Introduction

The 12th African RCE regional conference held at Kenyatta University in Nairobi Kenya organized excursions for the conference delegates in different sites within Nairobi and its environs. One of the sites was the Endenyo Enker Adaptation Village in Mashuuru Sub County, Kajiado County that was visited on 30/11/22.

25 conference participants participated in the excursion to the adaptation village, which is 150 Kms away from the conference venue.

The team left KU at 7.30 a.m. and had a stop-over at Mashuru township at 10.30 a.m. before proceeding to the site. The team was received by the Chief, Nkama Location - Mr. Julius Nkoneto and the Adaptation Village Committee led by their Chairman, Mr. Ezekiel Nkuldi.

Tour of the Adaptation village

The team was taken through the resilient building assets in the adaptation village starting with the borehole site and the solar powerhouse that powers the immiscible pump in the borehole. The team was also shown around the demo farm that had been planted with Kales (Sukuma wiki), beans and aloe vera. The visiting delegation further witnessed hundreds of Maasai cattle watering from the water troughs in the adaptation village. This was followed by a sit down in the training hall where the visitors and the community members did self-introductions followed with a discussion on climate change challenges and community coping mechanisms.

Voices of beneficiary community

The beneficiary community was very appreciative of the visitors. The community explained to visitors the climate change induced challenges in the area especially for pastoralists. The water assets including the borehole, the water troughs and the water kiosk were the only available
sources of water for vulnerable communities in the area, with an alternative community water source located 6 kms away.

The Adaptation village had helped ease their water challenges. They also explained that through the adaptation village, they were learning on alternative livelihoods including farming which will also help them grow their own fodder crops.

The beneficiaries added that the water kiosk had eased the burden on women and girls who spent a lot of their time searching for water for domestic use. They further added that though their livestock was still facing challenges due to the current drought, the availability of water had eased their burden.

The forum concluded with a question and answer session where the visitors sought clarification on the operations of the adaptation village.
The visiting team watches as livestock drink from the water troughs in the Adaptation village.

The team inspects some of the crops in the demo farm.
Dr. Nancy Ng’ang’a of Kenyatta university with one of the community elders