



## Faith Partnerships for Environmental Stewardship & Climate Action Project

### CAPACITY STATEMENT

Lesotho's climate is generally characterised by variations in heavy rainfall and dry spells. The country is mostly mountainous and experiences hot summers and very cold winters. In Lesotho, high aridity and periods of intense drought exacerbate the loss of biodiversity, deterioration of rangelands and reduced crop and animal productivity through desertification, making the country increasingly vulnerable.

The rationale of Faith based approaches and collaboration with Faith Actors for environmental sustainability and climate action is premised on the following:

- The prevalence of faith in Lesotho is well pronounced. 95.1% identify as Christian (Lesotho Religious Data – Afrobarometer, 2020).
- The increasingly acknowledged contribution of Faith Actors and their communities towards the achievement of sustainable development outcomes is cited. World Vision and other likeminded development agencies view Church and other Faith Actors as key partners in the delivery of development programmes that have long lasting impact
- The role of faith in catalysing dialogue with culture and positive culture change is recognized. Faith Leaders are better positioned to catalyse dialogue with gatekeepers of culture than any other community stakeholder.
- The presence of tangible and intangible assets resident in Faith Communities is conceded. (Trust Building, Promotion of Justice for the earth and good stewardship and Mass Mobilization for Environmental Care are some of the assets found in communities of faith).

The Faith Partnerships for Environmental Stewardship & Climate Action project aims to empower Faith Actors for contribution to household and community resilience, and child participation in, climate change adaptation and mitigation. The project is a collaborative effort with the Christian Council of Lesotho to address climate change by strengthening adaption and mitigation strategies in faith communities.





The project will be implemented in Senqu and Pitseng Area Programmes, Mokhotlong and Leribe respectively. Working closely with faith actors; the project will engage traditional leaders to deliver the following outcomes:



The project will target 150 households, 1200 congregations, 1000 boys 1500 girls and 1500 adults as direct beneficiaries direct, with a cross-section of stakeholders collaborating to deliver climate adaptation and mitigation activities to the beneficiary population. The key stakeholders are; Faith & Traditional leader, Local and National Climate Action Volunteers, Parents/ Caregivers, Youth Peer Educators.

