

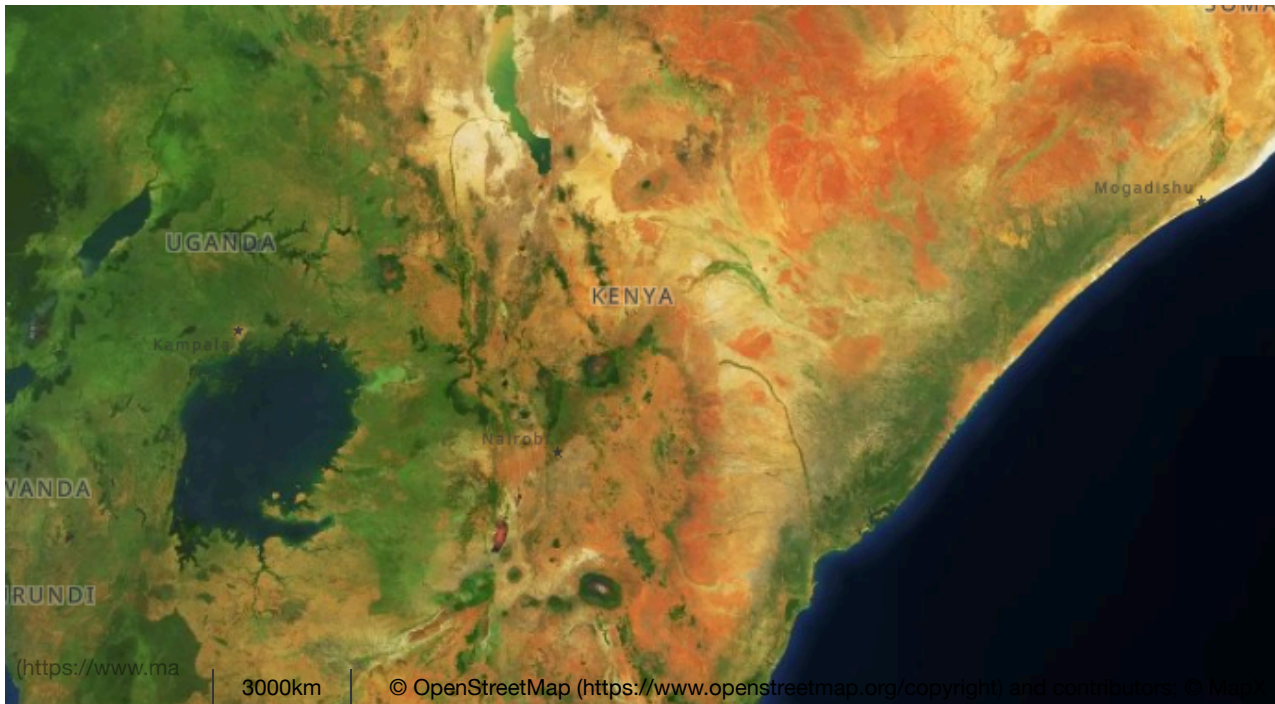


United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL  
LAND INITIATIVE

# Kenya



# Overview

## Background

The Republic of Kenya, located in East Africa, covers a total land area of 582,646 km<sup>2</sup>, which includes varied formations of plains, escarpments, and hills, as well as low and high mountains. Starting east along the coast, low plateaus run inland (west) to an elevated plateau and mountain ranges, marked by the Kenyan highlands in the southwest corner of the country. Kenya shares borders with Ethiopia to the north, South Sudan and Uganda to the northwest and west, and Tanzania to the south. The country's southeast coastline borders the Indian Ocean. Approximately 85% of Kenya's land area is classified as a fragile arid and semi-arid ecosystem, which is largely pastoral.

The country's highlands are home to the majority of the population and also host significant farm lands.

Highlands are relatively cool and agriculturally rich, and are largely dominated by commercial and small-holder farms. Principal cash crops include tea, coffee, flowers, veges, pyrethrum. Wheat and maize, as well as livestock production is also practiced across the highlands, which lie at 1,500 to 3,000 m above sea level. The Great Rift Valley bisects the highlands into an east and west region forming a steep sided trench of 48 to 64 km wide and 600 to 900 m deep.

Kenya, while considered a lower middle-income country, has the largest economy in East Africa. It has a population of 54 million people (2020). Over a quarter of Kenya's population currently lives in urban areas. This is projected to increase to 33% and 46% of the population by 2030 and 2050, respectively. Kenya had continued to implement significant economic and structural reforms, which have helped to sustain economic growth and political gains over the past decade. Key challenges continue to be seen in the country's inequality and poverty levels, which has increased the country's economic vulnerability to shocks.

