



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN KENYA

KENYA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS FAITH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

LONG-TERM PLAN: 2015 TO 2025

Preamble

The Catholic Church is perhaps one of the oldest institutions with sustainable structures in the whole world. The sustainability is founded on long tradition, inspiring scripture, clear leadership and reliable network. The Church has showed her serious commitment to end poverty, deceases and ignorance in its mission to the world. Recently the Church has demonstrated a more specific commitment to addressing the current issues related to the climate change when Pope Francis released the encyclical on the climate change. The encyclical addresses the issues related to the Sustainable Developmental Goals proposed by UN.

In Kenya, there are at least 26 dioceses covering every part of the country from grassroots to the national level with over 12 million Catholics, over 2000 educational institutions, several pastoral centers, shrines, retreat centers, hospitals, children's homes etc. These are among the many opportunities that the church can use in terms of awareness creation and project implementation for continuity and sustainability. The following are highlights of SWOT analysis to summarize the context of our long-term plan:

Strength

- Faith in God the creator who is loving
- Well organized structures from grassroots to the top
- High numbers of the Catholic faith
- Networking and good relationship with other faiths

Weakness

- Ignorance of the reality
- Lack of sufficient capacity and financial resources
- Lack of sufficient awareness

Opportunities

- Educational facilities for capacity building
- Existence of many followers
- Peoples confidence in the church and its leadership
- Partnerships

Threat

- Negative attitude towards material world
- Apparent contrast between spiritual and material wealth

GOAL 1: END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Strategic Objective:

Many wars in the world and particularly in conflict prone zones like Africa are occasioned by poverty due to the unsuccessful attempts to access, acquire or control the available natural resources in any given region. There are communities that sit on gold but have neither knowledge nor capacity to exploit it so they continue to die in poverty. Other people have the knowledge and capacity to exploit the treasures of nature yet cannot access them. The Church through its systems, structures, institutions and influence can advocate and conduct awareness programs in every community. Besides, the Church can initiate microfinance projects to empower various communities in the country especially Women and Youth.

GOAL 2: END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY, AND IMPROVED NUTRITION, AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,

Strategic Objective:

Catholic church is very much committed to end hunger and ensure food security through its many structures and programs. The output of their efforts is however insufficient due to lack of both financial and human capacity to sustainably use their available resources for a better production. In line with this SDG the Catholic Church will initiate a program targeting the believers to promote suitable ways of farming in every institution and community, fortunately the Catholic Church is present in every community in Kenya. We shall begin by promoting Farming God`s Way and Smart Farming.

**GOAL 6:
ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF
WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL**

Strategic Objective:

Land, Water and sanitation are all important to the faith of the Catholic Church. The Scriptures hold land and water sacred, and as it is said, cleanliness is Godliness. On the basis of our faith, doctrine, scripture and even cultural values the Church will commit to good use of land and water and provide education and facilities to ensure proper sanitary standard.

**GOAL 7:
ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE, AND
MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL**

Strategic Objective:

The population of Catholics Church in Kenya is over 12 million, with over 2000 priests, over 26 Dioceses, over 1500 parishes, a number of educational institutions, and health facilities among others. If all these lot is mobilized, prepared and facilitated to use reliable, sustainable and modern energy there can be a big difference in the society. We shall create awareness on the advantages of using modern energy. Promote, in action and words the installation of sustainable energy in all institutions of the Church.

**GOAL 13:
TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS
IMPACTS**

Strategic Objective:

Following Pope Francis encyclical Laudato SI, and in order to implement it, the Catholic Church will engage its followers in addressing the prevailing causes of climate change in Kenya through formal and informal education on climate change; its effects and remedies. Influence national policy makers on the same through our Catholic parliamentary association and other avenues.

**GOAL 14:
CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND
MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Strategic Objective:

Some of our dioceses fall along coastal regions, i.e. the Catholic dioceses of Mombasa

and Malindi whose members are also immediate beneficiaries of these waters. These Dioceses, working together with the experts and local authority can ensure fruitful and dignified use of these resources for a better society, both presently and for the future. Through the structures of the church, the coastal community could be educated to conserve the waters and keep it pure and clean. The Catholic Church has a department, which exclusively addresses the issues related to Seafarers and refugees.

**GOAL 14:
CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND
MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Strategic Objective:

Some of our dioceses fall along coastal regions and Catholic Christians by virtue of belonging are also beneficiaries of these waters. The Dioceses in their region, working together with the experts can ensure fruitful and dignified use of these resources for a better society.

