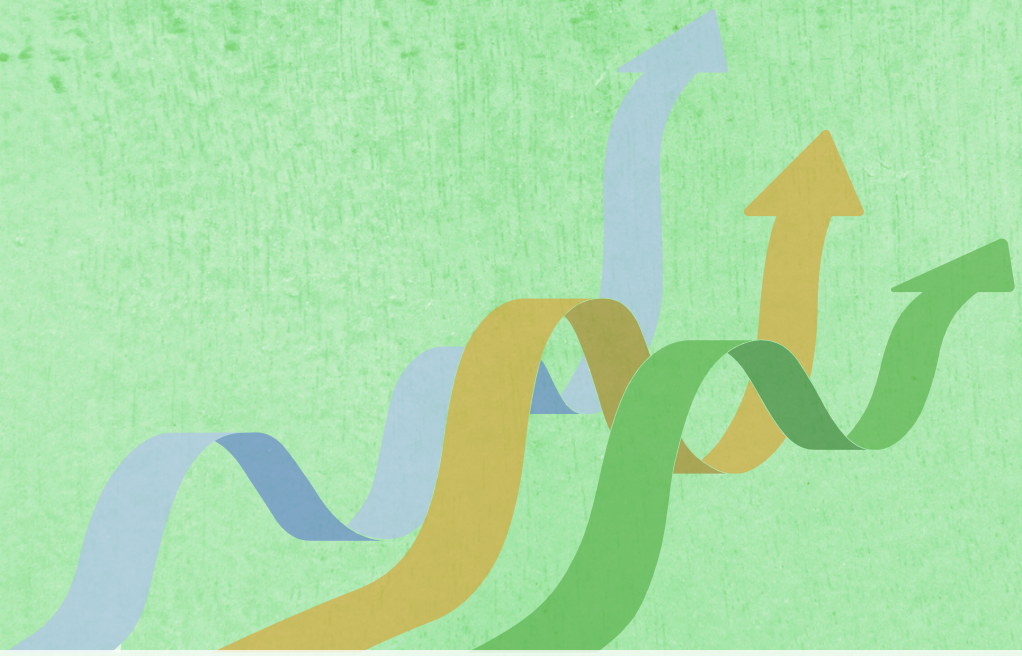
2025

FINAL REPORT

I-CAN: LANDSCAPING ANALYSIS ON CLIMATE AND NUTRITION POLICIES AND STAKEHOLDERS IN KENYA



I-CAN

gain
Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Irish Aid
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN): The Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) is a multistakeholder initiative that aims to advance action to address the critical nexus of climate change and nutrition. Launched by the Government of Egypt, as COP27 President and hosted by WHO, core partners include FAO, GAIN, the SUN Movement, and UNEP.

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN): The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss based foundation launched at the UN in 2002 to tackle the human suffering caused by malnutrition. Working with governments, businesses and civil society, we aim to transform food systems so that they deliver healthier diets for all people, especially the most vulnerable, from more sustainable food systems.

Three Stones International (TSI): Three Stones International (TSI) is a research, management, and development firm established in Rwanda in 2012 with the goal of supporting and building the capacity of local organizations. Registered as an international firm in the United States in 2017, TSI has since conducted more than 100 assessments, evaluations, and social research assignments, as well as over 30 strategic and action plans for local and international organizations.

Citation: I-CAN (2025). I-CAN: Landscaping Analysis on Climate and Nutrition Policies and Stakeholders in Kenya, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN).

Authors:

Silvia Silvestri (TSI)
Amelia Giancarlo (TSI)
Albert Wabale (TSI)
Sarah LaHaye (GAIN)
Oliver Camp (GAIN)
Antony Ogolla (GAIN)

Contact: Antony Ogolla (GAIN) aogolla@gainhealth.org

Acknowledgements

Our thanks are extended to the members of the wider GAIN team, for their time and effort to guide the development of the report including Stella Nordhagen, Jamie Morrison, Sharada Keats and Jessica Colston. Immense gratitude is also extended to the broader Three Stones International team – including Silvia Silvestri, Amelia Giancarlo, and Albert Wabale – whose collective efforts were instrumental to the successful completion of this work.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to Irish Aid for their support for I-CAN and the development of this report.

This report was prepared by GAIN and published as a technical contribution to I-CAN. It does not necessarily reflect the views of Irish Aid or constitute an endorsement by each of the I-CAN partners.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACRONYMS

ASTGS	Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy
APHRC	African Population and Health Research Centre
ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
ASDS	Agricultural Sector Development Strategy
ASNET	Agriculture Sector Network
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CIDPs	County Integrated Development Plans
CIMES	County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Systems
CNAP	County Nutrition Action Plan
COP27	27th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
CSA MSP	Climate Smart Agriculture Multi-Stakeholder Platform
CSG	County Steering Group
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FBDGs	Food-Based Dietary Guidelines
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
I-CAN	Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition
ILRI	International Livestock and Research Institute
PFM	Public Finance Management
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
KMD	Kenya Meteorological Department
KNBS	Kenya's National Statistical System

ACRONYMS

KU	Kenyatta University
MECCF	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
MOLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
MTP	Medium-Term Plan
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NBCM	National Biodiversity Coordination Mechanism
NBSAPs	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NCDs	Noncommunicable Diseases
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSDP	National Strategic Development Plan
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
SWCs	Sector Working Committee
TSI	Three Stones International
TWGs	Technical Working Groups
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN	United Nations
UoN	University of Nairobi
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes the key findings from the Kenya policy landscaping analysis and stakeholder mapping analysis and provides recommendations for better policy integration in Kenya in support of the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN).

The key findings of the report were drawn from a policy landscaping analysis which consisted of a content review of 27 policies, encompassing policies that are active, inactive, and at the draft stage. The policies reviewed cover the thematic categories of nutrition and health, climate and environment, food systems and agriculture, and general development, and each policy was classified based on its level of climate and nutrition integration using the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Report classification system[1]. The desk review findings were complemented by key informant interviews (KIIs) held with 16 Kenyan nutrition and climate stakeholders, ranging from government actors to academics. KIIs also informed stakeholders' mapping, which allowed to capture not only institutional roles and mandates, but also informal influence, coalition behavior, catalytic actors, and leverage points within and between sectors (for example, health, agriculture, climate, finance).

The policy landscaping analysis revealed growing but uneven integration of climate–nutrition linkages across sectors. Food systems and agriculture policies demonstrated the strongest integration, with 60% of reviewed policies achieving the highest classification level (Level 4), characterized by explicit climate–nutrition linkages, concrete implementation plans, budget allocations, and identified institutional responsibilities. Climate and environmental policies were also relatively strong, with 54% scoring Level 4. As this integration is much stronger in Kenya than in other reviewed countries (for example, Cambodia and Tanzania), more research is necessary to understand why Kenya is a positive outlier in climate and nutrition policy integration. However, while overall integration is strong, biodiversity and forest-related strategies often lacked explicit connections to nutrition outcomes. Health and nutrition policies lagged behind, with 56% scoring Level 1. The findings point to clear best practices, such as multisectoral implementation plans and prioritization of vulnerable groups, as well as significant gaps in cross-sector coordination, monitoring frameworks, and domestic financing. Addressing these challenges presents a major opportunity to enhance policy impact and resilience in the face of Kenya's dual climate and nutrition crises.

From an **institutional coordination** point of view, there is a significant opportunity to improve coherence between national strategies and county-level implementation by aligning timelines, indicators, and financing mechanisms with County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). Furthermore, there is the need for harmonization across health, agriculture, and environment sectors and to strengthen multisectoral collaboration.

Our recommendations to enhance institutional coordination are as follows:

- Strengthen the alignment between national strategies and county-level implementation
- Review Level 2 and 3 policies to incorporate climate resilience goals, measurable nutrition indicators, joint monitoring systems, and cross-sectoral budget lines
- Embed the I-CAN initiative into existing multisectoral platforms like the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Multi-Stakeholder Platform.
- Institutionalize platforms such as the Sector Working Committee (SWC), and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) through policy or legislative frameworks.
- Establish a high-level coordinating body, such as a national food and nutrition council, with legal authority and cross-ministerial reach to provide overarching governance and define sector-specific responsibilities.

As it relates to financing, integration efforts between climate and nutrition in Kenya remain largely project-driven and heavily reliant on external donor funding, rather than being

[1] Policies were classified into one of 4 Levels based on their climate and nutrition integration status, from Level 1: no intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition; Level 2, some intention to connect climate and nutrition; Level 3: intention to mobilise resources to connect climate and nutrition; to Level 4: commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action.

systematically embedded within national or county budgets. Compounding these challenges is the lack of sufficient domestic investment in research, capacity building, and service delivery aligned with climate-nutrition objectives, which further hinders long-term progress

To combat these issues, we recommend the following:

- Create designated budget lines for climate and nutrition actions that are anchored in legal or regulatory frameworks
- Invest in coordination budgets to fund the operations of multi-sector platforms
- Align donor investments into unified, government-led strategies, in order to reduce fragmentation, enhance the impact of external funding and increase ownership and resilience in the long term
- Strengthen County Nutrition Action Plans (CNAPs) through the provision of technical, political, and financial support

