



POLICY INFLUENCE BRIEF

CEFRESA'S CLIMATE POLICY INFLUENCE JOURNEY

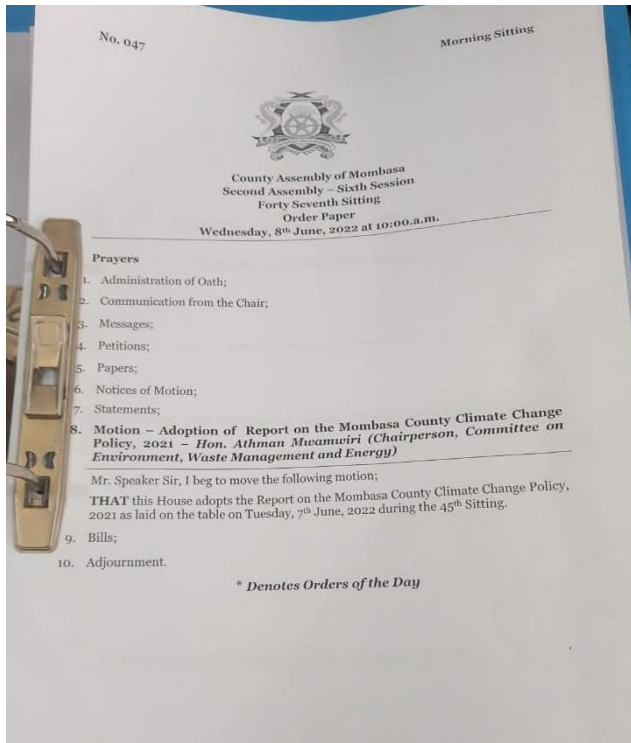
2021

Securing the Adoption of the Mombasa Climate Change Policy

ABOUT CEFRESA

The Centre for Resilience and Sustainable Africa (CEFRESA) is a coastal-based organization advancing climate-resilient governance, inclusive environmental policy processes, and sustainable ecosystem management through strategic advocacy and stakeholder engagement. The organization plays a critical role in bridging grassroots realities, technical expertise, and county-level decision-making by translating complex environmental and climate policies into accessible, action-oriented frameworks that strengthen legislative uptake and implementation. Through participatory advocacy, evidence-based engagement, and sustained collaboration with duty bearers, CEFRESA has positioned itself as a credible policy influencer, contributing to the institutionalization of responsive climate and environmental frameworks that drive sustainable development and accountable governance.

POSITIONING STATEMENT



CEFRESA demonstrates a strong and measurable track record in influencing climate governance through direct engagement in legislative and institutional policy processes. The successful adoption of the Mombasa Climate Change Policy 2021 by the County Assembly stands as a flagship outcome of this engagement, evidencing CEFRESA's capacity to shape policy direction, mobilize political will, and drive the institutionalization of climate-responsive frameworks. This milestone affirms the organization's role as a strategic actor in strengthening sub-national climate governance and advancing accountable, inclusive decision-making.

TRANSLATING POLICY INTO ACTIONABLE LANGUAGE

Intervention

Following the development of the Climate Change Policy in 2021, CEFRESA identified the risk of limited uptake due to technical complexity. As a strategic response, the organization produced a simplified (popular) version of the draft policy to make it accessible for both practitioners and policymakers.



MOMBASA COUNTY CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY THE POPULAR VERSION