Kenya aims to become a newly industrialized country by 2030, which will require expanding climate change resilience efforts while also increasing its domestic energy production; including through the use of renewable sources. Adaptation efforts are focused on the country's energy, infrastructure, land use and environment, health, water and irrigation, agriculture, and tourism sectors. Kenya is working to meet these goals and adhere to its climate change strategies by investing in strategic actions such as afforestation and reforestation, geothermal energy production and other clean energy development, as well as climate smart agriculture, and drought management.

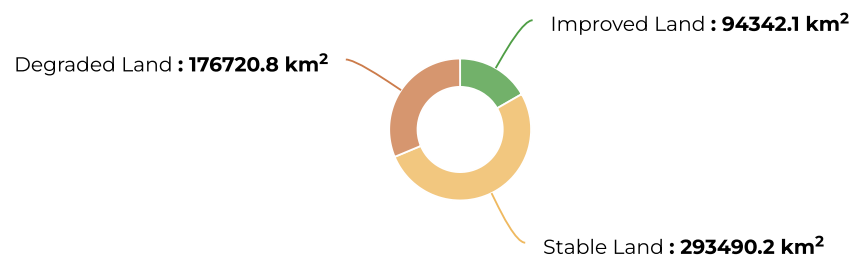
Credits: [World Bank](#)

## Summary Chart



### Current State

Land degradation between 2001 and 2015 - SDG 15.3.1 (km<sup>2</sup>)