**GOAL 15: PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE
OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS,
COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, HALT AND REVERSE LAND
DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS**

Strategic Objective:

Research shows that there is a necessary connection between all the living organisms. Loss of biodiversity in the ecosystem is very much dependent on the way all other organisms behave including the human beings. Meanwhile, the Church owns parcels of land, forests and above all appeals to the conscience of millions of people. The Church, beginning from the available resources, will mobilize its members to conserve and protect the forests and natural habitat for the sake of a diversified life of different species.

**GOAL 16:
PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR
ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE
INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS**

Strategic Objective:

The Church is a model of inclusive society composed of people from different social backgrounds, men and women, young and old, rich and poor. This itself is a great

opportunity to realize this SDG. The church through its structures and systems has the potentiality of ensuring peace and justice and promote unity in diversity, accountable and inclusive institutions.

TIME LINE IN SUMMARY

Year 1–3: Strategic planning, Networking, Awareness, and Research

Year 4–5: Implementation:

Year 6: Evaluation

Year 7–9: Implementation

Year 10: Evaluation

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GOAL 1: END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Strategy	Actions	Performance indicators	Target
<i>Public awareness through Church structure</i>	Consultation with senior church leaders	Participation of Church leaders	Senior Church leaders
	Sunday sermons to incorporate SDG	Preaching about SDGs during Sunday sermons Sunday school	children
<i>Skill empowerment</i>	Develop toolkits for training	Availability and distribution of toolkits	All Christians
	Train Church leaders	Knowledgeable church leaders	Church leaders
	Train the youth and women on relevant skills	Active youth and women	Youth and Young people
<i>Self employment Job creation</i>	Home based Smart farming	Practice of smart farming in Christian families	Young people
	Tree growing for commercial use	Conservation of forests in church land	Church institutions and Christian families
	Formation/promotion of youth/women groups	Presence of active youth and women groups in the Church	Young people and women

GOAL 2: END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY, AND IMPROVED NUTRITION, AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Strategy	Actions	Performance indicators	Target
<i>Farming God's way</i>	Train Christian congregation (TOT) on effective farming methods (e.g. Farming God's Way)	Qualified trainers in all the dioceses	Christian congregation
	Establish sustainable demonstration farms in all the strategic parishes/institutions	Demonstration farms in most or all the catholic parishes and institutions	Church owned land
	Use the church structures to bring awareness to the congregation	Sunday sermons, catechesis and other informal education	Christian congregation
	Empower youth and women groups to embrace farming	Youth/women driven initiatives	Youth and women
<i>Smart farming</i>	Training (TOT) on smart farming covering all the dioceses/parishes and church structures	Qualified trainers of smart farming in all or most dioceses	Farmers
	Establish sustainable demonstration projects in strategic church institutions	Sample demonstration farms in all or most parishes	Institutions
	Offer technical/financial support to those engaged in smart farming	High production	Farmers

GOAL 6: ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

Strategy	Actions	Performance indicators	Target
<i>Roof Water harvesting</i>	Support Church communities to erect tanks to collect rain water	Sufficient water for all communities	Inclusive communities
	Every Church and institution to construct tanks for the communities around	Enough clean water for the communities around the Church	Inclusive communities
<i>Boreholes</i>	Every church to have at least a borehole for the community	Enough clean water every Catholic church accessible to community around	Inclusive communities
	Christian families to be supported to dig boreholes in their homes	Sufficient water for every family	Every home
<i>Provision of sanitation</i>	Technical support to the church and mission schools	Enough capacity to continually educate the Church members of	sanitation requirements
<i>Church institutions</i>	Provision of sanitation facilities for the poor members of the community	Access to sanitation facilities for all	Inclusive communities
	Construction of toilettes and flowing water in every Church compound	Accessible Toilets in every public and private spaces	Church institutions

GOAL 7: ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE, AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

Strategy	Actions	Performance indicators	Target
<i>Use of Solar energy</i>	Training and awareness on the use of solar energy	Enlightened congregation on solar energy	Inclusive communities
	Installation of solar power in every Church and mission school	Solar energy in every church and church institution	Schools
<i>Use of Biogas for cooking in Church institutions</i>	Introduction and use of biogases in churches and mission schools	Positive reception and understanding of Biogas by the Congregation	Schools
	Construction of biogas facilities in catholic institutions	Use of biogas in these institutions	Catholic institution
<i>Introduction and use of Wind mill for energy</i>	Awareness creation on the use of wind power to provide energy	Enlightened congregation on the use of wind mill to provide clean energy	Inclusive communities
	Installation of wind mills in suitable areas to serve the community	Existence and effective use of wind mills to in every community where it is viable	Inclusive communities

