

**ARUSHA DECLARATION ON ENERGY AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN
BUILDINGS IN EAST AFRICA**
1st to 3rd, August 2018, at Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge, Arusha, Tanzania



Preamble

Sustainable urbanization including provision of affordable housing forms one of the critical aspects of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals. Cities consume 78 per cent of the World’s energy and produce more than half of all greenhouse gases and other emissions. Energy used in buildings alone is estimated at 40-50% of the total national electricity consumption. It is in fact estimated that over 50 per cent of the total energy generated in developing countries is used in urban buildings alone, consuming more energy than the transport or the industrial sectors. Further, the building sector, accounts for about 40% of greenhouse gas emission worldwide, contributing significantly to adverse climate change. This calls for solutions towards sustainable development with adequate focus on how Cities grow and are managed. Rational use of renewable energy in Cities and reducing energy wastage in buildings contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation that translates into huge economic, environmental and social development gains ;

Given the political goodwill, partnerships and collaborations in embracing innovation in the region, there is increased uptake of sustainable building design which is enabled by the existence of technical capacity, enforcement strategies and compliance levels in technical institutions of higher learning and Government Agencies including Counties and Municipalities which undertakes capacity buildings ;

In enhancing capacity building, over 10 Universities (Schools of Architecture) in the region have integrated sustainable building practices in their teaching curriculum ;

All the five (5) Countries have adopted regulatory frameworks that encourage adoption of green building principles including green procurement and mandatory use of solar hot water systems and rain water harvesting specifically in Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania;

A number of banking institutions in the region are already putting in place sustainability in their day-to-day operations including plans for green mortgage products with discounted interest rates for green products such as PV systems, Solar hot water systems and energy efficient appliances as well as incentivised finance like green bonds, particularly in Kenya and Rwanda;

We also recognize the growing presence of the Green Building Councils in the four (4) Countries that are making ground breaking advancements including Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. These are Civil Society Organizations which are part of the World Green Building Council whose main mandate is to promote sustainability in construction within the region and beyond;

To address the adverse climate issues and promote the sustainable building design agenda in the urban space of East Africa, UN-Habitat conducted a three-day workshop for senior Government Officials, Municipal Managers, Experts, Professionals Academia and CSOs. The workshop was held on 1st to 3rd, August 2018, at Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge, Arusha, Tanzania ;

As a result of this workshop, with the contributions of all the participants led by the Mr. Tixon T. Nzunda, Ag. Permanent Secretary, President’s Office – Regional Administration and Local Government, Tanzania, the following declaration was written ;



The Declaration

We, representatives of the following over Thirty (30) Institutions responsible for policies, regulations, professional development, enablers and financing of green buildings in East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi, meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, from 1st to 3rd August, 2018 to discuss the integration of Energy and Resource Efficiency in Buildings in East Africa, and also strategies adopted towards sustainability in promotion of energy and resource efficiency in buildings including energy security, greenhouse gas emissions and promotion of future climate-change-resilient built environments by East Africa Community member Countries, County Governments', Local Authorities, Research Institutions, Academia, Private Sector Organizations including NGOs and Civil Society Organizations in the region;

Acknowledging the participation and valuable contribution of United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT) in collaboration with UN-Environment (UNEP) and its regional program on *Promoting Energy Efficiency in Buildings in East Africa* that is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to mainstream energy efficiency in building codes, practices and building finance and the invited delegates to the conference;

Recalling the statements during this workshop of the Chief Guest, Mr. Tixon Nzunda, Ag. Permanent Secretary, the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government, Tanzania calling for political goodwill towards the adoption of green building principles and development of systems, rules and procedures on the same across the region to achieve transformation;

Also recalling the **New Urban Agenda** adopted in Quito, 2016 and all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with particular focus on **SDG 7 (Energy)**, **11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)** and 13 (climate change)

Mindful of the Paris Agreement (COP21) and its 1.5 degree centigrade goal to mitigate climate change through emission reductions;

Acknowledging the existence of legal framework in majority of the Countries in the region notably Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya and Burundi;

Mindful of the existence of technical resources and publications by UN-Habitat, Government Institutions, Research Organizations and Academia to lead integration of the sustainability principles in the integrated urban and / or neighbourhood planning, building approval processes, dissemination and teaching of sustainable architecture that include but not limited to climatic design, proper orientation, natural lighting, sun shading, natural ventilation, resource efficient materials, resource efficient building services, waste management, water efficiency, etc.;