Outcome

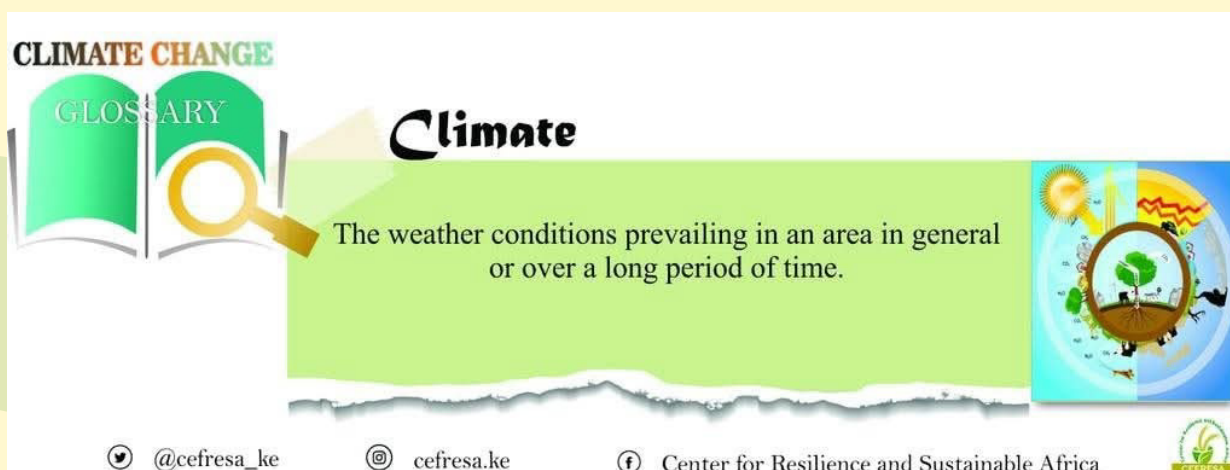
- Enhanced comprehension of policy provisions among stakeholders.
- Positioned CEFRESA as a knowledge bridge between technical policy language and practical implementation realities.
- Established a foundation for inclusive consultations and evidence-based advocacy.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL VALIDATION

Intervention



CEFRESA, for three months, convened structured virtual and physical consultation meetings with climate practitioners and environmental stakeholders in Mombasa, using the simplified version as the primary engagement tool. These forums enabled feedback, contextual insights, and validation of the policy priorities.



Outcome

- Increased awareness of the existence of the climate change policy and its content
- Policy content strengthened through practitioner-driven inputs.
- Alignment of the policy with local climate vulnerabilities and implementation realities.
- Strengthened legitimacy and ownership among climate actors.

TARGETED LOBBYING OF DUTY BEARERS

Intervention



Building on practitioner consensus, CEFRESA engaged the County Assembly of Mombasa and the Department of Environment, Waste Management, and Energy through a series of formal advocacy meetings. The organization presented clear policy priorities, emphasized the urgency of climate-resilient governance, and highlighted the necessity of formal adoption. The simplified (popular) version proved catalytic in these technical dialogues, enabling policymakers to clearly grasp the policy's intent, practical implications, and implementation responsibilities, thereby accelerating its transition from a draft framework into a functional governance instrument. This strategic simplification was timely and directly contributed to the County Assembly's decision to adopt the Mombasa Climate Change Policy 2021.



Outcome

- Increased political will and institutional readiness for policy adoption.
- Improved engagement by MCAs due to the simplified policy version.
- Recognition of CEFRESA as a credible technical and advocacy partner.

FORMAL ADOPTION

Impact

These sustained advocacy efforts culminated in the official adoption and passing of the Mombasa Climate Change Policy 2021 by the County Assembly on Wednesday, 8th June 2022.

This milestone represents:

- Institutionalization of climate governance at the county level.
- Strengthening of legal and policy frameworks guiding climate action.
- A transformative shift from policy drafting to enforceable climate governance architecture.

INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION AND INFLUENCE

Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) formally acknowledged that the simplified version of the policy is a critical tool for awareness creation, public sensitization, and broader civic engagement. This affirmation reinforced CEFRESA's role as an influential intermediary that enhances policy usability and transparency.



Outcome

- Validation of CEFRESA's approach to policy democratization.
- Strengthened organizational visibility in legislative processes.
- Increased demand for CEFRESA's expertise in future policy processes.

NEXT PHASE OF INFLUENCE

CEFRESA is advancing its advocacy to ensure the simplified policy version is uploaded on the official county website, embedding transparency, accessibility, and citizen engagement in climate governance.

Expected Impact

- Wider public access to climate policy information.
- Strengthening accountability and citizen participation.
- Continued institutionalization of participatory climate governance.

OVERALL IMPACT

CEFRESA has successfully:

01

Influenced the formal adoption of a county-level climate policy.

02

Strengthened the interface between policy, practice, and legislation.

03

Elevated the standards of participatory and inclusive policy development.

04

Demonstrated a scalable model for influencing climate-related legal and policy frameworks.

This journey positions CEFRESA as a key factor in shaping Kenya's sub-national climate governance landscape, with proven capacity to drive policy formulation, adoption, and institutionalization



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