



Talking Points by Mr. Joseph Murabula, CEO, KCIC

During

WIPO GREEN Series of Events

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At

WIPO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland

Background to KCIC

- Kenya Climate Innovation Center, is a pioneer business support organization in the climate mitigation and adaption space;
- KCIC fosters climate innovation across Kenya and the wider East African region;
- Our core mission revolves around facilitating incubation and growth of innovative climate technology solutions;
- We lay emphasis on generating economic opportunities, with a particular focus on empowering women and youth;
- Our comprehensive range of services encompasses capacity development, mentorship, facilitating financial access, disseminating information on climate technologies, establishing

market linkages, providing access to cutting-edge facilities, and actively advocating for a supportive policy environment to enable the commercialization of climate technologies.

How KCIC drives climate innovation

- **Investor Readiness:**
 - Enable clients to create structures that attract third-party financing.
 - Offers technical services to enhance investment appeal.
- **Mentorship Framework:**
 - Programs that facilitate peer-to-peer learning.
 - Expose innovators to effective business management and process optimization.

- **Conveyor Belt Approach:**
 - Utilize subsidiary, KCV, as an investment bridge.
 - Facilitate growth-stage financing to rescue businesses from the 'valley of death'.
- **Early-Stage Financing & Business Advisory:**
 - Provide proof of concept financing.
 - Offer technical assistance to demonstrate viability and attract further funding.
- **Access to facilities** for product testing and development, including intellectual property rights support.
- **Policy Interventions & Advocacy:**

- Engage in policy advocacy initiatives to enable commercialization of climate technologies.
- Collaborate with regulatory bodies to ensure legal compliance for entrepreneurs.

Current Portfolio Per Thematic Sector, Including Technology Needs

Thematic sector	Technologies/sub-sectors	No. of enterprises in the portfolio	Intervention Areas
1. Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mobility • Solar PV • Mini grids • Bio fuels • Clean cooking alternatives e.g briquettes 	46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support in the promising plastic-to-energy (bio-fuels) in terms of financing, research and market intelligence • Linkages to the export and import market
2. Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-waste • Bio-degradable products • Plastic waste recycling 	65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructures for implementing the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), specifically segregation at source • Integration with AI and IOT technologies/devices

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic fertilizers • BSF farming 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good warehousing facilities and practices: What are the best ways of storing waste before recycling them in a manner that does not harm the environment • Biodegradable and sustainable alternatives for paper • Linkage to the export and import market
3.	Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart irrigation • 	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovations that would help manage urban water surface runoff
4.	Commercial Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential oil • Value addition of forest products • Nursery management • Alternatives to 	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon markets/carbon trading • Scientific profile of different species of trees and their mitigation impact (amount of carbon they absorb from the atmosphere). This would come as a research initiative
5.	Agribusiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerative Agriculture • Beekeeping • Aquaculture • Fertilizer products 	57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uptake of regenerative/ecological agricultural practices • Accurate meteorological data to synchronize with

6.	Productive Use of Solar Energy program		33	
	TOTAL		243	

Generally, WIPO can help in securing the property rights of innovations against international property rights theft; capacity building to local innovators; assist in harmonizing the national standards to the international ones for compatibility...

Aspects of climate change these initiatives address...

- ◆ **Renewable Energy Solutions:** Startups and innovations related to renewable energy sources, such as solar power, wind energy, and bioenergy. These include solar panel technology, off-grid energy solutions, and energy-efficient appliances.

- ◆ **Agricultural Innovations:** that promote sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture practices, such as drought-resistant crop varieties, precision agriculture technologies, and organic farming methods.
- ◆ **Waste Management and Recycling:** Startups and innovations involved in waste recycling and management, as well as waste-to-energy technologies.
- ◆ **Water Management Technologies:** Innovations related to water management and conservation, including water purification systems, rainwater harvesting, and efficient irrigation technologies

- ◆ **Green Building Technologies:** Innovations related to green building materials, energy-efficient construction methods, and sustainable architecture.
- ◆ **Transportation and eMobility Solutions:** Startups working on sustainable transportation options, such as electric vehicles, bike-sharing programs, or smart mobility solutions
- ◆ **Eco-friendly Consumer Products:** Innovations in eco-friendly consumer goods and products, including biodegradable packaging, energy-efficient appliances, and sustainable fashion.
- ◆ **Climate-resilient Farming Tools:** Innovations focused on developing tools and technologies to help farmers adapt to

climate change, such as weather forecasting apps, pest control solutions, and climate-smart farming practices to enable climate resilience as well as food and nutritional security.

- ◆ **Clean Cooking Solutions:** Innovations that aim to provide cleaner and more efficient cooking solutions for households, reducing indoor air pollution and carbon emissions.
- ◆ These innovations promote social inclusivity and gender mainstreaming- with particular focus on women and youth.
- ◆ **Climate change policy interventions...**Working closely with governments at national and local levels to influence policy as an enabler of commercialization of climate technologies.

Key Sectors

- Over the past decade, we have been the catalyst for over 3,000 enterprises across five thematic sectors: Agribusiness, Renewable Energy, Commercial Forestry, Waste Management, and Water Management.
- The shift, as demonstrated in our current portfolio, is that there is more inclination towards innovations in the waste management sector, surpassing agribusiness.

Sample successes on innovations...

- ◆ Commercialization rate for innovations supported at KCIC stands 67%.
- ◆ Acacia Innovations, which supplies eco-friendly & cost-saving cooking and fuel solutions for schools and businesses. (Kuni safi)

- ◆ Hydroponics Africa, which are the pioneers of simplified hydroponic farming technology and sole distributor of a superior subsurface plant responsive drip in East and Central Africa.
- ◆ Kings Biofuel, which makes biomass briquettes as an alternative and substitute source of energy to enhance climate change mitigations.
- ◆ Exotic EPZ Ltd has emerged as Kenya's leading macadamia nuts processor and exporter, boasting an exceptional commitment to climate resilience that sets it apart from the rest.
- ◆ TakaTaka Solutions not only gathers waste but also boasts an impressive 95% recycling rate for the waste they handle.

Lessons learned.

- There is no universal solution; businesses have unique needs that require tailored approaches.
- Achieving meaningful impact in terms of job creation as well as social and environmental impact takes time.
- Policy development should keep pace with innovation. Maintaining a flexible policy framework is essential, and investments in research and development should inform regulations that support sustainable business growth.

- Leveraging technology is crucial for driving business growth, sustainability, and efficiency in the context of climate technologies.
- Gender and generational-specific programs should ensure proper inclusion and engagement of all stakeholders. Prioritizing gender and generational equity and customizing solutions is essential.
- Embracing participatory frameworks within interventions can enhance autonomy and sustainability, ensuring that all relevant parties are actively engaged in the process.