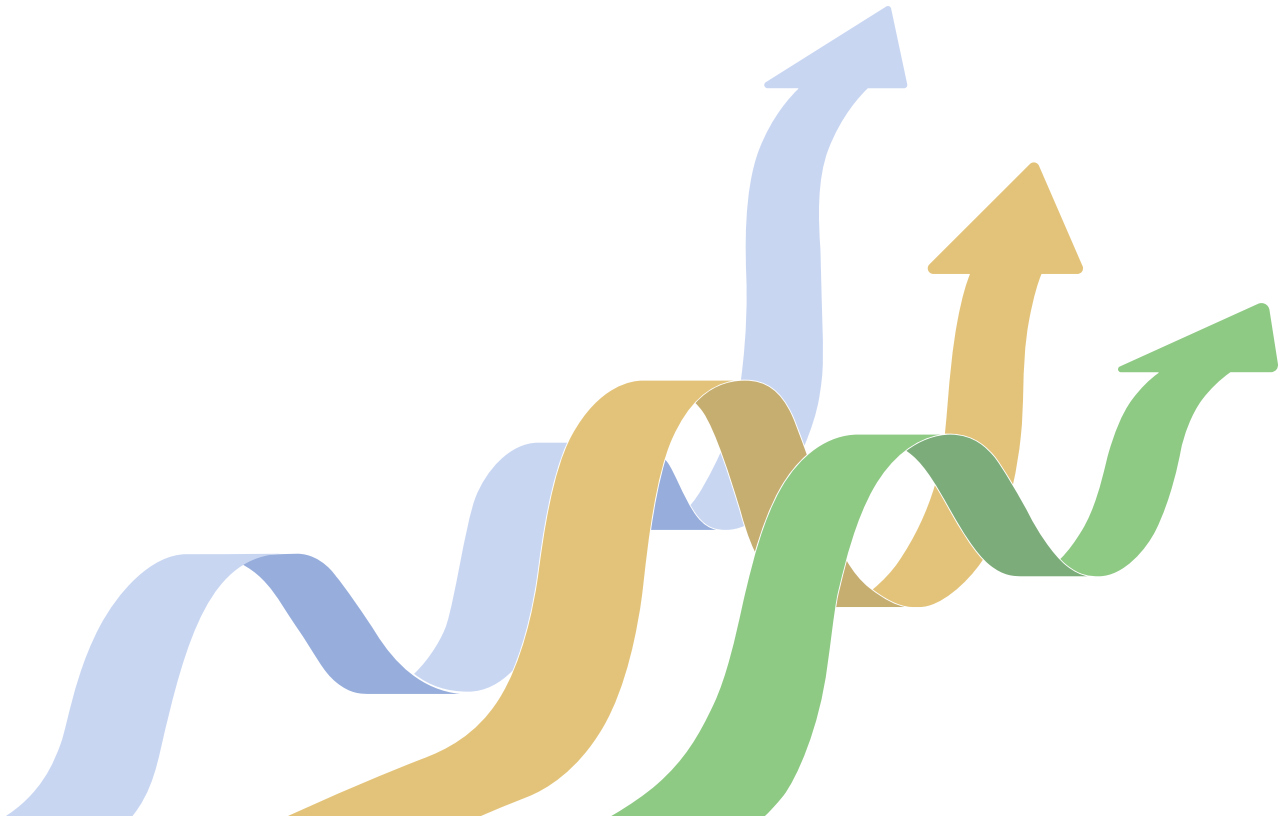
In terms of **monitoring, evaluation, and learning,** there is a widespread absence of shared indicators and evaluation methods capable of tracking the impact of climate-related interventions (such as crop diversification or irrigation) on nutrition outcomes. Target setting and tracking are often specific to nutrition outcomes or climate change interventions, but have not been established consistently across integrated efforts. This lack of harmonized metrics is compounded by fragmented or unavailable data, which undermines effective planning, monitoring, and evaluation. In order to better guide decision-making, assess progress and advocate for policies that reflect the interdependence of climate resilience and nutritional well-being we recommend the following actions:

- Develop a set of cross-sectoral climate–nutrition indicators to help track progress, improve transparency, and support evidence-based policymaking, incorporated across ministries
- Improve data sharing across sectors by building accessible, linked repositories that can connect meteorological, health, and agricultural datasets

With reference to **stakeholder engagement,** public-private dialogue platforms exist in Kenya, however, their effectiveness is limited by sporadic and informal coordination. Furthermore, county governments in Kenya are responsible for implementing climate and nutrition-related policies, but often lack the capacity to do so leading to reduced stakeholder engagement. Given this, we recommend the following:

- Build capacity through education, leveraging the ongoing transition to competency-based education in Kenya to promote the integration of climate and nutrition
- Promote investments in applied research, such as economic cost-of-inaction studies, nutrition losses due to climate impacts, or resilience strategies for vulnerable groups, to inform and justify policy reform.
- Enhance the participation of community-based organizations and grassroots leaders in program planning or delivery and promote the cultivation and consumption of climate-resilient traditional crops through farmer outreach, school gardens, and local extension services
- Increase the community-level awareness of the climate-nutrition nexus by leveraging mass media and digital tools (radio, social media, etc).
- Promote the integration of value chain actors into the design and implementation of policies that support both climate resilience and improved nutrition
- Promote the engagement of the private players in multi-stakeholder platforms such as the sector working groups, and public-private dialogues, including the Agriculture Sector Network (ASNET)

In sum, Kenya has laid important groundwork for integrating climate and nutrition across key policy areas, but gaps in coordination, financing, and implementation remain. By institutionalizing coordination platforms, embedding climate-nutrition goals into national and county budgets, and strengthening cross-sector monitoring systems, Kenya can accelerate progress toward a more resilient, equitable food and health system. Sustained political will, inclusive stakeholder engagement, and strategic investment will be essential to realize the full potential of the I-CAN initiative.



INTRODUCTION

Background, Rationale, and Objectives

Climate change and malnutrition are two of the most pressing challenges of our time, each posing serious threats to human health, food systems, livelihoods, and national development. Increasingly, these issues intersect in complex and compounding ways (Fanzo et al. 2020). The climate crisis, which manifests through droughts, floods, shifting growing seasons, and rising temperatures, undermines food production, reduces dietary diversity, spreads disease, and erodes nutrition outcomes, particularly among the most vulnerable populations (Myers et al. 2014). At the same time, persistent malnutrition, including undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, or rising overweight and obesity, undermines resilience and adaptive capacity to climate shocks (Thorne-Lyman and Fawzi 2012). Despite this clear interdependence, efforts to address climate and nutrition remain largely siloed, both globally and nationally (Harris et al. 2021).

In Kenya, the consequences of the climate-nutrition nexus are deeply felt; over 70% of the population is employed in climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and water, and communities across the country face recurrent climate-related disasters (Omondi and Akinyi 2021). Flooding, droughts, and environmental degradation have intensified food insecurity, contributed to outbreaks of vector- and waterborne diseases, and compromised the delivery of essential health and nutrition services (Lakew et al. 2021). These events compound long-standing nutrition challenges in Kenya, including high levels of stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies, as well as rising rates of overweight and obesity, particularly in urban areas (Kimani-Murage et al. 2015). According to the 2025 Global Hunger Index, malnutrition in Kenya affects an estimated 35.5% of the population, the highest in two decades, posing a serious obstacle to human development and economic growth (GHI 2025).

Recognising these challenges in Cambodia and elsewhere, the Initiative for Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) was launched in 2022 by the Government of Egypt during COP27, in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. I-CAN is a global, multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to accelerate transformative action at the intersection of climate and nutrition. By 2030, I-CAN envisions a world in which climate and nutrition agendas are fully integrated in policy, financing, research, and implementation. The initiative focuses on five strategic pillars, the first of which is to support national-level integration by strengthening policy coherence in countries facing both climate vulnerability and high burdens of malnutrition. Specifically, I-CAN targets four key outcomes by 2030

1. Policy coherence: Greater integration of climate and nutrition across national policies, including NDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), national nutrition plans, food-based dietary guidelines, and public food procurement standards.

2. Scaled-up action: Accelerated implementation of climate and nutrition interventions.

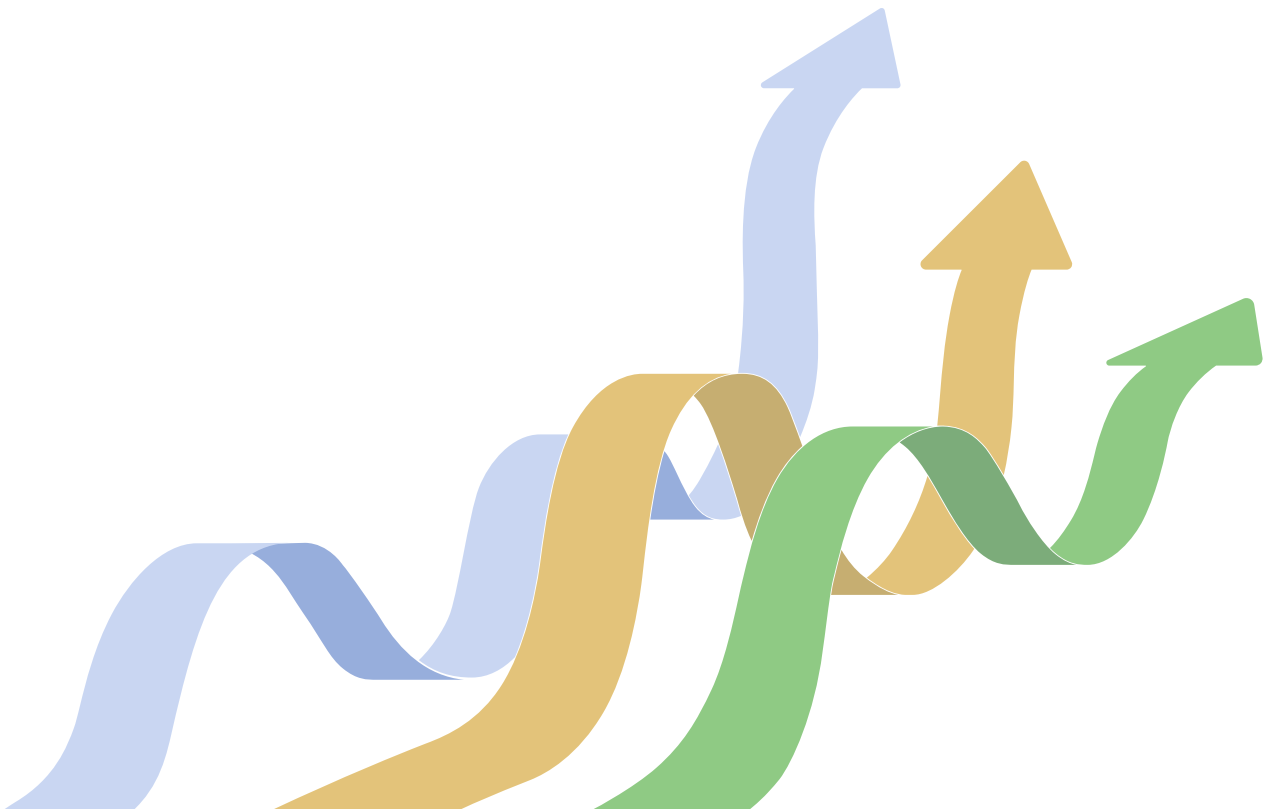
3. Increased financing: Mobilization of new and existing resources for integrated climate and nutrition agendas.

4. Cross-sectoral integration: Enhanced alignment of research, advocacy, and policy to advance both nutrition and environmental goals.

The work presented here contributes to I-CAN's first out of five strategic pillars[2]: targeted support to strengthen national policies for integrated country action. Elucidating the nutrition-climate policy and stakeholder landscape in Kenya is crucial to understanding what opportunities exist in Kenya's specific context and what opportunities may be mirrored in other national settings. Specifically, this report consolidates the results from two complementary light-touch analyses conducted in support of I-CAN's objectives: first, a national-level policy landscaping and second, a stakeholder mapping analysis, both conducted between May and June 2025.

