ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY TRANSFORMATION (ASCENT-KENYA)

FINAL

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

MAY 2026

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AP	Affected Person
ASCENT	Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation
BETA	Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda
CBM	County Bussiness Manager
CHSP	Community Health and Safety Plan
CGRC	County Grievance Redress Committee
C & D	Construction and Development
DOSHS	Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services
DRE	Distributed Renewable Energy
ES	Environmental Specialist
ESCP	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESHS	Environmental, Social, Health and Safety
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS	Environmental Social Standards
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GM	Grievance Mechanism
GMC	Grievance Management Committee
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HIV	Human Immuno deficiency Virus
HSS	Health, Safety and Security
IA	Implementing Agency
IDA	International Development Association
KOSAP	Kenya Off-grid Solar Access Project
KPLC	Kenya Power and Lighting Company
LMP	Labour Management Procedures

MoEP	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NGAO	National Government Administration Officer
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NITA	National Industrial Training Authority
NLC	National Land Commission
OIPs	Other Interested Parties
PA	Project Area
PAYG	Pay As You Go
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PID	Project Information Document
PLWDs	People Living with Disabilities
PUE	Productive Use of Energy
PV	Photovoltaics
OSHO	Occupational Safety & Health Officer
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
RBF	Result-Based Financing
REREC	Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
SCP	Stakeholder Consultation Plan
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEDM	Stakeholder Engagement and Disclosure Methods
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEA/SH	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SS	Social Specialist
ToT	Training of Trainers
VMG	Vulnerable and Marginalized Group
VMGP	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan

GLOSSARY AND KEY TERMS

Affected Persons/Communities refers to individuals and groups of people living in a close proximity to a project implementation site that could potentially be impacted by a project.

Interested Parties are individuals, groups, or entities who may not be directly affected by project but have an interest in it. They often include Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), local interest groups, National organizations, Community leaders, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Faith-Based Organizations, academic institutions, and media. They may express interest through public consultation, policy debates, or by providing expertise regarding project design and implementation.

Stakeholders are persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interest in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively. Workers, local communities directly affected by the project and other stakeholders not directly affected by the project but have an interest in it, e.g. local communities, Non-Governmental Organizations, media etc.

Stakeholder Identification is the systematic process of identifying, analyzing, and documenting all individuals, groups, or organizations that may directly or indirectly affect or be affected by a project's outcomes, activities, or decisions.

Stakeholder Mapping is the component of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and environmental/social risk management, designed to understand stakeholder interest, influence, and potential impact on project success involving a systematic, strategic process used to identify, analyze, and categorize individuals, groups, or institutions that can affect or be affected by a project's outcome.

Consultation is the process of gathering information or advise from stakeholders and taking their views into account when making project decisions and/or setting targets and designing strategies**.**

Meaningful Engagement is a process in which an entity builds and maintains constructive sustainable relationships with stakeholders over the life of a project. This is part of a broader "stakeholder engagement" strategy, which also encompasses government, civil society, employees, suppliers, and others with an interest in the project.

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment is an assessment comprising various social and environmental studies which aim to identify project environmental and social risks and impacts and design appropriate mitigation measures to manage negative impacts, and to enhance positive ones.

Grievance Mechanism is a framework or process for receiving, evaluating, and addressing project-related complaints from citizens, stakeholders and other affected persons and communities.

Non-Governmental O*rganizations* are private organizations, often not-for-profit, that facilitate community development, local capacity building, advocacy, and environmental protection.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan is an outline that clearly spells out how stakeholders will effectively participate and make decisions on issues affecting them throughout the life of the project and specifying activities that will be implemented to manage or enhance engagement.

Stakeholder Engagement Programme is a structured and continuous process used by the implementers to communicate, consult, and collaborate with individuals or groups affected by or interested in the project to ensure that stakeholders are actively involved in project decisions-making throughout the entire project implementation cycle.

Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Individuals or Groups refers to those who may be more likely to be adversely affected by the project impacts and/or more limited than others in their ability to take advantage of a project's benefits and are more likely to be excluded from/unable to fully participate in the mainstream consultation processes and as such require specific measures and assistance to do so.

Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups *also considered under ESS 7 to mean* ***'Indigenous people/ Sub Saharan African historically undeserved traditional local communities'*** refers to distinct social and cultural groups possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees including: self-identification as members of a distinct social and cultural group and recognition of this identity by others, have collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats, ancestral territories, or areas of seasonal use or occupation as well as to the natural resources in these areas, have customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the mainstream society or culture, distinct language or dialect often different from the official language or languages of the region in which they reside and have historically suffered, and continue to suffer, disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds.

1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Introduction and Background

Kenya has made impressive progress in expanding electricity access, reaching over 75% of the population. However, more than 13 million people; mostly in arid and semi arid and remote regions, still lack reliable power, and the pace of new connections has slowed. Achieving universal access by the year 2030 will therefore depend on scaling Distributed Renewable Energy (DRE) solutions, alongside continued grid expansion. Off-grid programmes including Kenya Off-grid Solar Access Project (KOSAP) have demonstrated that solar home systems, mini-grids, and productive-use technologies can transform livelihoods, strengthen food security, and drive local economic growth especially in agriculture through irrigation, cold storage and agro-processing.

Kenya's dynamic private-sector DRE ecosystem, powered by Pay As You Go (PAYG) models, mobile money, and digital technologies, has positioned the country as a regional and global leader in off-grid innovation. Yet, financing and affordability remain the biggest barriers to reaching last-mile communities. DRE companies face limited access to affordable capital, while low-income households and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) struggle with upfront costs and credit constraints. Bridging this gap through results-based financing, blended finance, and strong engagement of financial institutions is critical to unlocking the sector's full potential.

On the other hand, hybridizing existing diesel mini grids with renewable energy presents a major opportunity to improve reliability, reduce costs, and catalyze economic activity in remote areas. These efforts strongly align with Kenya's national priorities under the National Electrification Strategy, Vision 2030, The Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), and the National Energy Compact, as well as continental and global commitments including Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT-Kenya) will aim at assisting Kenya in achieving universal electricity access ahead of 2030 and significantly scale up access to clean cooking technologies and fuels. Kenya has been one of the fastest electrifying countries in the world, raising its electrification rate from single digits to 75 percent (as of 2024) in 12 years. Kenya has established a comprehensive framework for electricity access, which supports both grid and off-grid electrification, as well as clean cooking, leverages public and private resources, and has a well-designed pro-poor financing mechanism in place. Kenya's current electrification pace would allow it to achieve universal electricity access before 2030, but this outcome is conditioned on its ability to mobilize sufficient financing, especially as the last mile electrification will require reaching the most remote and the poorest households. It is estimated that about $1 billion is needed to achieve universal electricity access in Kenya, following least-cost electrification plan through DRE solar electrification of public institutions, Productive Use of Energy (PUE), and clean cooking solutions.

1.2 Project Components/Project structure

The ASCENT-Kenya project will mobilize $880 million to scale off-grid energy access, support PUE, and attract private capital. Anchored by $450 million from International Development Association (IDA) and complemented by up to $430 million co-financing, the project will deploy targeted instruments to expand access to electricity, increase adoption of PUE, and improve access to clean cooking solutions through private sector delivery. It is designed to address affordability while maximizing development impact, with a focus on expanding energy access and creating jobs, particularly in underserved regions. The project is structured into three components. The

ASCENT-Kenya seeks to expand access to affordable and reliable distributed renewable energy solutions for households and MSMEs in underserved areas in Kenya. The project will employ a target set of interventions, in three components outlined below:

Component 1: Result-Based Financing for DRE, PUE, Cooling and Clean Cooking

This component will provide Result-Based Financing (RBF) to improve affordability and drive adoption of DRE systems, PUE appliances, cooling solutions, and clean cooking technologies. An end-user subsidy program will lower the cost of these solutions, with subsidy levels reviewed periodically to ensure sustainability and minimize market distortion. Eligible beneficiaries under the RBF window will be pre-qualified companies and distributors of DRE, PUE, cooling and clean cooking appliances, including irrigation and agro-processing applications, targeting households, farmers, and MSMEs to accelerate energy access, enhance productivity, and create local employment.

Component 2: Solar based Electrification of Public Infrastructure

This component will provide solar energy access through:

1. Solarization of existing diesel-powered mini-grids and building new public mini-grids in underserved areas, and
2. Solar electrification of public education, health and agricultural institutions.

Subcomponent 2A: **Energy Access Through Solarized and New Mini-grids**

This subcomponent will expand off-grid energy access through two complementary approaches:

1. Solarization of existing diesel-powered mini-grids, and
2. Development of new solar powered mini-grids in underserved areas.

In addition, the sub-component will conduct a comprehensive assessment of all public solar powered mini-grids to identify opportunities to increase connection density to households, businesses, and community facilities, including hospitals and schools. It will also support the provision of community energy services, such as street and market lighting ,enhancing safety and stimulating local economic activity. The design and implementation of this sub-component will build on the experience and lessons from KOSAP, which is currently developing over 100 solar-powered mini-grids in underserved regions, providing strong foundation for efficient deployment, technology optimization, and sustainable operations.

Sub-component 2B: Electrification of Public Institutions

This component will provide solar energy to more than 7500 public educational institutions, 2500 public health institutions, and 1500 agricultural centers/institutions in underserved areas of the Country that were identified and prioritized under the Kenya Energy Compact. The project will deploy climate resilient technological solutions including, inter alia:

1. Institutional solar photovoltaic systems designed for climate resilience and
2. Battery energy storage systems.

To accelerate implementation and drawing of lessons learned from KOSAP, the sub-component will partner with the private sector to deliver electricity as a service through the installation and long-term maintenance of solar Photovoltaics (PVC) systems in public education and health institutions. The electrification of these institutions will be financed through RBF that covers a portion of the capital costs, complemented by guaranteed energy as a service agreement, ensuring reliable and sustainable electricity supply.

Component 3: Program Management, Capacity Building and Market Development

This component includes:

1. Facilitating implementation, administration, management and monitoring and evaluation.
2. Support market development to increase customer awareness of DRE and PUE technologies and foster linkages in value added chains created through DRE and PUE technologies
3. Support curriculum development
4. Supporting the Ministry of Energy & Petroleum and implementing agencies through provision of:
    i. Capacity building,
    ii. Policy and regulatory analysis, and
    iii. Technical assistance, such as, inter alia, the development of PUE policy, the development and adoption of PUE regulation and standards.

Subcomponent 3A: Market Development and Technical Assistance

This sub-component will fund a national customer awareness campaign on commercial PUE paired with upskilling and mentorship for enterprises adopting PUE technologies. Activities include:

1. Consumer-focused outreach and targeted stakeholder engagement to address market barriers and accelerate uptake of PUE and DRE.
2. Market ecosystem development to strengthen the value chains, and expand supply chains, and improve market access.
3. Partnership linking PUE technology supplies with off-takers and integrating PUE providers into agricultural and productive value chains, including intermediaries, to enhance commercialization and sustainability.

Technical assistance will cover assessments for mini-grid solarization and densification mapping and the selection and prioritization of public facilities for electrification.

Subcomponent 3B: Program Management, Capacity Building and Policy Support

This sub-component will finance project management, policy and regulatory support and capacity building for key stakeholders, including national and county government agencies and private sector entities. Activities will support the design and deployment of appropriate financing instruments, promote gender inclusive approaches, and integrate climate resilience consideration across project activities.

The sub-component will facilitate pipeline development through project preparation and structuring assistance, including technical, financial and regulatory advisory support. It will also support County governments to develop and operationalize County energy plans to strengthen decentralization energy planning and implementation.

In addition, the sub-component will support the development, adoption and enforcement of internationally aligned mandatory standards for sustainable cooking solutions and solar water pumping systems in Kenya, including associate regulatory and institutional capacity strengthening to ensure quality assurance, occupational health and safety in construction, and consumer protection.

Sub-component 3C: Energy Skills and Workforce Development

This sub-component will institutionalize solar PUE skills development by supporting review, updating, and accreditation of curricula and integrating PUE modules into exiting courses offered by technical and vocational training institutions and universities, in line with national curriculum development processes. This will increase the availability, affordability, and relevance of training for technical sales personnel and installers, and expand access nationwide. To further enhance accessibility and reduce training costs, blended delivery modalities including online delivery of the theory component will be considered. Implementation will be undertaken in partnership with technical and vocational training institutions, Universities, PUE companies, Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety Services (DOSHS) and National Industrial Training Authority (NITA). The technical assistance will support skills gap assessments and labour market assessments, curriculum review and validation, Training of Trainers (ToTs), pilot delivery of short courses and skills-upgrading programs and provision of basic starter tool kits for certified trainees to facilitate practical learning and entry into the solar PUE workforce. This will strengthen institutional capacity and support the growth of Kenya's PUE market.

ASCENT-Kenya is being prepared under the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). According to Environmental Social Standards (ESS) 10 on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure, Implementing Agencies (IAs) should provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.

1.3 Project Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries of the project include:

1. Approximately 5,000,000 people will gain access to electricity.
2. Approximately 5,000,000 people will gain access to clean cooking technologies.
3. 7,500 public education institutions and 2,500 public health institutions will access affordable and reliable electricity services.
4. Approximately 1,000,000 people will benefit from the creation of jobs.
5. A number[1] of farmers and MSMEs will benefit from PUE.

In addition, beneficiaries will indirectly benefit from improved economic opportunities and enhanced delivery of public services in health and education, particularly in under served and lagging regions.

The private sector will benefit significantly, both directly and indirectly, from the project. On the energy side, the project will support private sector off-grid solar, DRE, PUE, cooling and clean cooking companies, enabling them to scale their operations, strengthen supply chain, and create new employment opportunities in the clean energy sector, including in rural and undeserved areas. Other contractors and service providers will also benefit from project-financed activities. MSMEs will benefit from improved access to energy service and from the provision of PUE equipment and appliances, which will enhance productivity and income generation.

Government institutions will also be a major beneficiary of the project. Electrification of education and health facilities will improve service delivery outcomes, contributing to better education and health outcomes and more productive population. In the near term, increased job creation and

[1] The exact number will be confirmed after appraisal

economic activity are expected to contribute to overall economic growth and increase tax revenues, supporting fiscal sustainability and debt servicing, including debt incurred to finance the project. Increased adoption of productive use of technologies is expected to boost agricultural productivity, contributing to food security improvement and improvement of nutrition outcomes. Finally, deployment of clean energy solutions and the replacement of fossil fuel-based generation, monitored through a digital verification system, will support the Government in accessing sustainability linked financing instruments and obtaining improved pricing on development finance.

1.4 Project Implementation Arrangements

MoEP, KPLC, and REREC will be the main IAs with technical oversight of the project activities expected to be implemented over five years. Project activities will be carried out by a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) under the oversight of MoEP, with KPLC and REREC each having project implementation teams. MoEP will also retain fiduciary responsibility of the project.

1.5 Brief description of Project impacts

The Project will have positive Environmental and Social Impacts. directly benefit approximately 5 million people through access to electricity for household and productive use and 5 million people through access to clean cooking technologies, while improving energy access for 7,500 public education institutions; 2,500 public health facilities, and 1500 agricultural producer organizations that currently lack reliable and affordable electricity. An estimated 1 million people are expected to benefit from job creation. Indirect benefits will include improved economic opportunities and enhanced delivery of education and health services, particularly in underserved and lagging regions.

Despite the various economic and environmental benefits outlined, the project will also have some negative impacts. The environmental risk rating is assessed as moderate. The key environmental risks and impacts include: (i) land/vegetation clearance and associated faunal disturbance leading to loss of habitats, and wildlife/livestock killing from project vehicle accidents. Loss of vegetation, though minimal, may have localized impact on bird and bats habitats; (ii) dust and noise; (iii) generation and disposal of both liquid and solid wastes, such as spoils, onsite sanitation waste, cables, wood, glass, and packaging materials from construction and operational activities, generation and disposal of hazardous wastes such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from transformer components and oils, certain amounts of heavy metals, used and damaged solar panels, and batteries; (iv) soil erosion, contamination and degradation of soil and water; (v) health and safety of both workers and community members including those associated with operation of vehicles, mobile plants and equipment, traffic safety, working at height, contamination associated with improper handling of e-wastes, electrocution, visual impact and light reflection from solar panel arrays; and (vi) resource use, mainly water in ASAL areas where there is scarcity. During operation, the main risks and impacts are associated with electrical hazards and managing hazardous, including e-waste generation from recycling and disposal of disused/spent PV panel components, solar energy storage batteries, and electrical components of DRE at the end of their useful lives, which is usually 3-5 years after deployment.

Social risk is assessed as Substantial. The project activities are likely to generate potentially adverse social risks and impacts such as (i) attracting an influx of job seekers into project areas, which could pose risks to community health and safety, including SEA/SH risks, the transmission

of communicable diseases, and increased traffic and vehicle-related accidents; (ii) potential for cases of involuntary resettlement, depending on site-specific requirements where land acquisition may be necessary for constructing new mini-grids, potentially resulting in physical and/or economic displacement; (iii) Health and safety risks to workers engaged in construction activities, particularly for workers in areas affected by active armed conflict and banditry; (iv) stakeholder risks, mostly associated with potential complaints related to the distribution of solar energy systems, limited consumer outreach and potential for disinformation, potential intensification of intercommunal and intra-clan conflicts and tensions, and potential pushback to some of the regulatory reforms to be supported; (v) risk of potential exclusion of vulnerable groups in stakeholder engagement activities, along with the potential elite capture of project benefits; and (vi) risks to physical cultural heritage resources, depending on the specific locations of subproject sites. The expansion of solar-based electrification of public infrastructure in underserved areas will also affect Indigenous Peoples and sub-Saharan Africa's historically underserved traditional local communities, which are constitutionally recognised in Kenya as vulnerable and marginalised groups. Other contextual risks include potential ethnic discrimination in underserved communities, prevalence of child labour particularly in marginalised counties, and risks associated with challenges in the stakeholder engagement track record and the use of armed security personnel

2 OBJECTIVE/ DESCRIPTION OF THE SEP

The overall objective of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is to define a program for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultation throughout the entire project cycle. The SEP outlines ways in which the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP), Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC) will communicate with stakeholders. It also describes a mechanism by which stakeholders can raise concerns, provide feedback, or make complaints about the project and any activities related to the project. Further, the SEP outlines approaches about methods for effective engagement of community groups considered most vulnerable and at risk of exclusion from accessing project benefits and opportunities.

