

University of Nairobi

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Adapting for sustainability by driving the  
local ambition and building clean.

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# Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- COVID 19 VS destruction VS climate change
- Recovery and adapting opportunities – building clean
- Contextual best practices
- Forward looking
- Conclusion

# Adapting for sustainability by driving the local ambition and building clean.

- Introduction
- COVID 19 pandemic Vs SDGs - Recovery Vision
- COVID 19 and relationship with nature.

# COVID 19 VS destruction VS climate change

Biodiversity loss and increasing risks of infectious diseases :

- Around 1m species are facing extinction within a decade,
- We lose forest cover equivalent to 30 football pitches every minute,
- Oceans are becoming warmer, acidic and increasingly polluted, choked up with plastics
- Ecological disasters: locusts, drought, floods, lethal temperatures, cyclones, diseases, wildfires, etc, etc

*climate change on glaciers, oceans, nature, economies and its cost on people across the globe; manifest more and more often through disasters such as record heatwaves, wildfires, droughts and floods*

# Recovery and adapting opportunities –building clean

- Kenya's progress towards achieving the SDGs - will COVID 19 impact reverse recent gains?
- Kenya's Universal Health coverage and access to vaccines, and inequalities- responsive recoveries. (UHC index, Kenya 0.46, SDG target 3.46 - WHO)
- Opportunity to help turn rhetoric into action on building back better.
- Decade of action to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs including progress on data-informed SDG analysis.
- Nature-based solutions to stress the importance of resetting our relationship with nature – building resilience to climate change.
- Reducing on industrial and transport carbon emissions.
- Help part of society and especially the most vulnerable to adapt and become more resilient to the effects of climate change
- Youth representatives on COVID 19 recovery.
- Driving the local ambition and pace.

*We have a choice: business as usual, leading to further calamity; or we can use the recovery from COVID 19 to provide a real opportunity to put the Kenya on a sustainable path by driving the local ambition and the pace of adaptation*

# Recovery and adapting opportunities –building clean

- Massively ramp up our efforts to protect and restore the natural ecosystems.
- Science-based approach to tackling Covid-19, and suggested a similar approach for a green recovery and transition to renewables – offshore wind, solar, electric energy.

*COVID 19 consequences and circumstances provides unpretentious opportunity to set ambitious targets to protect our nature, clean our supply chains, reach zero emissions and support nature based solutions*

# COVID 19 and sustainability of projects- contextual best practices

- Adaptability
- Audit ability
- Implement ability
- Scalability
- Extensibility
- Maintainability
- Manageability
- Measurement of sustainability

# Forward looking:

- Delivering new jobs and businesses through a clean, green transition;
- Set up a worldwide network of zoonotic research hubs and design a global pandemic early warning system;
- Making public bailouts contingent upon green jobs and sustainable growth;
- Shifting away from grey and towards green economy, making societies and people more resilient;
- Channelling research and technology solutions and investments into sustainable sectors and projects that help the environment and the climate;
- Factoring in climate risks and opportunities into policies.
- Bringing and working together as the academic and practitioner community.

*Truth is that the effects of climate and environmental degradation will dwarf the effects unless we act very quickly and decisively.*



**Many thanks**