[2] I-CAN's five pillars include: 1) Policy Coherence and Governance, 2) Financing and Investment, 3) Research, Innovation, and Data, 4) Capacity and Knowledge Sharing, and 5) Locally Led and Inclusive Action.

The policy landscaping analysis results provided in this report aim to identify and assess the extent to which climate and nutrition are integrated within Kenya's national policy architecture. By systematically reviewing policies across sectors including climate change and environment, nutrition and health, and agriculture and food systems, the study sought to highlight best practices, identify gaps, and provide insights to inform more coordinated and synergistic policymaking. In parallel, a national-level stakeholder mapping and analysis was conducted to identify, categorize, and determine the key stakeholders across government, private sector, civil society, academia, and development partners who are essential to advancing integrated climate and nutrition action in Kenya. Through both the policy landscaping and stakeholder mapping, this report aims to provide a clearer understanding of existing thematic and programmatic efforts, highlight opportunities for collaboration, and inform strategic engagement to support I-CAN's goal of integrating and aligning efforts toward increased climate resilience and improved nutrition outcomes.



METHODOLOGY

This study was completed in two distinct yet intertwined phases: first, a policy landscaping analysis and second, a stakeholder mapping exercise.

Policy Landscaping Analysis

The policy landscaping analysis drew from the content of 27 policies, encompassing policies that are active, inactive, and at the draft stage. Although some of the policies reviewed were technically inactive or had reached the end of their stated implementation period, they were intentionally included in the analysis. This decision was based on two main considerations. First, in several cases, no replacement or updated policy had been issued, meaning these documents continue to shape ongoing practice and institutional frameworks despite their official timelines having expired. As such, they remain de facto reference points for current policy direction, particularly in areas where mandates, coordination mechanisms, or program structures have not fundamentally changed. Second, many of these policies still contain substantive provisions and frameworks relevant to understanding the current state of climate–nutrition integration in Kenya. Excluding them would have risked omitting important insights into how the policy environment evolved and how existing strategies continue to reflect earlier priorities and institutional linkages. The policies reviewed cover the thematic categories of nutrition and health, climate and environment, food systems and agriculture, and general development (see Annex A for a full list of policies).

The desk review findings were complemented by the themes drawn from key informant interviews (KIIs) held with over 15 Kenyan nutrition and climate stakeholders, ranging from government actors to academics (a full list of stakeholders consulted can be found in **Annex B**).

To assess the level of nutrition and climate integration in each of the reviewed policies, TSI followed the methodology outlined in the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Assessment, which included a comprehensive keyword search completed using Python, a high-level computer programming language. Each policy was reviewed using the same Python code that was used in the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Assessment (with a few changes to ensure comprehensive keyword screening, **Annex C** for the specific Python code used). All policies reviewed were English or English versions. The keywords used for screening were also based on the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Assessment methodology, encompassing a grouping of nutrition keywords and a grouping of climate keywords. Below is an illustration of the specific keywords that each policy was screened against:

Climate Keywords	Nutrition Keywords
Group 1 - General Climate: Climate, Climate Change, Climate Crisis, Greenhouse Gas(es), CO2, GHG, Emissions, Extreme Weather, Methane, Sea Level(s), Global Warming, Temperature, Biodiverse(ity), Mitigation(s), Adaptation(s), Net Zero	**Group 1 - General Nutrition:** Nutrition, Nutritional, Nutrient(s), Malnutrition, Undernutrition, Overnutrition, Nutritious, Nutritious Foods, Food Systems
Group 2 - Energy: Carbon, Fossil Fuel(s), Oil, Coal, Energy Efficient, Renewable Energy	**Group 2 - Diet-related:** Diet(s), Balanced Diet, Healthy Diet, Unhealthy Diet, Affordable Diet, Accessible Diet, Available Diet, Diet Diversity, Plant-Based, Vegan, Vegetarian
Group 3 - Sustainability: Sustainable, Sustainability, Recycle(ing), Reduce(ing), Reuse(ing), Single-Use Plastic, Compost(ing), Biodegrade(able), Package(ing)	**Group 3 - NCDs and Human Health:** Obesity, Overweight, Underweight, Weight Loss, Weight Gain, Anemia, Anaemia, Diabetes, Blood Pressure, Hypertension, Blood Sugar, Cholesterol, Cardiovascular Disease, Blood Iron, Stunting, Wasting

Group 4 - Food: Food Loss(es), Food Waste(s), Overproduce(ing), Shelf Life, Portion Size, Local(ly), Regional(ly), Season(al)	**Group 4 - Food Safety:** Food Label, Food Safety, Food Control, Food Quality
Group 5 - ESG: Fairtrade, Animal Welfare, Free Range, Water Use, Land Use, UNFCCC, ESG	**Group 5 - Food Groups and Types:**Vegetable(s), Fruit(s), Meat, Red Meat, White Meat, Fish, Starch, Dairy, Protein, Fat, Fats, Oil, Oils, Grain, Grains, Wheat, Rice, Maize, Nuts, Eggs, Milk, Pulses, Animal-Sourced Foods / ASF
Group 6 - Agriculture: Intensive Farming, Overfarming, Crop Diversity, Overgrazing, Monoculture, Indigenous Crops, Organic, Bio, Nature-Based Solutions, Neglected- Underutilised Species, Agroecology, Ecology	**Group 6 - Nutritional Content:** Vitamin, Micronutrient(s), Mineral, Fiber, Fibre, Calcium, Gluten,Calorie, Caloric, Carbohydrate, Sodium, Salt, Sugar, MSG, Iron, Zinc, Fortified, Biofortified, Fortification, Biofortification

In contrast to the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Methodology, TSI began with the Python keyword search, which then informed manual policy reviews. With the identified keywords as a guide, each policy was manually reviewed by the same reviewer to ensure consistency. The level of nutrition and climate integration of each policy was then evaluated using the Baseline Assessment criteria:

Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition

Level 2: Some intention to connect climate and nutrition

Level 3: Intention to mobilise resources to connect climate and nutrition

Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition

For each policy that was classified as either Level 2 or 3, a second reviewer examined the policy and decided upon their own classification. For the classifications that were different between the first and second reviewer, the two reviewers met and discussed their justification for classification and they discussed until they reached a consensus on the most appropriate classification level. In line with the 2023 I-CAN Baseline Assessment methodology, by no means were the Python-produced results the main determinant of the classification levels themselves and human reviews remained the final authority on the classification of documents. Please refer to **Annex D** for a full list of each policy's nutrition and climate integration classification level.

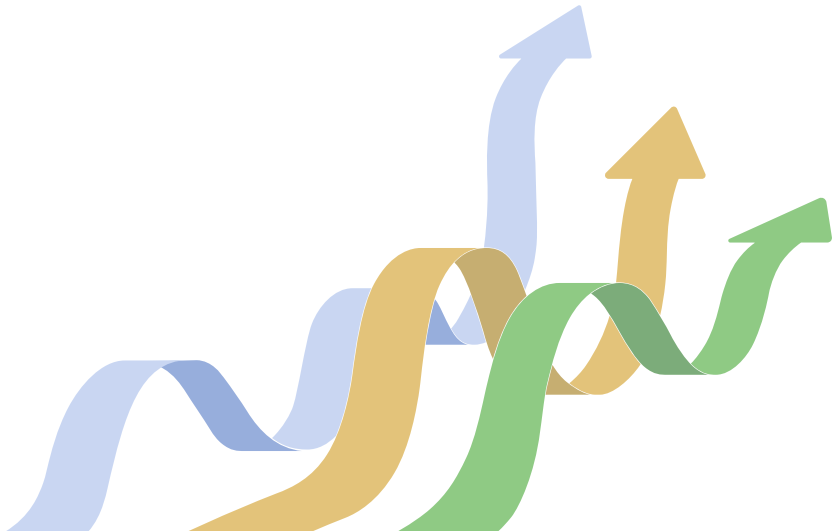
Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis

The stakeholder mapping was based on key informant consultations. The 16 key informants were selected in consultation with GAIN team members to represent the breadth of actors influencing or implementing climate–nutrition policies and programs in Kenya. The goal was to capture perspectives from policy formulation, research and academia, development partners, and implementation agencies, ensuring a holistic understanding of how climate and nutrition are being integrated across sectors. The respondents were contacted via email and invited to participate in either an in-person or virtual interview with TSI's Kenya-based consultant. All interviews were recorded with informed consent and transcribed by the interviewer after. Interviews were then coded by hand to identify themes among responses to each question across respondents. A full list of questions explored during interviews can be found in **Annex E**. The findings based on the perspectives of the key informants have been incorporated into this policy landscaping analysis as well as its companion stakeholder mapping and analysis.

These consultations captured not only institutional roles and mandates, but also informal influence, coalition behavior, catalytic actors, and leverage points within and between sectors (e.g., health, agriculture, climate, finance). This approach enabled the identification of areas where alignment and integration already have momentum, where institutional friction exists, and where dormant capacity could be activated through appropriate policy incentives or technical support. The stakeholder mapping also highlighted multi-sectoral linkages, particularly between climate, nutrition, health, and agriculture. The analysis was layered across three key dimensions:

- **Actor Functionality:** This dimension explored each stakeholder's actual function in climate-nutrition integration, beyond their formal role. It identified who funded, convened, implemented, blocked, or translated policy into practice, and examined barriers that limited stakeholders from maximizing their functionality.
- **Influence Networks:** The mapping captured both formal structures and informal power dynamics, including knowledge brokers and policy entrepreneurs who shaped real-world integration efforts. This allows for a better understanding of potential in-roads for promoting more effective integration of nutrition and climate action.
- **Strategic Engagement Pathways:** The analysis assessed each key stakeholder openness to integration, existing capacities, opportunities and strategic entry points for increased integration, and the type of engagement (technical, advocacy, financing, coordination) needed to accelerate progress.

Furthermore, TSI developed two stakeholder maps based on KII findings, the first of which illustrates each actor's level of climate-nutrition integration alongside their level of influence in Kenyan policymaking, and the second of which presents each actors' primary focus area on an axis of primarily climate change, primarily nutrition, neither, or both.



KEY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS RESULTS

Below is a presentation of good practices, challenges, and key opportunities that have been drawn from the policy review and landscaping analysis as well as from the 15 key informant interviews. These results are presented together as opposed to separately to better understand and identify themes from across the two phases of this study.

Best Practices

Kenya's Level 4 policies exemplify strong integration of climate and nutrition objectives, demonstrating a range of good practices that can serve as models for other contexts. These policies move beyond broad commitments to deliver actionable strategies, underpinned by robust evidence, clear institutional coordination, equity considerations, and detailed implementation frameworks. The following section highlights key good practices observed across these policies, focusing on how they frame the climate–nutrition nexus, plan and operationalize interventions, and promote resilience and inclusion through coordinated, multisectoral approaches.

