

Supporting the shift towards Integrated, Low-Carbon and Nature-Positive Neighborhoods in Nairobi (GEF ID 11296)

(GEF-8 Nairobi Sustainable City Integrated Project)

Country: Kenya

Implementing Agency: UNEP

Executing Agency: UN-Habitat

**Key execution partners: State Department for Housing and Urban Development
Nairobi City County Government
Ministry of Environment
Nairobi Rivers Commission**

Project Overview

Project Objectives:

- To support integrated, low-carbon, and nature-positive urban development in Kenya through the adoption of policies, capacity building, neighborhood design, pilot implementation and resource mobilization, to generate global environmental benefits.
- To develop and showcase a sustainable neighborhood design and implementation plan in Kamukunji, along Nairobi rivers.

Project Components:

Component 1. Enabling Framework for Integrated, Low-Carbon and Nature-Positive Urban Development

Component 2. Green and Thriving Neighborhood Design

Component 3. Support to Green and Thriving Pilot sustainable Neighborhood Implementation;

Component 4. Support to Resource Mobilization for Scale-Up

Total GEF financing: US\$ 5,200,000 (*inclusive of IA fee and PPG*)

GEF Project financing: US\$ 4,640,642

Co-financing: US\$ 42,420,000

Participating city: Nairobi



Implementation Status

Current stage and key milestones:

- The project was approved by GEF in December 2025.
- An official launch ceremony and field visit were organized in April 2026, during the GEF's IP Forum.
- A UN-to-UN cooperation agreement was signed between UNEP and UN-Habitat in June 2026.
- UN-Habitat and Government of Kenya project management and governance arrangements under final approval steps.
- The project's Inception Workshop is under preparation and will take place by end of October 2026.
- Active consultations are ongoing with national and subnational stakeholders.
- The 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting will take place in November 2026.



Immediate Priorities

Next 6-12 months

- **Priority 1:** Mobilization of the project management unit, technical teams and key institutions for project implementation, starting with the inception workshop and 1st PSC meeting (October-November 2026)
- **Priority 2:** Stakeholder engagement to take stock of all ongoing urban development activities and identify areas that needs support and redress. Development of technical guidelines and capacity building programs for decision-makers and practitioners (May 2027)
- **Priority 3:** Integrated urban design of the Kamukunji's pilot project area. Detail design and construction of the Integrated Resource Recovery Center and the Multi-functional Clean Energy Center in the selected pilot area (June 2027)

Key Challenges

Challenge	Support Needed
Institutional coordination	
Technical capacity	
Financing / co-financing	
Policy / regulatory	
Other	

Too early to assess

Where GPSC & Partners Can Add Value

Select up to 3 areas and specify the support needed:

- ☒ Technical assistance: **in the area of GIS data collection**
- ☐ Peer-to-peer learning
- ☐ Knowledge products / toolkits
- ☐ Training / capacity building
- ☐ Expert advisory support
- ☒ South-South exchange: **in the area of knowledge sharing and lesson learned in neighborhood development**
- ☒ Financing / private sector engagement: **support needed on blending finances for project implementation**
- ☐ Monitoring & evaluation
- ☐ Communications & visibility
- ☐ Other: _____

Optional: one lesson or innovation to share
[Brief example for peer learning]