



**KENYA CLIMATE
CHANGE WORKING
GROUP**

Uniting Voices and Action
on Climate Change

"<http://www.kccwg.org>" www.kccwg.org.

National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority, Dunga Road,
Nairobi. Tel: 0798400103 Web: HYPERLINK

"<http://www.kccwg.org>" www.kccwg.org.

Press release!

Proceedings of Kenya Climate Change Working Group and University of Embu Bilateral Meeting Event in University of Embu Senate Room, 09/03/2021

Today, the 9th day of Mach 2021, Kenya Climate Change Working Group (KCCWG) was delighted to be hosted by University of Embu during a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing event between the two institutions.

KCCWG is a network of civil society organizations championing advocacy and sensitization on issues regarding climate change and related sectors such as energy and water. The network is implementing a two-year institutional strengthening project through support from United States Agency for International Development (USAID-Kenya). Strengthening linkage between academia and industry regarding climate change sensitization and capacity building emerge as key components of the project.

The meeting which was attended by key staff of Kenya Climate Change Working Group and top management of the University of Embu laid route to official collaboration which will span training, research and development, technical support in developing joint proposals, policy advancement, advocacy, extension, capacity building for staff, students, and members of KCCWG and University of Embu as well as surrounding community groups such as farmers etc.

Prof. Daniel Mugendi - Vice-Chancellor, University of Embu applauded the initiative citing impacts of climate change that are already evident in Embu County and surrounding environment including drying of rivers and land degradation. Through mutual activities undertaken by the University and KCCWG, the VC expressed confidence of the likely turn-around in communities' perception regarding climate change and the urgent shift in business as usual for enhanced resilience. It was noted that the University of Embu was keen on mainstreaming climate change as a discipline within her academic programmes.

Mr. John Kioli- Chairman, Kenya Climate Change Working Group on the other hand expressed urgency by which synergy between civil society, government, private sector, and academia towards combating climate change must be prioritized. While expressing KCCWG's mandate in the climate change space, he reckoned the role the network played in convening stakeholders towards enactment of the Climate change Act, that has provided opportunities for capacity building and funding mechanisms. He alluded to the timely collaboration through which University is envisaged to play a critical role in data generation to effectively inform advocacy and capacity building activities.

Ms. Elizabeth Wanja- Coordinator, Kenya Climate Change Working Group gave a background of KCCWG noting milestones that the network has achieved since its inception in 2009. She emphasized significance of the partnership towards the network's activities of which a series of capacity building events among University fraternity has been prioritized. While applauding the duo for driving the on-course Sustainable Climate Action in Africa Conference (SCAAC) committee that

incorporates representation of staff from the two parties, a process that was to culminate into annual climate change publicity conferences.

Mr. Amakobe- Climate Change and Energy Specialist, Kenya Climate Change Working Group pointed out his delight in the partnership citing an existing gap between industry and academia. He highlighted anticipated impact of the collaboration towards informing input into various technical committees at the national and county levels where KCCWG has representation given that Universities are widely known as timely producers of high quality and authoritative information due to associated integrity in research and extension.

Prof. Kotut-Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Embu concluded by expressing the invaluable output associated with the signing of the Memorandum of Association where he highlighted community outreach and sensitization as a key element the University was keen in pursuing with KCCWG. Successive Memorandum of Agreement will be entered into in furtherance of specific collaboration activities.