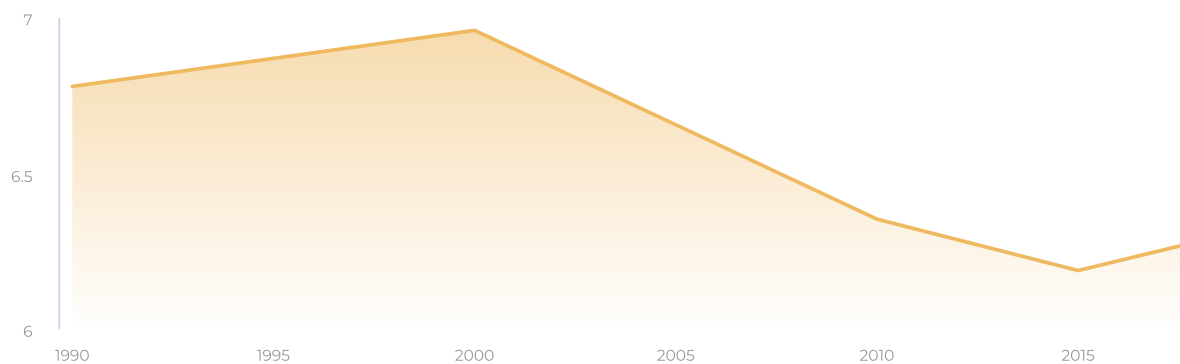


Credits: trends.earth

Forest area

**6.3 % land**

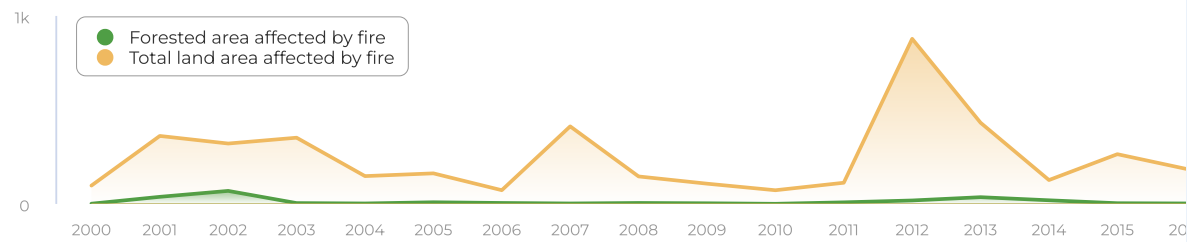
-0.1 % change over last 10 years



Credits: FAO

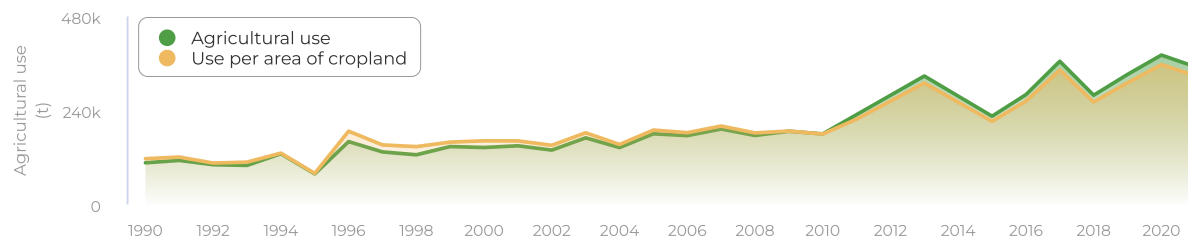
## Stressors

### Area affected by wildfires (kha)



Credits: FAO

### Use of nutrients



Credits: FAO

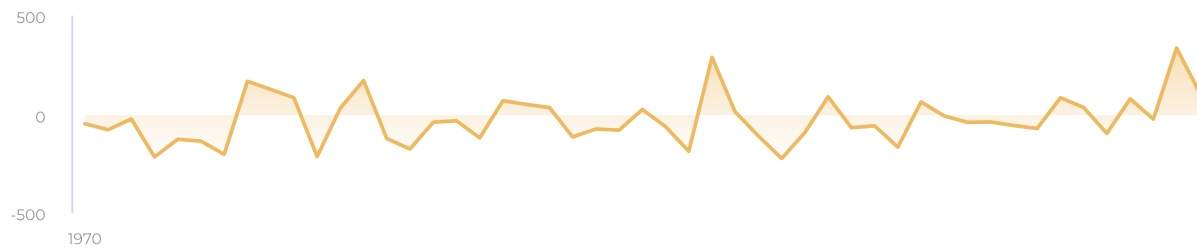
## Trends

Annual temperature anomalies against 1901-1920 (°C)



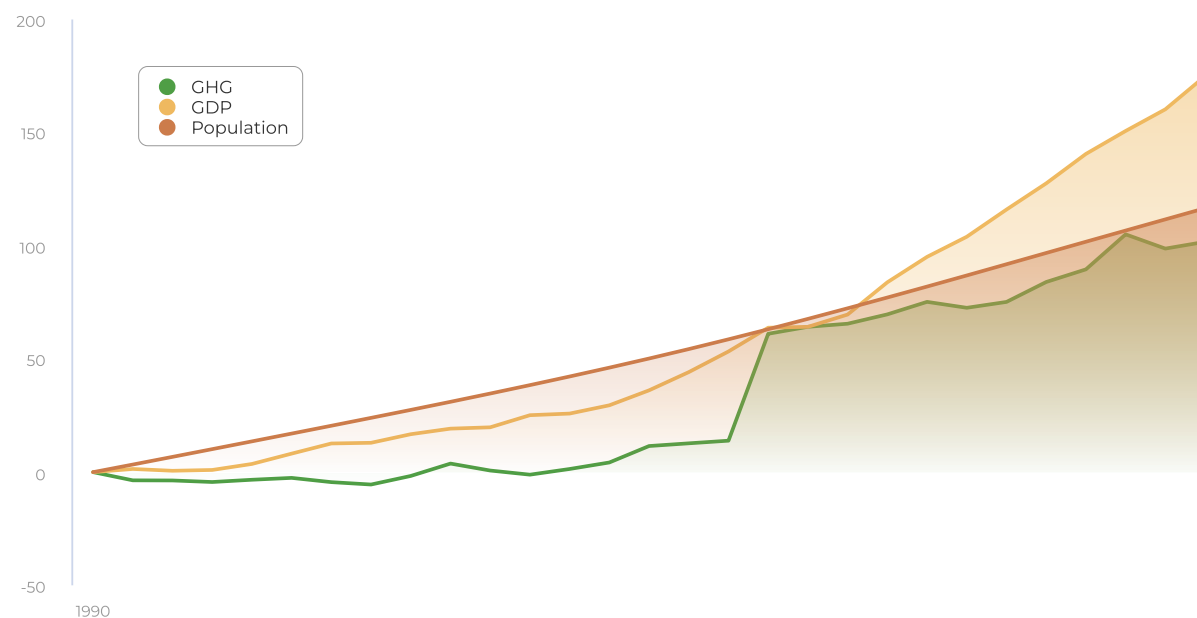
Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Annual precipitation anomalies against 1901-1920 (mm)



