



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL TREASURY & PLANNING
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY**

Talking Notes for
Hon. Ambassador Ukur Yatani, EGH
Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury & Planning

**HIGH-LEVEL LAUNCH OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND
'TWEENDE' PROJECT**

Wednesday 10th February, 2021, at 10:00 am

Your Excellency, Martin Wambora – Chairman, Council of Governors

My Fellow Cabinet Secretaries:

Hon. Eugene Wamalwa;

Hon. Peter Munya and

Mr. Keriako Tobiko;

The Regional Director of IUCN Eastern & Southern Africa, Mr Luther Anukur;

Principal Secretaries, present;

Members of the Fourth Estate;

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Good morning!

Thank you all for making the time to be here as we launch what is indeed a landmark project for green climate finance in this country.

The launch of the **TWEENDE** or **Towards Ending Drought Emergencies** project - *an Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid*



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Rangelands, is a milestone in accelerating a low carbon and climate-resilient path targeting economically-disadvantaged people.

This reinforces our resolve to promote locally-led climate actions aimed not only at building resilience, but also improving the livelihoods of climate-vulnerable groups across the country.

The National Treasury as the custodian of the **National Policy on Carbon Finance and Emissions Trading**, is the **National Designated Authority** (NDA) for the *Green Climate Fund* or GCF in Kenya.

In this regard, it has been at the forefront in developing policy frameworks and promoting programmes aimed at climate-proofing vulnerable sectors of the economy. A case in point, is the **National Policy on Climate Finance** put in place in 2018 to help Kenya mobilize domestic and foreign climate finance resources including resources from the Green Climate Fund, itself.

These frameworks and programmes underpin the government's commitment to global, regional and national strategic ambitions contained in the **UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** as well as the landmark **Paris Agreement on Climate Change**.



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Both of these commitments not only underscore the urgent need for a common global approach to a sustainable future, but more so, the even more urgent need for a **Green Resilient Recovery Strategy** from the COVID-19 pandemic across the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Responding to the climate challenge especially in the era of COVID-19, will require collective and innovative action including significant financial resources from both the public and private sectors.

It is for the reason, that the Government of Kenya believes that the innovative mechanism presented by the GCF will enable the country access climate finance and facilitate the implementation of the **Big Four Agenda** and **Vision 2030**, with a *climate lens*, that will in turn ensure effective climate mitigation and adaptation of the economy.

In addition, the Green Climate Fund will also help Kenya fulfil her obligations under the Paris Agreement by availing resources to implement Kenya's priorities as set out in the **Nationally Determined Contributions** (NDC).



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Ladies and Gentlemen

It is within this context, that the National Treasury & Planning, as the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF congratulates the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Irrigation, the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and the participating county governments for spearheading the development of the ‘TWENDE’ Project.

The TWENDE project will indeed reduce the cost of climate change induced drought on Kenya’s economy by increasing resilience of the livestock and other land use sectors in restored and effectively governed rangeland ecosystems, as identified in our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and development priorities.

With a project value of **USD 34.5 million**, with USD 23.2 million from GCF and balance co-financed by the Government of Kenya and other implementing partners, TWENDE is a reflection of the strong partnership between the Government of Kenya and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in championing for a low carbon-climate resilient development path and access to climate finances.



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It is among the ten (10) projects and programmes that have so far been approved and funded by the GCF, demonstrating the government's commitment to attracting additional financing for climate action especially for the most affected areas and communities.

As I conclude, I would like to commend the IUCN, the NDMA, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Irrigation, the 11 County Governments under this programme and the team at The National Treasury for their transformative work on this project.

I assure them and all Kenyans, of the The National Treasury's support in mitigating the effects of climate change through innovative and responsive funding mechanisms.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I now declare the **Green Climate Fund TWENDE Project officially launched. THANK YOU.**

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