Recognizing the abundant supply of renewable energy resources in the region including solar, wind and geothermal sources;

Mindful of the existence of the Covenant of Mayors and its significance contribution against adverse climate change effects in our Cities through access to clean energy;

Mindful of the existence of **Building Efficiency Accelerator** a public-private collaborative program that speeds the development and implementation of building efficiency policies and practices in cities, counties, municipalities and other local authorities;

Mindful that in the course of events on the ground, it is imperatively needed to shift the approach to focus on **emerging small towns** and **potential villages** experiencing the dynamics of urbanization;

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat and UNEP to enhance collaboration with Ministries, County Governments, Cities, Municipalities and other local authorities responsible for Urban Development, Housing, Building Works, Transport, infrastructure development, Regional Administration and Local Government;

Recognizing this workshop consensus on the need for mind-set transformation, enhanced sensitization and continued professional capacity development towards prosumer concept support;

Call upon:

Governments

1. Identify and institutionalize green building champions;
2. Create enabling environment to support the implementation of sustainable design practices in the built environment and **smart city development initiatives**;
3. Facilitate continuous review and enactment of green building policies, regulations and standards towards integrating sustainability in the built environment;
4. **Mainstream green building principles / benchmarks / strategies / checklist in the building approval process / granting development permits**;
5. Establish incentive mechanisms to promote the design and construction of sustainable design projects;
6. **Encourage use of locally available building materials and facilitate application of 3Rs (Re-use, Recycle and Reduce) in their usage.**
7. Include Sustainable Building Design requirements in all Public procurement and tendering documents;
8. **Liaise with UN-Habitat and other development partners to assist in orderly planning of Emerging Small Towns and Villages**;
9. Integrate harmonious and sustainable development to enhance rural-urban linkages;
10. **Coordinate capacity development for individuals, institutions and communities on green building concepts**;
11. Adopt and celebrate World Green Building Week which is an annual event that motivates and empowers delivery of greener buildings;

12. Collaborate with the Green Building Councils in respective countries and utilize opportunities that exist therein;
13. Jointly present with Green Building Councils at the Buildings day of the Conference of Parties efforts towards achieving the Nationally Determined Contribution targets;
14. Recognize and award outstanding green building champions, research, curriculum and projects;
15. Engage and support local action research and academic institutions in defining, interrogating and intervening in key energy/sustainability problems and opportunities in all sectors including: housing, industry, transport, commerce and civic facilities.

County Governments / Local Authorities:

1. Identify and institutionalize green building champions;
- 2. Strengthen the capacity of approving Authorities by involving experts in Sustainable Building Design in the approval process of development permits;**
3. Mainstream green building principles / benchmarks / strategies / checklist in the building approval process / granting development permits;
- 4. Prioritize sustainable neighborhood planning and smart cities development through adequate resource allocation;**
- 5. Provide capacity building for county/municipal officials with necessary skills on energy and resource efficiency in buildings and urban space;**
6. Include Sustainable Building Design requirements in all Public procurement and tendering documents;
- 7. Join the Covenant of Mayors to drive the Climate Change Actions and promote universal access to modern energy in Cities and Municipalities within the region;**
8. Create enabling framework for development and mainstreaming of Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plan (SEACAP) in the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and other City/Municipality Development Plans;
9. Participate in the Building Efficiency Accelerator and adopt sustainable building practices;
- 10. Collaborate with the Green Building Councils in respective countries and utilize opportunities that exist therein;**
11. Recognize and award green building best practices;
12. Pilot the Trideal House Concept in Counties / Local Authority Jurisdictions, particularly Homa Bay County;
- 13. Develop a building efficiency action plan by the next World Green Building Week 2019**
14. Adopt and celebrate World Green Building Week which is an annual event that motivates and empowers delivery of greener buildings;
15. Engage and support local action research and academic institutions in defining, interrogating and intervening in key energy/sustainability problems and opportunities in all sectors including: housing, industry, transport, commerce and civic facilities.

