



ADAPTATION INVESTMENT SUMMIT FOR AFRICA 2026

Accelerating Climate Adaptation Finance and
innovation for a **Resilient Future**

Session Title:

Public private coordination and leadership to enable
climate adaptation markets.

Convened by:

Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change | Kenya Forest Research
Institute | Pwani University | Kenya Forest Service | Directorate of Climate
Change, Kisii County Government | Director, State Department of Irrigation.

Day 1, Session 2: Public Sector Leadership in Climate Investment

Date: 6th of July 2026.

Time: 14:15 – 15:30 [75Minutes]

Venue: Nyati & Kifaru

Public private coordination and leadership to enable climate adaptation markets.

Session Concept Note

Convening Organization Partners	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Kenya Forest Research Institute. Pwani University Kenya Forest Service Directorate of Climate Change, Kisii County Government. Director, State Department of Irrigation.
Developed by:	Lerenten Lelekoitien -Ministry of Environment and Climate change. Dr. John Otuoma - KEFRI Dr. Thomas Rewe - Pwani University Dr. Rose Akombo – Kenya Forest Service Dr. Anne Omwoyo-Kisii County representative of County Government. Dr. Maurice Opondo – State Department of Irrigation Charles Nyadero - Kenya Climate Ventures Ltd.
Lead theme	Public private coordination and leadership to enable climate adaptation markets.
Geography	Kenya

1. Executive Summary

Climate adaptation investment in Africa remains significantly underfinanced despite growing urgency and clear market need. While adaptation solutions increasingly exist, the persistent gap is often not capital alone—but fragmented coordination between public institutions, financiers, delivery actors, and market enablers. The Adaptation Investment Summit for Africa 2026 highlights a massive structural challenge across the continent, while the climate adaptation market holds high untapped potential, sub-Saharan Africa faces an annual funding deficit. Currently, public entities bear 90% of the financial burden, while private sector participation sits at just 10%.

Governments play a critical role not only as policymakers, but as market shapers through policy coherence, risk-sharing mechanisms, project preparation support, procurement frameworks, and alignment between national and subnational implementation systems.

Given the Summit’s focus on moving beyond dialogue toward practical partnerships and implementation pathways, this session could serve as a flagship conversation on how public-private partnership can unlock opportunities in climate adaptation investments at scale.



A notable example of a successful public-private investment partnership that the summit can draw from is the KES 50 billion (USD 387 million) Kenya Seed (maize seed) production and distribution infrastructure in Kenya. Kenya Seed supports seed development, certification and quality control, while commercial actors drive marketing and distribution.

Key legal and policy instruments:

- Climate Change Act (2016) (amended 2023)
- National Climate Change Action Plan (2023-2027)
- National Adaptation Plan (2015-2030)
- National Irrigation sector Investment Plan
- National Policy on Climate Finance (2016), with ongoing updates
- Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP 2016–2030): Guides the transition toward low-carbon, resource-efficient development.
- Updated NDC (2031–2035).

Some opportunities for public-private climate adaptation investment in Kenya

2. The KES 1.2 trillion (USD 9.3 billion) 15 Billion Tree Growing Programme targeting tree planting in 10.6 million ha in both public forests and private farmlands between 2022 and 2032.
3. The KES 5.2 billion (USD 40 million) National Tree Seed Programme intended to provide tree seeds for the 15 Billion Tree Growing Programme over the next decade
4. National Agroforestry Strategy (2025-2035) promoting investment financing and private sector participation in agroforestry development
5. Investment in co-benefits of carbon offset projects that target adaptation pathways, such as bio-economy enterprises, biodiversity conservation, clean cooking solutions, etc.

2. Proposed Session Objective: The 75Minutes session aims to:

- To explore how stronger public sector leadership and public-private collaboration can accelerate climate adaptation investment,
- Improve market readiness and unlock bankable adaptation projects across Africa to ensure transition to a low - carbon, resilient future.

Key words: Policy, regulation, and institutional frameworks that enable private-sector participation in adaptation investment.

