

Where ‘*Voices Unheard*’ Fits in the EU Delegation to Kenya Action on Climate Adaptation and Youth Inclusion.

Our key recommendations:

- **Anchor implementation** of the Global Gateway Investment Package and the MIP in Kenya in the commitments in the Joint Vision for 2030, notably on climate resilience and the inclusion of women, youth and the most disadvantaged, and reflect the external dimension of the EU Climate Adaptation Strategy.
 - **Within Priority 1**, while current support to climate resilience in climate-affected areas is welcome, available project information suggests a stronger emphasis on drought management (see Part 3) and rural areas. In light of the 2024 floods, the Delegation could consider strengthening programming and visibility on flood risk reduction and preparedness, including in dense urban settings such as Kibera.
 - **Within Priority 2**, we welcome ongoing efforts on housing, slum upgrading and WASH. To ensure the most vulnerable informal settlements benefit from these interventions, the Delegation could consider explicitly including Kibera within relevant intervention areas and partnerships.
 - **Improve transparency and accessibility of information** on EU and Team Europe projects in Kenya. The EU Delegation website currently showcases a limited number of projects; enhancing the public overview, ensuring Team Europe Explorer is updated beyond 2023, and encouraging Member States to share more complete project details would support accountability and facilitate coordination with local actors.
1. Commitments of the EU related to action in Kenya and on the green transition and climate adaptation

Several commitments made by the EU support the objectives sought by *Voices Unheard* to support marginalised youth in Kibera to build resilience against climate disasters and inclusion in climate governance.

First, the EU action in Africa is guided by the African Union–European Union partnership. In 2022, the 6th AU–EU Summit resulted in the Joint Vision for 2030.¹ It

¹ https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/54412/final_declaration-en.pdf

announced a €150bn investment package, with the Global Gateway Investment Plan, to support common ambition between the EU and the AU for 2030 which includes: “the security and prosperity of our citizens, the protection of human rights for all, gender equality and women's empowerment in all spheres of life, respect for democratic principles, good governance and the rule of law, actions to preserve the climate, environment and biodiversity, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, the fight against inequalities, support for children's rights, and the inclusion of women, young people and the most disadvantaged”; as well as the AU Agenda 2063.

Further, the document states that the Investment Package will scale up sustainable investments, delivered through Team Europe initiatives (EU institutions and Member States), across seven priorities: (1) energy, transport and digital infrastructure; (2) a fair energy transition and access to electricity; (3) green transition, including support for NDCs and NAPs under the Paris Agreement (mitigation and adaptation); (4) digital transformation and trusted connectivity; (5) sustainable growth and decent jobs, including youth-owned businesses; (6) transport facilitation and efficient connected networks; and (7) human development, notably student and graduate mobility and employability.

Information on DG INTPA's website details the EU-Africa: Global Gateway Investment Package. There will be up to €150 billion of investments in 5 areas: green transition; digital transition; sustainable growth and decent job creation; strengthening health systems; education and training.² Under green transition, four sub-areas are identified: sustainable energy, biodiversity, agri-food systems, and climate resilience and disaster risk reduction. In this latter area, the European Commission's website specifies that “Africa is particularly vulnerable to extreme impacts of climate change, which threatens to undo decades of economic progress and development. The Investment Package is contributing to building resilience by supporting disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and supporting recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and strengthening governance to manage disaster risk. The ambition by 2030 is to enhance the capacity of partner countries to adapt to climate change and substantially reduce disaster risk.”³

Second, the EU has committed, with the EU Climate adaptation Strategy (2021), to become a climate-resilient society, fully adapted to the unavoidable impacts of climate change by 2050. The strategy includes an important external aspect. It calls for adaptation to be smarter, more systemic, swifter, and more international. In making adaptation more international, the strategy emphasises solidarity with vulnerable

² https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway/initiatives-sub-saharan-africa/eu-africa-global-gateway-investment-package_en

³ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway/initiatives-sub-saharan-africa/eu-africa-global-gateway-investment-package_en

regions, in particular Africa and Small Island Developing States, through increased climate finance and strengthened cooperation on adaptation planning and capacity-building.

2. How does the Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 of the EU Delegation to Kenya align with *Voices Unheard's* priorities?

The EU Delegation to Kenya is guided by the Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021–2027.⁴ It identified three priority areas: 1) Green transition – environmental sustainability and resilience; 2) Leave no one behind – human development and digital inclusion 3) Democratic governance, peace and stability.

