



Africa Business Forum 2023

Making Carbon Markets Work for Africa

Monday, 20 February 2023 –
East African Time

Programme Overview

9.00–9.20 a.m.



Opening of the Forum

9.20 – 9.50 a.m.



Segment 1 Setting the scene: What are carbon markets and the business opportunities they offer for Africa?

In this segment the scene will be set by providing a brief introduction to what carbon credits are, the evolution of carbon markets, the types of markets and the importance of carbon markets as a source of revenue. In addition, the Africa Carbon Markets Initiative will be introduced.

This segment will also feature a moderated panel discussion to introduce the importance of the integrity of voluntary carbon markets and the need to move towards compliance.

9.50 – 10.50 a.m.



Presidential segment – African carbon markets: a new era of growth

In this segment, eminent African leaders will share their views on the opportunities for the private sector to contribute to the creation of high-integrity carbon credits in Africa as well as some of the actions that their respective administrations are taking in this area.

This segment will also feature a moderated panel discussion to explore the opportunities and the roles that some of Africa's leading institutions can play in carbon trading in the future

10.50 – 11.05 a.m.



Project showcase 1: Mikoko Pamoja

This pioneering project promotes the conservation and sustainable use of mangrove resources to achieve three goals: mitigate climate change, conserve biodiversity and enhance community livelihood. Mikoko Pamoja became the first-ever blue carbon initiative in the world that sold carbon credits from mangrove conservation activities for community development.

This session will showcase the Kenya Blue Carbon project and include an opportunity for questions & answers.

11.05 –11.35 a.m.



Coffee Break & Speed Networking



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Segment 2 Financing Africa's growth:

The emerging shape of an African carbon market

African countries can provide up to 30% of the world's sequestration needs through nature-based solutions. This segment explores how to leverage the momentum of carbon markets for nature protection, conservation and restoration in Africa that can be harnessed through the green and blue carbon market, based on fair carbon pricing.

11:35 – 11:50 a.m.



Project showcase 2: KOKO Networks

This pioneering project demonstrates how KOKO Networks is providing clean cooking solutions and is using carbon revenue to subsidize both stoves and fuels in East Africa and will speak to scalable carbon projects and verification.

This session will showcase the project and include an opportunity for questions & answers.

11.50 – 12. 05 p.m.



In conversation on innovating with integrity: Novel tools to drive carbon revenue to Africa

Innovative tools designed to stimulate public and private investment in nature-based solutions, adaptation, resilience, renewable energy and natural capital will be presented. These include tools that help ensure that the costs and benefits of the transition to a low-carbon economy are shared equitably within and between societies.

12:05 – 12:45 p.m.



Panel discussion. Creating the enabling environment: the role of government and financial institutions

This session will feature discussions on the levers to be activated and the challenges to be addressed in order to boost the carbon price; this is critical to realizing the full potential of African countries to participate in the global climate change response.

12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Q & A session



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1:00 – 2:20 p.m.



Networking Lunch



Segment 3 Leveraging the African Continental Free Trade Area to unlock global demand for African carbon credits and strengthen Africa's carbon market integrity

This segment will explore how carbon markets can play an important role in accelerating the economic development of Africa while also curbing greenhouse gas emissions.

Once the African Continental Free Trade Area is fully implemented, the largest gains are expected to come through increased intra-African trade. The Agreement can serve as a vehicle to reduce emissions and increase the availability and affordability of environmentally friendly goods, services and technology. Besides reducing costs, the Agreement is expected to contribute to the harmonization of regulatory policies that have the potential to equalize green opportunities, help create a common continental framework for trade and investment in green goods and services and lay the foundation for a common African carbon market.

2:20 – 2:35 p.m.



Project showcase 3: Wildlife Works Carbon

As a major pipeline developer on a REDD+ projects and one of the world's first REDD+ project to receive issuance of carbon credits, this project demonstrates how the carbon market is bringing direct benefits for conservation efforts and also communities.

This session will showcase the project and include an opportunity for questions & answers.

2.35–2.50 p.m.

Framing remarks

This session will highlight the implications of the African Continental Free Trade Area for the carbon market through carbon pricing.



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2.50 – 3.30 p.m.



Panel discussion. Leveraging the AfCFTA to unlock global demand for African carbon credits

This session will feature discussions on the opportunities to leverage the African Continental Free Trade Area to unlock global demand for African carbon credits and strengthen Africa's market integrity.

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Q & A session

3.45 – 4.15 p.m.



Coffee Break & Speed Networking



Segment 4 Financing Africa's climate transition: the carbon market, a game changer?

Africa needs USD 2.8 trillion between 2020 and 2030 to implement its nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement and thus contributes to limiting global warming to 1.5°C and addressing the greatest impacts of climate change. However, annual financial flows for climate in Africa amount to only USD 30 billion (CPI, 2022). Carbon markets can help bridge this gap while fostering sustainable and inclusive economic transformation in Africa. Fully developed carbon markets could not only generate attractive returns on investment in African countries, but also help them address their own environmental challenges, from boosting renewable energy to reducing deforestation.

This segment will address the opportunity to develop carbon and climate finance for Africa's successful energy transition.

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.



Project showcase 4: Biodiversity Investment Rating Agency & the Forest Economy

This presentation will showcase innovative approaches being deployed through the Biodiversity Investment Rating Agency and the opportunities for integrated forest economy. This session will showcase the project and include an opportunity for questions & answers.



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4.30 – 4.45 p.m.

Framing remarks

This session will highlight the state of climate and carbon finance in Africa; the role of climate and carbon finance in closing the sustainable energy access gap in Africa; and link this to its potential benefits.

4.45 – 5.25 p.m.



Panel discussion. Financing Africa's climate transition: the carbon market, a game changer?

This session will feature discussions on the role of the banking sector and businesses in the development of carbon markets; the potential of carbon markets in Africa's energy transition, green infrastructure development and the bottlenecks that must be overcome.

5:25 – 5:40 p.m.

Q & A session

5.40 – 5.55 p.m.

Call to action

5.55 – 6.10 p.m.



Official closing

6.10 – 7.30 p.m.



Networking and Reception

