

## Direct air capture potential in East Africa August 6, 2024: Plenary panel session on **International Carbon Management Progress**



# Capturing $CO_2$ from the air and permanently storing it is a key climate technology for achieving global decarbonization goals

## 19

Current # of DAC plants operating worldwide capturing CO<sub>2</sub> directly from the air

## x100,000

Growth in scale of DAC removal capacity by 2050 needed to meet global net zero goals



#### What is Direct Air Capture (DAC)? Why DAC and in Kenya?

- DAC plants use chemical processes to capture and filter CO<sub>2</sub> directly from the air which is then directly pipelined to on-site storage facilities
   DAC technologies play a critical role in net zero pathways as counterbalance to hard to abate sectors
- CO<sub>2</sub> is injected into underground geological formations, where it undergoes mineralization & slowly transforms into stable carbonates that are permanently trapped





- Kenya offers geological conditions to site DAC projects
- World's largest DAC and storage firms i.e., Climeworks, Octavia, Sirona, Greenlyte, Carbfix, Cella and others have announced projects in Kenya

### Kenya harbors significant potential as a major carbon removal hub for DAC and many other durable CDR projects



#### **First-mover advantage**

Kenya is a frontrunner in Africa's carbon markets, boasting a significant share of voluntary carbon credits issued to date across the continent



#### Abundant renewable energy

Kenya's growing renewable energy sector (geothermal, solar, wind) provides a solid foundation for durable CDR projects i.e., DAC requiring significant clean energy





#### Policy landscape & push

Kenyan government prioritizes carbon markets policy and recently amended the Climate Change Act (2023) to better regulate carbon projects and finance

# **GCV Overview**

Kenya has the perfect endowments to situate DAC projects in the region

#### **Our comparative advantage is built on rare** combination of:

- Abundant geothermal, solar & wind energy
- Suitable geology for carbon mineralization
- Emerging ecosystem of green industries
- Climate-friendly gov't & policy landscape



#### GCV is catalyzing and developing new DAC and green industry projects in Kenya

We offer unique blend of: Turnkey siting solutions Low-cost, 100% renewable energy African carbon markets expertise • Ability to mobilize key partners to make projects possible

# Who We Are

We are a new climate venture that is harnessing Kenya's resource potential to power a green industrial future

#### **TRACTION TO DATE**

- Secured agreements with leading global DAC players i.e., Climeworks to develop large-scale DAC plants in Kenya
- Have access to 2 Special Economic Zone sites to develop DAC/green industry hubs
- Engaged leading global mineralization firms to prove viability of CO<sub>2</sub> storage in Kenya to unlock DAC
- Demonstrated interest from dozens of firms to develop project sites in Kenya

#### **OUR OPERATING MODEL:**

#### By offering actively managed land leases

By securing offtake demand from energyintensive industries

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#### **Introduction: Great Carbon Valley**





## Kenya is at the forefront of carbon markets in Africa



**Sub-Saharan Africa produces** ~20% of global VCM credits with strong diversity

#### **Kenya is 2nd largest participant** in VCM market in the region

- Most credits produced by REDD+ and cookstove credits
- DAC & durable removals market is nascent but growing rapidly with new entrants and projects

#### VCM credits issued, MtCO2e (2022)

Great Carbon Valley, 2024

Note: VCM denotes voluntary carbon markets; REDD+ denotes Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation; MtCO2e denotes million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent



#### Gov't of Kenya has finalized a carbon credit trading and benefit sharing bill to regulate the market

#### **Key highlights include:**

- Establishment of carbon registry
- Requirement of carbon trading permits to regulate businesses
- Introduction of carbon project fees of up to US\$4.20+/credit
- Social contributions of up to 40% of earnings to go to communities

## Significant potential exists to catalyze and develop DAC industry in the region with investment co-benefits



### **DIRECT AIR CAPTURE**

IEA, DAC tons removed per net zero emission scenario



Kenya and East Africa can become a key DAC innovation hub given significant carbon removal potential with co-benefits i.e., job creation and economic growth, tech. development & innovation

#### **Key investment opportunities include:**

Sources: IEA, Electricity 2024; IEA, Direct Air Capture, 2022; [1] Assuming 2.5MWh per ton DAC, all energy use from power, 20% efficiencies Great Carbon Valley, 2024



• Tech./R&D partnerships i.e., collaborate with DAC and storage tech providers to optimize solutions • Infrastructure development i.e., invest in clean energy projects and key supporting infrastructure • Carbon credit markets i.e., fund development of projects from feasibility to bankability

## Kenya has significant but untapped renewable energy potential



#### **10 GW of untapped** geothermal potential





Great Carbon Valley, 2024

#### **Removing CO<sub>2</sub> in the Great Rift Valley**



#### World-class wind and solar power resources



# Multiple entrants and local businesses with tech innovations bring new potential to Kenyan DAC ecosystem

**Not Exhaustive** 



# Ce

Innovation

#### Direct air capture technology

**Carbon mineralization** 

Description	<ul> <li>Builds machines that filter CO<sub>2</sub> from the air and pump it deep underground for longer storage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Provides durates services to DAGE injecting CO<sub>2</sub> in</li> </ul>
Kenya	<ul> <li>Offers access to geothermal</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Offers access t</li></ul>
Market	power and suitable geology for	for storage and
opportunity	storage	energy for cap

Kenya: A Case Study



**J**a



Project developer and systems integrator

ble storage C companies by into volcanic rock

to basalt reserves nd geothermal oture  Catalyzes and develops new energy-intensive green industry projects including DAC

 Offers abundant geothermal energy, suitable sites for DAC, climate-friendly policy landscape and large talent pool

# We have an array of strong partners in the pipeline in our quest to develop DAC hubs across Kenya



**Our Key Partnerships** 



## Several key takeaways on the status and outlook of DAC in Kenya and the region

	Sector C		
Potential	DAC industry in the region is in its infancy, with no large-scale commercial projects currently operational	• Untapp renewa • Growin	
	Policy environment is still rapidly evolving with demonstrated interest by gov't in climate-positive policy landscape	remova opportu • Technol	
Challenges	Region faces significant infrastructure gaps in terms of energy supply, transport & logistics, connectivity	<ul> <li>Investmand infration</li> <li>Scaling require upskilling</li> </ul>	
	Despite growing interest, there is limited awareness of DAC technology and potential benefits among key stakeholder groups i.e., policy makers		



#### Outlook: High Potential Opportunity

**oped potential:** East Africa offers vast untapped vable energy potential suitable for DAC deployment

ing global interest: Increasing focus on carbon val and climate change mitigation presents rtunities to position region as leader in DAC

**ological advancements**: Announced pilot projects oost R&D efforts and accelerate DAC project dev't

**tment attraction:** With the right policy framework of frastructure development, Kenya and the region ttract significant FDI in DAC project deployments

**g challenges:** Scaling up DAC projects in region will re overcoming hurdles i.e., securing project funding, ling workforce and tackling key infrastructure gaps

### Thank You!

## **Contact Us:**

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