GOAL 13: TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

Strategy	Actions	Indicators	Target
<i>Education on climate change</i>	Awareness creation and information for the Church members through formal education	Well informed congregation	Christian congregation
	Mainstreaming environmental studies into catholic faith	Teaching of environmental education in catechism and Sunday school	Christian congregation
	Developing publicity/information materials on climate change and distributing them to Christians	Availability of publicity materials	Christian congregation
<i>Capacity building</i>	Training of trainers to train Christians in all the parts of the country	Availability of experts in this area	Christian congregation
	Training of Clergy and laity to understand and teach environment to the congregation	Active clergy and laity in environmental work	Clergy and laity
	Training of Sunday school teachers to teach in children on caring for God's creation	Well trained teachers of Sunday School	Catechists
<i>Advocacy at national level</i>	Engage senior church leaders in addressing policy on climate change at national and regional level	Cooperation between the Church and policy makers	Senior church leaders
	Write pastoral letter addressing the challenge of climate change and how to reverse it	Committed Catholic congregation	Catholics, good people
	Consultation meetings with experts and UNDP in Kenya on issues of climate change	Regular interaction between the Church and UNDP office and other environmental programs	Church leaders
<i>Celebration of Faith based environment day</i>	Organize an event and prayer	Participation	All Christians

GOAL 14: CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Strategy	Actions	Indicators	Target
<i>Awareness creation</i>	Planned consultation meetings with the coastal residents	Active participation	Inclusive community
	Consultation meetings with coastal religious leaders	Commitment to action on the ocean/sea	Religious leaders
	Workshops with the coastal Christians	Participation and commitment	Interfaith community
<i>Formation of environmental clubs/associations</i>	Formation of fishermen environmental association	Registration and membership	Fishermen
	Formation of environmental boat owners environmental association	Registration and membership	Businessmen
	Formation of coastal youth environmental association	Registration and membership	Youth
<i>Engaging coastal interfaith groups</i>	Organize common cleaning activities	Participation and cleaner ocean	
	Conduct common awareness programs with different faiths	Peaceful coexistence and commitment to the common good	Women and youth
	Organize coastal interfaith organizations	Inclusivity and partnership	Interfaith community

GOAL 14: CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Strategy	Actions	Performance indicators	Target
<i>Education and awareness about water</i>	Teach theological value of ocean, sea, water	Appreciation of the spiritual value of the sea/ocean	Coastal Christians
	Biblical significance of sea/ocean e.g. Red sea in Exodus	Appreciation of biblical foundation of Sea/Ocean	Coastal christians
<i>Sea/ocean use of transport and immigration</i>	Apostolate to the refugees and sea fearers along the Indian Ocean coast	Pastoral coordination of the sea fearers	Mixed congregation
	Apostolate to the fishermen and all those who catch sea food in the Indian ocean	Reaching out to the fishermen to be conserver of the ocean/sea	Mixed congregation
<i>Action: working with the Coast al region counties to avoid water pollution by machines</i>	Consultation between Coastal Church leaders and local government officials	Collaboration between the Church and local authority	Mixed congregation
	Consultation with the owners of engine boats on how to reduce or eliminate pollution	Less polluted ocean/ sea water	Mixed congregation
	Proposing cleaner energy for the engines is the ocean	Adoption of other innovative energy sources for to run sea engines	Mixed congregation

GOAL 15: PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Strategy	Actions	Indicators	Target
<i>Creation and protection of the sacred forests</i>	Protect forests in the shrines	Healthy forests in our shrines	Inclusive community
	Grow more trees in sacred places	Many trees in worship places	Women and youth
	Establish tree nurseries in every Church	Enough seedlings and self employment for the youth and women	Women and youth
<i>Conservation of forests in church owned lands</i>	Plant and care for more trees in Churches	Trees in every small and bid church compound	Women and youth
<i>Trainings on the proper use and management of land</i>	Practicing conservation farming in the Church land	Correct way of farming and enough food for everyone	Inclusive community
	Growing right trees in the Church land to avoid soil erosion	Diverse species of trees and plants in church land	Inclusive community
	Workshops for the church leaders	Participation of knowledgeable leaders	Inclusive community

GOAL 16: PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

Strategy	Actions	Indicators	Target
<i>Promotion of Common values</i>	Common action on Environmental conservation	Sincere commitment to environmental conservation	Inclusive community
	Intercultural programs for interfaith programs for the youth	Active youth participation	Inclusive community
	Engaging people of diverse social backgrounds in our institutions	Coexistence among different people	Inclusive community
<i>Strengthening institutions</i>	Engagement of professionals	Professional work	Professionals
	Inclusive management	Unity in diversity	Inclusive community
<i>Accountability and transparency</i>	Involving the people in the processes	Ownership	Inclusive community
	Establishing records and documents	Transparency	Institutions