3 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

3.1 Principles of Stakeholder Engagement

To meet best practice approaches, the project will apply the following principles for stakeholder engagement:

1. **Openness and life-cycle approach:** Public consultations for the project(s) will be arranged during the whole life cycle, carried out in an open manner, free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation.
2. **Informed participation and feedback:** Information will be provided to and widely distributed among all stakeholders in an appropriate format; opportunities will be provided for communicating stakeholder feedback, and for analyzing and addressing comments and concerns.
3. **Inclusiveness and sensitivity:** Stakeholder identification is undertaken to support better communications and build effective relationships. The participation process for the project is inclusive. All stakeholders are always encouraged to be involved in the consultation process. Equal access to information is provided to all stakeholders. Sensitivity to stakeholders' needs is the key principle underlying the selection of engagement methods. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups that may be at risk of being left out of project benefits, particularly women, the elderly, persons with disabilities displaced persons, and migrant workers ad communities, and the cultural sensitivities of diverse ethnic groups.
4. **Flexibility:** If social distancing, cultural context (for example particular gender dynamics), or governance factors (For example, high risk of retaliation) inhibits traditional forms of face-to-face engagement, the methodology should adapt to other forms of engagement, including various forms of internet or phone-based communication.

3.2 Stakeholder Identification

Stakeholders include individuals and groups that may influence or be impacted by the Project directly or indirectly and those who may have interests in the Project and/or the ability to influence its outcomes, either positively or negatively.

The stakeholder identification process establishes which organizations and individuals may be directly or indirectly affected (positively and negatively) by the proposed project or have an interest in it. To develop an effective SEP, it was necessary to determine exactly who the stakeholders are and understand their priorities and objectives in relation to the ASCENT-Kenya Project. By classifying and analysing the position, capacity and interests of stakeholders. It was then possible to develop SEP that is tailored to the needs of different stakeholder groups.

Project stakeholders can be grouped into the following categories:

1. Affected persons
2. Other interested parties; and
3. Vulnerable and Disadvantaged individuals or Groups including Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMGs)

Affected Persons (APs)

Affected Persons (APs) are Persons, groups, and other entities within the Project Area (PA) that are directly influenced (actual and potential) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to change associated with the project, and who need to be closely engaged in identifying impacts and their significance, as well as in decision-making on mitigation and

management measures. For ASCENT-Kenya Project, APs are: communities neighbouring proposed project implementation sites, farmers, pastoralists, public schools, health centres and hospitals, churches and mosques in underserved regions, local community leaderships: village elders, religious leaders, peace committees, Grievance Management Committees (GMCs) and members of the general public, [2] , electric utilities: private sector Distributed Renewable Energy (DRE) companies and clean cooking providers.

Interested Parties

Other Interested Parties (OIPs) are individuals /groups/entities that may not experience direct impacts from the project, but who consider or perceive their interests as being affected by the project and/or who could affect or influence the outcomes and the process of its implementation in some way. These are: MoEP, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) with operational focus in clean cooking sectors; all the 47 county Governments, National Government Administration Office, National Land Committee (NLC), academia, organizations involved in carbon credit trade and the media.

1. **National Government Agencies:** These are the machinery of government that is responsible for the oversight and administration of specific functions. They work to ensure effective delivery of services, the enforcement of laws, and implementation of government policies to enhance the well-being and development of the country and its citizens.
2. **County Government Agencies:** Refers to the government bodies and organizations established at the county level with specific mandates and functions. These agencies play various roles in implementing county-level policies and programs to serve the interests and needs of the residents within their respective counties.
3. **Local administration:** Refers to the system of government officials who serve at the sub-national or local level to oversee and coordinate administrative and governance functions within specific administrative areas, such as sub-locations, locations, and sub-counties. They help to mobilize communities for development activities and government programmes, solve disputes and conflicts at the local level and promote government programs and policies to the community.

3.3 Disadvantaged/ Vulnerable Individuals or Groups

Vulnerable groups may be disproportionately impacted or further disadvantaged by the project(s) compared with any other groups due to their minority status, culture or language, and who may require special engagement efforts to ensure their representation in the consultation and decision-making processes associated with the project. Where land, natural resources and cultural heritage is impacted, FPIC process will be adopted to garner broad community support. Furthermore, engagement will be inclusive, adapted to the local language and structured around traditional decision-making processes and ensuring participation of indigenous women and youth. Vulnerable groups affected by the project will be further confirmed and consulted through dedicated means as appropriate. Within the Project, the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Women Headed Households
2. Urban Poor
3. Informal Settlement dwellers

[2] The specific communities, schools and hospitals will be identified before project activities commence

4. Unemployed
5. Nomadic pastoralist communities
6. Poor and destitute households in urban and rural areas
7. People Living with Disabilities (PLWD)
8. The elderly
9. Chronically ill
10. People Living with Human Immunodeficiency (HIV)/Acquired Immuno deficiency Virus (AIDS)
11. Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMGs) living in hard-to-reach locations

Information will be translated to local languages and dialects and transmitted in specialized and separate forums to safely voice their concerns and ensure their ideas are not overshadowed by community majority.

The project will introduce measures to support the most vulnerable households to connect to the project also covered and described in ASCENT-Kenya project Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups and Persons (VMGPs).

3.4 Stakeholder Mapping

It is important to tailor the engagement methodology to the targeted stakeholders and their relationship to the Project (their influence and interest). Stakeholder mapping seeks to understand stakeholders' level of interest in the Project and influence in decision making as well as on other project stakeholders and will continue throughout the Project life-cycle. It is also important to note that stakeholder interests and level of influence is dynamic and changes over time; hence the need to periodically update the stakeholders map as well as the wider SEP. Mapping will also help identify stakeholders who may find it more difficult to participate in consultation activities and are affected by or interested in the proposed project because of their marginalized or vulnerable status (such as disabled or elderly people).

Stakeholder mapping considers:

1. Who is affected by the project and how.
2. Who are the formal and informal community leaders and to what degree are they seen as representatives.
3. Whether the stakeholder support, is neutral towards, or is opposed to the Project.
4. Each stakeholder's interest and concerns in relation to the Project; and
5. How different stakeholders can influence the Project and what risks or opportunities this presents.

According to each stakeholder's level of interest or impact on the proposed Project, different levels of engagement intensity will be employed. Stakeholders have been mapped using the matrix presented in figure 1 below.

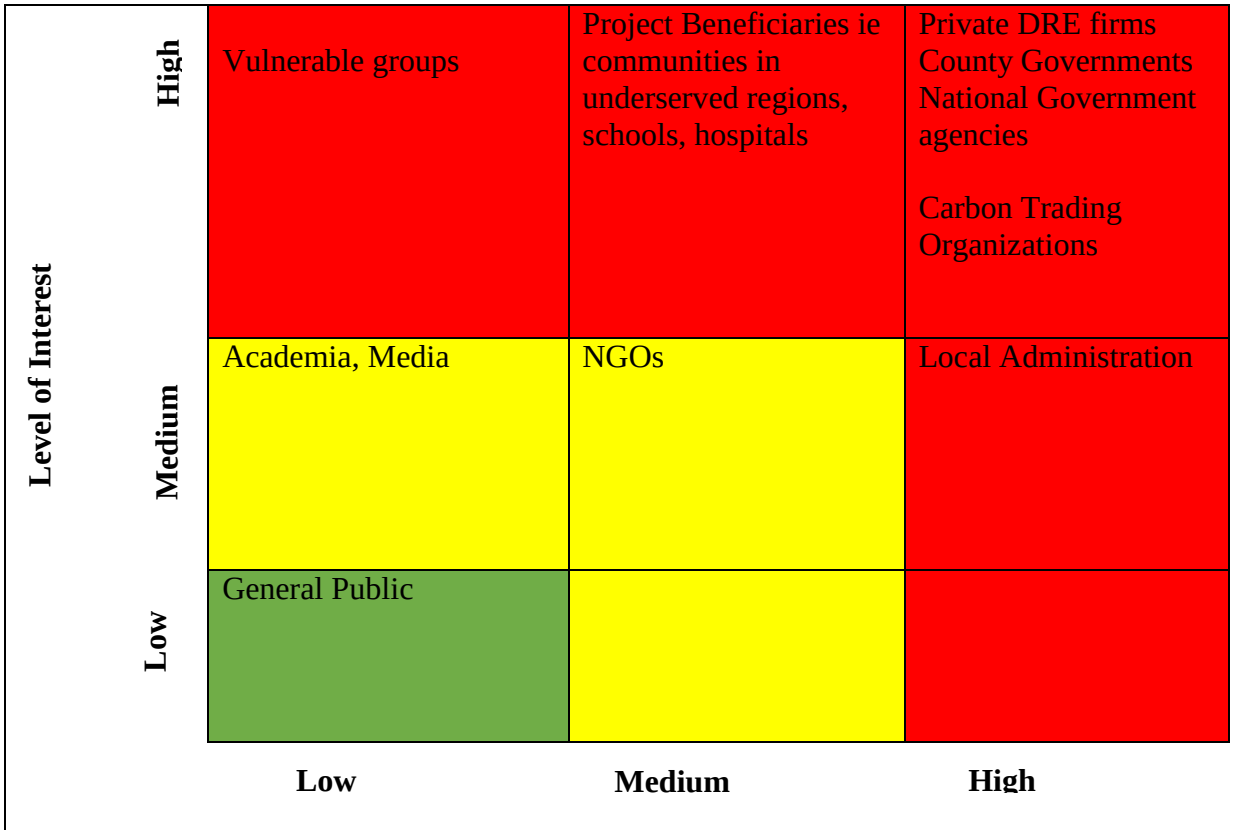

Figure 1 Stakeholder Level of Interest/ Impact

4 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

4.1 Key issues to be Communicated

The following are some of the important messages that will be communicated to stakeholders:

1. Background of the Project
2. Project description
3. Project activities
4. The potential Project benefits and impacts
5. The process that will be followed to engage with stakeholders
6. Grievance Mechanism for the project
7. How and when stakeholders can participate in the project
8. The project timelines

4.2 When to Communicate

Project communication will be structured and offered regularly but with flexibility of responding to issues as they emerge. Broadly, stakeholder engagement for the proposed project has been categorized into preparation and operation engagement activities.

4.3 Methods of Communication

A variety of communication methods will be used to engage with stakeholders depending on stakeholder characteristics and needs, while at the same time taking into consideration their level of authority, socioeconomic context, cultural sensitivity, literacy and educational levels, accessibility and vulnerability.

While English is the official language, Kiswahili is the national language in Kenya. Therefore, all stakeholder engagement will be done in Kiswahili and translated to local languages where necessary especially in key stakeholder meetings, community sensitization and project affected persons meetings, All project information will be published in English and translated to Kiswahili and /or local languages when necessary.

4.4 Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Conducted During Project Preparation

During project preparation, the following consultation activities were undertaken:

4.4.1 Consultations with Various Stakeholders including Potential Project Beneficiaries held in Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo, Busia and Homabay Counties between 17th March 2026 and 26th March 2026

The consultation meetings targeted potential ASCENT beneficiaries including youth, men, women, representatives of public educational, health and religious institutions and VMG communities. In each of the four counties, prior arrangements were made with the local National Government Administration Officer (NGAO) and community leaders such as Land and Lake Officials in Baringo Chief and Assistant Chief and BMU officials in case of Homabay and Busia Counties. This was followed by conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) at the respective village venues. Ideas and feedback for consideration in the design of ASCENT were discussed and documented. In summary a total of 632 participants (see Annex 3 for detailed information) took part in the engagement sessions. Table 1 below gives the summary of the engagements.

Table 1: Consultation Summaries

County	Stakeholder (Group or Individual)	Summary of Feedback/Concerns raised	Response of Project Implementation Team	Follow-up/ Steps to be taken
Busia	Sumba Island (62 Participants)	The community raised concerns regarding access to electricity, damaged streetlights, employment opportunities, project ownership, connection costs, and whether households located far from the Center would also benefit. Overall, the community welcomed the project and expressed strong interest in receiving electricity services.	The project team clarified that the project if government-owned, local residents would be given priority for employment opportunities, and surveys would be conducted to determine the most suitable coverage to reach all households.	Further consultation will be done in due course
	Ebulwani Island (87 Participants)	The Community questions focused on land requirements, employment opportunities, maintenance responsibilities, land compensation, and the electricity payment system.	The project team emphasized the prioritization of local employment, adherence to legal procedures for land compensation, and the use of prepaid token system for electricity payments.	Further consultation will be done in due course
Homabay	Ringiti Island (31 Participants)	The community highlighted expected benefits such as improved lighting, support for businesses, employment opportunities, and enhanced health and security. Concerns were raised regarding the existing private electricity system, fairness in distribution, high electricity costs, and reliability especially during the rainy season. Additional questions were raised on land allocation, project timelines, and the fairness of the current power arrangements.	The project team emphasized the need for equitable access, transparency in implementation, and fair distribution of electricity.	Further consultation will be done in due course
	Remba Island (98 Participants)	Remba Island currently relies on a private electricity supply, but the community expressed the need for a more reliable, government support system. The community cited expected benefits such as affordable and reliable	The team addressed the concerns emphasizing ongoing planning processes, community involvement, and the adoption of regulated electricity tariffs to ensure fairness.	Further consultation will be done in due course

		electricity, reduced reliance on paraffin, support local businesses, employment creation, and improved health and education services. Concerns focused on sustainability, affordability, fairness in power distribution, and challenges with the existing private electricity supplier, and project timelines.		
Baringo	Kasore scheme in Morop, Baringo Central (36 Participants)	Participants inquired on whether people who will be far away from the mini-grid for example 2km away get power.	They were informed that transformers will be installed to ensure that even people who are 2km away get power. We will consult with the technical teams/Design &Construction engineers	Connect further with technical team
		A Community member presented that a while back pegging was done and all households were marked for connection to the new project mark the end of the old project.	KPLC, the Ministry, REREC committed to look at all the alternatives available and zero in on the ones that serve the area well Kasore Location best.	Further information will be provided once confirmation is made
		The community member presented that the area is usually very cold especially between April and July and inquired whether the solar mini grid be sufficient to serve all the households.	They were assured that studies and tests will be done to ensure that if mini grid is situated in Kasore the power will be grid level to serve all households.	Technical studies/ Survey is needed
		The member wanted to confirm whether the consultations will mark the end of consultative meetings.	They were assured that the consultations were just the beginning, but many more meetings will be conducted before project implementation	Further consultation needed. SEP is needed
		A member presented that the community doesn't want solar since the grid is not far from us.	They were informed that the team will consult with CBM on the way forward and the practicability	Need to get more input from the CBM
		The community presented that they welcome the project to serve them as they waited for the power grid	Noted and will continue to engage further to ensure the people get electricity	Further Engagement will be made.

		A community member asked whether they will be compensated for trees cut	They were advice that if the project is implemented the contractor will try as much as possible not to cut trees but in the event trees will be cut there be no compensation	Further Engagement will be made.
	Kokwa Island in Kambi Samaki – Community Iljemus also spelt as Ilchamus or Injemps(it should be noted that these are IP-VMGS (66 Participants)	A community member wanted to know whether compensation will be provided incase the community provides land for the project.	They were informed that if it is community land the compensation will be done as per the law.	Further consultation with the Community, NLC, and county government needed
		They wanted to know once electricity is Kokwa Island and land was given; will they still pay for the power and yet it is a natural solar.	They were informed that due to connections and operation and maintenance cost, power will be paid using tokens.	Further engagement will be done.
		A participant requested to know when the project would start	The project is at the preliminary stages, once everything is sorted out, we will still visit Kokwa Island for final report.	Further engagement with project implementation team
		A participant asked to know the radius or length of the line from the mini grid to customers	This will be determined by our technical teams based on the capacity of the mini grid but the 600m from the transformer will remain	KPLC technical team to be consulted to come up with technical requirements of the mini grid
		A participant inquired whether during the implementation of the project, the community can also by getting a safaricom mast for ease of communication.	This will have to be done through the office of the Member of Parliament	Office of the Member of Parliament to follow up
		A participant wanted to know size of land is required for the mini grid.	The technical teams will confirm the size	Technical teams from the implementing agencies (KPLC, REREC, and MoEP to confirm the size

		A community member inquired on the requirements for land as in the community land is registered as group ranch.	We will engage the leadership of the community and the entire community to agree and a portion of land which will be compensated as per the law.	Need for follow up consultations including Community Land Management Team, NLC and county Government of Baringo
		A member reiterated that the community hoped this would not be the last consultative meeting	This is just the beginning many more meetings will be conducted before project implementation	Further consultations needed. Project implementation team to spearhead
		A participant reminded the meeting that during the next consultation meeting provide adequate notice through our chairman.	Noted, and we will comply	Project implementation team
	Torokwanin in Eldama Ravine-Community majorly Tugens of Lembus subgroup Education institutions (Mary Keitany Secondary and Torokwonin Comprehensive school) (11 Participants)	A participant asked the consultation team when the project would likely start	The project is really at the preliminary stages and it is not possible to give a definite date	Consult further with the technical team
		A participant observed that since the Kenya Power networks is not far from the school, connection to the network will be faster now that the community really need power.	KPLC, the Ministry and REREC will look at all the alternatives and zero in on the one that serves	KPLC & REREC Engineers County Business Manager to further engage
		A participant observed that if Kenya power network come to the school, the community can also be connected.	Yes, the community can be connected	
		A participant informed the meeting that as a community they felt the network was not far for the community to be connected.	WE will look at all the alternatives and consult with County team	CBM engage further
Elgeyo Marakwet		A participant inquired whether solar can serve even people beyond the school to the community.	The solar will be installed with the transformer whose safe working distance is 600m	Further consult with the engineers about whether more

	Tiriya (88 Participants)			transformers will be installed
		The participants wanted to know how many acres of land the project require.	The project requires 2-3 acres of land	More consultation will follow during land acquisition
	Kemeloi (90 Participants)	A community member mentioned that the national grid is about 3km from the school and wondered why KPLC can't connect the community with the grid and not the solar.	There was a challenge of terrain and acceptability. Hence, KPLC has explored other options of connection through solar.	More engagements will be conducted on the issue
		The participant said that solar is natural on whether it will be cheap compared with electricity.	The solar power to be installed will have no much difference between the normal national grid power. The costs will not change and will also depend on customer consumption.	Further engagement will be done.
	Yatia (41 Participants)	The participant noted that the area around Tiriya and Kemeloi experiences few hours of solar during the months of April and November and thus wondered how viable the project will be.	The project comes with a backup generator, again the solar panels are so sensitive even to little solar hence no cause for alarm.	Further consultations with project Engineers
		A community member requested to know the procedure to be adopted for acquiring the land for the project.	The engineers will work out the most appropriate location, and land acquisition will be done in compliance with all applicable laws.	Further consultations will be done in due course
		A community member asked the team on skills that will be looked for when considering locals for employment in this project.	Opportunity for jobs will be given to those works who qualify or have necessary skills and payment will be done on the prevailing market rates.	Further engagements and information will be provided.