Framing, Evidence, and Strategic Vision

Kenya's Level 4 policies consistently demonstrate strong framing by explicitly recognising the links between climate change and nutrition outcomes. For instance, the Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017–2026) clearly connects extreme weather events like droughts and floods to food shortages and malnutrition, emphasizing that these impacts reduce yields and erode livelihoods. Similarly, the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2018–2022 highlights how prolonged droughts and climate variability reduce food production and increase malnutrition, particularly among vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and children. Evidence-based framing is also seen in the National Adaptation Plan (2015–2030), which notes that climate-driven reductions in food access could reverse Kenya's gains in child nutrition and public health. The NBSAP ties biodiversity loss directly to food insecurity and undernutrition, advocating for "eco-agriculture" to ensure a sustainable and nutritious food supply. This strategic vision is further reinforced in Kenya Vision 2030 and the Third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III), which prioritizes expansion of irrigated agriculture and reduced reliance on rain-fed systems to stabilize food supply under a changing climate.

Implementation Frameworks and Planning

goals into actionable commitments. The Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS 2019–2029)includes nine flagships, the last of which focuses specifically on monitoring climate and food system risks such as pests, diseases, and price shocks. This flagship directly supports nutrition by aiming to protect four million vulnerable households through improvements to the Strategic Food Reserve. It also features yearly milestones, defined timelines, and budget estimates. Similarly, the NCCAP III (2023–2027) includes a dedicated implementation matrix under its Food Security and Nutrition priority area, outlining clear objectives, budgets, indicators, and responsible institutions to build resilience and productivity in a low-carbon manner. The Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy features one of the most comprehensive frameworks, detailing each thematic area's strategies, indicators, institutions, and budget lines. The National Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework (2017–2022) adds a strong results-oriented matrix focusing on improving food availability and includes climate adaptation in agriculture, with specific responsibilities assigned to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Treasury. Across these policies, the inclusion of resource mobilization strategies—such as those found in GESIP and Vision 2030—underscores a serious commitment to operationalizing the climate-nutrition nexus.

Coordination, Equity, and Resilience

Another hallmark of Kenya's Level 4 policies is robust institutional coordination and deliberate equity strategies. The National Agriculture Policy (2021) clearly delineates roles for both national and county governments, including various ministries such as health, environment, and land, creating a strong multi-sectoral implementation structure. The CSA Strategy includes a unique SWOT analysis,

identifying vulnerable populations—especially women, youth, and other marginalized groups—as being at risk from climate-induced nutritional deficits, while also identifying opportunities to increase their awareness and resilience. Likewise, the NCCAP III (2023–2027) explicitly identifies children and youth as particularly susceptible to climate-related malnutrition, and tailors actions accordingly. Several policies, such as the National Adaptation Plan and ASTGS, emphasize disaster preparedness through mechanisms like strategic food reserves, early warning systems, and pest management plans to buffer shocks. The National Strategy on Genetic Resources and Climate Change emphasizes community-level actions and scientific research to conserve biodiversity as a way to safeguard food and nutrition security under future climate scenarios. These policies also show alignment with Kenya's broader development vision, such as the Big Four Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, creating coherence between national climate action and international commitments.

Challenges

Findings that emerged from stakeholder KIIs and the policy review highlight several concerns and areas for increased focus related to coordination, policy implementation, data and indicators, financing, and capacity.

Weak Cross-Sectoral Coordination and Siloed Approaches

There are numerous structural and systemic barriers limiting cross-ministerial collaboration in Kenya, which are reinforced by government budgeting and planning processes. As nutrition interventions are typically not overseen by climate change or agriculture ministries and offices, the actualization of opportunities to align work through integrative platforms is limited. Overall, the climate, agriculture, health, and nutrition sectors continue to operate largely in isolation, with few structured mechanisms to support coordinated planning or implementation. While national policy frameworks increasingly recognise the interlinkages between climate and nutrition, practical collaboration across these sectors remains largely ad hoc and informal, particularly at the county level, where integrated planning is most critical. Many of the multi-sectoral coordination platforms previously supported by donors, such as technical working groups, have weakened over time, and there has been limited sustained investment by the government to institutionalize or revitalize these mechanisms. This fragmentation undermines the coherence and effectiveness of responses to climate and nutrition challenges. Furthermore, KII findings revealed that nutrition is often overshadowed by broader food security concerns in climate-related policies, and the integrations that exist tend to be inconsistent or superficial.

> *"...sometimes, when we look at the policies that we have, the question of nutrition doesn't explicitly come out as a target. What comes out most of the time is food security, not nutrition... So with all the different policies that we have, we can start enumerating them and trying to see whether they are directly linked to nutrition or they are not."* — ***Government based Agriculture Economy and Financial Advisor***

Gaps in Policy Implementation and Enforcement

Despite Kenya's strong policy framework, including instruments such as the NAP, the NCCAP, and Agri-Nutrition Strategy, implementation remains inconsistent across sectors and levels of government. Key barriers include limited budget allocations, weak accountability mechanisms, and significant capacity deficits, particularly at the county level. Although county governments hold semi-autonomous mandates and play a central role in implementation, they often lack the financial resources, technical expertise, and institutional support needed to effectively translate national strategies into context-specific actions on the ground.

Lack of Clear Indicators and Data for Climate-Nutrition Linkages

A major barrier identified to advancing integrated climate and nutrition action in Kenya is the absence of shared indicators capable of tracking the effect of climate-related interventions (such as crop diversification or irrigation) on nutrition outcomes. Target setting and tracking are often specific to nutrition outcomes or climate change interventions, but have not been established consistently across integrated efforts. This lack of harmonized metrics is compounded by fragmented or unavailable data, which undermines effective planning, monitoring, and evaluation. As a result, it becomes difficult to guide decision-making, assess progress, or advocate for policies that reflect the interdependence of climate resilience and nutritional well-being. To effectively monitor climate-nutrition to inform evidence-based policy adjustments, there exists an urgent need for tailored indicators and data systems.

> *"When you're integrating climate change and nutrition, we need to develop very specific indicators that can track that progress and to make sure that we have resources necessary to support the generation of that data to inform those particular indicators and to ensure that... is monitored at national level."* — ***Chief of Party, non-profit organization***

Inadequate Financing and Donor Dependence

Integration efforts between climate and nutrition in Kenya remain largely project-driven and heavily reliant on external donor funding, rather than being systematically embedded within national or county budgets. This dependence on short-term projects limits the sustainability and scalability of integrated initiatives. Additionally, coordination platforms such as the Climate Smart Agriculture Multi-Stakeholder Platform (CSA MSP) often operate informally, restricting their ability to mobilize or manage financial resources effectively. Compounding these challenges is the lack of sufficient domestic investment in research, capacity building, and service delivery aligned with climate-nutrition objectives, which further hinders long-term progress. Without institutionalized government support and funding, these coordination platforms will remain vulnerable to external influence and turnover.

> *"[The] key challenge with this platform is mainly support to keep them running. You find that they're partner supported. So when a partner... their project has ended, you'll find that these platforms are no longer active... So at the moment, sustainability is an issue because of being donor dependent."* — ***Personnel, research institution***

Inconsistent Engagement with Private Sector and Civil Society

Although public-private dialogue platforms exist in Kenya, their coordination is sporadic and lacks formal structures, limiting their effectiveness. There are significant missed opportunities to integrate value chain actors—such as those involved in fortification or processing of climate-resilient crops—into the design and implementation of policies that support both climate resilience and improved nutrition. Similarly, community-based organizations and grassroots leaders, who are essential for local ownership and sustainability, are not systematically engaged in program planning or delivery, weakening the potential for inclusive and locally responsive solutions.

Capacity and Knowledge Gaps at Sub-National Levels

Although public-private dialogue platforms exist in Kenya, their coordination is sporadic and lacks formal structures, limiting their effectiveness. There are significant missed opportunities to integrate value chain actors—such as those involved in fortification or processing of climate-resilient crops—into the design and implementation of policies that support both climate resilience and improved nutrition. Similarly, community-based

organizations and grassroots leaders, who are essential for local ownership and sustainability, are not systematically engaged in program planning or delivery, weakening the potential for inclusive and locally responsive solutions.

> *"We just need to strengthen continuous synergies between national and county government[s] so that the national government can continue to strengthen the capacity of counties... so that they're able to implement national policies and national commitment."* — ***Kenya staff, international non-governmental organization***

The overarching challenge related to nutrition and climate integration in Kenya lies not in the absence of policies linking climate and nutrition, but in the inability to implement and harmonize them effectively across sectors and levels of government. Addressing coordination failures, formalizing integration mechanisms, enhancing local capacity, and ensuring dedicated financing are key to bridging policy–practice gaps in this climate-nutrition nexus.

Opportunities

The findings from the policy review and KIIs reveal a rich landscape of opportunities to strengthen the integration of climate action and nutrition in Kenya. Drawing from stakeholder KIIs and policy analysis, these opportunities span multiple levels, from policy alignment and institutional reform to community engagement and data systems. They reflect both existing momentum and critical gaps that, if addressed, could significantly enhance resilience, equity, and health outcomes in the face of a changing climate. The following section outlines seven key areas where targeted investment, coordination, and innovation can accelerate progress toward a more coherent and impactful climate–nutrition agenda.

Further Strengthen Policy Alignment and Integration

There is a significant opportunity to improve coherence between national strategies and county-level implementation by aligning timelines, indicators, and financing mechanisms with CIDPs. Many Level 4 policies already include detailed implementation frameworks, but they often depend on local execution. Strengthening this alignment would ensure national commitments are translated into county-level action. Additionally, Level 2 and 3 policies—such as the Climate Change Finance Policy and School Meals and Nutrition Strategy—acknowledge the effects of climate change but fall short of integrating nutrition-specific indicators or frameworks. These policies could be revised to include climate resilience goals, measurable nutrition indicators, joint monitoring systems, and cross-sectoral budget lines. Finally, embedding the I-CAN initiative into existing multisectoral platforms like the CSA MSP would promote harmonization across health, agriculture, and environment sectors, and help link fragmented stakeholder efforts.

> *"Developing I-CAN knowledge products and messaging at the county level is a major opportunity to catalyze integration."* — ***Kenya staff, international non-governmental organization***

Advance Legal and Institutional Reform

To strengthen multisectoral collaboration, coordination platforms and working groups must be formally institutionalized. Many existing forums —such as technical working groups and county nutrition platforms—lack legal mandates and predictable financing, limiting their impact and sustainability. Institutionalizing these platforms through policy or legislative frameworks would ensure consistent participation, clearer accountability, and more durable results. In addition, Kenya would benefit from establishing

a high-level coordinating body—such as a national food and nutrition council with legal authority and cross-ministerial reach. This body could provide overarching governance and define sector-specific responsibilities, drawing from models successfully implemented in countries like Ghana, Zambia, and Rwanda.