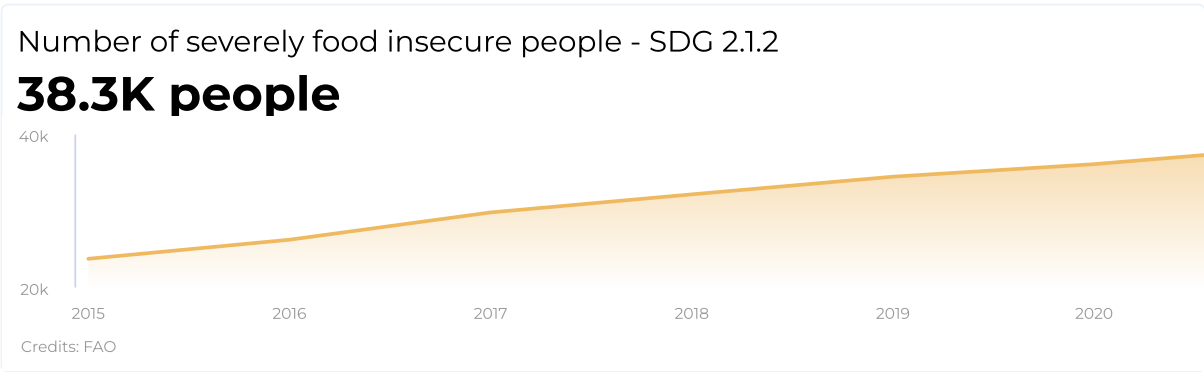
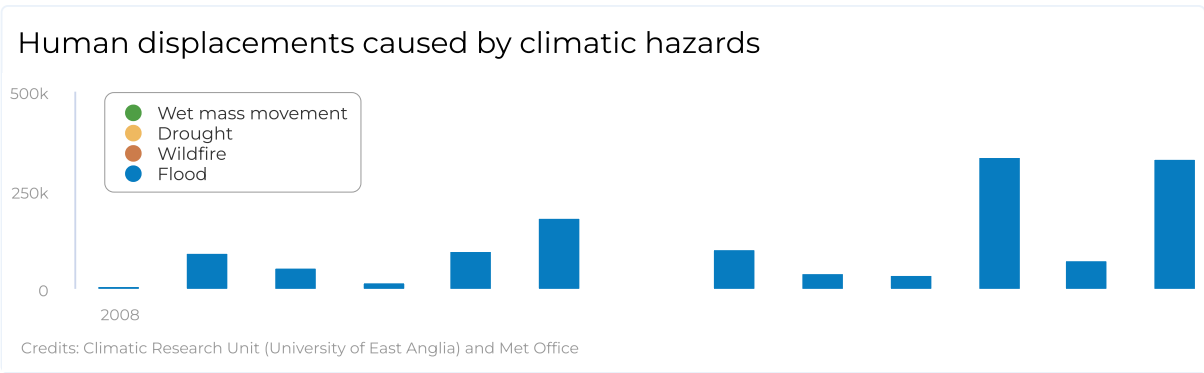
Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Population / Gross domestic product / Greenhouse Gases - change in % since 1990





# Impacts



## 💡 Solutions

Proportion of terrestrial protected areas

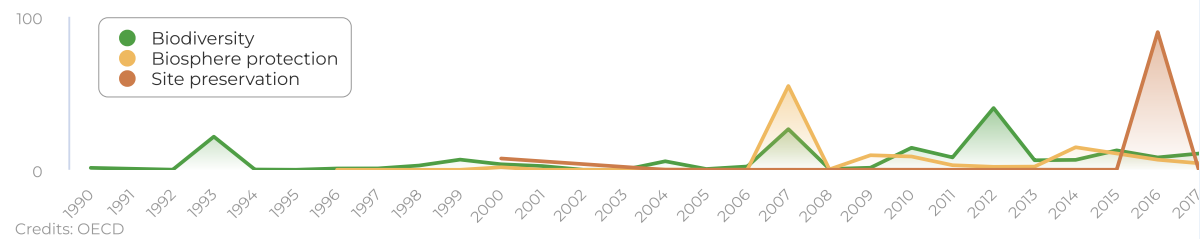
**12.2 % of total land area**

2024

Credits: UNEP-WCMC

Official Development Assistance flows

Biodiversity sector (million USD)



# Commitments

**0**  
hectares

**LDN**  
Land Degradation Neutrality

**0**  
hectares

**NBSAP**  
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans  
under the Convention on Biological Diversity

**0**  
hectares

**NDC**  
Nationally Determined Contributions embody  
efforts by each country to reduce national  
emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate  
change.

**5,100,000**  
hectares

**Bonn Challenge**  
Bring 150 million hectares of degraded and  
deforested landscapes into restoration by 2020  
and 350 million hectares by 2030



# Treaties

Treaty	Signature	Ratification	Party status
Minamata Convention on Mercury	2013-10-10	2023-09-22	Ratification
Paris Agreement	2016-04-22	2016-12-28	Ratification
Nagoya Protocol	2012-02-01	2014-04-07	Ratification
Kyoto Protocol		2005-02-25	Accession
Rotterdam Convention	1998-09-11	2005-02-03	Ratification
Stockholm Convention	2001-05-23	2004-09-24	Ratification
Cartagena Protocol	2000-05-15	2002-01-24	Ratification
Basel Convention		2000-06-01	Accession
Convention on Migratory Species	1999-05-01	1999-05-01	Ratification
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	1994-10-14	1997-06-24	Ratification
Lusaka Agreement	1994-09-09	1997-01-17	Ratification
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	1992-06-12	1994-08-30	Ratification
Convention on Biological Diversity	1992-06-11	1994-07-26	Ratification
Nairobi Convention		1990-09-11	Accession
Ramsar Convention	1990-10-05	1990-06-05	Ratification
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	1979-03-13	1978-12-13	Ratification
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	2003-05-27		Accession
Bamako Convention	2003-12-27		

