



Second Kenya Urban Support Program

Through the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP), the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is collaborating with the World Bank (WB) to support the Second Phase of the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP2). KUSP2 aims to strengthen the capacities of urban institutions to: (i) improve the delivery and resilience of urban infrastructure and services; (ii) enhance the private sector engagement in urban planning; and (iii) support the transition of refugee camps into integrated host community and refugee settlements. As a “Program-for-Results” financing instrument, KUSP2 uses performance-based grants to incentivize sub-national governments to implement resilient, inclusive urban investments and service delivery.

Adaptation Need:

Kenya is rapidly urbanizing, with 31% of the population living in urban areas (2019), a number that is projected to reach 50% by 2050. While urbanization supports economic growth and improved living standards, it also increases the exposure of people, assets and livelihoods to climate hazards, especially to flooding and droughts. Enhancing climate resilience of urban areas in Kenya will depend on strengthening the capacity of urban institutions to develop and implement climate resilient urban planning and infrastructure.

GCA’s Added Value:

GCA’s upstream strategic support delivers system-level impacts that extend beyond KUSP2. The suite of tools and training programs are strengthening long-term institutional capacities that embed climate resilience in urban investments across Kenya’s 79 municipalities. To date, GCA: (i) institutionalized a transformative national training, through the Urban Climate Resilience Masterclass (UCRMC). The UCRMC will be incorporated in the curriculum of Kenya School of Government (KSG), to equip government officials with tools to integrate climate risk into urban infrastructure and service delivery; (ii) established a national trainer pool by preparing 30 public officials and technical experts through a training-of-trainers to facilitate KSG’s roll out of the UCRMC to county and municipal officials nationwide. GCA monitored and provided feedback for two pilot deliveries of the masterclass to ensure quality; (iii) promoted scale-up of nature-based solutions (NbS) through the NbS Compendium for Urban Resilience in Kenya, launched in June 2025. The Compendium offers municipalities design-ready guidance, targeted recommendations, and tools for integrating scalable NbS into urban planning; (iv) enhanced capacity of urban officials on climate-risk informed planning by capacitating 150 urban officials representing 68 cities (with limited technical capacity or resources) to carry out an in-house rapid climate risk assessment to produce Urban Climate Risk Profiles, laying the foundation for climate resilient urban development and facilitating access to finance under KUSP-II.

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$486.00M

Beneficiaries

3.50M

IFI Implementation period

2023

Program

Water and Urban

Partners

World Bank

Status

In progress

Countries



SDG contribution



PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience:

By partnering with the Kenya School of Government (KSG) as the host training institution to roll out the Urban Climate Resilience Masterclass and other complementary trainings, GCA ensures institutional ownership of training for public officials nationwide. These trainings shape how climate risk and NbS considerations are integrated into KUSP2 municipal investments.

Expected Outcomes

GCA will strengthen adaptation outcomes via:

- Structuring and developing sub-national urban planning systems
- Improving access to inclusive, climate-resilient urban infrastructure and

services in 45 counties, six cities, and 62 municipalities across Kenya, reaching an expected 3,500,000 people

Supporting climate adaptation measures in urban settlements, such as the implementation of climate-smart urban drainage systems, facilitating urban agriculture, and other Nature-based Solutions

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

GCA Support Implementation

June, 2023

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

Total Investment Value
\$486.00M

IFI INFLUENCING
VALUE

\$350.00M

OTHER INFLUENCING
VALUE

\$136.00M

IFI partners

World Bank

Lead contact

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GENERAL MEDIA INQUIRIES

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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