

# Session 21: Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Risks

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**CCDA-XI and Africa Climate Science Symposium**

**Leveraging on Cooperatives for climate resilience**

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# Background

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- Majority of Co-operatives are rural institutions which can drive rural transformations
- The cooperative movement in Kenya is the **strongest in Africa, 7th globally**.
- There are over **25, 000** cooperatives in Kenya
- **63%** of Kenyans derive livelihoods directly or indirectly from cooperatives
- Co-operatives control about **43%** of Kenya's GDP.
- Savings and Credit Societies (SACCOs), the fastest growing sub-sector in the movement, have mobilized savings of more than **Kshs 250** billion.
- World Bank (in 2018) recognized Kenyan Coops as leading Housing financier and partner in achieving affordable housing project
- There are diverse Co-operatives i.e Agriculture Co-operative Societies; SACCOs.

# Co-operatives for Climate Action

“Concern for community” is one of the Cooperative Principles (Principles 7) which guides the work of cooperatives around the world.

The 2020 14th UN International Day of Cooperatives (Celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July), was themed: cooperatives for climate action

The call was for cooperatives to claim their position and play an active role in climate change adaptation and mitigation

# Cooperatives- How can they get involved

## Potential

- Cooperatives is popular among low and middle-income earners and majority of the climate vulnerable class (low adaptive capacity)
- The proximity of cooperatives to rural people and their capacities to achieve economies of scale
- The aspect of bringing together various classes of people regardless of their socio-economic status

## Opportunities

- Knowledge transfer
- Climate Financing
- Direct Investment

# Global Lessons

**Finance:** Vancouver, Canada – Vancity Credit Union pursues carbon neutrality and offers a program for reducing GHG emissions in small businesses called ClimateSmart, preferential loan rates for fuel-efficient vehicles, and energy efficiency loans for homes.

**Energy:** Zamość, Poland – Our Energy Co-operative built 12 biogas plants, their capacity between 0.5 and 1 MW, in clusters of four in three different communities

# Global Lessons Cont....

- ❑ **Agriculture:** La Farge, Wisconsin, USA – Organic Valley, an organic farmer co-operative developed a community-owned wind farm sufficient to power 1,800 homes while 32% of their diesel is biodiesel. Members have eliminated the use of synthetic fertilisers from their operations.
- ❑ **Housing:** Sweden – HSB, a housing co-operative with 550,000 members, designed and developed a climate change train that travelled the county to educate people on climate change strategies to save energy and GHG emissions.



# Conclusion

Conduct a study on the opportunities and potential of Kenyan cooperatives in climate investment and resilience building

There is need to build capacity of cooperative sector player on climate change agenda and sensitize them on the need to invest in climate smart future

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Thank  
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