5 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGMENT PLAN

5.1 Purpose and Timing of Stakeholder Engagement Program

The overall goal of this SEP is to ensure systematic, consistent, comprehensive and coordinated approach to stakeholder participation and communication throughout the project cycle. The SEP outlines ways in which the project team will engaged with stakeholders and feedback mechanism to be utilized. The plan will guide timely engagement with key stakeholders as well as dissemination and increased access to relevant project in formation. The project will innovate ways for consultations to be effective and meaningful to project and stakeholder needs.

In addition to this SEP, other environmental and social instruments developed include an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) and Labour Management Procedures (LMP) including description of workers GM, Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) with community, Health and Safety Plan and non-disclosable section containing projects' security Protocol, SEA/SH prevention and response action plan. This will be disseminated on the IA and World Bank websites to ensure access to information about environmental and social risks and respective mitigation measures. The IAs environmental and social safeguard specialists will be trained on ESF and requirements of ESS2 and ESS10 within 90 days after project effective date to ensure understanding and effective implementation of this SEP. MoEP / REREC and KPLC will further prepare and submit to Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the project. The first report will be submitted three months after project implementation followed by quarterly reports throughout the project implementation period.

5.2 Proposed Strategy for Information Disclosure

Electronic copies of the disclosure materials will be placed on the borrower/IA and World Bank websites to allow easy access by all stakeholders. Similarly, hard copies will be made available at strategically accessible locations at project implementation site localities. The disclosure materials will also be shared with the targeted stakeholders through email, and virtual and in-person presentations during project-related meetings. In addition to disclosure of the various project materials (ESCP, SEP, ESMF, RPF, VMGP, and CHSP), formal channels will be set up to register and document comments, suggestions and grievances from the public. The grievance mechanism shall be made publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of complaints and all other concerns in relation to the Project.

The following information will be disclosed to the relevant stakeholders:

1. The Project components
2. Project objectives, positive and negative project impacts, risks, and mitigation measures.
3. The project grievance mechanism, its steps, and processes, how to access it and resolution timeframes
4. Project implementation arrangements, schedule and roles and responsibilities of various parties as per the Project's institutional arrangement
5. The project ESMPs, ESCP,SEP,LMP,RPF,ESMF,VMGP
6. Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs)
7. Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs)
8. Continuous update in the progress in implementation project activities
9. Contact information for project representatives
10. Monitoring and evaluation framework

5.3 Proposed Strategy for Consultation

The Social and Environmental Specialists at REREC/ KPLC & MoEP will conduct consultations with all identified stakeholders with the aim of creating awareness, improving access to information and receiving and giving feedback on project implementation. The communication channels highlighted in table 3 will play a key role in ensuring information flow between the Borrower and its stakeholders. The SEP for ASCENT-Kenya project is presented in table in table 2.

5.4 Summary of Stakeholder Needs, Methods, Tools and Techniques for Engagement

SEP outlines the engagement process, including sequencing, topics of consultations, and target stakeholders. The project has a policy of non-retaliation and does not tolerate reprisals and retaliation against project stakeholders who share their views about the project. Table 2 shows Stakeholder Engagement and Disclosure Methods while Table 3 presents Stakeholder Consultation Plan (SCP).

Table 2: Disclosure Methods

Project Stage	Information to be disclosed	Target Stakeholder	Communication Channels	Timelines	Responsibilities
Project preparation	Project documentation to be disclosed	Affected and interested parties	Emails, websites, meetings (in person and virtual)	ESCP, SEP, ESMF, RPF to be disclosed before appraisal while LMP, VGMP and CHSP to be disclosed around project effectiveness date.	REREC KPC MoEP
	Annual work plan	Affected and implementing parties	Email, Website	A week after approval by World Bank	REREC KPC MoEP
Project implementation and monitoring	Monitoring reports on the ESHS performance	World Bank and all other stakeholders	Email, website, meetings	1st report- 3 months after project implementation and subsequent reports quarterly	REREC KPC MoEP
	Progress reports	All stakeholders	Email, website, meetings	As per ESCP commitment e.g. bi-annually	REREC KPC MoEP

5.4.2 Stakeholder Consultation Plan (SCP)

Table 3: Summary of SCP

Project Stage	Target Stakeholders	Topic of Consultation	Methods used	Timeline and Frequency	Responsibility
Project Preparation and after appraisal	World Bank	Development, approval and disclosures of ESF, ESCP, SEP, ESMF, RPF, VMGP, CHSP site specific ESIA and RAP, Project Information Document (PID), and LMP, annual work plan	Email Meetings (in person and virtual)	Continuous	World Bank MoEP KPLC REREC
	Project-affected parties, schools and health facilities and local leadership	Awareness creation to beneficiaries and local leadership about the project, including their rights and entitlements, benefits and opportunities, ESHS risks and impacts including SEA/SH, HIV/AIDS, and STI and the proposed mitigation measures	Public meetings	Before commencement of project activities and at variable frequency depending on role of stakeholders and subject matter i.e. annual, Bi-annual, quarterly, monthly	REREC KPLC
			FGDs with beneficiaries including minority VMGs, and other disadvantaged groups		MoEP
			Institutional Consultation	Before appraisal	KPLC REREC

	Interested parties: -Members of the public -Ministries and Departments and Agencies at the National and county level -Media -Academia -Civil Society Groups -Private sector	Awareness creation about the project, roles and obligations ie - Project implementation arrangements - Project components and project ES documents disclosure	Media campaigns, Radio, website update coordination meetings Industry forums, RBF briefings	Continuous	MoEP KPLC REREC
Project Implementation phase	Project affected parties	Regular updates on project progress and implementation of E&S mitigation measures. Discussions with minority VMGs about the project with feedback generated. Engagement on complaints about project implementation	Public forums and FGDs with beneficiaries including minority VMGs and other disadvantaged groups.	Quarterly and as when required	MoEP KPLC REREC
	Interested parties	Regular updates on project progress and E&S mitigation measures	Printed materials (newsletter, fliers); program progress reports; regular project meetings; Social media; Monitoring and Evaluation meetings. Regular project meetings; Progress project reports; Social media platforms	Quarterly	MoEP KPLC REREC

5.5 Proposed Engagement Process for Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

Implementation of ASCENT-Kenya project components will fully apply to communities that meet ESS7 and therefore the PCU will ensure targeted meaningful consultations, including identification and involvement of Vulnerable and Marginalized Communities (VMCs) and their respective bodies and organizations; culturally appropriate engagement processes; providing sufficient time for decision making processes; and allowing their effective participation in the design and implementation of project activities or mitigation measures that could affect them either positively or negatively.

Special measures will be considered for Vulnerable and disadvantaged groups including Localized vernacular media notices and radio announcements, meeting communities where they are by conducting meetings in their usual meetings` venues and spaces and gender sensitive measures involving separate meetings for women, girls and youth.

Consultations with VMGs will be participatory, culturally appropriate, gender-inclusive and inter-generationally appropriate ensuring that the groups have access to project benefits and can influence project design as follows:

1. Project information will be disclosed in a timely and culturally appropriate manner ensuring meaningful consultation and provision of feedback by the VMGs.
2. All project E&S document will be disclosed in a timely manner and be available in hard copies, at clearly accessible locations such as village offices and community centres. Summary translations will be made to cater for language needs of VMGs and community members and stakeholders not knowledgeable in English language.
3. Meetings will be conducted in a language(s) understood by VMGs and if that is not vernacular language, translation will be provided.
4. People living with disabilities among VMGs will be provided with information in accessible formats.
5. To address the risk of exclusion from consultation and engagement forms, the existing community governance structures within the VMG communities will be identified and involved in the process of identifying target beneficiaries for the planned interventions under the various project components for participation in stakeholder engagement and other planned project activities.
6. FGDs will be held with VMG communities where project interventions are being undertaken ensuring their participation. The discussions will be sensitive to the views of the VMGs communities and will provide an opportunity to discuss issues of concern.
7. The project team will ensure adequate and ongoing consultation based on a pre-agreed consultation plan (and in line with this SEP) with VMG communities in a manner that is free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.
8. The project team shall consider and respond to feedback promptly and, document and disclose all consultations held with VMG communities clearly providing minutes, and signed list of attendance.
9. The project Grievance Mechanism (GM) that is SEA/SH- responsive will be designed for identified vulnerable groups and publicly disclosed. The project GM focal points will be instrumental in sensitizing the VMGs on project GM including the grievance management structures and uptake channels. Feedback on reported grievances will be provided to all VMG communities in a timely manner as described in the relevant section of project ESMF.

10. The project GM shall incorporate existing traditional dispute resolution mechanism as the lowest tier. The GM focal points will ensure that all concerns /conflicts are addressed promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate. All received grievances including those reported anonymously shall be logged, dated, processed, resolved and closed out.
11. Meetings shall be held in central locations which are easily accessible to the VMG communities and at appropriate timings to facilitate maximum attendance without interfering with economic and/or household activities. Meetings will be announced far much earlier and in good time as agreed with the VMGs, and documents shared in advance for stakeholders planning and participation.
12. To enhance gender and social inclusion, the project consultation will include all community segments including women, youth and men and other vulnerable individuals within the VMG community(ies).

5.6 Repotting Back to Stakeholders

There will be continuous information disclosure to all stakeholders regarding the project implementation progress, project environmental and social performance, implementation of the SEP and Grievance Mechanism (GM). The PIU will maintain open lines of communicating with all stakeholders to encourage information flow-including feedback, understanding of the project and its key documents and to strengthen working relationships.

6 RESOURCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITITES

6.1 Responsibilities

The Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP) will have a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) while Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and Kenya Rural and Renewable energy cooperation (REREC) will each have a project implementation unit (PIU). MoEP will have an environmental and social specialist while KPLC and REREC will each have one Environmental Specialist (ES), Social Specialist (SS) and one Occupational Health and Safety Officer (OHSO). The ES specialist will oversee all stakeholder engagement activities.

The MoEP PCU will have an overarching responsibility, while KPLC and REREC will be responsible for carrying out stakeholder engagement activities throughout the project cycle through the ES specialists The specialists in each organization coordinated by ES specialists at MoEP will be responsible for ensuring that SEP is communicated internally and that the staff, resources, and systems are in place to enable SEP to be implemented. In addition, assist with liaison and communication with key national, county and local government authorities and agencies, plan and attend key consultations with stakeholders as required, and assist in management of grievances. They will also monitor the complaints' handling performance on environment and social issues. Providing inputs into the monitoring and evaluation process, such as quarterly reports on grievances handled among other issues. The stakeholder engagement activities will be documented through minutes of meetings and field reports and shared with national and other interested stakeholders, including the financier.

To support detailed planning, which is required at the local level, especially on particular aspects related to labour, access to site and general project information during project implementation phase, other project implementation teams consisting of project contractors, sub-contractors and supervision consultants will be responsible for developing and implementing stakeholder engagement activities. The planned activities will be approved by the Implementing Agencies (MoEP, KPLC and REREC) and financed under Bill of Quantities in the respective sub projects. The stakeholder engagement activities are woven to project contracts and hence budgeted for as necessary for implementation as part of C - ESMP.

6.2 Resources and Budget

Table 4 below presents the activities to be undertaken and the corresponding budget.

Table 4: The Budget of SEP

Budget Category	Quantity	Unit Cos	Frequency	Total Cost in Ksl	Remarks
Community sensitization					
Organization of public meetings	250	17730	3	13.36M	
Facilitation for local leadership	250	12000	3	9.0M	
Communication					
Communication operational costs	1			3.0M	
Trainings					
Training on social & environmental issues for PCU and contract staff	8	3M	1	24M	This will be based on 8 Regions
Beneficiaries survey					

Baseline & mid project perception survey	1			2M	
End-term project survey	-	-	-	-	-
Grievance Mechanism					
Training of community focal points/communities	250	12000	1	3M	
Operation & Management of GM				3 M	
5% Contingency				2.7M	
TOTAL BUDGET				**60.0M**	

7 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (GM)

7.1 Objectives of the GM

Grievance Mechanisms provide a formal avenue through which affected groups or stakeholders can engage with project implementers or owners regarding issues of concern or unaddressed impacts. Grievances include any complaints, concerns, or suggestions about the way a project is being implemented. These may relate to specific claims for damages or injury, concerns about routine project activities, or perceived incidence and impacts.

The identification and timely response to grievances contribute significantly to building and maintaining positive relationships between projects and affected communities, institutions, and other stakeholders. The GM should receive and facilitate the resolution of concerns and complaints from affected communities and institutions.

According to ESS 10 grievances must be addressed promptly through a process that is transparent, understandable, culturally appropriate, and readily accessible to all segments of affected communities. The process should be provided at no cost to complaints and without fear of retaliation or retribution. Furthermore, grievance mechanisms should be proportionate to the scale of risks, impacts associated with the project.

Grievances often signal emerging stakeholder concerns, whether real or perceived, and can escalate if not properly identified and resolved. Effective grievance management is therefore a critical component of stakeholder engagement and a key element of overall project risk management. Given that projects may generate a range of potential adverse social and environmental impacts, it is essential to identify grievances and ensure their timely resolution.

Accordingly, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has developed a GM to guide the management of grievances during project implementation. This GM builds upon established best practices and applicable frameworks to ensure fairness, transparency, and effectiveness in resolving complaints.

7.2 Grievance Redress Principles

The principles of GM management that need to be observed include:

1. All complaints and grievances are resolved as quickly as possible.
2. The resolution of complaints and grievances should be at the lowest possible level for resolution.
3. All complaints that can be resolved, should be resolved immediately at project implementation site tier. The focus of the GM is to resolve issues in a culturally appropriate fashion at the community level and record details of the complaint, the complainant and the resolution.

Table 5 shows the steps in the grievance process, resolution timelines and responsible parties.

Table 5: GM Steps and Resolution Timelines

Step	Description of the Process	Timeframe	Responsibility
Grievance uptake	Grievances can be submitted via the following channels: 1. Toll free telephone hotlines operated by PIU Safeguards Team SMS to be provided by the project PIU. Email: To be provided by the project PIU Letter addressed to: The Project Coordinator, ASCENT Project PIU In-person at the County Project Liaison Offices in each participating County. Grievance or suggestion boxes located at Chief's offices, market centres, local administration offices, and project sites. 2. Social media: To be provided by the project PIU. Table/Smartphone application: To be provided by the project PIU	Continuous	PIU Safeguards Teams and Local Grievance Focal Points
Sorting, processing	All complaints received are forwarded to the County Grievance Focal Point, logged in the ASCENT GM register and digital GM Database, and categorized as: Environmental, social, GBV/SEA, Land and compensation, Employment/ Labour-related, Procurement/ Contractor misconduct, Health, Safety and Security (HSS) and general inquiries	Upon receipt of complaint	Local grievance focal points
Acknowledgement follow-up	A formal acknowledgement is issued to the complainant via SMS, phone call or written notification by the GM focal point	Within 2 days of receipt	Local grievance focal points
Verification, investigation action	The complaint is investigated by County Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) with support from PIU ESS. The proposed resolution is formulated by GRC and communicated to the complainant by the County GM Focal Point or PIU	Within 10 working days	Local Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) composed of community representatives, PIU E & S specialists, County Officials, and contractor/ Supervision Consultant Representatives

Monitoring and evaluation	Data and complaints are restored in the GM database and reported monthly to the PIU Project Coordinator and Quarterly to the World Bank as part of safeguards reporting.	Monthly and Quarterly	PIU Safeguards Team
Provision of feedback	Complainant satisfaction surveys are conducted through phone call follow up, in-person interviews, or digital feedback forms uploaded to the GM portal.	After closure of each case	PIU Safeguards Team and County GM focal points
Training	Annual and periodic refresher trainings are conducted for PIU staff, Contractors, Supervision consultants, CGRCs on GM principles, GBV/SEA handling, documentation, and reporting procedures.	Annually and as needed	PIU Safeguards Team with support from GBV/SEA Specialists
Payment of reparations (where applicable)	Compensation and reparations arising from verified claims will be processed through the PIU Finance Unit following government financial procedures. Payments will be made directly to the affected individuals or community via bank transfer or M-Pesa, and documented in the GM register.	As required	PIU Finance Unit and Project Coordinator
Appeals process	If the complainant is dissatisfied with the proposed resolution, the case is escalated to the National –Level GRC, then, if unresolved, referred to the MoEP Appeals Board. As a last resort, complainants may seek redress through the Kenyan judicial systems.	Within 15 working days after appeal submission	National GRC, Ministry Appeals Board or Judicial system.