Priority 1 is allocated €147 million for 2021–2024 and €75 million for 2025–2027, for a total of €222 million. Priority 2 is allocated €83.5 million for 2021–2024 and €69 million for 2025–2027, for a total of €152.5 million.

Within priority 1, three sectors are targeted, 1) natural capital and resilience, 2) green economy, and 3) sustainable business and sustainable energy. The first one seeks the specific objectives of “Sustainable and efficient management of natural capital and biodiversity conservation, including improved resilience of vulnerable populations in climate-affected areas”. It acknowledges that “[c]limate change is reducing natural capital and decreasing yield, causing greater shocks and recurring natural disasters, whether droughts, floods, or pests. These have impacts at a human level through poverty, malnutrition and conflict.” (p.6)

To tackle this, Team Europe will invest in sustainable use and management of natural resources such as conservation, sustainable agriculture, sustainable land use. The expected results are broader resilience-building among the most vulnerable populations in Kenya, targeting in particular those living in the Arid and Semi-arid Land and refugee populations, and applying a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach. Kenya’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will be supported through mitigation (greening and reforestation interventions, improved soil management, agro-forestry and climate smart agriculture approaches) and adaptation, through resilience and livelihoods investments in climate-change affected areas.

Importantly, priority 1 underlines the role of civil society in policy development and implementation through the grant support. Inclusion of civil society will contribute to mainstream women and youth empowerment across all sectors, as well as to the social dialogue.

⁴ https://www.ecas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/mip-2021-c2021-9088-kenya-annex_en.pdf

Five expected results are drawn out of which one is deemed relevant for VUPK focus:

- 1.1.b: Vulnerable populations have improved preparedness and resilience to climate shocks and livelihood challenges.

Policy development for this expected result is measured by two indicators:

- 1.1.b1. Number of people / communities benefiting from increased resilience to various types of risks and shocks, including climate-related ones, as a result of EU support, disaggregated by sex (Own).
- 1.1.b2. Number of women of reproductive age, adolescent girls and children under 5 reached by nutrition related interventions supported by the EU (EURF 27)

Within priority 2, Leave no one behind – human development and digital inclusion, three sectors are targeted 1) Education and skills for employment 2) Empowering women and youth 3) Inclusive and resilient urbanisation.

Sector 2.1 seeks the specific objective of “Improved education and skills for employment results in new decent job opportunities.” It highlights that the lack of decent job opportunities remains a key challenge, with youth, women, marginalised groups, victims of crisis and residents of isolated areas too often lacking the skills to participate in an increasingly digital economy. To address this, Team Europe will strengthen the relevance and accessibility of training (TVET).

Sector 2.2 seeks the specific objective of “Enhanced human rights for women and youth, including democratic participation and representation, sexual and reproductive health (SRHR), and reduced gender-based violence.” It notes deficits in access to opportunities, representation and participation for youth and women, and persistent challenges including discriminatory norms, gender-based violence, and setbacks during Covid-19, including a rise in teenage pregnancies that underlines the need to strengthen sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The EU, through a Team Europe approach, will support improved access to quality youth-friendly SRH services and information, strengthen measures for women and youth participation in politics and decision-making, and support actions to eliminate gender-based violence (GBV) and other harmful practices, while applying a rights-based approach and due consideration to vulnerable groups.

Sector 2.3 seeks the specific objective of “Improved living conditions of the most vulnerable households via access to adequate social green housing, upgraded social infrastructure and improved urban mobility.” It links rapid urbanisation to overcrowded slums and a large deficit in adequate and affordable housing, and points to inefficient public transportation that limits access to jobs, alongside congestion and pollution. The

EU will scale up adequate social housing (including owner and community-led approaches), promote inclusive land tenure security, and support participatory slum upgrading including educational facilities, water and sanitation in densely populated settlements. It also foresees support to more efficient and green urban mobility in Nairobi, including the mainstreaming of renewably-sourced electric buses and non-motorised transport.

Importantly, priority area 2 recognises the role of civil society in supporting participation in decision-making at national and county level, promoting SRHR and gender equality, strengthening public accountability, and monitoring the decent work agenda.

Six expected results are set out. For VUPK, the most directly relevant are:

- 2.2b: Women and youth are empowered to participate in politics and decision-making processes at national and county levels, including to take on a leadership
- 2.3a: Improved human development of poorest households through increased access to affordable, social, green housing and to social services.