> *"We need a council... like how other countries—I've seen Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Rwanda—they have a nutrition, food security, nutrition council... that defines what is the role of each and every person... We are not yet there, but we need to get to that point."* — ***Kenya focal point, international non-governmental organization***

Mobilize and Track Financial Resources

One of the most pressing challenges is the lack of dedicated funding for climate–nutrition initiatives. Even where policies exist, implementation is often stalled due to insufficient or untracked budget allocations. Creating designated budget lines for climate and nutrition actions—anchored in legal or regulatory frameworks—would help ensure sustainable financing and greater accountability. This also includes investing in coordination budgets to fund the operations of multi-sector platforms. Additionally, donor investments should be better aligned under unified, government-led strategies, reducing fragmentation and enhancing the impact of external funding. Shifting from donor-driven to government-led programming will also increase ownership and resilience in the long term.

> *"Every decision without corresponding budget to implement actions that come from those decisions is useless."* — ***Health and Nutrition Lead, Kenya chapter international non-governmental organization***

Build Capacity Through Education and Research

The ongoing transition to competency-based education in Kenya presents a timely opportunity to integrate climate–nutrition content into university, technical, and vocational curricula. Embedding this knowledge in formal education will help develop a workforce capable of addressing the complex, interdisciplinary challenges of climate change and nutrition. At the same time, policy and planning must be grounded in robust evidence. Investments in applied research—such as economic cost-of-inaction studies, nutrition losses due to climate impacts, or resilience strategies for vulnerable groups—can inform and justify policy reform. Strengthening collaboration between academia, government, and civil society is essential to ensure research outputs are relevant and used in practice.

> *"This is the moment to integrate climate and nutrition into academic curricula at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels."* — ***University of Nairobi staff***

Enhance Monitoring, Indicators, and Data Systems

A common challenge across climate and nutrition sectors is the lack of shared indicators and integrated monitoring systems. Developing a set of cross-sectoral climate–nutrition indicators would help track progress, improve transparency, and support evidence-based policymaking. These indicators should be incorporated into existing monitoring systems across ministries, including those for health, agriculture, environment, and planning. In parallel, there is a clear need to improve data sharing across sectors by building accessible, linked repositories that can connect meteorological, health, and agricultural datasets. Such systems would provide a strong foundation for joint planning, advocacy, and learning.

"We need to come up with indicators... it will be important to have a compendium of indicators that would link climate and nutrition." — ***Personnel, research institution***

Empower Local Implementation and Innovation

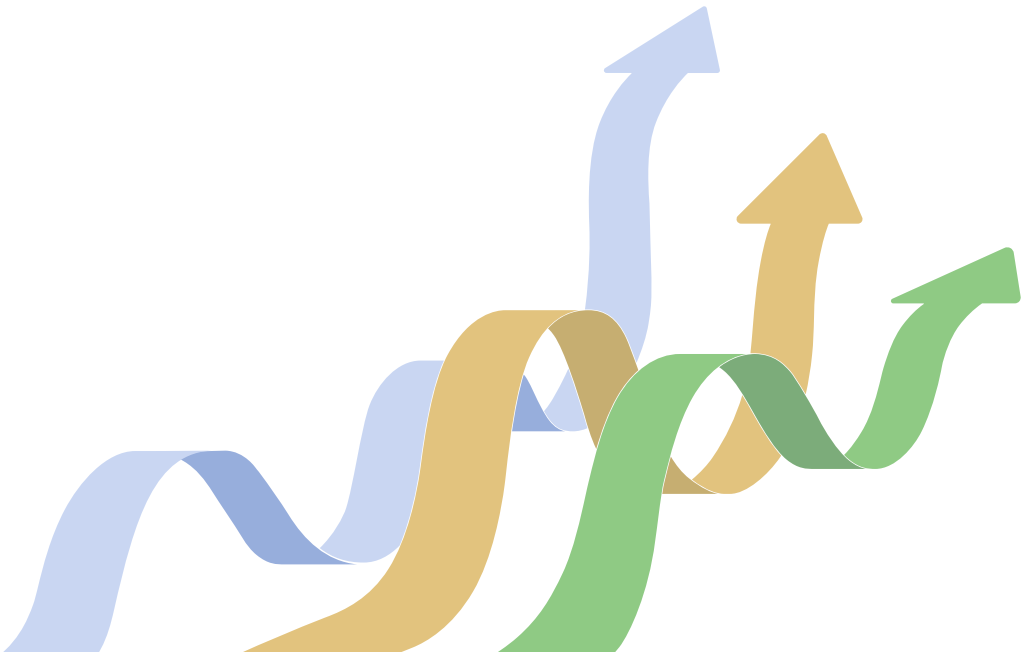
Counties play a critical role in translating national priorities into community-level action, particularly in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) where climate vulnerability and nutrition insecurity are most acute. Strengthening CNAPs with technical, political, and financial support is essential to ensure these plans are feasible and impactful. At the grassroots level, promoting the cultivation and consumption of climate-resilient traditional crops—through farmer outreach, school gardens, and local extension services—can improve dietary diversity and household food security. These crops are often better adapted to local ecological conditions and offer significant nutritional value, making them ideal for community-level climate adaptation strategies.

"We are promoting the traditional crops because of their nutrition... they are well adapted, locally adapted... they can grow anywhere, even in the bush." — ***Kenya staff, international non-governmental organization***

Empower Local Implementation and Innovation

Counties play a critical role in translating national priorities into community-level action, particularly in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) where climate vulnerability and nutrition insecurity are most acute. Strengthening CNAPs with technical, political, and financial support is essential to ensure these plans are feasible and impactful. At the grassroots level, promoting the cultivation and consumption of climate-resilient traditional crops—through farmer outreach, school gardens, and local extension services—can improve dietary diversity and household food security. These crops are often better adapted to local ecological conditions and offer significant nutritional value, making them ideal for community-level climate adaptation strategies.

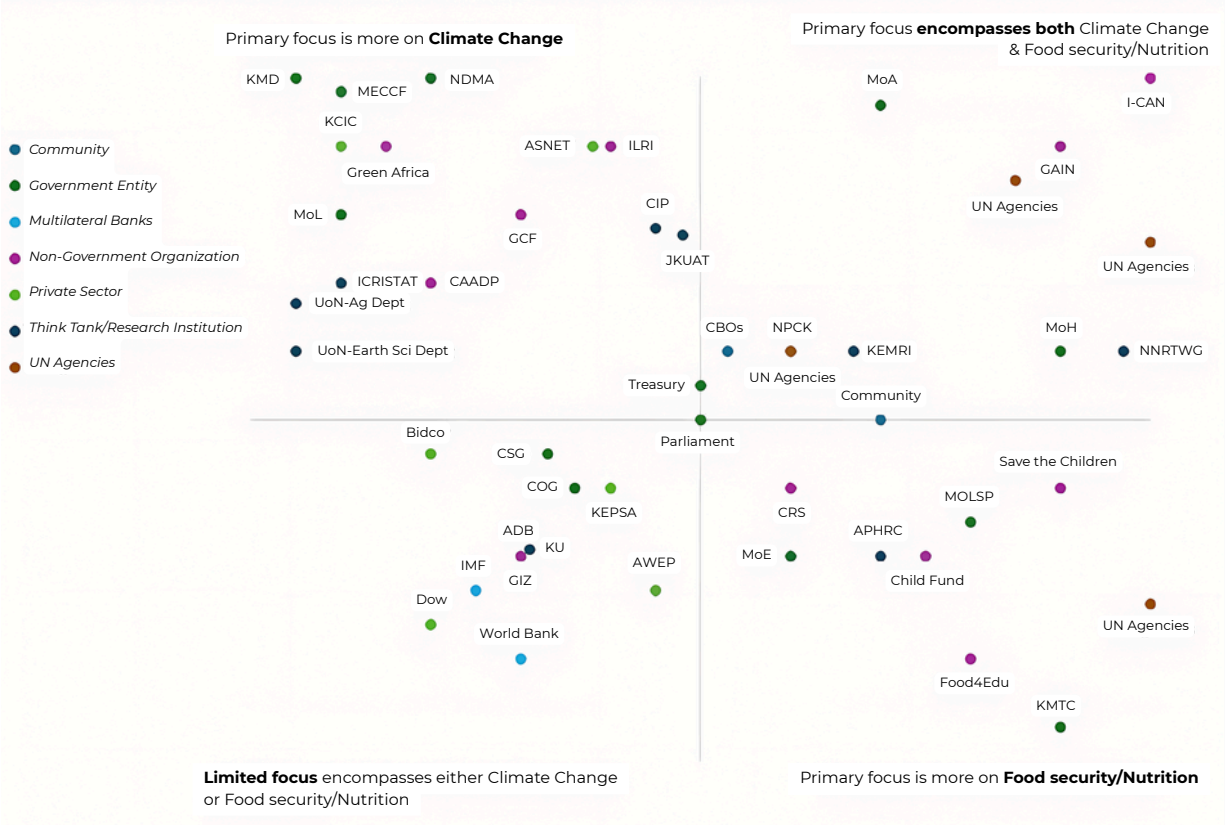
"Use social media... the youth will get involved... give webinars... on vernacular radios, because people listen to them, by the way, they're in their own language that they can relate with." — ***Senior Researcher, Kenya research institution***



Stakeholder Maps

The Kenyan Climate-Nutrition Stakeholder Ecosystem: Sectoral Focus Map

Below is a visual interpretation of Kenyan actors' positioning in terms of their primary focus on Climate Change and Food Security/Nutrition (or neither or both).

