

High Commission of India

Nairobi

PRESS RELEASE

World Environment Day 2026: High Commission of India Launches “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant for Mother)” Campaign to Plant Half a Million Trees in Kenya

The High Commission of India in Nairobi, in association with Drylake Ngelesa Conservancy, Amboseli, launched a major tree plantation campaign on the occasion of World Environment Day 2026 under the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant For Mother)” initiative of the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.

2. Under the campaign, over **500,000 indigenous trees** will be planted across the **greater Amboseli ecosystem** by Dry-lake Ngelesa Conservancy over the next five years, contributing to ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation and enhancement of community livelihoods in one of Kenya’s most important wildlife landscapes.

3. Speaking at the launch, High Commissioner of India to Kenya, H.E. Dr Adarsh Swaika, highlighted the significance of the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” initiative, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on World Environment Day 2024. The initiative encourages individuals to plant a tree in honour of their mothers while promoting environmental stewardship and collective responsibility towards future generations. Since its launch, the campaign has grown into one of the world’s largest people-led environmental movements, with over 2.62 billion saplings planted

4. The initiative complements the Government of Kenya’s ambitious 15 Billion Tree Growing Programme led by H.E. President William Ruto, which aims to increase Kenya’s tree cover to 30% by 2032. More than 1.7 billion trees have already been planted under the Kenyan programme. The campaign underscores the shared commitment of India and Kenya

towards environmental conservation, climate action and sustainable development.

5. The event was attended by renowned Indian conservationists and wildlife photographers Shri Dileep Anthikad and Ms. Remya Warriar of Ngelesa Conservancy, Padma Shri awardee Dr. Prakash Heda, local conservation stakeholders, county government officials, and members of the Maasai community.

6. The initiative marks another step in the growing India-Kenya partnership in the areas of environmental protection, climate resilience and community-led conservation, while reinforcing the shared vision of a greener and more sustainable future.

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5 June 2026