Private Sector / Civil Society Organization / Property Developers

1. Shift focus towards transformation of consumers and support for the private sector participation in driving the green building agenda;
2. Identify and institutionalize green building champions;
3. To join the green building councils as they are membership based organizations;
4. Ensure sustainability as core of operations and not only as Corporate Social Responsibility;
5. **Undertake grass root sensitization to citizens and communities;**
6. Set targets on building efficiency throughout their operations;
7. Adopt energy efficiency and renewable energy technology as key agenda items in all discussions;

Financial Sector

1. Identify and institutionalize green building champions;
2. Set aside funds to finance green energy and resource efficiency in buildings;
3. Offer incentives to promote building of energy and resource efficient buildings i.e. lower interest rates, longer loan tenures etc.;
4. Review credit process and lending risks parameters to align them to the green agenda;
5. Collaborate with green agenda experts to build capacity within the lending institutions to promote green energy financing;
6. Creation of energy efficient mortgages and other green products within the banking sector.

Accreditation, Professional and Regulatory Bodies:

1. Integrate green building concepts in the continuous professional development programmes;
2. Integrate in the building design and monitor implementation of green building practices;
3. Integrate green building concept in the curriculum for professional registrations;
4. Integrate green building material standards across the agencies;
5. Encourage the Government to facilitate creation of professional body in Burundi

Research and Institutions of Higher Learning of the East African Countries to:

1. To conduct energy audit in Buildings in the region and recommend action to be undertaken where compliance is deficient;
2. Spearhead research on sustainable buildings and context specific solutions to guide the uptake of sustainable buildings in the region;
3. Mainstream sustainable building practices in teaching / training of future built environment professionals in the region;
4. Integrate sustainability and green building practices in all sectors of studies beyond built environment studies

5. Linking research findings with professional practice and provision of energy efficient literature at the resource centers;
6. Continuously update the sustainability curriculum with emerging trends and advancements in climate mitigation and adaptation.
7. To Adopt and celebrate World Green Building Week which is an annual event that motivates and empowers delivery of greener buildings.
8. To collaborate with the Green Building Councils and other International Organizations in respective countries and utilize opportunities that exist therein.
- 9. Formation of green building clubs in learning institutions to enhance sensitization and increase uptake among young professionals.**

Green Building Councils

1. Create awareness on the benefits of green buildings to all stakeholders;
2. Partner with professional bodies and construction industry stakeholders to educate on green building concepts;
3. Develop green building rating systems through consultative approach based on the County context;
4. Certify / or verify green building design, construction, operation and maintenance professionals by conducting green building accreditation exams;
5. Partner with stakeholders and deliberate World Green Building Week;
- 6. Support the National and Local Governments to develop a Building Efficiency Action Plan by the next World Green Building Week 2019;**
7. Support the National Government in documentation and presentation of the National Determined Contributions (NDCs) at the Buildings Day during Convention of Parties (COP) meeting.

Un-Habitat and Other Development Partners

1. To continue providing technical assistance in sustainable neighbourhood planning, housing (affordable housing) and basic services with particular focus on climate, energy and resource efficiency;
2. To organize a regional conference on a Covenant of Mayor for Sub-Saharan Africa to sensitize and invite more local authorities to commit to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.



Arusha, Tanzania, 3rd August, 2018

Annex 1: List of Institutions;

We, representatives of the following Institutions:

Kenya;

- 1. State Department for Housing and Urban Development**
2. Kenya Building Research Centre
- 3. Council of Governors**
- 4. County Government of Homa Bay**
- 5. County Government of Makueni**
- 6. County Government of Marsabit**
- 7. Nairobi City County**
- 8. County Government of Kajiado**
9. University of Nairobi
10. Kenya Green Building Society
11. Barclays Bank of Kenya

Tanzania;

- 1. The President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government, Tanzania**

- 2. Arusha City Council
- 3. Regional Administration of Arusha
- 4. Rural and Urban Development
- 5. University of Dares Salaam
- 6. Watumishi Housing Company

Uganda;

- 1. Ministry of Works and Transport
- 2. Kasese Municipal Council
- 3. Uganda Martyrs University
- 4. Mortgage Association of Uganda

Rwanda;

- 1. University of Rwanda
- 2. Rwanda Green Building Organization
- 3. Global Green Growth Institute (Rwanda Programme)

Burundi;

- 1. Ministry of Transport, Public Works, Equipment/Facilities and Land Management.
- 2. Burundi National University
- 3. Ecole Nationale Superieure

Regional and International Institutions

- 1. East Africa Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE)
- 2. UN-Environment
- 3. UN-Habitat

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