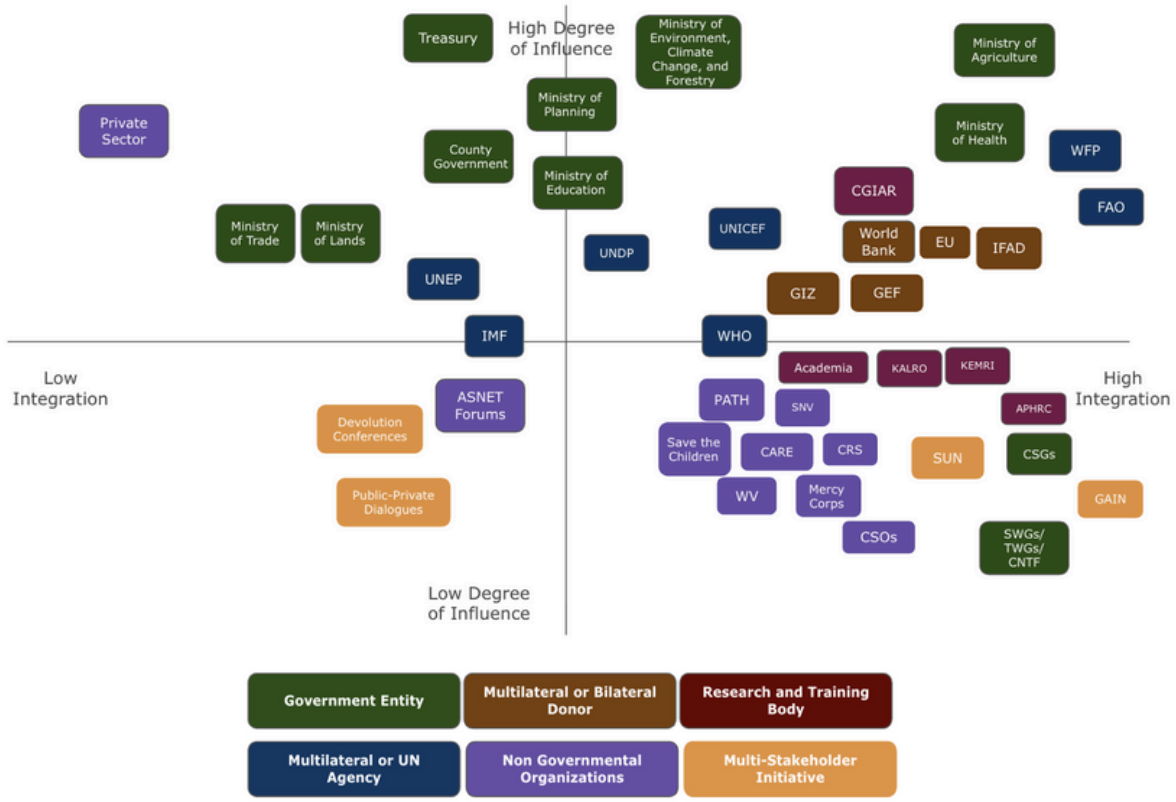


A diverse range of actors, including government bodies, UN agencies, NGOs, and the private sector, are actively engaged in addressing both climate change and food security/nutrition (please see Annex F for a full list of the actors included in the above map). The upper-right quadrant, which represents stakeholders with a primary focus on both issues, includes key players such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoA), the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN), and UN agencies like FAO, WFP, UNICEF, and WHO. This highlights a strong convergence of efforts among development agencies and government actors at the intersection of climate resilience and nutrition.

Conversely, a significant cluster of government departments and technical institutions—such as the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), Ministry of Environment (MECCF), and National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)—reside in the top-left quadrant, indicating a predominant focus on climate change. These institutions are likely driving climate data, adaptation, and mitigation efforts but may have limited direct involvement in food or nutrition-related programming. Meanwhile, organizations like Save the Children, Food4Education, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MOLSP) are located in the bottom-right quadrant, signifying a stronger emphasis on food security and nutrition, often without a significant climate change component. This segmentation suggests opportunities for greater cross-sector integration, particularly where nutrition-focused entities could align with climate adaptation strategies to improve outcomes across both domains.

The Kenyan Climate-Nutrition Stakeholder Ecosystem: Influence and Integration Map

Below is a visual interpretation of the climate and nutrition stakeholder ecosystem in Kenya based on roles and positionality related to degree of integration and influence.



The Kenyan stakeholders have been categorized by two dimensions: influence in the nutrition/climate area (high or low), which is defined as the stakeholder's ability to shape, fund, or implement policy and programming at scale; and degree of integration between nutrition and climate change (high or low), which is defined as the extent to which stakeholders have incorporated both nutrition and climate change into their strategic focus, policy agendas, or programming.

High Influence, High Integration

These are the current most critical stakeholders that hold the most potential for pushing forth I-CAN's integration agenda in Kenya. These are the pivotal, system-shaping actors with both decision-making power and a clear orientation toward climate–nutrition integration. Ministries such as Health, Agriculture, and Environment, alongside County Governments, FAO, WFP, International Livestock and Research Institute (ILRI), and CARE, fall in this quadrant. These actors are essential partners for advancing integrated programming and policy coherence. They already demonstrate alignment across the two domains and possess the institutional authority or delivery reach to scale innovations. Sustained engagement, joint strategy development, and investment partnerships with these actors can accelerate systems transformation. They already possess both the authority and the operational focus to drive progress.

High Influence, Low Integration

These stakeholders are influential but have not yet fully integrated nutrition and climate change in their agendas. These actors, who are influential across sectors (finance, development planning, education, and environment) but are not yet leveraging their platforms to connect climate and nutrition, include UNEP, Ministry of Planning, Treasury, IMF, and Ministry of Education. These stakeholders represent opportunities and entry points for climate-nutrition advocacy and policy alignment. Their engagement could significantly amplify system-level impact if they can be encouraged to adopt integrated approaches. They represent strategic advocacy and alignment opportunities. Efforts to raise awareness, provide evidence, and create incentives for integration in this group could unlock significant top-down change, particularly if integration is embedded into cross-sectoral policies and budgets.

Low Influence, High Integration

Stakeholders in this category are supportive of integration but lack systemic power. These are crucial actors for grassroots mobilization, evidence generation, and community-level implementation. They can serve as pressure groups or demonstration hubs for best practices. These actors, including GAIN, SNV, SUN Movement, GEF, TWGs, CSGs, and some NGOs like PATH, are early adopters or champions of integrated approaches and their strength lies in implementation, piloting innovations, and community-level delivery. These actors are valuable for proof-of-concept programming, capacity building, and coalition-building. Strategic support to strengthen their visibility, partnerships, and evidence generation can help them influence more powerful actors and policy fora.

Low Influence, Low Integration

Actors in this quadrant, including SWGs, Devolution Conferences, ASNET Forums, and the CNTF, currently operate with limited strategic integration or systemic influence. While they may still be relevant in sectoral dialogues or as convening platforms, they are not yet significant drivers of integrated action. They may require targeted capacity building, reframing of their agendas, or involvement in coalitions to become more relevant to the integrated climate–nutrition agenda. Their value may lie in long-term engagement and enabling environment reform.

Conclusions and Recommendations

To conclude, we have developed recommendations organized around I-CAN's strategic pillars of policy integration, institutional coordination, financing, monitoring and learning, and stakeholder engagement.

Institutional Coordination

There is a significant opportunity to improve coherence between national strategies and county-level implementation by aligning timelines, indicators, and financing mechanisms with CIDPs. Many Level 4 policies already include detailed implementation frameworks, but they often depend on local execution. We recommend strengthening the alignment between national strategies and county-level implementation, for example, through the alignment of planning cycles, harmonisation of indicators for monitoring and evaluation, and the strengthening of financing mechanisms. Furthermore, we suggest reviewing level 2 and 3 policies to include climate resilience goals, measurable nutrition indicators, joint monitoring systems, and cross-sectoral budget lines. In order to promote harmonization across health, agriculture, and environment sectors, and help link fragmented stakeholder efforts we recommend embedding the I-CAN initiative into existing multisectoral platforms like the CSA MSP. To strengthen multisectoral collaboration, coordination platforms and working groups, such as the SWC and the TWG must be formally institutionalized. We recommend institutionalizing these platforms through policy or legislative frameworks and establishing a high-level coordinating body—such as a national food and nutrition council with legal authority and cross-ministerial reach. This body could provide overarching governance and define sector-specific responsibilities, drawing from models successfully

implemented in countries like Ghana, Zambia, and Rwanda. Key components of this high level coordinating body could include legal anchoring to ensure sustainability and enforceability, government funding to reduce dependence on donor funding and cross-sectoral representation from key ministries of Health, Agriculture, Environment, Planning, Treasury at both national and county levels. The resultant body would facilitate harmonization of policies, strategies, financing mechanisms, and monitoring frameworks for climate-nutrition integration. The establishment of such an institutional framework for coordination would follow a structured legal, policy, and administrative process that involves problem definition and justification through a concept note or policy brief, stakeholder consultations, policy and legal review of existing laws to determine whether the framework can be anchored through regulations, policy, or legislation. Depending on the level of formality needed, a cabinet approved policy paper can be generated or a statutory body via legislation established. Inspiration could be borrowed from the establishment of the National Climate Change Council established under the Climate Change Act of 2016.

Financing

Integration efforts between climate and nutrition in Kenya remain largely project-driven and heavily reliant on external donor funding, rather than being systematically embedded within national or county budgets. Compounding these challenges is the lack of sufficient domestic investment in research, capacity building, and service delivery aligned with climate-nutrition objectives, which further hinders long-term progress. To ensure sustainable financing and strengthen accountability, it is recommended that Kenya **establish dedicated budget lines for climate and nutrition actions, anchored in legal or regulatory frameworks.** Realizing this ambition will also require investment in coordination budgets to support the effective functioning of multi-sector platforms. Key mechanisms to embed such integration could include **incorporating climate–nutrition priorities into statutory budgets—such as through the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)**—and creating joint financing streams by establishing inter-ministerial budget lines or pooled funding mechanisms that align contributions from multilateral donors, the private sector, and public budgets under a unified results framework. Additionally, anchoring these efforts in existing frameworks like the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, the Climate Change Act, County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) would further institutionalize support. Fiscal incentives and co-financing models—such as tax breaks or subsidies for private sector investments in climate-resilient or nutrition-sensitive innovations (e.g., fortified drought-tolerant crops)—should also be explored, alongside improved tools for budget tracking and transparency across ministries.

Furthermore, we recommend aligning donor investments into unified, government-led strategies, in order to reduce fragmentation, enhance the impact of external funding, and increase ownership and long-term resilience. Counties play a critical role in translating national priorities into community-level action, however, for this to happen, CNAPs need to be strengthened with technical, political, and financial support.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

There is widespread absence of shared indicators capable of tracking the effect of climate-related interventions (such as crop diversification or irrigation) on nutrition outcomes. Target setting and tracking are often specific to nutrition outcomes or climate change interventions, but have not been established consistently across integrated efforts. This lack of harmonized metrics is compounded by fragmented or unavailable data, which undermines effective planning, monitoring, and evaluation. In order to better guide decision-making, assess progress, and advocate for policies that reflect the intersectionality of climate resilience and nutritional well-being, we recommend: i) developing a set of cross-sectoral climate–nutrition indicators to help track progress, improve transparency, and support evidence-based policymaking, incorporated across ministries; this national indicators compendium could be embedded into existing frameworks such as the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation

Systems (CIMES) and aligned with existing planning and reporting systems such as the NCCAP,, NAPs, CNAPs, as well as the Kenya's National Statistical System (KNBS) datasets. ii) improve data sharing across sectors by building accessible, linked repositories that can connect meteorological, health, and agricultural datasets. This recommendation could be operationalized through the creation of a centralized data repository or dashboard, accessible across ministries and sectors, that supports real-time data exchange between relevant climate agencies and ministries. These actions can build a stronger foundation for joint planning, advocacy, and learning.

