the reporting capacities of CSOs, there is opportunity to achieve a better and more thorough comprehension of the advancements made in climate action according to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A crucial aspect in addressing data gaps, is the integration of technology in the reporting processes. Using digital tools and platforms can greatly enhance the efficiency and accuracy of data collection and analysis. This simplifies reporting and enables real-time tracking of SDG progress.

To mitigate participatory approaches to data challenges, it is crucial to establish clear guidelines, provide training and capacity-building for stakeholders, and utilize digital technologies and platforms to facilitate collaboration and data collection.

Lastly, advocating for enhanced funding and resource allocation for data-related activities is imperative to effectively support sustainable development endeavors.

4. CHAPTER FOUR: PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENT RELATED SDGS

4.1. SDG Goal: 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Climate-related impacts disproportionately affect vulnerable communities, leading to the loss of livelihoods and an increase in poverty levels. Changes in rainfall patterns and rising temperatures directly impact crop yields and livestock productivity. Erratic rainfall patterns also contribute to water scarcity and droughts, further exacerbating the situation. Furthermore, Kenya's unique ecosystems, such as forests, savannas, and coastal areas, are being significantly affected by the changing climate. In general, these communities face significant challenges in adapting to climate change due to limited resources and capacity.

The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance environment and climate action interventions are deeply entrenched on locally driven climate action for resilience and greening of livelihoods and small grants projects. The following is the progress of implementing interventions that enhance resilience and adaptation capacity of communities to climate change.

4.1.1. TARGET 13.1 STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE AND ADAPTIVE CAPACITY TO CLIMATE-RELATED HAZARDS AND NATURAL DISASTERS IN ALL COUNTRIES. KPCG DRIVES IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCALLY LED CLIMATE ACTION FOR RESILIENCE FOR COMMUNITIES.

Indicator: 13.1.3 Proportion of local governments/communities that adopt and implement resilience and local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies

4.1.1.1. FINANCING LOCALLY LED CLIMATE ACTION

The localization and mainstreaming of climate change in counties involve integrating climate change considerations into local governance, policies, and practices to address the impacts of climate change at the community level. This approach recognizes that local governments and communities are at the forefront of experiencing the effects of climate change and are well-positioned to implement effective solutions.

4.1.1.2. INTERVENTION: SMALLHOLDER PRODUCERS AS CENTRAL PILLAR OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE (TUTEGRATED PROJECT)



During the reporting period, in the context of a changing climate and the Covid-19 pandemic, small holder farmers who relied on rain fed agriculture faced a myriad of climate related challenges such as erratic rainfall, limited access to information, limited access to technology, and business models to increase market access. These farmers also faced challenges in managing post-harvest losses and managing large quantities of produce. The lack of knowledge between companies and local producers and exploitative intermediary buyers further exacerbated the situation.

The lockdowns claimed millions of lives, triggered untold sufferings, disruptions and collapse of enterprises and livelihoods, as well as social behaviors, which will take decades to recover. The Covid-19 pandemic struck when communities, especially in Africa, were confronting climate-related disasters, manifested by shifting seasons, erratic rainfall, torrential floods and disappearance of rivers, hurricanes and tornadoes, which have become frequent.

The Tutegrated Project was popularly-embraced innovative post-COVID green recovery initiative that was tailor-made to help smallholder producers diversify their livelihood options, and utilize their nature-based resources – land, water, trees - through a diverse collaborative effort that brings together mutually-beneficial actors across commodity value chain. The collaboration between PACJA- Kenya/KPCG and BIDCO sought to encourage local people whose reliance as commodity of choice is maize, and who have faced challenging times occasioned by exceedingly harsh weather events, to try other crops that are drought-resistant. While PACJA Kenya/KPCG used its known prowess in community and resource mobilization, BIDCO provided farmer technical and extension services for the crop cultivation. The company also guaranteed the farmers of the market for all the sunflower cultivated, with a guaranteed price.

The Project focused on strengthening on-farm activities through a systemic approach to market strengthening. This means, jointly, PACJA/KPCG and BIDCO periodically assessed the overall value-chain to gain a stronger understanding of where the gaps and challenges were that needed to be addressed in order for rural farmers to benefit. These revolved around not only production and quality, but also on farmers accessing kind of other related services to build confidence in the Project, such as financing, quality assurance, inputs and processing.