7.3 GRM Structure

7.3.1 Grievance Redress Mechanism

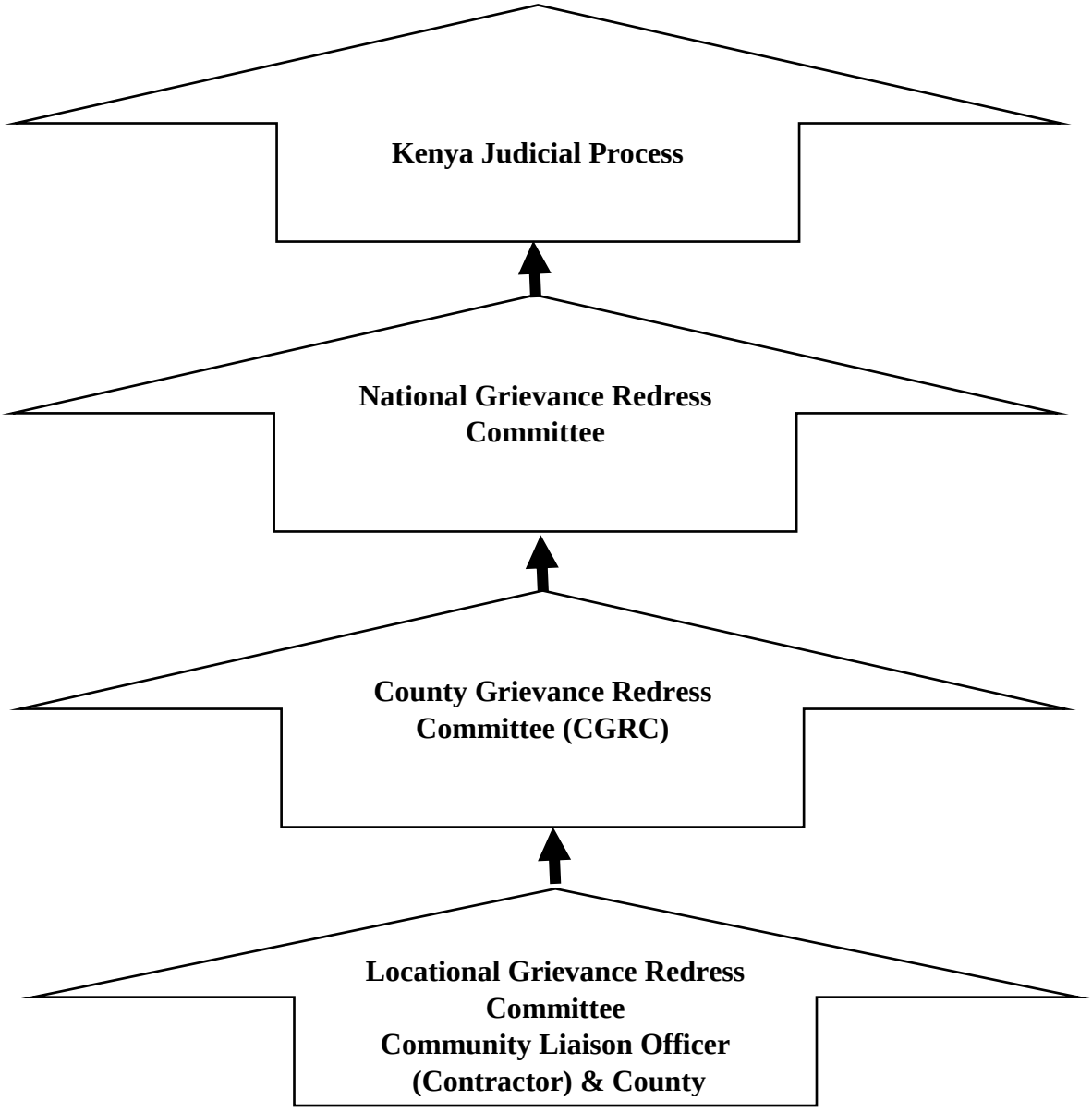

Figure 2 Grievance Mechanism Structure

NB: The Complainant is free to resort to Judicial recourse at any stage.

7.3.2 Government Management of Land Acquisition Disputes

The Environment and Land Court, established under the Environment Land court Act 2011, is a superior court (with officers across the country) that hears and determined disputes relating to land and the environment. Likewise, the Land Acquisition Tribunal established under the Land Act 2012; (PART VIIIA 133A) has jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from the decision of the NLC on the process of compulsory acquisition of land. Therefore, in the first instance, such appeals are referred to the Tribunal. However, a party dissatisfied with the decision of the Tribunal may appeal to the Environment and Land Court on a question of law only. The regulations to set the Land Acquisition Tribunal established under the Land Value (Amendment) Act of 2019 are

underway. Besides, the Judicial Service Commission will chair the Land Acquisition Tribunal once operational.

7.4 Labour Grievance Mechanism

There is labour GM in ASCENT project that provides structured, confidential and accountable process for project workers to raise complaints about terms and conditions of employment, safety, harassment, and discrimination. The Grievance Mechanism is described in detail in the LMP.

7.5 Grievances on GBV–SEA /SH

There will be separate reporting mechanisms for Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) cases that are discrete from GM, and mechanisms for its implementation will be outlined in the SEAH Prevention and Response Plan that will be prepared for the project. The GM will also specify how GBV/SEAH complaints received through other channels will be managed.

This SEP outlines the strategy for engaging stakeholders in the prevention, mitigation and response to GBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH), associated with project implementation. The objective is to:

1. Raise awareness on GBV/SEA/SH risk
2. Promote safe and respectful behavior.
3. Confidentiality is guaranteed.
4. Survivors are not required to provide evidence to access support services.
5. The GBV GRM operate separately from general project complaints.
6. No retaliation is permitted against complainants.

Table 6 shows the accountability, and roles and responsibilities in grievance redress and reporting on GBV cases

Table 6: Accountability and Roles

No.	Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
1.	Management	Ensure implementation of GBV engagement activities
2.	GBV Focal Point	Coordinate sensitization and manage referrals
3.	Supervisors	Monitor worker conduct
4.	Community Leaders	Support awareness and safe reporting
5.	Service Providers	Deliver Survivor-centered services
6.	Grievance Committee	Ensure confidential handling of cases

8 MONITORING AND REPORTING

8.1 Involvement of Stakeholders in Monitoring Activities

Monitoring and evaluation of the stakeholder engagement process is considered vital to ensure MoEP and the other Implementing Agencies (KPLC, REREC) can respond to identified issues and alter the schedule and nature of engagement activities to make them more effective. Adherence to the following characteristics/commitments /activities will assist in achieving successful engagement:

1. Sufficient resources to undertake the engagement.
2. Inclusivity (inclusion of key groups) of interactions with stakeholders.
3. Promotion of stakeholder involvement.
4. Clearly defined approaches; and
5. Transparency in all activities.

Monitoring of stakeholder engagement process allows the efficiency of the process to be evaluated. Specifically, by identifying key performance indicators that reflect the objectives of the SEP and the specific actions and timings, it is possible to both monitor and evaluate the procedures undertaken.

Two distinct but related monitoring activities in terms of timing will be implemented:

i. During the engagement activities: Short-term monitoring to allow for adjustments/ improvements to be made during engagements; and
ii. Following completion of all engagement activities: Review of outputs at the end of engagement to evaluate the effectiveness of the SEP as implemented.

At local levels, for all ASCENT sub-component activities in their respective sectors of project intervention, to ensure that there are multiple ways for the communities to engage with the project at grassroots levels, the GRC will provide a platform or link between the project and communities benefiting or affected by the project activities. The GRC will support the project in conflict and grievance management.

8.2 Indicative Data to be Collected

A series of key performance indicators for each stakeholder engagement stage have been developed as follows:

1. Number of public hearings, consultation meetings and other public discussion/forums conducted within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly or annually);
2. Frequency of public engagement activities;
3. Number of groups/categories of stakeholders consulted;
4. Types of engagement methods used e.g. emails, letters, and other formal invitations for participation in the public ad public awareness reports;
5. Themes/topics discussed during the consultations;
6. Geographical coverage of public engagement activities;
7. Number of participants in different engagement activities with gender aggregated (where applicable);
8. Rate of women participation in consultations;
9. Newly identified stakeholders;
10. Number and details of vulnerable individuals involved in consultation meetings;

11. Number of public grievances received within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly or annually) and number of those resolved within the prescribed timeline;
12. Type of public grievance received;
13. Number of press materials published/broadcasted in the local, regional and national media.

A summary on the SEP monitoring arrangements for the project is presented in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Monitoring Arrangements

S/N	Activities	Monitoring Indicators	Verifier	Responsibility	Frequency of Monitoring
1.	Stakeholder mapping, consultation sensitization, and engagement, grievance received and resolved /closed	Number of meetings held	Minutes of meetings and signed attendance lists	PCU	Continuous during all project phases
2.	Stakeholder engagement for RAP and ESIA	Number of meetings held	ESIA / RAP report	PCU	Once during pre-construction phase
3.	Stakeholder engagement for LMP and SEP	Number of meetings held	Report on key stakeholders engaged	PCU	Continuously
4.	RAP & ESIA disclosure	Number of disclosure meetings held	Minutes of meetings and signed attendance lists	PCU	Once during preconstruction and continuous during the project phases
5.	Disclosure of entitlements	Number of disclosure meetings held	Minutes of meetings and attendance lists	PCU	Once during preconstruction phase
6.	Monitoring of RAP implementation	Number of monitoring and evaluation reports	RAP and monitoring and evaluation reports	PCU	Quarterly during construction phase
7.	Monitoring GM implementation	Number of GRM monitoring reports	GRM and monitoring and evaluation reports	PCU	Monthly during construction phase
8.	Monitoring of ESMP implementation	Number of ESMPs and noted improvement	ESMP reports	PCU	Quarterly during construction phase
9.	Environmental audit	Number of reports	Environmental audit report	PCU	Annually during the operation phase

8.3 Reporting

Reporting will be done on a quarterly and annual basis as detailed below

1. Quarterly

The Implementing Agencies will prepare quarterly reports on stakeholder engagement activities. The reports should include but not limited to:

i. Stakeholder engagement activities conducted on quarterly basis;
ii. Public outreach activities (meetings with stakeholders);
iii. Reporting on the status of GM;
iv. New identified stakeholder groups;
v. Emerging new issues or challenges and proposed solutions.

2. Annually

The Implementing Agencies will compile a report summarizing SEP results on an annual basis. This report will provide a summary of all public consultation issues, grievances, and resolutions. The report will provide a summary of relevant public consultation findings from informal and formal meetings held with different categories of stakeholders of various levels. These reports will be submitted to the funding institutions and other government stakeholders as required.

3. Reporting back to community Beneficiaries

It will be the Implementing Agencies' responsibility to report back to the community beneficiaries including PAPs and GRCs on the following:

i. Main findings from the regular monitoring and supervision reports.
ii. Resolution of complaints and grievances raised through various channels of GRM.
iii. Any other project related matters relevant to the community or PAPs.

4. **Reporting back to stakeholder groups**

Stakeholders will be kept informed as the project develops, including reporting on project environmental and social performance and implementation of the SEP and GRM. The SEP will be revised and updated as necessary during project implementation.

8.4 Record-Keeping

Record keeping has been planned thoroughly, and will follow specific procedures:

1. Electronic and hard copy filing system will be maintained for all external relations activities.
2. Issues/Commitments raised/made at meetings will be recorded and distributed to meeting attendees for verification at regular intervals.
3. Attendance registers will be completed at meetings and, as possible, digital photographs and/or video recordings will be made of all meetings.
4. A comprehensive record for reporting purposes will be kept of:
    i. All meetings (dates, venue, attendees with gender disaggregated, objectives)
    ii. All comments, complements, grievances and response to these.
    iii. Times and content of media advertisements and radio broadcast

ANNEXES

Annex 1 Templates to Capture Consultation Minutes

Stakeholder (Group or individual)	Summary of Feedback	Response of project Implementation Team	Follow-up Action/Net Steps

Annex 2: Stakeholder Consultation Minutes

MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING ON ASCENT PROJECT

Date: 18th March 2026

Venue: Ebulwani Centre

Time: 11:25 AM – 12:31 PM

Minute 1: Agenda

Preliminaries

Presentation on ASCENT Project – Kenya

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Questions, Comments & Responses (Q&A)

Way Forward

Minute 2: Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting commenced at 11:25 a.m. with a word of prayer led by a community elder. The Assistant Chief, Mr. Hillary Osanye, officially welcomed all attendees to Ebulwani Island Mr. Samwel Olela introduced the visiting team from REREC and the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP). He explained that the purpose of the visit was to engage the community regarding the proposed electrification project under the ASCENT program.

Minute 3: ASCENT Project – Kenya

Olela – explained to the meeting that the government of Kenya through vision 2030 is planning that every household should be connected with power hence the government has come up with this project called Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT) that is meant to connect Kenyans in the rural areas which are far from the national grid. This project is being implemented in the 47 counties where Busia is one of them. He further noted the proposed project will have solar panels, small diesel generator, control room, and distribution lines to various homesteads. He explained that:

The project is financed by the World Bank and implemented by REREC, KPLC, and MoEP.

Its objective is to support Kenya in achieving universal electricity access by 2030.

It also aims to expand access to clean cooking technologies, improve livelihoods, and create employment, especially in underserved areas.

Project Team Present

1. Samwel Olela – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
2. Tom Kiprono – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
3. Sheila Jepkemboi – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
4. Joram Kimani – Accountant (MoEP)
5. Dorothy Kagweri - E&S Safeguards (MoEP)
6. Rebecca Muniu – Project coordinator (MoEP)

7. Community members – 87 Members (male- 49, Female – 38)

Project Design and Components-Tom

The community members were informed that the project aligns with Kenya Vision 2030, targeting universal electricity access.

Key features include:

- Installation of solar panels, battery storage, and diesel backup generators
- Development of mini-grids
- Construction of distribution lines to households

The proposed ASCENT Kenya seeks to expand access to affordable and reliable distributed renewable energy solutions for households and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in underserved areas of Kenya. The Project will deploy a targeted set of interventions, in three components as outlined below:

- Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking
- Component 2: Solar-Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure
- Subcomponent 2A: Mini-grids
- Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions
- Component 3: Program Management, Capacity Building, and Market Development and technical assistance and energy workforce development

Operational Aspects

All consumers will be KPLC customers and pay tariffs equivalent to those on the national grid.

Electricity payments will be made through a prepaid token system, including mobile payment options (“pay-as-you-go”).

Minute 4: Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Environmental and Social Assessment-

Participants were informed that:

A separate Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) meeting will be conducted.

The ESIA report will be submitted to NEMA for review and approval.

Construction will commence after regulatory approvals.

Positive Impacts -

The following benefits were highlighted:

- Improved lighting and reduced reliance on paraffin
- Enhanced education outcomes for students
- Increased security through lighting
- Access to information and entertainment (e.g., television)
- Growth of small businesses (e.g., barber shops)
- Creation of employment opportunities (skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled)

- Priority for local employment, including women and youth
- Business opportunities for locals (e.g., food vending, supply of materials)
- Improved health services (e.g., refrigeration of medicines)
- Opportunities for cold storage for livestock and dairy products

Negative Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- The team explained potential risks and mitigation strategies:
- Social Risks
- Influx of non-local workers → Cultural sensitization through induction
- Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), and Sexual Harassment (SH) → Awareness and reporting mechanisms
- Risk of HIV/AIDS → Community sensitization
- Environmental Risks
- Noise pollution → Restricted working hours (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- Dust pollution → Use of dust suppression measures
- Tree cutting → Tree replacement and reforestation
- Health and Safety Risks
- Construction accidents → Mandatory use of PPE
- Electrocution risks → Community awareness on safe electricity use
- Child labour → Strict prohibition
- Resource Constraints
- Water scarcity → Controlled and responsible use

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

Olela then told the meeting that to address grievances, the team will require that a Grievance Redress Mechanism to be put in place by the community. This GRM will have a committee that will help solve the grievances arising from the project. The community will need to identify persons who will sit on the committee and they should comprise a man, woman, youth and a person representing the special group e.g. a person living with a disability. The Committee will

help address grievances to their conclusion. If in any case the committee is unable to solve an issue, they will be guided by the implementing agency on where to forward the matter. If it is still not solved at that level, then the Kenyan Courts will be used to resolve the issue. He said it is our hope that the grievances will be solved at the local level. The meeting was also told that the members of the Committee will be required to volunteer their services. This is because there will be no payment for their services.

Minute 5: Questions and Concerns

QUESTION/COMMENTS	ANSWER/REMARKS
Gladys Wanyama How big is the size of land to be required	*Olela* Approximately2–3 acres depending on system capacity , more details will be provided during the land acquisition process

Michael Will there be jobs/employment opportunities?	*Olela* Yes Priority will be given to local community members
Vincent Mandana Who will be doing maintenance works? How will payment be done?	*Olela* Cleaning of panels may be done by the locals i.e. youth, women, men. Local community members will be engaged where feasible. Payment will be subject to discussion but also according to government rates.
Jacinta Power availability is important since I would have closed my business by 9pm unlike 7pm as usual.	Acknowledged as a key benefit
Gregory Abula No community land; what about compensation if private land is used? Initial connection charges? Token payments?	*Olela* Community land preferred; if private land is used NLC will guide valuation and compensation. ASCENT metering costs expected to be lower than KOSAP. Token payment depends on individual consumption.

Minute 6: Way Forward

- ESIA studies to be conducted and submitted to NEMA.
- Community to identify GRM Committee members.
- Follow-up engagements to be scheduled by REREC/MoEP.

Minute 7: Closure of the Meeting

The Area Assistant Chief thanked participants for their active engagement.

There being no other business, the meeting was officially adjourned at 12:31 PM with a closing prayer by an elder.