Stakeholder Engagement

Although counties in Kenya are responsible for implementing climate and nutrition-related policies, they often lack the skilled personnel necessary for nutrition-sensitive climate planning. This lack of capacity limits the understanding of the linkages between climate and nutrition which in turn translates into reduced stakeholder engagement into the climate and nutrition arena at sub-national level. We recommend building capacity through education and research, leveraging on the ongoing transition to competency-based education in Kenya to promote the integration of climate and nutrition. Embedding this knowledge in formal education will help develop a workforce capable of addressing the complex, interdisciplinary challenges of climate change and nutrition. Furthermore, investments in applied research, such as economic cost-of-inaction studies, nutrition losses due to climate impacts, or resilience strategies for vulnerable groups, can inform and justify policy reform.
For what concerns the involvement of private sector and civil society, public-private dialogue platforms exist in Kenya, however, their coordination is sporadic and lacks formal structures, limiting their effectiveness. Community-based organizations and grassroots leaders, who are essential for local ownership and sustainability, are not systematically engaged in program planning or delivery, weakening the potential for inclusive and locally responsive solutions. We recommend enhancing participation of community-based organizations and grassroots leaders in program planning or delivery. Furthermore, we suggest increasing awareness of the climate-nutrition nexus at community level, by leveraging digital tools (radio, social media, etc), and at the grassroots level, promoting the cultivation and consumption of climate-resilient traditional crops—through farmer outreach, school gardens, and local extension services. We recommend to promote integration of value chain actors, such as those involved in fortification or processing of climate-resilient crops, into the design and implementation of policies that support both climate resilience and improved nutrition. Furthermore, we suggest promoting the engagement of the private players in multi-stakeholder platforms such as the sector working groups, and public-private dialogues including ASNET. Private actors are also crucial in co-financing and support of localized implementation of integrated climate-nutrition interventions such as community gardens, irrigation, and post-harvest infrastructure as well as leveraging digital platforms, vernacular media, and youth-led campaigns to promote behavior change and awareness of nutritious, climate-smart food options. The other important sector for private player engagement includes their contribution to risk reduction and resilience through products and services such as agricultural insurance, climate-resilient seeds, and livestock vaccines that reduce vulnerability to climate shocks.
In conclusion, advancing climate-nutrition integration in Kenya requires a cohesive institutional architecture, sustainable financing, harmonized monitoring systems, and strengthened inclusive stakeholder engagement. This can be achieved by aligning national and county priorities, legally anchoring coordination platforms, embedding climate-nutrition in planning and budget frameworks, and fostering shared accountability through robust data systems. Strengthening local capacities, formalizing multi-stakeholder collaboration, and incentivizing private sector engagement will be critical to ensuring that integrated actions are sustainable, inclusive, and responsive to the complex challenges at the intersection of climate and nutrition.

ANNEX A: LIST OF REVIEWED DOCUMENTS

Climate Change and Environmental Policies

- National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) (2018-2022)
- National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2015-2030)
- Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017-2026)
- National Strategy on Genetic Resources and Climate Change (2016–2021)
- Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP) (2016-2030)
- Climate Change Finance Policy 2016
- Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) 2020-2030
- Draft National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2023–2027
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
- Ministry of Environment Strategic Plan 2023–2027
- Kenya Forest Policy 2020
- Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) 2023-2027
- Kenya's National Biosafety Authority Strategic Plan (2022–2027)

Nutrition and Health Policies

- Kenya National Nutrition Action Plan (KNAP) (2018-2022)
- Kenya National Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework (2017–2022)
- National School Meals and Nutrition Strategy (2017–2022)
- National Guidelines for Healthy Diets and Physical Activity (2017)
- National Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Policy Guidelines (2013)
- Kenya Nutrition Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) Strategy (2016-2020)
- Kenya Health Sector Strategic Plan (KHSSP) 2018–2023
- Kenya Vision 2030 and the Third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III, 2018–2022) and MTP IV (2023–2027)
- Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Policy 2020–2030

Food Systems and Agriculture Policies

- Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS) (2019-2029)
- Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017–2026)
- National Food Fortification Strategic Plan (2018–2022)
- National Agriculture Policy (NAP) (2021)
- Kenya’s Pathway to Sustainable Food Systems (2021 National Position Paper)

Unavailable Policies

- Draft Kenya National Nutrition Policy 2022–2032
- Kenya National Nutrition Action Plan II (2023–2027)
- National Micronutrient Deficiency Prevention and Control Strategy (2019–2023)
- National Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Policy Guidelines (updated 2021)
- Maternal, Infant, Young Child and Adolescent Nutrition (MIYCAN) Strategy (2020–2025)
- National Biodiversity Coordination Mechanism (NBCM)
- Kenya Wetlands Atlas – 2nd Edition (2021)
- Kenya's Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) 2022
- Guidelines on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) – NEMA, 2022
- Kenya Nutrition ACSM Strategy (2022–2027)

ANNEX B: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTED

Government Entities

- Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) - Climate Change Unit
- Parliamentary Policy expert
- Ministry of Health (MoH) - Nutrition division
- Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP)

Non-Government Organizations

- GIZ
- Mercy Corps
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- Save the Children
- Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

Academic Institutions

- University of Nairobi
- Kenyatta University

Think Tank/Research Institution

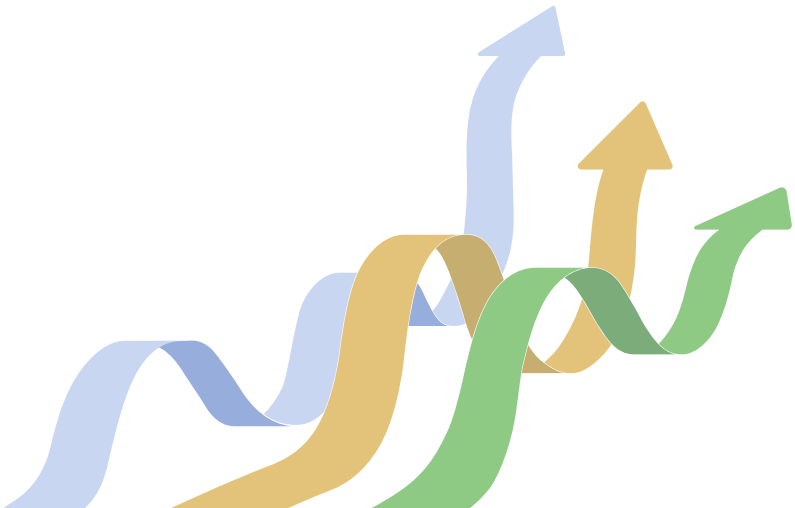
- African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC)
- International Livestock and Research Institute (ILRI)

United Nations Agencies

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Kenya

Private Sector and others

- Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network
- Agriculture Sector Network (ASNET)



ANNEX C: KEYWORD SEARCH PYTHON CODE

```
import pandas as pd
from PyPDF2 import PdfReader
import re
import openpyxl

def clean_text_for_xml(text):
    if text:
        cleaned_text = "".join(char for char in text if ord(char) >= 32 or ord(char) in [9, 10, 13])
        return cleaned_text
return ""

file_names = ['']  # A comma-separated list of the documents to be analysed

keywords = ['']  # A comma-separated list of the keywords to be searched

all_keyword_results = []  # An empty list to store the results

for file_name in file_names:
    print(file_name)  # Print file name for tracking progress
    pdf = PdfReader(open(file_name, 'rb'))

    keyword_pages = {}
    keyword_count = {}
    keyword_sentences = {}

    for keyword in keywords:
        pages = []
        count = 0
        sentences = []

        for page_number in range(len(pdf.pages)):
            page = pdf.pages[page_number]
            text = page.extract_text()
            matches = re.finditer(r"\b(?:{})\b".format(keyword), text, flags=re.IGNORECASE)

            for match in matches:
                count += 1
                sentence_start = text.rfind('.', 0, match.start()) + 1
                sentence_end = text.find('.', match.end())
                sentence = text[sentence_start:sentence_end].strip()
                sentences.append(sentence)

                if page_number + 1 not in pages:
                    pages.append(page_number + 1)

        keyword_pages[keyword] = pages
        keyword_count[keyword] = count
        keyword_sentences[keyword] = sentences

    data = {'Keyword': [], 'Pages': [], 'Total Occurrences': [], 'Sentences': []}  # Convert the results to a pandas DataFrame

    for keyword, pages in keyword_pages.items():
        data['Keyword'].append(keyword)
        data['Pages'].append(', '.join(map(str, pages)) if pages else 'Not found')
        data['Total Occurrences'].append(keyword_count[keyword])
        cleaned_sentences = [clean_text_for_xml(sentence) for sentence in keyword_sentences[keyword]]  # Clean the sentences
before adding them
        data['Sentences'].append('\n'.join(cleaned_sentences))

    df = pd.DataFrame(data)
    df['File Name'] = file_name  # Add the file name as a column
    all_keyword_results.append(df)

combined_results = pd.concat(all_keyword_results, ignore_index=True)  # Concatenate the results for all files into a single
DataFrame
combined_results.to_excel('results.xlsx', index=False)  # Save the combined results to an Excel file
```

ANNEX D: DETAILED POLICY CLASSIFICATION TABLE

Policy	Thematic Classification	Integration Classification
National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) (2018-2022)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2015-2030)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017-2026)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
National Strategy on Genetic Resources and Climate Change (2016–2021)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP) (2016-2030)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Climate Change Finance Policy 2016	Climate and Environmental	Level 2: Some intention to connect climate and nutrition
Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) 2020-2030	Climate and Environmental	Level 2: Some intention to connect climate and nutrition
Draft National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2023–2027	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	Climate and Environmental	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Ministry of Environment Strategic Plan 2023–2027	Climate and Environmental	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Kenya Forest Policy 2020	Climate and Environmental	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP) 2023-2027	Climate and Environmental	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Kenya's National Biosafety Authority Strategic Plan (2022–2027)	Climate and Environmental	Level 3: Intention to mobilise resources to connect climate and nutrition
Kenya National Nutrition Action Plan (KNAP) (2018-2022)	Nutrition and Health	Level 3: Intention to mobilise resources to connect climate and nutrition
Kenya National Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework (2017–2022)	Nutrition and Health	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition

National School Meals and Nutrition Strategy (2017–2022)	Nutrition and Health	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
National Guidelines for Healthy Diets and Physical Activity (2017)	Nutrition and Health	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
National Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Policy Guidelines (2013)	Nutrition and Health	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Kenya Nutrition Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) Strategy (2016-2020)	Nutrition and Health	Level 2: Some intention to connect climate and nutrition
Kenya Health Sector Strategic Plan (KHSSP) 2018–2023	Nutrition and Health	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Kenya Vision 2030 and the Third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III, 2018–2022) and MTP IV (2023–2027)	Nutrition and Health	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Policy 2020–2030	Nutrition and Health	Level 1: No intentional connectedness between climate and nutrition
Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS) (2019-2029)	Food Systems and Agriculture	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (2017–2026)	Food Systems and Agriculture	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
National Food Fortification Strategic Plan (2018–2022)	Food Systems and Agriculture	Level 2: Some intention to connect climate and nutrition
National Agriculture Policy (NAP) (2021)	Food Systems and Agriculture	Level 4: Commitment to mobilising resources and with distinct plans to take action to connect climate and nutrition
Kenya's Pathway to Sustainable Food Systems (2021 National Position Paper)	Food Systems and Agriculture	Level 3: Intention to mobilise resources to connect climate and nutrition

ANNEX E: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE

1. What are the **major effects/manifestations of Climate Change in Kenya** (drought, floods, landslides, rising lake waters, locust infestations, etc.) and how do these effects affect nutrition?