4.1.1.3. OUTCOMES AND IMPACT:

So remarkable was the Project's success that it saw a bumper harvest of over two hundred (200) tons of sunflower in a single season, enabling farmers to earn around 10 million Kenya Shillings (US\$100,000). Sixty (60) Tons of the produce were delivered to BIDCO-Africa, while internal-bilateral trade among farmers consumed forty (40) Tons locally as livestock feeds while hundred (100) Tons were consumed by proliferating Cottage Industries that locally process sunflower to edible oils. Expansion (diversification) of the commodity base from sunflower was agreed after the consultation with producers, who resolved to try other fast-maturing, drought-resistant crops adaptable to the local climatic conditions

4.1.2. INTERVENTION: ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS DROUGHT RESILIENT CROPS



Sorghum is an adapted crop that can grow in a wide range of agro-ecological zones, and requires less water in comparison to other seasonal staple crops thus offering great potential for supplementing food and feed resources. It is a drought tolerant and fast-growing crop, which requires minimum low initial cost outlay. It requires less amount of rainfall than alternative staple crop such as maize. It has a short life cycle of three to four months hence has ability to escape the adverse effects of low erratic rainfall and subsequent drought. Therefore, it is a suitable enterprise for farm income diversification and promotion of biodiversity at the farm level.

Moreover, sorghum production ensures food and feed security to the community because of its multiple uses. Traditionally, the crop was ground and used for making of gruel (special porridge for lactating mothers). The grains were pounded with a mortar and pestle for preparation of a special diet commonly known as “muthikore” in Meru local dialect. It is an effective alternative for farmers in the event of other crops failure, which was evident in the Project area when maize failed due to insufficient rainfall. Farmers who planted sorghum had a field day as the price tripled, with majority withholding the produce for domestic use instead of delivering it to EABL.

4.1.2.1. OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

In the short rains season of October to December 2022, PACJA has supported farmers with 8,122 Kgs of sorghum seeds. In the short rains season of October to December 2023, Tutegrated project supported farmers with 5,170 Kgs of sorghum seeds. This has yielded 283, 249 Kgs of sorghum produce as per the current aggregation data. This produce is worth Ksh. 15,573,195.00. benefiting more than 3000 farmers through direct sales to the off taker. Approximately, 500,000 Kgs have been used locally in supporting food and nutrition requirements of the farmers as well as supporting local cottage industry at the community level.

4.1.3. LESSONS LEARNT AND CHALLENGES

Lessons learnt from implementation of the Locally-Led Climate Action as follows:

1. Active participation of the local community in the Project design and decision-making at all levels is essential to ensure ownership and sustainability of the Project.
2. Sorghum/sunflower crops are highly profitable crops since labour and management practices are minimal. Where disease and pest resistant cultivars are used, it is cheaper to produce the crops. These cultivars are also high yielding.
3. Sorghum/sunflower are highly drought resistant crops. In the emerging trends of erratic, short rainfall cycles and prolonged drought, the crops are able to withstand and survive. These are

emerging as alternatives to traditional grain crops like maize. The short maturing cycle of the crops (usually 3-4 months) ensures that they utilize even the most limiting growth factors such as water.

4. Any agribusiness model succeeds where there is a guaranteed market prices and ready market for the produce. The Tutegrated Project success is anchored on a private public partnership that links farmers to market opportunities for the produce.
5. Both sorghum and sunflower crops are heavy consumers. There is need to replenish the soils with minerals from organic or inorganic fertilizers. Other practices such as conservation agriculture, crop rotation and intercropping with legumes have been observed to boost and sustain the yields as well as ensure biodiversity in the farms.
6. Different ecological zones have differing enterprise needs based on their ecosystems. It is imperative to tailor-make solutions that suit the context of a given zone through community participation and continuous innovation and market research.