These are measured by two indicators:

- 2.2.b1. Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliament and (b) local governments, and by youth (18-35 year) in (c) national parliament and (d) local governments (GAP III/ SDG 5.5.1 + added youth)
- 2.2.b2. Number of grassroots civil society organisations engaged in (a) women participation and decision-making (b) youth participation and decision-making (c) at national level and (d) at local level, benefitting from EU support (EURF 38+ added decision-making and national/local level)
- 2.3.a Number of people who consider their quality of life improved due to upgraded slums funded by the intervention (SDG 11).

The MIP mentions two Team Europe Initiatives, one pursuing the Green Deal, the other on Human-Centred Digitalisation.

The TEI Green Deal is supported by 14 Member States, European Development Finance Institutions (AFD, KfW, FMO) and the EIB. EU contribution to TEI Green Deal over 2021-2024 is estimated to €188 million. While the TEI is focusing largely on Priority area 1, all priority areas are relevant.

The TEI creates opportunities in improved livelihoods (agriculture); climate and environmental impacts are addressed by building resilience, preserving natural capital, promoting nature-based solutions.

Five areas have been identified: circular economy, climate smart and sustainable agriculture value chains, renewable and accessible energy, natural capital and biodiversity, and sustainable urbanisation and infrastructure. In the latter which is key to our project it refers to targeting urban transportation, sustainable urban planning, social and green housing supply chains, slum-upgrading, water and sanitation and, waste management, building on circularity approaches.

On measures in support of civil society, the MIP will contribute to two objectives: 1) supporting an environment enabling civil society organisations and 2) increasing civil society participation engagement, and oversight in governance processes.

Five activities are mentioned, but three are key for VUPK:

- Establish a structured dialogue with civil society on priority areas of EU-Kenya cooperation and, when relevant, support national and county-level consultation, transparency and accountability mechanisms;
- Capacity building and promotion of sustainable resourcing for civil society organisations;
- Deliver targeted small-scale support to Civil Society Organisation (CSOs) in sectors of strategic interest for EU-Kenya relations, i.e. in culture, sports, civic engagement, community-based initiatives, etc. as a means to engage disenfranchised youth and other marginalised groups, and to promote EU fundamental values and the exchange and partnership between the EU and Kenya.

3. What projects are concretely taking place on the ground and do they reflect commitments made by the EU?

In Kenya, Team Europe supports over 150 projects worth €3.47 billion, focused on the green transition, electric urban mobility and hydrogen. The EU specifically allocated €324 million in grant funding over 2021 to 2024⁵⁶ and €167 million over 2025 to 2027.⁷⁸ Team Europe projects support the Government of Kenya to implement priorities and objectives identified by the Government of Kenya in its Vision 2030, through Kenya's Medium-term Plan (MTP⁹).¹⁰

A search of ongoing projects was made but remains difficult because information is scattered across different websites and often incomplete.

⁵ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/countries/kenya_en

⁶ Out of which 45% or €147 million is allocated to Priority area 1: Green Transition - Environmental Sustainability & Resilience

⁷ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/document/download/10d4ba3f-ee66-426e-8c60-bcd89b09fd11_en?filename=ad-mip-2024-c2024-7502-sub-saharan-africa-annex_en.pdf

⁸ Out of which 45% or €75 million is allocated to Priority area 1.

⁹ Currently the [MTV IV \(2023-2027\)](#)

¹⁰ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/kenya/who-we-are_en?s=352

First, [Capacity4Dev](#), a website managed by DG INTPA provides additional details on the Team Europe Initiatives in Kenya, on Digital transformation¹¹ and on Green transition¹². For TEI Green Deal, under the area of sustainable urbanisation and infrastructure, two key deliverables are highlighted:

- Participatory slum upgrading and green low-cost housing, through the EU-KE-UN Partnership Implementing the New Urban Agenda
- Water and sanitation in Nairobi, Mombasa, and Lake Victoria

Second, the website of the EU Delegation to Kenya is unfortunately not up-to-date and provides very limited information. It only showcases 4 projects:¹³

- Reinforcement of the Electricity Transmission Network (RETN), strengthening the national grid to better integrate renewables, reduce losses and blackouts, and improve service.
- Green Resilient Electricity System (GRES), resilient energy infrastructure development, including hydropower and geothermal power, grid expansion and modernisation.
- ElectriFi (Kenya Country Window), helping provide clean energy to families, schools and small businesses.
- Region Programme Biodiversité, seemingly outdated (2017), supporting coastal, marine and island biodiversity management.