Kenya Power	MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT DURING FEASEBILITY STUDY FOR ASCENT PROJECT	File Number:	
	Venue: Kasore Location Morop division in Baringo County	Date & Time of meeting	19/03/2026 3: 00 p.m.to 6:00 PM

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Project brief
- Positive and negative impacts of project
- Responsibilities of the Contractor
- Safe Use of Electricity
- Plenary Session
- A.O.B

The meeting started at 3.00 p.m with a word of prayer followed by introductions.

MIN 1- 1/19/03/2026: Project Brief

Mr Koech thanked and welcomed members to the meeting, he then gave an overview of the proposed project. He informed members present that KPLC was conducting a feasibility study world bank funded ASCENT project. He mentioned that The ASCENT Project is a Government initiative financed by the World Bank and jointly implemented by the Ministry of Energy (MoEP), Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC).

The project aims to increase access to modern energy services in the whole country. This is to be achieved through 2 main components:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking: This component will provide results-based financing (RBF) to improve affordability and drive adoption of DRE systems, PUE appliances, cooling solutions, and clean cooking technologies. An end-user subsidy program will lower the cost of these solutions, with subsidy levels reviewed periodically to ensure sustainability and minimize market distortion. Eligible beneficiaries under the RBF window will be pre-qualified companies and distributors of DRE, PUE, cooling, and clean cooking appliances, including irrigation and agro-processing applications, targeting households, farmers, and micro and small enterprises to accelerate energy access, enhance productivity, and create local employment. Detailed criteria for setting RBF subsidy levels for different technologies and appliances will be defined in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

Component 2: Solar Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure: This component will provide solar energy access through two subcomponents:

Subcomponent 2A- Energy Access Through Solarized and New Mini Grids. This subcomponent will expand off-grid energy access through two complementary approaches: (i) solarization of existing diesel-powered mini-grids, and (ii) development of new solar-powered mini-grids in underserved

areas. In addition, the subcomponent will conduct a comprehensive assessment of all public solar-powered mini-grids to identify opportunities to increase connection density to households, businesses, and community facilities, including hospitals and schools. It will also support the provision of community energy services, such as street and market lighting, enhancing safety and stimulating local economic activity. The design and implementation of this subcomponent will build on the experience and lessons from KOSAP, which is currently developing over 100 solar-powered mini-grids in underserved regions, providing a strong foundation for efficient deployment, technology optimization, and sustainable operations.

Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions: This component will provide solar energy to more than 7,500 public educational institutions and 2,500 public health institutions in underserved areas of the country that were identified and prioritized under the Kenya Energy Compact. The project will deploy climate resilient technological solutions including, inter alia: (a) institutional solar photovoltaic systems designed for climate resilience and (b) battery energy storage systems. To accelerate implementation and drawing on lessons learned from KOSAP, the subcomponent will partner with the private sector to deliver electricity as a service through the installation and long-term maintenance of solar PV systems in public education and health institutions. The electrification of these institutions will be financed through a RBF that covers a portion of the capital costs, complemented by guaranteed energy as a service agreement, ensuring reliable and sustainable electricity supply

Energy status Kasore Location

The Village has no power

The villagers uses adelite lamp that is so limiting

The villa is about 2km to 3KM at most from National Grid

The village had been pegged by REREC two years ago but the project did not materialize

Hilly terrain and the fact that the village is within a forest make connection to the grid very challenging

Observations

The terrain is slopy

The road network is poor

The population in the area is sparse, and household have large pieces of land

The village is about 2km to 3KM from the National grid

Land tenure is private

MIN 2 /19/03/2026: Positive and Negative impacts of the project

Mr Koech emphasized on the GoKs' commitment to ensure that every Kenyan is connected to safe and reliable electricity. He mentioned to the members present that the project would to have some advantages and disadvantages when the time comes.

Positive impacts:

Improved living standards.

Access to electricity would come with many advantages compared to disadvantages since there would be improved standard of living, health and safety of the beneficiaries.

Since women are known be responsible for house chores, they would be relived since they would change to use of electric appliances such as cookers, iron boxes, vacuum cleaners, blenders, fridges and this means they will require less energy when carry out the duties. Electricity would also be used in pumping water from community boreholes and shallow wells where mostly women draw water manually hence saving them energy and reducing the risk of falling or capsizing into wells.

Benefits in the education sector

Access to electricity at the household level and schools will create opportunities for school going children to study for longer hours and also promote E-learning.

Employment opportunities.

At the time of project implementation, there would be casual job opportunities such as digging of holes, clearing of wayleaves to the members of the community even though not everybody would get to work with the contractor but for the few who would get a chance to kindly cooperate. The payment for the work done would be done by the contractor and as per prevailing market rates.

Improved Security.

Availability of power supply in most house hold in rural areas will ensure security since most people would have security lights outside their houses hence keep off the thieves.

Access to information.

With electricity in the area, most people would be able to buy television and radios to get information and even watch without relying on other people. Also they would learn from various programs being aired on TVs and especially on health and farming.

Health sector

Electricity is critical to the health sector for operation of critically needed medicals services such as vaccine refrigerators, laboratory and as well as for the operation of the basic amenities such lighting and water supply at the hospitals which would promote health of the community members.

Gender Considerations at Job Level

During the implementation of the project, there would be specific jobs meant for women such as cooking and selling of food to the workers employed by the contractors and this would make them earn some cash at that time.

Increase of Business opportunities

Availability of safe and reliable electricity would promote businesses such as salons, barber shops, cyber cafes, welding, posho mills, milk coolers, refrigeration of drinks, chicken incubators, sharp cutters for improved livestock industry among others. The businesses will also be operated for long hours hence increased profits.

Negative impacts:

The negative impacts associated with the project and their possible mitigation measures as follows:

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation measures
Gender based Violence	In the awareness sessions, community members to be educated on the sensitivity of GBV, SEA/SH and therefore the uttermost need to ensure confidential reporting and responding to any cases reported. Contractor being at the ground, he/she would stay for some time hence would socialize with the community members.
HIV /AIDS	Since nobody call tell the health conditions of an individual from appearance, members of the community were warned in engaging themselves with workers from the contractor's team on sexual activities for any benefit since the nomination of the workers from the community should be free and fair.
Vegetation clearance	Community members were advised to clear only necessary vegetation, where possible trim tree branches and this would be done after the contractor have marked where the power lines would pass through.

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation measures
	Alternative routes would also be considered to avoid clearing vegetation unless otherwise, then clearing of vegetation would be called for. Any cleared vegetation would be left behind for use by the tree owners.

Occupational health and safety risks	The contractor shall Include best practice in health and safety provisions and ensure strict compliance with national legislation and financiers guidelines Ensure that work schedules are organized in shifts that protect workers from long-term exposure to extreme temperatures Provide workers with safe drinking water and dedicated sanitary facilities at all work sites and camp facilities Adopt sound human resource policies compliant with international standards Establish a grievance redress mechanism for workers Establish and follow safe work procedures Induct and where necessary train employees
Dust	There would be dust especially from the rough roads at the time of transportation of materials to the site hence members of the community were advised to use masks during that time.
Child labour	Kenyan labour laws should be adhered to No one will be employed on site without the national Identification card or valid passport Children below the age of 18 years will not be allowed to work in the proposed project.
Theft	In case it happens, it should be reported to the area chief though community members were warned to take care of their belongings since they would not know the character of a non-residential person.

MIN 3/19/03/2026: Responsibilities of the Contractor

The contractor shall design the Mini grid, power reticulation network, construct power lines, install drop cables to customer's premises, install meters and activate the meter in addition to teaching the customer basics of buying token and how to check token balance.

The contractor shall prepare a labour recruitment plan and conduct an entry meeting organized by the area chief before commencement of construction works.

The contractor shall provide all necessary tools and equipment, personal protective clothing and train workers.

The contractor shall respect the local people culture and promote harmonious co-existence during the construction period.

MIN 4/19/03/2026: Safe use of electricity

Mr. Koech explained to the members present that electricity is a good servant when used carefully but is hazardous if mishandled and misused.

Electrical appliances e.g water heaters, showers and popcorn machines used should be in good condition.

Members were urged to ensure that wiring are done to the required standards and by qualified electrician.

Customers should not carry out illegal extensions or use electricity to energize fences. They should not overload extension cables and sockets.

Customers were advised not to cut trees near power lines but instead reach Kenya power offices for assistance.

Children should not play with or near power lines

All electrical infrastructure should be protected and not vandalized

Customers should report any mischievous activity, persons, or fallen power infrastructure to the nearest KPLC office and to their local chiefs.

He further educated members of the community on how to identify a genuine Kenya Power staff and contractors by use of USSD Code, *977# and also advised those who had smart phone to download "my power app". All payments for electricity connections are paid to KPLC banking halls, official business pay bill numbers through Mpesa and official receipts provided.

Mr. Koech also mentioned that a committee would be formed when the project is yet to start which would involve women representative, men representative, youth representative, Chief, Assistant chiefs and people living with disability. The purpose of the committee would be try solve the dispute that would come up during the implementation of the project such as, way leaves, gender based violence among others

MIN 5/19/03/2026: Plenary Session

Chesire Kirui: Will people who will be far away from the Mini-grid for example 2km away get power

Answer; Koech- Transformers will be installed to ensure that even people who are 2 km away get power

Jennifer Komen: A while back pegging was done and all households were marked for connection to the grid does the new project mark the end of the old project

Answer Koech: KPLC the ministry and REREC will look at all the alternatives available and zero on the one the serves Kasore Location best

Jennifer Komen: Our area is usually very cold especially between April and July. Will the solar minigrid be sufficient to serve all the households

Answer Koech: Studies and tests will be done to ensure that if the minigrid is situated in Kasore the power will be grid level to serve all households

Jennifer Komen: Does this mark the end of consultative meetings

Answer: Koech- This is just the beginning many more meeting will be conducted before project implementation

Jennifer Komen: We dont want solar since the grid is not very far from us

Thomas Tarus: We welcome the project to serve us as we wait for the grid power

Joseph Chemaiya-Will there be compensation for trees cut

Koech- If the project is implemented the contractor will try as much as possible not to cut trees but in the vent trees will be cut there will be no compensation

Magdalene Kipkulei: If you don’t have land title deed what can you use during power application process

Koech In case you don’t have title deed you can use sale agreements or get a letter from the Chief confirming that you are the Bonafide owner of the land

There being no other business the meeting ended at 6:00PM

Kenya Power	MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT DURING FEASEBILITY STUDY FOR ASCENT PROJECT	File Number:	
	Venue: Kemeloi primary school Location Kemoloi location Elgeyo Marakwet county	Date & Time of meeting	18/03/2026 11: 00 a.m.to 12:30 PM

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Project brief
- Positive and negative impacts of project
- Safe Use of Electricity
- Plenary Session
- A.O.B

The meeting started at 11.00 a.m with a word of prayer followed by introductions.

MIN 1- 1/18/03/2026: Project Brief

Mr Abaya thanked and welcomed members to the meeting, he then gave an overview of the proposed project. He informed members present that KPLC was conducting a feasibility study world bank funded ASCENT project. He mentioned that The ASCENT Project is a Government initiative financed by the World Bank and jointly implemented by the Ministry of Energy (MoEP), Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC).

The project aims to increase access to modern energy services in the whole country. This is to be achieved through 2 main components:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking: This component will provide results-based financing (RBF) to improve affordability and drive adoption of DRE systems, PUE appliances, cooling solutions, and clean cooking technologies. An end-user subsidy program will lower the cost of these solutions, with subsidy levels reviewed periodically to ensure sustainability and minimize market distortion. Eligible beneficiaries under the RBF window will be pre-qualified companies and distributors of DRE, PUE, cooling, and clean cooking appliances, including irrigation and agro-processing applications, targeting households, farmers, and micro and small enterprises to accelerate energy access, enhance productivity, and create local employment. Detailed criteria for setting RBF subsidy levels for different technologies and appliances will be defined in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

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Energy status Kemeloi Location

The area around Kemeloi primary and its surrounding has no power

The community mostly uses delight for their lighting

The school is about 4 Km from National Grid

Observations

The school is about 4 Km from National Grid

Land tenure is private

The terrain is slopy

The road network is poor

The population in the area is sparse

MIN 2 /18/03/2026: Positive and Negative impacts of the project

Mr Abaya emphasized on the GoKs' commitment to ensure that every Kenyan is connected to safe and reliable electricity. He mentioned to the members present that the project would to have some advantages and disadvantages when the time comes.

Positive impacts:

Better source of lighting- replacement of Kerosene lamp and small de-lite lamps with electricity lighting which is clean and has better lighting

Benefits to education- Access to electricity at the household level and schools will lead to betterment of education services. Pupils and students will have longer hours of preps/study in school and at homes. Electricity will be useful in availing power needed to enable use of radio, television sets at homes and equipping of Laboratories in schools hence promoting use of laptops as well as introduction of ICT.

Business opportunities-Power provides energy needed to power some gadgets that are difficult and expensive to power with generators. Access to electricity will therefore allow the community to take advantage of new business opportunities and enhance the existing ones e.g. welding, photo copying, printing.

Employment and wealth creation- community members will get opportunities to provide non-skilled and skilled labor during construction and operation phases of the project

Health benefits of the project- health benefits of the project are linked to replacement/elimination of use of kerosene lamps and candles, no need to use fuel generators which emits smoke causing respiratory diseases, the dispensary will also benefit from power that can be used to preserve drugs and vaccines alongside powering other medical equipment.

Improved standard of living- Access to electricity will change the standard of living of the people as they can use domestic appliances like iron boxes, fridge, television sets, washing machines to mention but a few. Use of electricity for lighting implies that the people will not be exposed to smoke arising from use of tin lamps which predisposes people to respiratory diseases.

Security- Enhanced security due to improvement in lighting up of the area through

the street lights. Improved security also means more hours of business. The place will also be safe as lighting puts off opportunistic criminals who take advantage of darkness.

Communications- improved communication due to availability of electricity to charge phones, opportunities to set up information communication and technology related business-like cyber cafes, access to E-government services among others.

Presence of electricity will also attract other business investors to invest in the area

Negative impacts:

The negative impacts associated with the project and their possible mitigation measures are as follows:

- Vegetation clearance-Trim or cut where necessary trees on the line, planting of trees
- Occupation safety and health hazards e.g. accidents, fall from heights, pricks by sharp objects-Mitigation measures include use of proper personal protective equipment like gloves, overalls, helmet, safety shoes, allocating work according to skills, toolbox talks to workers to identify hazards and risky activities and putting mitigation measures and close supervision of work
- Air pollution-mitigation include use of masks for workers, limit vehicle speed to minimum possible dusts when passing residential areas and the centre, maintain and service vehicles and avoid idling of vehicle's engines,

- Electric shocks and electrocution of people, mitigation include proper public education to the people on safety of using electricity, proper wiring in the houses by qualified technicians and sse of danger/hatari signs on the poles
- Public health risk-mitigation will include public awareness of the public health issues identified.
- Risk of social conflict- mitigation awareness-raising among local community and workers on the need to have a good /cordial working relation; consultations with and involvement of local communities in project planning; provision of cultural sensitization awareness for workers regarding engagement with local community; recruitment of local workforce to the extent possible especially unskilled and semi- skilled jobs; contactor shall make provision to provide resources needed by the workers if the need for such resources may result to competition for resources e.g. water; working closely between contractor and the project grievance redress committee to address complains on time.
- Gender based Violence- mitigation include conducting community members to be educated on the sensitivity of GBV, SEA/SH and therefore the uttermost need to ensure confidential reporting and responding to any cases reported.
- HIV/AIDS; Since nobody call tell the health conditions of an individual from appearance, members of the community were warned in engaging themselves with workers from the contractor's team on sexual activities for any benefit since the nomination of the workers from the community should be free and fair.

MIN 3/18/03/2026: Safe use of electricity

Mr. Abaya explained to the members present that electricity is a good servant when used carefully but is hazardous if mishandled and misused.

Members were urged to ensure that wiring are done to the required standards and by qualified electrician.

They should not overload extension cables and sockets.

Customers were advised not to cut trees near power lines but instead reach Kenya power offices for assistance.

Children should not play with or near power lines

Customers should report any mischievous activity, persons, or fallen power infrastructure to the nearest KPLC office and to their local chiefs.

He also mentioned that a committee would be formed when the project is yet to start which would involve women representative, men representative, youth representative, Chief, Assistant chiefs and the disable. The purpose of the committee would be try solve the dispute that would come up during the implementation of the project such as, way leaves, gender based violence among others.

MIN 4/18/03/2026: Plenary Session

Question: We welcome the project but since it will be solar will it be cheaper than the normal electricity?

Answer: No the payment will be the same but will depend on customer consumption per month

Question the area experiences solar during the months of April and November. Will the solar installation be sufficient

Answer; Yes the project will have a generator backup and the solar panels are high tech hence can work at minimal lights

The area MCA thanked the KPLC team for the project and commented that they were ready for the project either Solar or the grid

There being no other business the meeting ended at 12:30PM

MINUTES OF THE ASCENT PROJECT-WORLD BANK FUNDED FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN KOKWA ISLAND,IN BARINGO COUNTY, ON 19TH MARCH

Members Present

- Wilfred Koech-KPLC
- Roselyne Njeru-KPLC
- Samuel Mbugua-KPLC
- Joselyne Masiga-REREC
- Constituency Representative
- Community Leaders
- Residents of Kokwa Island (Community Members refer to attendance list)

INTRODUCTION

A stakeholder engagement meeting was held at Kokwa Island, Baringo County, as part of the site survey mission for the proposed electrification project under the ASCENT Project, funded by the World Bank.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

Introduce the project team to the local leadership and community

Explain the objective and scope of the proposed project

Seek community views, expectations, and concerns

Gather preliminary social, environmental and land-related information necessary for the site survey;

Foster community ownership and cooperation during project planning and implementation.

The meeting brought together representatives from the project implementation team, local administration, community leadership, and residents of Kokwa Island.