4.1.4. IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE:

- ▶ Its important to develop a robust public private partnership and Business community collaboration policy and regulatory framework to support scaling up of such interventions.
- ▶ There is need to replicate the best practices from the implementation of Tutegrated Project to additional UP counties in Kenya as well other Countries with similar climatic conditions and potential public-private partnerships in Kenya and beyond.
- ▶ Apiculture is emerging as another venture to integrate in the sunflower and sorghum farms. This requires minimum land, labour and inputs. The bees are vital in pollination of crops as they obtain food among other benefits from the plants. The local communities reap much benefit from this symbiotic relationship and are essentially, turning out to be natural conservationists as they plant and nurture more trees around their apiaries002E

4.2. Target 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Indicator: 13.2.1 Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Progress of intervention with CSO participation during the period under review is as follows:

4.2.1. NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (NDC)AND NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN (NCCAP)

During the period under review, Kenya reviewed her Nationally determined contribution target to which increased her commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 32% by 2030 compared to business as usual scenarios participated in the development of Kenya's Third National Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2027 which is the instrument for implementation of Kenya's reviewed NDC.

The third national climate change action plan (2023 – 2027), seeks to further Kenya's sustainable development by providing mechanisms and measures to achieve low carbon climate resilient development in a manner that prioritizes adaptation. It also aims at strengthening the participation in climate change action by the civil society, women, youth, children, and vulnerable groups within society, including older members of society, persons with disabilities, members of minority or marginalized communities, and indigenous peoples.

4.2.2. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION POLICY (CCAP)

Through the supporting needs-based adaptation advocacy (NBAA) in Africa, together with partners, Act Alliance, engaged in Climate Change Adaptation Policy (CCAP) Advocacy by organizing

- ▶ Six (6) Forums on creating awareness on CCAPs at national and sub-National levels.
- ▶ Three (3) Trainings on policy advocacy on CCAPs for senior multi-faith leaders.
- ▶ A Manual to equip various stakeholders with the knowledge and tools necessary for effective climate change adaptation practices and policy development
- ▶ Developed Instruments for a baseline on status of climate change adaptation practice and policy Implementation and Early Warning Systems.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

- ▶ Enhanced awareness and shared understanding of climate change adaptation
- ▶ Increased media attention to adaptation and resilience
- ▶ Support development of roadmaps for localization of adaptation plans

4.2.3. IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE

Adaptation focus remains low on the global climate action agenda as it continues to attract low climate financing in comparison with mitigation. Raising the urgency and significance of climate adaptation by amplifying the voices of communities on the frontline of the climate crisis will contribute significantly to increasing global, regional, and national ambitions on adaptation that respond to Africa's special needs and circumstances.

4.3. Target 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

PACJA in collaboration with KPCG has organized and coordinated the Nairobi Summer School focusing on change, green growth and resilience since the year 2020, has seen remarkable transformation for the youth in advancing the climate change agenda.

Indicator: 13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable

development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment.

4.3.1. PROGRESS OF INTERVENTION: CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH THE NAIROBI SUMMER SCHOOL ON CLIMATE JUSTICE



The Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice (NSSCJ) is an initiative pioneered by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and will be hosted by Chuka University, in collaboration with a consortium of Universities from the Mt. Kenya East Region. The school is designed to provide a timely opportunity for long-standing scholar-activists, community-based scholars, and the younger generation of climate justice advocates as well as practitioners from the Global South and North. Summer school participants share experiences, exchange perspectives, and collectively reflect on just, equitable, and inclusive pathways to a low-carbon, climate-resilient development trajectory using modules that are designed in practical and uncomplicated ways.

NSSCJ is conceptualized as an intergenerational platform to share, learn, and network on disruptive ideas that are needed to catalyze economy-wide transformation in a climate-catastrophic world. The school adopts a society-wide focus, targeting sectoral and thematic experts and frontline activists irrespective of formal education and cultural backgrounds.

The NSSCJ is designed as a continuous learning process since graduates undertake to extend outreach into their respective localities by initiating creative communal action to solve immediate local-level challenges that they consider detrimental to climate justice. This “bottom-up”, “from-below” approach is vital for effective grassroots organizing, and in turn, has awakened consciousness about humans living interdependently with nature. The role of young people and community scholars is the most vital for thorough-going socio-economic transformation

Participation in the Nairobi Summer School provides youth with valuable knowledge, skills, and networks to enhance their resilience to climate change and contribute to broader efforts for climate change social and environmental justice in the region.

4.3.2. OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

Since the school's inception amid COVID-19 in 2020, the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance has successfully delivered three NSSCJ cohorts (2021, 2022, 2023), with more than 1500 alumni. The school offers tailor-made course modules developed by outstanding scholars, experts, researchers, community scholars, and activists from both the South and North. The school has secured its leading role in setting Africa's climate policy discourse and intervention strategy

courtesy of its growing and influential Alumni network of vibrant climate specialists.