2. Regional variability in nutritional deficiencies and outcomes in Kenya is high. Could you elaborate around **regional variability in nutritional deficiencies and outcomes?** (Focusing on the driving factors behind the differences)

3. What are current concerns around nutrition services for people in Kenya? How are diets currently shifting, what is driving the shifts and how is the government seeking to impact dietary shifts?

4. What are **government's priority areas in combating climate change and improve agricultural productivity** (probe: water management and governance, building adaptation and resilience, promoting mitigation technologies, mainstream CC into national and sub-national budgeting processes, building capacities of sectoral and sub-national line agencies, developing legal frameworks, etc.)?

5. What could be considered **key examples of integration of Climate Change and Nutrition at national level** (i.e. diversifying diets, improving water management, investing in social protection, promoting CSA, strengthening the health system, increasing resilience, reducing GHG, etc)? Are you aware of specific Counties implementing climate-smart agriculture and community-based nutrition programs in tandem? (which are these Counties and what sort of integrated programs do they implement?)

6. Where/in what areas do you think the **integration of CC and nutrition is currently weak or presents some margins for improvement in Kenya?** (i.e. diversifying diets, improving water management, investing in social protection, promoting CSA, strengthening the health system, increasing resilience, reducing GHG, etc)?

7. Is your organization involved in **thematic and programmatic activities related to climate-nutrition integration?** If so, could you expand on these activities (what areas do you focus on? diversifying diets, improving water management, investing in social protection, promoting CSA, strengthening the health system, increasing resilience, reducing GHG, etc)? What is the sort of support that your organization brings to the integration of climate change and nutrition?

8. To your knowledge, to **what extent is climate factored into food procurement decisions for food in public settings** (e.g., school meals and school feeding, health and care facilities), as well as safety nets and emergency programs?

9. Who are the key actors and institutions (government bodies, donors, civil society) in championing the climate-nutrition linkages that you are aware of? Describe any existing cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms

10. Describe **the gaps and challenges in strengthening the climate-nutrition nexus within the identified relevant policy frameworks in Kenya at national level and county level?** (Probe for Missing or outdated policies, reasons behind lack of implementation or enforcement, coordination and coherence issues, gaps in financing, data, or stakeholder inclusion)

11. Can you please share some **examples of success stories where policy interventions and reforms have promoted integrated climate and nutrition actions?**

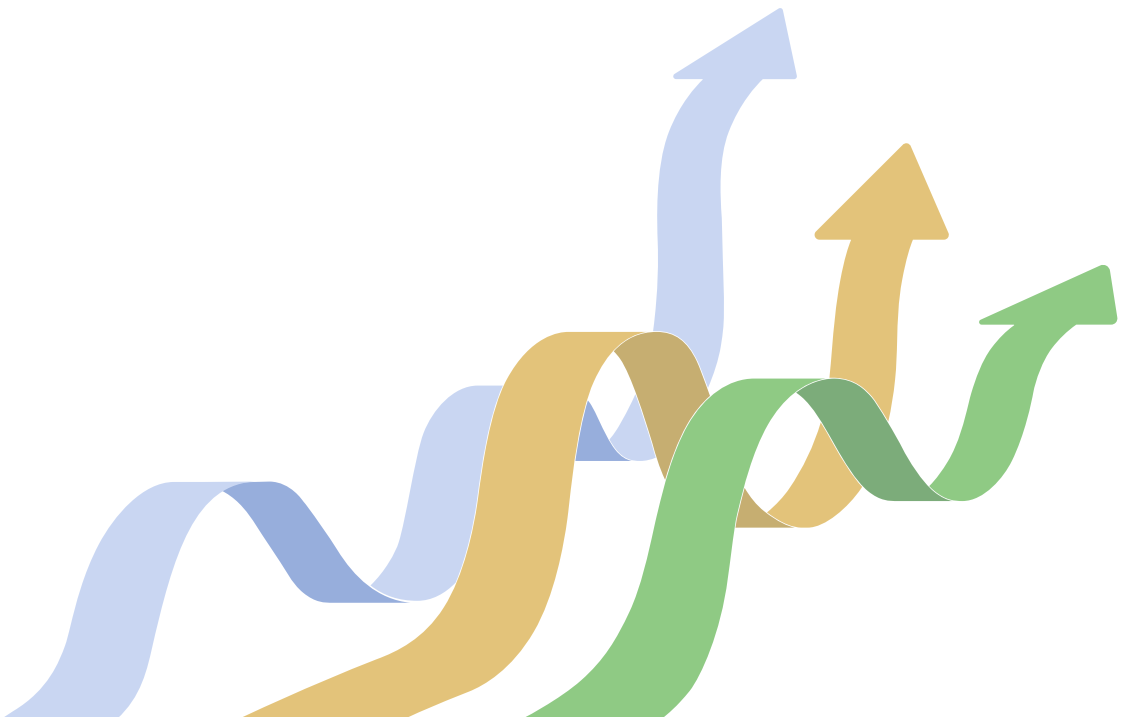
12. Where do you see the **most promising policy opportunities and entry points for strengthening the climate action-nutrition linkages?** (Probe for potential synergies with donor and development partner initiatives, opportunities for alignment, integration, sequencing and layering).

ANNEX F: STAKEHOLDER MAP LABELS

Stakeholder Name	Map Label
COMMUNITY	
Community Based Organizations	CBOs
Local community stakeholders	Community
GOVERNMENT ENTITY	
Council of Governors	COG
County Steering Group	CSG
Kenya Medical Training College	KMTC
Kenya Meteorological Department	KMD
Kenya Parliament	Parliament
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development	MoA
Ministry of Education	MoE
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry	MECCF
Ministry of Health	MoH
Ministry of Labour and Social Protection	MOLSP
Ministry of Lands	MoL
National Drought Management Authority	NDMA
The National Treasury of Kenya	Treasury
MULTILATERAL BANKS	
African Development Bank	ADB
International Monetary Fund	IMF
World Bank	World Bank
NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION	
Catholic Relief Services	CRS
ChildFund Kenya	ChildFund

Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme	CAADP
Food4Education	Food4Edu
German Agency for International Cooperation	GIZ
Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition	GAIN
Green Africa Foundation	Green Africa
Green Climate Fund	GCF
Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition	I-CAN
International Livestock and Research Institute	ILRI
KickStart International	KickStart
Save the Children	Save the Children
PRIVATE SECTOR	
African Women Entrepreneurship Programme	AWEP
Agriculture Sector Network	ASNET
Bidco Africa	Bidco
Dow	Dow
Kenya Climate Innovation Center	KCIC
Kenya Private Sector Alliance	KEPSA
National Potato Council of Kenya	NPCK
THINK TANK/RESEARCH INSTITUTION	
African Population and Health Research Center	APHRC
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics	ICRISTAT
International Potato Center	CIP
Jomo Kenyatta University Of Agriculture And Technology	JKUAT
Kenya Medical Research Institute	KEMRI
Kenyatta University	KU

University of Nairobi - Agriculture Department	UoN - Ag Dept
University of Nairobi - Earth Science Department	UoN - Earth Sci Dept
UN AGENCIES	
Food and Agriculture Organization	FAO
UNICEF	UNICEF
World Food Programme	WFP
World Health Organization	WHO



ANNEX G: SOURCES CITED

Fanzo, Jessica, Namukolo Covic, Shenggen Fan, Lawrence Haddad, and Corinna Hawkes. 2020. "Climate Change and Nutrition: A Narrative Review of the Impact on Food Systems." Lancet Planetary Health 4(9): e318–e326. **https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(20)30177-6.**

Global Health Index (n.d.) Kenya. Accessed from **https://www.globalhungerindex.org/kenya.html.**

Harris, Jennifer, Stephanie Swinburn, and Boyd Swinburn. 2021. "The Silo Effect: Barriers to Addressing Climate Change and Nutrition Together." Global Food Security 29: 100538. **https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2021.100538.**

Kimani-Murage, Elizabeth W., Laura E. Kyobutungi, Blessing Mberu, Catherine M. Ettarh, and Nyovani J. Madise. 2015. "Trends and Determinants of Stunting, Wasting, and Overweight among Children in Kenya." Maternal and Child Nutrition 11(3): 258–276. **https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12154.**

Lakew, Yihunie, Abera Kumie, and Jan H. G. M. van der Meer. 2021. "Climate Change and Food Security in Africa: The Role of Drought and Flooding." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 18, no. 4: 1824. **https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18041824.**

Myers, Samuel S., Zanobetti, Antonella, Kloog, Itai, Huybers, Peter, Leakey, Andrew D. B., Bloom, Arnold J., Carlisle, Eliott, et al. 2014. "Increasing CO_2 Threatens Human Nutrition." Nature 510(7503): 139–142. **https://doi.org/10.1038/nature13179**

Omondi, Peter A., and Julius O. Akinyi. 2021. "Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity in Kenya's Agriculture Sector." Environmental Science & Policy 120: 9–19. **https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2021.02.001.**

Thorne-Lyman, Andrew L., and Wafaie W. Fawzi. 2012. "Nutrition and Infections Disease Risk: A Review of the Relationship between Undernutrition and Infectious Diseases." Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal 31(1): 87–96. **https://doi.org/10.1097/INF.0b013e31826f37a3.**