AGENDA OF THE MEETING

The following agenda guided the meeting:

- Opening remarks and introductions
- Purpose of the site survey mission
- Overview of the ASCENT Project
- Proposed project scope in Kokwa Island
- Community concerns, expectations, and feedback
- Land, wayleave, and environmental considerations
- Way forward and next steps
- Closing remarks

MIN/001/03/2026: Opening Remarks

The meeting commenced at 10:00am with a word of prayer from a community member.

The local administration representative welcomed the visiting team to Kokwa Island and appreciated the Government and development partners for considering the area for electrification and related infrastructure development.

The chair noted that the meeting was important in ensuring that the project is implemented in a participatory, transparent, and community-centered manner.

MIN/002/03/2026: Introductions

All participants introduced themselves, and the project team also introduced themselves and outlined their respective roles in the mission, including:

- Site survey
- Environmental and social safeguards
- Community engagement
- Preliminary feasibility assessment

MIN/003/03/2026: Purpose of the Site Survey Mission

The chair (Wilfred Koech), informed the community that the visit to Kokwa Island is intended to undertake a site survey and stakeholder engagement exercise in preparation for the proposed project implementation under the ASCENT Project.

He explained that the mission aimed at collecting key baseline information to support:

- Technical planning and design
- Identification of suitable infrastructure routes and locations
- Assessment of social and environmental considerations
- Understanding community needs and priorities
- Identifying any project implementation risks and mitigation measures.

The team clarified that the mission did not mark the immediate start of construction, but rather was part of the project planning and preparation process.

MIN/004/03/2026: Overview of the ASCENT Project

The chair noted; The ASCENT project is a Government Initiative financed by the World Bank and jointly implemented by the Ministry of Energy (MOEP), Kenya Power and lighting Company (KPLC) and Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC).

The project aims to increase modern energy services in the whole country. This is to be achieved through two main components:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive uses of Energy Cooling and Clean Cooking.

Component 2-Solar Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure. This component will provide solar energy access through two sub- components;

Sub-component 2A-Energsy Access Through Solarized and New Minigrids.

Sub-component 2B-Electrification of Public Institutions

The chair informed the community that ASCENT is a World Bank-funded project aimed at improving access to energy and related infrastructure services in underserved and marginalized areas.

The project team explained that the intervention in Kokwa Island is expected to support the broader objectives of:

Enhancing access to reliable electricity and energy services

Improving livelihoods and economic activities

Supporting public institutions such as schools and health facilities

Promoting social and economic inclusion

Improving safety and quality of life for the local population

It was emphasized that the project is expected to bring long-term development benefits to the island community.

MIN/005/03/2026: Proposed Project Scope

The project team outlined the likely areas of focus during the survey exercise, including:

- Assessment of public institutions requiring connection, such as:
- Schools
- Health facilities
- Administrative offices
- Assessment of household settlement patterns;
- Identification of productive use opportunities such as:
- Fishing-related facilities
- Cold storage potential
- Small businesses
- Community enterprises

The team noted that the actual design and implementation scope would be informed by the survey findings, technical feasibility, environmental and social safeguards requirements.

The team explained that the mini-grid option is being considered because:

The island is geographically isolated

Extension of conventional grid infrastructure may present challenges or high costs

A mini-grid can provide a more localized and appropriate solution

It has the potential to improve access to electricity in a more sustainable and efficient manner.

The community was informed that the mini-grid concept is being assessed based on actual need, technical practicality, and long-term viability.

The issue of land for the mini-grid infrastructure was discussed at length.

The project team informed the community that the mini-grid project would likely require land for

Power generation infrastructure

Powerhouse / equipment housing

Battery / storage area (if applicable)

Distribution structures

Ancillary facilities

The community indicated willingness to support the project by helping identify land for the proposed infrastructure.

However, the following issues were emphasized:

The land selected should be free from disputes;

The process of land identification should involve local leadership and community representatives;

Public / community land should be prioritized where possible;

The project should avoid displacement of households and disruption of livelihoods;

Any land-related process should be transparent and consultative.

The local administration and elders committed to assist the project team in identifying suitable sites for further assessment.

MIN/006/03/2026: ISSUES RAISED DURING THE ENGAGEMENT

Community Appreciation and Project Support

The community members welcomed the project team and expressed appreciation for the Government and the World Bank for considering Kokwa Island for development support.

The community stated that access to electricity and related infrastructure has been a long-standing challenge and that the proposed project is highly anticipated.

The meeting unanimously expressed support for the project and committed to cooperating with the project team during the planning and implementation stages.

The community chair noted that; the land in Kokwa is community land and is registered.

Existing Challenges Faced by the Community

The community highlighted several challenges currently affecting the island, including:

Limited or no access to reliable electricity

High dependence on costly and unsustainable alternative energy sources

Limited access to essential public services.

Difficulty in preserving fish and other perishable products due to lack of cold storage.

Limited economic opportunities for youth and women.

High transport and logistical challenges associated with island access.

Poor communication and service delivery in the area due to network issues.

The community noted that these challenges continue to hinder social and economic development on the island.

Priority Areas Identified by the Community

The community requested that public institutions should be considered as priority beneficiaries due to their direct impact on service delivery and public welfare.

Community Expectations

The community members expressed the following expectations regarding the proposed project:

- Timely implementation of the project once feasibility is confirmed
- Fair and transparent engagement of the local community throughout the project lifecycle
- Employment opportunities for local youth during implementation, where possible
- Minimal disruption to community activities
- Proper communication on project progress and timelines

The participants requested that the implementing agency should maintain continuous communication with local leaders and the community.

Land Availability and Wayleave Issues

The issue of land and wayleave was discussed in detail as follows

The community indicated willingness to support the project through:

- Identification of suitable site for project infrastructure.
- Supporting wayleave acquisition where necessary. However, the meeting noted that:
- Any use of land must be discussed openly with the affected landowners / users;
- Community facilities or public land should be prioritized where possible;
- Project should minimize interference with homesteads, livelihoods, and sensitive areas.

The local leaders committed to assist the project team in identifying suitable conflict-free routes or sites for the proposed infrastructure.

Environmental and Social Safeguards Considerations

The community requested that the project should be implemented in a manner that protects the environment and respects local social systems.

The project team sensitized the community on the importance of observing environmental and social safeguards during project preparation and implementation.

The following issues were discussed:

- Proper waste management during implementation
- Respect for cultural and community spaces
- Community safety during project implementation
- Need for stakeholder consultation at every key stage

The community requested that the project should be implemented in a manner that safeguards both livelihoods and the local ecosystem.

Inclusion of Vulnerable and Special Interest Groups

The project team emphasized the importance of ensuring that the project benefits all categories of community members, including:

- Women

- Youth
- Elderly persons
- Persons with disabilities
- Vulnerable households

The project team assured the community that social inclusion is a key consideration under the project framework.

MIN/007/03/2026: Q&A

Chairperson: When we provide land for the project, will payment be done?

-No payment is done through the project on land matters, the Bank provides in kind compensation to the community for the project they would want.

Member 2-Once electricity is in Kokwa Island and land was given will we still pay for the power?

-Yes, due to connections, power will be paid using tokens.

Member 3-When will the project start?

-The project is at the preliminary stages, once everything is sorted out, we will still visit Kokwa Island for final report.

Member 4- During implementation, can we also be brought the safaricom mast for ease of communication?

-This will have to be done through the office of the Member of Parliament.

MIN/008/03/2026: RESPONSES / CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY THE PROJECT TEAM

In response to issues raised, the project team clarified that:

The current mission was primarily for site survey and stakeholder engagement, and would inform subsequent project planning decisions.

Final implementation would depend on:

- Technical feasibility
- Environmental and social assessment findings
- Project approval processes
- Availability of funds and prioritization under the ASCENT Project.

The team would work closely with:

- Local administration
- County leadership
- Community representatives
- Relevant institutions to ensure smooth project planning and eventual implementation.
- Community support and cooperation would be critical to the success of the project.

The project would seek to align with both national development objectives and local community needs.

AOB

There being no any other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Kenya Power	MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT DURING FEASEBILITY STUDY FOR ASCENT PROJECT	File Number:	
	Venue: TIRIYA PRIMARY Elgeyo Mararakwet West	Date & Time of meeting	18/03/2026 4: 00 p.m.

In attendance:

As per list of attendance annexed at the end of minutes

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Project brief
- Positive and negative impacts of project
- Responsibilities of the Contractor
- Safe Use of Electricity
- Plenary Session
- A.O.B

The meeting started at 4.00 p.m with a word of prayer followed by introductions.

MIN A/1/18/03/2026: Project Brief

The area MCA called the meeting to order and thanked members for the good turn up. He introduced himself, the representative of the area MP, and then requested the Kenya Power team to take over the meeting. The KPLC team introduced themselves and Mr. Samuel Abaya thanked and welcomed members for the briefing. He then gave an overview of the proposed project. He informed members present that KPLC was conducting a feasibility study on a world bank funded project named Accelerating Substantiable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT). He mentioned that The ASCENT Project is a Government initiative financed by the World Bank and jointly implemented by the Ministry of Energy (MoEP), Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC).

The project aims to increase access to modern energy services in the whole country. This is to be achieved through 2 main components:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking: This component will provide results-based financing (RBF) to improve affordability and drive adoption of DRE systems, PUE appliances, cooling solutions, and clean cooking technologies. An end-user subsidy program will lower the cost of these solutions, with subsidy levels reviewed periodically to ensure sustainability and minimize market distortion. Eligible beneficiaries under the RBF window will be pre-qualified companies and distributors of DRE, PUE, cooling, and clean cooking appliances, including irrigation and agro-processing applications, targeting households, farmers, and micro and small enterprises to accelerate energy access, enhance productivity, and create local employment. Detailed criteria for setting RBF subsidy levels for different technologies and appliances will be defined in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

Component 2: Solar Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure: This component will provide solar energy access through two subcomponents:

Subcomponent 2A- Energy Access Through Solarized and New Mini Grids. This subcomponent will expand off-grid energy access through two complementary approaches: (i) solarization of existing diesel-powered mini-grids, and (ii) development of new solar-powered mini-grids in underserved areas. In addition, the subcomponent will conduct a comprehensive assessment of all public solar-powered mini-grids to identify opportunities to increase connection density to households, businesses, and community facilities, including hospitals and schools. It will also support the provision of community energy services, such as street and market lighting, enhancing safety and stimulating local economic activity. The design and implementation of this subcomponent will build

on the experience and lessons from KOSAP, which is currently developing over 100 solar- powered mini-grids in underserved regions, providing a strong foundation for efficient deployment, technology optimization, and sustainable operations.

Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions: This component will provide solar energy to more than 7,500 public educational institutions and 2,500 public health institutions in underserved areas of the country that were identified and prioritized under the Kenya Energy Compact. The project will deploy climate resilient technological solutions including, inter alia: (a) institutional solar photovoltaic systems designed for climate resilience and (b) battery energy storage systems. To accelerate implementation and drawing on lessons learned from KOSAP, the subcomponent will partner with the private sector to deliver electricity as a service through the installation and long-term maintenance of solar PV systems in public education and health institutions. The electrification of these institutions will be financed through a RBF that covers a portion of the capital costs, complemented by guaranteed energy as a service agreement, ensuring reliable and sustainable electricity supply

<u>Energy status Tiriya Location</u>

The Village has no power

The villagers uses solar lamp and kerosene lamps

The village is about 3km from National Grid

Observations

The land scape is steep with deep vallies and access road is all weather and not in good status especially during rainy weather

The area is populated with small land holdings

The village is about 2km from the National grid

Land tenure is private

MIN A/2/18/03/2026: Positive and Negative impacts of the project

Kenya Power Environment & Social Specialist Mr. Abaya expressed his sincere appreciation to all members for their strong attendance and active participation during the meeting. He acknowledged their cooperation as a key factor in the success of the meeting and the project. In his remarks, the Lead expert reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of Government of Kenya to providing all citizens with access to safe, reliable, and affordable electricity. He further informed the attendees that a detailed evaluation had been done on both the positive and negative impacts associated with the project and the experts would disclose this in the meeting. This ensured that all participants were fully informed and able to engage constructively in the discussions. The positive and negative impacts of the project were explained to members as follows:

Positive Impacts:

Enhanced Electricity Access

The implementation of the project is expected to significantly increase access to clean, safe, and reliable electricity. This improved access will play a vital role in enhancing the overall quality of life for the beneficiaries.

Benefits in the Education Sector

Access to electricity at the household and school levels will open up numerous education opportunities. With reliable lighting, children will be able to extend their study hours into the evening, thereby improving their academic performance. Moreover, electrified homes will enable students to benefit from educational content broadcasted via television and radio, broadening their learning beyond the classroom. In schools, electricity will facilitate the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into the curriculum. This includes the use of computers and digital learning tools, which are essential for equipping students with relevant 21st-century skills and enhancing the overall quality of education.

Expansion of Business and Economic Opportunities

The availability of safe and reliable electricity is expected to significantly boost local economic development by creating an enabling environment for various businesses to thrive. Entrepreneurs will be able to establish and operate small and medium enterprises such as salons, barber shops, cyber cafes, and welding workshops with greater efficiency and productivity. Additionally, electricity will support the growth of agribusinesses and other income-generating activities, including refrigeration of perishable goods, operation of chicken incubators, use of sharp cutters to enhance livestock food processing, and water pumping for irrigation and domestic use. Posho mills and similar ventures will also benefit, contributing to improved food security and livelihoods in the community.

Employment and Wealth Creation

During construction and operation of the project, employment opportunities will be available to the locals. The employment opportunities will be in line with skills available in the project area and basically unskilled labour like hole digging, manual tree cutting/trimming will be available to the locals and payment would be as per prevailing market rates and in line with the labour act. Skilled labour may be contracted outside the community. Members were advised to be cooperative and adhere to the contractor's safe work operating procedures. He also added that alcoholic and drug addicts would not be considered for employment due to the risk concerns they posed.

Health Benefits of the Project

The provision of safe and reliable electricity is expected to contribute significantly to the improvement of public health within the community. One of the primary benefits will be the reduction in the use of kerosene lamps, which are commonly associated with indoor air pollution. These lamps emit harmful smoke and particulate matter that can lead to serious health problems, particularly acute lower respiratory infections among children and other vulnerable groups. Furthermore, access to proper electric lighting will alleviate the challenges associated with low illumination. Poor lighting often causes eye strain and discomfort, especially during reading or close work. Prolonged exposure to such conditions may increase the risk of developing visual problems, including near- sightedness (myopia), among both children and adults. By replacing kerosene lighting with clean electric lighting, the project is poised to promote a healthier and safer indoor environment.

Improved Standard of Living

Access to electricity is expected to significantly enhance the quality of life for households by enabling the use of modern electrical appliances that simplify daily tasks and improve overall comfort. With electricity, families can utilize household devices such as iron boxes, electric kettles, refrigerators, fruit blenders, and radios, all of which contribute to greater convenience and efficiency in day-to-day living. Entertainment and information access will also improve through the use of television sets and sound systems, while air conditioning systems and fans will help regulate indoor temperatures, particularly in hot climates. Additionally, practical tools such as water pumps and sharp cutters will support both

domestic needs and small-scale economic activities, further promoting a higher standard of living and self-sufficiency within communities.

Improved Security

The availability of electricity is anticipated to greatly improve security within communities. With enhanced lighting in homes, streets, and public spaces, the risk of criminal activities is expected to decrease, as well-lit areas act as a deterrent to potential offenders. Moreover, electricity will enable residents to keep their mobile phones charged, ensuring consistent communication and quicker response during emergencies. Access to timely information through radio and television broadcasts will also keep the public informed about security-related issues and alerts. In addition, the project will facilitate the adoption and use of modern security technologies such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems, which can be installed in homes, schools, and business premises to monitor

activities and deter unlawful behavior. Collectively, these improvements will contribute to a safer and more secure environment for all community members.

Gender Considerations

Access to electricity will benefit women in different ways. The benefits of the project will occur because women tend to spend more time at home, are responsible for household chores that can be carried out more productively with electricity, and because certain tasks are culturally defined as women‘s work. Majority of the beneficiaries will use the electricity mainly for lighting and powering low energy gadget such as TV, radio, phone charging, refrigeration and to some extent ironing and cooking. Using electricity for ironing, boiling water and cooking will save women and girls the man-hours lost in fetching firewood. Electricity could also be used in pumping water from community boreholes and shallow wells where mostly women draw water manually hence saving them energy and reducing the risk of falling or capsizing into wells.

Negative Impacts:

The KPLC Environmental & Social Specialist summarized the negative impacts associated with the project and their possible mitigation measures as follows:

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures
Vegetation clearance especially trimming of tree branches	Contractor shall comply to the Energy Act 2019 on tree lopping and must give the land owner a 7 days notice prior tree cutting, branch trimming, or clearance of vegetation. Clear only necessary vegetation, where possible trim tree branches Power lines to be routed along road reserves and plot boundaries Leave any cleared vegetation for use by the tree owners

Oil spills	Ensure no maintenance or repair of vehicles or equipment on site Maintain vehicles and equipment in a good state of repair and service to avoid any leaks

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures
Community health and safety risks	Conduct public health campaigns addressing issues of behavior change, culture tolerance, COVID 19, HIV/AIDS Contractor to condone all work sites, control access and install necessary warning signs.
Occupational health and safety risks	The contractor shall Include best practice in health and safety provisions and ensure strict compliance with national legislation and financiers guidelines Provide workers with safe drinking water and dedicated sanitary facilities at all work sites Adopt sound human resource policies compliant with international standards Establish a grievance redress mechanism for workers Establish and follow safe work procedures Induct and where necessary train employees
Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and workplace sexual harassment	Contractor to create awareness to community and let members know their rights and that they are free to report any issues of GBV and SEA to persons and offices of their choice based on a survivor centered approach. In the awareness sessions, community members to be educated on the sensitivity of GBV, SEA/SH and therefore the uttermost need to ensure confidential reporting and responding to any cases reported. Contractor to have code of conduct for the workers and be made aware that he will be responsible for his workers misconduct.
Child labour	Kenyan labour laws should be adhered to No one will be employed on site without the national Identification card or valid passport

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures
	Children below the age of 18 years will not be allowed to work in the proposed project
Cultural property and chance find	In case of chance find; contractor to inform local GRC, KPLC, MOEP and national museums of Kenya Contractor to consult and engage community members to get an understanding of cultural values and beliefs of the community, sacred trees and sites, graves among other items of cultural value to prevent conflicts.