The NSSCJ Alumni network, constituting young people drawn from all over Africa, illustrates a successful mobilization that in turn feeds into country-based advocacy platforms, Africa-wide advocacy, and into the UNFCCC and related processes. The ever-expanding reach through this network has motivated an energized growing climate justice movement, broadened engagement in overall climate discourse processes, and increased awareness of the climate crisis.

Participation in a Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice has provided valuable insights into climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, as well as opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange with experts and the alumni. The following are some of the outcomes and impact.

Skills Development: Workshops and training sessions focused on building practical skills such as sustainable land management, water conservation techniques, agroforestry, and renewable energy applications for farming. These skills are essential for farmers to adapt to changing climatic conditions and build resilience in their agricultural system

Community Engagement: The summer school emphasized the importance of community involvement and participatory approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation. Participants have been encouraged to develop action plans or projects to address specific climate challenges in their communities, with ongoing support and mentorship provided by the organizers.

Networking: Engaging with fellow participants, facilitators, and guest speakers allowed us to learn about their own experiences, challenges, and best practices with peers from different regions and backgrounds. Building these networks will be invaluable for future collaborations and support systems.

Climate Justice Activists: The Summer School has enabled the building of a critical mass of African Activists pushing for Climate Justice who are involved in climate change negotiations; through the Africa Activists for Climate Justice (AACJ project)

4.3.3. IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE

Policy Advocacy: Through discussions and simulations, participants gain insights into the policymaking process and strategies for advocating for policies that promote climate justice and support smallholder farmers. This include understanding how to engage with government agencies, international organizations, and other stakeholders to influence decision-making at various levels.

Integration of climate change and climate justice in school curriculum:

Climate change education provides students with a scientific foundation to comprehend the mechanisms driving global warming and its consequences on natural and human systems. This knowledge is crucial for fostering critical thinking and enabling students to discern between evidence-based science and misinformation. Moreover, by highlighting the interconnectedness of global ecosystems, climate change education encourages a sense of global citizenship and responsibility towards the planet. By integrating climate change and climate justice into educational programs, training institutions' can prepare students to understand the complexities of the climate crisis, recognize its impact on vulnerable populations, and inspire them to become advocates for

sustainable practices and policies.

Commitments to the UNFCCC Commitment on Climate Finance

Indicator: 13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible.

4.3.4. INTERVENTION: KEEP YOUR PROMISE CAMPAIGN



KPCG, as part of the broader PACJA network, played a coordinating role in the "Keep Your Promise campaign" during COP28. One of the key objectives of the campaign is to urge the global north to uphold its commitments outlined in the Paris Agreement. This campaign highlights the critical significance of fulfilling these promises in order to ensure a sustainable and fair future for all. Additionally, the campaign placed great emphasis on African nations taking the lead in fostering accountability.

The campaign's objective would be accomplished through the implementation of locally-driven climate actions that prioritize transparency, accountability, and integrity. Central to the approach is the leadership of those most directly affected by the climate crisis, particularly those residing in vulnerable areas.

Outcome and impact

COP28 took place against a backdrop of worsening global indicators of climate change impacts, as expounded in the the Global Stocktake Report, the Adaptation Gap report, and the IPCC AR6 report. The reports have one thing in common - that climate change has had an increasingly negative impact on economic and social progress in Africa.

During COP27, world leaders established the Loss and Damage Fund to assist vulnerable countries in recovering from climate impacts and extreme events. Among the key UAE consensus, was the adoption of the decision to operationalize funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage and over \$85 million was mobilized.

4.4. Cross Cutting Interventions

Advancing Resilience through Financial inclusivity



The Unity Sacco Society limited was conceived out of need for a more flexible, tailor-made and inclusive financial systems to provide solidarity support to largely underserved last-mile segments of the society whose sources of income and livelihoods have been affected by multiple global crises that have defied conventional Interventions. Established in 2018 and registered as a non-Deposit-taking Sacco, the Unity Sacco has enabled its valued members, primarily smallholder producers drawn from commodity associations, to access capital, financial products and related services. This has ultimately helped members drawn largely from Tutegrated project, to build financial assets, promote entrepreneurship, and start enterprises within the value chain that have created jobs, and helped restore hope, dignity, build resilience and transform livelihoods.