Third, the Commission's International Partnerships website provides a Global Gateway search tool to explore projects implemented worldwide.¹⁴ In Kenya, the Global Gateway map shows one project: Construction of a Bus Rapid Transit system in Nairobi, a 12.4 km clean BRT Line 3.

The same website also allows searching projects in the five specific areas of partnerships. Under energy and climate, 5 projects appear:¹⁵

1. A dam project in Mombasa
2. Modernisation of the Olkaria geothermal power plant
3. A project on the coffee production value chain in Kenya and other East African countries
4. A Polish project for biogas technology in agriculture in Kenya and Rwanda
5. An interconnector between Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya

Fourth, to have a holistic and exhaustive view of the projects funded by the EU and Member States in Kenya, the Team Europe Explorer tool was used. Available data is

¹¹ <https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/media/251322/download/8d8a30f5-0e62-48b7-8dd0-865b08c5f621>

¹² <https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/media/251321/download/71e33923-edb9-46ad-bf35-68d7d51eb760>

¹³ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya/green-resilient-electricity-system-gres-programme_en?s=352

¹⁴ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway_en

¹⁵ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway/climate-and-energy_en?P%5B0%5D=countries_countries_multiple_%3Ahttp%3A//publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/country/KEN#oe-list-page-filters-anchor

from 2011 to 2023, period during which the Commission disbursed €1.45 billion, and Team Europe as a whole €3.56 billion. A key limitation is that Member States do not report which sector or priority their projects contribute to, contrary to the EU institutions.

A search was made for projects funded under the current MIP timeline, as of 2021. Since projects reported stop at 2023, three years are available 2021 2022 and 2023. Over this period, Commission disbursed 319 700 023 euros in 138 projects. The following projects were identified between 2021-2027 depending on the sector filter used.

- Climate resilience programming appears heavily skewed toward drought management in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). In the projects identified, we did not find a dedicated project focused specifically on flood preparedness.
- The TEI Green Deal is promising for Kibera-relevant needs (slum upgrading, housing, sanitation). However, it is difficult to track actual disbursements: several entries remain at commitment stage (for example, €7.1 million is still reported as commitments). This is far below the estimated €188 million EU contribution to the TEI Green Deal for 2021–2024, which suggests that current public project listings provide only a partial picture.
- Search scope. The sector filters used were selected because they map most directly onto Priority 1 and Priority 2 of the MIP:
 - Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Multi-hazard response preparedness
 - Agricultural water resources
 - Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation
 - Water supply and sanitation: large systems
 - Water sector policy and administrative management
 - Urban development and management
 - Low-cost housing
 - Environmental policy and administrative management
 - Democratic participation and civil society (youth inclusion, governance, accountability)

Across the projects captured through this search, the total amount identified is €30.65 million. This remains small compared to the MIP allocations for 2021–2024: €147 million under Priority 1 and €83.5 million under Priority 2, highlighting that the dataset available online is incomplete and that additional tracking is needed to identify where, and how, funding reaches informal settlements.

Sector and number of projects	Description	SDG	COM participation	Year of disbursement	Overall total
Agricultural water resources (2)	Ending drought emergencies through climate-proofed infrastructure for improved water supply and sanitation in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. Implemented by DANIDA.	SDG 6	€32,725	2021-2023	€12.7m
Agricultural water resources (2)	Technical support programme linked to the same ASAL project. Implemented by DANIDA.	SDG 6	€70,525	2021-2022	€2.5m
Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation (3)	Improve affordable, sustainable and formalised water services in Nairobi and surrounding areas; contributes to poverty reduction. Implemented by KfW.	SDG 6	€235,000	2021	€4.9m
Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation (3)	Enhance resilience to drought and other climate impacts in ASAL counties; strengthen preparedness, partnerships and NDMA capacity. Implemented by JAMHURIYA KENYA.	SDG 1	€1,050,000	2023	€11.5m
Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation (3)	Demonstrate and upscale an innovative sanitation value chain for (peri-)urban low-income areas in Nakuru County. Implemented by VEI BV.	SDG 6	€28,700	2021-2023	€1.08m
Disaster Risk Reduction (1)	Provide material relief assistance and services (shelter, WASH, education, health, medicines, malnutrition management, cash/vouchers), including refugees and IDPs. Implemented by Handicap International Federation.	SDG 1, 4	€250,000	2022	€1.25m
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	Multi-hazard emergency response (ECHO). Implemented by British Red Cross Society (Royal Charter).	SDG 1, 13	€1.04m	2021-2023	€1.25m
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	Multi-hazard emergency response (ECHO). Implemented by Stichting Terre des Hommes Nederland.	SDG 1, 5	€140,000	2022	€700,000