MIN A/3/18/03/2026: Safe Use of Electricity

Mr. Simon Mwangangi, a senior Environment and Social Specialist from KPLC informed the members present that while electricity is an essential and highly beneficial resource, it can be extremely dangerous if misused or handled carelessly. He highlighted the importance of adhering to safety guidelines to prevent accidents, injuries, and damage to property.

Community members were strongly advised to ensure that all electrical wiring within their homes is carried out by certified and qualified technicians. The use of substandard electrical materials and fittings was discouraged, as it poses a serious safety risk. Mr. Mwangangi also cautioned against illegal electrical connections and the unauthorized energizing of electric fences, noting that such actions are not only dangerous but also unlawful unless supported by a valid compliance certificate.

In addition, customers were reminded of basic electrical safety practices, including the need to avoid handling electrical appliances or switches with wet hands. Children should be kept away from power lines and electrical installations, and under no circumstances should they play near them.

The protection of electrical infrastructure was also stressed as a shared community responsibility. Members were urged not to tamper with or vandalize power installations and to remain vigilant in safeguarding these facilities. Any suspicious activities, damaged power lines, or fallen infrastructure should be promptly reported to the nearest Kenya Power (KPLC) office and to local administrative authorities such as the area chief. The residents were encouraged to use *977# to report incidences, jua for sure, and check billing complaints among other services.

Mr. Mwangangi further cautioned the members in attendance to remain vigilant and avoid falling victim to fraudsters posing as electricity service agents. He emphasized that no payments for electricity connections should be made directly to individuals whether in person or through electronic transfers to personal numbers. All official payments must be made through designated Kenya Power (KPLC) banking halls or via authorized business numbers through the M-Pesa platform. Customers are strongly advised to insist on obtaining official receipts for every transaction to ensure transparency and

accountability. This measure is aimed at protecting the public from financial loss and ensuring that services are delivered through the proper channels.

MIN A/4/18/03/2026: Plenary Session

Members present were given an opportunity to give comments, raise questions and seek any further clarifications concerning the proposed project.

No.	QUESTION/COMMENT	RESPONSE
1	This area is not flat, if we get slopy land, will it work	The engineers will work out on the best possible way to set up the project based on the terrain of the area and the availed land for the project.
2	That land you will buy or you will just go ahead to construct	We have not yet discussed this but at the right time we will inform you. Due process on land acquisition shall be followed legally to ensure no member of the community is harmed by the project. The Engineers will also carry out studies to look for the ideal land.
3	Can we be connected with grid power from Kabelio which is close instead of you doing a new project?	The terrain of the area is a challenge but best technical option will be explored to ensure you get connected to power. Currently solar mini-minigrid is the option for Tiriya.
4	This area has over 1800 households and we have no power, will you consider other locations.	Right now the potential beneficiary locations have being identified. If the opportunity arises we will consider other locations beyond Tiriya.

5	We welcome and appreciate your coming. Let me speak as a woman and a mother, we request all our schools to be energized so that our children can study and score good grades.	Thank you for your contribution.
6	We have donated our school ground for the project, now we request for electricity?	The project is at conception and we are passionate to have this school connected.
7	This is the first baraza to discuss electricity connection in this area since the creation of the world, we are very thankful.	You are welcome and we are happy for your reception and active participation in the baraza.

In attendance for the public baraza were 88 members, 75 men and 13 women.

Kenya Power	MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT DURING FEASEBILITY STUDY FOR ASCENT PROJECT	File Number:	
	Venue: YATIA PRIMARY Elgeyo Mararakwet West	Date & Time of meeting	18/03/2026 4: 00 p.m.

In attendance:

As per list of attendance annexed at the end of minutes

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Project brief
- Positive and negative impacts of project
- Responsibilities of the Contractor
- Safe Use of Electricity
- Plenary Session
- A.O.B

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Subcomponent 2A- Energy Access Through Solarized and New Mini Grids. This subcomponent will expand off-grid energy access through two complementary approaches: (i) solarization of existing diesel-powered mini-grids, and (ii) development of new solar-powered mini-grids in underserved areas. In addition, the subcomponent will conduct a comprehensive assessment of all public solar-powered mini-grids to identify opportunities to increase connection density to households, businesses, and community facilities, including hospitals and schools. It will also support the provision of community energy services, such as street and market lighting, enhancing safety and stimulating local economic activity. The design and implementation of this subcomponent will build

on the experience and lessons from KOSAP, which is currently developing over 100 solar- powered mini-grids in underserved regions, providing a strong foundation for efficient deployment, technology optimization, and sustainable operations.

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<u>Energy status Yatia Location</u>

The Village has no power

The villagers uses solar lamp and kerosene lamps

The village is about 2km from National Grid

Observations

The land scape is steep with deep vallies and access road is all weather and not in good status especially during rainy weather

The area is populated with small land holdings

Land tenure is private

MIN A/2/18/03/2026: Positive and Negative impacts of the project

Kenya Power Environment & Social Specialist Mr. Abaya expressed his sincere appreciation to all members for their strong attendance and active participation during the meeting. He acknowledged their cooperation as a key factor in the success of the meeting and the project. In his remarks, the Lead expert reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of Government of Kenya to providing all citizens with access to safe, reliable, and affordable electricity. He further informed the attendees that a detailed evaluation had been done on both the positive and negative impacts associated with the project and the experts would disclose this in the meeting. This ensured that all participants were fully informed and able to engage constructively in the discussions. The positive and negative impacts of the project were explained to members as follows:

Positive Impacts:

Enhanced Electricity Access

The implementation of the project is expected to significantly increase access to clean, safe, and reliable electricity. This improved access will play a vital role in enhancing the overall quality of life for the beneficiaries.

Benefits in the Education Sector

Access to electricity at the household and school levels will open up numerous education opportunities. With reliable lighting, children will be able to extend their study hours into the evening, thereby improving their academic performance. Moreover, electrified homes will enable students to benefit from educational content broadcasted via television and radio, broadening their learning beyond the classroom. In schools, electricity will facilitate the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into the curriculum. This includes the use of computers and digital learning tools, which are essential for equipping students with relevant 21st-century skills and enhancing the overall quality of education.

Expansion of Business and Economic Opportunities

The availability of safe and reliable electricity is expected to significantly boost local economic development by creating an enabling environment for various businesses to thrive. Entrepreneurs will be able to establish and operate small and medium enterprises such as salons, barber shops, cyber cafes, and welding workshops with greater efficiency and productivity. Additionally, electricity will support

the growth of agribusinesses and other income-generating activities, including refrigeration of perishable goods, operation of chicken incubators, use of sharp cutters to enhance livestock food processing, and water pumping for irrigation and domestic use. Posho mills and similar ventures will also benefit, contributing to improved food security and livelihoods in the community.

Employment and Wealth Creation

During construction and operation of the project, employment opportunities will be available to the locals. The employment opportunities will be in line with skills available in the project area and basically unskilled labour like hole digging, manual tree cutting/trimming will be available to the locals and payment would be as per prevailing market rates and in line with the labour act. Skilled labour may be contracted outside the community. Members were advised to be cooperative and adhere to the contractor's safe work operating procedures. He also added that alcoholic and drug addicts would not be considered for employment due to the risk concerns they posed.

Health Benefits of the Project

The provision of safe and reliable electricity is expected to contribute significantly to the improvement of public health within the community. One of the primary benefits will be the reduction in the use of kerosene lamps, which are commonly associated with indoor air pollution. These lamps emit harmful smoke and particulate matter that can lead to serious health problems, particularly acute lower respiratory infections among children and other vulnerable groups. Furthermore, access to proper electric lighting will alleviate the challenges associated with low illumination. Poor lighting often causes eye strain and discomfort, especially during reading or close work. Prolonged exposure to such conditions may increase the risk of developing visual problems, including near- sightedness (myopia), among both children and adults. By replacing kerosene lighting with clean electric lighting, the project is poised to promote a healthier and safer indoor environment.

Improved Standard of Living

Access to electricity is expected to significantly enhance the quality of life for households by enabling the use of modern electrical appliances that simplify daily tasks and improve overall comfort. With electricity, families can utilize household devices such as iron boxes, electric kettles, refrigerators, fruit blenders, and radios, all of which contribute to greater convenience and efficiency in day-to-day living. Entertainment and information access will also improve through the use of television sets and sound systems, while air conditioning systems and fans will help regulate indoor temperatures, particularly in hot climates. Additionally, practical tools such as water pumps and sharp cutters will support both domestic needs and small-scale economic activities, further promoting a higher standard of living and self-sufficiency within communities.

Improved Security

The availability of electricity is anticipated to greatly improve security within communities. With enhanced lighting in homes, streets, and public spaces, the risk of criminal activities is expected to decrease, as well-lit areas act as a deterrent to potential offenders. Moreover, electricity will enable residents to keep their mobile phones charged, ensuring consistent communication and quicker

response during emergencies. Access to timely information through radio and television broadcasts will also keep the public informed about security-related issues and alerts. In addition, the project will facilitate the adoption and use of modern security technologies such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems, which can be installed in homes, schools, and business premises to monitor

activities and deter unlawful behavior. Collectively, these improvements will contribute to a safer and more secure environment for all community members.

Gender Considerations

Access to electricity will benefit women in different ways. The benefits of the project will occur because women tend to spend more time at home, are responsible for household chores that can be carried out more productively with electricity, and because certain tasks are culturally defined as women‘s work. Majority of the beneficiaries will use the electricity mainly for lighting and powering low energy gadget such as TV, radio, phone charging, refrigeration and to some extent ironing and cooking. Using electricity for ironing, boiling water and cooking will save women and girls the man-hours lost in fetching firewood. Electricity could also be used in pumping water from community boreholes and shallow wells where mostly women draw water manually hence saving them energy and reducing the risk of falling or capsizing into wells.

Negative Impacts:

The KPLC Environmental & Social Specialist summarized the negative impacts associated with the project and their possible mitigation measures as follows:

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures
Vegetation clearance especially trimming of tree branches	Contractor shall comply to the Energy Act 2019 on tree lopping and must give the land owner a 7 days notice prior tree cutting, branch trimming, or clearance of vegetation. Clear only necessary vegetation, where possible trim tree branches Power lines to be routed along road reserves and plot boundaries Leave any cleared vegetation for use by the tree owners
Oil spills	Ensure no maintenance or repair of vehicles or equipment on site Maintain vehicles and equipment in a good state of repair and service to avoid any leaks

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures

Community health and safety risks	Conduct public health campaigns addressing issues of behavior change, culture tolerance, COVID 19, HIV/AIDS Contractor to condone all work sites, control access and install necessary warning signs.
Occupational health and safety risks	The contractor shall Include best practice in health and safety provisions and ensure strict compliance with national legislation and financiers guidelines Provide workers with safe drinking water and dedicated sanitary facilities at all work sites Adopt sound human resource policies compliant with international standards Establish a grievance redress mechanism for workers Establish and follow safe work procedures Induct and where necessary train employees
Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and workplace sexual harassment	Contractor to create awareness to community and let members know their rights and that they are free to report any issues of GBV and SEA to persons and offices of their choice based on a survivor centered approach. In the awareness sessions, community members to be educated on the sensitivity of GBV, SEA/SH and therefore the uttermost need to ensure confidential reporting and responding to any cases reported. Contractor to have code of conduct for the workers and be made aware that he will be responsible for his workers misconduct.
Child labour	Kenyan labour laws should be adhered to No one will be employed on site without the national Identification card or valid passport

Environmental/Social Impact	Mitigation Measures
	Children below the age of 18 years will not be allowed to work in the proposed project

Cultural property and chance find	In case of chance find; contractor to inform local GRC, KPLC, MOEP and national museums of Kenya Contractor to consult and engage community members to get an understanding of cultural values and beliefs of the community, sacred trees and sites, graves among other items of cultural value to prevent conflicts.

MIN A/3/18/03/2026: Safe Use of Electricity

Mr. Simon Mwangangi, a senior Environment and Social Specialist from KPLC informed the members present that while electricity is an essential and highly beneficial resource, it can be extremely dangerous if misused or handled carelessly. He highlighted the importance of adhering to safety guidelines to prevent accidents, injuries, and damage to property.

Community members were strongly advised to ensure that all electrical wiring within their homes is carried out by certified and qualified technicians. The use of substandard electrical materials and fittings was discouraged, as it poses a serious safety risk. Mr. Mwangangi also cautioned against illegal electrical connections and the unauthorized energizing of electric fences, noting that such actions are not only dangerous but also unlawful unless supported by a valid compliance certificate.

In addition, customers were reminded of basic electrical safety practices, including the need to avoid handling electrical appliances or switches with wet hands. Children should be kept away from power lines and electrical installations, and under no circumstances should they play near them.

The protection of electrical infrastructure was also stressed as a shared community responsibility. Members were urged not to tamper with or vandalize power installations and to remain vigilant in safeguarding these facilities. Any suspicious activities, damaged power lines, or fallen infrastructure should be promptly reported to the nearest Kenya Power (KPLC) office and to local administrative authorities such as the area chief. The residents were encouraged to use *977# to report incidences, jua for sure, and check billing complaints among other services.

Mr. Mwangangi further cautioned the members in attendance to remain vigilant and avoid falling victim to fraudsters posing as electricity service agents. He emphasized that no payments for electricity connections should be made directly to individuals whether in person or through electronic transfers to personal numbers. All official payments must be made through designated Kenya Power (KPLC) banking halls or via authorized business numbers through the M-Pesa platform. Customers are strongly advised to insist on obtaining official receipts for every transaction to ensure transparency and accountability. This measure is aimed at protecting the public from financial loss and ensuring that services are delivered through the proper channels.

MIN A/4/18/03/2026: Plenary Session

Members present were given an opportunity to give comments, raise questions and seek any further clarifications concerning the proposed project.

No.	QUESTION/COMMENT	RESPONSE
1	This area is not flat, if we get slopy land, will it work	The engineers will work out on the best possible way to set up the project based on the terrain of the area and the availed land for the project.
2	That land you will buy or you will just go ahead to construct	We have not yet discussed this but at the right time we will inform you. Due process on land acquisition shall be followed legally to ensure no member of the community is harmed by the project. The Engineers will also carry out studies to look for the ideal land.
3	Can we be connected with grid power from Kabelio which is close instead of you doing a new project?	The terrain of the area is a challenge but best technical option will be explored to ensure you get connected to power. Currently solar mini-minigrid is the option for Tiriya.
4	This area has over 1800 households and we have no power, will you consider other locations.	Right now the potential beneficiary locations have being identified. If the opportunity arises we will consider other locations beyond Tiriya.
3	We welcome and appreciate our visitors, we have been waiting to be connected to power though this solar grid is not what we were expecting. We do welcome power, and we will avail about 2 acres for the project. We are more than 250 households.	Thank you for your warm welcome. We take note of your concerns and are happy you are ready to avail land for the project.

5	You said you will employ, what skills are you looking for?	We will engage the locals for the jobs they qualify for and at the prevailing market rates for the project activities ranging from solar mini grid construction, powerline construction up to drop points to customers.
6	Concerning Solar, it is not new. We use solar D-light. Please install project as soon as possible.	We will install the project the soonest after getting all the clearances and permits applicable to this project.

In attendance for the public baraza were 42 members, 21 men and 21 women.

MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING ON ASCENT PROJECT at REMBA ISLAND

Date : 21st March 2026 Venue : Remba BMU Time : 1:12 PM – 3:30 PM

Minute 1: Agenda

- Preliminaries
- Presentation on ASCENT Project – Kenya
- Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures
- Questions, Comments & Responses (Q&A)
- Way Forward

Minute 2: Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting commenced at 10:50a.m. with a word of prayer led by a community elder. Ms. Alice Atieno (Area Chief), officially welcomed all attendees to Remba Island. Mr. Samwel Olela introduced the visiting team from REREC and the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP). He explained that the purpose of the visit was to engage stakeholders and gather community views regarding the proposed electrification project under the ASCENT program.

Minute 3: ASCENT Project – Kenya

Olela – explained to the meeting that the government of Kenya through vision 2030 is planning that every household should be connected with power hence the government has come up with this project called Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT) that is meant to connect Kenyans in the rural areas, which are far from the national grid. This project is being implemented in the 47 counties where Homabay is one of them. He further noted the proposed project will have solar panels, small diesel generator, control room, distribution lines to various homesteads. He explained that:

World Bank will finance the project and the implementing agency will be REREC, KPLC, and MoEP.

Its objective is to support Kenya in achieving universal electricity access by 2030.

It also aims to expand access to clean cooking technologies, improve livelihoods, and create employment, especially in underserved areas.

Project Team Present

- Samwel Olela – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
- Tom Kiprono – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
- Sheila Jepkemboi – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)
- Joram Kimani – Accountant (MoEP)

- Dorothy Kagweri - E&S Safeguards (MoEP)
- Rebecca Muniu – Project coordinator (MoEP)
- Community members – 97 Members (male- 81, Female – 16)
- Project Design and Components-Tom

The community members were informed that the project aligns with Kenya Vision 2030, targeting universal electricity access.

Key features include:

Installation of solar panels, battery storage, and diesel backup generators

Development of mini-grids

Construction of distribution lines to households

The proposed ASCENT Kenya seeks to expand access to affordable and reliable distributed renewable energy solutions for households and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in underserved areas of Kenya. The Project will deploy a targeted set of interventions, in three components as outlined below:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking

Component 2: Solar-Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure

Subcomponent 2A: Mini-grids

Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions

Component 3: Program Management, Capacity Building, and Market Development

Market development and technical assistance

Energy workforce development

Operational Aspects

All consumers will be KPLC customers and pay tariffs equivalent to those on the national grid.

