



KCIC at A Glance



Origin & History

Climate change is one of the biggest developmental challenges of our generation. Addressing the climate crisis requires innovation in multiple areas including partnerships, finance, entrepreneurship, technology, and policy development.

The Kenya Climate Innovation Center (KCIC) was set up as part of the World Bank's infoDev initiative and was the first in a global network of Climate Innovation Centers (CICs) launched by infoDev's Climate Technology Program (CTP) to support the development and scale up of locally relevant climate technologies.

The concept of CICs was intended to transform the threat of climate change into an agent of technology innovation, helping to tackle both global warming and sustainable development challenges in the developing world.

KCIC was launched On September 26, 2012, with the objective of boosting locally sourced green technologies in the African region.

KCIC provides incubation, acceleration, capacity-building, and innovative financing to Kenyan entrepreneurs developing innovative solutions in renewable energy and energy efficiency, water management, agribusiness, waste management, and commercial forestry in a bid to address climate change challenges.



KCIC has supported over 3,000 Small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) with a focus on women and youth-led climate smart enterprises in Kenya and beyond. We have subsequently created over 39,500 direct and indirect full time jobs. Our commercialization rate stands at 67%.

The Journey So Far



World Bank InfoDev Initiative funded by UKAid and DANIDA. Implemented as a project by a consortium of partners.

2012-2014



Registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee. Follow on funding from DANIDA to support green technologies and innovative business models.

2015-2019



Transitioning to a Market Leader. Specialized support under incubation & acceleration services. Sustainability of KCIC, services across all climate change solutions, expansion to counties.

2020-2025



Increased commercialization & scale-up of green technologies. Expansion to other countries. Support to 12,000 new green businesses, and the creation of 72,000 jobs. Sustainability of KCIC.

2025-2030



What We Do

KCIC offers incubation, acceleration, capacity building and innovative financing options to new, small and medium business ventures and Kenyan entrepreneurs that are developing innovations to address the challenges of climate change.

We provide holistic and country-driven support to accelerate the development, deployment and transfer of locally relevant climate technologies.

Our daily mission is to provide business support, financing, and awareness creation to empower the private sector to deliver innovative climate change solutions. We also provide strategic direction on matters policy, advocacy, and sustainable development.

Key Goals and Delivery Areas

- Building innovation capacity through the provision of **capacity building**, mentorship, and training products.
- Providing **access to facilities** that support business development through co-working, networking and technical development for rapid design, adaptation, proto-typing, testing and manufacturing.
- Providing flexible **financing mechanisms** that support entrepreneurs and new ventures at varying levels of innovation and scale up.
- Identifying and unlocking new opportunities through **access to information** and market intelligence for our clients.
- Developing **policies** and enabling collaboration and partnerships that support an innovation environment in East Africa.

KCIC Focus Areas



KCIC’s mission and goals are delivered through a range of services and programmes with a focus on five main thematic areas.

Cumulatively through these thematic areas, KCIC contributes towards the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals.



Agribusiness

KCIC is stimulating the Agricultural sector by promoting the development of new climate smart agriculture technologies and practices that can be implemented on a commercial scale, and work towards increasing food security.



Waste Management

Poor waste management is a major environmental and health concern in many urban and rural areas in Kenya. KCIC supports enterprises that come up with technologies and innovations in recycling, disposal, and management of different waste products.



Renewable Energy

Petroleum accounts for 22%, while electricity is at 9%. Only 14-16% of Kenyan households are connected to the grid. KCIC is supporting initiatives towards low greenhouse gas emissions development pathway by harnessing the abundant renewable energy resources in the country.



Commercial Forestry

Kenya’s forest cover as of 2021 stands at 7.2% according to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. KCIC is supporting innovations that bridge the wood-gap through responsible forestry harvesting, afforestation, and re-afforestation.



Water

Kenya is classified as a water scarce country. Drought and urban migration has placed increased strain in water resources. KCIC aims to ensure availability of clean and safe drinking water by supporting entrepreneurs developing solutions in this sector.

Our Programmes

KCIC develops and implements various programmes across its thematic areas. It also has several short-term programmes including an annual Climate Launchpad, circular design and cleantech competitions.

