



Kenya

Who we are

The Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance works with communities to influence policies and practices which enhance resilience to climate hazards.

Our definition of resilience

The Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance understands the concept of climate resilience as: The ability of a system, community, or society to pursue its social, ecological and economic development and growth objectives, while managing its climate risks over time in a mutually reinforcing way.

Our vision

Our vision is a world where communities are resilient to climate hazards, enabling them to thrive.

Our goal

By 2035, alongside like-minded organizations, we aspire to positively impact 70 million people vulnerable to climate change, and 5.5 million by 2027.

Alliance partners working in Kenya:



Find out more about the Alliance's work in Kenya ➔

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Impact of floods in Kenya

Climate change is becoming one of the most serious challenges to Kenya's achievement of its development goals, as described in [Vision 2030](#). Kenya is already extremely susceptible to climate-related events, and projections indicate that the impacts are likely to affect the country even more in the future. In many areas, extreme events and variability of weather are now the norm: rainfall is irregular and unpredictable, and some regions experience frequent droughts during the long rainy season while others experience severe floods during the short rains. The arid and semi-arid areas are particularly hard hit by these climate hazards, thereby putting the lives of millions and their social and economic activities at risk.

Concern Worldwide has been working with 13 rural communities located along Tana River, in the Tana Delta sub-county. Tana River is the longest river in Kenya and transverses Tana River County (home to over 315,000 people) in a 500 km stretch before draining into the Indian Ocean. The ensuing delta is one of the largest fresh-water water systems in Kenya. The area suffers from both riverine and flash floods with occasional coastal floods. Riverine floods are the most severe and affect all communities living along its riverbanks. Severity increases with proximity to the ocean, with the Tana Delta sub-county experiencing the highest flooding risk among the three sub-counties (Tana North, Tana River and Tana Delta) that make up Tana River County. Each time a disaster strikes, an estimated 100,000 people in the county are affected.





Odoole Community, Tana River, Kenya, October 2025.
Photo: Charlotte Woellwarth, Concern Worldwide

Alliance partners working in Kenya

Concern Worldwide is an international humanitarian organization that strives for a world free from poverty, fear, and oppression. They deliver life-saving and life-changing interventions to the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. From rapid emergency response to innovative development programming, Concern Worldwide goes to the hardest-to-reach places to make sure that no one is left behind. They believe that the climate crisis is the most serious global environmental threat and is a significant risk multiplier.

Furthermore, the environment lies at the very heart of some of the most complex and pressing issues of our time. Environmental degradation, deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, and pollution are increasingly leading to significant and protracted humanitarian crises. As such, climate resilience and the

Climate Resilience Measurement for Communities (CRMC)

The Climate Resilience Measurement for Communities (CRMC) is a data-driven process, complemented by a web-based tool and mobile app, which helps communities to evaluate and measure how resilient they are to climate hazards. Using the results, they can identify and implement resilience-building interventions and run additional measurements to track improvements.

Find out more: ZCRAlliance.org/crmc

Alliance objectives in Kenya

Concern Worldwide's goal is to shift the national and subnational flood risk management from reactive strategies to proactive strategies. This will be achieved through national and subnational advocacy and strengthening the community governance systems with an aim of:



Increasing budgetary allocation to the different phases of disaster risk management by the national and subnational governance levels.



Improving community resilience to disasters resulting from timely and adequate disaster risk management resources.

environment have been integrated as two of Concern Worldwide's eight cross-cutting organizational approaches, and related policies, strategies, and checklists support these.

Action on the climate crisis is central to Concern Worldwide's Strategic Plan 2021–2025. They have developed an organizational Environmental Strategy (2019) and have made building resilience of communities and natural systems to a changing climate one of the three pillars of their current Livelihoods Strategy (2021–2025).



Rhova tends to his farm next to the river in Mikemani village in Kenya's Tana River County. Photo: Lisa Murray, Kerry Group, Concern Worldwide

The communities we are working with

Concern Worldwide partners with communities to develop ways to prevent or mitigate flood impacts and adapt to and prepare for floods in a changing climate using local knowledge systems, materials, and methods. In Phase II Concern Worldwide worked with 13 rural communities found along Tana River in the Tana Delta sub-county. For Phase III we have added a further 15 communities. These communities are all vulnerable to floods because of their socio-economic activity and their proximity to the river. Their main sources of livelihood are livestock, bee-keeping, subsistence and cash crop farming, and fishing. As climate change intensifies and floods grow more frequent, families struggle to rebuild what little they have.

Most communities experienced severe floods in 1997, 2006, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2023, and 2024. Community members were displaced, lives were lost and livestock and homes were washed away. During Phase II of the Alliance, Concern supported communities in setting up minor irrigation schemes away from the riverine. To diversify livelihoods, training and equipment

for modern bee-keeping practices were provided. 39 Advocacy Champions were trained and attended public participation forums for the County Integrated Development Plan; as a result, 77 per cent of the Alliance-supported communities had at least one priority incorporated. To improve water, hygiene, and sanitation during floods, Concern Worldwide carried out Community-Led Total Sanitation sessions in five communities. During Phase III this work will be expanded into 15 communities, focusing on systems change at the community, subnational, and national levels.



Amina holds two roles in her community: Community Health Person and Flood Resilience Committee Member. Photo: Euniah Miruka, Concern Worldwide

Duration of the Kenya Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance programme: January 2024 – December 2027

The Alliance website

- Our website shares practical knowledge alongside the latest evidence and research about how to build community resilience to climate hazards.
- We share knowledge generated through the Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance's work across the world, as well as from many other sources of evidence.

Find out more: ZCRAlliance.org

Get in touch

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For more information, visit
ZCRAlliance.org/countries/Kenya

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The Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance is a multi-sectoral partnership, powered by the Z Zurich Foundation, focused on enhancing resilience to climate hazards in both rural and urban communities. By implementing solutions, promoting good practice, influencing policy and facilitating systemic change, we aim to ensure that all communities facing climate hazards are able to thrive. [Find out more at ZCRAlliance.org](https://ZCRAlliance.org)

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