As any other institution whose resilience was tested - and shaken - by the Covid-19 pandemic exacerbating the climate change-fueled drought that had plunged agriculture-dependent population into despair, the Sacco endured and rose to overcome the turmoil triggered by the two crises that collapsed many organizations. However, it did not escape lessons to us that ensuring a resiliently sound financial position during times of both prosperity and instability is essential in securing financial well-being and upward socio-economic mobility of people, society and economies. The bedrock of the Sacco's membership remains Tutegrated project's smallholder producers of sorghum, sunflower and honey, as well as Small Micro enterprises and Small Internal Lending Communities (SILCs) driven by these commodities. Conscious that they ought to live in interdependence nature, adapt and build resilience to the unpredictably changing climate, the members actively participate in initiatives that contribute to national sustainable development and adaptation plans. The Sacco works with Forest Community Associations, Water Resources Associations, youth and women groups to develop tailor-made products to support their work. In addition to supporting members in their commodity value chain development, the Sacco avails to them innovative financial models that build knowledge, skills, and habits through coaching or counseling to help them define their financial goals, develop financial plans, and select and use our financial products designed for their context.

The Sacco works in solidarity the Technical Staff from the Tutegrated project and members to jointly identifying their needs, working together to define the niche and walking the journey towards realizing their dream, translating it into reality. Unity Sacco and its members and partners are risk takers navigating through "unchartered waters" that conventional investors consider no-go zones - working with business people, and persons in informal employment, investment micro-groups (SILCs) and start-ups to co-create and incubate ideas that ultimately evolve into transformative

initiatives and ventures. The Sacco is currently engaged in a drive to recruit more members, expand the geographical coverage as well as putting in place structures to facilitate the running of its core business.

5. CHAPTER FIVE: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The section presents the summary of environmental related SDGs as aligned to government priorities, localization and ownership

5.1. National Level

The Government, in 2022, launched a campaign under the Africa landscape restoration plan to plant 15 billion trees by 2032 and to restore 5.3 ha. The initiative aims to achieve several important goals: reducing greenhouse emissions, halting and reversing deforestation, and restoring 5.1 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes. The African Landscape Restoration Initiative, which was launched on December 22nd, 2022, will play a key role in this endeavor. On November 13th 2023, the government declared a 'green holiday' for all citizens to plant trees. KPCG is an implementing partner of the TerraFund for AFR100's second cohort and will restoring land across Kenya's Greater Rift Valley.

5.2. Localization and mainstreaming of climate change in counties

Mainstreaming climate change involves integrating climate considerations into all aspects of local decision-making, planning, and development processes. This can be achieved by incorporating climate adaptation and mitigation into development plans, land use regulations, transportation and energy policies, and public health initiatives. By mainstreaming climate change, local governments can ensure that climate considerations are integrated into their day-to-day operations and long-term planning.

The Financing Locally led Climate action, (FLLoCA) program, launched in June 2020, aims to deliver locally-led climate resilience actions and strengthen the capacity of county and national governments to manage climate risks. It focuses on capitalizing county climate change funds, building county-level capacity for planning, budgeting, monitoring, and implementation of local climate actions, and strengthening national and county institutional capacity for coordination, monitoring, verification, and reporting on climate action.

Towards implementation of FLLoCA counties have developed county participatory risk assessment, developed county climate change action plans, and enacted, county climate change acts that established climate change steering committee, county climate change planning committee, and ward committee. FLLoCA will focus on funding community led adaptation and climate resilience. FLLoC aims to mobilize \$USD 1 billion between 2020-2030 for Climate Action

5.3. From Policy to Accelerated Climate Action

Climate policy and climate action should work hand in hand. Effective climate policies provide the necessary framework and incentives for climate action to take place, while climate action demonstrates the commitment and progress towards the goals set by climate policy. Together, they form a comprehensive approach to tackling climate change and transitioning to a sustainable and low-carbon future. Kenya has put in comprehensive policy and regulatory framework to enable climate action. It is important that focus shifts to accelerating local climate action for transformative change.