Its main programmes include the following:



AGRIBIZ

This programme aims at creating sustainable job opportunities for youth and women in agriculture value chains in Kenya. Funded by the European Union and DANIDA, the programme's objectives are achieved through the promotion of sustainable exploitation of the natural resources base by encouraging appropriate agribusinesses practices, and by addressing major hurdles blocking youth and women entrepreneurship in agribusinesses. The programme targets to support 2,400 youth and women-led agribusinesses and create 20,000 decent jobs.



GREENBIZ

The programme has a specific focus on climate technologies and related innovative business models. The programme aims at supporting 300 businesses to create over 3,000 full time job opportunities.

The expected outcome is increased commercialisation and scale up of climate related companies, which create decent jobs, increased access to low carbon energy sources, increased community and household resilience to climate change as well as other environmental and social benefits.



PUSE

Through the support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, KCIC is implementing a two-year (2023-2024) pilot programme dubbed "Productive Use of Solar Energy" in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. The programme aims at enhancing access to Productive Use of Solar Energy (PUSE) in key agricultural value-chains in the target countries. The programme targets supporting 30 businesses to create over 160 full time job opportunities.

Highlight of Supported Enterprises

These are a few of some of the enterprises that have significantly grown as a result of KCIC support. KCIC has supported the businesses in different stages of growth, from ideation, early stage, growth stage, and scale-up.



Outcomes & Impact



2,743 SMEs Incubated, with a 67% rate of commercialization.



473,732 tonnes of CO2 mitigated as a result of our interventions.



39,547 Jobs Created, with 56% being women.



USD 83 Million Generated in Revenue by supported enterprises.



USD 63 Million Leveraged for supported enterprises



713,500 customers reached by supported enterprises.



Changing the Narrative

With increased global concern for international climate emergency, urgent action is needed to keep global warming below 2°C when compared to pre - industrial levels and drastically reduce greenhouse emissions. Africa has felt the “heat” of climate change and its effects are expected to be compounded if the emissions gap is not closed.

At KCIC, we see climate change as an opportunity. The growing trend of SMEs particularly those led by youth and women engaged in climate change awareness activities within their respective communities is an opportunity. It can be leveraged to build their capacity and enable them to create sustainable livelihoods through skills development and entrepreneurial activity. We are enhancing the capacity of these SMEs to create a sustainable cycle of job creation and economic growth.

While KCIC remains a pioneering force in driving climate innovation and sustainable development, it has not been able to absorb all the promising enterprises in the climate space that express interest to receive support. On average, only 10% of applicants are absorbed into our various programmes. There is a huge untapped potential in these promising enterprises.

KCIC can accomplish more with additional support and strategic partnerships. This can take the form of financial and development partnerships, implementing partnerships, knowledge partnerships, institutional support, among others.

Be Part of the Next Phase of KCIC

Our belief is that together, we can build a resilient future and secure a sustainable planet for all. KCIC has set out an ambitious plan up to year 2030 to achieve the outcome of increased commercialization and scale-up of locally relevant climate technologies, with the following targets:

Target #1: To support the creation of 72,000 full-time equivalent jobs through KCIC's clients.

Target #2: To support 12,000 new green businesses to complete incubation, acceleration programme in the five thematic sectors (Water Management, Renewable Energy, Agri-business, Waste Management, and Commercial Forestry)

Target #3: To mitigate 1,200,000 tCO2e from different low-carbon products sold to customers by KCIC supported enterprises.

Based on KCIC's existing and future programs /projects, we welcome the involvement and support of partners to help us actualize our continued impact within the clean-tech sector while contributing towards the global concerted efforts to combat climate change.

Existing Partner Network



Key Contact Persons

Joseph Murabula, Chief Executive Officer
Email: joseph.murabula@kenyacic.org
+254722947865

Ernest Chitechi, Corporate Services Manager
Email: echitechi@kenyacic.org
+254722108068

Kenya Climate Innovation Center
Strathmore University Business School,
3rd Floor,
Ole Sangale Rd, Madaraka.
P.O Box 49162 – 0200, Nairobi.
www.kenyacic.org, info@kenyacic.org