Sector and number of projects	Description	SDG	COM participation	Year of disbursement	Overall total
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	Multi-hazard emergency response (ECHO). Implemented by Finnish Red Cross.	SDG 13	€1.2m	2023	€1.2m
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	Support to drought management and coordination (EDE). Implemented by National Drought Management Authority (NDMA).	SDG 1	€1.9m	2021-2023	€28.6m
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	TEI Green Deal. Promote greener, more inclusive and resilient urbanisation and rural development (urban mobility, slum upgrading and drought resilience), including PINUA, KISIP-2 and DCADR.	SDG 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15	€7.1m commitments	Not specified	Not specified
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	TEI Green Deal part under GN Global commitment. Enhance resilience to drought and other climate change effects in ASALs (preparedness, partnerships, NDMA capacity). Implemented by JAMHURIYA KENYA (Republic of Kenya).	SDG 1	€2.1m	2023	€11.5m
Multi-hazard response preparedness (7)	Support resilient livelihoods and drought risk management under the EDE programme. Implemented by COWATER International.	SDG 1	€123 768	2022-2023	€30.5m
Water supply and sanitation – large systems (1)	Improve climate-proofed water supply and sanitation infrastructure and maintenance in ASALs via coordinated action at national, county and community levels. Implemented by Water Sector Trust Fund (Registered Trustees).	SDG 6	€7.4m	2021-2023	€12.7m
Water sector policy and administrative management (1)	Enhance productivity of water sources and resilience to climate change to support poverty reduction. Implemented by Apex Communications Limited (APEX Porter Novelli APN).	SDG 6	€36.17k	2021-2022	€7.8m
Urban development and	Team Europe Initiative Green Deal package (as above).	SDG 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15	€40.5m committed	Not specified	Not specified

Sector and number of projects	Description	SDG	COM participation	Year of disbursement	Overall total
management (4)					
Urban development and management (4)	Green Deal EU Kenya part under GN global commitment. Improve access to basic services and tenure security in informal settlements and strengthen institutional capacity for slum upgrading (KISIP-2). Implemented by Agence Française de Développement (AFD).	SDG 5, 11	€4.75m	2023	€11.5m
Urban development and management (4)	Bus Rapid Transit Line 3 in Nairobi. Implemented by Not specified.	SDG 11	€420,000	2022	€1m
Urban development and management (4)	Promote delivery of green affordable housing while minimising fiscal burden on government (trust fund). Implemented by International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.	SDG 5, 11	€3.75m	2021-2022	Not specified
Low-cost housing (2)	Team Europe Initiative Green Deal package (as above).	SDG 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15	€7.1m commitment	2022	Not specified
Low-cost housing (2)	Partnership Implementing the New Urban Agenda (UN-Habitat) under TEI Green Deal. Implemented by United Nations (UN-Habitat).	SDG 1	€1.85m	2023	€11.5m
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Increase participation and collaboration between grassroots and national actors for the benefit of vulnerable communities. Implemented by KIOS Foundation for Human Rights (KIOS SR).	SDG 17	€1.3m	Not specified	Not specified
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Support CSOs as actors of governance and development in partner countries. Implemented by International Solidarity Foundation.	SDG 17	€1.3m	Not specified	Not specified
Democratic participation	Support CSOs as actors of governance and development (CSO-LA Thematic	SDG 5, 17	€370,000	Not specified	€113m (worldwide)

Sector and number of projects	Description	SDG	COM participation	Year of disbursement	Overall total
and civil society (7)	Programme, MAAP 2018-2020, Action Document No 2). Implemented by Handicap International Federation.				
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Support constitutional commissions and civic education via UNDP basket fund (in the run-up to the 2022 General Elections). Implemented by UNDP.	SDG 5, 16	€1.17m	2021-2023	€4.7m
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Kenya Safe and Inclusive Digital Space (KENSAFESPACE). Implemented by Not specified.	SDG 16	Not specified	2023	Not specified
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Kenya's Trust Lab: securing truth and strengthening civic space. Implemented by Not specified.	SDG 16	Not specified	2023	Not specified
Democratic participation and civil society (7)	Co-finance production and broadcast of season 2 of TV series "Ms President". Implemented by Media Focus on Africa Foundation Limited.	SDG 5, 16	€135,000	Not specified	Not specified