5.4. Recommendations

- ▶ **Accelerating Locally led climate action:** Accelerating green and climate action requires innovation, policy reform, and community engagement. Innovation in technologies like renewable energy is crucial. Policy reform, such as carbon pricing and renewable energy targets, must be transparent and involve public participation. Community engagement raises awareness and empowers individuals to take sustainable actions.
- ▶ **Addressing data gaps for SDGs:** The availability of robust data and effective reporting tools is essential for enhancing CSO reporting on climate action. To improve CSO reporting on climate action, it is crucial to address the existing data gaps by promoting the use of these available data resources and reporting tools.
- ▶ **Capacity building CSOs for SDGs reporting:** Capacity building is essential for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to effectively report on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This will involve programs to strengthen skills, knowledge, and abilities of CSOs essential for monitoring, implementing, and evaluating SDG progress. Building CSOs capacity in SDG reporting creates an informed, engaged, and collaborative society committed to sustainable development for all.
- ▶ **Participatory approaches in SDG reporting:** Adopting participatory approaches in the SDG reporting process ensures inclusivity and transparency, empowering communities to contribute to discussions and decision-making. By engaging diverse stakeholders, such as local communities, civil society, government, and private sector, helps to ensure data is more accurate and relevant, thereby improving the reporting process.
- ▶ **Voluntary Local Reporting (VLR)-** The VLR for SDG's should be seen as an ongoing process that allows local and regional governments and stakeholders to assess their progress and areas for improvement in achieving the SDGs. It also provides an opportunity for them to learn from these experiences and share them with relevant actors as part of an ongoing engagement.

5.5. Means of implementation:

▶ **Increasing finance flow to Adaptation**

To effectively address the challenges of climate change and its impacts for sustainable development, it is essential to prioritize the increase in climate finance for adaptation. This type of funding specifically aims to support communities, countries, and ecosystems in improving their ability to cope with the adverse effects of climate change. By reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience, adaptation finance plays a critical role in our collective efforts. Strategies include enhancing public funding, leveraging private sector investments through partnerships and financial tools, and exploring innovative financing mechanisms like insurance products and debt-for-adaptation swaps. These efforts aim to strengthen resilience against climate impacts and support vulnerable communities and ecosystems. Coordination among governments, private sector, civil society, and international organizations is crucial for a sustainable future.

- ### ▶ **Strategic Partnerships** –, Strategic engagement and participation of all stakeholders, including governments, the private sector, civil society, and individuals, is essential in driving forward the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. Public and private partnerships can mobilize resources and innovate solutions to complex challenges. Community involvement ensures that interventions are locally relevant and sustainable. Education and awareness-raising can shift societal behaviors towards more sustainable practices. As the world navigates through these crises, the 2030 Agenda serves not only as a call to action but as a beacon of hope. By recommitting to these goals and working collaboratively, it is possible to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, ensuring a better and more resilient future for all.

6.CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION

Climate action is vital for sustainable development and is closely linked to SDG 13. It involves reducing emissions, promoting renewable energy, and building resilience. To effectively address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations and tackle development challenges, integrated approaches are necessary.

Locally led climate action plays a crucial role in sustainable development by empowering communities to address environmental challenges and create positive change at the grassroots level. Here are some key points highlighting the significance of locally led climate action in sustainable development:

- ▶ **Community Engagement:** Local initiatives foster greater community engagement and ownership of environmental issues, leading to more sustainable solutions that are tailored to the specific needs and priorities of the community.
- ▶ **Efficiency and Effectiveness:** Local knowledge and expertise allow for more efficient and effective climate action, as community members are often well-equipped to identify and implement solutions that are practical and impactful in their local context.
- ▶ **Resilience Building:** By engaging in climate action at the local level, communities can build resilience to the impacts of climate change, such as extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and food insecurity, ultimately enhancing their ability to adapt and thrive in a changing climate.
- ▶ **Economic Opportunities:** Locally led climate action can also create economic opportunities for communities, such as the development of green jobs, sustainable agriculture practices, and eco-tourism initiatives, which not only benefit the environment but also contribute to local livelihoods and economic growth.
- ▶ **Policy Innovation:** Local initiatives serve as incubators for policy innovation, inspiring higher levels of government to adopt and scale up successful climate solutions, leading to broader systemic change and impact.
- ▶ **Social Cohesion:** Climate action at the local level strengthens social cohesion and solidarity within communities, as residents come together to work towards a common goal, fostering a sense of belonging and shared responsibility for the environment.

References

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