TAF ENVIRONMENT BREAKOUT DISCUSSION BRIEF

TAF UBUNTU 2026 ANNUAL GATHERING, 28 November 2026

THE AFRICAN FEDERATION

Annual theme: Creating Our Common Future • 28 November 2026 • 45-minute breakout
Purpose: Review three possible initiatives and select ONE primary initiative to advance during 2027. This brief is both advance reading for participants and the live facilitator guide.

1. Background and rationale

TAF Environment's existing policy framework covers biodiversity and wildlife, climate change, freshwater and sanitation, natural resource governance, renewable energy, waste sustainability, and indigenous rights and land use. Its partnership prospectus proposes ecosystem restoration, decentralized energy hubs and an environmental policy lab as potential investment programmes.

The 2026 breakout is an opportunity to select one realistic starting initiative—not to approve all proposed programmes. TAF can contribute through Country Chapters, environmental practitioners, community partners and cross-Focus Unit collaboration. Larger capital projects would require feasibility work, technical oversight, funding and local agreements.

2. Three proposed initiatives for 2027

Option A - African Ecosystem Restoration and Community Stewardship.

Build on the proposed Great African Restoration Project through a modest, locally led approach to degraded landscapes, biodiversity and indigenous stewardship. Possible first steps: identify interested Chapters and conservation partners; document one or two priority ecosystems and existing restoration practices; design a small partner-supervised demonstration or stewardship activity. A credible first-year result could be a documented site plan, partner agreement and baseline—not a promise of hectares restored.

Option B - Community Renewable Energy and Environmental Solutions.

Explore decentralized renewable energy and practical waste or resource-efficiency solutions, building on the proposed Energy Hubs concept. Possible first steps: identify community needs; compare existing solar, clean-energy or waste-recovery approaches; invite technical partners to assess one potential demonstration. A first-year result could be a feasibility and partnership brief, with implementation contingent on funding, safeguards and maintenance capacity.

Option C - African Environmental Policy and Knowledge Exchange.

Develop a manageable first phase of the proposed Environmental Policy Lab. Participating Chapters and experts could compare practical experiences in natural resource governance, climate resilience, land use or environmental accountability; host focused exchanges; and publish one concise, evidence-based learning note with recommendations. This is not a commitment to produce a continent-wide "State of the Environment" report in 2027.

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3. How participants should evaluate the options

Consider: (1) urgency and relevance to communities; (2) interested Chapters and available expertise; (3) credible local partners and safeguards; (4) deliverables possible in 2027 with limited resources; and (5) potential to learn, document results and expand responsibly. Participants may propose a stronger alternative, but should select only one primary initiative.

4. Live breakout session — 45 minutes

Time	Facilitator focus
0–5 min	Introduce the purpose, three options and decision to be made.
5–15 min	Discuss relative merits; choose one primary initiative (or a better alternative).
15–30 min	Define a specific 2027 objective, location or scope, partners and realistic first deliverable.
30–40 min	Agree provisional lead, volunteers, Chapter roles, constraints and follow-up date.
40–45 min	Confirm commitments and prepare a three-minute plenary report-back.

5. Ubuntu in Action — 2027 commitment record

Decision	To be completed by breakout group
Selected initiative and objective	
Provisional lead and volunteers	
Participating Chapters / prospective partners	
First deliverable and target date	
Key dependencies / safeguards	
Next meeting / progress measure	

6. Three-minute plenary report-back

Report: (1) selected initiative and why; (2) intended 2027 deliverable and first steps; (3) provisional lead, Chapter participation and partners; (4) next follow-up date. Progress will be revisited at Ubuntu 2027.

Planning note: No project funding, land access, technical approval or partner commitment is assumed. Environmental activities must respect local permissions, community consent, ecological suitability and applicable safety standards.