

## CONCEPT FOR RESTORE AFRICA PROGRAM (RESAF)

### An Integrated approach to Livelihoods and Restoration for Carbon in Kwale County

#### Background

Climate change and land degradation are threatening livelihoods, incomes, and food security across Kenya. According to the Ministry of Environment's (MoE) Assessment Report on Land Degradation (2015), all 47 counties of Kenya are exposed to land degradation of varying magnitudes. The Kenya Vision 2030 (Government of Kenya) underscores the agriculture sector's critical role in the alleviation of poverty and hunger; ensuring healthy lives, sustainable economic growth, industrialization and innovation; and enhancing adaptation to impacts of climate change with mitigation co-benefits. Kenya's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2015-2030 identifies 23 out of 47 counties as vulnerable to drought, 22 counties vulnerable to landslides, and 35 counties vulnerable to flooding. Global Climate Modelling (GCM) predicts increased intensity of annual rainfall, which can cause land degradation in the form of increased erosion and landslides.

Kenya has prepared several national instruments that aim to combat land degradation and mitigate against this, while enhancing adaptation of productive sectors to climate change. Such instruments include the National Climate Change Framework Policy; National Climate Change Action Plan 2013 -2017; Kenya National Adaptation Plan 2015-2030; Kenya's NDC, AFR 100 commitment for land restoration and National Land Use Policy, among others. Additionally, the Constitution of Kenya (2010) devolved implementation of agriculture and other Natural Resource Management (NRM) sectoral programmes to the county governments, leaving only the policy development role to the national government. Capacity strengthening and mentoring at county level is of critical importance to ensure domestication and implementation of these instruments.

Appropriate soil stabilization measures such as agroforestry and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) have the ability to reduce the occurrence and consequential impacts of land degradation. The National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) set out "the low carbon climate resilient development pathway" for the country, which involves the promotion and adoption of practices that encourage the inclusion of trees in agriculture and livestock production. This practice is intended to contribute significantly to the abatement of 4.2MtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030, Kenya's commitment under its NDC.

Restore Africa is the world's largest community-led, nature-based carbon removal program. Restore Africa currently spans six African countries - Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia – restoring almost two million hectares while supporting 1.5 million smallholder farmers and their communities. Restore Africa is supported by several Investors who have laid the foundation for the mobilization of additional investments to expand the program further, supporting millions more vulnerable farming families with improved livelihoods, while mitigating the impacts of climate change at a globally significant scale.

In Kenya, the Restore Africa aims to sustained improvement in ecosystem restoration, livelihoods, and resilience to climate change for 250,000 small-scale farmers and pastoralists covering 250,000 hectares of land in four target Counties in Kenya by 2052. World Vision Kenya is the Lead Implementing Organization (LIO) in a consortium that includes; Africa Harvest Biotech Foundation International, Green Belt Movement, International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, Justdiggitt Foundation, Self Help Africa and Conservation Alive Kenya.