Drylands Learning and Capacity Building Initiative (DLCI)

Recruitment Call for Board of Directors

Deadline: 17 July 2026

About DLCI

The Drylands Learning and Capacity Building Initiative (DLCI) - www.dlci-hoa.org is a national platform with regional links that advances inclusive governance, civic education, and sustainable drylands development. With more than 15 years of experience in advocacy, amplifying pastoralist voices, and coalition-building, DLCI empowers pastoralist citizens and drylands communities to participate meaningfully in Kenya's democratic processes, build peaceful inter-community coexistence, and secure land tenure rights. DLCI's key portfolios include policy advocacy and parliamentary engagement, community land and natural resource governance, climate resilience and drylands development, peacebuilding, civic education, and institutional learning and capacity strengthening. Over the next three years, DLCI will deepen its programmatic engagement in three priority areas: strengthening pastoralist leadership policy engagement, community voice and accountability; advancing secure community land rights, support drylands responsible private sector investment, and strengthen market systems; and promoting climate resilience, peace, and sustainable livelihoods across Kenya's drylands.

Board Opportunities

DLCI seeks to recruit three new members to its Board of Directors to strengthen governance, advocacy, and resource mobilisation. Board membership at DLCI is a voluntary opportunity for individuals who wish to dedicate their skills, experience, networks, and leadership to supporting pastoralist communities and advancing drylands development. It is a unique opportunity to help shape the future of drylands communities and contribute to inclusive national development in Kenya and beyond.

Skills & Competencies

We are seeking three individuals representing pastoralist communities, women, and youth, with proven expertise in:

- Governance, Audit & Risk – strong understanding of nonprofit governance, fiduciary oversight, statutory compliance, internal controls, audit processes, enterprise risk management, and ethical board leadership.
- Resource Mobilisation and Strategic Partnerships – proven ability to cultivate donor confidence, mobilise sustainable funding, build high-value partnerships, support grant development, and strengthen DLCI's long-term financial sustainability.
- Drylands Policy, Advocacy & Government Relations – deep knowledge of Kenya's drylands, pastoralist systems, climate resilience, community land rights, natural resource governance, policy influencing, civic engagement, and constructive engagement with government and parliamentary processes.

Recruitment Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Integrity & Accountability – ethical leadership and independence of judgment.
- Relevant Experience – minimum of 10 years' experience in governance, advocacy, fundraising, diplomacy, or development.
- Community Connection – strong linkages with pastoralist communities or marginalized groups.
- Diplomatic Acumen – ability to represent DLCI credibly in government, donor, regional, and international forums.
- Fundraising Capacity – demonstrated success in donor engagement and resource mobilisation.
- Passion for Pastoralist Policy and Drylands Development – demonstrated commitment to policy matters affecting pastoralists, drylands development, climate resilience, community land rights, and inclusive public decision-making.
- Commitment to Diversity – at least one seat is reserved for either gender, one for youth under 40, and, one for pastoralist representation.
- Availability & Engagement – DLCI Board members serve on a voluntary basis and must commit to quarterly meetings, committee work, and donor engagement.

Additional Advantage Criteria

- Private Sector Engagement – experience working with responsible investors, business associations, financial institutions, or private sector actors to promote ethical, inclusive, and sustainable investment in Kenya's drylands.
- Programme and Financial Management – demonstrated knowledge of programme management, donor-funded project oversight, budgeting, financial reporting, grant compliance, audit readiness, investment oversight, and nonprofit financial sustainability.
- Accountability – strong commitment to transparency, compliance, prudent use of resources, board-level oversight, and accountability to communities, donors, partners, and statutory bodies.
- Candidates with additional complementary expertise in finance, digital innovation, strategic communications, market systems, or private sector engagement will have an added advantage.

Application Process

Interested candidates should submit:

- A cover letter outlining their motivation and relevant experience.
- A curriculum vitae of no more than four pages.
- Names and contact details of two referees.

DEADLINE: 17 JULY 2026

SUBMISSION: EMAIL APPLICATIONS TO INFO@DLCI-HOA.ORG WITH THE SUBJECT LINE "BOARD RECRUITMENT – DLCI 2026".

Note: DLCI is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Women, youth, and pastoralist community leaders are strongly encouraged to apply.