Electricity payments will be made through a prepaid token system, including mobile payment options ("pay-as-you-go").

Minute 4: Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Environmental and Social Assessment- Sheila

Participants were informed that:

A separate Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) meeting will be conducted.

The ESIA report will be submitted to NEMA for review and approval.

Construction will commence after regulatory approvals.

Positive Impacts - Tom

The following benefits were highlighted:

- Improved lighting and reduced reliance on paraffin
- Enhanced education outcomes for students
- Increased security through lighting
- Access to information and entertainment (e.g., television)
- Growth of small businesses (e.g., barber shops)
- Creation of employment opportunities (skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled)
- Priority for local employment, including women and youth
- Business opportunities for locals (e.g., food vending, supply of materials)
- Improved health services (e.g., refrigeration of medicines)
- Opportunities for cold storage for livestock and dairy products

Negative Impacts and Mitigation Measures – Samwel

The team explained potential risks and mitigation strategies:

- Social Risks
- Influx of non-local workers → Cultural sensitization through induction
- Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), and Sexual Harassment (SH) → Awareness and reporting mechanisms
- Risk of HIV/AIDS → Community sensitization
- Environmental Risks
- Noise pollution → Restricted working hours (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- Dust pollution → Use of dust suppression measures
- Tree cutting → Tree replacement and reforestation
- Health and Safety Risks
- Construction accidents → Mandatory use of PPE
- Electrocution risks → Community awareness on safe electricity use
- Child labour → Strict prohibition
- Resource Constraints
- Water scarcity → Controlled and responsible use

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

Olela informed the meeting that the community will need to establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) with a representative committee—comprising a man, a woman, a youth, and a member of a special group such as a person with a disability. The committee will handle project-related grievances and seek to resolve them locally. If an issue cannot be resolved, it will be escalated to the implementing agency, and if still unresolved, to the Kenyan Courts. He emphasized the hope that all matters will be settled at the community level. Members of the committee will serve on a voluntary basis, as no payment will be provided.

Minute 5: Questions and Concerns

QUESTION/COMMENTS	ANSWER/REMARKS
Ochieng Oriaro What is the sustainability and capacity of the project? Is it affordable?	Mr. Olela Explained that the mini-grid systems are designed with solar PV, battery storage, and backup generators to ensure reliability and sustainability. The systems are sized based on community demand to meet current and future needs. On affordability, tariffs will follow KPLC regulated rates, ensuring fairness and consistency with national electricity pricing.
Washington Availability of jobs/employment opportunities	Mr. Olela Confirmed that priority will be given to local community members for both skilled and unskilled jobs during construction and operation phases.
Alice Atieno *We have Remba sub location currently, and all the units (BMU/County government representatives, assistant chief, community leaders) Community involvement in siting the project*	Comment received and acknowledged Olela acknowledged the comment and confirmed that site selection will be done in consultation with local leadership and community representatives to ensure transparency and acceptability.
Everlyne Katete Availability of meter boxes and backup during blackouts	The project team clarified that prepaid meter boxes will be installed for all users. In case of power interruptions, the system includes battery storage and backup generators to minimize outages and ensure continuity of supply.
Naphish Ochieng How will wiring be done? What is the project timeframe?	Mr. Olela Explained that distribution wiring will be carried out by qualified contractors following national electrical standards and safety regulations. Regarding timelines, the project is expected to proceed after ESIA approval, with construction estimated to take several months depending on site conditions, and the community will be informed of specific schedules.

Minute 6: Way Forward

ESIA studies to be conducted and submitted to NEMA.

Community to identify GRM Committee members.

Follow-up engagements to be scheduled by REREC/MoEP.

Minute 7: Closure of the Meeting

The Area Chief thanked participants for their active engagement.

There being no other business, the meeting was officially adjourned at 3:30 PM with a closing prayer by an elder.

MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING ON ASCENT PROJECT at RINGITI ISLAND

Date : 20th March 2026 Venue : Ringiti B.M.U Centre Time : 10:50 AM – 12:50 PM

Minute 1: Agenda

- Preliminaries
- Presentation on ASCENT Project – Kenya
- Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures
- Questions, Comments & Responses (Q&A)
- Way Forward

Minute 2: Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting commenced at 10:50a.m. with a word of prayer led by a community elder. The Area Chief, Mr. Kennedy Okeyo Odari, officially welcomed all attendees to Ringiti Island. Mr. Samwel Olela introduced the visiting team from REREC and the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP). He explained that the purpose of the visit was to engage stakeholders and gather community views regarding the proposed electrification project under the ASCENT program.

Minute 3: ASCENT Project – Kenya

Olela – explained to the meeting that the government of Kenya through vision 2030 is planning that every household should be connected with power hence the government has come up with this project called Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT) that is meant to connect Kenyans in the rural areas, which are far from the national grid. This project is being implemented in the 47 counties where Homabay is one of them. He further noted the proposed project will have solar panels, small diesel generator, control room, distribution lines to various homesteads. He explained that:

World Bank will finance the project and the implementing agency will be REREC, KPLC, and MoEP.

Its objective is to support Kenya in achieving universal electricity access by 2030.

It also aims to expand access to clean cooking technologies, improve livelihoods, and create employment, especially in underserved areas.

Project Team Present

Samwel Olela – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Tom Kiprono – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Sheila Jepkemboi – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Joram Kimani – Accountant (MoEP)

Dorothy Kagweri - E&S Safeguards (MoEP)

Rebecca Muniu – Project coordinator (MoEP)

Community members – 66 Members (male- 54, Female – 12)

Project Design and Components-Tom

The community members were informed that the project aligns with Kenya Vision 2030, targeting universal electricity access.

Key features include:

Installation of solar panels, battery storage, and diesel backup generators

Development of mini-grids

Construction of distribution lines to households

The proposed ASCENT Kenya seeks to expand access to affordable and reliable distributed renewable energy solutions for households and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in underserved areas of Kenya. The Project will deploy a targeted set of interventions, in three components as outlined below:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking

Component 2: Solar-Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure

Subcomponent 2A: Mini-grids

Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions

Component 3: Program Management, Capacity Building, and Market Development

Market development and technical assistance

Energy workforce development

Operational Aspects

All consumers will be KPLC customers and pay tariffs equivalent to those on the national grid.

Electricity payments will be made through a prepaid token system, including mobile payment options ("pay-as-you-go").

Minute 4: Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Environmental and Social Assessment- Sheila

Participants were informed that:

A separate Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) meeting will be conducted.

The ESIA report will be submitted to NEMA for review and approval.

Construction will commence after regulatory approvals.

Positive Impacts - Tom

The following benefits were highlighted:

- Improved lighting and reduced reliance on paraffin
- Enhanced education outcomes for students
- Increased security through lighting
- Access to information and entertainment (e.g., television)
- Growth of small businesses (e.g., barber shops)
- Creation of employment opportunities (skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled)
- Priority for local employment, including women and youth
- Business opportunities for locals (e.g., food vending, supply of materials)
- Improved health services (e.g., refrigeration of medicines)
- Opportunities for cold storage for livestock and dairy products

Negative Impacts and Mitigation Measures – Samwel

The team explained potential risks and mitigation strategies:

- Social Risks
- Influx of non-local workers → Cultural sensitization through induction
- Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), and Sexual Harassment (SH) → Awareness and reporting mechanisms
- Risk of HIV/AIDS → Community sensitization
- Environmental Risks
- Noise pollution → Restricted working hours (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- Dust pollution → Use of dust suppression measures
- Tree cutting → Tree replacement and reforestation
- Health and Safety Risks
- Construction accidents → Mandatory use of PPE
- Electrocution risks → Community awareness on safe electricity use
- Child labour → Strict prohibition
- Resource Constraints
- Water scarcity → Controlled and responsible use

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

Olela informed the meeting that the community will need to establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) with a representative committee—comprising a man, a woman, a youth, and a member of a special group such as a person with a disability. The committee will handle project-related grievances and seek to resolve them locally. If an issue cannot be resolved, it will be escalated to the implementing agency, and if still unresolved, to the Kenyan Courts. He emphasized the hope that all matters will be settled at the community level. Members of the committee will serve on a voluntary basis, as no payment will be provided.

Minute 5: Questions and Concerns

QUESTION/COMMENTS	ANSWER/REMARKS
Elisha Explain the difference between private and government electrification since they already are electrified	*Olela*
Sam Ojwang Power is there but not enough to all households since the supply is limited to only support lighting, (voltage is low)	*Olela* Electrification through government owned projects supports all activities, i.e. welding, lighting at homes/schools, hospital use and will be connected to all households
Kelvin ochieng During the rains, there's no backup for power, insecurity issues are on the rise (we boarder Uganda and also Tanzania).We need government owned power since everyone will access power and also it will enhance business activities; use of freezers since voltage is high.	*Olela* Concern noted and acknowledged
Kelvin Ouma Ringiti's power is private owned, it was not fairly distributed since only a few are connected. There's overcharge in payments since units are never displayed, no immediate connection after paying, no transparency.	*Olela* Concern noted and acknowledged
Daniel Nyauro The existing power has a low capacity. When is the project likely to start?	*Olela* Reports will be done and submitted to the Bank where an analysis will be done to determine next steps
Job Hassan *Renevia company electrified the island but the power is rationed to a few persons, some pay but the units is not equalled to the paid amount.* *We are all Kenyans, we need equity.*	*Olela* *Concern noted and acknowledged*
Edward Onyango *We appreciate your coming. We prefer government electrification over private investor.*	*Olela* *Noted*

John Gichuki *On whose land will the project be installed?*	*Olela* *Community/public land is always the priority*
Benson Ojenge Renevia built for us toilet/washroom, will the government also do us something in return?	*Olela* *Yes, through in kind compensation*

Minute 6: Way Forward

ESIA studies to be conducted and submitted to NEMA.

Community to identify GRM Committee members.

Follow-up engagements to be scheduled by REREC/MoEP.

Minute 7: Closure of the Meeting

The Area Chief thanked participants for their active engagement.

There being no other business, the meeting was officially adjourned at 12:50 PM with a closing prayer by an elder.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY TRANSFORMATION (ASCENT) PROJECT.

Minutes for the Stakeholder Engagement Meeting held at Mary Keitany secondary school Date: 18/03/2026.

Venue of meeting; Head Teachers Office

Members present:

List of attendance attached after minutes. Agenda:

- Preliminaries
- Project Information
- Open Forum for questions

Minute 1- 18/03/2026: Preliminaries

The team from Kenya Power and REREC visited the school and were received by the Head teacher Torokwonin primary school which borders the Mary Keitany Secondary school. Brief introductions were done and the team leader explained the agenda of the teams visit.

Minute 2- 18/03/2026: Project Information (ASCENT).

The ASCENT project is under the Ministry of Energy and its objective is to increase access to clean and sustainable energy in Kenya. The project has different components and one of them is Solar based Electrification of public infrastructure either through

Energy access through solarized and new Mini grids.

Electrification of public institutions by use of institutional solar photovoltaic systems and battery energy storage system

Benefits of the project to the school

Provision of solar energy to public educational institutions

Employment opportunities

Reduction of greenhouse gas emission

Long hours of study

Promotion of ICT in schools

Clean lighting that is healthy

Security lights

Better health for learners due to better lighting

Cooling system for the school’s food preservation needs

Energy status at the two schools

The two schools have no power

The secondary school is more challenged in terms of power because it has a boarding section

The school uses adelite lamp that is so limiting

The school is about 2km at most from two transformers

Due to lack of power, the school is unable to attract young teachers

Observations

The terrain is slopy

The road network is poor

The population in the area is sparse, and households have large pieces of land

The school is about 2km from transformer

Land tenure is private

The secondary school has a total of 119 students and the primary school has about 100 learners

The schools are in Eldama Ravine constituency, Koibatek ward in Baringo county

Vegetation clearance	Use of road reserve. Proper designs to avoid clearance of vegetation.
Electric shocks and electrocution of people.	Proper public education to the people on safe use of electricity was done in the meeting. Proper wiring in the customers' premises by qualified technicians. Use of danger/hatari signs on the poles.

Minute 3: 18/03/2026:: Open forum for questions and suggestions

Question 1: Head teacher secondary school-when is the project likely to start?

Answer: the project is really at the preliminary stages and its not possible to give a definite date

Suggestion 1: Deputy head teacher secondary school

Since the Kenya power network is not far from our school, I think connection to the network will be faster now that we really need power

Berbard Cherono -PTA

If the Kenya power network come to the school, we can also be connected

Findings

The school can be electrified through the national grid which is about 2km away

In terms of cost the nation grid access will be more effective

List of Attendance

MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING ON ASCENT PROJECT SUMBA ISLAND

Date: 19th March 2026

Venue: Sumba BMU (Modern Fish Banda)

Time: 2:33 PM – 4:30 PM

Minute 1: Agenda

- Preliminaries
- Overview of ASCENT Project – Kenya
- Questions, Comments, and Concerns
- Minute 2: Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting commenced at 2:33 PM with an opening prayer led by Pastor Julius.

Mr. Charles Nyangweso (Village Elder) introduced the *Nyumba Kumi* Chairman and members of the Beach Management Unit (BMU) to the community.

The Area Chief, Rosemary Ochieno, welcomed all participants to Sumba Island.

Mr. Samwel Olela introduced the visiting team from REREC and the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP) and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to engage the community regarding the proposed rural electrification project under the ASCENT Programme.

Minute 3: Overview of ASCENT Project – Kenya

Mr. Samwel Olela thanked the community for attending and provided an overview of the Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Transformation (ASCENT) Project.

He explained that:

The project is financed by the World Bank and implemented by REREC, KPLC, and MoEP.

Its objective is to support Kenya in achieving universal electricity access by 2030, while also scaling up access to clean cooking technologies.

The project focuses on affordability, job creation, and expanding access to energy in underserved areas.

Project Team Present

Samwel Olela – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Tom Kiprono – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Sheila Jepkemboi – E&S Safeguards Officer (REREC)

Joram Kimani – Accountant (MoEP)

Community members – 51 Members (male- 28, Female – 23)

Project Design and Components

Mr. Olela explained that the Government of Kenya, under Vision 2030, aims to ensure electricity access for all households.

The ASCENT project will include:

- Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems
- Battery storage
- Backup diesel generators
- Control rooms
- Distribution lines to households
- The project will be implemented across all 47 counties, including Busia County.

Key Components:

Component 1: Results-Based Financing for Distributed Renewable Energy, Productive Uses of Energy, Cooling, and Clean Cooking

Component 2: Solar-Based Electrification of Public Infrastructure

Subcomponent 2A: Mini-grids

Subcomponent 2B: Electrification of public institutions

Component 3: Program Management, Capacity Building, and Market Development

The mini-grids will supply electricity under KPLC tariffs, meaning customers will pay the same rates as those connected to the national grid.

Electricity payments will be made through a prepaid token system, including mobile payment options ("pay-as-you-go").

Minute 4: Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Environmental and Social Process

Ms. Sheila informed the meeting that:

An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be conducted.

The ESIA report will be submitted to NEMA for approval.

NEMA will conduct site inspections before project implementation begins.

Positive Impacts

The project is expected to bring the following benefits:

- Improved access to affordable and reliable electricity
- Reduced reliance on paraffin lamps
- Enhanced education outcomes for students

- Improved security through lighting
- Increased access to information and entertainment (e.g., television)
- Growth of small businesses (e.g., barber shops)
- Employment opportunities for local community members (skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled)
- Business opportunities for women (e.g., food vending)
- Local supply opportunities for construction materials
- Improved health services (e.g., refrigeration of medicines, better laboratory services)
- Enhanced livelihoods (e.g., cold storage for livestock and dairy products)
- Negative Impacts and Mitigation Measures
- The team highlighted potential risks and mitigation strategies:

Social Risks

- Influx of non-local workers:
- → Contractor induction on community cultural norms
- Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), and Sexual Harassment (SH):
- → Awareness, reporting mechanisms, and strict enforcement
- HIV/AIDS risks:
- → Sensitization and awareness campaigns
- Child labour risks:
- → Strict prohibition and monitoring
- Environmental Risks
- Noise pollution:
- → Work limited to 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Dust pollution:
- → Use of water, tackifiers, and soil stabilizers
- Water scarcity:
- → Controlled and responsible use
- Tree clearing:
- → Tree replacement and replanting
- Health and Safety Risks
- Construction accidents:
- → Mandatory PPE (helmets, gloves, boots, overalls)
- Electrical hazards:
- → Community awareness on safe electricity use

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The community was informed that:

A GRM Committee will be established.

The committee must include:

- A man

- A woman
- A youth representative
- A representative of vulnerable groups (e.g., persons with disabilities)
- The committee will:
- Address project-related grievances
- Escalate unresolved issues to implementing agencies or courts
- Members will serve on a voluntary basis.

Minute 5: Questions, Comments, and Responses

QUESTION/COMMENTS	ANSWER/REMARKS
Douglas We have an existing streetlight but it's already damaged, has never been repaired by the installers responsible. Schools are there but no power, please help us get power.	*Olela* Government projects differ from private ones; ASCENT will address electrification needs similar to Mageta Island
Lazarus	*Olela*

Will there be jobs/employment opportunities?	Yes Priority will be given to local community members
Patrick Is the power private or government project? We need transparency about who is the owner of the project Most of us are renting houses, how now about wiring costs? Upon landlord or tenant?	*Olela* Project is government-owned; wiring/metering costs are borne by individuals
J*acinta* Please bring us power since we seem to be living in a forest	Concern noted and acknowledged
Damaris I am far away from Sumba centre but still within Sumba. Will I get power like others who are within the centre?	*Olela* Survey will determine optimal coverage for all residents

Minute 6: Closure

The area Chief thanked all participants for their active participation and engagement.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM with a closing prayer led by an elder.