

KENYA

BASIC FACTS ABOUT PEI KENYA

Timescale: Phase I-II 2005–2013 (full country programme); 2014–2017 (technical advisory)

Partners: The Ministry of Devolution and Planning, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources and UNDP Country Office.

Focus: In 2014 PEI Kenya transitioned from a full country programme to a technical advisory support programme centred on integrating pro-poor climate change adaptation and mitigation in Kenya's national and county planning and budgeting processes, as part of a wider UN – Government of Kenya programme to support the implementation of Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan, with funding from DFID. It builds on the experiences and lessons learned from the PEI Kenya programme 2005-2013.

MAINSTREAMING CONTEXT

Ecosystem dependent activities such as agriculture, fisheries, mining, forestry and tourism are the economic backbone of Kenya's economy. At the same time, the rate of biodiversity loss has increased, water is chronically scarce and the forest cover is diminishing due to high dependence on biomass. Pollution as well as inadequate access to sanitation are further serious environmental and health related hazards. Poor people are disproportionately affected by these changes and shortages.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Support case studies, including public expenditure reviews and economic assessments, on poverty-environment linkages to feed into national and local level stakeholder dialogue on poverty-environment issues and to support the Ministry of Planning to raise awareness and build capacity around the topic.

Build capacity of planners, economists and technical staff in key ministries on environmental assessments, cross-sectoral planning, budgeting and monitoring, and integration of environment and climate change variables into national system of accounts.

Develop guidelines for poverty-environment integration into sector, county plans and budgets, and strengthen the capacity to report and monitor poverty-environment components of national plans and county integrated development plans.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Strengthened understanding of the poverty-environment nexus and capacity in using economic valuation of environmental and natural resources among government ministries and institutions as a result of poverty-environment studies and trainings carried out with PEI support.

Kenya's national environment policy (2013) reflects cross-sector poverty-environment objectives as a result of enhanced collaboration between the environment, finance and planning sector for

mainstreaming poverty-environment objectives. PEI, in collaboration with the Danida NRM programme, supported the Ministry of Environment during 2007 and 2008 in the elaboration of the draft national environment policy. However, owing to changing political priorities at the time it was set aside but reviewed and finalized in 2012 by the new Government and endorsed by Parliament in 2013.

Three District Environment Action and Development Plans in 2008 included poverty-environment related objectives and integrated pro-poor environmental sustainability considerations in the Ministry of Planning guidelines for the elaboration of District Development Plans in 2008. Supported the production of 47 county socio-economic and environment profiles in 2013 as resources to inform the elaboration of county integrated development plans.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is important to demonstrate the links between poverty-environment at the national level in a language familiar to planners and policy makers in order to effectively influence sector plans and budgeting processes.

It is also important to understand national planning and budget cycles in order to identify future entry points and prepare evidence and guidance to inform and influence these cycles.

Securing political support at high level is important to achieve integration of cross-cutting issues such as pro-poor environmental sustainability. Similarly it is important to continuously monitor national level policy developments in order to identify PEI supported changes such as the Kenya National Environment Policy being endorsed five years after PEI support.

WAY FORWARD

Continued support to The Ministry of Devolution and Planning, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources and UNDP Kenya in the integration of pro-poor climate change adaptation and mitigation in Kenya's national and county planning, budgeting and monitoring processes.