



From Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience in Africa at Local and Regional Levels

The Pontifical Academies of Sciences (PAS) and of Social Sciences (PASS), The Vatican

with CIFOR-ICRAF, NASAC, and other African Partners

Date: June 30 - July 1, 2025

Location: CIFOR-ICRAF Campus, Nairobi, Kenya

Day 1, June 30

Time (EAT)	Session	Speakers
8:00	Breakfast Available	
8:55 – 9.15	Words of Welcome	Éliane Ubalijoro , Chief Executive Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF His Eminence, Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson , Chancellor, PASS/PASS Marcelo Suárez-Orozco , Council, PASS Joachim von Braun , President, PAS
9:15- 10:00	Opening Addresses – Local, National, Continental Levels	Hon. H.E. Wilber Ottichilo , Governor, Vihiga County, and Chair Environment, Forestry and Climate change committee Jacqueline Kado , Executive Director, NASAC
10:05-11:05	Challenges and Best Practices for Resilience - Mayors and Local Leaders	Moderator: Éliane Ubalijoro , Chief Executive Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF Panelists: Hon. H.E. Wilber Ottichilo , Governor, Vihiga County, and Chair Environment, Forestry and Climate change committee Hon. Annie Kapandula Kalamatila , Mayor, Lufwanyama Hon. Samuel Assefa , Director, California Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Hon. Lillian Seenoi-Barr , Mayor, Derry City and Strabane District Council Philip Osano , Chief Operating Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF

11:05-11:25	Coffee Break	
11:25-12:25	Innovative Financing Resiliency in Africa: Cities and Subregions	<p>Moderator: Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063</p> <p>Panelists: Eric Kacou, Co-founder & CEO of Entrepreneurial Solutions Partners (ESPartners)</p> <p>Yves Mariko, Chief Economist, Africa Energy Transition Services</p> <p>Eric Naivasha, Head of Sustainable Finance, KCB Bank Group</p> <p>Robert Sangori, Initiative Coordinator, Building Climate Resilience with the Urban Poor (BCRUP)</p>
12:25-13:15	Lunch Session: A Whole of Government Approach to Climate Resilience (followed by moderated Q&A)	<p>Address: Hon. Melissa Hoffer, Climate Chief, Commonwealth of Massachusetts</p> <p>Moderator: Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, Council, PASS</p>
13:15-14:15	Scientific and Policy Innovations for Building Resilience	<p>Moderator: Mohamed Hassan, PAS</p> <p>Panelists: George Wamukoya, Team Leader, African Group of Negotiators Experts Support</p> <p>Kofi Kisiedu Acquaye, Africa Regional Coordinator, Young Professionals for Agricultural Development</p> <p>Steven Were Omamo, Director for Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</p> <p>Mary Njenga, Bioenergy Research Scientist, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Dorothy Amwata, Professor and Dean, School of Agriculture and Environment Sciences (SAES), Muranga University of Technology (MUT)</p>
14:20-15:20	Weather Disasters, Recovery and Preparation	<p>Moderator: Phosiso Sola, Senior Scientist, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Panelists: Aster Gebrekirstos, Senior Scientist-Climate change, Climate Change, Energy and Low-Carbon Development, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Mamadou Dian Balde, Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</p> <p>Japheth Muli, Programme Manager, African Climate Foundation</p> <p>Sebataolo Rahlao, Executive Manager, Oceanographic Research Institute, South African Association for Marine Biological Research</p> <p>Charles Mbeeta Businge, Regional Director Africa, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)</p>
15:25-16:25	Societal Transformation - Building Resilience with All Stakeholders in Multi-level Governance	<p>Moderator: Daya Reddy, Member, PAS</p> <p>Panelists: Agnes Kalibata, former president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), served as Rwanda's minister of agriculture and</p>