1. Session delivery methodology:

- Panelist with first Keynote speech as a curtain raiser, Panelist Power Talks. Moderated Dialogue. Audience Q&A. Wrap up & Commitments.

Strategic Framing Question

What kind of public leadership is required to move climate adaptation from policy ambition to investable market opportunity?



Thematic Discussion Areas:

The session potential areas for exploration will be organized around five interconnected thematic discussion areas that are interlinked to coordination of public policy to scale climate adaptation investments:

	Partner focus area	Thematic discussion
1	Ministry of Environment	Public Sector as Market Maker, Beyond Regulation, what role should governments play in shaping adaptation markets through incentives, guarantees, procurement, fiscal reform, and enabling infrastructure
2	Department of State Irrigation	Public–Private Coordination Models What successful models exist for aligning public leadership, development finance, and private capital a case for NISIP.
3	Kenya Forest Service	Policy Coordination & Institutional Alignment-How can ministries, agencies, counties, regulators, and public finance actors align adaptation investment priorities - provide a case.
4	Kenya Forest Research Institute	Bankable Project Pipelines: Why do adaptation priorities often fail to become investable projects? What coordination mechanisms are missing? Outline existing Bankable Opportunities.
5	Director of County Climate Change:	How can county/local governments be better positioned to lead adaptation implementation and attract investment? Lessons being learnt from FLLOCA.

2. Proposed Format (For Discussion)

Rather than a traditional panel, consider a high-level leadership dialogue with action orientation:

Suggested structure (75 mins):

- Short framing keynote remarks
- Moderated high-level power talk by decision-makers only.
- Solution-focused discussion on enabling market architecture
- Commitment round / institutional next steps

This format would emphasize practical public-private interaction, and outcomes rather than formal speeches.

3. Potential Participants

Indicative stakeholder mix:

- National government (Treasury / Finance / Climate / Planning / Forestry)
- County / subnational government leadership
- Development finance institutions
- Institutional investors / fund managers
- Climate adaptation enterprises / delivery actors
- Ecosystem enablers / project preparation platforms



4. Potential Outcomes

Possible outputs for consideration:

- Shared leadership / investment partnership commitments
- Adaptation investment coordination platform / working group
- Pipeline acceleration initiative
- Policy / finance recommendations for follow-up
- Summit communiqué contribution

Presentation structure and Time Allocation

Program Segment		Name of the panelist	75-Minute	Delivery
Welcoming	Session Moderator -Pwani University	Dr. Flaura Kidere	5 Mins	Session opening by the Moderator; Setting the stage Highlighting specific barriers/challenges to investment and discussing what action is needed from public, private, and ecosystem actors to address them. Introduce the speakers.
Curtain Raiser	Ministry of Environment Climate change- Director Climate Change	Deputy Director Climate Change – Adaptation – Mr. Lerenten Lelekoitien	10 Mins	Public Sector as Market Maker, Beyond Regulation, what role should governments play in shaping adaptation markets through incentives, guarantees, procurement, fiscal reform, and enabling infrastructure. High level framing of the public leadership required to transition policy to market opportunity.
Moderated power talk by decision makers only.	Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI)	Dr. Jane Njuguna - CEO KEFRI	10Mins	Bankable Project Pipelines: Why do adaptation priorities often fail to become investable projects? What coordination mechanisms are missing? Outline existing Bankable Opportunities.
	State Department of Irrigation.	Director, State Department of Irrigation- Dr. Maurice Opondo.	10 Mins	Public–Private Coordination Models What successful models exist for aligning public leadership, development finance, and private capital a case for NISIP.



	Kenya Forest Services	Director Climate Change. Dr. Rose Akombo /Chief Conservator.	10 Mins	Policy Coordination & Institutional Alignment-How can ministries, agencies, counties, regulators, and public finance actors align adaptation investment priorities provide a case.
	4Director County climate change	Dr. Ann Omwoyo	10 Mins	How can county/local governments be better positioned to lead adaptation implementation and attract investment? Lessons being learnt from FLLOCA.
Audience Q&A Wrap up & Commitments			20 Mins	Moderator Opens the floor for direct questions from attendees, ensuring a high energy engagement and wrap of the session.