		<p>animal resources and was the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the UN Food Systems Summit</p> <p>Catrine Shroff, CEO, Mwangaza Light/Green Churches Kenya</p> <p>Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Director of Legal Division, UNEP</p> <p>Debela Tesfaye, REDD Investment Coordinator, Oromia</p> <p>Quanying Ren, Early Warning for Environment Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</p>
16:30-17:20	<p>Interactive Consultation on MAST Solutions led by Youth (incl. Coffee Break) (MAST – Mitigation, Adaptation, Societal Transformation)</p>	<p>Introduction : Joachim von Braun, President, PAS & Calisto Ochieng, Manager, Strategic Partnerships and Fundraising, World Scouting</p> <p>Facilitators :</p> <p>Innocent Antoine Houedji, Executive Director, Youth Initiative for Land in Africa</p> <p>Kevin Lunzalu, Marine Project Officer, East African Wildlife Society</p> <p>Sydney Kemunto, Drylands Restoration Steward, Global Landscapes Forum</p> <p>Valerie Kplorm Nutako, Country Programme Coordinator, CDKN Ghana (SouthSouthNorth)</p> <p>Collins Shava, Youth, Policy and Partnerships Officer, African Wildlife Foundation</p> <p>Matthew Shane Van den Berg, MSc student and member of the Machine Learning for Ecology Research Group, African Institute of Mathematical Sciences South Africa</p> <p>Milano Ferdinand Rasolofohery, MSc student and member of the Machine Learning for Ecology Research Group, African Institute of Mathematical Sciences South Africa</p> <p>Samuel Kairu, CEO & Chair, Young Leaders Association</p> <p>Vilita Peter, Leader & Editor, Interfaith Newspaper</p> <p>Mary Mukyala, Story Teller, Beautiful Periods</p> <p>Janet Mwangangi, Youth Leader, Aljaamia Tv</p> <p>Emily Nyambura, Youth Leader, Peace League Africa</p> <p>Lisper Gachara, Youth leader, Kenya Institute of Foreign Languages and Professional Studies</p> <p>Daisy Agono, Assistant, Kenya Institute of Foreign Languages and Professional Studies</p> <p>Angeline Awino, Youth Leader, Peace League Africa</p>

		Ivy Murugi , Junior Manager, Education and Impact, World Scouting Allen Ottaro , Founder and Coordinator, CYNESA (Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa)
17:25-18:00	Reporting back of calls to action by Youth leaders to plenary	
18:00	Depart for dinner	
18:30	Conference Dinner – Trademark Hotel	

Day 2, July 1

Time (EAT)	Session	Speakers
08:00	Breakfast Available	
8:50	Plan for the Day	
9:00-10:00	Resilience to Climate Change, Extreme Weather Impacts & Water Systems	<p>Moderator: Joseph Kamau, Lead, Global Health Program · Kenya Institute of Primate Research</p> <p>Panelists: Priscilla Wainaina, Scientist, Governance, Equity and Wellbeing, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Ivy Murugi, Junior Manager, Education and Impact, World Scouting</p> <p>Alexander Fenwick, WHH County Director, Somalia</p> <p>Collins Shava, Youth, Policy and Partnerships Officer, African Wildlife Foundation</p> <p>Thomas Rewe, Co-Chair, Green Bioeconomy Coalition of Africa, Working Group, and Associate Professor, Pwani University</p>
10:05-11:05	Land Use, Agriculture, Food System, Bioeconomy Resilience	<p>Moderator: Kim Geheb, Senior Scientist, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Panelists: Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063</p> <p>Cheikh Mbow, Professor & Director General, Centre de Suivi Ecologique</p> <p>Amos Amanubo, Africa Regional Coordinator, Global Landscapes Forum</p> <p>Merid Getahun, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology</p> <p>Paul Nthakanio, Associate Professor, Genetics and Plant Breeding & Registrar Planning, Administration and Finance, University of Embu</p>
11:05-11:25	Coffee Break	
11:25 – 12:25	Nature Based Solutions & Translational Research for Climate Resilient Sustainable Action	<p>Moderator: Agnes Kalibata, former president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), served as Rwanda's minister of agriculture and animal resources and was the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the UN Food Systems Summit</p> <p>Panelists: Peter Minang, Director, Africa & Leader, Greening Tree Crop Landscapes, CIFOR-ICRAF</p> <p>Bessy Kathambi, Lecturer, University of Nairobi</p> <p>Valerie Nutako, Country Programme Coordinator, SouthSouthNorth</p>

		<p>Matthew Shane Van den Berg, MSc student and member of the Machine Learning for Ecology Research Group, African Institute of Mathematical Sciences South Africa</p> <p>Milano Ferdinand Rasolofohery, MSc student and member of the Machine Learning for Ecology Research Group, African Institute of Mathematical Sciences South Africa</p>
12.25- 13.15	Lunch	
13:15-14:15	Building Resilience for Climate Related Migration	<p>Moderator: Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, Council, PASS</p> <p>Panelists: Samuel Nii Ardey Codjoe, Provost, College of Education, University of Ghana</p> <p>Carola Suárez-Orozco, Professor in residence & Director, Immigration Initiative, Harvard University</p> <p>Fonna Forman, Professor of Political Science and Founding Director of the Center on Global Justice at the University of California, San Diego</p> <p>Romanus Opiyo, Programme Leader for Sustainable Urbanisation, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Africa Center</p>
14:20-15:20	Open Discussion	
15:25-16:00	Way forward with Call to Action and Closing Remarks	<p>Mohamed Hassan, PAS</p> <p>Archbishop Philip A. Anyolo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Nairobi</p> <p>Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, Council, PASS</p> <p>Joachim von Braun, President, PAS</p> <p>Éliane Ubalijoro, Chief Executive Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF</p>